

## THE COLUMBIAN.

BLOOMSBURG, PA.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 5, 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.

## CONCERNING STRAWBERRY PESTS.

State Zoologist Surface received many inquiries recently concerning strawberry pests, and to these has replied that the best general means of suppressing them lies in a novel method of summer treatment of the strawberry plant, which many persons would hesitate to apply, but which they will find so effective that it will become a regular feature of their mode of culture after its benefits have been observed. This consists of nothing more nor less than mowing the strawberry leaves as low as possible shortly after the berries are picked, throwing these together with a little straw between the rows, drying them quickly on a hot, sunny day, and then burning them at once.

The strawberry leaf rust and leaf spot are among the diseases that are very destructive and contagious. They can be partially prevented by the use of the Bordeaux mixture, but the germs causing the leaf destruction remain in the old patch from one year to another. Also, the aphids and several other insects pests attack the leaves during the summer. It has been found that if the leaves are mowed closely on a warm, dry day, and slightly dried and mixed with just a little straw and then burned, the pests are practically all destroyed, and the plants themselves escape uninjured. Consequently, this is the time of year to give such treatment.

Good new runners will be formed at once; especially, if a little commercial fertilizer or finely-divided manure from the stable or poultry house be scattered over the roots of the old plants and these be cultivated in the regular manner. New leaves will yet be formed this season, and the plants will be put in good condition for bearing a much more abundant and a healthier crop next year than if the leaves had not been burned. Persons who doubt the efficiency of this treatment should mow the leaves of some of the plants, and see the results for themselves.

## BORERS IN MAPLE TREES.

Former State Senator Henry D. Saylor, of Montgomery County, wrote from his home in Pottstown to State Zoologist Surface, of the Department of Agriculture, Harrisburg as follows:

"I write for information about an insect that has just attacked some Norway maples belonging to me by boring holes in the trunks and large limbs, the holes being lean cut about the size, in circumference, of a darning or steel crochet needle. I have been unable to see the insect that is causing the mischief. My attention was first called to the matter by the drooping appearance of the trees, and the presence of white spots on the trunks and limbs where the boring occurred."

This letter was answered by the State Zoologist as follows:

"Replying to your letter, I can not say with certainty what the pest is that is infesting your Norway maple tree without seeing it. However, it is evidently a borer, and perhaps a bark borer or engraver beetle. If it be this, it shows that the tree is declining, and this borer practically attacks only declining or injured trees. I would advise digging about the trees, pulling them, pruning off dead and dying branches, and watering well with water containing a teaspoonful of nitrate of soda to each

\$100 Reward. \$100.

The readers of this paper will be pleased to learn that there is at last one dreaded disease that science has been able to cure in all its ages, and that is Catarrh. Hall's Catarrh Cure is the only positive cure now known to the medical fraternity. Catarrh being a constitutional disease, requires a constitutional treatment. Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system, thereby destroying the foundation of the disease, and giving the patient strength by building up the constitution and assisting nature in doing its work. The proprietors have so much faith in its curative powers that they offer One Hundred Dollars for any case that it fails to cure. Send for list of testimonials.

Address F. J. CHERNEY & Co., Toledo, O.  
Sold by all Druggists, 75c.  
Take Hall's Family Pills for constipation.

gallon of water. If the borers be large enough that you can find their holes and insert the tip of a small machine oil can into them, you can easily kill the pests by injecting a little carbon bisulfide into each hole, and then stopping this with clay or mud. For this particular tree, I would recommend pruning, watering, cultivating and trying every means possible to stimulate it to vigorous growth, in order that you can make it outgrow the effects of the pests you mention. If you will send me some for examination, I shall be glad to reply promptly concerning the same."

## THE ANGOUMOIS GRAIN MOTH.

Throughout the southeastern part of Pennsylvania there has for some years been an annual destruction of hundreds of thousands of dollars worth of wheat in the bin by a little pest very commonly called the White Weevil or Moth Weevil. As a matter of fact it is not a weevil but a moth, the larva of which lives within the grain of wheat and hollows it out to such an extent that it becomes a mere hull of bran. It is ruined for milling purposes, and, of course, badly injured for domestic use.

