

PLANTS

Studies Native Plants Imported to United States

Dr. Schantz arranged with the agriculturalists there to get some desirable East African mangoes which the department has wanted for several years.

He then traveled over Southern Rhodesia to Bulowayo and Victoria Falls. At the latter point many of the fruits concerning which Livingstone wrote enthusiastically were found and tested and the seeds sent to the department in the hope that they might prove useful here.

Dr. Shantz spent 10 days there and a month at Kafue, a little farther north in Northern Rhodesia, where a delay was caused by the sickness of two members of the party. At this point word was received of a railway wreck on the Congo railway, in which two members of the original party were killed and two injured and forced to return to America. This news, coupled with the sickness in camp, was the darkest part of the trip and threatened at one time to terminate the expedition, so far as Central Africa was concerned.

Mr. Raven, of the Smithsonian Institution, and Dr. Shantz decided to keep on through the Congo. Here for the first time the party encountered a lack of adequate provision for traveling. From there on practically no hotels and no provision for food for travelers were found, although in some cases the captains on the ships on the Congo were kind enough to allow the travelers to mess with them, and at certain points grass huts had been provided as temporary quarters for travelers.

This section was particularly interesting to the agricultural explorer because of the immense number of wild sorghum grasses which were found all along the line, as well as interesting vegetable and food plants used by the natives as well as their rather unique methods of agriculture.

The two men proceeded down as far as Kindu, which is situated about midway between the Atlantic and the Indian Oceans and about three degrees south of the Equator.

From here they proceeded to Lake Tanganyika by way of Albertville. This was interesting country because here was located Ujiji, where Stanley found Livingstone, and a few miles north, Kigoma, the terminus of the railway line leading from the Indian Ocean at Dar-es-Salaam. Here were found the finest mangoes yet encountered, fruits of unusual size and flavor, as well as many interesting types of beans, castor-beans, cassava (tapioca), and many wild grasses which may prove to be of forage value in the southern parts of the United States.

A visit to the new Belgian territory of Irundi offered opportunity to study probably the finest grazing land in all Africa, a region which supports millions of natives, who rely almost entirely upon cattle which graze upon the natural grasses of this great upland country.

At Tabora, farther east, known as the home of the mango, wonderful trees and fruits were found. At Dar-es-Salaam the coconut palm is one of the most important crops and has been planted on the sandy lands which extend for many miles back from the coast.

In Zanzibar, principally noted for the production of cloves and for the extensive groves of coconut palms and many tropical and subtropical plants, Dr. Shantz obtained and sent home seeds and plants of a number of important fruits, and also many of the staple grains and legumes grown in various parts of the East Coast of Africa and sold on the Zanzibar market.

Returning to the mainland at Tanga, Dr. Shantz proceeded across German East Africa to near Kilimanjaro, one of the most wonderful mountains in the world, at the base of which is a very rich agricultural country. Here are great plantations of sisal, rubber, and coffee, and many important forage grasses.

From here the party passed through Voi and from Voi to Nairobi, the seat of the agricultural department for East Africa, and here much help was secured from the local authorities. An extensive trip was also made into the desert country north and east of Mount Kenya, and the principal varieties of tropical crops grown by the natives in this section were secured. Dr. Shantz also secured here a notable nut plant called telfaeria, which forms a large gourd 2 or 3 feet long containing a large number of seeds of a delicious nutty flavor, about 1 inch in diameter and one-quarter of an inch through, which taste something like our butternut. Although this plant has not yet been tried in this country, it seems probable that it can be grown here, at least in the Philippines and possibly in Hawaii and Porto Rico.

The trip west to Lake Victoria across Uganda and down to the Sudan was through a region comparatively little known by our department, but in which many of our crop plants are grown, and which undoubtedly can supply many native plants of importance in the future development of our agriculture.

The trip down the Nile from the very headwaters at Ripon Falls was most interesting because of the immense development of native grasses and grain sorghums which almost everywhere line the banks of the Nile. Seeds of these plants were secured at many different stations. The agriculture, methods of irrigation and cultivation, especially in the upper and lower Sudan, were of especial interest to an American agriculturist.

