

FOREST PESTS AT WORK IN YELLOWSTONE PARK

The great forests of Yellowstone National Park, one of the chief glories of that wonderful region, are seriously endangered by the onslaught of two timber-killing insect pests. So far their ravages have been confined to areas so located that the beauty of the park has not been greatly marred, but unless vigorous and thorough measures are soon taken against them they will do irreparable damage

The first and probably more serious of these pests is the spruce budworm, which is at work in the Camp Roosevelt region, in the northeastern part of the Park. The larva of this insect feeds on the buds and leaves of spruce and fir trees, stripping them naked and leaving them to die. Its area of damage is rapidly eating into one of the most interesting and attractive forests, and dead trees will soon be seen along the roads.

The second pest is the sawfly, which attacks the lodgepole pine. This insect also is a defoliator, killing the leaves by chewing out the soft green parts and leaving a dead shell behind. Its operations are spreading through the forest along the road from the entrance at West Yellowstone, Montana, and will be especially in evidence next season when many of the trees will be dead.

As a means of keeping the epidemics in temporary check, spraying apparatus has been borrowed from the U. S. Forest Service, and poison sprays will be used for a distance of one thousand feet in either direction from the roads through the diseased areas. However, this is recognized by the Park Service authorities as only a relief and not a cure. For permanent results, more thorough measures, going wherever the pests have migrated, will have to be undertaken as soon as sufficient funds shall have been obtained.

READING REFERENCE - Caldwell, Otis W. and Slosson, Edwin E. Science Remaking the World. New York, Doubleday, Page and Company, 1924.

TABLOID BOOK REVIEW

OIL ENGINES. By A. L. Bird, M.A. Published by E. P. Dutton and Co., New York. Price \$5.00

Oil, as distinguished from the lighter products of petroleum such as gasoline, is finding an increasing use in engines for power plants and ships. As an authoritative and technical description of the operation of oil engines, particularly the Diesel type, this book will undoubtedly find a place in our technical literature.

The farmers in one township in the state of Washington have agreed to standardize their stock-raising by the adoption of one standard breed for each kind of animal handled.

Because of their cheerful, easy-going disposition, the Burmese have been dubbed the "Irish of the Orient".
