pleasant, is a positive gain for the whole world, even so every act of kindness is a creation in the right direction.

Our tactful family physician says that our village is a pleasant place in which to live because it contains a large per cent. of men who have been very careful in the selection of their wives. Without attempting to defend this somewhat startling generalization I will adopt his phraseology and assert on the basis of over twenty years of work in its ranks that the Civil Service is a pleasant place to live and work because it is made up of carefully selected people. Selected not so much by the formal tests as by the type of work they do, the type of life they may be expected to lead, and the almost entire absence of a profit motive. I believe them to be distinguished among American groups for courtesy, generosity, industry, honesty and happiness. Whether the characteristics which I find among my associates are to be rated as good or bad I must leave to the clergymen to decide. That is their field of specialization—not mine. But I have the feeling that they bear strong resemblance to the ideas held out as ideals by certain great moral leaders of different ages.

NEIL E. STEVENS
BUREAU OF PLANT INDUSTRY
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

A REPRODUCTION PHENOMENON

IN certain species of parasitic Hymenoptera, particularly those belonging to the genus *Coccophagus,* the males develop only as parasites of hymenopterous larvae and the females only as parasites of homopterous nymphs or adults; *i.e.,* mealybugs or scale insects. The hymenopterous host, however, must be within a homopterous insect. This is a remarkable differentiation in the host relations of the sexes within a species.

The production of males in a pure culture of a species having such a habit necessitates the destruction of immature females since they are the only hosts of the male present in the culture. The conditions under which the destruction of the females occurs vary with the species.

Apparently in all the species the female is endoparasitic. The male, however, in some species, may be endoparasitic, in some ectoparasitic and in others alternately ectoparasitic and endoparasitic. The male exhibits marked differences in the structure of the respiratory system and other morphological characteristics.

As in other species of Hymenoptera, the male develops from unfertilized eggs deposited by unmated females. These females either deposit their eggs directly on or in the immature hymenopterous host or they deposit them in the fluid media surrounding such hosts. In this fluid media the eggs remain unhatched until the hymenopterous host is in a suitable condition for attack.

This peculiar phenomenon is of practical importance in the biological control of insect pests.

S. E. FLANDERS
CITRUS EXPERIMENT STATION
RIVERSIDE, CALIF.

PSEUDOLARIX AMABILIS, A NEW HOST FOR DASYSCYPHA WILLKOMMII[1]

DURING recent months the writers scouted for *Dasyscypha willkommii* (Hartig) Rehm, the European larch canker organism, in radii of 2½ miles from the present known centers of infection in the two towns of Hamilton and Ipswich, Massachusetts. Though paying strict attention to the species of Larix present, several cankers closely resembling those caused by the disease on imported *Larix europaea* were observed on the branches of a golden larch, *Pseudolarix amabilis* Rehder. Specimens of the host were sent to and identified by Alfred Rehder at the Arnold Arboretum, while G. G. Hahn at the Federal Laboratory of Forest Pathology in New Haven, Connecticut, identified *Dasyscypha willkommii* from cultures typical of the parasite made from the inner bark of that host. This is the first host genus other than Larix upon which the true European larch canker organism has been reported in America.

J. ARMSTRONG MILLER
KENNETH F. ALDRICH

IN AID OF DR. LUDWIG MACH

DR. LUDWIG MACH, the only surviving son of the late Ernst Mach, is threatened by economic pressure with the prospect of having to abandon the house and laboratories in which he has for years endeavored to complete his father's physical researches. The premises contain a complete Archiv with Ernst Mach's notebooks and diaries, on the basis of which Dr. Ludwig Mach had hoped to prepare a memoir of his father's life. Eviction from the valuable but heavily mortgaged property would mean the destruction of all the material assembled. 3,000 to 4,000 marks would enable Dr. Mach to complete Volume II of the *Prinzipien der physikalischen Optik,* while 500 to 600 marks would stave off the immediate difficulty. Since the case is urgent, remittances of those interested should be addressed directly to Dr. Ludwig Mach, Vaterstetten bei München, Wasserburger Landstrasse 61, Germany.

ROBERT H. LOWIE

[1] Report from Emergency Conservation Work and Division of Forest Pathology, Bureau of Plant Industry, in cooperation with the Northeastern Forest Experiment Station and Osborn Botanical Laboratory, Yale University.