

### Termite Ancestry Goes Back 250 Million Years; Cockroach Is Kin

By ARTHUR EDSON  
 WASHINGTON—(AP)—Proud people who trace their ancestry to the Mayflower got a rude jolt. A termite, who rarely gives himself airs, can trace his ancestry back 250,000,000 years. This tidbit comes from the Smithsonian institution, which has just completed cataloging 1,932 different species of termites. When it turned out that the cataloging chore had been done by a Department of Agriculture man who has been studying the termite—and ways to control it—for 40 years, I promptly called Dr. Thomas E. Snyder to find out what's new in the termite world. The answer is, nothing much. Termites have been calmly chomping wood and developing a complex social organization for 30,000,000 years. And their ancestors, Dr. Snyder said, go back 250,000,000 years. "Somewhere along the line,"

he said, "the family split, and one group became the cockroach."  
 Dr. Snyder has a certain admiration for the cockroach. "He's very adaptable. He was on earth long before man, and I suspect he'll be here long after we're gone." But his real love is the termite.  
 Dr. Snyder met up with the termite quite by accident. Some telephone poles had been damaged, and he went out to look at them. There he saw his first



OUT OUR WAY

By J. R. Williams

queen termite—and he's been looking at termites ever since. In this country termites measure only a quarter of an inch, with the winged adults measuring a half-inch.

We got off lucky. "I have seen a tropical queen termite," said Snyder, "who was four and one half inches long and nearly two inches in diameter."

It has been during only the last few thousand of its 30,000,000 years that the termite has given man any trouble. That's when man moved out of a cozy cave and termites moved into chew on the house. Dr. Snyder says there's one difference between the ant and bee kings and the king termite. "The ant and the bee kings die after mating," he said. "The termite king lives on. If you're going to be a king, a termite king is much the best proposition."

I said I'd keep that in mind.

### Brannan Farm Program Rapped

SPOKANE, Dec. 1—(AP)—A charge that the Brannan farm program would mean government control and is "clear away from the parity concept," was made last night by Ralph Gillespie of Pullman, president of the Washington State farm bureau.

Speaking before a group of young Republicans, Gillespie described the plan as a "subsidy program" and said its disclosure "really shocked the nation."

He charged that it was "hatched up in the inner sanctums of the agriculture building in Washington, D. C., between government bureaucrats and the CIO."

He urged continuance of a program of price supports.

(The Brannan plan, so-called because it is sponsored by agriculture Secretary Charles F. Brannan, calls for full parity supports through purchases and loans, as at present, for corn, cotton, wheat, rice, peanuts and tobacco. Perishable products, however, would be permitted to seek their own market price with the government reimbursing the grower for the difference between the selling price and a predetermined "fair price.")

The Lost Colony of Roanoke in N. C. is still a mystery in our history.

### Revenue Bureau Offers Guide To Income Tax Filing

By JAMES MARLOW  
 WASHINGTON, — (AP) — For 25 cents you can get a lot of information on making out your 1949 income tax.

You don't have to figure the tax on your 1949 income, or pay it, till 1950.

But if you want a lot of detailed information there's a government booklet you can buy. It's called "Your Federal Income Tax."

It runs to 138 pages, is put out by the Internal Revenue bureau which collects your tax, and is intended to answer a lot of questions.

You can buy it by sending 25 cents to the superintendent of documents, U. S. government printing office, Washington, D. C.

Last year the government put out a similar booklet and sold 285,000 copies.

In 1949 about 53 million people filed an income tax return on their 1948 income. In 1950 around 58 million are expected to file a return on their 1949 income.

When the income tax deadline — it's March 15, 1950 — draws near, this writer and other newsmen will write series of stories explaining who does what about his income tax.

But none of these stories can go into the details, and cover as many different problems, as are treated in this booklet. So it's a good quarter's investment for a great many people.

The government will mail to everyone who filed a return in 1949—an income tax form for filing their return in 1950.

Choice Of Two Forms  
 It will send out two kinds of forms: An easy one, called 1040A, and one that requires a little more work, called 1040.

With the latter the government will enclose a 16-page booklet explaining some of the details of income tax filing.

Still, this booklet, helpful as it is, does not cover as much ground as the 138 page booklet explained above.

As an example of some of the fields treated in the larger booklet:

It shows the step-by-step way of filling out a return; it covers things like contribution deductions, medical and dental expenses, traveling expense deductions, alimony and automobile deductions, payment and refund of taxes, and so on.

This booklet, as a result of suggestions and comments on the previous year's booklet, has been

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### Husky Railroad Man New Male Crocheting Champ

CHICAGO—(AP)—Joseph Dolinaj, a husky railroad signal operator from Dunellen, N. J., the nation's new male crocheting champion, attributes his success to his wife. Proudly holding an engraved loving cup for his prize entry, at the National Needle Craft bureau's eighth annual crocheting contest, Dolinaj said: "I wouldn't be what I am today if I hadn't bet my wife \$5 I could crochet better than she could. I couldn't even hold the needle. She had to show me. I got some books and practiced until I won the bet. Now she's given up. I do all the crocheting for my family."

Mrs. Thomas L. Nightingale, 72, a great-grandmother of Sacramento, Calif., was named grand national crocheting champion. Proudly holding an engraved loving cup for his prize entry, at the National Needle Craft bureau's eighth annual crocheting contest, Dolinaj said: "I wouldn't be what I am today if I hadn't bet my wife \$5 I could crochet better than she could. I couldn't even hold the needle. She had to show me. I got some books and practiced until I won the bet. Now she's given up. I do all the crocheting for my family."

Dolinaj won the \$5 bet from his wife six years ago and his winning entry of a white cotton tablecloth in a filet crochet design brought him a prize of \$100. He hopes to sell it for \$350. Dolinaj said during his spare time at work he crochets, and when Mrs. Dolinaj "takes the kids to a movie, I stay home and crochet."

### Sex Slayer Sentenced To Electric Chair

FORT WAYNE, Ind., Dec. 1 —(AP)—Franklin Click, 25-year-old father of five children, was sentenced to death today in the electric chair for the rape-slaying of Phyllis Conline, 17-year-old high school girl.

Click also is under indictment in two other sex murders.

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