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## FURNITURE, CARPETS AND RUGS

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FURNITURE, CARPETS

# Parker-Gardner Co.

RUGS PIANOS

### TIMELY FARM TOPICS

Written for The Observer.

As a general thing fighting field crop pests with insecticides is out of the question, except in the case of certain vegetables, such as cabbage and potatoes, for rarely are the fields of these more than an acre or two in extent.

Valuable as our grains it would not pay to spray them with Paris green or kerosene emulsion for chinch bug, green bug, Hessian fly or grasshoppers. Even in the cotton field the attempt to keep the boll weevil and other destructive forms in check by means of poisonous chemicals has proved futile. Cultural methods are our main reliance in these cases—glowing and rolling at a season when the insects are dormant or when they may be crushed or bruised, accelerating the growth of such crops as cotton so that the bolls may be formed before the beetles appear in force and other practices which may be discovered in the future. In addition to fostering the development of parasitic and predaceous enemies and other natural checks.

In the orchards and garden, however, economic or applied entomology has won great triumphs. Trees, shrubs and herbaceous plants afford a definite and more or less limited area within which to work, while at the same time a large proportion of the insect species preying upon fruits and vegetables is of comparatively large size or appear in colonies or in other ways reveal their exact location so that direct application of insecticides are possible.

Spraying in the orchard and garden has come to be recognized as an indispensable requisite to the production of perfect fruit and vegetables. The plum or peach curculio, it is true, is not as amenable to this treatment as are the principal foes of the apple, pear and quince, but, though poisons are only effective against it for a brief period in early spring, a thorough knowledge of its habits and life history have furnished us with other means for preserving our stone-fruit crops from its ravages means, too, which are not too expensive of time and labor to make their employment worth while.

Among the hundreds of thousands of insect species known to entomologists comparatively few are directly inimical to the agriculturist. This statement may be questioned by the fruit grower when he thinks of the canker worms, tint caterpillars, beetles, and bugs that devour the leaves of his trees, vines and berry plants, of the ravages that grow or sever their roots; of the borers that tunnel their trunks or stalks and of others still that feed within or upon the surface of their fruits; but it is not because the species are so many as because each is so innumerable represented that his losses are so great.

The point which is here made is that it is not only possible, but almost indispensable that every fruit grower and gardener should endeavor to make himself acquainted with the three distinct forms under which most of the enemies of his crops appear in different stages of their development, in one or the other of which they are practically at his mercy. Their structure, too, must be recognized to enable him to apply the most effective remedy.

For example, all growing species such as caterpillars, beetles and grass-

hoppers can be killed by arsenical and other poisons, while these would be useless against plant lice, bugs and other sap-sucking forms, which require to be sprayed with kerosene emulsion, tobacco tea, whale oil, soap-suds or similar contact poisons.

Again some insects can best be fought at one season and some at another, some in open battle, others by more indirect methods. Among the most important branch of practical entomology for the fruit raiser and gardener is to learn to distinguish between his insect friends and enemies. Many ferocious looking species, such as the larger ground beetles, the scantis or devil's horse, the savagelybiting larvae of the lacewing flies and most of the wasps as well as the numerous species of "lady-bugs," are among the predatory forms which are our allies against the increase of crop pests to an extent which we have no conception, and the same is true of the many species of inconspicuous and tiny, but most potent, parasitic flies.

It is only recently that farmers and gardeners have come to acknowledge the importance of these branches of education and to realize how much the effectiveness of their efforts at insect control depend upon them. But with the facilities now afforded by the study of scientific agriculture in the schools and State universities and with the free distribution of instructive bulletins by the State experiment stations and the United States Department of Agriculture, the warfare against destructive insects is annually being waged with greater intelligence and success.

There is no tree fruit or other product that can take the place of the apple. It stands at the head of the list of year-round fruits and also as regards its nutritive qualities.

The orange and lemon approach it most nearly in being constantly in the market, but these are, in the main, flavor fruits and cannot by any means serve as substitutes for the substantial and variously flavored and textured apple. Not since apples have been grown as a commercial product has there been such a general failure as this year, and, contemplating it, the housekeeper is at a loss how she will be able to supply the lack in the preparation of the table luxuries to which her family or guests are accustomed. But it is a privation that will, for all, except those with full purses have to be acquiesced in and will perhaps enable us as never before to realize for how much enjoyment and nutrition we are indebted to this invaluable fruit.

