

URGE UNITED ACTION IN WAR ON SKEETERS

Expert of Gorgas Institute Declares This Season Perfect for Mosquito Breeding

Prospects for great clouds of hungry, biting mosquitoes are brighter this season than they have been for several years. Not only are mosquitoes already breeding, but the vast amount of standing water in every section of the Chicago metropolitan area will furnish abundant and convenient breeding places for the pests.

This is the opinion expressed by Major Edwin M. Skinner, director of Mosquito Control for the Gorgas Memorial institute, and the Anti-Mosquito board of the Chicago area, whose long experience in fighting mosquitoes qualifies him for passing an opinion on the probable mosquito crop.

"No claim has ever been made that mosquitoes have ever been partially eliminated in this territory," said Major Skinner, "though various enthusiastic persons have assumed that such was the case because of a greater freedom from the pests during the past seasons.

Breeding Conditions Perfect

"This partial absence of mosquitoes has been due to weather conditions which were favorable to their propagation. Conditions for prolific breeding are well nigh perfect now, and unless a long period of dry weather should immediately prevail, there is going to be many thousands of mosquito bites on various portions of the anatomy of our children, and adults alike.

"While this is unfortunate, it may serve to spur on individuals and towns to co-operate in mosquito elimination.

Bites are the most impressive means of suggestion to persuade everybody to do his bit.

What Towns Can Do

Clean out storm sewer catch basins. Oil them every ten days through the mosquito breeding season, beginning now. Two or three ounces of a volatile fuel oil will do the work. Any pools along roadways, improved or unimproved, or on vacant property, which hold water longer than ten days, will breed mosquitoes. They should be oiled every ten days.

Weeds and other rank growths should be cut down. They afford ideal harboring places for mosquitoes. The mosquito population is reduced by decreasing harboring area.

How Home Owners Can Help

"Inspect roof gutters. When sagged or choked with leaves or other foreign matter, they will hold water and breed mosquitoes. Clean out, or repair at once, or mosquitoes will breed 60 to the square inch of water surface area.

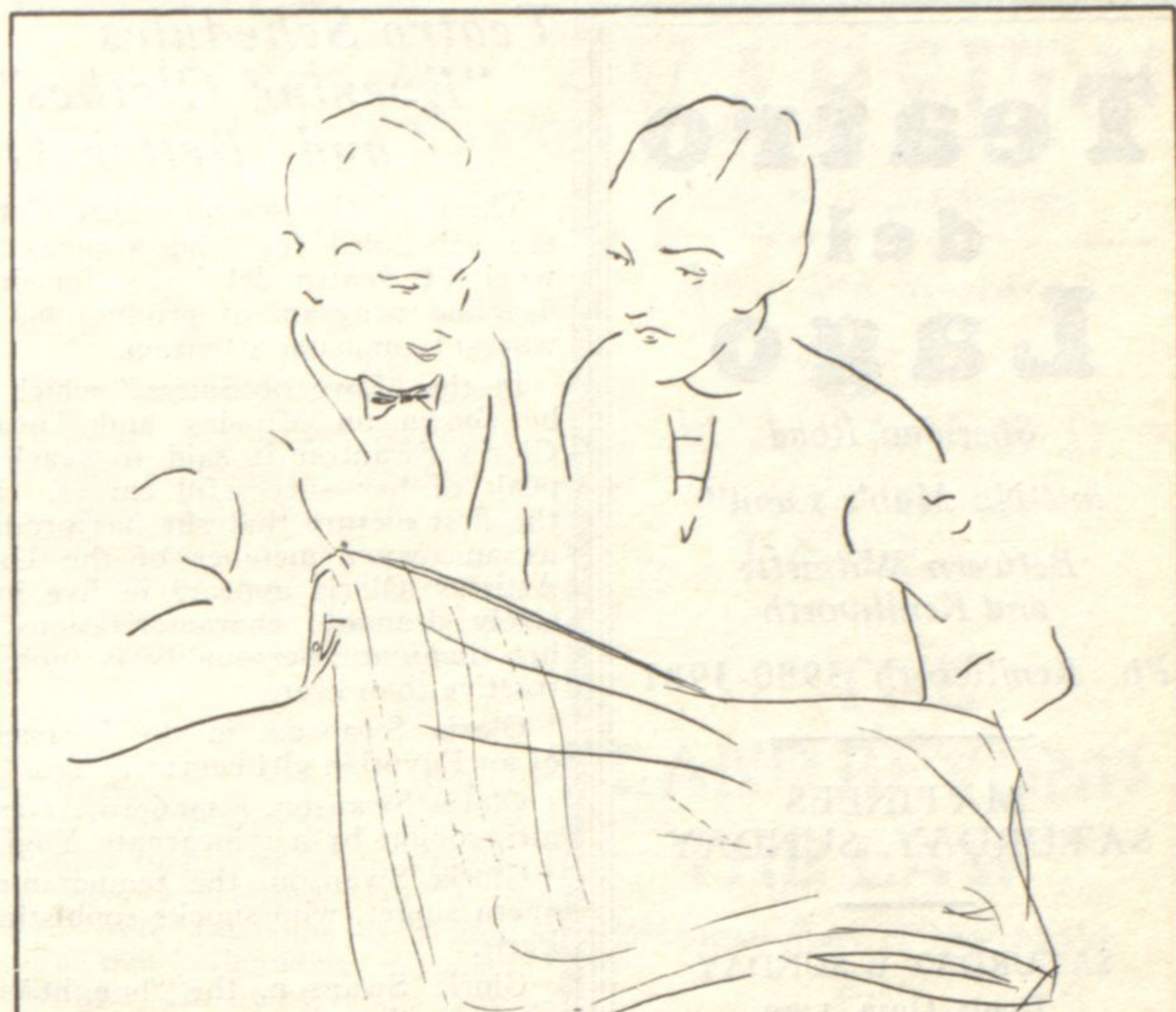
"There still are many uncovered cisterns and rain water barrels in outlying sections. Cisterns should be kept covered at all times to prevent mosquito breeding, and the barrels should always be kept covered with a 16-mesh screen.

