

The Work of Cut Worms

Will Attack All Kinds of Vegetables, But Are Partial to Onions.

Those Doing So Much Damage at Present Are of a Climbing Species.

Geo. A. Knight, of Mount Tolmie Nursery, writes as follows:

Cut worms are the larvae of several species of moths mostly belonging to the genus Agrotis. But they all look much alike to the casual observer, and their habits are similar. Agrotis fenicia is the one that does so much damage here in the spring. Onions, above all other vegetables, are their favorite food, although they will devour all kinds, and are very troublesome in asparagus beds. I have known them to eat all the foliage off half an acre of strawberry plants and then eat the fruit. I have found as many as fifty cut worms around one plant, some of them so small that they could scarcely be seen. The cut worms that are playing such havoc all over the country are in the season are of a climbing species, Agrotis scandens. I think, however, that they will climb more or less. For instance, in a nursery where the land is clean from weeds, they will climb up the young trees, and cut the tops off. I have had to train up new leaders four or five times in a season because they always cut the leader off in such cases.

I visited a garden a few days ago and to my surprise I found vegetables and flowers nearly all destroyed, potatoes being the worst. But here was a surprise for me. The worms were so numerous that they were all over the plants feeding, which is unusual by day, as they usually feed at night and hide themselves during the day in the soil. But when I scratched the soil away from the roots of a potato plant I found about twenty worms and three different species. One was a quarter of an inch in length. I asked the people where their chickens were, they said "Shut up." I told them to let them loose by all means and let them get at the worms. It is better to let the chickens scratch the garden than to have everything destroyed by cut worms. I encourage small chickens all over my garden, and have very little trouble with cut worms, after they are half grown. It is early in spring when the vegetables are about from one to two inches high, and the worms are so small that it is almost impossible to find them, that they are so numerous. I have lost my whole crop of onions in three days. In regard to poison as a remedy, skilled entomologists will tell you to get bunches of clover, cabbage leaves, etc., and sprinkle with Paris green and put small bunches along the rows of vegetables. Now, if this stuff could be got early in the spring, the little worms are not going to leave the young vegetables to eat the dry stuff, for it would soon wither in the sun and wind, even if one did cover it. No, sir, our British Columbia cut worms are not such fools. Here, again, is another remedy. A year or so ago certain parties were collecting funds to import birds to this country for destroying injurious insects, and yet the government officials recommend poison. Where is the sense in this? I have a little boy who has the habit of hunting up all the birds' nests around here in his leisure time and visiting them every few days. One day he came to me with such a sorrowful look on his face and said that a nest of young robins and a nest of larks were all dead in their nests, and that a cat had killed a quail that was sitting on twenty-two eggs. He was a sorry boy. Several times after that he told me that the young birds of other species were dead in their nests. All were insect eating birds. I did not get them analysed, but undoubtedly it was poisoned insects that killed them. Yesterday he brought me a beautiful thrush, dead, with its crop full. This was my doing, no doubt, for I had been using hellebore to kill the gooseberry worm, and we had several chicken sick all at once, and two died. We had to take them out of the garden for a few days. I thought hellebore was not strong enough to kill them, because they are not very fond of them. I killed a lot of young pheasants a few years ago by spraying nursery stock with Paris green to kill cut worms. The so-called meadow lark (American starling) undoubtedly is the farmers' and gardeners' best bird to kill cut worms. I remember when I was in the florist business at Brampton, Ont., I was curious to know what some meadow larks that used to frequent a field next to my place were feeding on. I watched until one had his beak filled and was just off to its young. At that moment I shot it. I found it had two grasshoppers, one cricket, one cut worm and one black spider, all injurious insects but the latter. I felt a pang of regret, but as the doctor says, all for science. Here I have watched them running up and down rows of vegetables boring for cut worms. In the breeding season they get away with an immense quantity of insects. Now why is this most beautiful friend of the horticulturist allowed to be shot in the shooting season? By all means there should be a law to protect it at all times, and a heavy fine for any one that is caught killing them. I would say protect the birds, even the mischievous crow, but they should be scared away when they are doing mischief. They do a great deal more good than harm by destroying large quantities of insects. Kill all pecking cats and dogs. They destroy a lot of useful birds. Use, as little poison as possible, or else we will lose our birds.

