



THE BEMIDJI DAILY PIONEER.

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BEMIDJI, MINNESOTA, MONDAY EVENING, DECEMBER 16, 1912.

BLUEBERRY CROP WORTH \$2,000,000

Are Called Huckleberries In the South and Have Become an Important Product.

PLANTS CAN BE CULTIVATED

Government Experiments Have Produced Fruit the Size of a Concord Grape.

YIELD ABOUT \$150 TO THE ACRE

One Commercial Farm In Indiana Nets Good Profit On Season's Pickings.

For the lovers of blueberry pie, blueberry pudding, and the other delicious desserts made with this popular American berry, the achievements of the plant breeders of the department of agriculture in developing cultivated blueberries almost the size of Concord grapes have special interest.

This season's results of the work of cultivating blueberries have been the most successful attained during a series of thoroughgoing experiments extending over several years, and Frederick V. Coville, the government expert in charge of the investigations, believes that the way has been opened for a new industry and for a new use of land which will yield more profits than other forms of farming in many sections of the country.

Blueberries, or huckleberries, as the fruit is called in the Southern states, are a more important wild crop than many would think. It is estimated that this year there were nearly \$2,000,000 worth of blueberries picked and sold in the markets of the country. There is only one commercial blueberry plantation in the whole United States, and, with the exception of this crop, all of the blueberries used are picked from wild bushes.

In working to improve blueberry plants, the botanist has discovered that it differs from ordinary plants in its methods of nutrition, getting nourishment from a peculiar root fungus, a principle in agriculture which was not recognized before the making of experiments. Another interesting thing which has been learned is that the blueberry grows best in poor, acid soils, reversing the requirements demanded by other plants. Sandy bogs that can be drained make the best land for blueberry culture.

The importance of increasing the size of the blueberry is that the larger fruit will be easier to pick. The labor of picking the small, wild berries is very tedious and expensive, and at present represents about one-half to two-thirds of the market price of the fruit. Besides the reduction in the cost of picking another advantage of the large cultivated berries is that they present a better appearance, a quality making for quick sales and higher prices in the market.

Farmers and suburban land owners who wish to experiment in the culture of the blueberry may do so by transplanting wild bushes and seedlings, or starting plants from cuttings. Coville has found through all his experiments for the department of agriculture that the blueberry plant grows best in well-rotted peat, either of the bog or upland type, and that if given the proper start, the bushes begin to bear in three or four years.

They grow to a great height under proper conditions, and in the only known commercial plantation in the country, one of two and one-half acres, planted twenty years ago in Northern Indiana, the bushes are six to eight feet tall. In one of the public parks in Washington, there are two bushes planted prior to 1871, which are nine feet high, with the largest stem about three inches in diameter. The large bushes yield about two gallons of berries, and with

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ST. PAUL CONTRACTORS TO RAISE N. P. TRACKS WITHOUT STOPPING TRAFFIC

Special to The Pioneer.

St. Paul, Minn., Dec. 16.—The task of raising half a dozen railway tracks through the heart of the city and without interruption to business of either the city or the railway company, has been started in Spokane by the Northern Pacifics, Guthrie and McDougall, contractors, of St. Paul and Spokane, have the contract for excavation, foundations and concrete work, and will assemble a crew of 350 men at the opening of the work. The railway company will have a force clearing tracks, filling between walls and such other work as is not included in the contract.

The tracks will be elevated for a distance of approximately four miles and all street grade crossings within the city proper will be eliminated. There will be nineteen bridges carrying from two to sixteen tracks each over twenty-two city streets, about three miles of concrete retaining walls having a volume of over 60,000 cubic yards, 6,000 tons of structural steel and 500,000 cubic yards of earth fill, required in the work. Changes in grades of streets, sewers, etc., will involve excavating over 100,000 cubic yards of material in the streets, about half of which is solid rock, and the repaving of 75-000 sq. ft. of surface.

The work will be done under the supervision of A. H. Luffer, of Spokane, formerly chief engineer of the Spokane and Inland Empire railway system.

Extensive new shops just east of the city limits of Spokane is another Northern Pacific project involving a large expenditure of money and now being pushed rapidly to an early completion.

NYMORE HAS A PAPER.

The first issue of the Nymore "Independent," published by Andrew Rood, has been distributed to Bemidji friends. The initial issue contains a short double column article on Nymore and a greeting from the editor as special features. The paper is four pages, six columns and largely home set.

CHRISTMAS FIRE HAZARDS

Christmas and its joys should not be allowed to blind men to the ordinary rules of safety for the protection of the home and the lives of the family. And yet at holiday time parents who try to keep their children free from even the possibility of danger will install in the heart of their homes, where it is sure to be the center of attraction for the little ones, the most inflammable thing that ever enters it—the ordinary evergreen Christmas tree.