After New Varieties. The principal purpose of Dr. Shantz's trip was to study the native agricultural crops for new fruits, nuts, forage crops (especially those adapted to our south and west) new beans, and especially wild sorghums, and types similar to Sudan grass, which has proved such an important forage crop in the semi-arid districts of the western part of the United States that \$10,000,000 worth of it was grown last year.

The party which left New York on August 13, 1919, sailed directly to the Verde Islands off the coast of Africa, and from there to Cape Town, where they arrived August 13. From there the journey of nearly 9,000 miles was made almost entirely on the heart of Africa, some 1,000 miles inland, with occasional expeditions to the coast for supplies of Zanzibar and other islands and at Lourenco Marques and

of the country which Livingstone carefully traveled something more than half a century ago is now to the traveler with comparative comfort on the South African railways. There are still fastnesses, where the party was compelled to go 700 or 800 miles away from the railways and often through regions where improved roads were nonexistent.

From Calcutta road is still to a large extent a creature of the imagination as when first conceived in the mind of the South African explorer, Cecil Rhodes. Long covered by steamers, the primitive transportation, where the traveler must make his own passage, providing with him, shelter, food, and with which to cook it.

Dr. Shantz has given to the department a rather large collection of the agriculture, while but the native specimens visited. Many of these specimens observed will prove helpful in connection with the study in this country. Dr. Shantz also formed the acquaintance of many agriculturists and men in various sections of the Dark Continent who in the future be useful to the department by sending in plants which are desirable and which could be secured. The direct results consist of seeds of many species or varieties of plants, many of which had not previously been imported into the United States, from which it is only reasonable to expect some important grain, or fruit crops may be developed.

Records for such belief is furnished by the records, notably the work of Dr. Frank N. Meyer, who sent home seeds of plants from China, many of which have now rank among our desirable products. The large quantities of persimmon from China, commonly met on the market, and the Chinese jujube, are among the trophies, while from Africa we have secured the long staple Egyptian cotton and Sudan grass, Rhodesian, and many of the more important Kaffir corns and sorghums, crops which mean approximately fifty millions of dollars in crop values to the United States each year and the development of semiarid lands not adapted to previously grown agricultural crops.

In Cape Colony, Dr. Shantz went east to Port Elizabeth, where the famous Addo bush cedars. Many plants were secured, one of the most interesting being the Speckboom, which is one of the most important foods of the elephant. It covers whole hillsides with its succulent growth. Cattle and sheep are fond of it, and there is a chance of its becoming of value in southern California. Speckboom will grow under practically the same conditions as the utterly worthless chapparal of southwestern California.

He then passed northwest over the Karoo Desert, similar to ours in the Great Basin, but differing in the respect that most of the plants form excellent forage for sheep, cattle, and ostriches, and it seems probable that some of the more desirable of these desert plants may be utilized in our desert country to improve the range.

The route lay east and north through the Kimberly diamond region and the gold-mining country of Johannesburg and Pretoria, the government headquarters of Union South Africa. There he visited the agricultural departments for a comparison of notes on the agriculture of the two continents and to arrange a mutual exchange of plants.

This section is the center of the great Transvaal agricultural area, and here corn, known as mealies, is the chief crop. One of the most important varieties is our own Boone County White, a gift from America of considerable value to the farmers of the Transvaal.

In the low veldt at Nelspruit are large orchards of subtropical trees and fruits, many varieties of which have not been grown in the United States. It is hoped that an arrangement will be made whereby they can be secured for test in this country. Among them are some particularly desirable mangoes, adaptable to Florida.

The route then lay to the southeast at Lourenco Marques and by ocean

FEDERAL TAX REVISION LAW

Calls For Repeal of Excess Profit Tax and Reduction of Surtax

New York, Dec. 26.—Recommendations for a radical revision of the federal tax laws, calling for a curtailment of more than \$1,000,000,000 a year, were made public today by the tax committee of the national industrial conference board.

The report, expressing the opinion of only the committeemen themselves, will be submitted as a basis for discussion of the third national industrial tax conference which will convene here January 21-22.

The report of the committee presents the following recommendation which would reduce federal revenue: Repeal of the excess profit tax which would diminish the federal taxes to the extent of \$900,000,000 per annum.

