

# Tiphia Wasp Is Dreaded Enemy Of Jap Beetles

### Colonies of Wasps Have Been Released In Luzerne County

By Pennsylvania News Service

A very small insect, identified as the Tiphia Wasp, plays an incredibly important part in Pennsylvania's agricultural scene.

Now numbering many millions strong, the Tiphia is the Commonwealth's chief line of defense in the bitter battle waged yearly against the Japanese Beetle.

Dr. J. Lionel King, former entomologist with the State Department of Agriculture here, was one of an expedition sent to Japan and Korea in the early 1920's by the Federal Department of Agriculture to ferret out a counteracting agent for the malicious beetle. Outcome of this was the Tiphia Wasp which proved to be the only effective biological agent to destroy the beetle in the grub state.

While the beetle made its first appearance in 1919, after having been carried to this country by imported shrubbery, the wasp did not appear until 1934 when 100 female Tiphias were liberated on State Animal Industry Laboratory grounds in Harrisburg and Summerdale.

Since that time the colony has grown and progressed to the point where parasites are collected and shipped throughout the State to beetle infested areas. During 1947 colonies of 200 each were distributed through Adams, Luzerne, Franklin and Snyder Counties.

Previous distributions, however, have introduced the Tiphia to all of the 64 infested counties. Just three of the Commonwealth's counties have remained free of the plant disease which annually cost millions of dollars damage.

The ingenious little parasite deals the death blow to the beetle in its infancy when it lives in the soil and feeds upon the roots of growing vegetation. The beetle is considered a general nuisance even before it grows up and flies about.

When the celebrated wasp is released in beetle infested areas the battle is on. After feeding upon the nectar and pollen of blossoms, the Tiphia begins to fly about looking for prospects and invariably locates a beetle grub underground.

To do her bit towards insect pest eradication, the Tiphia paralyzes her victim by stinging it for a knock-out. She then proceeds with callous indifference to lay her egg on the body of the helpless grub and satisfied that she has provided well for her offspring, departs.

During the next 15 days the egg hatches and the baby wasp, now in its larval or grub stage, proceeds with instinctive ingenuity to obtain its nourishment from the body of the helpless Japanese beetle grub. After having dined wisely, it spins a silken cocoon in which to rest. Eventually it passes through the pupal stage and transforms finally into a Tiphia wasp.

On emerging from the ground, history repeats itself, and the full fledged Tiphia carries on the good work of its ancestors in helping to reduce the Japanese beetle population. Considering that each wasp lays from two to four hundred eggs, it is understandable how the original 100 introduced in 1934 has multiplied to such magnificent proportions.

While the Tiphia has been an amazing find, it is not the final solution to the beetle problem. It can halt the steadily increasing beetle background but it cannot permanently eradicate them, according to Dr. A. B. Champlain, an entomologist of the State Department. A biological control of the beetle merely reduces while there are hopes that insecticides will play a more important part in the future control and elimination of the vicious insect pest.

Until such a time and discovery, Pennsylvanians who have been harassed by the Japanese evil, can still be grateful to the little parasite that resembles a black flying ant. In her own natural process of living, she unknowingly contributes to a healthier, wealthier agricultural Pennsylvania.

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# Atty. Peter P. Jurchak Is Host To Family Reunion At Twin Lakes

Peter P. Jurchak was host to members of his family at a reunion dinner at his summer home, Twin Lakes, Harvey's Lake, on Sunday, August 10.

The eldest of twelve children, Peter reminisced with his seven sisters and two brothers, over many childhood happenings, while all the little cousins listened, or dashed off to boat or swim, as their fancy suited them.

The usual excitement that goes along with crowds of people picnicking together, was met in David Delansy getting his foot cut, and having to be sewn up a bit while Pete Jurchak, Jr., stepped into a hornet's nest in the field where a baseball game was in progress. Jenny Gresock, his Detroit cousin, and a Public Health Nurse, as well, took charge of the bee-stung victim, to the delight of all the little wide-eyed ones. One of the caterer's cooks burned her hand, and by now Mrs. Jurchak felt a First Aid tent should be arranged for on the grounds, with a big flag, visible from all sides of the lake.

The high-light of the occasion was the cutting of the enormous birthday cake honoring Sister Mary Lucy, St. Joseph's Convent, whose birthday takes place this week. Mary Kay Gresock and Mrs. Peter Jurchak also were sung to with "Happy Birthday", having celebrations this month.

The usual excitement of deciding to change plans about staying overnight at places other than where one's baggage was unpacked, found people inquiring for forgotten keys, with one eye on the clock to make a plane, opening the rear of the car, and wondering if those who had started back home had left their baby-carriage, or if it belonged to Mrs. Paul Selecky or Mrs. Philip Jurchak. The missing "sneakers" of Michael, from Detroit, were recovered after Mr. Westermeyer's car was returned from Richardson's garage where it was being repaired.