The destruction of the fruit crop—almost absolute over wide areas of the country—will have one good result—the starving out of the fruit feeding insects. Enough of the latter will survive of course, to perpetuate their kind, but these will be so few, that if climatic conditions prove favorable, fruit growers can calculate on a comparative freedom from worms in both pip and stone fruits. In most orchards there was absolutely nothing in which the codling moth and later curculionid could breed. In the meantime all trees have made a vigorous growth and the foliage has been abundant and healthy, seldom showing blight or serious insect ravages. All conditions, therefore, are very promising for another year, which it is hoped will make up to the growers and dealers for the losses and disappointments of the present season and enable the consumer to doubly enjoy his accustomed luxuries without almost prohibitive expense.

### SCARLET FEVER EPIDEMIC.

It Reaches Such Proportions at Thomasville That the Graded School is Closed Down—No Fatalities Yet Reported From the Disease—Other News Items.

Special to The Observer. Thomasville, Nov. 23.—Thursday morning, owing to the condition of the scarlet fever epidemic which has reached serious proportions due to the fact that the health officer has not had the support that he should have had, it was decided by the school board to close the graded school for 12 days or longer if necessary until the epidemic can be got under perfect control. Dr. D. A. Stanton, of High Point, was called over to consult Dr. J. W. Peacock, the health officer, and confirmed his diagnosis. Dr. C. A. Julian was also called in and agreed with the diagnosis and will now support the health officer in trying to stamp out this dangerous disease. At this writing there have been no fatalities, but a number of children are quite ill and it is feared that before it is over some deaths may occur. The citizens are urged to report at once to the health officer any cases they may have in their families or any cases which they may know of and to obey implicitly his instructions. At a later meeting of the school board it was decided that the graded school will not be opened again until January 6th.

Mr. J. Clyde Creech left to-day for New York City after a month's visit here with relatives. He will accept an important position with the American Tobacco Company.

Rev. W. A. Lambeth, pastor of the Methodist church of Walkertown, will preach in the Methodist church here to-morrow morning.

The Woman's Foreign Missionary Society of the Methodist church will observe Thanksgiving week by having short services every afternoon at 2:30 o'clock in the church. The services will be held every afternoon except Thursday, beginning Monday.

Mr. Elwood Blair was happily married to Miss Cattie Leach Wednesday by Rev. Parker Holmes. The ceremony was performed in the Methodist parsonage.

On account of so much rain the sporting season thus far has been very gloomy. However, a brighter day is coming and there are more birds in this community than ever before and shooting will be fine.

## AT LAST A RHEUMATISM CURE

Aches and Pains in Side, Back or Bones, Swollen Joints All Disappear

By Taking Botanic Blood Balm. Thousands of Rheumatics Cured by Its Use.

LARGE SAMPLE FREE TO ALL!



Have you any of the symptoms of Rheumatism? Bone-pains, sciatica or shooting pains up and down the leg; aching back or shoulder blades, swollen joints or swollen muscles, difficulty in moving around so you have to use crutches; blood thin or skin pale; skin itches and burns; shifting pains, bad breath; scintical, lumbago, gout. Botanic Blood Balm (B. B. B.) will remove every symptom, because B. B. B. sends a rich, tingling flood of warm, rich, pure blood direct to the paralyzed nerves, bones and joints, giving warmth and strength just where it is needed, and in this way making a perfect, lasting cure of Rheumatism in all its forms. B. B. B. invigorates the blood, making it pure and rich and at the same time destroys the active poison in the blood which causes Rheumatism. B. B. B. has made thousands of cures of rheumatism after all other medicines, liniments and doctors have failed to help or cure. Weak, Inactive Kidneys frequently cause Rheumatism. B. B. B. strengthens weak kidneys and bladder, draining off all diseased matter and all uric acid, so the urine flows freely and naturally. BOTANIC BLOOD BALM (B. B. B.) is pleasant and safe to take; composed of pure Botanic ingredients. SAMPLE SENT FREE by writing Blood Balm Co., Atlanta, Ga. SOLD BY DRUGGISTS or sent by express. AT \$1 PER LARGE BOTTLE, with directions for home cure.

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