

NATURE KEEPS HER SECRET

Chemists Have Never Been Able to Satisfactorily Determine the Composition of Wood.

Wood, with which the ancient Britons used to stain themselves, is grown in that part of Lincolnshire, England, which abounds with dykes and windmills, and along the borders of Cambridgeshire. It allowed to go to seed the wood weed often grows to three and four feet in height and has a pretty yellow flower.

The first crop of tender green shoots is picked in July or August, and during the harvest men and women are to be seen creeping along the fields on their hands and knees all day long. The shoots are put into large wicker baskets and sent to a factory, of which there are three or four in that part of the country. When they arrive they are squashed into pulp and allowed to ferment. Later they are made into balls and dried.

These balls remain drying for several weeks and are then broken into pieces and stirred for a lengthy period. Eventually they produce a coarse, powderlike substance, deep blue in color. Lastly the powder is dumped, stored in vats and sold to dyers and manufacturers of woollens and other articles of apparel.

The enduring blue of the policeman's uniform is obtained from wood, and, though it is an expensive dye at the outset, it is the cheapest in the long run.

Chemists have tried hard to fathom this secret of nature, but without success; and it is doubtful if the industry would continue to exist but for the official desire to procure uniforms that are durable and of fast color.

HAS RULED FROM BEGINNING

That Japanese Royal Family Has No Name Is Proof of Assertion Long Put Forward.

In the peaceful and isolated community it is probable that at first no family had any special line of occupation to follow. It was when the community had made some progress that division of labor was introduced. It is clear from many myths that family names in Japan were taken from the occupations followed. When many families came to follow the same occupation then the necessity arose for giving distinctive names to the different families. Of the ruling family, however, there was only one, and as it had no occupation as other families did it had no name. Nor was there any occasion for giving it a distinctive name; it sufficed to call it by an honorific name. It was and is only when a member of the imperial family sets up a branch family that a distinctive name is given.

Japan furnishes the solitary instance where the ruling family has no family name. In England, Italy, Holland and other countries those who already had family names acquired influence and ascended to the throne. That the Japanese ruling family has no name is a clear proof of the contention that Japan has been ruled by the same family from the beginning. Had there been any revolution at any time in the history of Japan—that is to say, had the first ruling family been supplanted by another—the present imperial house would have a name of its own.—Chicago Journal.

Sea Lions Invade a Lighthouse.

The keeper of Bride's Island light, below Cape Flattery, has appealed to the federal authorities in Tacoma for weapons and help. No sooner does he open his door than sea lions force their way into the house and make free with his possessions. At night they surround the place, barking for admittance, until sleep is impossible. One big fellow amuses himself by climbing the exterior steps to the light, to plunge headlong into the sea. To kill one would only attract more, for the smell of putrefying meat is an irresistible attraction.—Scientific American.

Invents "Ideal" Explosive.

A Minnesota inventor has compounded an explosive which has demonstrated remarkable qualities in recent experiments. While appearing to have great disruptive powers if closely confined, as in a shell or drill hole, it can be exploded only by means of a blasting cap or electric detonator. It is reported to give off no noxious fumes, that it will not explode when heated to 212 degrees Fahrenheit, that it will not freeze, and that it cannot be accidentally exploded by shock.

WHAT HE EXPECTED OF WIFE

Girl's Attitude Seems Unreasonable When These Few Small Things Were All He Wanted.

Beauty. Punctuality. Sweet temper. Economy. Trust. And that she should be sound asleep when he came in.

And that he should not be questioned regarding the hour when he returned from poker parties.

Nor that she should make any comments regarding the strangeness of the fact that it was necessary to have onion sandwiches at poker parties.

And that she should spend such evenings as he played poker or stayed downtown or went to stag dinners with friends of the feminine sex.

That she should always understand that his flirtations were too mild for any uncalled jealousy on her part.

That it was quite a different thing for a man to be forgiven than for a woman.

And that he wouldn't have his wife make a fool of him as some wives he knew made of their husbands.

With these clear understandings at the start he knew that she would be very happy with him, for he would make her an ideal husband.

But he had been a little too previous.

She saw now why two other wives had divorced him.

And she saved time—by refusing to marry him!—Mary Graham Bonner in Judge.

MADE A HIT WITH STUDENTS

"Cafeteria Work" Was Something Which Evidently Had the Approval of the Entire Body.

A new school for boys in Terre Haute, Ind., is a very modern vocational school, with band equipment, big athletic park and cafeteria. And the new students were much impressed by these facilities.

On the first day of school one of the new fellows watched a last year student make out his program, and it read: "Shop work, wood work, chemical laboratory work and forge work."

He studied it a little while and began writing. And this is what he wrote: "Band work, athletic work," and then he hesitated, studied for a long time and finished, "cafeteria work."

Before he could get any farther the old student, having seen the program, seized it for exhibit, and it went on record as the most popular program of the school.

Electricity and Bullets.