The Angoumois Grain Moth is so named from the province of France where its ravages were first most noted. The mature moth lays its eggs on the grains of wheat while in the head or straw and as it feeds voraciously and but a short time, it multiplies rapidly, giving several successive broods. Where the wheat is left in the straw, as in the stack or mow, it has been found far worse infested than when threshed and kept in a bin. Several farmers have replied to State Zoologist Surface that they have acted upon his recommendation of threshing the grain soon after harvest, and have found the results quite satisfactory. One farmer reported that half of his crop, which was threshed shortly after harvest, was entirely uninjured by the pest; while the other half, that was not threshed until the latter part of fall, was nearly all destroyed.

The remedy, therefore, is one of the simplest, and at the same time one of the most effective, that could be applied, and consists in merely threshing the grain as early as is possible and storing it in the bin, rather than keeping it in the straw unthreshed. In the grain bin the moth weevil will work only in the top layer of grain, if at all; and, if it should be found there, as would be indicated by the heating of the grain, it can easily be killed by pouring carbon bisulfide into shallow dishes, and placing them on the grain under cover of wet blankets.

## Employment for Boys.

Should Not Be Allowed to Grow up in Idleness.

We heartily agree with an argument advanced by the Altoona Tribune that parents who permit their boys to grow up in idleness make a grave mistake. That paper says that most of the petty robberies which are occurring in various sections of the country are traced to boys of various ages. Some have reached the time in life when they want to cut something of a figure among their comrades or with the opposite sex. They have no useful employment and their parents either decline to furnish them with spending money or have none to give them. Having no inclination to provide it by honest toil, the lads soon yield to temptation to rob somebody. Others are small boys who have very poor home associations or bad street companions. Perhaps the blood in their veins is not of the best quality. Some persons sneer at the notion of heredity, but there's something in it; not as much as faddists claim, but an inclination, a tendency, a weakness or a strength, as the case may be. Parents are not always responsible for the ill-doing of their children. The home and its training usually have much to do with human destiny, but it's an admitted fact that some of the world's noblest men have come out of very unpromising homes, while devout men and women have sometimes gone down in sorrow to their graves because of the perverse conduct of children who were carefully trained in the way of virtue and given every chance to make excellent men or women out of themselves. There is a disposition to righteousness in some which is quite as gratifying as it is unexpected; there is a tendency to criminal or vicious depraved conduct which is no less depressing. But when the exceptions are eliminated the rule remains that the child is father to the man, which is the same as saying that the man is the product, in most instances, of his early environment.

Children Cry  
FOR FLETCHER'S  
CASTORIA

## That Murder Secret.

Man Who Knows of How Woman Was Killed,

Escaped From Snyder County Jail—No Effort Being Made to Find Him.

Why an escaped prisoner, who claims to know a nineteen-years-old murder secret, and got out of jail at Middleburg Sunday two weeks ago, as he was being held to tell his story at the October term of court, should not be at least searched for, cannot be understood by Snyder county folk. Some of them are anxious to see Alfred F. Thomas take the witness stand and reiterate his alleged explanation of the mysterious disappearance of Mrs. Robert Hassinger in 1890 from her mountain home near Beaver Springs.

Thomas declared that he was so harassed by his conscience that he could no longer eat nor sleep, thinking of the crime he was keeping secret and unatoned for. Two months ago his pangs became so desperate that he told before many persons repeatedly that he saw Mrs. Hassinger whipped in her home the night of her disappearance nineteen years ago, and that in a fit of anger the flogger struck the aged woman on the head with the butt end of the whip, felling her to the floor, dead.

Thomas said so many things that Robert Hassinger, the strangely absent woman's husband, caused his arrest on a charge of slander the latter part of May. When Sheriff Hackenberger caught Thomas at Selingsgrove the prisoner greeted him heartily and remarked: "You would not need to have come for me. I was just going to Middleburg to give myself up. I want to tell the judge my story."

Thomas was thereupon incarcerated in the snug \$40,000 county jail to await trial. Sunday afternoon a week ago he packed his kit of clothes, strolled out into the jail yard, across the lawn to a gate in the big stone wall, leisurely smashed a padlock thereon, swung open the heavy doors and walked away. He was missed about "supper time," but that was all.

