

BOOK REVIEW

THE LEPIDOPTERA OF NEW YORK AND NEIGHBORING STATES. PART I. (Memoir 68). William T. M. Forbes (The late Professor of Entomology at Cornell University, Ithaca, New York). Reprint of 1923 edition. Entomology Reprint Specialists, P. O. Box 207, East Lansing, Michigan 48823. 1969. 729 pp. \$17.50.

The publishers are to be commended for making this valuable reference available again. It is an unabridged reprint of the original which has been out of print. The book is designed primarily for the serious student of moths in eastern North America but has introductory material and other notes valuable to all Lepidopterists. Sections are included on taxonomy, variation, phylogeny, distribution in relation to life zones and habitats, morphology, artificial keys on larvae, pupae, and adults, and a synopsis of the families of Lepidoptera (including skippers and butterflies). A highly useful food index supplements the scientific name index. The main body of the work consists of a wealth of information on the Primitive Forms, Microlepidoptera, Pyraloids, and Bombyces. The illustrations are line drawings, primarily of wing venation, male genitalia, side views of the adult head, and setal maps of larvae.

This book is a *must* for Lepidopterists; however, since the author deliberately omitted colored figures, bibliography, and references as a measure of economy, workers then and now should supplement it with other references. Beyond this, of course, is the need to keep up with name changes reflecting the new systematic knowledge that has accrued since the book was written; however, the intrinsic value of Part I still ranks it as a prime reference source.

The other parts written by Forbes and published by Cornell University are as follows: Part II, issued in 1948, covering Geometridae, Sphingidae, Notodontidae, and Lymantriidae (Memoir 274); Part III, 1954, covering Noctuidae (Memoir 329); and Part IV, 1960, covering Agaristidae through Nymphalidae, including butterflies (Memoir 371 and the last of the series by Forbes).

Dr. Forbes was 82 when he passed away at Worcester, Massachusetts, April 12, 1968.

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