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AMERICA SHOULD PRODUCE ITS OWN RUBBER.

PRUNES ARE SHIPPED EAST, THERE TO BE SOLD AS PLUMS

Between 400 and 500 tons of green prunes were shipped out of Lane county this year, largely to eastern points. By the time they reach the east they are ripe enough to go on the market as plums. On account of the dry season, prunes have ripened this year about three weeks earlier than usual. Shipments to the east of the green fruit were stopped a few days on account of the rain and have now stopped entirely because the fruit has become too ripe. Prune growers report some difficulty in securing enough pickers. The crop is a fairly good one but not out of the ordinary.

OREGON HAS BACKGROUND FOR OUTDOOR PICTURES

Oregon has great possibilities as a setting for motion pictures, according to Howard Webster, motion picture star, who is making personal appearances at a Eugene theater. Mr. Webster stated that it is believed that, if an honest film producer would start things by lining an important picture in Oregon, the big producers in California would be shown the virtues of the state and would make more of it. "It is my ambition to produce myself," Mr. Webster said, "and if my ambition is ever realized, I hope to stage my first one

in Oregon. Oregon's scenery, as a background for outdoor pictures, is the main asset in the eyes of a motion picture man.

"This is of especial importance since, in my opinion, the big day of the clean outdoor picture is coming in the near future. The sex film is about dead. People are tired of that sort of trash. The best way to fill an American theater today is to have a real live outdoor picture on the screen."

ADAPTABILITY OF SOIL OF COUNTY BEING LEARNED

Lane county has over one hundred types of soil, according to E. G. Carpenter, who with V. G. Young is testing the land in the county in 10-acre tracts for its possibilities and deficiencies. These men have gone over about half the county, principally in the northern and eastern sections.

Mr. Carpenter has said that the farmers seem much interested in the survey and a great deal of good is expected from the bulletin which will be published as soon as the work is completed and tabulations made at the experiment station at Corvallis.

The types of soils found far exceed the number in other counties where surveys have been made. The hill soils seem to be mostly of sedimentary origin and it is suggested that what is known as our white lands are rich in productive power but need drainage in order to be put in good physical

condition before they can be used to advantage. The experiment station has been experimenting with this particular type of soil this summer and has found that by proper drainage 40 bushels of barley to the acre can be raised.

EUGENE-LORANE HIGHWAY WORK IS TO BE RUSHED

Decision to push through to completion the Eugene-Lorane highway has been reached by the county court and definite plans announced for the start of one mile of work at the end of the existing completed macadam. This mile is around the mountain four miles from Lorane and offers a better grade and a shorter route by almost half a mile.

The court expressed itself as pleased with the way in which it received cooperation in the matter of right-of-way. The construction job will pass through four farms. Each of the land owners sold what cultivated land was needed by the county for its roadbed for only \$50 an acre and gave the brush land.

Rising Through His Handicaps

Although he was born in Dublin of a famous literary family and educated for his profession in Germany, Victor Herbert, who died recently at the age of 64, developed into the most distinguished composer of light music in the United States.—Editorial in the New York Sun.

ORE SMUGGLING IS VIRTUALLY STOPPED

Buyers Must Try to Learn Source of Metal.

Denver.—The game of "highgrading," which has been an annoyance to the mining of precious metals throughout the world, has been virtually stopped in Colorado mining camps during the last nine years as a result of the efforts of special agents working under the direction of the secretary of state in enforcing the Ore Buyers' act passed by the Colorado assembly in 1915.

The term "highgrading" came from the practice originating in the theft and sale of high-grade metal ores by miners and the subsequent conversion of the ores into gold and silver bullion for sale to the United States mines. Colorado mine owners had tried in every conceivable way to put a stop to the practice, but apparently without success, according to their reports to the authorities.

Change Rooms Installed. Some mines operating with extremely valuable veins installed "change rooms" where workmen were required to change clothing on entering and leaving the mine, but even this scheme was said not to have been entirely effective as the certain small percentage of dishonest miners managed to find some way to smuggle ore outside. The Ore Buyers' act, passed after a bitter struggle between the Mine Owners' association and alleged "highgrading" interests, provides that buyers of precious metals must be licensed by the state and must post a bond of \$5,000 for the faithful observance of the act. The law requires such a buyer to make a diligent effort to learn where the vendor acquired his ore and with what authority he is selling it.