No searchers went after him, no alarm was spread by telephone; nothing but announcement of the fact by gossiping men and women on their way to church that night. Some had seen Thomas early that afternoon unconcernedly strolling along the public road; others passed him on their way to worship. Now the indifference of the Snyder

county officials in this matter is causing much comment. Why should Thomas have absconded, when even during his short imprisonment he expressed eagerness to tell his story under oath? Mrs. Hassinger's body was never found.

Calvin Wells, financier, steel manufacturer, and former editor of the Philadelphia Press, died suddenly from heart failure at his home in Pittsburg, Monday night.

## DIVORCE NOTICE.

Freda Rabb Hall vs. Walter Townsend Hall

In the Court of Common Pleas of Columbia County, Pa. Subpaena in divorce. No: 161 May Term, 1909.

To Walter Townsend Hall, Respondent in the above cited case. You are hereby notified, in pursuance of the order of the Court of Common Pleas of the said county of Columbia and State of Pennsylvania, to be and appear in said Court on or before the Fourth Monday of August, 1909, being the 23rd day of said month, to answer petition heretofore preferred by the libellant, Freda Rabb Hall, your wife, and show cause, if any you have, why the said Freda Rabb Hall should not be divorced from you, agreeably to the Act of Assembly in such case made and provided.

Hereof fail not, under the penalty of having the said petition heard and a decree of divorce granted against you in your absence.

CHARLES B. ENT, Sheriff.

Clinton Herring, Attorney, 7-22-09.

## CHARTER NOTICE.

In the Court of Common Pleas of Columbia County.

Notice is hereby given that an application will be made to the above named Court on Monday, the 27th day of September, 1909 at 10 a. m., under the Act of Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, entitled "An Act to provide for the Incorporation and Regulation of certain Corporations," approved April 29, 1874, and the supplements thereto, for the Charter of an intended Corporation to be called "Orthodox Catholic Brotherhood of Saint Nicholas of Centralia, Pa.," the character and object of which is to provide funds to assist the members in case of sickness, accidents, or death, and for these purposes to have, possess and enjoy all the rights, benefits and privileges of the said Act of Assembly and its supplements.

The names of the subscribers are Jacob Broda, Andrew Hudick, Michael Onushkewich, Wasyl Oryniak and Demetry Kosack, and others.

The proposed Charter is now on file in the Prothonotary's office.

EDWARD J. FLYNN, Solicitor, Centralia, Pa.

7-22-09.

## PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD

## Bulletin.

## FORTY PLAYGROUNDS BY THE SEA.

This is seashore time.

The dog days call to the worker in home, office, and mill and the answer brings up thoughts of the many resorts beside the sea where comfort, recreation, and pleasure alike await the coming of the holiday-maker.

Along the shores of New Jersey from Cape May to Sandy Hook lie forty beaches, each offering delights for outings long or short and each easily accessible by the splendid train service of the Pennsylvania Railroad.

Atlantic City, with its myriad attractions for young and old, needs no introduction, for its charms are known from the Atlantic to the Pacific.

Cape May, for a century the summering place of satisfied thousands of seekers after cool breezes, fine bathing, and the refined amusements of the seaside, is more attractive than ever in its new life.

Ocean City, Wildwood, Sea Isle City, with their smaller neighbors, Anglesea, Holly Beach, Wildwood Crest, Avalon, and Stone Harbor, afford summer pleasure to thousands.

To the north lie Beach Haven, Seaside Park, Island Heights and the other resorts about Barnegat Bay, where the lover of fishing and sailing finds the choicest sport.

Asbury Park, Ocean Grove, Spring Lake, Long Branch, Sea Girt, Point Pleasant, Allenhurst, Elberon, and Belmar on the Upper Coast where the country meets the sea right on the beach, appeal with mighty force to the vacationist.

Any Pennsylvania Railroad Ticket Agent will be glad to give full information regarding excursion rates, time of trains and arrange your outing whether it be for a day, a week or the whole summer.

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Tickets good returning on regular trains within FIFTEEN DAYS, including date of excursion. Stop-off within limit allowed at Buffalo returning.

Illustrated Booklet and full information may be obtained from Ticket Agents J. R. WOOD, Passenger Traffic Manager, GEO. W. BOYD, General Passenger Agent.