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RAISES GINSENG SUCCESSFULLY IN THIS COUNTY

W. S. Bear, of Decatur City, Has Been Raising Ginseng Successfully for Several Years, and Tells How to Plant and Care for the Garden. It is Pleasant Work and Big Profits are Made on Ginseng.

In bringing before the public any new variety of the well known crops, such as wheat, oats, or corn, we need not mention their history, the majority of the readers would not be interested in that, but would look for that which deals with culture, yield and profit.

But in writing of a new crop we think it best to give at least a brief history of the plant.

Chinese Ginseng, (panax), to which American ginseng is closely related, is to the Chinese of vastly more importance than quinine to the people of more progressive countries. While quinine is used by Americans for a limited number of ailments, ginseng is considered by the Chinese a remedy for every malady that human flesh is heir to.

Search in America resulted in finding near Quebec and Montreal, by Father Lafitau, a missionary among

according to the drainage required. Make beds four feet wide, with walk path sixteen or eighteen inches between beds. Plant seeds two inches apart in rows, and rows four inches apart, planting crossways of beds. Roots in permanent beds should be planted in rows six inches one way, and eight the other. Plant roots so the but will be about one inch below the surface of the ground; plant the seed one inch deep. When roots and seeds are well planted, mulch to the depth of one or two inches with sawdust; that nearly rotted will be best good. If you live near woods, you may use leaves if you choose. They are the natural covering of the wild plant.

Planting may be done either in the spring or fall, but fall planting is much preferred. Plant any time after the first freeze that kills the



A View in Mr. Bear's Ginseng Garden at Decatur City.

the Iroquois Indians, a plant (Panax Quinquefolium) which not only resembles the Chinese root (Panax ginseng) in appearance, but possesses all its medicinal qualities.

Roots gathered and dried by the Indians, were sent to China, where they were so well received that a considerable trade soon sprang up. The roots at that time were purchased from the collectors for thirty-five cents per pound. This was about the year 1714 or 1716, and marks the beginning of our ginseng trade with China, which has been steadily increasing to the present date.

The writer sold his entire 1909 crop of roots for \$7.25 a pound.

Natural Home.

At one time ginseng could be found growing wild as far west as the frontier of states west of the Mississippi River, and from Canada to the Gulf of Mexico. In the south it is found only in the mountains and high ground. In the north it will be found on the low lands, making rich luxuriant growth, in the rich, moist, but well drained soil, from which oak, hard maple, beech, and basswood forests grow.

Ginseng is never found in low, wet, muck soil, such as grows the tamarack and cedar. Forest soils having a wealth of leaf mold and fairly light in texture, are most favorable to this plant. It is never found in the open as it soon perishes under the rays of the summer sun in the clearings, but thrives well in the shade of the hardwood forests with scant undergrowth.

Climate and Location.

From what has been previously said, it will be seen that it will succeed over a wide territory. It must not, however, be inferred from this that it can be grown anywhere in this territory. Efforts to grow it in the low lands of the south have proved a failure. The plant requires a cool climate, such as is found in the northern states and on the highlands of both north and south.

In selecting a location for a ginseng garden, be sure to give the northern exposure the preference, because the plant will do better where the rays of sun strike the garden at an angle, caused by the land sloping to the north. Such soil, though well drained, retains moisture much longer than a south exposure. Second choice, should be an eastern slope; third, a western hill side, or well drained level ground; both are fairly good but should have a little more shade.

Soil.

At the time of selecting a location, soil should be taken into consideration. The best soil is a good mellow loam, well supplied with decaying vegetable matter, and must be clear of stones, clods and chunks of wood, or any other hard substance.

Never choose a hard clay, light sand, or muck; such soils are not adapted to the requirements of this plant. Nearly any soil in the state of Iowa can be made, by the application of sand, and barnyard manure, to grow a fine crop of ginseng. A short, comprehensive list of requirements might be thus: any good, rich, well drained vegetable garden, furnished with the required shade.

Preparing the Beds.