While it grows more dry and dangerous in the warm rooms they drape it with cotton for snow, tissue paper loops and tinsel for decorations, stick candles all over it, hang up toys that every child will grab for, and then trust to luck and providence for safety from a hazard that may prove as dangerous and as deadly as a rattlesnake or an open keg of gunpowder.

Just to play fair and take his share of the chances pater familias often surrounds himself with pillows, puts on cotton hair and whiskers and makes himself more of a menace than a help in case a fire should start. And fires do start, thousands of them every holiday season. Firemen look forward to a run of Christmas fires just as they did to Fourth of July fires before the Sane Fourth movement put an end to them in many places.

Why not a Sane Christmas as well as a Sane Fourth? Why should the children's festival be made the means of destroying hundreds of lives and thousands of homes? Use little electric lights instead of candles, asbestos instead of cotton, non-combustible decorations instead of inflammables, and then watch the tree with the utmost care, especially when the children are around it. It's better to be safe than sorry, especially with the little ones at Christmas time.

THE PRICE OF PEACE



IN TURKEY



AT HOME

(Copyright)

USE "CAFE" AS PLANT

Minneapolis Shop Lifters Leave Grips in Rogers Hotel to be Filled With Stolen Goods.

SOME OTHER SMALL ROBBERIES

Minneapolis, Dec. 16.—Two well-gowned women were arrested Saturday night at a fashionable cafe here, the checkroom of which they were said to have used as a "plant" for the assembling of goods taken from stores, after police department detectives, said they had seen them steal from a nearby establishment. A young woman, who could speak no English, caught in a department store carrying a big package of toys, was said by the police to have admitted taking the toys to send to youthful relatives in Poland, whom, she said, would otherwise be forced to go without Christmas presents. Three other women were arrested on charges of shoplifting during the eve, and a young woman bookkeeper was robbed of \$25 which she said was badly needed at home and the loss of which, she said, meant the blighting of Christmas hopes.

Detectives Oscar Martinson and Michael Duffy hurried to the Rogers hotel cafe, Nicollet avenue and Fourth street, when attaches telephoned that two well dressed women who had left big alligator bags at the cafe check room were making frequent trips out to the street, returning each time with packages which they deposited in the bags, and ordering food and drinks in the cafe between trips.

When the sleuths arrived the women were pointed out to them. On the next trip of the pair to the street, the detectives said, they followed the women. A store was visited. Detective Martinson said that when he and Duffy saw lingerie taken by the women. On their return to the cafe the two were arrested and their traveling bags seized. At police headquarters, where they were locked up for the night without a charge being placed against them, the women gave their names as Beessie King and Jessie Carter of 416 Sixth avenue S.

Their rooms were searched and, according to the police, silk garments much lingerie and other finery were found. The police searched the two bags and reported the finding of several packages of dry goods, fresh from the stores. An investigation was commenced to determine whether the women were professional shoplifters, many down town stores having reported recent losses.

Nine Days to Christmas

Dec. 16

The Children Are Counting the Days Are You Going to Disappoint Them by Failing to Get Those Presents? Get Them NOW.

THARALDSON MADE AUDITOR

Bemidji Agent to Check Accounts in Cass Lake, Deer River and This City.

Theodore Tharaldson, local agent for the Fitzer Brewing company has been given supervision over three cities in the auditor's department as assistant to the company's regular auditor, Mr. Hanson. The Itasca News has the following to say regarding the promotion: "M. L. Hansen, auditor for the Fitzer Brewing company of Duluth, and Theo. Tharaldson, agent for the company of Bemidji, were here the first of the week. Mr. Hansen finds his territory increasing so rapidly that he must have assistants and hereafter Mr. Tharaldson will be his auditor for Bemidji, Cass Lake and Deer River."

MARCONI WIRELESS TO FIGHT FOREST FIRES

Special to The Pioneer. Spokane, Wash., Dec. 16.—Lumbermen of Spokane are seriously considering adoption of the wireless telegraph as an effective aid in fighting fires in the great forests of the Pacific Northwest.

On the success of a test to be made next spring by the Marconi company in one of the forests near Spokane hangs the future of wireless as a means of fighting fire.

Special apparatus will be placed on the trails used by the forest rangers, who will carry emergency aerials to string between two high trees at any point in the woods. By this means it is proposed to have reported to a central station any incipient blazes, so that fire-fighting squads may be rushed to the scene in time to prevent the fire from gaining headway.

The Marconi people claim to have perfected the apparatus so that climatic or fire conditions would not prevent transmission of electric waves.

GOOD NEBISH MEETING

About Twenty Farmers and Their Families Hearty Nelson and Dane Sunday Afternoon.

