

# Is That So?

Ignorance begets superstition, the father of popular fallacies. The subject of insects is no exception. So now, in midwinter while most insects have gone to their reward or are quietly overwintering, isn't it a fine time to sneak up with a Fact vs. Fallacy on insects?

**FALLACY:** Little flies develop into big flies when they are grown.

**FACT:** Once an insect emerges from its pupal stage, it is an adult and ceases to grow. Very small winged flies remain very



small winged flies: big flies were big flies when they emerged. Neither do moths nor butterflies grow.

**FALLACY:** Veins in insects wings carry blood as do ours.

**FACT:** Veins in mature insects are not veins in the sense of veins in humans and do not function as blood vessels.

Although the veins of insects' wings do start out something like veins in humans, each vein is a sort of double tube, one tube carrying air, the other blood for a very brief time after the insect has emerged into adulthood.

**FALLACY:** You can trap a mosquito by holding your breath when it bites.

**FACT:** Popular as this myth may be—that if you hold your breath the mosquito's bill will become stuck and you can dispatch it leisurely, it just ain't so. So don't hold your breath.

**FALLACY:** When houseflies become exceedingly numerous and bad—that is, when they bite

—it is a sure sign of rain.

**FACT:** Houseflies can't bite—its mouth parts are soft and there is no chewing mechanism. These "biting" flies which sometimes closely resemble houseflies are really horseflies, deer flies, black flies, etc. These, particularly the horseflies, are vicious biters and given the opportunity will suck blood for two to five minutes, or until their abdomens are so swollen with blood that they bulge. When they become numerous it is really an indication that the wind has moderated and the air is heavy—but mostly, that there is a favorable breeding place such as rotting vegetation or a manure pile somewhere in the vicinity, regardless of whether or not rain is on the way.

**FALLACY:** Tolerance to bee stings can be developed.

**FACT:** For the time beekeepers are working with bees, they can develop a tolerance but it is lost in time when they are no longer exposed to bee stings. Incidentally, one scientist has estimated, after much laboratory experimentation, that it takes 500 honeybee stings to make a lethal dose for a grown man, reports Dr. Lucy Clausen, author of Insect Fact and Folklore (Macmillan, N. Y.). Yet, in Irvington, N. Y., a young man died within 15 minutes after one sting on the back of his neck.

However there seems to be increasing evidence that some persons' severe reaction to bee stings is due to protein hypersensitivity and not necessarily to bee venom itself.

**FALLACY:** Termites, one of man's greatest enemies, are in reality white ants.

**FACT:** They are not ants, nor are they actually white. In fact, they are not even distantly related to ants, having evolved from roach-like ancestors. A termite can be distinguished readily from the ant: there is an absence of construction of "waist" where abdomen joins thorax.

Although most consider termites destructive because they attack wooden foundations, termites may be considered of great economic worth to man since their chief food is cellulose that they obtain from dead wood. In eating dead wood, they help clear away stumps and fallen timber that would otherwise

# MEDFORD TRIBUNE SPORTS

## Oregon Staters Top PCC In Rebounding Statistics

Los Angeles — (U.P.) — Five schools shared top team statistical honors in the weekly basketball figures released today by the Pacific Coast conference commission's office.

The only team to lead in two departments was UCLA, top-ranked in total scoring and free-throw percentage for all conference games through Jan. 19. UCLA has averaged 75.8 points per game in its first four outings and has scored 91 field goals and 121 free throws.

The Bruins also have hit 78.6 per cent of their attempts from the free-throw line, with their 121 points coming on 154 attempts.

Washington has shot 44 per cent from the floor with 137 field goals in 357 attempts to rank first in that rating.

Oregon State's top rebounding mark of 58.9 per cent was achieved on 162 recoveries to

its opponents' 113.

California has allowed opponents but 51.4 points a game in five contests and Oregon has held foes to 32.9 per cent on floor shooting and 72 goals in 219 attempts.

**Smart, Back Lead**

The state of Washington dominated PCC individual standings with University of Washington sophomore Doug Smart leading in field goals and rebounds and Washington State's Larry Beck leading in total scoring percentage.

In only one department, free throw accuracy, did another school break into the leadership with Carl Isaacs of Stanford on top.

Smart has averaged 55.8 per cent on his floor shots, with 43 field goals in 77 attempts and is a 19.3 per cent rebounder. The six-foot, seven-inch player has

clog the forest and impede new growth. In addition, they break down and reconvert these materials thus indirectly enriching our soil.

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**SIGNING** for his first head coach job is Jim Meyers, line coach at UCLA. He goes to Iowa State in the Big Seven this fall. (International)

## Oregon Pulp Mill Dispute Settled

Salem — (U.P.) — A six month strike of millworkers at the Oregon Pulp and Paper company plant here was settled yesterday. Reopening operations will start tomorrow.

Settlement of the dispute which closed the millwork factory last July 31, was made by E. A. Linden, manager of the OP&P lumber division; M. L. Sullivan, the company's industrial relations manager, and B. W. Sleeman, general representative of the Brotherhood of Carpenters.

The millworkers were seeking a 15-cent an hour raise for all laborers, but details of agreement have not been revealed.

snared 98 out of 508 total opportunities.

In total scoring Beck has averaged 21.2 points in his first five games on 40 field goals and 26 free throws for a total of 106 points. Bruno Boin of Washington is second with a 19.7 average. Isaacs hit 88.2 per cent of his free throws with 15 points in 17 attempts.

Wednesday, January 23, 1957

MEDFORD (OREGON) MAIL TRIBUNE—SEVEN

## Adirondacks Scanned For Air Force Plane

Rome, N.Y. — (U.P.) — A ground search party fanned out through the Adirondack foothills today hunting for a KC97 Air Force tanker plane missing and feared to have crashed with seven crewmen aboard.

A dozen members from the Civil Air Patrol at Utica formed the search teams at the Alder Creek state police substation, 15 miles north of here, where numerous reports of a plane flying around were received during

the night. Poor visibility kept Air Force search planes grounded at Griffiss Air Base.

The \$1.1-million four-engined tanker disappeared Tuesday night after making radio contact with Griffiss.

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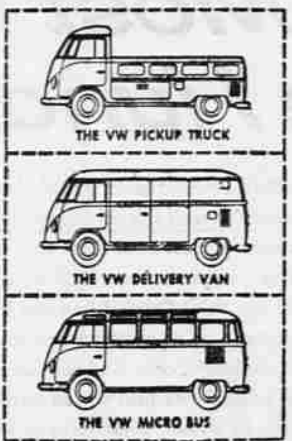


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