

probable. The mites, microscopic in size, are omnipresent on walnuts and abound by the millions on trees of all sizes and ages where they produce erineae or galls on the foliage. Heretofore, except for the hypertrophies they produce on the leaves, they have been regarded as of no importance. In the light of the present discovery it may be necessary to take them more seriously. This is true with regard to existing methods of controlling bacterial blight, since the sprays now in use for controlling the disease do not destroy the mite. This factor may be responsible for certain irregularities observed from time to time in the control of the disease with sprays.

Grateful acknowledgment is made to Dr. Leslie M. Smith, one of the few authorities on Eriophyid mites in California, for his considerable assistance in handling the mites used in the experiments.

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ANOTHER DISCOVERY OF CHAOS CHAOS

In 1936 Schaeffer¹ rediscovered Chaos Chaos in a New Jersey marsh. In the spring of 1942, we found several large specimens of the animal in a shallow pond in Cunningham Park, New York City. In the spring of 1943, we collected several large specimens, some measuring 900 μ , in the same pond.

These animals responded readily to culturing by the method of Brandwein.² The agar which serves to anchor the rice grains (as described in this method) was eliminated. Large quantities of these animals are now on hand. They are able to ingest such animals as Frontonia, Stentor, Spirostomum, Blepharisma, different Rotifera and some of the smaller Turbellaria.

The animals seem to be Schaeffer's type A, in the main. Some of the animals, however, have the ellipsoid nucleus of the so-called type B.

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TENNYSON'S PREDICTION OF THE INVENTION, USE AND MISUSE OF THE AEROPLANE

ON several previous occasions I have, in these columns, drawn attention to a number of remarkable predictions concerning the invention, use and misuse of aeroplanes. In all these cases the prophets were scientists. I have elsewhere drawn attention to similar

predictions made by literary men.¹ The prediction concerning the aeroplane which is perhaps the most remarkable of all is by Alfred Tennyson, and occurs in his poem "Locksley Hall," published in 1842.²

The relevant stanzas are as follows:

Men, my brothers, men the workers, ever reaping something new:

That which they have done but earnest of the things that they shall do;

For I dipt into the future, far as the human eye could see,
Saw the Vision of the world, and all the wonders that would be;

Saw the heavens fill with commerce, argosies of magic sails,
Pilots of the purple twilight, dropping down with costly bales;

Heard the heavens filled with shouting, and there rained a ghastly dew
From the nation's airy navies grappling in the central blue;

Far along the world-wide whisper of the south-wind rushing warm,
With the standards of the people plunging thro' the thunder-storm;

Till the war-drum throbbed no longer, and the battle-flags were furl'd
In the Parliament of man, the Federation of the world.

There the common sense of most shall hold a fretful realm in awe,
And the kindly earth shall slumber, lapt in universal law.

So I triumph'd, ere my passion sweeping thro' me left me dry,
Left me with the palsied heart, and left me with the jaundiced eye;

Eye, to which all order festers, all things here are out of joint,
Science moves, but slowly, slowly, creeping on from point to point:

Slowly comes a hungry people, as a lion creeping nigher,
Glares at one who nods and winks behind a slowly-dying fire:

Yet I doubt not thro' the ages one increasing purpose runs,
And the thoughts of men are widen'd with the process of the suns.

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¹ A. A. Schaeffer, *Turtox News*, 15: 114-115, 1937.

² P. F. Brandwein, *American Naturalist*, 69: 628, 1935.

¹ "Four on War," *Technology Review*, April, 1943.

² *Poems by Alfred Tennyson*, 2 vols., London, 1842.