

In the Journal of Experimental Zoology, R. W. Glaser tells of a series of experiments to discover just what sort of food is suitable for them. The housewife will appreciate the information. The average life of the house fly is only about twenty days.

Deprived of all food they die in one or two days. On an exclusively protein diet they live from one to eight days. Eating only sugar the life period is longer but no eggs are laid--no baby flies to gladden the home.

Mr. Glaser reached the conclusion that the very best food is sugar and some form of starch that can be eaten and assimilated. On such a diet they thrive, live long and lay plenty of eggs.

In general, female flies live longer than males.

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#### TABLOID BOOK REVIEW

**GENERAL CYTOLOGY:** A Textbook of Cellular Structure and Function for Students of Biology and Medicine. Edited by E. V. Cowdry. The University of Chicago Press.

Cowdry's name, as editorial sponsor, is enough by itself to guarantee the validity of a work on cytology; but when the baker's dozen of contributors includes also the names of Wilson, Lillie, Conklin, McClung and Morgan, the student might just as well go ahead and buy the book without bothering to read any reviews. And there is no padding in it--no revamping of old cytological stuff; it's all new, based on original studies, each section the work of a specialist noted in his own field. The book is a classic.

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#### UNITED STATES SUPPLIES TREES TO FIGHT LEPROSY IN TROPICS

The United States Department of Agriculture has supplied the governments of Columbia, Brazil, Venezuela, Ecuador, and Cuba, with large numbers of plants yielding chaulmoogra oil, found useful in treating leprosy. Hawaii, Porto Rico, and the Canal Zone, have also received shipments of the much desired plants and Chaulmoogra trees will soon be fruiting widely in tropical America.

Seed for these plants were obtained in the wilds of Siam and Burma during a series of explorations begun in 1920 by the Department's plant hunter, J. F. Rock. Chaulmoogra oil is now obtained from India where it is pressed cold and imported at great expense, but experts hope that within ten years tropical America will be supplying its own oil for the cure of leprosy.

During a period of fourteen months ended March 15, 1924, 50 per cent. of the leprosy patients at the Kalihi Leprosy Hospital in Hawaii have recovered and been paroled as a result of chaulmoogra oil treatment, and during the past five years 260 patients have been discharged as cured.

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The yearly per capita consumption of sugar in the United States has increased from 89 pounds in 1914 to 99 pounds in 1924.

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