Some of the guests stayed at the apple farm at Harding, some were at Glen Lyon and the rest were at Twin Lakes. Early, at 5:30, Tuesday morning Paul and Tony Jurchak escorted those staying at Twin Lakes, as far as Center Hill Road, to show them the road leading in a straight line over the hills to the Sullivan Trail, where the rest of the Detroit visitors were to be picked up, for the trip home. Paul and Tony then crawled into beds at their home in Goss Manor, where Mrs. Jurchak said they were still sleeping at eleven o'clock, when she came there from the Lake.

Those present were: Mr. and Mrs. Michael Gresock, Jenny, Mary K., and Michael, of Detroit and their loyal friend, Bill Westermeyer who brought them by car; Mr. and Mrs. George Delansy, Maryanne and David, of Johnstown; Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Kott, Rosemary and Kathleen of Harrisburg; Sister Mary Lucy of Ebensburg, Pa.; Miss Kitty Gordon, who made a plane trip here and returned to Chicago, in order to attend; Miss Martha Jurchak of Philadelphia, Tommy Jurchak, Harding; Mr. and Mrs. Philip Jurchak, Philip Jr. and James, of Harding; Mr. and Mrs. Paul Selecky, Juliana, John, Paul and Mary of Glen Lyon; and Mr. and Mrs. Peter Jurchak, Peter Paul and Tony of Dallas.

# John Culp Family Reunion Is Held At Benton Park

The Culp reunion was held last Sunday at Benton Park. Four of the five living children were present: Mrs. Elmira Covert, Mrs. Daisy Moore, Mrs. Elizabeth McHenry, and Stanley Culp. Dues to illness, Mrs. Catharine Gregory was unable to attend. Dinner was shared by these members of the family: Mr. and Mrs. John Jewell and Jo Ann, Mildred Culp, Janet Wright, Alice and Charlotte Culp, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Culp, Ginnie Culp, Mr. and Mrs. Harold Rood and Larry, Mr. and Mrs. Peter Baron and Larry, Mr. and Mrs. Donald Rood, Mr. and Mrs. Ira Rood, and Carol Ann, Richard Culp, Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Culp, Mrs. Iva Jones, Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Grose, Mrs. Hazel Bogart, Mr. and Mrs. Walter W. Covert, Elizabeth McHenry, Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Moore, Mr. and Mrs. Howard Culp, Mrs. Bertha Jenkins, Mrs. L. M. Culp, Alva Jones, Mr. and Mrs. Harold McHenry, Freddie McHenry, Mrs. May Lechlightner, and son Ronnie, Mr. and Mrs. William Eckert, and Billie, and Donnie Eckert and Mr. and Mrs. Walter C. Covert.

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# Society To Meet

CP Society of Huntsville Christian Church will hold its monthly meeting and a covered dish supper tonight, August 15, at the home of Elva War-mouth, Sutton Road, Trucksville.

# IDETOWN

Dr. and Mrs. Jacob Nulton who are visiting relatives and friends in the Back Mountain Area called on Mrs. Della Parrish last Wednesday.

Miss Helen Carey of West Wyoming spent the weekend with her cousin, Marilyn Williams. Marilyn entertained at a weiner roast on Friday evening Joan Shiner of Loyalville, Rene Vivian, Joe Hirko of Kingston, William Heller of Wilkes-Barre, and Helen Carey.

Mrs. George Irving of Clark, N.J., spent Saturday with Mr. and Mrs. Albert London.

Claude Lapp, Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. Claude Lapp of Washington, D.C., is spending sometime with his aunt and uncle, Mr. and Mrs. William Casterline.

Jeanne Casterline, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Casterline spent sometime with her cousins, Carol and Barbara Malkemes of Shavertown recently.

Roxie Hessler, sister of Mrs. Elmer Hoover of Kingston is a patient at the General Hospital. Mr. Alva B. Ide, daughter Alva, Lucy of Birdsboro spent the weekend with Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Hoover. He also called on Sunday at the General Hospital to see his sister, Roxie Hessler.

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Austin, Mr. and Mrs. George Hogg and daughter, Connie of Highland Lake spent Saturday with Mr. and Mrs. Loren Keller and family.

Mrs. Gordon Matthews and children from Chenango Bridge, N. Y., are spending sometime with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Wesley Hilbert and her sister, Mrs. George Roberts of Trucksville.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Thompson and son Harry, Mrs. Eckenstein of Elizabeth, New Jersey, Mrs. Mame Carr and Mrs. Mae McClellan of Pittston spent Wednesday with Mr. and Mrs. Edgar George. Thursday Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Nelson of South Bend, Indiana, and Mr. and Mrs. Harry Sands of Wilkes-Barre were guests of Mr. and Mrs. Edgar George. Allan Fritz left on Sunday to spend sometime with his brother and sister-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. James Fritz of Baltimore.

