



MAIL GOES THROUGH IN COMFORT—Newest motorized vehicle for the U. S. Post Office is this "Mailster." The sleek, maneuverable machine is designed for fast, efficient and economical delivery of mail and parcel post in residential areas now being serviced by carriers on foot or bicycle. The Government has ordered 1500 of them from Cushman Motor Works in Lincoln, Neb. They will be used by post offices in the Southeast, Southwest and in California.

'Satchmo' Armstrong Does't Miss A Beat As Dynamite Rocks Hall

Knoxville, Tenn.—(AP)—Negro trumpeter Louis "Satchmo" Armstrong refused to interrupt his southern tour today because of a racial bombing targeting his concert here Tuesday night. "I've been playing the horns for 44 years and never had any trouble before," Satchmo said, commenting on the blast set off outside the auditorium in city-owned Chilhowee park. Armstrong was bearing down on his "Back O' Town Blues" when two or three sticks of dynamite exploded outside, sending a shock wave through the segregated auditorium jammed with 2,000 white and 1,000 Negro jazz fans. There was a stir. Many heads turned toward the direction of the earth-shaking explosion, which tore a five-foot hole in the ground outside. But it did no other damage and no one was hurt. The Armstrong instrumental ensemble did not miss a beat and Satchmo himself stopped blowing his trumpet only long enough to say "It's O.K. folks. It was just my telephone ringing." The concert of Armstrong favorites such as "I Get Ideas" and "Lucky Old Sun" continued for 20 more minutes. The troupe left immediately afterward by chartered bus for Columbia, S.C. Eli Weinburg, a show promoter from Bluefield, W. Va., said Armstrong will not let the incident shorten his southern tour now in its third week. Armstrong, wearing a dark blue suit with white buttons and a black four-in-hand tie, told reporters afterward, "I feel like I could go right to Birmingham and play—I don't believe we'd have any trouble." Negro singer Nat (King) Cole was assaulted on the stage of City auditorium in Birmingham, Ala., a year ago by white segregationists campaigning against mixed musical performances. "What's Clinton?" Armstrong said. "I'll blow anywhere. The horn doesn't know anything about these race troubles."

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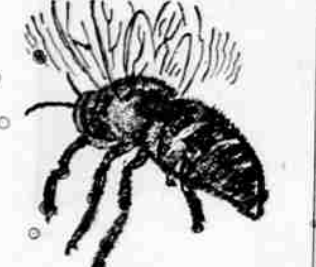


Is That So?

By EUGENE BURNS
Ranger-Naturalist

For good or bad, in sickness or in health, insects are here to stay as our constant companions. Care to know more about them? In man there are some 792 distinct muscles; in grasshoppers, some 900 have been described, and in caterpillars about 4,000. The average insect can pull over 20 times its own weight — the small leaf-eating beetle (*Donacia*) pulling 42.7 times its own weight, by test. In contrast, a puny man can pull but .86 of his own weight; a horse from .5 to .83. The powdery substance which rubs off the wings of moths and butterflies so easily are minute scales which cover the bodies as well as the wings in overlapping arrangements like shingles on a house. And as shingles protect the inner surfaces of houses, so too do the

surface and remain there, breathing off the captured oxygen, until the danger is past. Although it spends most of its active time on the surface of the water, it can both fly well and dive freely. In "walking" on the water, it keeps from breaking through because of the water's surface tension — the tiny surface film on water. Add a detergent and it will fall through. Katydid's Music A wingless katydid not only can produce music by rubbing the rasps on the inside of her legs against short teeth projecting from her body, but she can also make her joints squeak while walking. A pair of flies beginning operations on April 1 might be the progenitors—if every egg were to hatch and live and bear offspring — of 191,010,000,000,000,000 flies by August 31. Allowing 1/8 cubic feet to a fly, that figures to cover the earth to a depth of 47 feet. Happily only an infinitesimal number of each fertile pair's progeny survive. The Department of Agriculture considers that bees are up to 20 times more valuable as pollinators than as producers of honey and beeswax. In a little over 6 minutes, a bee averages 50 apple blossoms. It has been estimated that bees in America pollinate about 2,843,890 apple trees during one season. Those trees in turn produce a \$90,000,000 crop. Hums in Key of F The housefly hums in the key of F in the middle octave and its wing beats equal 20,700 wings beats per minute. Dragonflies—no true flies—are extremely fast fliers. The larger species have been estimated to travel at 55 miles an hour. Even when traveling at top speed they can change course abruptly or stop quickly to alight upon a blade of grass or to hover above water. It captures its prey by forming a basket of its six long legs in flight, and thus it scoops up its prey. It does not use its legs for walking. The Hessian fly, a wheat pest, was introduced into this country in the early 1700s — in fact, George Washington experimented in 1760 with various substances in an effort to reduce their number. (Copyright, 1957, by Eugene Burns) (Released by McClure Newspaper Syndicate)



scales protect the wings and bodies of moths and butterflies. Though extremely minute, these scales vary in shape, size and color. When rubbed off from one wing, the insect's flying ability is hampered not only by the loss of weight but also by the uneven flow of air over the wing's surface — and thus they become much easier prey for birds, ants, beetles, and other animals that feed upon them. Lost scales are never replaced. The walking stick from the Malay peninsula has reached a length of 13 inches — the longest insect in the world. When amplified a hundred million times, the female mating call of the mosquito sounds like a movie version of a dive-bomber's shriek. The male's answer is in a distinctly higher pitch. The black whirligig beetle usually found gyrating in masses on the surface of relatively calm water or basking like a turtle on a log or stone has the ability, when danger threatens, to catch a bubble of air under a wing-cover and dive deeply under the



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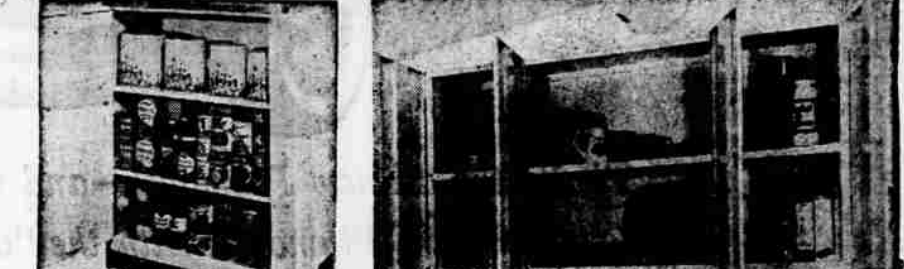
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