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Insect Behaviour. Symposium no. 3 of the Royal Entomological Society of London. Ed. P. T. Haskell. London: The Royal Entomological Society, 1966. viii, 113 pp. \$6.35. ..

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of the forceps, still manufactured by several entomological suppliers. We no longer see collectors in top hats, but the forceps net remains to remind us of an earlier era.

R. S. Wilkinson

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REVIEWS OF RECENT LITERATURE

INSECT BEHAVIOUR. Symposium no. 3 of the Royal Entomological Society of London. Ed. P. T. Haskell. London: The Royal Entomological Society, 1966. viii, 113 pp. \$6.35.

The science of zoology is expanding at such a rate that it is difficult for even the relatively narrow specialist to keep up with the ever-increasing literature on his subject, and almost impossible to assimilate recent findings in the entire field of zoological research. The international congresses of zoology and entomology have helped considerably by facilitating personal contact between workers of different nationalities. On a more modest scale, the symposia of the Royal Entomological Society of London have provided a useful means of bringing together entomologists in an atmosphere conducive to the free exchange of ideas and information.

The present volume is an account of the papers given at the symposium held on the 23rd-24th September 1965: G. Birukow (Göttingen), Orientation behaviour in insects and factors which influence it; P. S. Corbet (Ottawa), The role of rhythms in insect behaviour; P. T. Haskell (London), Flight behaviour; V. G. Dethier (Pennsylvania), Feeding behaviour; A. Manning (Edinburgh), Sexual behaviour; J. D. Carthy (London), Insect communication; E. O. Wilson (Cambridge, Mass.), Behaviour of social insects; J. S. Kennedy (Cambridge, England), Some outstanding questions in insect behaviour. Each paper is followed by an account of the discussion at the symposium. Although the papers are short, averaging about twelve pages, many are extremely useful summaries of present knowledge of their topics, especially Corbet's

lucid paper on rhythms. Some discuss little-explored concepts; Wilson's paper provoked a lively discussion of the social life of insects. The final paper performs the difficult task of furnishing a balanced, yet individual, summary of the symposium. In it, Kennedy successfully destroys the term *klinokinesis*. May it rest in peace!

Anthony Eve.

BOTANICAL LATIN: HISTORY, GRAMMAR, SYNTAX, TERMINOLOGY AND VOCABULARY. William T. Stearn. London and Edinburgh: Thomas Nelson and Sons, Ltd., 1966. xiv, 566pp. (\$14.75)

As W. T. Stearn reminds us in the preface to this attractive and welcome work, "the realm of literature which a knowledge of botanical Latin opens to botanists is a strange barbarous place for classicists; invited into it as an interpreter, a good classical scholar may well feel like Alice meeting Humpty Dumpty through the looking-glass." The same perplexity is experienced by the entomologist; those of us educated in the Latin of Cicero and Pliny are ill equipped to name new species or even to translate Latin descriptions, as biological Latin developed long ago into a stylized form not easily conquered without a specific aid.

Stearn's self-styled "do-it-yourself Latin kit" solves the problem with surprising ease. Although primarily written for the botanist, it is well worth a perusal by the entomologist who faces historical literature with apprehension or simply wishes a meaningful name to bestow upon his latest discovery. Stearn furnishes concise reviews of Latin grammar and syntax, as well as a copious vocabulary. The Greek element in name formation is not forgotten, and directions are given for the solution of such problems as Latinization of native names, anagrams and epithets commemorating persons. There is an excellent index of standard abbreviations used in Latin descriptions. Despite differences between the zoological and botanical codes of nomenclature, all biologists will find W. T. Stearn's *Botanical Latin* to be an invaluable reference work.

R.S.W.

BRIEF NOTICES

LIGHT: PHYSICAL AND BIOLOGICAL ACTION. Howard H. Seliger and William D. McElroy. New York and London: Academic Press, 1965. xii, 417pp. \$12.00.

Although the authors include no specific treatment of the attraction of insects by light, there is much in this work to interest the entomologist. Chapters are included on the measurement and characterization