

Cecropia Moth

August is the month when the larva of the Cecropia Moth passes into the pupal stage. So large and so striking is the larva that the finder nearly always tries to learn its name. It is three or more inches in length and almost as large in diameter as a man's thumb. It is green and blue in color and is conspicuously marked with orange and yellow.

One of these was recently brought to me for identification, the finder not knowing about my ignorance in respect to such matters. However, I happened to know this one. I put it into a small jar, with the intention of taking it to the museum the next morning, but instead of the larva, the jar was nearly filled with the cocoon at breakfast time. How that insect could have accomplished such a task in a few hours is more than I can imagine. The cocoon is a finely woven and irregularly shaped sack, much larger than the pupa. It is light brown in color. This one was neatly fastened with numerous long hairs to the side of the jar and the leaves that were in it. I have put it in the garage and expect the moth to emerge next May. From past observations I know what a pleasant experience it is to observe this emergence.

--- L.T. Carmichael

An annual meeting will be held in Regina College and in the Provincial Museum of Natural History on October 21 and 22, 1949. Wildlife films will be shown and the whole make-up and policy of the Saskatchewan Natural History Society and the "BLUE JAY" will be discussed. More complete programs may be obtained upon inquiry. Please let us know if you can come to Regina for these days.