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**Daddy's Evening Fairy Tale**

MARY GRAHAM BONNER

**JOLLY SONG SPARROWS.**

"We're the Jolly Song Sparrows," said little Sam Song Sparrow to little Sidney Song Sparrow.

"And we sing very beautifully," said Sidney.

"We're not very handsome," said Sam. "We don't go in much for beautiful dress. Our feathers are rather brownish gray and not very pretty."

"In fact, they're very plain. They're very plain indeed. They are dull and uninteresting. But you see we can't have everything, and we have voices."

"I'd much rather have a lovely voice than a lovely coat of feathers," said Sam.

"Then you're satisfied?" said Sidney.

"For you are lovely voices and you haven't the lovely feathers."

"Quite satisfied," said Sam.

"We're not very big, and we're not so small that we are cunning like the little Humming Bird is," said little Sidney Song Sparrow.

"We're just about the size of the ordinary, usual sparrow."

"Oh, well," said Sam, "people do not mind, I am quite sure, whether we're small or not. They don't care if we're not cunning little creatures like the Humming birds and they don't care if we're not big, beautiful birds like the Flickers."

"They don't mind if our feathers are plain, for they like our voices, and they have lately, too, called us the Jolly Song Sparrows."

"Ah, yes," said Sidney, "and I've been hearing more than that."

"Do tell me," said Sam.

"I will," said Sidney. "When would you like me to tell you, Sam?"

"Now, if you don't mind," said Sam. "I'm eager to know."

"Very well," said Sidney. "I will tell you at once." And he began.

"I've heard people not only say that we're chatty little singers, but they've said our voices were lovely. They've said they were very much like a canary's voice."

"Yes, they've said our voices were really lovely."

"And they've said that they liked to hear our songs again and again. Do you know that is why we have always sung at all times of the day, too?"

"Yes, I know," said Sam. "We've been always told that people liked it because we sang early in the morning, late in the afternoon, at all times during the day, and even had been heard at night."

"That is why we've always kept up our rule of being obliging about our singing at all times. We haven't wanted to say: 'I'm sorry, but I don't feel just like singing today. An-

**Horticultural Points**

**PREVENT INJURY BY BORERS**

Soap Wash Applied to Every Part of Tree is Recommended as Superior to Spraying.

There are two borers which work on apple trees—the young-headed apple-borer and the flat-headed borer. They are quite common, and not many orchards are free from them. The flat-headed borer makes a tunnel between the bark and the sap-wood, and in young orchards the trees are frequently completely girdled. The round-headed borer is perhaps the most common. The young larvae bore through the bark and for a time work just under the bark. After a year, if they are undisturbed, they work clear into the heartwood. These borers work in trees from two to three years, constantly making a larger tunnel. Trees should be examined during the fall and again during the spring for "gumming" or excreta. The gum should be cleared away and then use a knife rather sparingly and never cut crosswise of the grain of the wood. There are no sprays or washes, safe to use, which will kill the borers in the apple trees, but a good soap wash, applied to every part of the trunk of tree will prevent the adults from laying eggs on the trees and prevent the larvae from boring in the trees. A good wash is made as follows: One gallon soap, one gallon hot water and one-half pound carbolic acid; this should be stirred thoroughly, and after 24 hours diluted with 30 gallons of water and applied as a wash. Some make a stronger solution by doubling the amount of carbolic acid. The eggs of these borers are laid during June and July, so it is important that the wash be applied in time to prevent the females from laying eggs on the trees.

There are other borers which work on cherry and peach trees. These cherry-tree borers may be controlled in same manner as the apple-tree borer. These borers do not usually become very numerous, but while they are working they do considerable damage and some check should be put upon their work. The peach-tree borer may be controlled by spraying with

**Round-Headed Apple-Tree Borer Working in Young Service Tree.**

lime-sulphur, just as the buds begin to swell. The currant bush borer is controlled by cutting out and burning the old, infested stems in May. The raspberry cane borer may be dealt with by cutting out and destroying infested canes or shoots along toward the last of June.

**BEST ORCHARD-GRASS SOILS**

Plant Favors Well-Drained Rich Loam and Will Not Thrive on Infertile Sandy Soil.

Orchard grass does best on well-drained rich loam soils. It will succeed on poor sandy land. While it will grow on soils too sour for, and will withstand drought better than timothy, orchard grass is apt to be injured by severe northern winters. The important advantage of this plant is that it thrives in a partial shade, making it suitable for orchard and woodland pastures.

**POOR POLICY TO BAND TREES**

Only Question of Time Before Material Kills Tree, Especially Those With Thin Bark.

Results in some quarters seem to indicate that it is a poor policy to band trees with sticky greasy material to prevent insects going up. While it prevents the insects climbing, it seems to be a question of time when the material kills the tree, especially thin-barked trees. Remove the material each autumn and replace on another part of the tree if it is to be used at all.

**CONTROL OF SCALE INSECTS**

Spraying May Be Done at Two Different Periods of Year and for Different Purposes.

The control of scale insects of all kinds is chiefly by spraying, and this operation may be carried on at two entirely different periods of the year and for two entirely different purposes. In one case the spraying is done when the trees are not in foliage, that is, in the late autumn or early spring, and these sprays are known as dormant sprays because of the dormant condition of the trees.

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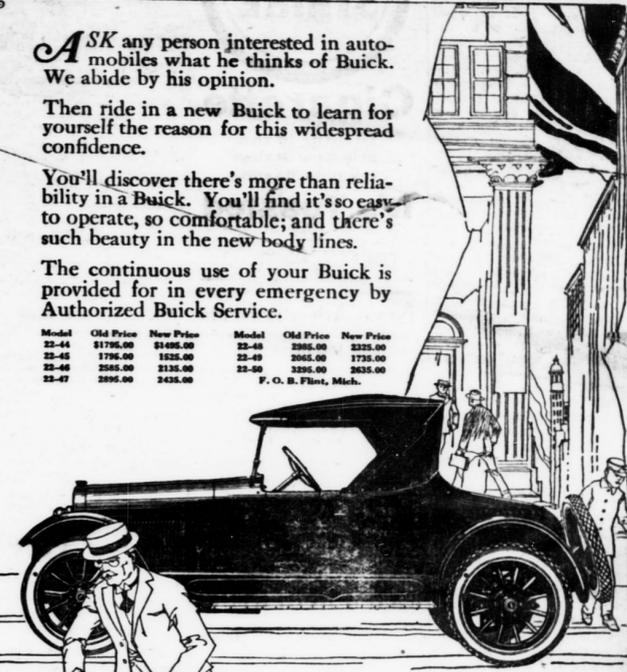
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