Penalty for Falsifying. Giving false information to a buyer is made a punishable offense. In this way the special agents have been able to check the activities of unauthorized sellers. The virtual bottling up of the illicit market is said to have had the effect of stopping almost entirely the surreptitious removal of ore.

Since the law was adopted the number of licensed ore buyers in the state has decreased from 32 to 7.

Definite enforcement of the statute dates from 1917, when eight of twelve alleged "highgraders" were given prison sentences of two years each. At the trial more than a score of miners testified that they had sold ores to the accused men.

The successful operation of the Colorado law has brought about the passage of similar laws in other western states.

Broke in Argentina, He Scrubs Way Home

New York.—Benjamin D. Short, jolly 220-pounder, his palms calloused from massaging the decks of a liner during his voyage from Buenos Aires, smiled jocosely as he helped lower the gangplank on which his wife, Mrs. Alice K. Short, and other passengers debarred here.

"The long and short of it is," said Mr. Short, unable to repress a smile, "that the Shorts were short of cash, so I came up as one of the crew and Mrs. Short ate her way up. I'm not afraid of work, and, besides, I was—was—too fat."

Mr. Short is an employee of the Buenos Aires office of the Standard Oil company and returned there only a few months ago after a visit to his parents in St. Louis, which took most of his spare cash. Soon after his return his mother and father died—within a month of each other—and he had to return to settle their estate.

Although he cabled his attorney in St. Louis for a \$1,000 advance, he was told he would have to appear personally to collect, so he became an able-bodied seaman.

Bulgarian Swallow Brings Back Message From India

Sofia.—Two swallows of the spring have brought replies to messages they carried when they flitted for warmer climes last autumn. Ivan Stefanoff, a school teacher of a nearby village, wrote a message in French reading "Greetings from wronged and unhappy Bulgaria," and fastened it under the wing of a swallow that nested in the eaves of his house. When the birds returned recently he noticed one had a wrapping on its leg and capturing it he found the following written in English: "Good times will come for us, the wronged and ill-treated of the city of Melani, India, Feb. 18."

Another experimenter received a more romantic reply to a message similarly dispatched. He is an official in Haakovo and his swallow brought him the following from Medina, Arabia: "We beautiful daughters of Mohammed sigh for endearing words and caresses, Ghul Fatme, wife of Hassan Bey."

Change to Be Made in Twelve Shipboard Craft

Washington.—Immediate conversion of an initial group of 12 shipping board cargo vessels to Diesel-propelled types is planned by the board, whose experts have been studying for several months a program which eventually will involve an expenditure of \$25,000,000, the amount authorized by congress for this purpose. President Coolidge has signed the bill providing the means, and the established board was represented as prepared to adopt the plans drawn up by its construction engineers.

INDIAN DANCES LIKE REVIVALS

Ancient Ceremonies Are Mostly Religious in Nature.

Washington, D. C.—Indian ceremonies are rarely understood by other races, and consequently the Indian rites and dances have often been unjustly criticized, says J. N. B. Hewitt of the Smithsonian Institution.

The white man is extremely glib when it comes to believing fantastic tales about the red man. It is no rare occurrence for a witness to appear at a congressional hearing and to testify regarding the evils of Indian dances and later to admit that he has never seen the objectionable rites.

Furthermore, the white man must plead guilty to a lack of sympathetic imagination when he observes the Indian. Aside from some ethnologists, people who do attend Indian ceremonies generally see only the gyrations of painted savages. Sometimes they cannot refrain from showing their amusement and scorn. Sometimes they offend the Indians seriously.

One man who was present at a Navajo snake dance grew righteously indignant at the sight of venomous snakes handled by the dancers, who even placed them in their mouths. When one of the reptiles was laid on the ground the visitor impulsively took a soda pop bottle and tried to kill it. The white man was the Indians' guest, but the snake represented some religious symbol to the dancers, and it was for the time being an object of veneration. Guest as he was, the rash outsider jeopardized his life.

Show Reverence to Nature.

Mr. Hewitt says that the ceremonies of the Indian are incorrectly called pagan. No people have held a more reverent attitude toward nature and the Master of Life than the Indians, he says. By their symbolism they built up a system of associations, so that when they saw the full moon or the budding trees, the ripe corn or the forest animals, they thought of the legends and the significance of those things in life. Considering their "lack of advantages" the Indians put into words an astonishing amount of truth regarding their universe.

