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cause of this is obvious. The corn grew rapidly and with vigor, and was considered the best in the neighborhood. Whether the bisulphide had anything to do with it, I will not say; but I am somewhat inclined to think it had. We know that solutions of some of the metallic salts have a tendency to stimulate favorably the growth of seed that is immersed in it.

I only know of one great danger in handling the bisulphide, in which I nearly lost my own life. The experimenter may pour it into the opening of an ants' nest to destroy them, and safely ignite it at the hole with a match. After the explosion it leaves for a while an invisible flame at the opening. If he is tempted to recharge the opening from a full bottle of the fluid in his hands it will explode and send him without a moment's notice into the other world !

It is supposed that nearly 50 per cent. of the corn in Texas is annually destroyed by weevils and rats. The destruction is so great that nearly all the corn used in this part of the State comes from Kansas.—G. P. Hachenberg, M.D., Texas, in *Insect Life*.

WIREWORM REMEDIES.

In answer to a question in relation to destroying wireworms, the larvæ of click beetles, of which there are a large number of species, elaborate experiments by Prof. Comstock, of Cornell University, N.Y., shows that the beetles can be easily attracted to baits of clover which have been poisoned by wetting with one of the arsenicals—Paris green water for instance. These baits consist of small bunches of the freshly cut plant, about one-fourth pound in weight, distributed throughout the field and protected and kept moist by being covered with boards.

As an indica ion of the efficiency of this method it is stated that a series of twelve traps yielded in three days 482 beetles, or an average of more than forty per trap. These traps should be put out during the early summer, and the beetles killed in a majority of cases will not have deposited their eggs and the consequent depredations of their larvæ, the wireworms, will be greatly diminished. It frequently happens that the infested areas are rather limited in extent, and do not cover the entire field, and where this is the case the labor of distributing bait will be greatly lessened. The bait should be renewed once or twice per week during the early part of the summer. In place of the clover, cornmeal dough and sliced potatoes are used, but clover has proved itself the most valuable. Where a field has become extensively infested by the worms there is little which can be done so far as any actual experiment has shown.

The wireworm is the larvæ of a beetle, commonly known as the click-beetle. This is a small brown or black beetle, and is sometimes recognized from the fact that when placed in any unnatural position it regains its feet by throwing itself into the air by an action of the body which produces a short, sharp, clicking sound. There are, of course, many species of click-beetles, the number being co-extensive with the different varieties of wire worms.—*Prairie Farmer*.

ELECTRICITY versus CATERPILLARS.

Edison originated electrocution on a practical scale when he waged successful war on cockroaches. We are greater believers in the humanity of electricity as a destroying agent when thus applied than when used punitively for man. We now hear that Edison's original device has been greatly improved upon, and applied to prevent caterpillars from climbing up trees. Alternate wires of copper and zinc are run around the trunk of the tree, at the distance of about half an inch apart. The casual caterpillar begins to mount the trunk of the tree, and unlimbers himself with the confilence and vigor born of an impending feast. Presently he reaches the copper wire, pokes his nose over it, and lets another kink out of his backbone. Half an inch further up his front feet strike the zinc, the circuit is completed, and the unfortunate larva is a martyr to science.—Science Gossip.

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