Spade the ground over thoroughly, pulverizing every clod, and removing roots or stones, to the depth of twelve to sixteen inches. If your ground is not rich enough, spread on well rotted barnyard manure, about one or two inches deep and work well into the soil. Next raise your beds four, six, or eight inches high,

tops of plants; seed may be planted at the same time.

Shading.

Natural shade of the forest is considered best, but must not be too dense. Remember too, that the trees rob the soil of from 25 to 40 per cent of the substance, also that forests do not always afford a uniform shade.

The best artificial shade is made with lath. Make sections four feet square, requiring 27 lath for each section, 24 one-way with one at each end to nail to. Weaving the middle one in will greatly increase the strength of the section. These sections should be put on with the crack running north and south, thus the changing position of the sun will make a continual change of shadow on the plant. This frame may be placed only high enough to miss the tops of the plants, about 18 inches or two feet, or may be made high enough to walk under. The latter is much better.

Digging and Preparing Roots for Market.

Roots may be dug in the fall any time after the first frost that kills the tops down. Be careful not to cut, break, or mutilate the roots in any way, be very careful not to break off the neck, or small bud at the top, as much of this would reduce the price of your entire bunch.

Put the roots in a tub, and pour on plenty of water, and wash them around with an old broom, or stiff brush, change the water several times. There will be a few that will have to have the dirt removed from between the roots with a sharp-pointed stick, and a cloth. Do not rub hard enough to rub off the thin outside slightish brown colored skin. In washing, remember this, take off all the soil, but no more.

Place the roots on a screen in the sun till the water is all dried off; they are then ready for the dryer. Or they may be spread out on boards or a table in a room with plenty of ventilation. This is a very slow process. Some spread them out on boards in the sun. They may also be dried on shelves near the range, or put in a large sieve and hung about the range. These processes will take from three to five weeks. Extensive growers have an evaporator. This is the quickest and best method of drying.

When roots are thoroughly dry, rub off small fibrous roots, pack in boxes, in layers, with cotton, corrugated or soft paper between layers. Pack the fiber roots in package by themselves and enclose with large roots. They are now ready for shipment.

Most all buyers accept the green root and dry it themselves. Names of buyers will be furnished on application.

Prices for the past ten years have been steadily increasing. In 1898 the price ran from \$3.75 to \$5.00 a pound. In 1909 from \$7.25 to \$9.00. At present quotations are as follows: Large to very large, cultivated, \$7.25, large, short and thick, \$7.00; average crop, \$6.75; large free of fiber, wild, \$7.00; average lots, wild, \$6.75; trash and small roots, wild, \$5.00, to \$6.50, a pound. The above prices are for dry root.

Fancy shapes are reported to have sold in New York markets, as high as \$25 for a single root weighing only about one third of a pound. It is not uncommon for a Chinaman to pay from \$10 to \$15 a root. This is for fancy shapes.

From a piece of ground 16x24 feet, I sold in 1909, \$224.75 worth of seed and roots.

Enjoyed an Auto Trip Down Through Missouri.

Probably one of the most interesting and enjoyable automobile trips taken this year by Leon parties was the one taken last week by Mr. and Mrs. John W. Wasson and Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Varga. The trip was made in the forty horse power "Midland" touring car driven by Mr. G. P. Hall, representing the Midland Motor Co., of Moline, Ill. The trip was made almost at a moment's notice, and the entire run which covered some 250 miles was made without any previous planning or arrangements of any kind. Mr. Wasson had informed the writer that he intended making a hurried trip of inspection to his newly acquired farm near King City, Mo., and the idea was suggested that the trip be made by automobile, and thus combine business with pleasure. Mr. Hall, who is stopping in Leon and vicinity in the interest of the Midland Co., was also interested in knowing just how his Midland would handle itself over the hills and rough roads through Iowa and Missouri. To use the expression of one of the party, "It was like making the entire run in a private Pullman."

The start was made Tuesday morning of last week over the well known Waubonise and Inter-State trails through the towns of Lamoni, Eagleville, Bethany, New Hampton, Albany and King City. From King City the party started the following day on a side trip to St. Joe and the surrounding country.