Reduction of surtax rates, which would entail a loss of \$200,000,000 annually. A provision that business losses for any year should be deductible from the income derived during the succeeding year or the preceding year if the income of the succeeding year is insufficient, which would curtail taxes \$50,000,000 yearly.

The committee opposed a sale or turnover tax in the recommendation for remedial changes. These changes, the report stated, would have but little effect on the gross revenue from taxation. The committee declared in its report that the proposal for an excess tax on the privilege of holding land and natural resources is unsound.

"Sincere and vigorous retrenchment in public expenditures must stand behind any tax system aimed to work permanent public improvement," the report says. The report calls on the business men to act together to remedy a situation that the committee believes to be working private injustice and public harm.

"Business agreement will accomplish a public benefit," the report states, but "business disagreement on this important subject will merely intensify and multiply the injurious factors of a bad situation."

CLARION CALL (By Jane Priest). The world needs a song— Now sing, if your gift be singing: To set men's pulse ringing. Over the ultimate seas The jubilant strains must carry To lift up the heavy-hearted, So their feet may lag not nor tarry.

The world needs a prayer— Now pray, if your gift be praying: The world needs a prayer That will mean what all are saying: Give us a ray of hope— Something to lessen the sorrow— Faith that it's all for the best, And courage to rise tomorrow.

The world needs a light— Now see! if your gift be seeing! An all-pervading light To send the darkness fleeing. Show us the vision divine And no not dare conceal it! You on the mountain-tops, If you see truth, reveal it! —Good Housekeeping for January.

STOCKS OF CAST OFF LUXURIES LAIVIA DTLERS HAVE LARGE

Libau, Latvia, Nov. 23.—The appearance of the shop windows here indicate that the Libau tradesmen have received some of the plunder taken by the various armies that have swept over the Baltic states. They are piled high with antique furniture from country estates, Skatuary, silver and bronze ornaments, silverware and jewelry also abound in the commission houses.

English dealers in antiques overran the Baltic states after they first picked themselves of the Bolshevik regime and picked up much of the valuable furniture and the jewels, oriental rugs and old silver. Consequently the shops now offer fewer rare pieces than they did a year ago. Besides the loot, the shops carry an amazing lot of second hand wares which were the property of persons impoverished by war who must now convert them into money. Luxuries were first but now furs, fur coats and all sort of wearing apparel are being sold in the shops. These stores look like American rummage sales.

It is common for prosperous looking strangers who are inspecting shop windows to be approached by owners of rare old furniture of works of art who desire to offer their precious possessions at private sale where their friends will not recognize them. The shops in Libau are much the same as those in Riga, Windau and the cities of Estonia and Lithuania. Conditions were the same in Moscow and Petrograd until the Soviet government closed all the private shops, seized their stocks and forbade trade government.

PRESIDENT OF FRANCE PURCHASES AIRPLANE

Paris, Dec. 2.—President Millerand, despite the earnest contrary advice of Madame Millerand, is reported to have ordered an airplane limousine for the purpose of making official visits to foreign capitals and cities in the provinces. Should the report prove to be true it will mean a departure in the mode of traveling of presidents in France and the permanent sidetracking of the presidential train. A regular squadron will have to be provided for the Presidential suite and the 50 or so journalists who accompany the president on all his trips from Paris. Some newspapers call the President's attention to the fact that a fall from the window of his aerial limousine would have more terrible results than leaping too far out of the train window, referring to the accident to the former president Paul Deschanel.

Business School For Soldiers

A fully equipped institute for soldier pupils has been established in the Army by the announcement made today by Major General P. C. Harris, The Adjutant General. The chief difference between it and those in civil life is that the soldier is paid at least \$30 a month while attending while in the outside world the student pays his tuition, and supports himself in the bargain.

This new mercantile school is part of the Fifth Division, at Camp Jackson, Columbia, S. C., which is now recruiting up to full strength, under telegraphic orders from the War Department. As Major General John L. Hines, commanding the division, says: "Soldiers are given the training which will enable them to perform efficiently the clerical duties of the several branches of the army, at the same time qualifying them for worthwhile positions in the business world. Special effort is made to develop self-reliance, initiative perseverance, and judgment."

