

A Devastating Louse

The Pea Aphid at Work—Methods of Destroying It.

The appearance of the pea aphid, which last year attacked the peas in Maryland, Delaware, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Virginia, North Carolina and Connecticut, has called attention to the fact that pea culture is an important industry in the United States. The attack which the pea louse made on the growing crop last season caused a loss of about \$3,000,000.

The louse has been known only about one year, but it has established its name as an economic pest. It appears suddenly and in large numbers, and soon kills the plants. The winged insect is about one-eighth of an inch long, with a wing expanse of nearly one-quarter of an inch. It is pale green, with darker legs and long honey tubes. The female produces living young, which reach maturity in from ten to fifteen days, and in less time when the weather is hot.

An observer of the pea louse writes this as to its peculiarities:

"A young one born on March 4 reached maturity—the winged form—on March 18, and was producing living young on the 19th. From March 19 to April 17 she became the mother of 111 young, and died on the latter date. Her first young—wingless form—born on March 10 produced on March 31, or eleven days from date of birth. From March 31 to April 18 she gave birth to 120 young and died."

When they are permitted to breed unchecked the pest sweeps over a large area in a short time, and many large fields have been killed in a few days.

The natural enemies of the pea louse are lady beetles and their larvae, the lace winged fly and its larvae, the syrphus fly and its young, and soldier beetles. These have been abundant in many parts of the country this year where peas had been planted, and in some parts of the country these natural enemies have saved twenty-five percent of the crop. Many were also destroyed by the fungous disease, and in places where the lice have appeared the growers wish for damp, warm and sultry weather, under which conditions the fungous disease usually develops.

It will not do, however, a pea grower said, to depend too much on these natural destroyers. He recommends the use of the brush and cultivator where the peas are in rows. A destroying spray composed of tobacco, whale oil soap and water was used with good effect until it became known that the spray destroyed also a natural enemy of the pea louse. This enemy is the syrphus worm. This insect's power as an exterminator of pea lice is demonstrated in the report of an observer to the Maryland Agricultural College. He says:

"The syrphus worms feed on the lice at a rapid rate. Yesterday we found a syrphus worm nearly full grown and

supplied with food when stored in large quantities in the inflated or cork circular floats, and it also affords some measure of protection from the water.



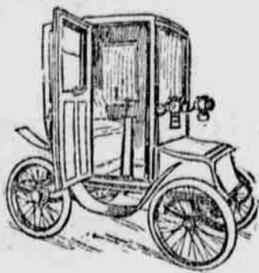
THE NEW LIFEBOAT IN USE.

The opening in the top of the boat may be adjusted closely around the waist if the water is rough, thus practically shutting out the water from the interior, and as the keel is weighted, the boat will maintain an upright position. A seat is provided for the passenger and the boat may be propelled by a paddle, which can be placed inside the canvas cover when the boat is folded.—New York Mail and Express.

A PHYSICIAN'S AUTO.

Motor Vehicle Which is a Model of Compactness.

Several motor vehicles for the use of physicians have been placed on the market by American makers, but none of them are more compact than that shown in the accompanying illustration reproduced from the Horseless Age.



LATEST AMERICAN DESIGN OF A GARAGE LINE COUPE FOR PHYSICIAN'S USE.

In this auto-coupe, as it might be called, the doctor is completely protected from storms. It is a model of compactness within, soft cushions, fine upholstery and highly finished woodwork combining to give it a luxuriousness which even the majority of horse-drawn physicians' carriages do not possess. In front a box of neat design affords a large storage space, while under the seat is additional room for the same purpose.

Although the vehicle here shown is fitted with a three and a half horsepower gasoline motor, the makers of

THE URAL COSSACKS AND THEIR INTERESTING INDUSTRY

A Great River Given Up Entirely to the Purposes of Fishing, All Commercial Navigation Being Prohibited.

The Ural Cossacks, who live on the boundary between European Russia and Asia, have been known in Russia for a long time, not only as brave soldiers in war time, but also as peaceful fishermen, carrying on the fishing industry on a very large plan and in quite a peculiar manner.