A Chinaman living near me has thirty acres of potatoes, with over a third of them ruined. In cases like this, chickens, of course, are out of the question, although I have seen cooped with chicken over a four-acre patch. A great many people are under the impression that mild winters are favorable to insects, but with my twenty-one years' observation in British Columbia I find it is not so. Mild, changeable weather and lots of cold rains destroy large quantities of insects. Such weather causes fungus disease to attack them, and it also gives the birds a show. On the other hand, everything is frozen up and often large quantities of birds are destroyed with the blizzards we get here so often. After what we call a hard winter I find insects are the most destructive. Birds are very scarce this season, without any apparent cause.

The following are remedies for those that have to use poison: First, bran, moistened with sweetened water and mixed with Paris green, shaken along the rows; second, one pound of Paris green, one pound of fresh lime, two hundred gallons of water, to be sprayed on; third, one pound of Paris green mixed with fifty pounds of flour or land plaster, to be dusted on the foliage.

There are a lot of bellows and powder guns advertised in seedmen's catalogues. The best that I have seen is Hotchkiss powder gun, an up-to-date, powerful machine.

CONCERNING BAKING POWDERS. Report of the Inland Revenue Department—Chief Analyst Recommends That Sale of Alum Baking Powders Be Stopped.

The Inland Revenue Department has issued its report on Baking Powders (Bulletin No. 68). It contains analyses of 156 samples of powders, bought of dealers and manufacturers in the Dominion, 85 per cent. of which are found to be alum mixtures. In view of the large proportion of this class of powders, Chief Analyst Macfarlane recommends that legal proceedings be taken against parties selling them, on the ground that they are unwholesome articles of food, and believes that their sale will be condemned by the Courts.

The analyses were made by the Assistant Analyst, Mr. A. McGill, who fully discusses the injurious nature of alum in baking powders. Mr. McGill adds: "In my last report I expressed my conviction, based on experimental evidence, that alum is baking powder dangerous to health. The large mass of evidence since accumulated has more strongly convinced me of the correctness of that opinion. My personal opinion is decidedly against the use of alum. The health of a nation is too serious a matter to be imperilled lightly, and it is impossible to secure prohibitory legislation, it is desirable that manufacturers of alum powders should be required to state the contents on the packages."

Professor Rutan, of McGill College, Montreal, who made a series of experiments on the digestibility of bread baked with alum powders, is quoted as follows: "The unanimous verdict of my experiments is that alum powders introduce into a loaf of bread a substance which is detrimental to the functional activity of the digestive ferments. They must therefore be prejudicial to health, and the only course is to carefully avoid them."

Following are the names of baking powders containing alum sold in this vicinity, given in the Analyst's report:

- WHITE STAR Contains Alum.
- SMITH'S CREAM Contains Alum. Manf. by the Dyson Gilson Co., Winnipeg, Man.
- GOLD STANDARD Contains Alum. Manf. by Codville & Co., Winnipeg, Man.
- BLUE RIBBON Contains Alum. Manf. by Blue Ribbon Mfg. Co., Winnipeg, Man.
- GOLDEN CROWN Contains Alum. Manf. by W. Purts & Son, Vancouver, B.C.
- MAGIC Contains Alum. Manf. by E. W. Gillett, Toronto, Ont.
- REGAL Contains Alum. Manf. by Pure Gold Mfg. Co., Toronto, Ont.
- PURITY Contains Alum. Manf. by Purity Baking Powder Co., Toronto, Ont.
- OCEAN WAVE Contains Alum. Manf. by Hamilton Coffee & Spice Co., Hamilton, Ont.
- KITCHEN QUEEN Contains Alum. Manf. by F. F. Daily & Co., Hamilton, Ont.
- HALLONQUIST'S CREAM Contains Alum. Manf. by F. F. Daily & Co., Hamilton, Ont.
- CLIMAX Contains Alum. Manf. by R. Balston & Co., Hamilton, Ont.

POPULARITY OF BANFF. It Yearly Attracts More Visitors Than the Yellowstone.

It may not generally be known that in the Canadian Rockies is a more popular resort than the Yellowstone, yet such is the case. Notwithstanding that the praises of the latter have been published in all quarters; that it embraces one of the most picturesque regions in the United States; that its climatic conditions are supposed to be exceptionally fine; that it is within easy access of many large cities and densely populated communities, or that there is expended on it yearly more than twenty times the amount spent on this park, it is gratifying and speaks volumes for Banff that the number of people who visit this park is in excess of that of the Yellowstone. A good index of the travel in the two parks may be seen in the number of visitors registered annually at the hotels of the two respective resorts. Here are the comparative figures for the past five years:

Year.	Yellowstone.	Banff.
1895	2,470	4,224
1896	2,408	3,999
1897	4,870	5,087
1898	2,207	5,537
1899	3,637	7,387

With this continually increasing travel will come a more intimate knowledge of the country at large, and Canada, the land of Thule, will be known as she is.—National Park Gazette.