At a rifle meeting in Switzerland it was discovered that the steel-jacketed bullets of the marksmen were swerved from their course by the influence of telegraph and telephone wires running alongside the range, says the Washington Star. Experiments were then made at Thun by playing four steel cables parallel with the range and about 40 yards distant from it and sending a current of 8,000 volts through them. The effect, it is said, was to turn the bullets so far from their course that the deviation amounted to 24 yards on a range of 200 yards. The bullets on being taken from the targets were found to be magnetized. Next, on an artillery range of 3,000 yards, the electro-magnetic influence was generated 200 yards in front of the targets and 40 yards to one side. The projectiles were swerved 14 degrees from a straight line.

A Doubtful Hit.

One sister in this Evansville family is a newspaper reporter and the other a school teacher. And the little teacher is much given to borrowing her sister's clothes. The good-natured reporter usually doesn't object, but the other day she felt her sister had gone too far when she wore her new silk dress and fall hat to school. She told her so, too.

"But I had heard the school board would be at the building today," the teacher excused herself, "and I wanted to make a hit with them."

"I bet you did," came back the dry retort, "for they all nearly went wild about that dress when I wore it to the school board meeting last night."—Indianapolis News.

Smoking in Church.

Smoking is common in South American churches. A visitor to Peru records that at a church in Lima he noticed one of the congregation enjoying a cigar during a service, while through an open door he caught a glimpse of a bishop, in full episcopal robes, indulging in the same luxury.

LEGION NEWS

(Continued from page one)

other nations while the United States is training its armed forces in any future conflicts. G. L. Folbre, of Dallas, adjutant of the Texas department, also drew the attention of the Legion men to the fact that untrained troops were sent to the front line during the World War.

"While serving at the front with the 32nd division, I transferred men to replacement troops and saw them go in to the front line trenches and shot down when they could have protected themselves had they been trained even in the use of rifles," Mr. Folbre said. "Many of these men had been drafted into service between six weeks and two months before they were rushed into action."

The views of the Texas Legion official were supported by Austin A. Peterson, Wisconsin adjutant, who urged the adjutants to realize the seriousness of the preparedness situation at this time, particularly in view of the ever-increasing danger of the Turkish and Near East question.

Other Legion speakers urged the adjutants to encourage voluntary enlistment in the Army in their states and to advocate military training on a larger scale in the high schools, colleges, universities, and physical training in the grade schools. It was asserted that the enlisted strength of the regular United States Army at this time is even below the latest figure set by Congress.

Legion Team Loses

In the first basketball game of the season the Medical Detachment five defeated the Rutland Legion team at the armory by the score of 24 to 23, Christmas day. It was one of the most exciting games seen on a Rutland court for some time and the referee blew his whistle for the end. The Legion led at the end of the first period by the score of 8 to 3, but the Medics came back strong in the second period and had the better of a 13 to 10 score. They maintained their lead in the third period. The Legion made a strong bid in the fourth period but the best they could do was to come within a single point of the winners score.

Woods, former T. C. A. star, was a member of the winning quintet and his work was the feature of the game. Time after time he took the ball down the court and tossed it into the hoop for a twin marker. Chase and Tower played a good guarding game for the Legion and on numerous occasions they broke up the passwork of their opponents when it appeared that the "doctors" were going to score a basket.

CORNWALL

The Rev. Mr. Irons, formerly of Hardwick, will preach at the Congregational church Sunday as a candidate.

A new feature connected with Christmas was introduced by several young people, who drove about town on Christmas eve and sang Christmas carols. This was greatly appreciated by all who were fortunate enough to hear them.

PEST HARD TO DISCOURAGE

Pigweed, Universal Nuisance, Has Been Known to Drive Amateur Gardener to Profanity.

A pigweed is both an irresistible force and an immovable body, blended into one and working overtime. Pigweeds don't ask anything of anybody. They don't need to. Even Home Nature turned round and went away as soon as she'd introduced him. Books on gardening dismiss him with a jaunty direction to "Keep the weeds down." But you can't ostracize a pigweed that way.

A pigweed begins making trouble the minute he shows above ground. I never saw a pigweed that could look more like more kinds of young plants. You can't tell by pulling 'em up, for the pigweed has a long, thin red root, but pulling up little flower and vegetable plants by mistake discourages 'em, even if you admit your error and apologize. And, on the other hand, it does not hurt the pigweed. Just let him lie on the ground, and his roots curl into it and he goes on growing as if nothing had happened. If you mash one into the ground with your heel, you just give him a better start.

All they ask is to be near enough the ground to see it. I brought some into the house and put them on the window-sill, where they could see out by raising up a bit, and they all grew. You could look them up in a closet, and if your hands were soiled when you handled 'em, they'd get enough nourishment to live on.

The only sure way to get rid of one is to cut him and burn the can.—Everybody's Magazine.

Wonderful Power of Love.

So long as we love, we serve. So long as we are loved by others, I would almost say, we are indispensable; and no man is useless while he has a friend.—Robert Louis Stevenson.

Justice Above All.

If the thing is unjust, thou hast not succeeded though bonfires blazed from north to south and bells rang and the just thing lay trampled out of sight to all mortal eyes—a seemingly abolished and annihilated thing.—Exchange.