The economical importance of the fisheries for this people is so immense that it influences their whole life, not excepting the military service. The Ural Cossacks have ready for the service every year about three thousand cavalry, and in case of war every adult may be called on to serve as a

"brigade," which means "hooking," because the fishing is accomplished by a peculiar kind of hook. When the ice in the river becomes firm enough to support the weight of the fishing army, which generally takes place in December, an order is given for the army to meet at Uralsk, from which point the fishing is begun. On a fixed day, thousands of people, old and young, hasten to the shores. The fishermen are armed with a chisel, and two haft-hooks—the long one, with a haft of seven or more fathoms, is used for catching fish in deep places on the bottom; the short one is destined to hold the fish when it is brought to the surface of the ice. At the signal two living waves of people rush forward to the middle of the river, and the arduous work begins, everyone trying to be the first to make a hole in the ice with a chisel. In a few minutes an entire forest of long hafts grows up over the ice. The fishermen move the haft up and down



FISHING THROUGH THE ICE ON THE URAL RIVER IN WINTER.

soldier. The entire population is about 110,000 souls.

The Ural River is the only large river that is entirely given over to the fishing industry, all sorts of commercial navigation being absolutely forbidden from Uralsk to the Caspian Sea—330 miles—and more than that in some places, where sturgeon congregate for their winter sojourn, no one is permitted in a boat, to make any noise or build a fire on the shore, etc. By the laws of the community summer fishing is almost entirely prohibited, for the purpose of protecting the spawn. The fish are allowed to enter the river from the sea and settle there quietly for the winter. All possible means are used to secure for the fish an unrestricted passage to the upper parts of the river, but not beyond Uralsk, where a barrier is constructed across the river to keep them back.

Owing to this arrangement, the lower part of the river forms a large natural fish pond, 330 miles in length, where the fish are carefully watched by a great many fish wardens until the regular time for fishing, which is fixed by general consent of the community.

As a rule, one part of the river, the lower, is intended to be fished out in the fall, the other, upper, portion in winter. The fall fishing begins about the 17th of September. On a certain day, the "fishing army," as it is called, moves to the fishing places, which are sometimes very far from home. The Cossack carts, generally drawn by camels, contain not only nets and provisions, but also the boat used in this fishing. The boats are known by the name of boudaras, are so light that two



THE STURGEON CATCH ON THE URAL.

of them may be carried in one cart. The boudaras are taken from the carts, and early in the appointed morning they are placed at the edge of the water, right along the river. No less than 3000 boats, each containing two men, meet on the shores. To maintain discipline, a chief, or "fishing ataman," is appointed, and several representatives of the fishermen are elected to assist the chief. The ataman gives a signal to commence fishing by a cannon shot, and then the crowd rush to the boats, and in less time than one can realize what has happened all the fishermen are in their boats and a peculiar kind of boat racing commences. Various kinds of sturgeon, from thirty to 600 pounds weight, sander, carp, bream and slurus are the principal fish caught. The seines differ, of course, in the size of their meshes, according to the fish for which they are intended.

The total catch during the fall season is from 54,000,000 to 72,000,000 pounds, which includes two hundred and sixteen thousand pounds sturgeon and about twenty-one thousand six hundred pounds caviare.

Another large army of equal magnitude, consisting of carts, accompanies the fishing army. These carts are contracted to carry the catch to the city markets, there being no railroad in this steppe. No less than 10,000 carts are used here.

The fishing in the upper part of the Ural River is carried on in winter, under the ice, and that is the most peculiar of all fisheries. It is called

and listens intently that he may know when the fish touch the hook. Once this has happened, he hooks the fish by an alert movement, then hauls it immediately up to the surface of the ice, calling in the meantime for help from his fellow-fishermen. They fish

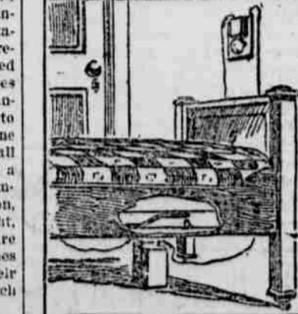


CARRYING THE BOATS TO THE FISHING GROUND BY CAMEL.

here usually in groups of from six to twenty men, for it is not easy work to pull up a huge sturgeon of several hundred pounds weight. In a very short time the surface becomes marked with blood and covered with big fish. The most important fish caught in winter are different kinds of sturgeon, desired principally for the roe.—Philadelphia Record.

Electric Time Alarm.