STOUT PEOPLE'S FEET. Stout people have endless trouble with their feet. They swell and ache, get sore and tender, chafe readily, and the easily. There is nothing will give such comfort to these people as FOOT BLM.

It reduces the swelling, eases the aching, prevents chafing, cures the tenderness, relieves the tiredness, and makes walking a pleasure. Always ask for FOOT BLM, and refuse any substitute that may be offered. Price 25c., at all druggists, or by mail, Stott & Jury, Bowmanville, Ont.

SUCCESS FOR SIXTY YEARS. This is the record of Perry Davis' Pain-Killer. You can cure colic, diarrhoea, dysentery, and bowel complaints. Avoid substitutes, there is but one Pain-Killer, Perry Davis'. 25c. and 50c.

Early Closing Of Stores

Meeting of Committee and Those Interested Will Be Held To-Morrow.

Women's Exchanges and Sale of Work-Letter From Lady Aberdeen.

This morning's session opened promptly on time and minutes of the previous meeting were confirmed. Mrs. Willoughby Cummings announced that some very good snap-shots of the council's trip coastward from her camera had been developed and were obtainable.

Miss T. Wilson read lengthy excerpts from the report of the International Council, which gave some small idea of the vast scope and extent of the World's Women Council work.

It was announced that Mrs. Hoodless, of Hamilton, has published a Domestic Science and School Classroom Cook Book, and that with the royalty on the book, she will pay the expenses of the Canadian Council for affiliation with the International Council.

Announcements were made as under: The Young Women's Christian Association will hold a conference this (Friday) evening.

To-morrow (Saturday) the committee on early closing of stores meets in the St. Andrew's church lecture room. To this meeting all employers of clerks, the clerks themselves and the general public are warmly invited.

At 11 o'clock to-morrow the delegates will meet at the church and be driven around Victoria's points of interest.

At the same hour in Wait's music hall will be held a convention of the King's Daughters, with Mrs. Matthindougl in the chair.

Members of the council and their friends will take the 1.30 car at Campbell's corner to proceed in a body to Esquimaux to visit the United States man-of-war, in accord with the kind invitation of United States Consul Smith and the admiral leaving Esquimaux at 3.45 the party will then proceed to Mrs. Croft's home, Mount Adelaide, where Mrs. Croft will be at home to the delegates and officers of the executive.

On Monday afternoon, by the kind invitation of the Lord Bishop of Columbia and Mrs. Perrin, the council will be entertained at Bishopsclose.

Mrs. Wood, of Victoria, read a resolution as follows: "Resolved, that the National Council recommend local councils to enquire into the working of Women's Exchanges, and to see whether it is not desirable to promote them where possible."

Mrs. Day read a paper on this subject, The motion, with some slight alterations, carried.

Mrs. Willoughby Cummings told of two Women's Exchanges in Toronto, in one of these the workers are charged 10 per cent. for the effecting of the sale of their work. In the other the Exchange buys the work outright and pays the worker at once, not waiting until the article finds a purchaser. The plan works well, for she has exchanged the scheme of this institution which is wide in its scope. In the industrial department incompetent but willing workers are by trained teachers systematically taught to work in some acceptable line. They thus learn to do good work and find a ready sale for it.

Miss Reid told of three Women's Exchanges of Montreal, where cooking, sewing, cleaning feathers and gloves, etc., etc., are done, and arrangements made whereby the products of the industry of hand and head are exchanged to the common benefit of all concerned.

The following letter, self-explanatory, was then read to the council from Lady Aberdeen:

58 Grosvenor Street, London, W., July 10th, 1900. My Very Dear Friends of the National Council of Women of Canada:

When these words are read to you, you and I will be many thousands of miles apart, and yet I feel that I shall be very close to you all through the days when you are gathered together in beautiful Victoria.