Before the party left Leon they had their first introduction to genuine old Missouri hospitality when Mr. and Mrs. Harrison T. Asbury, who now carry on a prosperous dry goods business in Leon formerly the Bradley-Wasson Mercantile Co., cordially invited the party to take possession of their late home near King City during their stay. They even went so far as to instruct the party to make use of their garden, and in fact anything that suggested itself to a hungry crowd. There were chicken fries, new corn, fresh tomatoes, apples, Irish potatoes, cabbage, in truth, what the visitors didn't find would have been insufficient to feed a yellow canary.

Upon their arrival at King City the party were again given another touch of this hospitality when they encountered Mr. George Moran, the extensive horse buyer of that section. Mr. Moran made many valuable suggestions, including the statement that he would find the chickens on the farm as wild as turkeys, and fully as hard to catch. His remedy for this difficulty was a Winchester repeater, and forthwith he kindly furnished his rifle and ammunition, and right there he sealed the fate of certain chickens, which—well, just leave it to such a combination as Mrs. Wasson and Mrs. Varga when it comes to the question of things as eat.

The farm of 160 acres is located on the Inter-State trail, about one and a half miles south of King City, and is touched on the southeast corner by the Chariton and St. Joe branch of the Burlington railroad, which passes within a quarter of a mile of the residence. A little to the west of the house lies a ten acre orchard in thriving condition which serves as sort of a background for the comfortable and well cared for house, an admirable home.

Mr. and Mrs. Wasson spent some little time in looking over their new property, after which it was proposed to make a run of 32 miles to St. Joe and return by moonlight. This was one of the most pleasant experiences of the whole trip in spite of the rough roads which were encountered. Possibly this may be accounted for by the supplies of fruit and provisions purchased in St. Joe, and the prospect of another of those famous meals referred to once before.

The return trip was made under the same ideal conditions as had favored the party from the start. Leaving King City just before noon the Midland covered mile after mile of roads, good, bad and indifferent, hills, gorges, stretches of freshly turpined highway, sand, dust and some mud, until it seemed that the car was a thing alive, hurrying over the smooth stretches at forty miles an hour, and then suddenly slowing down to encounter one of the many poorly built up culverts found in that section of the country. Without a jolt or a sound, traversing all kinds of roads with a sensation not unlike coasting down hill, the Midland with its party slipped quietly into Leon in time for supper the same evening.

The whole journey from beginning to end was one continual round of pleasure, and the only regret was the shortness of the trip. But short as it was, it will long be remembered with pleasure and grateful recollection of the courtesies and hospitalities extended by the people of Iowa and Missouri with whom the party came in contact.

\$605.77 for a Load of Seed.

\$605.77 is a pretty good price for a load of timothy seed, but that is the exact amount which J. M. Halstead, of Van Wert, wrote the check and J. V. Arney, of Franklin township, pulled the load of timothy seed into Van Wert on Saturday evening with one team. The seed was a part of Charley Keller's big crop. He had 179 bushels of fine seed which was threshed by C. E. Thompson.

For Sale—One practically new 2 horse power, air cooled gasoline engine. Inquire at E. W. Teale's Garage.

CHAUTAQUA IS OVER

Closed Last Thursday and Everyone was Satisfied with the Program. Coming Again Next Year.

The Leon Chautauqua closed last Thursday night, and when the big audience left the grounds it was with the feeling that the Chautauqua this year had given the very best of satisfaction throughout the entire program, and the unanimous opinion was that the Redpath-Vawter System had more than made good with all of their promises as to the program. During the entire seven days there was not a single disappointment, or substitution. And when the question was brought up before the assembly as to whether Leon wanted another Chautauqua next year, there was great enthusiasm manifested. This year the full number of season tickets were not sold, but the local committee made a full settlement with the management. After discussing the matter it was decided that if we wanted a Chautauqua next year it would be necessary to raise the price of season tickets to \$2.00, as there seems to be just about so many people in this vicinity who appreciate the splendid programs furnished at the Chautauqua. The question of pledging an advance sale of 700 season tickets for next year at \$2.00 instead of 900 at \$1.50 was quickly settled, and when the Chautauqua closed Thursday night Manager Merry announced that the required number except five tickets had been pledged, and these were secured the next day before he left Leon.

