

PINS.—Special German pins for pinning insects should be obtained. Ask for Kläger or Schlüter pins, Nos. 3 or 5. All sizes are made from No. 0 to 9 or 10. The length of all is the same.

Vials and pill-boxes should be carried on insect hunting excursions for the purpose of holding small specimens.

PINNING SPECIMENS. Most specimens should be pinned through the thorax, but beetles should be pinned through the right wing-cover. Very small insects should be pasted on small pieces of cardboard and the pin passed through the cardboard.

SPREADING SPECIMENS. A spreading block must be made, with a groove in the centre to receive the body. The width of the whole block should be four or five inches. A strip of cork should be laid along the groove into which the pins should be thrust.

The forewings of butterflies and moths should be placed in such a position that the hind margin of the fore-wing is at right angles to the body. This will bring the hindwings into proper place. The insects should be left on the spreading board for two or three days, after which they may be pinned in shallow boxes and properly labelled. In addition to the name, record the date of capture and the locality.

Soft-bodied specimens, *e.g.*, larvæ, will have to be preserved in 75 per cent. alcohol, or in some other preservative fluid.

For permanent school use, it is better to mount specimens in small boxes, just large enough and thick enough to receive them. Glue the specimens to a rectangular piece of glass which will form the bottom of the box. The top of the box can be formed of a piece of glass of the same size as the bottom. Glue the glass to the sides of the box, and bind