



Crickets

FROST has stilled almost all of the great insect chorus that filled the summer air, but the crickets are still with us. They sing more slowly now than they did then, for crickets chirp according to the temperature, faster when they are warm and slower when they are cold. But they are still at it: "Cree-i—i, Cree-i—i". Those that come into our houses become a little livelier after they have the chill thawed out of them.

The tradition of the cricket as the type and symbol of domesticity has been transplanted to this country from Europe. With little reason; for the true house cricket is not found at all abundantly on this continent, except in some parts of Canada. The black field cricket is, to be sure, sometimes found in houses in the United States, but that is not his natural habitat. And any kind of cricket in the house is not a sign of good luck—unless holes gnawed in carpets and upholstering are kinds of good luck.

One species of cricket that few people ever see, but from whose depredations many suffer, especially in the South, is the mole cricket. He is a permanent subterranean dweller, mining about just beneath the surface, like a little insect mole. Mole-like, too, are his curiously flattened forelegs, which he carries up close to his face. The mole cricket is a most unwelcome guest when he appears in numbers in a lawn or pasture for he feeds entirely on the roots of forage plants, and can do immense amounts of mischief.

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Centuries ago, a tribe of Mexican Indians is said to have lived for more than fifty years without salt, when hostile Aztecs cut off outside supplies.

PSYCHOLOGY

Farm Student Appears More Radical than City Cousin

CONTRARY to public opinion, the boy from the farm is not more conservative than his city cousin in his views on social problems such as divorce, a single moral standard, capital punishment, and women smoking in public, it would seem from a survey made at Louisiana State University by Dr. Charles Homer Bean. Of the students at that institution, those who came from large cities were the most conservative, and the most radical group had lived both on farms and in small villages.

Men Less "Modern"

High school students, he found, are much more conservative than university students. Men are less "modern" than women. The high school boy is on the average more progressive than his male parent, but is less progressive than is his mother.

A complication which Dr. Bean found in the study of conservative and progressive attitudes in either a group or in an individual is that either may be progres-

sive or even radical in some matters, and conservative or decidedly static in others.

"For example," he says, "the United States of America, which prides itself on being much more up to date, especially in industrial and commercial matters, than her European and Central and South American competitors, familiar, as most of them are not, with a decimal monetary system, has resisted decades of effort on the part of the government and the schools to introduce the now almost universal metric system of weights and measures."

So also he found that 50 per cent. of the men students and 40 per cent. of the women approved of women's smoking in public, but only 33 per cent. of the men and 7 per cent. of the women allowed men to take their coats off in public places.

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Foretasting Meteors

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well placed; and they do not appear on the maps. Mercury is an evening star all month, and on the fifteenth is about five degrees above the western horizon at sunset, where it will be difficult to locate, because of the bright sky. At the same time Venus, next planet in order from the sun, will be a little higher, and also difficult to locate. Mars at the middle of the month, will set about an hour after the sun, and may be glimpsed at dusk. Saturn is low in the southwest in the constellation of Sagittarius, the archer, and sets about four hours after the sun. Brightest of all the planets this month, however, is Jupiter, which rises about eleven o'clock.

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A department of chiropody has recently been opened in an English hospital, to treat certain types of foot disabilities.



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