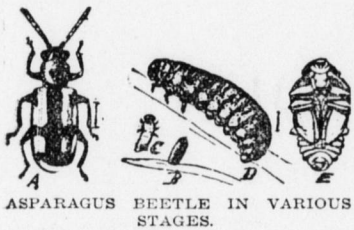




THE ASPARAGUS BEETLE.

To Exterminate This Pest for Next Year Active Operations Must Be Commenced Now.

The common asparagus beetle needs no description other than the illustration given herewith from a drawing by F. H. Chittenden, United States department of agriculture. It is not practical to spray old beds from which asparagus is being cut for the destruction of this pest. The beetles cluster upon the young shoots just as they are coming through the ground; even at times going below the surface, attacking the young plants. In old beds, several stalks should be permitted to stand in each row at intervals of about two rods. These stalks throw out leaves and the beetles con-



centrate upon them, feed for a short time, and then deposit their eggs. These trap plants can be sprayed thoroughly with paris green and water at the rate of four ounces in 40 gallons. The poison can be applied dry by mixing one pound of paris green in 100 pounds of common flour or sand plaster.

The insects attacking young beds should be collected by hand at first. A couple of small boys with tin pails or pans containing about one pint of water and a teaspoonful of kerosene can catch the beetles by bending the young plants over the vessel and shaking them slightly, care being taken not to break them off. As soon as the plants begin to leaf out, they can be sprayed or dusted with paris green. If the young larvae or worms are brushed off on the dry, hot, sandy soil, during the middle of the day, many of them are destroyed.

The fight in combating this pest should begin now to save the crop both this and next year. As soon as the cutting season is over and before the old vines have become veritable breeding beds for the beetle, spray or dust thoroughly. The insects spend the winter as adults and hide any place they can find protection. If, therefore, the early and late broods are destroyed, the greatest number of them can be prevented from reaching maturity. If the first brood now depositing its eggs is fought persistently, the second generation will not be so difficult to handle. If both broods are allowed to breed without any attempt to destroy them, next year's asparagus crop will be in great danger.—Orange Judd Farmer.

RAIN AND SUNSHINE.

Scientists Claim They Are the Determining Factors in Flavoring Berries and Melons.

There are years when fruit has not the flavor usually belonging to it. Especially is this the case with strawberries and melons. On investigation it is found that rainfall and sunshine are the principal factors in determining flavors. In very wet seasons fruits grow large, but contain little sugar. In dry seasons much more sugar is elaborated, and this sugar enters very largely into the indefinable something we call flavor. Prof. Troop, of Indiana, touching on the same subject, says: "An excessive amount of rain is undoubtedly one of the chief causes of trouble. It is a well-known fact that during a very wet season strawberries are of much poorer quality, containing a less amount of sugar, than when the ripening season is comparatively dry. The same is true with muskmelons; the crop may be larger during a wet season, the fruit may be finer in appearance, but the sugar content which gives the melon its delicious flavor is comparatively low. Hence it frequently happens that a variety may give good satisfaction one season, and be very unsatisfactory the next. Thorough drainage, either naturally or artificially, will do much toward preventing trouble from this source. The use of fertilizers, rich in potash and phosphoric acid, will have a tendency to produce a fruit of high quality." It is doubtless true that selection of varieties for planting will do much to give flavor, even in a wet season.

The Fruit Bark Beetle.

A pest discussed at some length in a recent New York bulletin is the fruit bark beetle. This was especially prevalent last season and did much damage in peach orchards in western New York, and in some scattered plum and cherry plantations. On peaches its principal injury was due to punctures of the bark on the trunk and larger limbs, through which the sap oozed and formed gummy excrescences. On plum and cherry, however, more injury was done by punctures in the twigs, causing death of the foliage. The natural home of this insect is in dead bark, so all brush piles and dead trees should be removed from the orchards. Caustic washes upon trunks and branches serve as a preventive measure, and cutting off and burning the infested twigs destroys many of the beetles.