WORKERS AT PUPOSKY TODAY

About twenty people attended the farmers' meeting in the Hay Creek school house at Nebish yesterday. Every one present came in from a farm, some making a four or five mile drive in spite of the threatening weather. The meeting was addressed by A. E. Nelson, who spoke of "Dairying" and Harold J. Dane, who spoke on "Co-operation and Boosting."

The meeting held in Bemidji Saturday was well attended for this time of the year but was not as large in point of numbers as the one held in October when Governor Eberhart was an attraction. The Bemidji meeting was large enough to bring the attendance for the week over the 600 mark.

Mr. Nelson went to Puposky from Nebish this morning and was joined there by Mr. McLearn and Miss Bull who drove from Bemidji this morning. They held a meeting early this afternoon and had between twenty and thirty farmers present. This evening they will speak in the Indian school at the Red Lake agency and will have an audience of about 200 Indian boys and girls together with the older folks who live in Red Lake village.

Meetings will be held tomorrow in Leonard, if the party can make the Soo freight west, and in Clearbrook in the afternoon. Wednesday will be spent in Wilton and Solway; Thursday at Beclida; Friday in La Porte and Guthrie and Saturday in Walker.

WILL DEBATE ON SOCIALISM.

D. P. O'Neill, state legislator from this district, and W. N. Weber, recent Socialist candidate for the district bench, will debate in Bemidji December 20 on the following resolution:

"Resolved: that Socialism involving the collective ownership of all industries collectively used and the ultimate ownership of all means of production for which the people collectively depend is not the proper remedy for the political ills of the present day."

Mr. O'Neill will handle the affirmative and Mr. Weber the negative side of the question. Judge Stanton will preside. F. A. Wilson will act as timekeeper for Mr. O'Neill and E. W. Hannah for Mr. Weber. Each speaker is to be allowed an hour and a quarter and the rebuttal speech of Mr. O'Neill is not to take over fifteen minutes.

AUTO SKIDS; FIVE BADLY INJURED

Party of Blackduck Young People In Hospital As Result of Sunday Accident.

CAR TURNED OVER TWICE

Landed Right Side Up In Ditch Crushing Miss Emelia Sherberg and Brother Charles.

YOUNG MAN MAY NOT LIVE

Physicians Say He Is Holding His Own But Chances For Recovery Are Not Good.

Five persons were injured, one so severely that for a time it was feared he would not live, in an auto wreck in Blackduck Sunday. The party was in a 4,400 pound Reo car which went into the ditch on the Blackduck village-Blackduck Lake road while trying to speed up for a small hill.

The injured were: Charles Sherberg, aged twenty-five, crushed through the chest and not expected to live.

Emelia Sherberg, aged nineteen, crushed in the pelvic region.

Marie Sherberg, aged seventeen, strained back.

Fred Sherberg, aged fifteen, driver of the car, practically unharmed.

John Bauscher, aged about twenty-five, crushed in the chest.

The young people left Blackduck with Fred Sherberg at the wheel. When about half way to the lake the car skidded to the right when being speeded up to make a small hill. The driver threw his wheel over to the left and the car answered but before he could straighten them into the road, one of the wheels snapped off and the car turned over twice landing in the ditch on the left of the road right side up. It is said that the steering gear was so loose that the wheel had to make nearly a full revolution before catching the axle.

Girl Is Thrown Out.

When the car first skidded, Miss Emelia was thrown out but when the car finally stopped she was found pinned beneath with the car across her abdomen. Charles lay to one side of the road barely conscious and Rauscher was on the ground with a crushed chest. Fred and his sister Marie tried to lift the car off Emelia and were able to lift it far enough for her to be rolled out. This lifting strained Marie's back and in a few minutes she was lying in the road screaming in agony.

The injured people were taken into the village by persons who heard the screams and medical attendance was given them at once. At noon today the doctors in charge reported that Charles Sherberg was holding his own but that he was not yet out of danger. It appears that Miss Emelia is injured more than was thought at first and she may be disabled for life. Marie will recover as soon as the strain on her back muscles is overcome.

Accident in a Fill.

The accident occurred in a fill between two small hills. It is said that the car was going at a good rate of speed. The rain of Saturday night and the frost in the ground made the road slippery so that once out of the beaten track the driver practically lost control. Rauscher was in the front seat with the driver and the two badly injured ones were in the rear seat with Marie. It is said that the car turned completely over twice and some think three times before it landed right side up in the ditch.

Emelia Scherberg is a student in the Blackduck High school and a member of the senior class. She is said to be an unusually bright girl and was expected to be valedictorian of her class. The parents of the Sherbergs live in the town of Summit about one and three-quarters miles from Blackduck.