

Œuvres imaginaires de Mallarmé (1961); A. R. Chisholm, *Mallarmé's "Grand Œuvre"* (1962); H. M. Block, *Mallarmé and the Symbolist Drama* (1963). (L. J. AU.)

MALLEABLE CAST IRON: *see* CAST IRON.

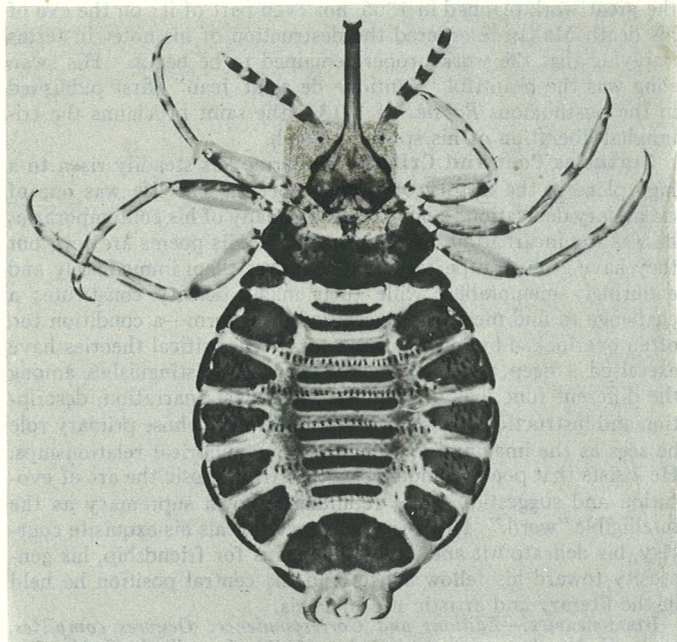
MALLECO, an inland province of southern Chile in latitude 38° 15' S.; area 5,442 sq.mi.; pop. (1960) 174,300, of whom several thousand are Araucanian (Mapuche) Indians. Malleco was created out of Arauco province in 1887, absorbed by Bío-Bío and Cautín provinces in 1927 and then formed again in 1937. The province embraces coastal range, central valley and cordilleran terrain. The cordilleran ridges and volcanoes (Tolguaca, Lonquimay and Llaima), forests, lakes and hot springs (Tolguaca, Río Blanco and Manzanares) are prime attractions for summer vacationers. However, recreation is of secondary economic importance to farming, stock raising and lumbering. The processing industries, based upon agricultural and forest products, are centred in the provincial capital, Angol (pop. [1960] 18,637) and in the lesser administrative and commercial centres of Victoria, Traiguén, Curacautín and Collipulli. The main north-south railway, and its branches, and seasonal roads serve these communities.

(J. T.)

MALLOPHAGA, an order of insects comprising the biting or chewing lice; minute, wingless forms parasitic on birds and mammals. They are sometimes treated as a suborder along with Anoplura, the sucking lice, to form the order Phthiraptera. About 2,800 species are recorded, with many more, especially among the bird lice, still undescribed. Their life cycle is spent on the feathers or hair of the host, though one genus lives in the throat pouches of pelicans and cormorants.

The eggs, attached to the feathers or hairs, or occasionally laid inside quill feathers, give rise to young which pass through three nymphal stages which resemble the adult. A single bird or mammal species may be parasitized by one or more (sometimes as many as 15) species of biting lice. They often show host-specificity, being unable to survive on any but their own or a related host. Their present distribution suggests that they became paras





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ELEPHANT LOUSE (*HAEMATOMYZUS ELEPHANTIS*)

an early stage in the evolution of their hosts and evolved with them so that, with some exceptions due to subsequent transference having taken place, related hosts are parasitized by related biting lice; a particular genus may be restricted to one group of birds, and a particular species may be found on only one species of bird or on a group of related species.

Biting lice on birds feed on feathers or feathers and blood, the blood sometimes being taken from the shafts of the developing feathers; some live on blood alone and their normal chewing mandibles may then be adapted to piercing the skin. Probably all species of birds have biting lice. Preening keeps down the numbers, and birds with damaged bills are often particularly heavily infested because they cannot preen themselves properly. Normally, lice do no damage, but if they are too numerous the irritation may cause the bird to damage itself by scratching and may even interfere with egg production and fattening in poultry.

Biting lice parasitic on mammals feed on skin secretions and skin debris; it is uncertain whether they eat hair. They are less widespread than those of birds, comprising fewer genera and species, and occur on marsupials, primates, rodents, land carnivores, hyraxes and ungulates. The elephant louse, *Haematomyzus*, if of questionable affinity, is usually considered to belong to the Mallophaga. See Louse.

See M. Rothschild and T. Clay, *Fleas, Flukes and Cuckoos*, 3rd ed. (1957). (T. CL.)

MALLOW (MALA), a town, urban district, rail and road junction of County Cork, Republic of Ireland, lies astride the Blackwater river, 149 mi. S.W. of Dublin and 22 mi. N. of Cork by road. Pop. (1961) 5,545. The ford was defended by a castle built by the Desmonds, the ruins of which remain in Castle park. Mallow received a charter of incorporation from James I, and in the 19th century it was a popular spa and was known as "the Bath of Ireland." The medicinal spring is still there, but the spa house is no longer used. Thomas Osborne Davis, the poet, and William O'Brien, Irish patriot, were born in Mallow. The town is the market centre for a rich agricultural region and has factories for mineral waters (soft drinks) and condensed milk, cornmills and tanneries, and there is a large sugar-beet factory to the west. Mallow is also known as an angling and hunting centre, and it has a racecourse.

MALLOW, any plant of the family Malvaceae, especially of the genera *Hibiscus* and *Malva*, the latter embracing about 30 species of annual and perennial herbs, widely distributed throughout the northern hemisphere, some of which are cultivated in the

mallophaga