

THE COLUMBIAN.

BLOOMSBURG, PA.

THURSDAY, JULY 1, 1909.

The Zoological Press Bulletin

of the Division of Zoology, Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture. Timely Topics of Plants and Pests Discussed Weekly. By H. A. Surface, State Zoologist.

THE ROSE LEAF HOPPER.

At this season of the year, when the roses are in bloom, the damaging effects of the Leaf-hoppers, or "white bugs" under rose leaves, are most noticeable, because everybody is attracted to the beautiful blooms, and then confronted with the spectacle of bleached and withering leaves and bushes being denuded of foliage.

The rose leaf hopper is most active in its operations about the middle of June. Prof. H. A. Surface, the State Zoologist, Harrisburg, says: "It has a piercing or suctional mouth, and consequently does not eat away the tissue of the plant, but injects a poison and sucks the juices. Owing to their immense numbers they cause considerable damage. The eggs are laid on the under side of the leaves. The young are hatched there, and first look like small white plant lice, but are active and run quickly. The white cast-off skins remain on the under sides of the leaves. The young insects have no wings, and, therefore, do not fly, and cannot escape the insecticides applied as sprays. When full grown they are light in color and winged, and jump and fly quickly, and may escape the spray. Where the hoppers are at work the upper sides of the leaves will present a grayish appearance along the mid-ribs. The whitened leaf denotes their presence.

"Spray the under side of the leaves with a solution made by dissolving one pound of whale-oil soap in six gallons of water, or with a very strong tobacco decoction, or eight per cent. kerosene emulsion or a very strong solution of any kind of soap. Being sucking insects, they can not be killed by the arsenical poisons, which are used effectively against the chewing insects. If the insects hop to the ground you can destroy them by spraying the ground with a stronger solution which will not there do any injury to the plants."

THE STRIPED BEETLE.

The striped cucumber beetle is to be reckoned with in the month of June by the growers of cucumbers, squashes, pumpkins and melons. In some seasons the beetles have been known to destroy large patches of these members of the melon family in a few days. State Zoologist Surface, of Harrisburg, gives the following information, in condensed form, in regard to this pest:

The beetles are about one-fourth of an inch long and are yellow, with two black stripes extending lengthwise on each wing cover. They commence at once to chew holes in the leaves, and even eat off the young stems. There are two distinct broods, the second appearing about the middle of August. The eggs are laid in the ground near the roots upon which the larvae feed, often causing the plants to wither without apparent cause.

The earliest measure is to prevent damage by covering young plants with a net or cloth with a finer mesh than the common mosquito netting. They will not crowd through mosquito netting if lime and turpentine be placed on the ground within it. The adults can be killed by an arsenical poison, like Paris green, which can be applied either as a powder or in liquid form. If as a powder, it should be dusted on the plants after having been mixed with thirty times as much of air-slacked lime or flour.

In applying poisons as a liquid, do not over one-third of a pound of Paris green or two pounds of arsenate of lead in fifty-gallons of water.

How's This?

We offer One Hundred Dollars reward for any case of Catarrh that is not cured by Hall's Catarrh Cure.

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dusting the plants with air-slacked lime mixed with hellebore. This, however, is only a repellent driving off the insects, but not killing them. To destroy them a poison must be used.

The larvae can be killed by using tobacco dust in the soil around the plants; or, stick a few holes, four or five inches deep, in each hill and insert a teaspoonful of calcium carbide, filling the hole with earth. Land plaster with turpentine is also a preventive, and it may be added that a pinch of nitrate of soda in each hill will act both as an insecticide and a fertilizer.

FOR PEACH TREE BORERS.

