

NATURE

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We trust you will be interested in
the attached cutting from our issue
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~~S~~ystemic Effect of Dieldrin on the 'Body Louse' of Poultry

P. J. McCOSKER has suggested¹ that the Mallophaga *Eomenacanthus stramineus* does not take the blood of its host. However, Crutchfield and Hixson² found that this species normally feeds on blood in addition to feathers. It is probable that this diet is common to many species belonging to the superfamily Amblycera; also some species seem to feed on the host's fluids only. It would be interesting if these experiments could be repeated using one of the chicken lice belonging to the genera *Goniodes*, *Goniocotes*, *Lipeurus* or *Cuclotogaster* of the superfamily Ischnocera, which are believed to feed on feather parts only.

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¹ McCosker, P. J., *Nature*, **179**, 790 (1957).

² Crutchfield, C. M., and Hixson, H., *Florida Ent.*, **26**, 63 (1943).