Wednesday afternoon the music was furnished by the Heimerdinger Entertainers, and they were "Hum-dingers" as Manager Merry called them. With music and readings by Miss Alma Heimerdinger they made themselves very popular. Then came Garetta and his trained animals, and it was the best entertainment of this kind we ever saw. Garetta has accomplished almost the impossible with his pets. He opened the entertainment with a fine troupe of trained dogs. Then "Prince" a dainty and beautiful little Shetland pony did all kinds of wonderful things, picking out flags and colors, counting and other tricks. But by far the best part of the program was the trained birds. First Garetta brought out a troupe of trained canary birds and they did all kinds of bird stunts. Then came the big show, the trained Brazilian macaws and Australian cockatoos. These pretty and intelligent birds seem to have almost human intelligence. They carry flags, push wheelbarrows, ring bells, fire pistols, roll hoops, perform on horizontal bars, and ended the performance by storming and capturing a miniature fort, pulling down the enemy's flag and raising the stars and stripes, and then when fire broke out, raised ladders, climbed to the top and poured water on the flames. Altogether it was a big show.

In the evening the Heimerdingers again appeared in a pleasing program and James L. Lardner gave his popular lecture recital, "Riley and the Common People." He is an actor as well as an orator and his recital of numerous poems of Riley were fine, and each one was used in bringing out a point in his lecture.

Thursday, the closing day of the Chautauqua saw the largest attendance of the week. The music for the afternoon was by the Pugh-Riner Co. and they made a hit from the time they appeared on the platform, as they are entertainers of first quality. The lecture was by Dr. Charles L. Seasholes, the noted Baptist divine, his subject being "The Man with the Pick." He began by relating that he had a dream in which he saw a large boulder in his path and by it he found a pick, with this pick he broke open the boulder and found within it food, clothing and other necessary good things. In his lecture he recited example after example to show that if men are willing to work and overcome obstacles in their path they can secure the treasures of the world. The speaker in his address showed a vast field of active men who have acquired great wealth through their efforts and intimated that he himself had met with misfortune but by diligence had struck it rich. The speaker possesses a fine voice and his lecture was interspersed with enough humor to make it both interesting and entertaining.

Thursday night was advertised as "Joy Night" and it sure was an evening of joy. The Pugh-Riner Co. are peerless entertainers. Mr. Pugh is a good singer and a clever actor, as are also the two Riner sisters. Every number produced so much joy that the audience continually bubbled over, and when the singer and reader finished there was encore after encore, and the big audience nearly wore the members of the company out.

As a closing feature of the Chautauqua there was a little after meeting, at which Hon. V. R. McGinnis made a short address on the great benefits of the Chautauqua, and complimented the management on the excellent program they had given our people this year. President Morris Gardner also made a few remarks in the course of which he put a motion that it was the sense of the Leon people that a special request be made to the management that superintendent Merry be returned to Leon next year and it carried with a great hurrah, for he has been the right man for the place and he made many friends while in the city. A vote of

thanks were also extended to Mr. Gardner and the other members of the local committee for their untiring efforts for the success of the Chautauqua, for they have devoted many days of hard work without compensation, aside from feeling they have worked for the betterment of the people of Leon and the surrounding community, for a Chautauqua such as has just closed cannot help but be a benefit to the community. Rev. C. W. Reeder also made a few remarks and after the big audience sang "God be With You 'Till We Meet Again," with great feeling the Chautauqua for 1911 closed with the benediction by Rev. E. M. Hoff.

New Court Cases.

Ann Marie Owens, minor, by W. T. Owens, her next friend, vs. Dan Griffin. Plaintiff is a minor, fourteen years of age, and alleges that on Feb. 20, 1907, defendant hired her to work as a domestic in his home doing housework, as his wife was an invalid. She worked 64 weeks and claims she has never been paid anything, and asks for judgment in the sum of \$128. Marion Woodard, attorney for plaintiff.

