

**THE MEDITERRANEAN FRUIT FLY**

A Menace to North Carolina

By R. W. LEIBY, State Entomologist (Talk given over radio Station WPTF May 20, 1929.)

You have heard of the European Corn Borer, the Japanese Beetle, the Mexican Beetle and the Cotton Boll Weevil, and all of them have proven to be quite serious and destructive pests to crops. Yet the destruction caused by all of these put together would not equal that of the Mediterranean Fruit Fly, in my opinion, if this newly introduced pest now in Florida, were to invade the Southeastern states and California.

On April 6th an entomologist at Gainesville, Fla. was preparing a grapefruit for the table. He found a couple maggots in one that had slightly decayed. This was unusual and I dare say few of you have ever observed an insect of any kind within a grapefruit. He immediately suspected the Fruit fly. The maggots that he found were rushed to insect specialists at Washington and determined as the Mediterranean Fruit fly. The same day citrus growers made complaint of an unusual drop of their grapefruit in their groves. This drop was due to the Fruit fly. As many as 80 percent of the grapefruit in an orchard were found wormy. Now, nine counties of vegetable growing and citrus growing Florida find themselves completely shut off from a market, being quarantined so that they are not only prevented from selling their products but are required to pull off all fruit and bury it in pits, plow up their vegetables, uproot their fig trees, and destroy all wild fruits and plants in which the fruit fly might develop. And there are more than 50 different kinds of such host plants and their fruits that the fly can breed in.

The losses have been enormous. They will be even greater, if the fruit fly is not eradicated, that is, completely wiped out of Florida. This is a gigantic task, but progress is being made. Entire islands will have to be denuded of every vestige of foliage, and this will probably be done by army officials using poison gasses.

At a conference held at Washington two weeks ago, at which time 4 and one quarter million dollars were secured from Congress to eradicate the fly. I heard senators and congressmen from Florida declare that it appeared as though Florida's economic status was doomed, unless the fruit fly were stamped out. It is a fact, that its spread over the South, which would only be a matter of a couple of years, would likely mean the end of all horticultural industry, especially of all fruits and many vegetables. This has been the case in other countries where the fly now abounds. For example, the peach industry of the Bermuda Islands was wiped out by the fly, the Hawaiian Islands can ship no fruit or vegetables into this country except green pineapples because of a rigid quarantine that the United States maintains against the fly. But I have said enough to have you understand I believe, that this pest is the most serious that man ever had to contend with.

**Why Beat A Tin Can?**

Many bee-keepers believe that a loud noise, such as shouting, beating on pans and ringing cow bells will induce a swarm of bees to settle. Such noise, in all probability, has no effect on the bees. Naturalists are of the opinion that the sense of hearing of the bees, if it exists at all, is very imperfectly developed. "No one knows yet whether bees can hear or not," says the U. S. Department of Agriculture. "At least no one has ever discovered their hearing apparatus. A person is wasting his time when he hammers on a dishpan to bring down a swarm of bees." The belief that noise will cause bees to light is very ancient. It was mentioned by Aristotle, who raised the question whether the insects had a sense of hearing. He was unable to say whether it was fear or delight that caused the bees to settle when they heard a loud noise. Virgil alludes to the belief in the Fourth Georgic, which treats of bees. "When thou shalt look up and see their hosts, newly freed from the hive, floating through the cloudless summer...wrote the poet, "wake the jangling bells, and all around clash the cymbals of the Mother of Heaven," and "of themselves they will settle on the charmed branches." This practice probably sprang from legal difficulties. Originally when a colony of bees left the hive the owner of the land on which the swarm settled would often claim it as his own property. Therefore it became a practice, recognized by the laws of many nations, for the owner of the bees to follow the swarm at the same time raising a clamor to let the neighbors know whose bees they were. In other words, the swarm was followed with a noise in order to retain legal title. Through the passing of the centuries this custom lost its original significance and may have been twisted into the belief that the mock serenade was intended to induce the swarm to light. —The Pathfinder.

**WHY READ GOD'S WORD?**

It is through His word that God speaks to us. We should be eager to hear what God has to say. His word to us will fill our soul's deepest needs. It will speak peace to our troubled spirits. The voices of men are feeble, but God's voice is strong. The words of men often utter mistakes, but God's word conveys no errors. God has called us to be saints. But we cannot be saintly, unless we read and study, and practice the truths of the word.

