

**SAYS FISH CARRY LARVAE OF CLAMS**

**OVER DEPENDENT PERIOD**

**Act as Host to Parasites Until They Are Able to Exist by Themselves! Immunity Thereafter**

In a study for the U. S. Bureau of Fisheries, Dr. Leslie B. Arey, Robert L. Rea professor of anatomy at Northwestern university medical school, has discovered that in relation to the propagation of the pearl mussel, or fresh-water clam, common in the Mississippi basin, certain fishes like the ordinary black bass, after acting as host of the tiny clam larvae, become immune to further encystment and are no longer useful for carrying the baby clams over a dependent period in their life history. A medical student, who was working in the association with Dr. Arey, first made the actual discovery and the Northwestern anatomist has extended the study and is now about to present a final report to the federal fish bureau.

This is the first instance, Dr. Arey states, in which it ever has been proved that an animal can acquire immunity to a many-celled parasite for which it is the natural host.

**May Cause Shortage**  
The importance of these discoveries both by Mr. F. H. Reuling, the Northwestern medical student, and then by my personal observations, is that the

depletion of the natural mussel beds and the present method of clam propagation cannot be expected to meet the increasing demand for pearl products and accordingly the federal bureau must eventually discover some new method of propagation if an adequate supply is to be maintained," Dr. Arey explained. "Clam shells are used in the manufacture of pearl buttons, for buckles, and the handles of pocket knives, as well as many other pearl novelties, and now represent a very large activity in the United States, especially in the middle west. Hence my study which proves the industry is considered commercially as well as scientifically important.

**Artificial Propagation**  
"The ideal way of meeting the emergency would be to rear the embryo clams in nutrient solutions that supply the necessary materials for growth and development which at present the fish-hosts now provide. There are many difficulties in the way of this seemingly simple procedure and my studies have aimed at finding out the real factors that underlie these difficulties. The results have been of the utmost interest and demonstrated the amazing methods which Nature employs in attaching clam larvae to the gills or fins of the fish, of the growth of the larvae on the fish and of the eventual sloughing off of the baby clams.

**Many Technical Details**  
"We learned that after the fish had acted as host a few times, there was induced an actual blood incompatibility that made it impossible for the fish to act as host to other clam larvae, and that this source of clam production thus was lost to the indus-

try. There are many more technical details as to how the tiny clam shells clamp themselves to the fish in the first instance, how the shell itself naturally bends at the lips so as not to clip off entirely the fish's tissue, and thus cut itself away from the host, how the great muscle which primarily constitutes the clam larvae and moves the microscopic shell, after attachment to the fish-host, breaks up and is used for food in building the baby clam's new organs, and many new facts concerning the microscopical nature of immunity and wound-healing. I shall publish these findings in a scientific journal approved of by the federal bureau, but meanwhile the study continues."

**BRITAIN PLANS TO LIMIT DOLE PLANS**

**Work-Shy Not to Be Supported at Expense of Workers Any Longer**

Work shop men and women will no longer be supported at others' expense in Britain if the drastic reforms in the dole system understood to be

advised by the government committee under Lord Blanesburgh become law.

This committee was appointed last year, and is now about to present its report, which its members hope will be unanimous although they include not only employers and conservative politicians, but also such well-known labor leaders as Margaret Bondfield, the secretary of the National Union of General and Municipal Workers, and Frank Hodges, the secretary of the Miners' International federation.

The committee's object is to place upon a sound-basis the existing much-criticized unemployed insurance system, whereby those out of work belonging to the chief organized trades are supported partly by subscriptions from themselves and contributions from employers, and partly by state grants. The intention is also to render the term "dole," now generally applied to benefit under this system, no longer appropriate.

The government, the representative of the Christian Science Monitor understands, proposes to pass the necessary legislation to give effect to the committee's recommendations this

year, thereby enabling them to become operative before next October, when sanction for the existing arrangement expires, or else to extend this sanction temporarily with a view to a new law in 1928.

**SHALE OIL IN NORTH CAROLINA ABUNDANT**

One billion gallons of oil is available in the Deep River mining area in North Carolina, according to the finding of Dr. Frank G. Gilbrandt, professor of industrial chemistry in the University of North Carolina, contained in a report to the State Department of Conservation and Development.