In the army's school of business every student has a desk and fixtures similar to those in the office of a business executive. Typewriters, comptometers, filing apparatus, and adding machines of late model are part of the machinery of the well-lighted and ventilated class rooms.

Soldiers in the business course take either stenography and typewriting, bookkeeping and typewriting, or the army clerical course as preliminary to advanced work in either the accounting or executive fields. The Gregg system of shorthand is taught, and the touch method of typewriting. Courses in penmanship, spelling, and the use of English are given to all students.

In bookkeeping, after the student has reviewed and is proficient in arithmetic and penmanship, he acts as bookkeeper for a store, where he must meet and solve all the problems he would find in a similar position in civil life. He buys and sells, does business with a bank, a wholesale house, and individual consumers; he makes records of actual transactions, and determines the progress of his business, its costs, and profit or loss. In addition, there is training in ordering goods, invoicing, advertising and salesmanship, time-keeping and costs. Instruction in business law and ethics is also part of the course.

THE YEAR'S BIG BUSINESS. Our nation is not that territory which extends north and south, east and west, but the human beings who on this territory have established their homes. The nation lives in homes. Industry is to supply homes. Out in the morning and home at night goes the nation, men and women and children, and government's real business is always the home and the people in it. The things that make a good home are the things that make a good nation.

I have seen houses into which too much material prosperity brought idleness, bickering, and discontent, and even reduced the standard of health. And sometimes I think that something of this sort has happened to us. It is only temporary, if we face the situation. Wealth newly acquired often brings calamity in its train, but after a time there develops a sense of responsibility with it. It is that period which we have reached, and it is largely the women of the country who must accept the responsibility of restoring to the national home content and happiness, health and well-being.

—Mary Roberts Rinehart in January Good Housekeeping.

SOCIALISTS IN GERMANY ON THE WAR PATH

Berlin, Dec. 1.—Socialist newspapers and communist agitators are making much of the misery resulting from unemployment, high cost of necessities and the winter, and are contrasting the condition of the poor with the prodigal spending of the profiteers. There is perhaps less exaggeration than there was before the war, but the number of idle and very poor is said to be greater, and emphasizes present conditions.

Workers for the "red revolution" with the slogan of "poverty and profiteer," the ammunition they most frequently employ, are urging the overthrow of the government and the establishment of a dictatorship of the proletariat to relieve the conditions they call intolerable. As the misery of the workless increases with the advancing winter they expect to gain strength to make an effort to overturn the present regime, which they blame for the troubled economic conditions.

Die Freiheit, organ of the Independent Social democratic party issues an "earnest warning" to the government that conditions are coming to a head and that it will be ill for the administration if some tangible effort is not made to relieve idleness. It adds: "It is time for the capitalist regime to take heed. The proletariat has not lost its strength; it is growing stronger against that time when the hour of decision shall strike."

CLERGYMEN ASKED TO STUDY MEDICINE

London, Dec. 3.—A controversy is on among the poorly paid section of clergymen who find themselves hard hit by the high cost of living over a novel suggestion put forward by Dr. Robert Rentoul, a prominent Liverpool practitioner, that the clergymen could augment their incomes by acting as doctors as well as persons. Dr. Rentoul advises young clergymen to study medicine, take their degree and combine body-curing with soul-saving work.

Many clergymen do not look with favor on the idea. They argue that they have plenty to do already and that local practitioners would bitterly resent competition from them. One wants to know where a poor curate is to raise the 250 pounds sterling necessary to qualify for a medical degree and others hold that "within a month the cleric-medic's sermons would be thin, and that the soul would suffer at the expense of the body."

PROFESSOR SUED FOR DIVORCE

Prof. John Broadus Watson Chief Figure in Sensational Case

Columbia, Dec. 4.—South Carolinians will read with considerable interest of the divorce proceedings against Prof. John Broadus Watson late of the faculty of Johns Hopkins University, a native of Greenville. The suit is filed by Mrs. Watson and the professor has resigned from the faculty of the institution.

Prof. Watson was at one time principal of the Batesburg Institute. He is prominently connected in the Piedmont section of the state. The following account of the divorce proceedings is from the Baltimore Sun:

The daughter of one of the most prominent and wealthy men in the city is named indirectly in the divorce action as the professor's alleged "affinity." Letters bearing messages of love to the alleged affinity are understood to have been used to prove the affection of Professor Watson for the young lady. The divorce suit is pending in the circuit court.