There is no more serious pest of the peach tree in Pennsylvania than the Peach Tree Borer. It is the larva of a Clear-wing moth, which flies by day, darting quickly from place to place. The egg is laid during July and August on the bark at the base of the tree, and after some days the larva or grub hatches and commences to feed at the surface of the bark, finally eating its way through and boring up and down and across beneath the bark, often cutting off the total sap supply, and causing the tree to wither as though scalded. After the pests have passed beneath the bark, they are concealed and can not easily be reached with insecticides. They should then be killed by cutting them out, always cutting lengthwise rather than crosswise of the bark, or by piercing them with a pointed wire, when they will die. This, however, is a great loss of time, and is, of course, after some injury has been done to the tree. By far the best plan is to prevent this injury and the necessity of cutting them out by covering the base of the trunk of the tree with some liquid material that will prevent the moth from laying its eggs; or, destroy the larvae before they enter the bark. The best time of year for this is the latter part of June, when the base of each tree should be sprayed with boiled lime-sulfur wash, either commercial or home-boiled, the same as for San Jose Scale, applying to each tree from a pint to three pints, according to size. The best way to do this is with a spray pump, with a short extension rod, carrying the nozzles at an angle, but where there are only a few trees it can be applied with a whitewash brush. Painting near the ground and below with whitelead and raw linseed oil will serve the same purpose, and be safe, as has been proven by Prof. H. A. Surface in his experiments.

Mr. J. L. Shroy, of Lancaster Co., writes to Prof. Surface that he has succeeded perfectly in preventing the borer by rubbing the base of the tree with equal parts flowers of sulfur and salt, in June and again in August.

WESTON, Ocean-to-Ocean Walker.

Said recently: "When you feel down and out, feel there is no use living, just take your bad thoughts with you and walk them off. Before you have walked a mile things will look rosier. Just try it." Have you noticed the increase in walking of late in every community? Many attribute it to the comfort which Allen's Foot-Ease, the antiseptic powder to be shaken into the shoes, gives to the millions now using it. As Weston has said, "It has real merit."

FLECKENSTINE-LEIDY.

Mr. Carl Fleckenstine and Miss Dora Leidy, both of Orangeville, were united in wedlock on Wednesday evening, at the home of the bride's sister, Miss Agnes Leidy, in Bloomsburg. Rev. A. Houtz of Orangeville performed the ceremony. A number of relatives and friends were present.

Mr. Fleckenstine is a son of former county treasurer G. S. Fleckenstine, and the bride was a popular school teacher.

Miss Annie Derret, who for the past thirty-eight years has lived with her sister Mrs. J. R. Townsend on Normal Hill, succumbed to an attack of lagrippe on Saturday morning after an illness of two weeks. Besides Mrs. Townsend, she is survived by a sister, Mrs. C. W. Blackmore, of Newport, England.

The funeral service was conducted at her late home by the Rev. Mr. Diggles of St. Paul's Church Monday morning. Interment was made in Rosemont cemetery.

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DYEING REAL FLOWERS.

How the Ingenious May Produce Some Rare Floral Effects.

"Every once in a while some florist gets busy and puts some odd-colored blossoms in his window as an extra attraction to the display," said a clubman. "I just noticed one down the street. It consisted of a bunch of impossibly green carnations. At first glance a good many people thought they were made of paper, but they got interested when they found out that they were 'natural.' Now, anybody who wants to have any of these freak flowers can get them by buying some kind of aniline ink, any color desired. Carnations are the easiest to color—white ones of course. Put their stems in a glass filled with ink. Their stems are soft and in a short while the larger veins in their petals are filled with the ink. Don't let them absorb too much color; they're prettier with just so much. Then remove them and put them in a vase of salt water. Lilies of the valley lend themselves to this scheme also; in fact, any white self-stemmed flower may be used."

Bacteria in School Glass.

A cup which had been in use nine days in a school was a clear thin glass. It was broken into a number of pieces and properly stained for examination with a microscope magnifying 1,000 diameters. The human cells scraped from the lips of the drinkers were so numerous on the upper third of the glass that the head of a pin could not be placed anywhere without touching several of these bits of skin. The saliva by running down on the inside of the glass had carried cells and bacteria to the bottom. Here, however, they were less than one-third as abundant as at the brim.

By counting the cells present in only fifty different areas on the glass as seen under the microscope, it was estimated that the cup contained over 20,000 human cells or bits of dead skin. As many as 150 germs were seen clinging to a single cell, and very few cells showed less than ten germs. Between the cells were thousands of germs left there by the smears of saliva deposited by the drinkers. Not less than 100,000 bacteria were present on every square inch of the glass.—Leavenworth (Kan.) Times.

