

different parts of the world by very injurious insects.

One Trypetid fly is a great pest in Mexico. It lays its eggs in the orange, and its larva is known as the "Morelos orange fruit worm." Another is the Apple Maggot, which tunnels through the pulp of the apple in all directions. This insect has been reported as abundant in New Hampshire and Maine for the last fifteen years. "The first occurrence of the Apple Maggot or Railroad Worm in Nova Scotia, was discovered at Smith's Cove, N.S.," in the summer of 1912. (Experimental Farm Reports for year ending March 31, 1913.) The same report speaks of the Apple Maggot as one of the four worst orchard pests in the province of Quebec.

THE PINE-CONE WILLOW-GALL is formed on willows, especially *salix discolor*. This gall is caused by a small gall-gnat, *Cecidomyia Strobiloides*, which lays its egg in a terminal bud. The egg hatches, and the little larva lives at the heart of the bud, and dwarfs the growth of the stem so that the leaves (scales), become crowded on the short axis and form the cone-shaped gall.

The life history is very similar to that of Eurosta, only it passes the winter in the larva state, taking a short nap in early spring, and later emerges in the winged form.

A closely allied gall-gnat is the Hessian Fly (*Cecidomyia destructor*), which lives in the larva state in the stems of wheat, and annually damages the wheat-crop of America to the extent of many million dollars.

Another form preys upon clover and other grass crops.

In the adult form these gnats are seldom over one-eighth of an inch long. The antennae are long and many jointed and clothed with whorls of short hair; the wings have few veins and the body and wings are clothed with hairs, which are easily rubbed off.

If I left a watchword with you, it would be: "Learn to keep your eyes open, and to see chances where you can be useful." You will have a life then and a career behind you that kings will envy.—*Dr. Grenfell.*

IS THE TEACHER INTERESTED IN HIS WORK? HIS ATTITUDE TO REFORMS.

We print the following communication in the belief that it will interest some of our readers, and not in advocacy of the movement for spelling reform. In the matter of spelling, the REVIEW has always kept, and is as yet content to keep, "in the time-worn rut."

THE EDITOR EDUCATIONAL REVIEW.

Next to clergymen, teachers perhaps come in for the heaviest share of modern criticism. "Your teacher does his work," says the man in the street, "but is he interested in it? Does he fight like the business man to get the best possible results in the shortest possible time? Is he interested in short cuts, new methods? Has he pioneering instincts, or is he an uninspired hireling of the state, grubbing for the biggest possible salary, for the least possible work?"

The reader's answer to these questions would be by no means unfavourable to the teacher, could he have seen the large concourse who met under the heaviest shadow that has yet brooded over the Empire, at the Conference of Educational Associations held annually in January at the University of London. Many of the keenest male members of the profession were absent; their duty had called them elsewhere. But those that remained seemed to have abated not one jot or tittle of their old energy and enthusiasm. They attended meetings, examined the latest educational apparatus and text-books (how many teachers do not spend lavishly of their substance in thus equipping themselves with the best tools?) debated, conferred, explained.

One criticism, often levelled at the teacher, is that he is a creature of prejudice, with a mind impervious to new ideas. Suspicious of schemes and educational experiments, he asks only to be allowed to keep in the time-worn rut.

If this be true, how comes it that so many teachers attended the meeting of the Simplified Spelling Society, thus demonstrating their interest in a reform still hotly debated. True, they have in one sense a mandate from the highest educational authorities to encourage the work of the Society, for has it not received the imprimatur of such men as Sir William Ramsay, Vice-Chancellor Michael Sadler, Sir James Murray, Principal James Donaldson, Mr. J. L. Paton, to say nothing of its distinguished President, Professor Gilbert Murray. Nevertheless, when we come to the