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Renmark, Berri, Barmera, Loxton, Waikerie Thurs., March 14, 1957

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## SWIFT ACTION AFTER OUTBREAK OF FRUIT FLY IN MILDURA AREA

*24-Hour Road Block; Local Conference*

**S**WIFT action in South Australia over the past few days followed reports of an outbreak of the dread pest, fruit fly, in peaches in the city area at Mildura.

A 24-hour road block has been set up on the Mildura road, and on Tuesday afternoon a conference attended by a widely representative gathering of Riverland fruit industry and local government leaders was held at Renmark.

FIRST outbreak was discovered when fruit fly maggots were found in peaches on a tree in Orange Avenue, Mildura.

Investigations revealed that 30 per cent of the peaches on the tree were infected, and a report from Mildura yesterday stated that the outbreak is believed to have followed the infection of a nearby apricot tree last December.

Department of Agriculture remarks from Melbourne in-

recognized by a "Sunraysia Daily" reporter, Mr. Fred Gilbert (formerly of Western Australia), on the pro-

### Mildura Area Proclaimed

Mildura, Wednesday. An order was issued by the Victorian Government yesterday proclaiming

party he is renting in Orange Avenue.

Stripping and spraying has now been extended to the new areas.

### Road Block

A 24-hour road block was promptly set up by the S.A. Dept. of Agriculture on the Sturt Highway, and on Tuesday truckloads of peaches bound for S.A. were turned back at the border.

One truck load actually reached Loxton, but was turned back. The Minister of Agriculture (Hon. G. G. Pearson) said yesterday that the outbreak was a potential threat to the S.A. fruit-growing areas of the Upper Murray.

No further fruit could be

## Vigilance Committee Expresses Alarm at Local Danger

A meeting was convened by the Fruit Industry Vigilance Committee and held at Renmark on Tuesday, March 12, to discuss the outbreak of fruit fly in Mildura, when representatives of fruitgrowing interests and local governing bodies from practically all districts, Waikerie to Renmark, and Department of Agriculture Officers, and Messrs. H. W. King, M.H.A., and G. R. Story M.L.C. were in attendance.

The chairman (Mr. L. G. Heading) stated that a general feeling of alarm was felt by those concerned and that the Riverland areas of South Australia were particularly vulnerable to this recent outbreak.

### Delegates

Delegates present at Tuesday afternoon's fruit fly conference were: Messrs. L. G. Heading (chairman), G. R. Price (secretary), H. W. King M.H.A., Hon. G. R. Story M.L.C., D. Coombe, D. Andary (S.A. Canning Association), K. Peterson, J. Howe, A. E. Holliday, T. R. Guscott (Renmark

In the course of discussions several speakers commended the prompt action of the Minister of Agriculture in authorizing a road block on the Sturt Highway at the Victorian-South Australian border.

### Recommendations

Others present spoke on the need for further measures to prevent the introduction of the pest into these areas.

As a result the following recommendations from the meeting will go forward to the Minister:

• That the Minister of Agriculture be asked to proclaim a quarantining area for the entry of fruits, berries and hosts of fruit fly, such area to comprise the area bounded on the South by

## Odd Column



### Freak Egg Fruit

THIS freak egg fruit was grown by Tom Wadrop, at Renmark, and photographed by Ian Wingate.

The two identities played eyes and played the pipe "in his mouth," but state that the other aspects of the specimen, serving to form the man's face are perfectly natural.

### Honesty!

A STORY of inspiring hon-

By "GLEANE  
A chieftain among ye is  
And, faith, he'll pre-

### "Rail Road Tract Following last

mention of the song hit, Gillie Mor further reference to feet in one of the "life" talks at Renmark Club luncheon day.

Dealing with his in the "Berri" district said that at one time he set up a dairy but this was brought to an end because "read tracked through die." With the advertisement of the rail-Paranga to Barmera was surveyed straight the paddock in which he had set up his

Gill's late father by Harry Morrell, was soldier settler in the rigation area after W.I. and earlier had charge of the ch scrub from the area became noted for in coaching young including his sons among the River's exponents at the same years.

### Tantanoola Tig

IN respect to the "life" talks, Tantanoola suggested not surprised to be



is stripping all fruit within 2½ chains of the outbreak.

All infected and other fruit stripped is being burned.

An area within ten chains of the site is being sprayed with DDT.

## Further Outbreaks

On Tuesday maggots were found on another two properties in Mildura. The infections were in peaches and declaries in Madden Avenue, about a block away from where the original infestation was found.

The fruit fly was first

## Deputation To Premier

proclamation all householders must strip and destroy the fruit and spray trees and vines on their properties within half a mile of the affected areas.

Failure to comply with the order carries penalties of up to £100 fine or six months imprisonment.

Since the first outbreak more than 60 specimens have been submitted to the Departmental officers at Mildura by residents, but none has been fruit fly.

Even the seed pods of roses are being stripped in an all-out effort to rid the district of the pest. Stripped fruit is being burned in the boilers at the Mildura Base Hospital.

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX, Mr. Pearson said.

Fruit could be admitted from across border into S.A. only if properly inspected, and a certificate issued that it was grown in an area at least 50 miles from a fruit fly area.

Immediate steps were being taken to tighten precautions against the entry of unauthorised fruit into S.A. the Minister added.

## Renmark Report Negative

Yesterday a tomato was brought in to Renmark from Chaffey, for inspection by the Horticultural Adviser (Mr. R. R. Cant). It contained maggots, but Mr. Cant was able to establish that they were not of the fruit fly.

& Market Gardeners' Association), H. J. Katekar, J. V. Seekamp, E. N. Gray, G. A. Ash (Renmark Branch U. Murray Citrus Growers' Association), R. R. Cant, C. M. Cooper (Horticultural Dept.), S.A. James (Mayor of Renmark), C. S. Ruston (chairman Renmark Irrigation Trust), A. E. Kernick (chairman), F. J. Rosenberg- (clerk Paringa District Council), B. H. Nitschke (chairman Berri District Council), F. L. Tripney (A.D.F.A.), F. R. Francis (Waikerie Citrus Association and A.D.P.A.), D. Sanders, field officer, Murray Citrus Growers' Association. An apology was received from Mr. C. G. Grady, Horticultural Adviser, Loxton.

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