When the bell of an ordinary alarm clock begins to ring the sleeper is apt to wake up sufficiently to think it will stop soon, and as he is not compelled to arise and stop it, the result is often another nap with its consequent delays throughout the day. This objection has led to the designing of the continuous ringing alarm, of which several are already in use. The electric alarm, which we show in the accompanying picture, has just been patented by Simon Wolf, of Essen, Germany, and has at least one novelty to recommend it. It is directly connected to the bed, and it is impossible for the sleeper to stop it until he gets up to stay. Underneath the bed is a series of contact points, one of which is shown in the picture, the weight of the person forcing them together. A clock is used in connection with the apparatus, and as soon as the hour of rising is indicated the remaining opening or break in the wire is closed, the current passing through the contact points underneath the bed and causing



RINGS UNTIL SLEEPER LEAVES THE BED.

the bell to ring continuously until the sleeper by leaving the bed, breaks the circuit. Should he lie down again the circuit is again completed and the bell rings until the second rising.

A School For Housekeepers.

Much has been done in the way of training servants in England, and now the attempt is to be made to train the mistress as well. A large house has been taken at Brighton, where the art of housewifery is to be taught in all its branches, the idea being that it is the accomplished housekeeper who is most likely to secure the best servants.

KEYSTONE STATE NEWS CONDENSED

PENSIONS GRANTED.

Contract Let for Asylum for Deaf and Dumb, Aged Man Dies from Frigate—Domestic Heir to a Fortune.

Pensions have been granted the following persons: Martha A. Barker, Sharon, \$8; Andrew L. Stoddard, Corapolis, \$12; Reuben J. Richardson, Rochester Mills, \$72; William Vanard, Beaver Falls, \$12; William Beistel, Kregar, \$30; David Cowher, Osceola Mills, \$8; Samuel Elgin, Elderton, \$17; Elizabeth Newman, Hubelsville, \$12; Anna Goss, Hillsdale, \$8; Isabella McMillen, Belnap, \$8; Matilda Dunlap, Black Hawk, \$8; Susanna Snoeberger, Loysburg, \$8.

Charles Connor, of Uniontown, who for the past eight years has been mine inspector for the Fifth bituminous district, has tendered his resignation, to take effect February 14. Mr. Connor has accepted the position of general superintendent of the Dominion Coal Company, operating extensive mines at Cape Breton, Nova Scotia, in the Dominion of Canada.

The contract for the erection of the new asylum for the Western Pennsylvania Institution for the Instruction of the Deaf and Dumb, at Edgewood, to take the place of the building destroyed by fire December 14, 1899. When the whole structure has been put up and equipped it will have cost in the neighborhood of \$300,000.

Archibald Biggs, colored, ended his life at Uniontown Monday evening. He murdered his wife Saturday night, butchering her in bed, and the crime was not discovered until Monday morning. Biggs made no effort to get away, but had been loitering around Uniontown trying to get up courage enough to kill himself.

United States postal inspectors at Allentown arrested G. Barnett, alias Evans, charged with using the mails to defraud and of counterfeiting, and who is believed to be a member of a supposed gang of counterfeiters and "green goods" men, whose headquarters are in New York city.

As the result of a brutal assault by union molders John Faber, aged 54, and Roman Lock, both of whom took the places of strikers in an Erie stove foundry, were severely injured. The former is in a hospital with a knife wound which has destroyed the sight of one of his eyes.

The flag carried by the First regiment, N. G. P., through the Spanish-American war, has been formally turned over to the State by Col. Wendell P. Bowman, of Philadelphia. The standard will be deposited in the flag room with the colors of other Pennsylvania regiments.

The State authorities are worried over an epidemic of rabies which is affecting live stock in Greenfield township, Erie county. Recently a mad dog bit a number of domestic animals. Since that several sheep, cattle and horses have died of the disease.

Nathan Baswath died in East Waynesburg Friday from fright at seeing one of his children fall upon the floor. A few weeks ago he had an attack of typhoid fever but was convalescent. The mother died recently and five children are orphaned.

At the annual meeting of the National Delaine Sheep Breeder's Association held at Canonsburg, James McClelland was elected president; C. C. Johnson, recording secretary; J. H. Hamilton, corresponding secretary.

Anderson Lutz, an aged and highly-respected citizen of Cooper township, who has held numerous offices in Clearfield county, committed suicide by shooting himself through the head with a rifle.

A party of Kittanning capitalists, while boring for gas on the Jacob Rupp farm, east of that place, in Manor township, have struck oil. Oil men say the indications are good for a 15-barrel well. This will open up an entirely new field.

Jacob Conti was arrested at New Castle on a charge of abducting Casta Lorenzo, aged 14, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Dominick Lorenzo, Conti and the girl went to Cleveland and were married.

