

USE PSYCHOLOGY TO FIGHT INSECT

Trend of Latest Experimental Work in Combating Boll Weevil Menace.

Washington.—Psychology may yet be resorted to as a means of probing the life secrets of insect pests and revealing their weakest points.

For 50 years the government and cotton planters have fought the boll weevil more or less in the open, by direct warfare. Poison has so far been the most effective destroyer.

It was discovered some time ago that adult weevils fly in the fall to comfortable hiding places near the cotton fields and there they hibernate peacefully.

Always Thousands More. The main difficulty with these methods is that no matter how many insects or larvae are poisoned or buried, there are always thousands, even millions, left, and the future of the weevil race is not seriously endangered.

Headed off by the enemy, the cotton growers have tried to evade it. They are urged by government agricultural experts to plant early crops.

Enormous Annual Loss. The boll weevil has advanced into territory almost every year since it first crossed the Mexican border back in 1902.

The most recent researches are designed to attack the weevil by indirect methods, at its most vulnerable point.

Dr. N. E. McIndoo of the bureau of entomology, who has paid particular attention to the senses of insects, finds a clue to the mystery in the olfactory organs, which are numerous and highly developed.

Plants Attract Insects. Entomologists believe that the plants which serve as hosts for insects have some way of attracting them.

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opinion that nothing takes the place of cotton in this insect's life, and that it is attracted to the plant by some odor which emanates from it.

Seek Source of Odor. With this data in mind, the bureau of entomology has asked the bureau of chemistry to experiment with the odorous substances of the cotton plant.

Isolating and identifying the odorous substances of any plant are difficult and tedious tasks. Dr. F. B. Power and V. K. Chastnut of the bureau of chemistry recently attracted much public interest by their success in isolating the odorous substances of the apple, and producing a synthetic apple oil, thereby making apple ice cream a practical possibility.

Doctor Power states that he has been giving all his time to the research since it was begun, but that no definite results can be obtained for some months to come.

Encouraging. The work is progressing, and that the prospects are encouraging.

Girl Descendant of Ponce De Leon Found in Florida



Above is shown Mary Ramonina Ponce of St. Augustine, Fla., who is believed to be the first descendant of Ponce de Leon discovered in this country.

Gotham Spends Millions to Care for Sick Aliens

New York.—Alien patients in the 13 civil state hospitals cost the taxpayers of New York more than \$3,000,000 last year, according to the statistical report of the state hospital commission.

The report says that of 41,362 patients in the hospitals in 1923, 17,810 or 43.1 per cent were foreign born. Of these 1,570 had been naturalized.

Sea Lion Outpulls Ten Men

Friday Harbor, Wash.—Fishermen loading on the beach near here fassoed a large sea lion tautly sunning on the rocks.

Chef Buys Hotel With Dough Made in Kitchen

Atlanta, Ga., N. J., Feb. 21.—Sivade, head chef of the Hotel Traymore, it was learned recently, has purchased the Hotel Beaumont, in South Tennessee avenue, for a sum said to be considerably more than \$100,000.

U. S. Has 544,671 Civilian Employees

Washington.—The army of government civilian employees numbered 544,671 at the beginning of this year, having been reduced 373,089 since the armistice.

The Post Office department employs 294,226 persons, or slightly more than 54 per cent of the total.

This army of employees is scattered over the entire world, embracing consular and diplomatic representatives. In the nation's capital there are 65,023 government workers, of whom 28,772 are women and 38,253 men.

Nicaraguan Government to Take Over Railroad

New York.—The government of Nicaragua within the next two months will pay off the remaining debt on the Nicaragua-Pacific Railroad company and establish this line, which runs through the heart of the republic, as a government owned property.

The railroad, which runs 250 miles from the Pacific port of Corinto to Granada, has been under the control of American bankers for some time, but the amount owned by the government of Nicaragua has steadily decreased.

Mr. Gomez added that with the railroad to the hands of the government, thus leading to freer traffic, the outlook for the future of the business between the United States and Nicaragua would be improved.