USE OF PETROLEUM.

Experience Shows That It Often Destroys Trees as Well as the Insects That Infest Them.

The varying and sometimes disastrous results obtained from the use of refined petroleum on growing trees as an insecticide, and especially against the San Jose scale, have led to the suspicion that the crude product might be less variable and drastic in its effects. But so far as it has been used it would appear that we have yet much to learn before we can with safety recommend the application of the crude product to the different varieties of fruit trees. That it is efficient in destroying the San Jose scale if it is brought in contact with this insect seems now quite probable. But the hundreds of dead trees that mark the areas where it has been indiscriminately used, point very clearly to the fact that great caution is necessary, and no one is, as yet, able to say just where safety ceases and danger begins. Then, too, when no permanent injury is apparent, as in the case of the seedling apples on the ground of the Ohio agricultural experiment station, who can say that this unnatural retardation may not after the first application prove to be a menace to the life or general vigor of the tree? It is well known that, in nature, these retardations sometimes occur, but nature seldom, if ever, covers the bark of a tree or shrub, and then only in part, with vegetable growths like lichens, and even these are known to be detrimental, a smooth, clean bark being always desirable. In the use of refined petroleum one of the most perplexing phenomena observed was the fact that equally careful applications, made by the same person, with the same grade of oil, would give almost opposite results. Here recommendation of the refined product for general use has, in many cases, resulted disastrously and brought no little discredit to the entomological fraternity of this country. The most that can now be said for the refined product is that a ten to twenty per cent. mixture with water constitutes a fairly successful summer wash and destroys the young scale, thereby checking the increase and spread until applications of whale oil soap mixtures can be made.—Prof. F. M. Webster, in Farmers' Review.

GOOD CALF MUZZLE.

A Very Simple and Inexpensive Contrivance Which Does Its Work Thoroughly.

A simple and a good calf muzzle is made by taking a scantling, a 3 by 3 by 14 inches; bore an inch hole about 1 1/2 inches from each end. Turn scantling over and bore two more holes two inches from each end. Take a small stick of about one inch or little larger and make a bow to go over the calf's neck. For the horns, b, b, take two good seasoned pieces of wood about 14 inches long, make them round and sharp pointed at one end, and insert the other end in the holes bored in the scantling. Then place the muzzle on calf, take a string and tie over calf's nose, and you have a good muzzle complete.—C. P. Wood, in Farm and Home.

A MUZZLE THAT MUZZLES.

Milk at the same time every day. Milk thoroughly to the last drop, because the last milk is the best. Always keep the hands clean, and also the cow's udder and dairy utensils. To milk young, restive cows, raise one of the fore feet. Never strike them. Milk with four fingers, and not with index and thumb, a fault too common with milkers. Let there be exact system in all movements about the dairy. Do not delay straining the milk until the cream has begun to rise again more slowly. The farmer who makes the dairy his main business, rather than an adjunct, is the one who will turn out the best product, and procure the most profit and satisfaction.—Rural World.

A Point Worth Considering.

A close observer has well said that "birds have different tastes from men; as a rule they prefer bitter, sour or insipid fruit. We should never destroy such species as the wild cherry, wild grape, elder, blackberry, juneberry, mulberry, dogwood, Virginia creeper, buckthorn, sumach, bittersweet and others. By encouraging such plants we are approaching a solution of the problem, that will preserve for our own benefit both the cultivated fruit and the birds." This is a point that we think many people have overlooked. Where birds are most destructive is in localities where no food exists other than that growing in the farmer's garden.

Why Pulverization Pays.

The chief supply of drink to growing plants is moisture brought up from below by capillary action, and therein consists the necessity of pulverizing the soil thoroughly before planting, and continuous surface cultivation afterward. Weeds are sometimes counted as a blessing because their presence compels the farmer to continue really necessary cultivation, which he might otherwise feel justified in omitting to the detriment of the crop.—Midland Farmer.

SPORT IN WESTERN CANADA.