The Indian regards the tribal rites and all the symbols that goes with them with the same respect that any other race feels toward its religious observances. A typical feast is the Iroquois planting ceremony, which takes place in the spring. The women and girls dramatize the planting processes and sing the songs descriptive of each. Men of the tribe preach and tell the others to treat one another kindly, to avoid lying and gossip, to live peaceably and to be thankful for their blessings.

There is always a feast and dancing at the close of all festivals. They believe that the Master of Life, seeing the people dance, knows that His children are content with what He has done for them, and so He is pleased. It is all the Indians' way of rendering thanks giving.

Outsiders not knowing the language and symbolism, are apt to conclude that the Indians are holding a gay party, while, as Mr. Hewitt points out, if we compare the occasion to something in our own civilization, it is more accurate to compare it to a religious meeting.

Masks Often Misunderstood. Use of hideous masks by certain tribes is a typical source of misunderstanding among white people. The masks do not represent the Indians' idea of beauty, as many people believe, but represent the seven winds which bring diseases. Each type of mask suggests the face of the victim of the disease brought by that wind.

On New Year's day masked men go into each wigwam and put out the fire, clean away the ashes and light ceremonially a new fire. This is not a senseless rite. The ashes of the old fire have collected waste materials and germs for some months, and cleaning the fireplace is a health measure. There is no doubt that some dances of primitive tribes have included practices which the white man regards as reprehensible. The Indians' practice of slashing themselves and one another with knives during the sun dance has been criticized. So has the reckless handling of snakes, both harmless and venomous, at the snake dance. Charges of immorality in connection with some rites have also been made.

The Indians themselves say that few, if any dancers, cut themselves now in the sun dance. The idea back of the cutting was to show courage. Sixteen officials of a Pueblo tribe recently denied the implication of immoral practices in their ceremonies by saying: "Our dances are drama, opera and poetry. The womanhood of our pueblo are as sacred to us as the symbolic dance we are trying to defend and preserve."

This statement was made in a petition that the ancestral dances might continue without interference from the government. The Indian is said to be losing his racial identity, but many tribes still cling to the ancestral faith and ceremonies.

Whale Upsets Boats

Milford, Del.—After a battle of nearly an hour during which it upset two boats, a young whale, 16 feet long and weighing about two tons, was caught recently at Cedar Beach, on the Delaware bay shore near Slaughter Beach, and about seven miles east of Milford.

COUNTY COURT CONSIDERING REINSTATING COUNTY AGENT

It is possible that Lane county may again have a county agent. The Lions' club of Eugene has taken the matter before the county court and it is known that the commissioners favor the county agent idea. The former commissioners abolished the office over the protests of numerous organizations and citizens of the county.

the reason given being that it was necessary to cut taxes. The county court will wait to hear from the grange and farmers' union organizations before acting, but it is probable that \$2000 will be put into the next budget as salary for a county agent, which will put the proposition up to the annual taxpayers' meeting.

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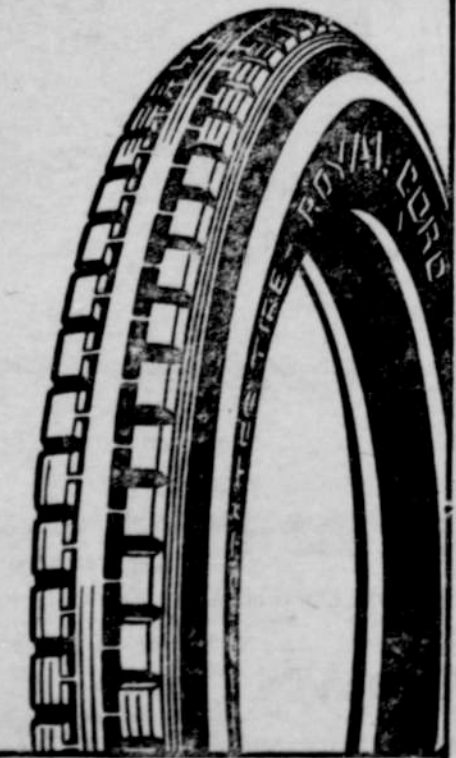
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