R. W. Braden vs. E. O. Lovett. Suit is brought for a balance of \$200 which plaintiff claims by reason of earning it as commission in negotiating the trade of a farm owned by defendant for a stock of goods owned by W. F. Monroe at Weldon, defendant having paid him \$100 and agreeing to pay the balance in a short time. G. W. Baker, attorney for plaintiff.

Thos. Teale vs. Ira Johnson et al. Suit is brought to foreclose a mortgage on the south half of the southwest quarter of section 17, township 67, range 27, Decatur county, Iowa, given to secure a note for \$1,000. J. W. Harvey & Son, attorneys for plaintiff.

Thomas Boyce vs. V. C. Knapp. Suit is brought on a promissory note on which there is due the sum of \$178.40. S. H. Amos, attorney for plaintiff.

Kimball Lumber Co. vs. Frank Greenland. Suit is brought on a promissory note for \$141.11. R. B. Hawkins, attorney for plaintiff.

Reeves & Co. vs. Orlando Henderson, et al. Suit is brought on two notes amounting to \$348.84. Marion F. Stooker, attorney for plaintiffs.

Hamilton-Brown Shoe Co. vs. J. C. Orfield. Suit is brought on an account for \$357.12. Marion F. Stooker, attorney for plaintiff.

Exchange National Bank of Leon vs. J. A. Crees, et al. Suit is brought to foreclose a mortgage on lots in Grand River given to secure two notes on which there is due \$1,350 and interest. C. W. Hoffman, attorney for plaintiff.

Dissolution Notice.

The auctioneering firm of Buchanan & Watchbaur has been dissolved. In the future I will give my personal attention to the sale business. I am basing my claims to your sale work on my success in the past.

I wish to call attention to the fact that I have spent 21 years in the "auction business" and feel that I can say without bragging, that I am thoroughly posted in animal and all other values, which is a very essential qualification for an auctioneer to have. How can you expect an auctioneer to get the worth of your property when he don't know what it is worth? My dates will be kept at the Reporter and Journal offices. Or call me on 228-4 rings.

Thanking the public for its confidence in the past, and soliciting a liberal share of your patronage in the future, I am yours to guarantee satisfaction or no pay.

Very Respectfully,

B. R. WATCHBAUGH.
N. B.—My references: Any business man, farmer or banker in Decatur county.

Cleaned Up Champion Checker Player.

For to these many years Davis City has gloated over Leon, and especially when it came to a game of checkers, for they play checkers all the time down on the banks of the Grand, and whenever a Leon checker player showed up in Davis City he was cleaned up in short order. But last Friday Davis City's champion, J. M. Francis, met his Waterloo, when he C. A. Hawkins, of Chicago, a former resident of Leon who is back here on a visit, went to Davis City to attend the reunion. He dropped into Francis' shop, and a game was on. When the score stood 12 games to 3 in favor of Mr. Hawkins, Francis got cold feet and excused himself, saying he would be back in a few minutes but he evidently went away to console himself in solitude for he did not show up at the shop again that day.

Will Inspect Cannon Ball Trail Friday.

Several autos from Leon will go to Modena, Mo., Friday to meet a committee from Trenton, Mo., to inspect one of the new proposed auto trails from Trenton to Leon, where it will connect with the Waubonise and Inter-State trails. There are two routes proposed, one running from Leon to Pleasanton, Goshen, Modena and Trenton, and another which will run through Cainsville and Princeton to Trenton, which will be inspected at a later date. There is much enthusiasm over the proposed new trail among the farmers along the route and a keen rivalry over the selection of the official route. The name of "The Cannon Ball Trail" has been adopted.

MRS. RUSH BOUND OVER

Held on Charge of Murder in First Degree for Killing Her Husband. Released on \$10,000 Bond.

The preliminary examination of Mrs. Willard Rush, who shot and killed her husband, Willard A. Rush, at Sheffield, Iowa, was held at New Hampton, on last Thursday, a warrant having been issued charging her with murder in the first degree. She entered a plea of not guilty, and was bound over to the grand jury under bonds of \$10,000 which were provided for by prominent business men of Sheffield. The grand jury does not meet until October.

