inch in length and a quarter of an inch in height when she stretaches her legs or wings, and a quarter of an inch in width. Four flies standing in Indian file would just reach one inch. Sixty-four flies would make one cubic inch.

Thus we see that there would be 253,440 flies in a mile if they stood one in front of the other. If all the four octillion flies tsood in a continuous line they would reach 20,000,000,000,000,000,000,0.. miles; they would reach 833,000,000,000,000,000 times around the earth. Spread out over the surface of the earth, they would make a carpet over the entire globe more than a thousand miles thick. Stretched out to the sun (which is 92,000,000 miles away) these flies would project to the very centre of the solar system; passing Venus and Mercury, on the way, they would form a huge road from the earth to the sun a thousand miles wide and three miles deep .

If the flies were all rolled up into a huge ball, they would make a mass bigger than the earth! All this may not seem possible. But figure it out for yourself. Take, for instance, the last surprising statement that the flies would make a solid mass bigger than the globe.

If one fly occupies a quarter of an inch—wide, high and thick— then there would be sixty-four flies to a cubic inch, or 110,792 flies to a cubic foot, or 2,987,984 flies to a cubic yard, or 16,277,791,171,084,000 flies to a cubic mile.

If it takes that number of flies to make a cubic mile, then divide your four octillions of flies by that number, and you find you have 268,778,165,861 cubic miles of flies as the summer product of the one original mother fly. But the scientists tell us that the entire bulk of our earth is only 259,944,035,515 cubic miles. So, the flies would make another world as big as our earth and there would be enough to spare almost to make a moon besides.

Of course these figures assume that each fly is a mother fly, capable of laying eggs, whereas half the flies would be male flies, and have no direct offspring. But, on the other hand, the figures given above are vastly inadequate and do not begin to be big enough. This will be seen when it is realized that each one of the flies in the above calculations is only allowed to lay one batch of eggs, whereas she is entitled to lay four batches of eggs, and each of these three extra batches of eggs might hatch out into flies and go on laying their four batches of eggs.

This would be a perfectly legitimate thing to reckon, but the figures would run beyond anything which the space of this magazine could print, and it would be as hopeless as it would be to compare the grains of sand at the seashore—no number is big enough to express it.

Now, of course, all the eggs a fly lays do not hatch out, and that