Five Sons Compete to Give Blood to Mother

New York.—Mamma Well's five boys have just come in handy. Many a time she made sacrifices for them, but their chance to reciprocate arrived a few days ago.

Radio Guides Flight of Airship in Ohio

Dayton.—For the first time in history, airships have been guided from one point to another by means of radio.

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Apiarist Gets Stingless Bee From the Adel Strain

Tacoma, Wash.—Stingless bees have now been added to the spiky cactus, the stringless bean and the seedless grapefruit.

According to Campbell, the Adel bee is an excellent honey gatherer and a great little playmate for the children.

Many Men Employed in Mapping British Coasts

Few people realize the hardships and dangers undergone by a comparatively handful of officers and men belonging to the royal navy who work year in and year out surveying coast lines and mapping the little-known depths of the ocean.

The hydrographic department of the admiralty has eight sloops constantly employed in the task of keeping the seas charted, and 40 officers and 700 men are under the control of a rear admiral, says London Tit-Bits.

The bed of the ocean and the outlines of rocky coasts are constantly changing, so that for the safety of shipping charts and maps have to be revised and brought up to date at frequent intervals.

Cases have been known where whole islands have either appeared or disappeared in the course of a few hours. Falcon Island, near the Tongas, for instance, was first discovered and charted in 1885, yet, although the mass of rock included cliffs rising fully 150 feet above the ocean level, it completely disappeared shortly afterward.

Small parties landing on wild stretches of coast are frequently met with showers of stones or even bullets from suspicious inhabitants.

An officer and half a dozen men, detailed to work along a portion of the Chinese coast, encamped on a rock one night. Soon after daybreak a cruiser came along and began using this temporary refuge as a target for gunnery practice.

Lamb Threw Gift Books Over His Garden Wall

In none of the letters of lives of Lamb have I found evidence that he ever bought a new book. His literary interests were of no profit to publishers. The battered veterans on his shelves welcomed no dapper young recruits, but he received numerous presentation copies from authors, and such volumes, too modern to please his fancy, he was wont to throw over the wall into Westwood's garden.

"A Leigh Hunt," he wrote 40 years afterward, "would come skimming to my feet through the branches of the apple trees, or a Bernard Barton would be rattled downstairs after me from the library door.

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When the Ark Sailed

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Fell for Three Stories

"Now it's just like I was a-tellin' ye," said a grizzled old Irishman to a group of workmen.

Compromise

There was a rich uncle who wanted the baby named Violet. Aunt Pansy had money, too, and intimated that she would not be displeased to have a namesake.

Instrument Measures Crops

A measuring instrument for attaching to an automobile by which the linear measurement of fields in various crops bordering on highways can be easily and quickly made has been devised by the United States Department of Agriculture.

PLANS TO SALVAGE SUNKEN WARSHIPS

England Lets Contract to Raise German Fleet.

London.—The German fleet is to be raised. The admiralty has entered into a contract for its salvage with a London firm.

Since the memorable 21st of June, 1918, with one or two exceptions, the ships have lain as they sank, a menace to shipping and a worry to a harassed lighthouse service in maintaining numerous buoys and beacons.

Witnessed Sinking of Fleet. I saw battleships, battle cruisers and cruisers sink almost imperceptibly until their decks reached the level of the sea, then follow and founder on their sides, and simply disappear.

The German liners sank at their moorings. At low tide parts of their hulls are exposed, danger spots on which numerous fishing trawlers have stranded and held fast until released by the rising tide.

The navy's salvage efforts were not entirely fruitless. Some ships, both great and small, were saved and were taken south for disposal.

Polish War Office to Bar Finery on Women

Warsaw.—An edict against the wearing of silk stockings and other finery by women employees of the war department has just been issued by General Sikorski, minister of war.

Somehow the department gained the reputation of being a good marriage mart, most of the stenographers leaving to be married after a year's service.

General Sikorski heard of it, reviewed the staff and, finding the women dressed in elaborate clothes, issued an order that they wear dark, high-collared dresses, high shoes and cotton or wool stockings.

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