Francisco Diaz, aged 14, has become a student in the preparatory department of Washington and Jefferson College, at Washington. He is a son of Gen. Diaz, of the Cuban army, and is intensely patriotic.

Mrs. Amanda Ritchey, of Franklin, who has been earning a living as a domestic, has fallen heir to \$300,000, willed her by James Henry, a wealthy merchant of Toledo, O., who adopted her when she was a child.

L. S. Houk, fish and game warden, has been arrested at New Castle. G. W. Hawk charged the official with larceny in forcing the complainant to pay over money to prevent the arrest of his son for illegal fishing.

The Shenango glass works, at New Castle, operated by the American Window Glass Company, will be closed down Saturday night for an indefinite period, because of the lack of blowers and gatherers.

Cyrus Andrews, a roller at the Cambria rail mills, met a horrible death when one of the hooks used in rolling caught him and he was drawn between the coupling boxes. He was terribly crushed and lived less than an hour.

Samuel H. Warwick, aged 70 years, inventor of a root beer and whose wealth 12 years ago was estimated at over \$1,000,000, died penniless in the hospital attached to the almshouse in Philadelphia.

F. W. Jackson, professor of Greek at the Mt. Pleasant institute, has been recommended by Senator Penrose for a consulship at Petras, Greece.

A daring, but unsuccessful, attempt was made by several men to rob the postoffice at North Warren. They had gained entrance, but were discovered and put to flight.

The brick knitting mill of William Davis, in Downingtown, Chester county, was entirely destroyed by a fire of incendiary origin. The loss is about \$9,000.

George A. Hughes, collector of State and county taxes in Titusville, has been arrested on charges of embezzlement preferred by the county commissioners and held for court.

FIFTY-SIXTH CONGRESS

SENATE.

TWENTY-FIFTH DAY.

The committee on agriculture did not succeed in closing its hearing on the oleomargarine bill and continued it. Senator Spooner, from the committee on judiciary, reported favorably the bill to divide the State of West Virginia into two judicial districts.

TWENTY-SIXTH DAY.

No legislative business of importance was transacted by the Senate. The session was devoted to services held in memory of the late Senator Cushman K. Davis, of Minnesota.

TWENTY-SEVENTH DAY.

At the close of discussion in the Senate of the army reorganization bill, Mr. Teller delivered a denunciation of Gen. Eagan, former commissary general of the army. Absolutely no progress was made with the measure, not a single amendment being disposed of finally.

TWENTY-EIGHTH DAY.

Some progress was made in the consideration of the army reorganization bill. One amendment that has created much debate was disposed of and a tacit agreement has been reached for a "vote very soon."

The Senate committee on finance considered the war revenue reduction bill, but did not reach a conclusion on the measure as a whole.

TWENTY-NINTH DAY.

The House spent another day on the river and harbor bill without completing it. The friends of the bill successfully resisted all attempts to load down the bill with new projects, and only one or two unimportant amendments were adopted.

TWENTY-TENTH DAY.

The bill to divide the State of West Virginia into two federal judicial districts now needs but the signature of the President to make it law. The bill passed as it came from the House without amendment, and goes into effect July 1.

The army reorganization bill occupied the balance of the session.

THIRTIETH DAY.

The Senate committee on finance tentatively decided to reduce one-half the tax on proprietary medicines and perfumes.

Senator Lodge introduced a bill providing for the amendments of the immigration law so as to exclude insane, idiotic and epileptic persons.

Senator Morgan gave notice of an amendment he will propose to a ship subsidy bill, providing for an income tax.

THIRTY-FIRST DAY.

The army reorganization bill was finally disposed of, as amended, by a vote of 43 to 23. Strong efforts to tack on a prohibition amendment was beaten by a like vote. The bill has now reached the conference stage between the two houses.

HOUSE.

TWENTY-FIFTH DAY.

The river and harbor bill was sidetracked in the House, as, under the rules, the day was to be devoted to the private pension bills on the calendar; but Chairman Burton will call it up again and keep it to the front until a vote is reached.

TWENTY-SIXTH DAY.

After an hour spent in miscellaneous routine business, during the course of which several bills of minor importance were passed, the House devoted to a continuation of the debate upon the river and harbor appropriation bill.

TWENTY-SEVENTH DAY.

The House occupied the day with consideration of the rivers and harbors bill, 59 of the 97 pages of which were completed. Many amendments were offered, but all were rejected.

TWENTY-EIGHTH DAY.

