or stems of their host. The eggs of species living in stored products are laid, like those of *Cimex*, in exposed or semi-exposed situations.

The eggs of the Anthocoridae show a general similarity to those of the Cimicidae, but differ in the presence of a reduced network region. This character is also found in the Nabidae and Microphysidae. The thickened operculum of *Acompocoris* is similar to that in the Nabidae, but the elliptical-shaped operculum of *Elatophilus* is found elsewhere only in the Miridae.

Descriptions.—Collyer, 1953; Fulmek, 1930; Hall, 1951; Leston, 1954*a*; Peska, 1931; Poisson, 1933; Sands, 1954; Swezey, 1905.

Microphysidae.

Only the eggs of *Loricula* and *Myrmedobia* have been described. These are very characteristic with tapering processes that probably correspond to the network region (fig. 6N) (Carayon, 1949*b*). The eggs of *Loricula elegantula* (Barensprung) are very large compared with the adult female, two (the maximum number found) almost filling the abdomen. These ovarian eggs have been studied and the pseudomicropyles found to be short, as in the Anthocoridae, terminating at the base of the network region. In the ovarian egg the processes of the network region touch at their tips and thus cover the operculum, but Carayon (1949*b*) found that in the laid egg they radiate out and thus their apices become widely separate. The operculum is thin and flat with a pattern, due to the follicle cells, similar to that of the Anthocoridae.

Carayon (1949*b*) found the eggs, that are grey to brown in colour, inserted amongst lichens growing on the twigs of various trees.

The Microphysid egg is, therefore, similar to the Anthocorid in some features, but differs in the fragmented network region, which is the largest in the Cimicoidea.

Descriptions.—Carayon, 1949*b*; Thomas, 1938.

Miridae.

The eggs of Mirids are characterised by the asymmetrical operculum. This is elliptical and often concealed by the rim of the chorion, as in *Leptopterna dolabrata* (L.) (fig. 13G). Eggs of *Capsus ater* L. (fig. 6P) and *L. dolabrata* were injected with cobalt sulphide and the canals in the rim of the chorion all became filled with the black precipitate. These are pseudomicropyles which arise as small bulbous cavities in the resistant protein and are concentrated at the narrow ends of the operculum (figs. 12L); this is especially so in *Dicyphus stachydis* (fig. 13F). Kullenberg (1942, 1943, 1946) described and sectioned the eggs of many Mirids and, although the network region is always absent, the operculum is often very thick with the pseudomicropyles (Leuckart's canals) correspondingly lengthened, as in *Orthocephalus mutabilis* (Fallén) and *Miris striatus* (L.). This arrangement is probably analogous, but not homologous, with the large network regions of certain Reduviids. It is noteworthy that the thinnest operculum and some of the shortest pseudomicropyles are found in *Lygus pratensis* (L.), a species that overwinters as the imago and whose egg stage lasts only a few weeks, whilst in the many species where the operculum and pseudomicropyles are thick and long the egg is the overwintering stage and lasts for at least six months. The chorion is always pale, usually transparent or