

FLIES ARE WORSE THAN REPTILES

The Snake Warns You Before He Strikes and He Avoids the Haunts of Men.

INSECT POISONS YOUR FOOD

Once Our People Understand Danger They Will Perform Big Cleaning Just as Army Doctors Had to Do in the Tropics.



ONE of the most dangerous circumstances about the housefly is that he looks harmless. If he looked like an alligator or a "thousand-legged" bug, most of us would be deathly afraid of him and all his tribe. And we would take immediate action to cause his extermination.

But the fly looks just as innocent as a glass of whisky—and the warm, clear, amber intoxicant certainly doesn't display the misery to be found in its depths. Yet he probably is the more or less direct cause of a hundred times as many deaths yearly in the United States as the alligator, the gila monster and the rattlesnake. Wasps and centipedes are harmless—and the deadly scorpion and reptiles mind their own business.

Preys on Ignorance.
The fly, on the contrary, butts into everybody's business, spreading trouble as he goes. In the disguise of harmlessness he preys on ignorance and carries into our homes the germs of some of the most common and fatal diseases that afflict this country.

This is the way he performs. The fly feeds at a spittoon which has just been used by a consumptive. On his hairy feet and body he carries away tuberculosis germs. Or he visits a vault containing the excrement of a typhoid patient. Or he explores a dead animal and loads up with putrefaction bacteria. In each instance, usually, he brings his poisonous presence into our homes and rubs his filthy person on the mouth of the cream pitcher, on the butter, on the bread, or on the loaf sugar—or on the lips of baby asleep in her crib.

Feeding such things as this sickens the person of delicate stomach and is disgusting to everyone. But you must know the rotten truth for the protection of yourself and your family. If you really will appreciate just how filthy and dangerous the housefly is, you will rise up with all the other good people of the community and perform such a cleaning as this town never has seen. And you will keep it cleaned up.

Army Camps Clean.
Have you ever visited a regular army camp, or even a state militia encampment? Do you know why the sanitary officers take such elaborate precautions to destroy all waste matter—why all garbage, excreta, used bandages, etc., are burned and the toilet and garbage cans so carefully covered? It is because our army people learned some frightfully costly lessons at Chickamauga and in Cuba during the Spanish-American war and in the Philippines a little later.

Thousands of our soldiers died of typhoid fever and dysentery distributed by flies. In fact more of the boys in blue succumbed to disease than in wounds inflicted by the enemy. How did the doctors learn that the fly was the real messenger of death? By clever scientific detective work. There was Dr. William Gorgas, now a general, who with a highly trained corps of scientists traced the sources of these diseases until they found the fly to be the guilty distributor. Now he's marked for death by the army.

BE WISER, NOT SAD

Here's the Story of a Mossback Who Was Stubborn.

Your Help Needed in Teaching This Community Dangers From Flies Which Spread Disease.

Once there was a man in this town who thought the germ idea was "all bunk." He declared up and down that it was a fad of the doctors and a scheme to scare people out of their wits and make money playing on their fears. He is wiser than he was nine years ago, but the lesson was expensive and sad—he lost one of his children with scarlet fever because he thought the disease wasn't catching.

This is an enlightened community, but there are still a lot of people here who pooh-pooh all the fuss we're making about the fly danger. They jeer and insist it's the work of a bunch of slick doctors and fool women who ought to be home minding their babies. You would be surprised at the number of mossbacks who think this fly talk is "all bunk," too. A mossback is all right until he becomes a danger to the health of the neighborhood by his stubborn ignorance in refusing to help wipe out the sources of disease and exterminate disease carriers.

Make it your business to convert the mossbacks and get them into the army that is to wage war on the whole fly tribe here this summer. Once they are on "our side" they will be valuable fighters because of their stubbornness. Be a missionary!

TAKE THESE PRECAUTIONS

One of Our Townswomen Tells How She Rid Her Home of Fly Pest Last Summer.

The thoughtful husband and wife take great pride in the fact that few flies are to be seen about their home during the summer. It should be the proud boast of every family in this town, for the absence of flies indicates a clean and healthful home place.

We were discussing recently the proposition of a local campaign against flies with one of the best known women in this community.

"I will be glad to help in every way possible," she declared, "and I'm sure that if we all work together we can reduce the amount of disease 50 per cent here this summer—especially summer complaint among children and typhoid fever among the men and women."

"Do you know we had hardly any flies around our place last summer? Of course, it was a cool summer, but I believe our efforts to be free of flies had much to do with their absence."