The river and harbor appropriation bill was passed by the House. The bill passes practically as it came from the committee. It carries slightly less than \$50,000,000, of which \$23,000,000 is in direct appropriations.

THIRTIETH DAY.

The entire day in the House was spent upon the bill to revise and codify the postal laws, which is to be the continuing order, not, however, to interfere with appropriation bills or conference reports, until disposed of.

THIRTY-FIRST DAY.

The house spent the entire day on the bill to refer to the court of claims the claims of William Cramp & Son Shipbuilding Company of Philadelphia for alleged damages due to the delay of the government in furnishing armor plate and material for the battleships Massachusetts and Indiana and the cruisers New York and Columbia. The claims aggregate \$1,367,244.

Some Nations Have War Chests.

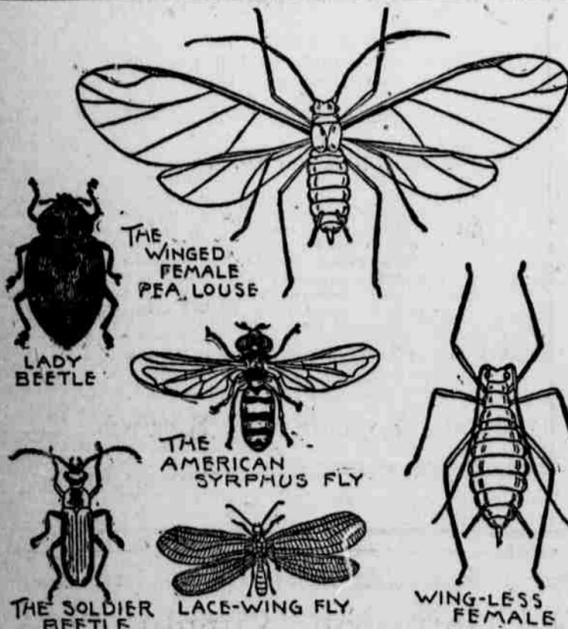
A source of amazement to continental politicians is the facility with which Great Britain obtains the money to carry on the South African campaign. Even our severest critics acknowledge that in no other country could the many millions already voted have been obtained so readily.

This is all the more wonderful to them when they remember that in the sense they understand it England has no war chest to fall back upon. The explanation is simple enough. England, being the richest country in the world, her credit stands high, and she is able to raise vast sums at a moment's notice.

The case is different in France, where they have something like seventy million pounds' worth of gold and fifty million pounds' worth of silver ready for war time. The Austro-Hungarian Bank possesses about £30,000,000 for a like purpose, while Germany clings to the old-fashioned system of maintaining an actual war chest, containing £6,000,000, at the fortress of Spandau. It is also estimated that Russia has ready at least £100,000,000.

Financially, Europe is prepared for the day that pessimistic prophets say is drawing nigh—the day when wild war shall run riot throughout the Eastern Hemisphere. There is at least £155,000,000 waiting for the time when the war clouds gather, and in a great war it is tolerably certain it would all be spent.—London Daily Mail.

In American the Salvation Army has 765 corps and 2,533 officers.



THE DESTRUCTIVE PEA LOUSE AND ITS ENEMIES.

placed a louse within its reach, when it was quickly devoured. We then placed a mother and seven newly born lice clustered about her in a small vial, enclosed the syrphus worm and found that by actual time the worm destroyed the seven lice in exactly seven minutes and the mother a little later."

The writer warns pea growers not to destroy the syrphus, and in order to avoid all possibility of doing so to use no spray against the pea destroyer. When the lice are brushed off and the ground is hot the little creatures are apt to death by the sun.

A Life-Saving Boat.

A lifeboat has just been invented by a native of Switzerland. It has two frames, one of which is attached to the other and is fastened on bolts to turn at the outer frame. The boat is in a canvas bag and is operated by means of a pump which forms a safe and quick means of saving a wrecked passenger.

When a fellow refers to a girl as a peach, the marrying clergyman may be justified in looking for a pair.

for the option of a five horse-power engine, which will allow of increased passenger-carrying capacity.

A Roman Milestone.

Yellahen workmen, in digging for a new road near Shapat, two miles east of Jerusalem, recently unearthed a



Roman milestone. A section of it is shown in the cut. This milliarium was probably the second one from Jerusalem. They were placed at intervals of 1000 Roman paces, about equivalent to our mile.

When a fellow refers to a girl as a peach, the marrying clergyman may be justified in looking for a pair.