That Professor Watson was the defendant in one of the most sensational divorce suits in many years became known today. The suit was filed on November 4 by Mrs. Mary Ickers Watson, and the papers are now in the hands of an examiner, the testimony having been taken outside of court, which indicated that the defendant had not contested the proceedings.

The name of the alleged affinity has been carefully guarded and it does not appear in the papers, which were filed by Benjamin L. Freeny, counsel for the wife. The co-respondent is referred to only by the name of "Rosalie."

Professor Watson, who was a major in the aviation department of the United States army, is alleged to have been unduly intimate with the co-respondent and it is said that one of the meetings occurred in an apartment in New York city.

It is said that Mrs. Watson was aware of the affection of her husband for "Rosalie" for some time, gaining her knowledge from letters found in his pocket. Mrs. Watson knew of the girl's love for Professor Watson but wanted to know whether he returned the love. Acting as her own detective, she determined to seek further information, and in order to accomplish this, entertained "Rosalie" at her home on several occasions and was frequently the guest of the young lady.

While at the home of the latter, at a "week-end" party, Mrs. Watson is said to have suggested to her husband and "Rosalie" that they might desire to discuss scientific matters and they went off to another place. The wife after they had left, complained of a sick headache and retired to "Rosalie's" room. She is said to have made a search in which she was awarded by the discovery of love letters.

One letter was as follows: I must close for this time. I have made enough love for 'one day to a girl so young. It makes me just mad when I come to the end of your letters. Does it do you that way? Could you kiss me tonight for a few hours without growing weary? I could kiss you for 24, and then find fault with the universe because the days are not longer. Let us go to the North Pole where the days and nights are six months long. Your own, John.

The co-respondent is described as "a young woman named Rosalie, brown-haired, blue-eyed, 5 feet 10 inches tall and attractive." Dr. Frank G. Goodnow, president of the Johns Hopkins University, said that Dr. Watson offered his resignation, saying that his family affairs were in such condition that he felt he should resign and that the university agreed with him.

"We were extremely sorry to lose him," said Dr. Goodnow. "He was a very valuable man." The larger number of Dr. Watson's associates in the Hopkins faculty did not learn until about a week ago that he had resigned. During the last few days, one member of the faculty asked about a course which Dr. Watson had been accustomed to give and only then learned that he had left the university.

Dr. Watson had held his position at the university since 1908 and had made a national reputation for his research work on the behavior of animals, especially monkeys, and terns, the latter a fowl resembling the sea gull. He made many trips to Dry Tortugas Islands, off the Florida Coast in pursuit of the latter work.

Dr. Watson was born in Greenville, S. C., January 9, 1878. He was principal of Batesburg Institute for a short time, took his degree of doctor of philosophy in the University of Chicago in 1903 and was assistant in experimental psychology in the University of Chicago in 1903 and 1904 and instructor from 1904 until 1908, when he came to Baltimore. He is a member of the Sigma Xi, Phi Beta Kappa, Phi Beta Sigma and Kappa Alpha fraternities.

Prices Have Not Fallen in United Kingdom. London, Dec. 27.—There is no abatement in the high cost of living in the United Kingdom. The average level of retail prices including food, clothing, fuel, light and rent, on November 1 was about 176 per cent above that of July, 1914, as compared with 164 per cent on October 1, the official Labor Gazette states. Last month's 12 per cent increase is mainly due to the higher prices of flour and bread.

NOTICE. All persons indebted to and all persons holding claims against the estate of Alex Nofal, deceased, will please make settlement with W. G. BARROODY, Special Administrator.

GERMANY'S UNIQUE TECHNICAL CORPS

Berlin, Dec. 2.—The backbone of the German government today is the Technische Nothilfe, a technical emergency aid association supported by the government. Dr. Berwit, one of the leaders of that organization told the correspondent of the Associated Press the other day. Dr. Berwit's statement was made as the "alarm" went out for the Technische Nothilfe to mobilize to take charge of the electric lighting plants here, left idle by a sudden strike. He considers his organization more potent than troops or police for the welfare of the country.

