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PEST MAY COME AGAIN.

Seattle Entomologist Says Exterminating War Will Have to be Persistent.

Another invasion by the caterpillar army is promised by R. H. Stretch, a Seattle entomologist, who has made a study of such pests. He claims an intimate acquaintance with the tented caterpillar, and while giving due praise to the campaign of Inspector Brown's gendarmes, which wiped the insects off the local map, he insists that the caterpillar fighters have only scotched the snake, not killed it, and that, like Monsieur Tonson, the hairy pest, will come again. Mr. Stretch makes recommendations for a campaign of extermination in a letter to the Post-Intelligencer, which reads as follows:

"Mr. Brown did good work with the tent caterpillar and incidentally furnished the reporters and careful citizens with some amusement, but the end is not yet. It is now up to the orchardist to continue the good work. There are quite a number of species of these tent caterpillars which have a preference when young for some special tree as its food plant, although not very particular as to the diet when of maturer age, and the parent moth in nine cases out of 10 chooses this particular tree on which to lay its eggs, and always on the small, younger limbs, so that the baby worms may have tender leaves on which to try their milk teeth. It having fallen to my lot in the early 80s to describe the life history of most of the varieties found on the Pacific coast and to furnish a number of them with their Christian names, I may perhaps be allowed to suggest that the war against them may still be profitably carried on.

"The insect is vulnerable in all stages of its life, both egg, caterpillar, cocoon and moth. The egg belt is laid in a flat ring, like a lot of beads on a thread wound evenly and tightly round the slender terminal twigs, and may be removed in the winter time.

Third Stage Interesting.

"We all know the look of the tents made by the young caterpillars (larvae), but it should be noted that many of the worms clustered on the tents for fully 10 days after Mr. Brown's four-day limit, and until they were more than an inch long. When they leave the tent they do not march as an army, but spread out slowly from the center of infection (having no blood relationship with the true army worms, which are naked and without hairs), growing rapidly until they are ready to pass into the third or cocoon stage. Being very closely allied to the silk worm of commerce, the cocoon is very similar, only smaller, and when completed is a compact oval of white silk, sprinkled with a sulphur yellow dust, lightly held in place by a thin open web. It is to this stage that I would call attention, as these cocoons each contain a chrysalis, which, if allowed to hatch into a moth, represents an average of 200 eggs and caterpillars for next season.

"These cocoons are spun in any place sheltered from the sun, and may be found in numbers along all fences on the under side of the stringers, beneath moldings and water tables of buildings, under old loose boards and any open crevices on the trees. Every orchardist and gardener should, therefore, set the children to work hunting for and destroying the cocoons, out of abundant precaution for next season. From one gate post I have taken eight of these cocoons, and from the broken end of a fence post no less than 21 in a solid mass. This will give some idea of their numbers and the ease with which they may be collected. This last batch, represented the destruction of some 4,000 worms!

"In the last, or moth, stage, the insect is strongly attracted by light on dark nights, and large numbers commit suicide round camp fires or are ready to do so if the opportunity offers.

Flies Caterpillars' Enemies.

"Unfortunately, hairy caterpillars are distasteful to birds, so that our feathered friends do not help us. The principal insect enemy of the tented caterpillar is a large bluish gray hairy fly (Tachina), something like a blue bottle or blow fly, which lays its eggs on the worm, generally just back of the head, on the outside of the skin. The grub eats its way inside and lives on the nonvitals inside, so that the caterpillars die before maturity.

"These visitations of some insects in vast numbers are only periodical, and somewhat inexplicable, but the usual abundance of food offers a feast for all their enemies, and the plague is generally of short duration. Residents of Spokane will remember how the forests over many square miles around Loon lake were stripped of every green needle in 1880 or 1881, by the caterpillar of a small white butterfly, so that they looked as if scorched by fire. A few of these butterflies may be seen every year, but in this

case their overwhelming numbers destroyed all their food, and the plague exterminated itself, with the aid of hosts of bugs and birds, which revelled in the slaughter.

