



Lady-Beetle

*"Ladybird, ladybird, fly away home.
Your house is on fire, your children will
burn."*

➤ THIS CHANT has been a favorite of children for no one knows how long. For these bright little beetles, more ready than most of their kin to use their wings, are

FREE BOOK FOR THE DEAF

An authoritative, brilliantly illustrated book, revealing all the facts on the new wonder electronic ear which hides deafness, will now be sent without cost or obligation to any hard of hearing reader of this magazine.

This amazing book discloses full details of the miraculous electronic invention which transmits even whispers with startling clarity—and without a button showing in either ear.

To obtain your free copy, simply address your request to: Electronic Research Director, 1450 W. 19th St., 3566 Beltone Building, Chicago 8, Ill. A penny postcard will do.

very attractive to the youngsters.

It is easily understandable that an early and naive natural history should have called these apparently harmless, gentle insects "ladybirds." But more recent and careful investigations have shown that by rights they should be known as "leopard beetles," for they are among the most voracious little hunters in the insect kingdom.

There are many species of ladybirds, but in general they all resemble a tiny round pill cut in half. Their short legs are attached to the flat side of their body, and they run as fast as these short legs can carry them, first in one direction, then in another.

The ladybird comes in a variety of colors. Sometimes she is black with red or yellow spots, sometimes red or yellow with black spots, but always her coat is shining. Fast as her legs will carry her, the ladybird is still slow-moving, like most of the round

beetles. The lady's prey, however, is slower still, for it consists mainly of aphids, scale insects and similar plant parasites.

This predacious habit on the part of the ladybirds naturally makes them valuable friends of man, for our gardens and orchards suffer heavily from the inroads of these pests. The fruit-raising industry particularly pays millions in involuntary tolls to various types of scale insects. In some regions, notably California, the capture of wild ladybirds and turning them loose in the groves has become a very important horticultural practice.

The ladybirds commonly winter in the debris on the forest floor in the woodlands of the higher hills, and to these places the gatherers go, shaking and sifting them out of their winter nests. The beetles are as a rule too sleepy to mind, and they are carefully kept at the proper temperature in cold storage until spring.

Science News Letter, June 9, 1951

GENERAL SCIENCE

"Elite" Charges Are Wrong

➤ CHARGES that the college deferment plan—which swung into action May 26 when 175,000 students were tested for draft deferment—is unfair to the not-so-smart and might set up an intellectual elite are wrong. This is the statement of Dr. M. H. Trytten, the man most responsible for the draft deferment tests.

In an interview with Science Service, he was answering the position of some prominent educators and of the Committee on the Present Danger, led by Harvard President James B. Conant and Dr. Vannevar Bush. Latest statement on behalf of the committee was made by Dr. William C. Menninger, prominent psychiatrist, who declared that the present Selective Service System placed the burden of fighting on the "dumb boys".

Dr. Trytten, director of the Office of Scientific Manpower of the National Research Council, is general chairman of the six scientific and educational committees which formulated the plan whereby up to 500,000 college students will be deferred. General Hershey accepted the plan on the recommendation of those six committees.

Dr. Trytten told Science Service: "This cry of equality is pure emotionalism. Every one of the 14,000,000 veterans of World War II knows that equality of sacrifice is a myth. Millions who were drafted never went overseas, millions who went overseas never heard a shot fired in anger.

"Under Universal Military Service there would be, relatively, few infantrymen in the front lines, relatively few pilots engaged in combat. The rest brought in to the Armed Forces would be engaged in the thousands of jobs at varying distances from the front for which the Armed Forces have classifications. Most of these jobs are necessary.

"As a matter of fact, if the civilians do not provide for the college education of that percentage of our young men who can absorb it and use it for the benefit of our country's defense, the Armed Forces will have to do the job. This will mean that the taxpayers will pay for the college education of thousands of young men brought into the service. In addition they will pay for their food, their uniforms and their salaries while being educated. The Armed Forces recognize the need for college-trained men in the service. That is why they support the Hershey plan for college deferments."

Dr. Trytten pointed to what he called another, more basic fact which makes the present plan necessary. This is, he said, the manpower difference between the western allies and Russia and its satellites.

"To defeat Russia, if that becomes necessary in a general war," he declared, "we must place superior weapons in the hands of our soldiers. We cannot do this unless we have the scientists, technicians and en-

YOUR SKIN AND ITS CARE

By H. T. Behrman, M.D., and O. L. Levin, M.D.

Two dermatologists give you the up-to-date scientific facts. They tell you in detail exactly what to do to beautify and improve your skin, how to avoid or correct skin disorders, and how to deal with many skin problems as: Daily care of the face—allergies—cosmetics—pimples—blackheads—acne—whiteheads—cysts—boils—oily skin—dry skin—chapping—poison ivy—cold sores—hives—superfluous hair—ringworm—moles—birthmarks—scars—warts—tumors—skin cancer—excessive sweating—etc.

"The type of book to which the physician can refer his patients."—*Journal of the American Medical Association*.

"Accurate, unvarnished story of practical skin care."

—*Connecticut State Medical Journal*
Price 2.50, Incl. postage. 5-day-Money-Back-Guarantee
EMERSON BOOKS, Inc., Dept 887-F
251 West 19th Street, New York 11