"Two or three hundred irresponsible radicals here can terrorize 4,000,000 people," the doctor said. "Troops cannot prevent it, the electric lighting plants are dark, the streets are dark, the tram are still—and what can soldiers do? They cannot operate these plants, which require highly skilled labor. There is only one organization that can assume control and that is the Technische Nothilfe."

The Technische Nothilfe went in and began firing the furnaces and then the strikers voted to return to work. The Technische Nothilfe moved out. "We are skilled workmen, not strike breakers, not labor union men; we really are the representatives of a public that in these days is more or less at the mercy of a few agitators," said Dr. Berwit. "We never interfere in a strike for wages; all we do is step in and operate public utilities, prevent sabotage, and furnish the people just the bare necessities of a daily existence. We step into the breach when chaos threatens."

In Berlin it is understood the Technische Nothilfe has 10,000 men recruited from every business and listed so that there can be no confusion. Arrangements have been made whereby they can drop the work they are doing and answer the Technische Nothilfe's call. "All Germany is as carefully organized as Berlin," Dr. Berwit declared.

"In the case of disputes between employers and labor we have nothing to say. Wages demands may be exorbitant, or legitimate, we do not consider them. We merely see that people are not terrorized, that destruction of public utilities, sabotage, is held to a minimum. The leaders of union labor are not opposed to us. They are, in fact, with us, for they realize that it is essential to the life of the state to keep certain industries functioning. They are not always able to do that themselves."

There is no longer any great danger from a general strike anywhere in Germany, for mind you all this agitation you hear so much about is not a general agitation; it's the howling of a few of the ultra-radicals, ready to do anything, spreading discontent wherever they can, working for the destruction of everything that is, and offering nothing worth while as a substitute.

NAVY-HARVARD STUDENTS WORK WAY THROUGH COLLEGE

Cambridge, Mass., Dec. 20.—Half the Harvard University student body of about 6,000 is working its way through college in whole or in part. A survey of student employment just completed at the graduate school supplemented by figures from the student employment office shows that those obtaining regular and casual employment ranging from professional house-hunting to instruction in languages to an inmate of an insane hospital earned more than \$77,000 toward the expenses of the academic year 1919-1920.

998 men registered for work last year, 382 obtained it. The number of positions available is always less than the number of seekers. Occupations in term time include that of waiters, chauffeurs, chorem, furnace tenders, hotel clerks, window cleaners, university guides, and players in jazz orchestras. Some students spend Christmas holidays chopping wood in the forests of Maine. One man is reported working nights, sleeping five hours, out of the twenty-four, and earning fifty dollars a week.

Tutoring is the most popular employment in term-time and in one form or another it is also remunerative in the summer recess. One man last summer earned \$150 a month and expenses as supervisor of Children's play. Another spent his mornings with a group of children at a popular resort on the Maine coast and made \$1,200 in two months. Several took ocean cruises as tutors, companions or cooks. Another man picked up several weeks expenses posing for an artist.

The Fishermen Are Also Hard Hit. St. Johns, N. F., Dec. 23.—Several thousand fishermen have left Newfoundland owing to the comparative failure of the colony's fisheries this year and the low price received for the product. They have gone chiefly to Canada and the United States. The total catch of herring in the season which ended in the middle of last winter was only about half the average of previous years and, because of renewed competition with Scotch, Dutch and other foreign markets due to the return of peace conditions, the value was greatly reduced. The early spring fishery for cod off the south coast and the seal fishery off the East coast were failures.

The main cod fishery around the coast of the island and Labrador resulted in an estimated catch of 1,300,000 quintals (of 112 lbs.) as against 1,700,000 for last year. The price dropped from \$12 to \$10 a quintal for Newfoundland fish and from \$10 to \$8 for Labrador cod. The decline in prices of cod oil, lobsters, salmon and other subsidiary products has been so great that the fishermen will not receive more than half the amount which they obtained last year.

Another factor tending to emigration is the curtailment in the iron mines, where forces of 3,000 have been reduced by one-half. Although the pulp and paper mills are making an exceptionally large cut of wood, they cannot absorb all the men seeking work from them this winter.