"We can scarcely hope for such complete destruction in one season of the tent caterpillar, as from count not more than from 20 to 25 per cent of the larvae have been stung by the Tachina fly, so that vigilance on the part of everybody interested should still be the watchword.

"Our common species is attached to the alder. The two common California species attack the oak. In the east the two forms are orchard enemies (Americana and forest destroyers (distria)). A common form in Nevada is different from any of these.

"R. H. STRETCH."

Advertised Letter List.

The following is a list of the letters remaining unclaimed for 30 days at Astoria post office July 11, 1904:

- Akerstadt, Jno.
- Albert, Jones Pearson.
- Ames, J. A.
- Balcomb, Geo.
- Bigger, Wm.
- Cuna, Mr. Francis.
- Clint, Miss Elenor.
- Cooper, S. M.
- Dee, Mr. D. H.
- Duvall, Mr. C. E. (2)
- Durgan, Miss Minnie.
- Edson, John.
- Erlinger, J.
- Frank, Alle.
- Hasbrouch, Mr. William L.
- Hess, Mrs. Jhon T.
- Hickling, Mr. C. F.
- Harris, H.
- Hillier, Geo.
- Holmes, Claude M.
- Lamont, Mr. Peta.
- Laugart, S.
- Mills, Mr. and Mrs. F. B.
- Oesch, Mr. Ed.
- Palmer, Hal.
- Peterson, Harry.
- Reed, Mr. C. H.
- Rice, William.
- Rennkke, Mr. Ell.
- Rifenburg, Mr. Andrew.
- Robert, M. Ed.
- Ross, Miss Berig.
- Russell, Mr. J. B.
- Sheriff, Miss Bessie.
- Skaanes, Mr. Ole.
- Wilson, Mrs. E. B.
- Wilson, Mr. Albert.
- Woodside, Will.
- Young, Mr. and Mrs. E. Wilbur.

Foreign.

- Bergman, Mr. K. (4)
- Evensen, Mrs. C.
- Koleski, Mr. Rudolf.
- Kallski, Mr. and Mrs. H.
- Larsson, Mr. Loen.
- Cland, Monsieur Frank.
- Occident Packing Co.

Night Was Her Terror.

"I would cough nearly all night long," writes Mrs. Chas. Applegate of Alexandria, Ind., "and could hardly get any sleep. I had consumption so bad that if I walked a block I would cough frightfully and spit blood, but, when all other medicines failed, three \$1.00 bottles of Dr. King's New Discovery wholly cured me and I gained 58 pounds." It's absolutely guaranteed to cure Coughs, Colds, La Grippe, Bronchitis and all Throat and Lung Troubles. Price 50c and \$1.00. Trial bottles free at Chas. Rogers' drug store.

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MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

Lost—Between Thirty-eighth and Third streets on Commercial street, a purse containing five dollars. Finder return to 1660 Franklin avenue or this office. Suitable reward.

WANTED—Japanese boy wants situation to do cooking in a boarding house, restaurant or family. Call at 434 Bond street.

WANTED—Man to work in hay field. Inquire at Milk Depot, Tenth street.

FOR RENT—Three unfurnished rooms for housekeeping; opposite Postoffice, 127 Seventh street.

FOR SALE—At Gaston's Feed and Sale Stable, one Colfax Roller Feed Mill; one 20-horsepower Motor and Starter Box; 50-foot 4-ply Rubber Belt; one pair Butchers' Wall Scales; also 800 good Sacks.

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GOING TO THE FAIR.

What to Do if You Desire Practical Information.

If you contemplate visiting the St. Louis Exposition, to secure reliable information as to railroad service, the lowest rates and the best routes. Ask us to the local conditions in St. Louis, hotels, etc., etc.

If you will write the undersigned, stating what information you desire the same will be promptly furnished. If we do not have it on hand, will

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secure it for you if possible, and without any expense to you. Address B. H. TRMBULL, Portland, Ore.

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