

Your Enemy is a Rat

By Joe Wing
Ap Newsfeatures Writer

Forget the wolf at the door, for a moment, and consider the rat under the floor.

Government experts regard the rat as a No. 1 enemy. They've got a drive on now to get him more nearly under control.

He costs you two billion dollars a year. He carries ten kinds of disease. He's blamed for some of the worst scourges in history. What sort of a beast is he?

Like you, he has immigrant ancestors.

Unlike you, perhaps, his ancestors did not come over on the Mayflower.

The Mayflower rats presumably were common ship rats, from which few ships were free in those days. Ship rats reached Europe from the Orient in the eleventh century and probably landed here with the first explorers.

and plague are the most spectacular.

Rats can eat anything that humans eat and live most anywhere humans live. But they have a fatal weakness. They cannot throw up what they have eaten. That lays



RAT FACE—His teeth grow four inches a year. They are kept short by the wear and tear of gnawing.

The master race of rats in this country today is the brown rat. Also an Oriental out of Europe, he didn't get here until Revolutionary war times. He is a better (or worse) rat than the smaller ship rat, and soon took over the country.

The experts say the United States has as many rats as people. Big cities have slashed their rat populations in recent years through rat-proof construction, extermination, the disappearance of the horse and other factors. On farms especially rats still abound. In one Texas county some years ago 153,720 rat tails were turned in during a six-week rat-killing contest.

The brown rat may be known also as barn rat, wharf rat, sewer rat, gray rat, Norway rat. He may be brown or gray or black. The white tame rats is an albino variation.

He may weigh 25 ounces but probably weighs about three quarters of a pound. A female rat has as many as 22 rats in a litter, gives birth as often as 12 times a year. Those are high, but even figuring an average birth rate, one pair of rats might have 350,000,000 progeny in three years, if the death rate were ignored.

It takes a bushel of grain to support a rat for a year in the style to which it is accustomed. In a single night, rats may destroy hundreds of chicks for the fun of it. A rat will kill even a baby lamb or pig or full grown hens and ducks. He will chew up vegetables, ruin barrels of stored fruit, foul all manner of human food, do untold damage by gnawing furniture, doors, insulation, even lead pipes.

The fleas and lice that thrive on rats carry diseases that have scourged the human race. Typhus

them wide open to destruction by poison. If they swallow even a mild dose it may be fatal. But there's a catch. When it comes to swallowing poison, rats are choosy. They'd rather live, the rats.

Pigs Grow Phenomenally Without Vitamin E

By Alton L. Blakeslee
Associated Press Science Reporter
LINCOLN, Neb. — (AP) — A project to solve one mystery about food for pigs has uncovered a pork—a diet that makes the future pork chops grow amazingly fast. One or both of the puzzles, when solved, may affect the price of pork.

Dr. Lester E. Hanson of the University of Nebraska Agricultural Experiment Station is trying to determine whether sows need vitamin E, the so-called anti-sterility vitamin, in order to reproduce. He is feeding pigs on a special diet designed to be deficient in Vitamin E. And the new mystery is that the special diet makes pigs grow phenomenally.

On it, pigs gained 21 pounds a week, on the average. On the natural diet the gain runs about 10 pounds a week. The special food is made of corn starch, casein, a complex mineral mixture, and brewer's yeast, with additional vitamins A and D given every two weeks. Something in this food is responsible for the rapid weight gain, but no one yet knows what it might be. It might be some vitamin or other foodstuff.

This diet is much too expensive to feed to pigs on the farm. And it might have drawbacks, such as making too much fat. But the growth factor might be isolated as something that could be added cheaply to pigs' food. Dr. Hanson

Deadline Nears For C-D Drivers

RALEIGH — A report issued recently by the Department of Motor Vehicles shows that since January 1, only 38,800 persons with surnames beginning with C and D have received their new driving licenses.

That means, Department officials pointed out, that some 111,200 persons in the State are going to face a lot of inconvenience in waiting in long lines unless they get their new driving permits renewed now. It is estimated there are around 150,000 drivers in the State with last names beginning with C and D.

The deadline on C and D renewals is June 30. But June is also the month when chauffeurs licenses have to be renewed. The Department said license examiners could be kept busy during June issuing nothing but chauffeurs licenses, and unless the remaining C and D drivers report to their examiners during the remainder of May, they may have trouble getting their licenses by the deadline.

Officials stated that there will be absolutely no extension to the time, and any C and D who puts off obtaining a new license must suffer the consequences of the law—which means that if he is caught driving on an old license after June 30, he will be found guilty of a misdemeanor and will be fined not less than \$25.