The oil is contained in shale, and its distillation for commercial purposes, according to N. G. Bryson, state geologist, is "not only a possibility but a promising commercial investment for the future."

Mr. Bryson said that borings have shown thicknesses varying from 35 to 40 feet, over large areas. Estimates show 400,000,000 tons of oil-bearing shale, he said.

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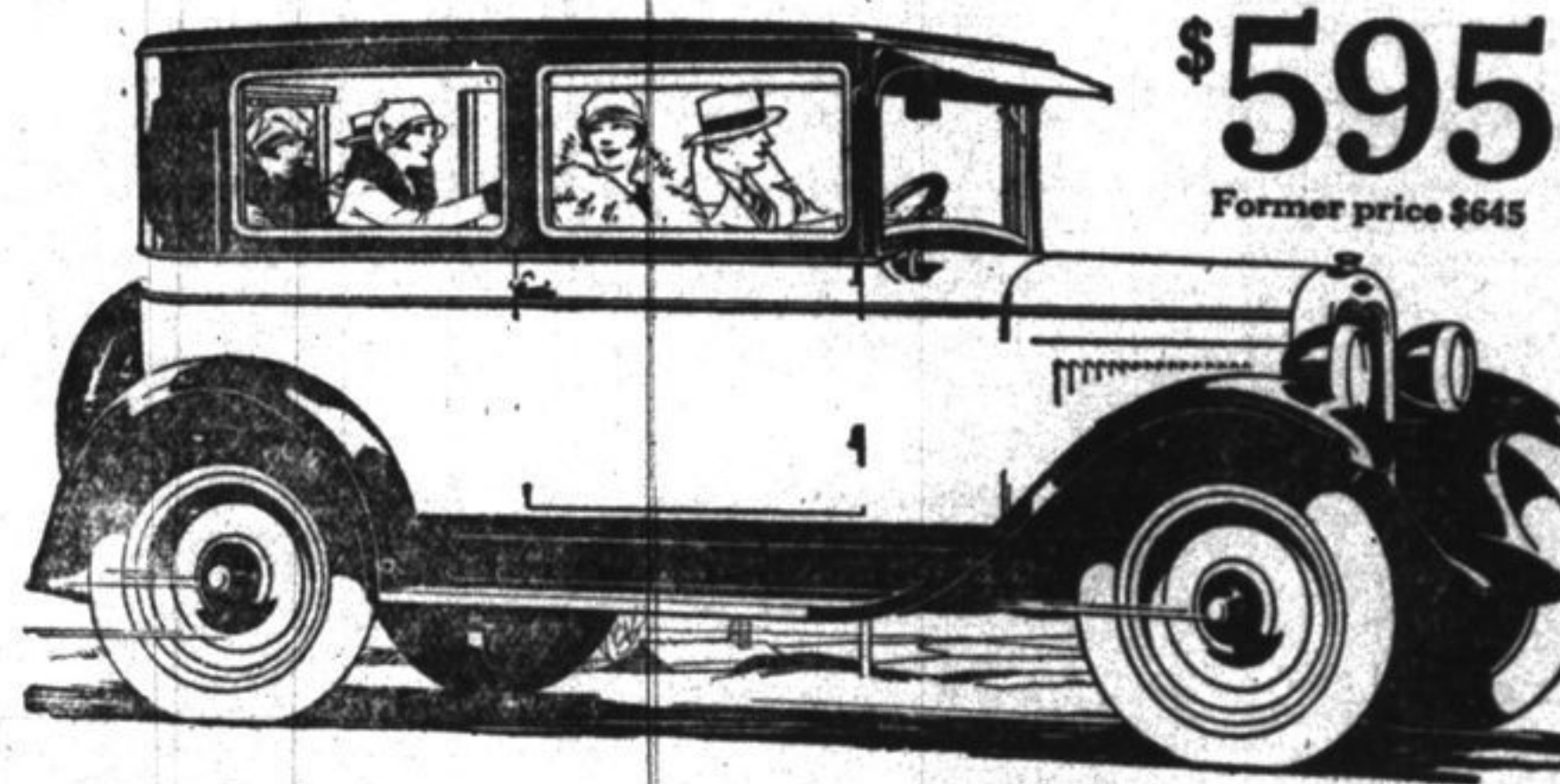
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