

Aphids kept at summer temperatures produced males as soon as the days grew short in autumn, but when the days in the laboratory were artificially lengthened with electric light the fatherless female generations succeeded each other, even though the temperature was allowed to fall to a low point.

An immediate practical application of his discovery is suggested by Mr. Marcovitch. The saving of orchards from severe damage depends on inducing the first broods in the spring to migrate from the trees to the other plants on which they feed. Mr. Marcovitch suggests that orchards be artificially lighted, just as they are now frequently heated, thereby inducing the winged generations to appear early and "move on" promptly. It might also be worth while to keep up the illumination in the fall, preventing the development of males, and thereby also preventing the production of fertilized eggs, which alone are able to live over winter.

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#### DROUGHT-CRAZED JACKRABBITS OVERRUNNING BIDAHO RANGES

Hordes of jack-rabbits are attacking farms on the south bank of the Snake river in Idaho, with the condition so serious that some ranches have lately been abandoned for the year.

Residents have observed rabbits hurling themselves into the river and swimming seventy-five yards to gain the north bank, where forage is more plentiful. The rabbits come across in hundreds, going into the river above upper Salmon falls and coming down stream below the falls. The low water makes the plunge through the falls possible.

Water holes in the Bruneau desert, on the south side of the Snake river, have gone dry, and the jack-rabbits have come down in droves to the junction of the Salmon and Snake rivers, hunting water. They have eaten everything green, and even the roots of the alfalfa and parts of the hay stacks.

Fences intended to be rabbit-proof are of little aid, as the animals, crazed for food, have dug under the barriers. Cases are evident, also, where they have even broken through poultry netting placed below the ground. The north side of the river, where fences are better and there are fewer rabbits, has escaped without great damage.

Several drives have been made and large numbers of the rabbits killed, but neither drives nor poisons have materially offset the present situation.

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#### DESERT INSECTS HAVE A HOT TIME

Toleration of heat to a most astonishing degree by insects that live in deserts is indicated by the results of researches published in the Proceedings of the Royal Society by P. A. Buxton.

Observing insects in the deserts of Palestine, he found some species quite active and cheerful when the midsummer sun raised the temperature of the sand to 140 degrees Fahrenheit. Temperatures of the insects themselves were also measured, and were found to be lower than might have been expected, due probably