

OBITUARY.
F. W. L. SLADEN.

Canadian Entomologists were shocked to learn of the accidental death by drowning of Mr. F. W. L. Sladen, Dominion Apiarist, which occurred off Duck Island in Lake Ontario on September 10th, 1921.

For several years he had been conducting important experiments in the rearing of bees. On August last he left Ottawa for the above island, which is about 20 miles distant from Kingston, Ont. He had been in the habit of bathing in the shallow water close to the shore; unfortunately he could not swim. On the above date he went in bathing as usual and it is assumed that his heart, which had troubled him for several years, failed to function, thus causing his death. The body, which was recovered about seventy feet from the shore, was partially floating, unswollen, and no water was found in the lungs.

In the death of Mr. Sladen, entomology in Canada loses a very careful worker. Other than the reputation he had gained as a successful apiarist and student of bee rearing, he was well known in Canada, as also in the United States and England, as a close, systematic student of the aculeate hymenoptera. He had a wide knowledge of the wild bees, and his writings indicate a careful taxonomic acquaintance with the various characters of the groups he studied.

The collections he brought together not only indicate keen powers of observation, but also the intense pleasure he derived in gathering series of interesting species collected while afield in various parts of Canada, particularly in the West.

The late Mr. Sladen came to Canada in 1912 to join the staff of the old Division of Entomology, as Assistant Entomologist for Apiculture. When the Division of Entomology was separated from the Experimental Farms Branch in 1914 and raised to the status of a Branch of the Department of Agriculture, Mr. Sladen was retained by the Experimental Farms Branch as Apiarist. More recently his title was changed to Dominion Apiarist. Since 1914, however, he has always had a close connection with the Entomological Branch, having been, in fact, largely responsible for the identification and arrangement of the aculeate hymenoptera in the National Collection of Insects.

He was a Fellow of the Entomological Society of London, member of the Entomological Society of America, Entomological Society of Ontario, Ottawa Field-Naturalists' Club, etc.

As an author he was best known as the writer of "Queen Rearing in England" and "The Humble Bee," both excellent treatises. He was a frequent contributor of the Canadian Entomologist, Canadian Field Naturalist and other scientific journals. One of his most recent papers was the report he prepared on the Wasps and Bees collected by members of the Canadian Arctic Expedition of 1913-1918.

ARTHUR GIBSON.

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