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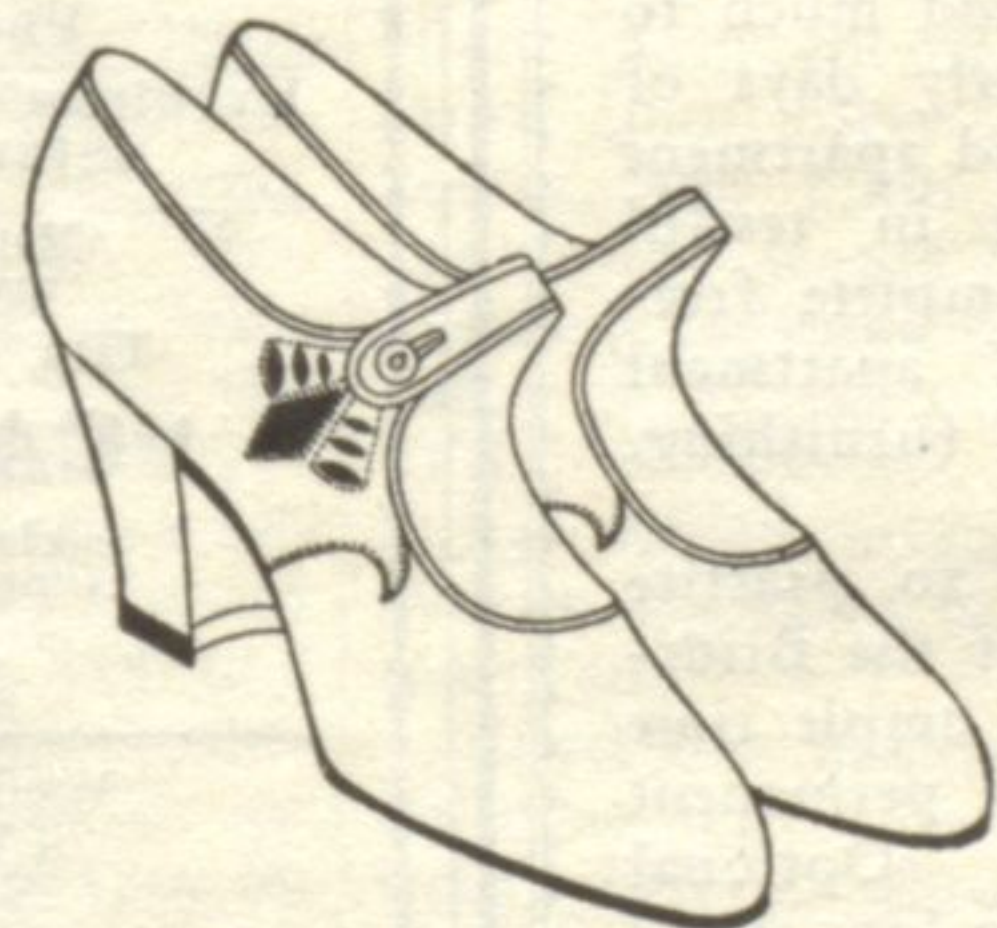
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