As we read the divine word, let us listen for the still small voice of God to our spirits. We would be better off, if we listened to God more and to men less.

God wants to train our minds for Heaven, and it is through His word that He teaches us. God's word has a special message to every individual believer. Let no man do your reading for you. Read for yourself. Study for yourself. Learn for your own satisfaction what God has to say to your own soul.

Be a daily reader of the word. **WALTER M. LEE**

**SEARCH NOW ON FOR FRUIT FLY**

Raleigh, N. C., May—Since the discovery of the Mediterranean Fruit Fly in Florida, any fruit in which there are found small worms or maggots should be an object of suspicion and those who find infected fruits are asked to send them to Dr. R. W. Leiby, State Entomologist, Raleigh, or to the Bureau of Entomology at Washington, D. C.

"We are asking our county farm and home agents to cooperate in every way possible to prevent the spread of this dangerous fruit and vegetable pest," says Dean I. O. Schaub of State College. "The State Department of Agriculture at Raleigh is in charge of regulatory matters of this kind and we bespeak for them the close cooperation of all citizens interested in keeping this pest out of our State. It is more than likely that some infected fruit was shipped to this State before the fly was discovered and if this be true we would make every effort to prevent its spread."

This new bug is greatly feared. It was found in Florida when there were still 9,000 cars of citrus fruit to be harvested and shipped. Entomologists say that it has been a serious hindrance to fruit and vegetables growing in all semi-tropical regions. About the easiest way to name the horticultural crops injured by the fly is to set aside pineapples and bananas and let the pests have the remainder. The fly injures Peaches, plums, pears, apples, citrus fruits, peppers, tomatoes, melons, figs, grapes, persimmons and so on and on.

The fly is not so large as the common house fly. The rear end of the female is equipped with a drill which is used to puncture the skin of fruits and vegetables and make a small cavity beneath. Here any where from one to six eggs are laid and more than one female may use the same hole. When the eggs hatch, the maggots burrow through the fruit eating as they go and the fruit is ruined. The maggots change to adult flies in the ground and it takes from three to four months to make the life cycle.

**Resolutions**

WHEREAS in the providence of Almighty God our beloved sister, Mrs. W. L. Potts, has been called to her eternal home, having departed this life May 15, 1929.

BE IT RESOLVED that we humbly bow to this wise dispensation, knowing that He doeth all things well, and that all things work together for good to those who love God.

THAT we express our love and appreciation for one whose influence will never die in this community.

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that we express our respect for one who had the greatest respect for the laws of man and God.

THAT we pay honor to one who was a model wife and mother; who set an example of sweet Christian fortitude through years of labor and toil and final intense suffering.

BE IT RESOLVED that we, the members of the Woman's Missionary Society of the Highlands Baptist church, hereby acknowledge a vacancy that can never be filled and express a determination to carry on the work of the church which our dear, sainted sister loved so deeply and who sacrificed so much for.

THAT the deepest sympathy goes out to the husband and children in this season of inexpressible bereavement and grief.

May the blessing and comfort of the Holy Spirit rest upon each, and give them peace.

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that a copy of these resolutions be sent to the Biblical Recorder and our local county paper, The Franklin Press.

Signed: The W. M. S. of Highlands Baptist church.

Mrs. W. A. PIERSON, President.

**Ordination of Rev. J. I. Vinson**

The Newmon's Chapel church called Rev. W. M. Lee, A. S. Solesbee and Rev. W. T. Potts as a Presbytery to ordain Bro. J. I. Vinson to the full work of the gospel. They met May 26th, 1929 at 3:00 o'clock P. M. at the church to do this work. Organized by electing Bro. Lee chairman and Bro. Pitts clerk and appointed Bro. Lee to conduct the examination. Bro. Potts to offer the ordination prayer. Bro. A. S. Solesbee to present the Bible. The following brethren being present were called to sit with the Presbytery: Rev. J. B. Stallcup, Rev. John Hogan, Rev. A. T. Medford; Deacons J. E. Rickman, G. D. Stiles, R. L. Hoelan, J. B. Snyder, John Holt, J. D. Vinson, Avery McCall, B. H. Carpenter. Bro. Stallcup was chosen by the Newmon's Chapel church as spokes-

man for the church. He presented Bro. Vinson to the Presbytery for examination which was rigid but satisfied the Presbytery. The church was called upon to kneel for the ordination prayer by Bro. Potts. Dr. Lee preached the sermon from 1 Timothy 3:1, which was instructive to all present. Bro. Solesbee presented the Bible with a few timely remarks. The Presbytery adjourned and church

promised Bro. Vinson to stand by him.