While the Farmer's Grain is Ripening and His Stock Growing Fat, He May Have Plenty of Shooting.

There is probably no country on the American Continent where the life of the farmer carries with it that assurance of comfort and success as does Western Canada. Nor is there to be found anywhere else such a pleasant combination. Game abounds everywhere and nowhere does it afford such perfect amusement. A noted sportsman writing of the favorite pastime says: "There is one particular spot where I saw a man drop 70 mallards one morning, and bring them all to bag, too, for they dropped in open water or on flat prairie. At the right season of the year you can see black lines and triangles cut sharply out against the sky all round you, moving very swiftly, and you begin to wonder whether you have enough cartridges to hold out. You can hear the prairie-chicken crowing like barn-door fowls; and a little to the north-east is a bit of marshy ground, cattle poached, and dappled with gleaming pools, where the snipe are nearly as thick as mosquitoes. A thin column of blue smoke curling up in the distance shows you where a few wandering Indians have pitched their camp, but there is no other indication of civilization in sight. Still, the neighborhood is well-settled, and a short drive will bring you to a farmhouse where you can buy the finest butter and the freshest eggs for uncivilized prices.

"A very short railway journey will bring you to a country full of deer and the lordly wapiti, the king of the deer tribe the world over; and down on the flat, boggy land by the lake shores the moose will stand knee-deep in water on the summer evenings, ready to lie down when the flies get bothering. All day you breathe the wild free air of the prairie, and at night you are lulled to sleep by the surge and ripple and splash of the waves on the beach, broken now and then by the weird banishment of strange water-fowl." Particulars regarding settlement of the lands of Western Canada can be had from any agent of the Canadian Government, whose advertisement appears elsewhere in your columns. OLD READER.

A REMARKABLE RECOVERY.

Young Man's Back, Broken at a Dance, Operated On Successfully by a Surgeon.

While dancing at Glendale, L. I., last August Joseph Lennon fell from the platform and injured his back. He was sent to the hospital at Jamaica, where three vertebrae of his spinal column were operated on. Lennon rallied after the operation, but while he could read and talk he had no control over either his arms or legs. Before Dr. Herbert K. Noble performed the operation he performed a similar one on a dead body. It took him four hours to remove the broken portions of bone from Lennon's spine.

A few weeks after the operation Lennon was able to sit up in bed, and in February he was able to move his toes a little. Gradually he has recovered the use of all his limbs, and about the middle of March he was able to stand up. Gradually he gained until he could stand alone, and last Monday he took four steps alone. Since then he has walked the entire length of the ward alone.

Mr. Mann—"You talk about fashionable trimming for a bonnet! Why, anything you can stick on to a bonnet is the style." Mrs. Mann—"Anything, dear, but what you have on hand."—N. Y. Mail and Express.

"I notice lots of people are collecting silver spoons," remarked the traveler. "Is that a new craze?" "Not at all," replied the hotel clerk, "same old thing. Kleptomaniacs."—Philadelphia Press.

WHEN THE DEAD AWAKE.

Some Strange Instances in Which Corpses Have Seemed to Feign Life.

Live persons have feigned death with marvelous exactness, but when the dead feign life, or seem to feign life, the spectacle is as gruesome as can well be imagined. Not long ago a Russian cemetery was the scene of as weird a wedding as ever has been witnessed, says a London paper. A young girl who had been betrothed died on the eve of her marriage, and her friends decided that, in spite of the intervening hand of death, the marriage ceremony should be carried on, and the ceremony was performed at the side of the grave, and after the marriage the body was returned to the coffin and lowered to its long resting place.

It is less than a year ago that a valuable cup was won in a bicycle race in Australia by a man who was dead when he passed the winning post. The race took place at an "electric light carnival," so called, in the presence of 10,000 spectators. In the last lap James Somerville, a rider, forged to the front and secured such a lead that his victory was assured. When within 25 yards of the finish he was seen to relax his hold on the handle bar and to relax his hold on the pedals. He did not fall from the machine, however, and amid frantic cheers dashed by the goal, winning the race by half a wheel. As he passed the finishing post he pitched forward and fell to the ground. When he was picked up he was found to be dead, and what was more, the doctors declared that death had come to him when he was seen to lose his hold on the handle bars. It was a dead body that had ridden the last 25 yards of the race.

