

Springs, Cowichan, Departure Bay, &c. I regret to say that I cannot give you much information about it. I have submitted specimens to specialists in the United States, but so far they have given me no light on the subject which is of practical use. Prof. Burrill, of the University of Illinois, finds an undescribed species of microscopic fungus on the wounds, but it belongs to a family not previously known to be injurious. One thing, however, is certain that the caterpillars enclosed with the specimens are in no way connected with the injury; these are caterpillars of tussock moths, which feed on the leaves, and they had only crawled to the holes in the bark to pass the winter. It is a habit with many insects to pass the winter when half grown in the larval condition, and several kinds do this on the trunks of trees and beneath mosses and lichens growing thereon. These caterpillars are dead, but I am able to recognize them by the beautiful barbed hairs and a gland on the back. In sending insects by mail alive it is best to send them in a tin box. Moisture gathers inside a tightly corked glass bottle and drowns the enclosed insects. If your correspondents would send me a few more of these caterpillars I should be much obliged for them; they might be packed in a tin box without any holes, and a piece of moss put in with them would prevent their being injured in transit. I will endeavor to find out more about the fungus disease, and will write to you again on the subject.

I am, &c..

JAMES FLETCHER,

*Dominion Entomologist."*

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Mr. N. Butchart, Port Moody, gives the Fruit Growers' Association the following as preventive and cure, having been tested for three years by a neighbor, Mr. Coltie.

Cut out all dead spots as they appear, using grafting wax to cover the wounds. While the trees are dormant wash the trunks and large limbs with this solution: 1 pound of Gillett's concentrated lye to five gallons of water; also spray the smaller limbs with solution, 1 can of lye to ten gallons of water.

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Mr. R. M. Palmer sends the following: The disease or condition of the bark of apple trees known as "Black Spot of the Bark" is very common, especially on the lower mainland.

It is found under widely varying conditions, usually doing most harm in young orchards having a southern or eastern aspect, and especially where, from the nature of the situation, such as the lower portion of a slope, water from higher elevations is constantly perco-