"We screened the house early. We hung two fly traps near the kitchen door close to the garbage can. We put one trap at the door opening from the dining room into the side yard. We burned most of the garbage—peelings and things. We had the manure hauled away every Saturday morning. And we used plenty of disinfectant around the outhouse. It wasn't much trouble since we got the habit."

KEEP FLIES FROM THE SICK

One Fly May Bring Sickness to Your Family—Take No Chances.

Keep flies away from the sick. One fly contaminated by typhoid germs may fall into a can of milk and spread contagion through the entire community. Fly specks from sputum which have eaten tuberculosis sputum contain certain live consumption germs—showing that the germs pass through the fly's digestive tract without being any of their deadly character. Deaths from bacterial diseases are great during the fly season. Don't risk a case of typhoid, or consumption, or dysentery in your family. It may be fatal. It is sure to be expensive.

DEATH'S MESSENGERS



FLIES MENACE YOUR LIFE

Sanitary Experts Declare They Carry Loathsome and Deadly Diseases—The Babies Are Easily Infected With Germs.



SANITARY experts today declare that flies are responsible for the transmission of at least ten different diseases deadly to human beings. These experts are not only our own American health authorities but are also numbered among physicians and specialists who are working their heads off to prevent the spread of terrible diseases, like cholera and typhus, in devastated Europe.

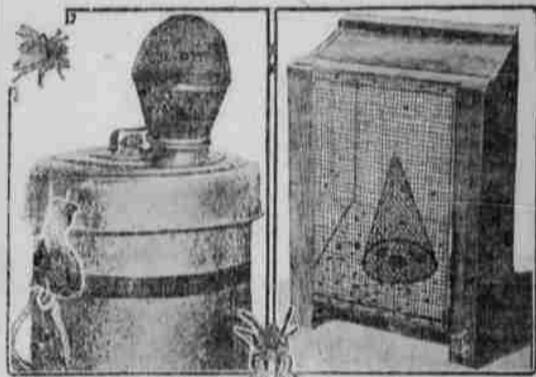
The fly feeds on human excreta, sputum, pus, blood and rotting flesh. Human excreta commonly carry germs of typhoid fever, cholera, dysentery, summer complaint, consumption and intestinal diseases. Sputum is coughed up by consumptives. It contains tuberculosis germs. Pus from sores—sores eyes, anthrax-infected cattle, gangrene, "head" diseases, etc.—is alive with deadly germs of various kinds.

One flyspeck recently examined at the state board of health laboratories contained 3,000 tuberculosis germs. Suppose a fly thus laden with a deadly burden of disease bombs comes into your dining room and alights on the bowl of bread and milk your little boy or girl is eating.

That child may develop any one of a number of serious diseases. The baby may die. It may be blinded. It may be crippled for life by tuberculosis of the spine. It may suffer years from some vile form of skin disease. Your baby, you understand, has not the resisting power of a grown-up.

Won't you join the army of fly-fighters?

HOW TO MAKE A FLY TRAP



Get a soap box of large size. Substitute wire netting for the top and two sides. Cut a round hole in the bottom and insert in it a wire netting cone with a one-eighth-inch opening at the bottom and a half-inch opening at the top. Place a fish head or piece of food inside for bait. Elevate the trap a few inches from the ground so the flies may enter. When the trap is crowded kill the flies with boiling water.

BEGIN FLY WAR AT ONCE

NOW is the time to begin effective warfare on flies. They have not yet had time to breed in great numbers. If we wait until warm weather they will breed so rapidly we shall be unable to cope adequately with the pest.

In order to make the warfare a fight to a finish for the fly we must have the co-operation of the entire community. If only a few intelligent and public-spirited citizens on each street make war on the filthy and dangerous insects their efforts will be practically useless so far as the good of the town is concerned.

The situation would be somewhat the same if a few of the states should wage war on an enemy of the United States and the other states watched the conflict with indifference—even though the fate of the onlookers was quite as vitally affected as that of the fighters.

Don't be an onlooker. For goodness' sake, take sides! If you believe the housefly is a harmless little creature, terribly led about by his enemies, stick up for the million. See that he has open spittoons, garbage cans, vaults and dead animals handy for feeding purposes.

And don't be a piker about inviting him into your home. Have no screens, no veils, no fly-paper. Give him the run of the place, the food and baby's face and lips. If baby or wife contract disease and die, blame the witches!

Be sensible. Join the army and fight flies with us.

MANURE-PILE DANGER FLY FILTHIEST INSECT

SWATTING FLIES NOT EFFECTIVE EXTERMINATION METHOD.