The Department also stated that there will be no additional examiners added during the next two months to take care of the expected last-minute "rush," and added that persons who do not get their licenses immediately will have to suffer the ordeal of waiting in long lines.

State highway patrolmen will make spot checks along the highways after June 30, in order to apprehend any C and D drivers who have not obtained licenses.

Beginning with July 1, persons with last names beginning with E, F, or G will be re-examined until December 31.

Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Russell and son, Josephus Mavretie, of Arrapahoe Drive visited friends and relatives in Elizabeth City over the week end.

Mr. and Mrs. F. H. Taylor and daughter will visit relatives in Portsmouth, Va. over the coming week-end.

Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Arthur and children will visit relatives near Vanceboro. Their son, Oliver, will return to spend a few days with his parents at their home on Mantec Drive.

Mr. and Mrs. H. H. Harris and son, Louis, of Manteo Drive, will spend the holidays at Blounts Creek.

Mrs. William Andrews, who is the third grade teacher, is very ill in the New Bern Hospital.

Mrs. Corley, first grade teacher, has returned to her position after being ill for some time.

Mrs. Huston Gober Entertains Bridge Club

Mrs. Huston Gober, 5 Sunrise Lane, was hostess to the Thursday Bridge club this week. During the course of the game peanuts and cold drinks were served. High score was won by Mrs. Harry Shadle, second by Mrs. Charles McCotter and consolation by Mrs. Murphy Clifton.

Delightful refreshments consisting of chicken salad, olives, pickles, sliced tomatoes, and crackers, and cup cakes were served to the following guests: Mrs. Harry Shadle, Mrs. Murphy Clifton, Mrs. Charles McCotter, Mrs. George Foy, Miss Susie Moore, Mrs. Lee Rountree, Mrs. Robert Bull.

SEE MORE HAVELOCK NEWS SECTION 2 PAGE 2

St. Patrick's birthplace has been variously said to be Scotland, England, Wales and France.

Havelock News Notes

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Mr. and Mrs. Simpson To Leave Havelock

Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Simpson will soon be leaving Havelock and will be greatly missed by all who have known them. Mr. Simpson has been the principal of the Cherry Point School and has recently resigned that position. When this school year is completed they will spend the summer months in the mountains of western North Carolina at West Jefferson which is Mrs. Simpson's home.

Early in September they will move to Lewisville where Mr. Simpson has accepted a position as principal of a new Union school. This school is re-opening after being closed for three years because the previous building was burned in 1945. The new building will be extremely modern and will include all grades.

It is situated in Forsyth county, near Winston-Salem. Mr. and Mrs. Simpson will leave behind them here a great many friends who extend best wishes for coming years.

Government Suggests Cooperative Gardening

MUNICH — (AP) — The military government has suggested that Americans and Germans team together to grow vegetable and fruit gardens, sharing the yield fifty-fifty. Governor Murray D. Van Wagoner said the idea would be to utilize land now occupied by Americans. They would provide the seed and fertilizer, obtainable at the PX. Germans would provide the labor.

His legal staff said there was nothing in Directives to forbid this despite the MG policy against "living off the land" of an occupied country. The legal branch emphasized that Americans are forbidden from "selling" any output of such a garden. The plan contemplates the use of requisitioned land only.

Edward IV of England owned and used about 300 pairs of gloves a year.

Electric eels in the fresh waters of South and Central America discharge electric shocks strong enough to stun human beings.

Negro News

Holiness Union Church To Hold Revival Services

Little Randolph Johnson, of Professor and Mrs. Johnson is still at Dr. Sidbury's hospital where he is receiving treatment. Mrs. Mattie Johnson, his grandmother, returned home over the weekend, while his mother, Mrs. Randolph Johnson remained at the hospital with him. His father is principal of the Queen St. High school.

Miss Kathryn Dennis was called to New York City last Saturday evening by the illness of her mother.

Miss Annie Mae McClain spent last weekend at home from Fayetteville where she has been spending the winter.

Jimmie Nolan returned home Saturday from Morehead City hospital where he recently underwent an operation.

Mother Johnson of Brooklyn has been holding revival services at the Holiness Church.

The Holiness Union will hold revival services beginning this morning at 10 o'clock at the Holiness church. Rev. Barney Davis and Dean Chadwick will take part in the services. People are expected to attend from Washington, N. C., Behaven, Bayboro, and Wilson.

A new 75 zloty grey black airport stamp in the centaur design has been issued by Poland. Previously a 50 zloty dark green and 100 zloty orange were issued in this design.

Many Antarctic icebergs survive for 10 years

Cinnabar is the ore from which mercury is extracted. About 92 cubic miles of water are stored behind Hoover Dam.

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