



A Summer Mood.

Oh, to be lost in the wind and the sun,
To be one with the wind and the stream!
With never a care while the waters run,
With never a thought in my dream.
To be part of the robin's lilting call
And part of the bobolink's rhyme,
Lying close to the shy thrush singing alone,
And lapped in the cricket's chime.

Oh, to live with these beautiful ones!
With the lust and glory of man
Lost in the circuit of springtime suns—
Submissive as earth and part of her plan—
To lie as the snake lies, content in the grass!
To drift as the clouds drift, effortless, free,
Glad of the power that drives them on,
With never a question of wind or sea.

—Hamlin Garland.

Horse Flies and Their Habits.

Only the Female Bites—How Cattle Diseases Are Transmitted by Them—Eggs Are Laid in Boughs Over the Water, and the Young Grubs Drop Out Into the Mud and Grow.

Messrs. Editors:—I suppose everybody knows the horseflies which bite horses and cattle, and the dogflies which come buzzing around folks in the low grounds, but I presume few people know the number of different kinds that occur in any one place. In North Carolina the horsefly family is represented by no less than forty-five different kinds, and no doubt careful collecting would greatly increase the number.

Of these kinds about one-half are the small flies, known as catflies, dogflies, or deerflies, which are all about the size of a housefly or a little bigger, and have wings marked with a blackish patch extending nearly across the wing a little beyond the middle, while the other twenty-odd kinds are the horseflies proper, which vary a good deal in size, the biggest kinds being more than two inches across the spread wings, while the smallest are little bigger than a housefly.

The largest kind is the American horsefly which has clear wings and a brownish body and is only found in the South, but the commonest large kind is the Mourning horsefly, which is black all over, including the wings, and is very nearly as big as the preceding.

Only Mrs. Horsefly Bites.

The most annoying kinds are some of the smaller species, usually known as green-headed flies, which are very troublesome to horses and cattle on account of their numbers, for, as is usual among insects, the large kinds are usually not nearly so plentiful as the smaller fellows. While nearly all the kinds of horsefly and dogfly are annoying to cattle, the most serious damage they cause is to transmit the germs of the disease known as anthrax from an infected animal that has been bitten to the next beast (or man) bitten by the same fly.

One curious kind is the Mexican horsefly, which is a medium sized fly, green with a brown head, and does not fly in the daytime, but comes out at dusk to bite horses and cattle. This is found in Eastern North Carolina and thence Southward.

Only the female horseflies and dogflies bite, the males of which have bigger heads with the eyes touching one another, having the mouth parts un-

suitable for piercing the skin and sucking blood. As the males are not attracted to man or beast they are seldom seen; in fact, of about a thousand specimens collected around cattle in Georgia and sent to me during the past two years, not one was a male.

How the Young Are Raised.

The female lays its eggs on the stems or leaves of bushes or plants overhanging water, and the young grubs, when hatched, fall into the water and burrow into the mud, and from then till full grown they live in mud or in moist earth near water, feeding on any soft-bodied animals they come across. The grub of one kind, however, lives in ordinary upland soil and not in the wet earth and is the only horsefly grub I am personally acquainted with, having bred the flies from it in the two successive summers. This is a rather slender, white grub, without legs, tapering at each end and with a sharp beak at the front end of the body, with which it pierces the bodies of the animals it eats, its food being apparently white grubs. When full grown it transforms into a pupa of a moth and some two or three weeks later in a medium-sized horsefly with a brown body and spotted wings, which is quite common in late summer and early fall.

Different kinds of horseflies and dogflies occur throughout all the warm weather, the earliest and latest dates being, at Raleigh, April 18th to October 29th, and while several kinds are on the wing nearly all that period, others occur only early in the season, others only late, and others again only in mid-summer.

C. S. BRIMLEY.

Raleigh, N. C.

The Progressive Farmer's Practical Articles.

Messrs. Editors: Wishing each one of our progressive farmers to see your valuable and most interesting paper, I send you some names. Your talk on good roads is worth double a year's subscription. What we are losing by bad roads I cannot estimate. Your articles are practical and will be of immense value to us as farmers. What we need is just such articles as you have.

W. W. HOBSON.

Powhatan Co., Va.

Program of the Woman's Department of the North Carolina Farmers' State Convention.

Wednesday morning, August 28, 10.30 o'clock, general opening exercises.

Thursday morning, August 29, 10.30 o'clock.—Address of Welcome, Mrs. W. S. Primrose, Raleigh. Response, Miss Josephine Scott, Mebane.

President's Address (Woman's Organizations), Mrs. F. L. Stevens, Raleigh.

Woman's Branch of the Farmers' Institute, Dr. Tait Butler.

Friday morning, August 30, 10.30 o'clock.—Woman in the Farm Home, Mrs. W. R. Hollowell, Goldsboro.

Farm Literature, "Aunt Mary," of The Progressive Farmer.

The Economy of Food, Miss Mae Card, McDonald Institute, Guelph, Canada.

Hints on Home Dairying, Mrs. R. H. Gower, Clayton.

Officers.

President, Mrs. F. L. Stevens, of Raleigh.

Vice Presidents: Mrs. C. N. Allen, Wake County; Mrs. J. W. Barnes, Wilson County.

Secretary-Treasurer, Mrs. Walter Grimes, Wake County.

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CANNING!

Here's What You Can Do.

LOOPERS, S. C., February 5, 1907.

THE RANEY CANNER CO., Chapel Hill, N. C.

GENTLEMEN:—In regard to the No. 2 canner I bought of you last season, I must say I am more than pleased with it. When I bought it I only intended using it for my own goods, but I canned for my neighbors as well as myself. I ordered my outfit late in the season (July 12th), as you remember, and put up (10,000) ten thousand cans. My fruit is certainly fine. It has the natural flavor. My goods are pronounced "the very best" by all who have tested them. I expect to purchase a larger outfit from you this season and can on a larger scale.

To sum it all up, I must say Raney's Canner is good enough for me.

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