Eggs of One Insect Produce Millions to Pester and Menace You in Seven or Eight Weeks.



SWATTING the fly doesn't do much good after the first of April. You have only the personal satisfaction of wreaking vengeance on one insect which perhaps swarmed you about 3 a. m. and worried you out of an hour or two of sleep last Sunday morning—and you destroy just one fly.

We will say that you discover a full-grown fly in the house on the first warm day in April. You get out your trusty swatter and plaster your enemy. Suppose now that this victim is an old female which has lived through the winter and has just wandered into the kitchen hunting for food after laying 120 eggs in the manure pile in your back yard—a fly lays 120 eggs at a setting.

Five days later these eggs hatch 120 maggots. Fourteen days from the time of the original laying—120 new flies are on the job, ready to mate and multiply—and multiply they do. By the middle of July, with reasonable fly luck, there will be on hand to plaster you and carry disease into your home more than 25,000,000 great-great-grandchildren of the one you killed. Science says so.

The sensible thing to do is go after the manure pile—the favorite fly-nesting spot. Remove manure often than once a week. If that is impossible treat it with chemicals to kill the fly maggots. According to the International Harvester company's bulletin, this mixture will destroy maggots: Spray 2 pounds of sugar sulphate on iron in 1 gallon of water on every 15 pounds of manure. The cost of this treatment is 2 cents a day for each horse. Cheaper than doctor bills!

SOME PRECAUTIONS YOU SHOULD TAKE TO BE RID OF PEST.

Get Habit of Keeping Premises Clean and You Will Not Have Much Trouble Fighting Them.



FLIES do not waste their time loafing around clean premises. They demand filth for sustenance. So wherever you see flies you can be sure there's filth close by.

During the course of a state-wide campaign last year, the Crumwell experiment station conducted an investigation to learn how many bacteria the average fly carried away from the slop barrel, the hog pen, the cow stalls and the house. The investigation was thorough and nothing was left to guess work.

This is the report: Each slop-barrel fly carried an average of more than 5,000,000 germs; the hogpen fly carried a little less than one million; the cow-stable fly carried only about 100,000; the housefly carried about twice that number, or 550,000.

If you must have a slop barrel on the premises, keep it carefully screened, close it may spread disease. If you have a garbage can at the kitchen door, keep the can covered. Burn the garbage if you can do so practically. Otherwise drain it and wrap it in paper before putting it in the can.

Some day we shall come to look up the fly in the same light we now look on bullheads and body lice. The fly is filthier than these other vermin. He is born in filth, lives in it, feeds on it, carries it and spreads it on our food.

Don't take any chances. Screen your house carefully. Destroy all outhouse and kitchen waste matter. Keep your premises clean.

SCHOOLBOY TRAPPERS



The teachers in one small-town school in Illinois aroused the interest of their pupils in the campaign to kill flies last spring. The youngsters made traps and sold them to the merchants for a neat profit on each trap. This profit was devoted to a fund for the Boy Scout troop. The kids are planning to do a "big business" in traps this season.

WOMEN ARE ACTIVE WILL YOU HELP?

The city of Chicago, Ill., conducted a crusade for the extermination of flies last summer which was the biggest movement of the kind the world has seen, according to government health authorities. The work was done by the Clean Chicago federation, composed of the health department, women's clubs, department stores, great manufacturing concerns, the newspapers, a physicians' association and the board of education.

In this crusade the women were especially active. They showed by their enthusiasm and their tireless labor that the subject of fly extermination lies near the heart of every housekeeper and that she knows the menace which the fly holds over her family—especially her children.

We confidently expect that the ladies in our town and surrounding country will be just as eager to help the cause of fly extermination here as the women of Chicago were. Wherever there has been a kill-fly campaign the women and school children have had an important part.

How much expense and trouble are you willing to take on your shoulders to help rid the community of flies and most of the diseases which they distribute? If you are willing to help, this is what you will have to do:

Buy screens to cover every window and door that you will open in your home this summer. Buy or make a garbage can—something that the flies cannot enter when the lid is on it. If you keep a horse make a manure bin that will keep out flies. This is important because flies breed almost entirely in manure. If possible, have the manure removed at least once a week and spread on a field. Keep the horse's stall clean.

Put fly-tight covers on the seats in the toilet outhouse. If the vault does not fit the house tight, make it fly-tight by using cement—or bank it up with earth and sod.

Don't throw out loose peelings or rotting vegetables. Put out a simple fly trap near the kitchen door. Use the swatter. Urge your neighbors to take the same precautions.