# JACKSON

W.S.C.S. of the Jackson Methodist Church will hold a lawn social at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ziba Smith on August 20th at 7:30.

Hot dogs, hamburgs, apple pie, ice cream, coffee and soda will be sold. In case of rain, it will be held in the Church basement.

Mr. and Mrs. Russell Lamoreaux and Billy and Susan and Mr. and Mrs. Coray Smith recently visited Dr. Z. L. Smith, who is a patient in the Robert Packer Hospital at Sayre.

# LEHMAN

Mrs. Harvey Bland and sons of Newport News, Virginia are visiting Mrs. Bland's mother, Mrs. Ella Major. Mrs. Kenneth Terry and daughter Ruth of Berwick spent the weekend with Mrs. Alice Elston.

Mrs. F. K. Abbott has returned home after spending some time with her father in Connecticut. Her son, Bill, came home with her for a few days.

# ALDERSON

Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Garinger, son Arnold, Lloyd Garinger, Mrs. Albert Armitage, and daughter Jessie spent Friday at Hershey Park, Pa.

Mr. and Mrs. Peter Kuchta, and daughter Judy of Hazleton spent the weekend with the latter's parents, Mr. and Mrs. H. R. Garinger.

Mrs. Raymond Garinger, Arnold Garinger, Mrs. William Hausch, Mrs. James Worth, and son Jimmy are spending the week visiting relatives in Gloversville, N. Y.

Nelson Condon of Kunkle spent last week with Mr. and Mrs. Elwood Conden, and family, at Alderson. Miss Marilyn Conden will spend this week with the Condens.

# SWEET VALLEY

Mrs. D. C. Moore of Sanford, Fla., is spending sometime with her sister and brother-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Alva Case.

Rev. G. A. Roemer of West Mansfield, Mass., former pastor of the Christian Church is spending some time visiting Mr. and Mrs. McKinley Long and other old friends here.

Rev. and Mrs. Ira Button spent several days this week visiting their son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Button and family at Budd Lake, N. J.

Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Masters of Endicott, N. Y. and Mr. and Mrs. Walter Letcher of Philadelphia and North Lake were guests of the George Bronsons over the weekend.

Callers at the Albert Holcomb home during the week were Mr. and Mrs. William Varner, Mrs. William Cryder and children of Berwick, Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Edwards and Janet and Jimmie, William Whitesell of Endicott, N. Y. and Mrs. Howard Holcomb of Kingston.

Mr. and Mrs. Leo Culver have

moved into the Stanley Masters house. Miss Bess Kinnetob had as weekend guest her cousin, Miss Elizabeth Parks of Wilkes-Barre. They were among the many who attended the Rodeaver services at Patterson Grove Camp meeting.

Dean Bronson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Bronson, is convalescing after being ill with pneumonia.

Mr. and Mrs. George Wesley and Mrs. Harriet Steele called on Mrs. Paul Dunn at Harvey's Lake on Friday.

Rev. Roland Updyke of St. Johnsville, N. Y., is building a summer home next door to his father.

Callers at the home of Mr. and Mrs. George Wesley over the weekend were Mrs. Harry Steele of Florida, Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Yetter of Pike's Creek, and Mr. and Mrs. Davies and family of Kingston.

two daughters, Betty Lou and Patricia, have returned to their home in Richmond, Virginia, after a week's vacation with Mrs. Griffin's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Dickinson.

Mr. and Mrs. William Storey, Carol Lee and Mr. and Mrs. Karl Besteder, Karl, are on a week's vacation fishing in Canada.

Harrison Goble spent the weekend at his cabin in Forksville.

Mrs. Floyd Besteder and Cecile are staying with Mrs. Ruby Besteder for the week.

The Official Board of Methodist Church met Monday night at Mr. and Mrs. Harry Watter's.

Mrs. Lee Brehm has returned after a week at Nesbitt Memorial Hospital.

# Silver Leaf Club

Silver Leaf Club of Kunkle will meet at the home of Mrs. William Brace on Tuesday evening.

# No Sunday Night Service

There will be no service at Sweet Valley Christian Church Sunday evening, August 20.

# Centermoreland

Miss Ida Schoonover has returned to her work at Sordoni's after a week's vacation in Philadelphia.

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Griffin and

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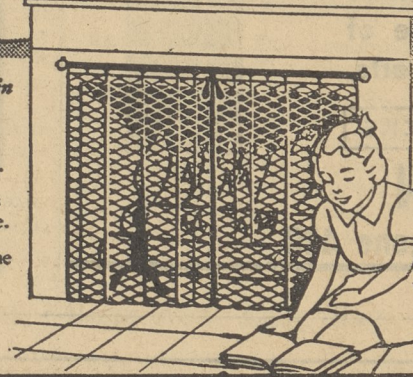
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