A press dispatch from Sheffield, where the shooting occurred, says: As affairs have quieted down and judgment given an opportunity to act without prejudice some are wondering if the real facts warranted the shooting. A good many are of the opinion that gossip had more to do with the shooting than anything else. Many people in this community worry Idgo to Mrs. Rush with their stories whenever they heard anything new. There is no question but that this worked her into a frenzy which easily accounts for her making the purchase of the revolver.

Miss Lulu Warner maintains that she was never out evenings with Mr. Rush, and when the real facts are chased down there is not a resident in Sheffield who will swear they ever saw them together. Up to within three days of the shooting Mrs. Rush told friends she believed her husband was true to her. Miss Warner admits she sent the illustrated post card on which was printed the picture of a man with his arm around a woman with the words "Who cares?" She says only five of these pictures passed between them, two that she sent and three sent by Rush.

Miss Lou Warner, the telephone operator who was the other woman in the case, has been transferred to Latimer, one of the branch offices of the company.

The funeral of Willard A. Rush was held at Chariton on Tuesday afternoon of last week, at the M. E. church, conducted by Rev. George Roberts, of Homestead, assisted by Rev. W. G. Honesheit, the pastor of the Chariton church, and were largely attended. Rev. Roberts was formerly pastor at Cambria, where Mr. Rush resided, and spoke in the highest terms of the deceased. He also preached the funeral of Mrs. Rush's mother a few years ago. Interment was in the Chariton cemetery by the side of his mother.

Willard A. Rush was born in Leon, Iowa, on April 27, 1878. At the age of sixteen years he entered the railroad service, and a year and half later he was given the office at Jefferson. He afterward had charge of the stations at Plano, Cambria, Leroy and Sheffield. He went to the latter place about a year ago. While at Jameson he met Miss Letha Clay, to whom he was married on June 25, 1902. Both he and his wife had been active members of the M. E. church, and at the time of his death Mr. Rush taught the Bible class in the M. E. Sunday school at Sheffield. He was also leader of the band at that place, and was an accomplished musician. He was held in high esteem by all who knew him and the terrible tragedy has brought sorrow to the hearts of all who knew him. He was a member of the M. W. A. order at Leroy, and a large delegation from that place and Cambria went in automobiles to attend the funeral services. Mrs. Rush's brother, Grant Clay, of Cheyenne, Wyoming, and her brother-in-law, Mr. Sayers, of Indianola, were also present at the funeral services.

He is survived by three sisters and two brothers, Mrs. Elizabeth Hoppel and Mrs. Jennie Van Warden, of Chariton, Mrs. Maggie Goodrow, of Chicago, John W. Rush, of Kansas City and Edward Rush, of St. Louis, who were all in attendance at the funeral. The sympathy of many friends in this community goes out to the surviving relatives in their hour of bitter grief.

Arrested Wrong Man.

Last Thursday evening Forest Strong, driver for C. M. Keller, took Mrs. Keller and Misses Fern Pryor, Florence Oney and Edna Anderson in Mr. Keller's auto to the Davis City reunion. As they were returning home they met a team ahead of them and the driver refused to allow them to pass, turning his team out every time they attempted to go around him, and striking at them with his whip. They were delayed quite a time, but finally managed to pass the team. As it was after dark the parties could not tell who was driving, but the team was recognized, and the following day Miss Fern Pryor filed an information against Sam Bright, of near Leon, charging him with assault. He was placed under arrest on a warrant issued by Justice A. R. Warford, but had no trouble in proving to the satisfaction of all concerned that he was not the party who was driving the team, and the charge was dismissed against him and the parties who caused his arrest feel very sorry about the matter as he is an exemplary young man who has never had any trouble with any one. It was learned that the driver of the team was another party and it is understood he will be compelled to answer in court for his actions.

If you haven't done so try Cainsville coal, the best yet. Bidison Coal and Grain Co.