Birds That Deceive.

"All birds are not so innocent as they would seem," says a naturalist. "Take, for instance, the goose. Most people have heard a goose hiss when threatened by danger. Well, that is a trick on the bird's part. In past ages, when the mother goose was sitting on her nest among the reeds, she somehow learned that this action made her head and neck simulate a snake. So it formed a fine defense. "The lapping is another deceiver. If you approach her nest, she will set up a dismal outcry and run backward and forward, trailing one wing on the ground, as though it were broken, thinking to pick her up, you follow. Thus she lures you away from her young.

"In times of drought the thrush acts a lie. He will beat upon the ground with his claws like a dancer. By this he makes the earthworms think it is raining. Up they come, and then the wily thrush dines luxuriantly."—London Answers.

Meerschaum Running Out.

Unless a fresh source of supply is found, meerschaum will soon be worth double as much as it is to-day. The article was introduced into Europe, so far as its use for pipes is concerned, through Turkey. This was about the year 1750. A large supply was also found in Ruhla, in Germany, near the Thuringia Forest, which, until recently, gave employment to about five thousand hands. Many of the most notable among the German sculptors had their first training as carvers of meerschaum pipe bowls. The supply, however, has now almost ceased, and the only important beds in the world to-day are in Asia Minor. The industry there is now controlled by American and British capital, with the result that the stuff is now fifty per cent. dearer than it was a few years ago, with the prospect of a further advance in price at an early date.—Dundee Advertiser.

Mathematics Versus Poetry.

Some men are so practical that it is utterly impossible for them to take in even the barest idea of poetical expression. They are like people who look at all beautiful things with eyes that seek only for what use may be made of them. It is said that a young professor of mathematics in one of our universities once boasted to a friend that he neither knew nor cared to know anything about poetry, for it was "all a lot of unpractical rot." His friend thought he might feel differently if he read some stirring poem by one of the greater writers, and gave him Tennyson's "Charge of the Light Brigade" as a test. The mathematician took up the volume and read thus:

"Half a league, half a league, half a league onward. Then he banged the book down on the table, snorting, "Bah! If the man meant a league and a half, why didn't he say so!"

The Three Ages of Man.

Report by a young English school-girl of a lecture on "Phases of Human Life—Youth, Manhood, and Age": "In youth we look forward to the wicked things we will do when we grow up—this is the state of innocence. In manhood we do the wicked things of which we thought in our youth—this is the prime of life. In old age we are sorry for the wicked things we did in manhood—this is the time of our dotage."—Christian Register.

CHARTER APPLICATION

Notice of Application for Charter. Notice is hereby given that application will be made by E. R. Sponsler, M. I. Low, A. W. Duy, C. M. Creveling, and W. F. Lowry to the Governor of Pennsylvania on the 19th day of July A. D. 1909, at 10 a. m., under the provisions of an Act of Assembly, entitled "An Act to provide for the incorporation and regulation of certain corporations," approved the 29th day of April, A. D., 1874, and the supplements thereto, for a Charter for an intended corporation to be called "Catawissa Electric Company," the character and object of which is to supply light, heat and power, or any of them, by electricity to the Borough of Catawissa, County of Columbia, and State of Pennsylvania, and to such persons, partnerships and corporations residing therein or adjacent thereto, as may desire the same, and for these purposes to have, possess and enjoy all the rights, benefits and privileges of said Act of Assembly and the supplements thereto, conferred.

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ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE.

Estate of William H. Lord, deceased, late of the Town of Bloomsburg, Pa. Notice is hereby given that letters of administration on the estate of William H. Lord, late of the Town of Bloomsburg, Pa., deceased, have been granted to the undersigned, administrator, to whom all persons indebted to said estate are requested to make payments, and those having claims or demands will make known the same without delay to FRED E. LORD, Administrator, Espy, Pa. J. G. FREEZE, Atty. 6-10-09.

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