

# Housefly Merits a 'Dirty Fighter' Tag

Of all the insects in the world, *Musca Domestica* is probably man's greatest enemy.

You know him as the common housefly — but maybe you don't know just how serious a health threat he really is and may be inclined to take him for granted.

Flies may spread dysentery, summer or infant diarrhea, typhoid fever, tuberculosis,

and polio. For example, bacillary dysentery—a disease of the intestines—is more prevalent in the summer when the fly population is the greatest.

It has been proven that fly-contaminated milk may lead to fatal cases of infant diarrhea. Summer or infant diarrhea occurs principally under crowded, unhygienic conditions during hot weather when foods can be easily contaminated by flies.

**THE COMMON** housefly can spread typhoid fever by picking up the germ from unsanitary toilet facilities used by a victim of the disease or an unsuspecting "healthy" carrier.

The fly can also spread infected particles of sputum of a careless TB patient.

Trachoma blinds scores of people in Africa in epidemics spread directly by flies. This eye disease is rare in the United States but a number of Americans are victims of a highly contagious eye infection called conjunctivitis (or "pink eye") which can be a forerunner of trachoma if uncontrolled.

Scientific investigators have found that the polio virus can survive on the outside of a fly's body for several days. For this reason, it is believed that flies may be a contributing factor in polio epidemics.

**THE HOUSEFLY** seems especially equipped for his role as a disease carrier and he does his harmful work in two ways:

The fly's six feet are equipped with bristles and

sticky pads and his proboscis is hairy, so that germs and filth are readily collected. Then all the fly has to do to transmit the infected material is to land on you, or your food, or on the things you touch.

Second, he deposits infected material he has eaten through his wastes.

It's an obvious conclusion, therefore, that you're living with danger if you've given the housefly a home. So, to rid your house of flies and protect your health, follow good sanitary practices that prevent flies from breeding.

1) See that window and door screens fit tightly and are in good repair in order to cut down on the number of flies that can get into your home.

2) Drain and wrap garbage to reduce fly-breeding, help prevent corrosion of can.

3) See that garbage can is large enough, that it is watertight, and has a tight-fitting cover. Preferably, the can should be set on a rack to cut down fly-breeding beneath the can.

4) Store unused food and wipe up spilled foods immediately.

5) Keep your bathroom spotless.

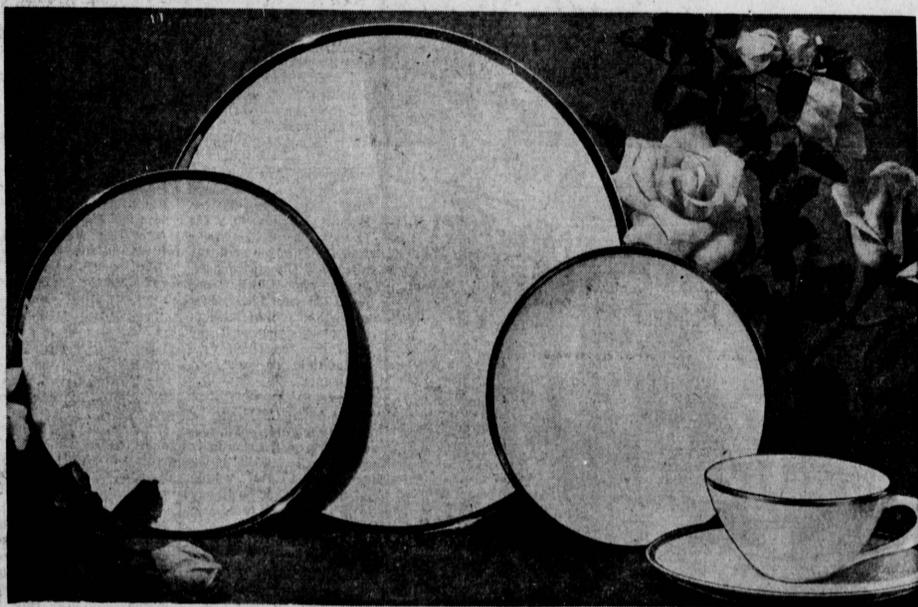
6) Homes not connected with public sewers should have sanitary septic tanks if possible, or at the very least, sanitary privies.

7) On farms or in other places where animals are kept, manure should be disposed of at frequent intervals—either by spreading on fields where scattered manure may dry quickly, or by the use of fly-proof bins.



**JOINS FIRM . . .** Perry A. Luth has joined Hi-Shear Corp. of Torrance as manager of the Ordnance Department, George S. Wing, president of the firm, has announced. Luth is a graduate of Harvard University, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and UCLA.

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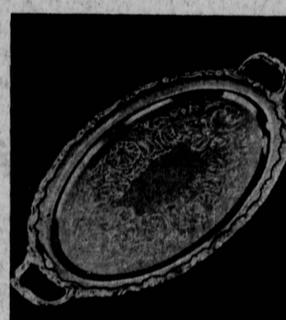
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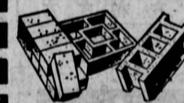
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