On a recent voyage the sealing schooner Arietis was cruising about 200 miles off the coast of British Columbia, when she sighted a dismantled ship. The Arietis bore down upon the derelict, and as she got near enough a man was seen on board grasping the wheel and apparently steering the craft. No other sign of man was seen on the ship. The man at the wheel was hailed, but returned no answer—just stood there grasping the spokes of the wheel and looking straight ahead. A boat was lowered and the mysterious ship boarded. When they came close to the man at the wheel they saw with horror that he was dead and had evidently been dead for many days. The ship, which was named the General Siglin, had sailed from San Francisco for Alaska. She had clearly been dismantled in a gale and then abandoned by her crew. The captain had refused to leave the ship, and finding his strength failing, he had lashed himself to the wheel and literally died at his post, steering the craft for hundreds of miles with hands that held the wheel in as firm a grip as when alive.

Fodder Tree from the Adriatic.

From the island of Lissa, in the Adriatic, agents of the agricultural department sent cuttings of St. John's bread, which is a leguminous tree, suited for rather dry, calcareous soils in the southern states, Porto Rico and Hawaii. It is a fodder tree, yielding immense quantities of pods, which are shipped and sold for cattle feed and which are also used by brewers and distillers. The tree commences to bear when it is 15 years old and yields from 450 to 650 pounds of pod per tree. On the island of Lissa the bearing tree yields pods to the value of from \$5.50 to \$8.50 per annum.—N. Y. Sun.

Altogether Too Earnest.

"Avoid him," said the girl in blue. "Why?" asked the girl in gray. "He's too earnest and too unsophisticated," answered the girl in blue. "Why, he's the kind of a man who will ruin what might be a lovely summer resort flirtation by proposing to you within the first two weeks of the season."—Chicago Post.

The Queer Thing About It.

It's usually when a man speaks without thinking that he says what he thinks.—Philadelphia Record.

Better be dumb than superstitious.—Ben Jonson.

How Mothers may Help their Daughters into Womanhood



Every mother possesses information of vital value to her young daughter. That daughter is a precious legacy, and the responsibility for her future is largely in the hands of the mother. The mysterious change that develops the thoughtless girl into the thoughtful woman should find the mother on the watch day and night. As she cares for the physical well-being of her daughter, so will the woman be, and her children also.

When the young girl's thoughts become sluggish, when she experiences headaches, dizziness, faintness, and exhibits an abnormal disposition to sleep, pains in the back and lower limbs, eyes dim, desire for solitude, and a dislike for the society of other girls, when she is a mystery to herself and friends, then the mother should go to her aid promptly. At such a time the greatest aid to nature is Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound. It prepares the young system for the coming change, and is the surest reliance in this hour of trial.

The following letters from Miss Good are practical proof of Mrs. Pinkham's efficient advice to young women.

Miss Good asks Mrs. Pinkham for Help.

June 12th, 1899. "DEAR MRS. PINKHAM:—I have been very much bothered for some time with my monthly periods being irregular. I will tell you all about it, and put myself in your care, for I have heard so much of you. Each month menstruation would become less and less, until it entirely stopped for six months, and now it has stopped again. I have become very nervous and of a very bad color. I am a young girl and have always had to work very hard. I would be very much pleased if you would tell me what to do."—MISS PEARL GOOD, Cor. 29th Avenue and Yeslar Way, Seattle, Wash.



