

city limits. However, police permission can often be obtained on the plea that the birds are a pest.

Ordinary 12- and 16-gage shotguns are too heavy weapons for killing pigeons, especially at short range. The Fish and Wildlife Service recommends the .410-caliber shotgun, or even a .22-caliber rifle with shot cartridges. A high-powered air rifle can also be used effectively.

Trapping is practicable in some sites and where it can be carried on is preferable to shooting. It at least has the advantage of enabling one to release, unharmed, stray carrier or fancy pigeons that have wandered into dubious society and been adopted as flock-mates by their "hoboemian" companions. Initialed and numbered leg bands usually identify these valued strays.

Getting rid of pigeons as pests, with no idea of using them for food, can also be done by using poison; but this carries with it the risk of having the dead birds picked up and eaten by somebody's pet cat or dog, which will be poisoned in its turn. Poison gas has been suggested, but is not practicable except in the hands of professionals. It is too risky to be attempted by amateurs.

Pigeons can be excluded from belfries, church steeples and other favored nesting sites by nailing chicken-wire inside all openings. If the one-inch mesh is used, it will keep out starlings as well as pigeons.

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BIOCHEMISTRY

Mold from Human Hair Stops Typhoid Germs

➤ A "RED-HEADED" mold from human hair may yield a penicillin-like remedy for typhoid fever and some kinds of dysentery. Discovery that a red dye or pigment produced by the mold stops the growth of typhoid and dysentery germs in culture plates, as penicillin stops the growth of other germs, is announced by Dr. L. Rosenthal, of Israel Zion Hospital, Brooklyn, N. Y. (*Science*, Aug. 17)

Penicillin does not have any effect on the typhoid-dysentery group of germs.

The red mold pigment, if it proves effective as a remedy, could be given by mouth, Dr. Rosenthal's studies indicate.

Tests to determine whether it is poisonous or can be safely used and whether it would affect the germs in the body as well as in culture plates in the laboratory are now under way.

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Books of the Week

THE CONSTITUTION AND TOXIC EFFECT OF BOTANICALS AND NEW SYNTHETIC INSECTICIDES—P. Lauger, H. Martin and P. Muller—*Geigy Co.*, 43 p., paper, illus., free. Trans. of a paper read before the Basler Chemische Naturforschende und Medizinische Gesellschaft.

DIETOTHERAPY: Clinical Application of Modern Nutrition—Michael G. Wohl, ed.—*Saunders*, 1029 p., illus., \$10. Foreword by Russell M. Wilder.

EDUCATORS GUIDE TO FREE FILMS—Mary Foley Horkheimer and John W. Diffor, comps.—*Educators Process Service*, 254 p., paper, \$4. 5th ed., revised and enlarged.

ESSENTIAL VOCATIONAL MATHEMATICS—Claude H. Ewing and Walter W. Hart—*Heath*, 266 p., illus., \$1.60. A first year course for vocational and technical high school students.

EXPERIMENTAL STRESS ANALYSIS. Proceedings of the Society for Experimental Stress Analysis, Vol. 2, No. 2—C. Lipson and W. M. Murray, eds.—*Addison-Wesley*, 166 p., illus., \$5. Containing papers presented before the society's fall meeting and symposium on crankshaft stresses.

GOVERNMENT IN PUBLIC HEALTH—Harry S. Mustard—*Commonwealth Fund*, 219 p., \$1.50. A study of the New York Academy of Medicine, Committee on Medicine and the Changing Order.

MUSIC AND SOUND SYSTEMS IN INDUSTRY—Barbara Elna Benson—*McGraw*, 124 p., illus., \$1.50. Industrial Organization and Management Series. The organization of an industrial broadcasting system.

PIPING HANDBOOK—Sabin Crocker—*McGraw*, 1736 p., illus., \$7. Fourth ed., revised and enlarged. For the engineer interested in piping design.

POLITICAL PARTIES: An American Way—*Public Affairs Committee*, 32 p., paper, illus., 10 cents. In cooperation with the National Foundation for Education in American Citizenship. Basic American Concept Series.

PREVENTIVE MEDICINE—Mark F. Boyd—*Saunders*, 591 p., illus. \$5.50. 7th ed., revised and enlarged.

SOCIOLOGY APPLIED TO NURSING—Emory S. Bogardus and Alice B. Brethorst—*Saunders*, 312 p., illus., \$2.50. 2nd ed., revised and enlarged.

TEXTBOOK OF BACTERIOLOGY—Edwin O. Jordan and William Burrows—*Saunders*, 909 p., illus., \$7. 14th ed., revised and enlarged.

WHERE DO PEOPLE TAKE THEIR TROUBLES?—Lee R. Steiner—*Houghton*, 263 p., \$3.

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Cod fish was once the mainstay of the vitamin industry of the United States, but now cod contributes only about 1% of the output of vitamin A by American manufacturers.

A 10% reduction in losses of adult *hens* by disease would increase the total production of the nation's flocks by half a billion dozen eggs.



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