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**59 Students To Receive Normal Diplomas June 5**

Western Carolina Teachers College, formerly Cullowhee State Normal will have the largest graduation class June 5th in the history of the school. Fifty-nine students are expecting to receive sheepskins on this day. Those in the class are: Carrie Allen, Garner, N. C.; Foy Brantly, Middlesex, N. C.; Bernice and Selma Reid Broome, Mineral Springs, N. C.; Grace Campbell, Piedmont, S. C.; Margaret Carr, Clinton, N. C.; Pauline Clifton, Neuse, N. C.; Adele Cobb, La-grange, N. C.; Faye and Vernell Coley, Asheville, N. C.; Vivian Croom, Knightdale, N. C.; Edith Daniel, Wake Forest, N. C.; Lottie Deborn, Whittier, N. C.; Myrtle Dill, Etowah, N. C.; Myrtle Fulton, Gneiss, N. C.; Glee Garner, Franklin, N. C.; Ruth Gilley, East LaPorte, N. C.; Elizabeth Griffin, Wilmington, N. C.; Sue Haigler, Hayesville, N. C.; Joe Hayes, Highlands, N. C.; Reece Holladay, Central, S. C.; Carrie Lee Howell, Candler, N. C.; Nina Hunter, Biltmore, N. C.; S. B. Hutchinson, Brewers, N. C.; Lillian Jarrett, Dillsboro, N. C.; Ora Jones, Altamahaw, N. C.; Beaman Kelley, Central, S. C.; Addie Mae Kendall, Kingston, N. C.; Sallie Lamkin, Spray, N. C.; Grace Liftis, Easley, S. C.; Helen Love, Horse Shoe, N. C.; Jessie Moody, Whittier, N. C.; J. Walter Moore, Hayesville, N. C.; Mrs. Edith Jarrett Morgan, Dillsboro, N. C.; Helen Moses, Higdonville, N. C.; Minnie Mull, Lawndale, N. C.; Ora Nesbitt, Asheville, N. C.; James Osborne, Waynesville, N. C.; Lois Owings, Owings, S. C.; George Parsons, Pickens, S. C.; Agnes Pate, Millbrook, N. C.; Erma Patterson, Waynesville, N. C.; Elizabeth Peal, Chadbourne, N. C.; Louise Perry, Hendersonville, N. C.; Pauline Petteway, Jacksonville, N. C.; Frank Reagan, Andrews, N. C.; Carrie Lee Roberson, Robersonville, N. C.; Veanah Robinson, Andrews, N. C.; Mary Lou Roebuck, Scotland Neck, N. C.; Frances Shankle, Raeford, N. C.; Madge Stallings, Hertford, N. C.; Frances Tarlton, Concord, N. C.; Annie Lizzie Terrell, Whittier, N. C.; Roy Watson, Sylva, N. C.; Eleanor Whitehurst, Tarboro, N. C.; Hattie Wilson, Bryson City, N. C.; and Elgie Woodard, Princeton, N. C.

Jackson county leads in the number of graduates, with seven; South Carolina comes second with six graduates; Buncombe county runs a close third having five graduates in the June class.

**Dog and Sheep**

A dog will eat six pounds of meat And seven ponies of bread; T more he eats, the poorer he'll get Until the day he's dead.

A sheep eats grass on the mountain pass, Gets fatter every day; He'll pay the mortgage off the place Because he's built that way.

**Make Hole in One**

Mr. Bob Townsend of Asheville playing recently on the local golf course made a hole in one and thus broke the course record in this respect. He was playing a game with T. W. Angel, Jr., with Henry Wilkie and Buck Baldwin as caddies. The play was made on hole No. 2, a distance of 135 yards.