Realizing an Ideal.

Who says poets never realize their ideals? Maxwell Anderson has bought a waterfall 25 feet high up in Rockland county and every sunrise he sits in the pearly pool at its foot and lets the Hackensack river pour over him.—New York Evening World.

NEW HAVEN

Earl Peck is visiting in Pennsylvania.

Walter Kingsley recently visited relatives in Bristol.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Sawyer had a dinner party Christmas Day.

Mortimer Roscoe is at home from Middlebury College for the holidays.

Levi Starveant and family spent Christmas with his parents in Weybridge.

Smith Rose has purchased a Dodge car. His family spent Christmas in Poutney.

Miss Nita Osborne is spending the school vacation with her parents in Pennsylvania.

Edward Dana is spending a few days in Waltham with his uncle, William Jackman.

Mrs. Paul Bearor has returned from caring for a patient in Richmond the past three weeks.

Mark Peck returned Tuesday after spending Christmas with his son, George, in Rutland.

Mr. and Mrs. C. S. Dana attended the funeral of their cousin, Horace Payne in Bridport.

There was a good attendance at the Christmas tree exercises at the church last Saturday evening.

Mrs. Moses Wilson, Marvin and Juanita Wilson spent Christmas in Burlington with relatives.

The Christian Endeavor Society sang Christmas Carols to the "shut-ins" last Sunday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. James Davis and Mrs. George Coates were the guests of Mr. and Mrs. M. H. Leonard Christmas Day.

F. R. Barrows is at home from Seaside Heights, New Jersey, for the holidays at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Roy Potter.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Freeman and daughter, Norma, of Burlington spent Christmas with Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Partch and family.

The drama last Friday presented by the Junior class was a great success. About \$35.00 were cleared. Mrs. C. S. Dana directed the play.

Fred Conant and wife entertained Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Conant, Carroll Landon and family, Miss Laura Mead and Mrs. Hannah Barnum Christmas Day.

Lucius Barrows of New York City and Miss Mary Barrows of Deep River, Conn., have been with their sister, Mrs. Mary Barrows, for a few days.

Mrs. Frank Darrah of Morgantown, West Virginia, is here to see his mother, Mrs. Henrietta Purinton, who has been very ill at her rooms at the parsonage.

Mrs. M. J. Landon, Miss Landon, R. D. Landon and family, and Mr. and Mrs. F. I. Shackett were entertained by Miss Alice Hayward and Joseph Hayward of Addison Christmas Day.

There was a reunion of the Partch family at the home of Mr. and Mrs. F. M. Partch on Christmas Day. Those present were Mr. and Mrs. F. M. Partch, Miss Pauline Partch, Robert Partch, Howard Winslow, wife and two children of West Rutland, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Partch, Miss Hazel Partch, Raymond Partch, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Freeman and daughter, Norma, and Cecil Partch of Burlington and Miss Anna L. Partch of Burlington.

The following music was rendered at the church last Sunday morning: Organ Voluntary, Pastoral Symphony from the Messiah, Mrs. Charlotte Shackett; Doxology with Hallelujah Chorus, Gloria; Hymn, Hark the Herald Angel Sing; Anthem, "Glory to God in the Highest"; Response, Ladies Quartette, "Christmas Hymn"; Solo, Christmas, Miss Beatrice Benedict; Hymn, Angels from the Realm of Glory; Postlude, Unfold Ye Portals from the Redemption.

MUD PACKS FREE ON BEACH

"Cure" That Costs Nothing Is One of the Attractions at Famous Coney Island.

Mud packs, which cost \$2 apiece at beauty parlors, and which enjoy considerable fame as wrinkle eradicators and skin beautifiers among the fair sex, may be had for nothing at Coney Island, writes a New York correspondent of the Pittsburgh Dispatch. Which explains the amazing sight offered visitors to the beach, when 800 bathers appeared in mud masks, their faces coated with black and yellow clay.

The mud for the masks was obtained where contractors are working on the new Coney Island boardwalk. Sand from sand suckers is being pumped to build the new beach, pipes a foot in diameter throwing up clay, mud and water. The clay is caught as it comes from the pipes and applied to the face, where it hardens into a black mass. The bathers then lie on the sand in the sun, in order to get the full effect of the "cure."

He Overdoes the "Dignity" Stuff

MY EDITOR SENT ME UP HERE TO FIND OUT WHAT THE FAMOUS "MICKIE" THINKS OF NEW YORK

THAT WON'T DO! SHOW A LITTLE DIGNITY! IMPRESS HIM WITH YOUR IMPORTANCE

HOORAY! HOORAY! I'M GONNA BE INTERVIEWED BY A REAL LIVE REPORTER! HOORAY!

ALL RIGHT! SEND HIM UP!

TELL HIM TO COME HIMSELF—I AIN'T IN TH' HABIT OF GIVIN' OUT INTERVIEWS TO COMMON REPORTERS!

MICKIE, THE PRINTER'S DEVIL

By Charles Sughroe