I shall follow all you are doing each day with the help of the agenda, and shall note all the details of arrangements by day. And so I shall be able to live these days with you in spirit, although to my very great regret I cannot be personally present to greet you to the capital of the province to which Lord Aberdeen and I yield special allegiance. The loss of all this, for I have ever felt it to be a privilege and an inspiration to be present and to bear a part in the proceedings of our annual meeting, and the remembrance and the influence of these conferences will abide with me, as they will with many others, for the time being. As I have often said, I have never been brought in contact with a body of workers so responsive, so loyal to their leaders, and to each other, so tolerant and yet so earnest. And it is a joy to me to find my successor in the presidency giving the same testimony and writing to me in the warmest tones of the kindness, hearty co-operation and devotion to the work of the council which have been the distinguishing marks of her colleagues during the past year, and she uses the same word as I have done regarding the influence of the council meetings, demonstrating, as they do, that there is a body of women in Canada representing all parts of the country, who are bound together to uphold all that is lovely, and true, and of good report, and to labor for those things which make for righteousness. She calls it "an inspiration," and that indeed is the only word which describes it.

My best wish for your council meetings and conferences is that they may be carried out under influences which will make all delegates and members realize the truth of this assertion, and which will increase the consciousness that we ourselves, as a council, are greater than our words, and that in our body corporate, the potentialities of power for good as yet undreamed of, if we are true to the ideals which we have placed before us.

Allow me very heartily to congratulate you on the progress of the council during the past year. You have accomplished several notable achievements, which mark real advance, which further emphasize the

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Cut the loop and your silk is ready in needful lengths.

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To Race At Victoria

Hackett-Johnson Championship Event Will Probably Take Place at Shawigan.

Pacific Coast Belt to Be Contested for on a Local Course.

It is now almost a certainty the great race between Hackett and Johnson, for the rowing championship of the Pacific coast, will be pulled off at Victoria, and that citizens of this place will have an opportunity, such as they have not had for years, of seeing a championship single scull event on local waters.

The match is billed for the 1st of September, and this afternoon the articles of agreement will in all probability be signed. All the coast cities have made a determined effort to have the event come off, as it will attract thousands of visitors, and otherwise prove a most attractive advertisement for the point where it is decided to conduct the race. The institution which has been instrumental in putting forward the claims of Victoria for the race is the Hotel Strathcona at Shawigan Lake, the management of which has been most energetic in its efforts to capture the plum. In forwarding their claims, they had before them previous experience in aquatic events on Shawigan lake, in the great race between Hanlan and Stephenson, when the former was on his way home from Australia, where he lost the championship of the world to Beach.

The wonderfully good time made on that occasion established the claim of Shawigan to be classed as one of the ideal courses for such events in the world. Lying inland, flanked by hills, and not subject to the gales which frequently vex inland waters, it is little wonder that the great Hanlan pronounced it the finest sheet of water, for racing purposes, into which he had ever dipped his victorious oar. That the race which is now being arranged will prove equally satisfactory is without question.

The course laid will probably be a similar one to that followed in the Hanlan-Stephenson race, being straight-away from the hotel. On that occasion, a surfer went carefully over the water and picked off the course by sinking stakes in the water.

The Johnson-Hackett race will be for a purse of \$1,500, and the championship of the Pacific coast.

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- ARMOUR'S FINEST PORK AND BEANS, large tins 15
- LIME JUICE, bottle 25
- GRATED PINEAPPLE, tin 35
- BONED CHICKEN, tin 35
- BONED TURKEY, tin 25
- BONED DUCK, tin 25

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Toys, Toys, Toys.

Samples of American, English and European Toys for the Fall and Christmas Trade. Orders taken and indents executed.

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Wholesale Dry Goods and Clothing Manufacturers. 21, 23, 25, 27, 29 YATES STREET, VICTORIA, B.C.

THE OLD BRIGADE. Ex-Members of the Service Organize an Association.

The Veterans' Association of Vancouver Island held a most successful inaugural meeting last night, when about one hundred ex-members of the different branches of the imperial and colonial forces gathered at the drill-hall. The chair was occupied by Hon. J. H. Turner, who later in the evening was obliged to withdraw and hand over the office to Col. Prior.

The chairman, Col. Wolfenden, and F. C. Gamble stated the objects which it was desired to accomplish by means of

the organization, while letters of regret at their inability to be present were read from Mr. Justice Drake, Capt. Richardson, Hon. B. W. Pearce, Haseel, M. C. A. Vernon and A. W. Neill, M. P. P.

The following committee was drafted to prepare by-law: Lieut.-Col. Wolfenden, F. C. Gamble, Capt. Fletcher, Jno. Baggshaw, Major Phipps, W. H. Cullin, Mr. G. E. Smith, Major Dupont, Dr. O. M. Jones, Hon. J. H. Turner, Captain Rous, C. Spring, Wm. Davis, Captain A. J. Dalphin and Capt. Richardson.

Another meeting will be held on Monday evening to decide upon the part the association will take in the reception of the Governor-General.