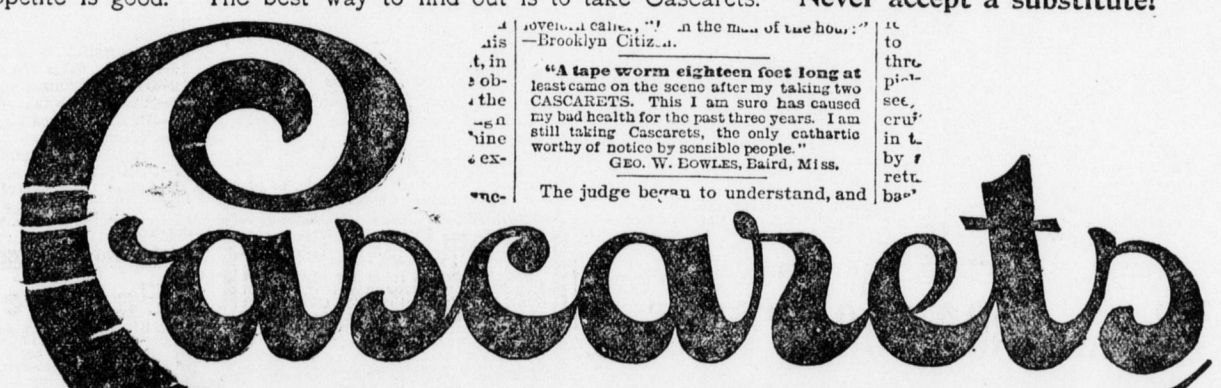
The Happy Result. February 10th, 1900. "DEAR MRS. PINKHAM:—I cannot praise Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound enough. It is just simply wonderful the change your medicine has made in me. I feel like another person. My work is now a pleasure to me, while before using your medicine it was a burden. To-day I am a healthy and happy girl. I think if more women would use your Vegetable Compound there would be less suffering in the world. I cannot express the relief I have experienced by using Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound."—MISS PEARL GOOD, Cor. 29th Avenue and Yeslar Way, Seattle, Wash.

\$5000 REWARD. Owing to the fact that some skeptical people have from time to time questioned the genuineness of the testimonial letters we are constantly publishing, we have deposited with the National City Bank of Lynn, Mass., \$5,000, which will be paid to any person who can show that the above testimonial is not genuine, or was published before obtaining the writer's special permission.—LYDIA E. PINKHAM MEDICINE CO.

READERS OF THIS PAPER DESIRING TO BUY ANYTHING ADVERTISED IN ITS COLUMNS SHOULD INSIST UPON HAVING WHAT THEY ASK FOR. REFUSING ALL SUBSTITUTES OR IMITATIONS. RHEUMATISM Van Buren's Rheumatic Compound is the only positive cure. Past experience speaks for itself. Depot 83 S. California Ave., Chicago. A. N. K.—C 1868 WHEN WRITING TO ADVERTISERS please state that you saw the Advertisement in this paper.

Worms

CASCARETS are a sure cure for tape worms and those other pests of worms that make the lives of children and their mothers miserable. Any variety of parasites that live in the human stomach or bowels, and feed on the substance which should properly nourish the body, are dislodged by Cascarets Candy Cathartic, and expelled. One or two tablets usually drive them out, and persistent use is sure to do away with the unwelcome intruders. Many children and older people suffer from worms without knowing it, and get thin and weak, although their appetite is good. The best way to find out is to take Cascarets. Never accept a substitute!



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GUARANTEED TO CURE: Five years ago the first box of CASCARETS was sold. Now it is over six million boxes a year, greater than any similar medicine in the world. This is absolute proof of great merit, and our best testimonial. We have faith, and will sell CASCARETS absolutely guaranteed to cure or money refunded. Go buy today, two 50c boxes, give them a fair, honest trial, as per simple directions, and if you are not satisfied after using one 50c box, return the unused 50c box and the empty box to us by mail, or the druggist from whom you purchased it, and get your money back for both boxes. Take our advice—no matter what ails you—start today. Health will quickly follow and you will bless the day you first started the use of CASCARETS. Book free by mail. Add: STERLING REMEDY CO., New York or Chicago.