

an enormous rate. The earlier the cherry and plum trees are sprayed with the kerosene emulsion the easier these lice are destroyed. The manner of making this is simple—a strong soap-suds is made, and, while boiling, the kerosene is added and well churned, before adding water. The usual formula is : *Kerosene, 2 gals ; Water, 1 gal. ; Soap, ½ lb., mixed as above, and then diluted with about 30 gals. of water.*

The English Sparrow.

At a recent meeting of the Dominion Farmers' Council, at London, the following resolution was passed :—

"That the Dominion Government be asked to offer a small bounty for the heads of English sparrows, and in case that government declines to take action in the matter, that the Ontario Government be asked to do so in this province, and that a copy of this resolution be sent to the agricultural departments of each government, and to the secretaries of fruit growers' and agricultural societies throughout the Dominion."

At our Winter Meeting in Ottawa, a valuable paper on the House Sparrow, by Mr. P. McIlwraith, of Hamilton, was read ; and in it some wise recommendations were given for favoring the destruction of this bird, such as :—(1) Repeal of laws affording it protection ; (2) Enactment of laws legalizing the killing of it at all seasons of the year, and the destruction of its nests, eggs and young ; (3) Enactment of laws protecting the great Northern Shrike, the Sparrow Hawk, and the Screech Owl, which feed largely on the sparrows ; and a resolution was passed asking the government for legislation for carrying out these suggestions.

For a riddance of our premises of them, a good plan is to destroy their nests, eggs and young, by means of a

long, light pole, with an iron hook at the point. At the Council above mentioned, Mr. Little reported that he had been successful in poisoning them by placing a dish of wheat soaked with water, in which Paris green had been dissolved, on the eave-trough of the building where it was out of the way of other things.

Treatment of Girdled Trees.

E. A. RIEHL, in *Orchard and Garden*, gives the following opportune advice :—

The most satisfactory way of treating trees girdled in the winter by mice or rabbits is to cut them down to the ground and let them make a new stem and top, which they will do quicker and be better trees after than by any other method I have ever tried. The sooner this is done after discovery of the damage the better. Should the girdling extend below the point where the tree was budded or grafted, it will still be better to cut down and then bud or graft the young tree after, or the graft can be inserted at once into the root or collar.

A Portable Propagating Case.

I herewith enclose a sketch of a propagating case now in use in my conservatory, and which pleases me better than anything I have ever before seen. Water (having an oil lamp below) is the heating medium for the sand, and this is preferable to a body of heated air, as sometimes used, a fact that any good propagator will, I think, substantiate.

In the construction of this case (size, three feet by four) a strong board outer case, with no bottom, is made. A tight-fitting glazed sash should be hinged on, and the woodwork is, in the main, finished. Two feet of the lower part is made double, with projecting pieces, as shown, upon which the water tray rests, and other projections on each side, about an inch wide, should be fixed inside the frame, and