

Leprosy Cure Grows in Florida



Above is pictured the taraktogenos kurzii, a tree, with Wilbur A. Patton, superintendent of the United States Government Plant Introduction garden at Miami, Fla., where the climate has proved favorable to the culture of this rare tree demanded by leper colonies. It is the first time it has been grown on the American continent. The tree is the source of the chaulmoogra oil, the only remedy that has ever been regarded as an effective cure for leprosy. The oil is also known as a palliative for many skin diseases. Seeds for this plant were sent to the United States for cultivation by Joseph W. Rock, who scoured the jungles of Siam, Burma, Assam and Bengal to obtain the best possible varieties.

Roosevelt Hunters Plan Trip to China

Quest of Rare Animals in Asia May Extend Tour.

Amritsar, India.—The Roosevelt expedition in quest of rare animals of the mountains and jungles of Asia, had not decided when it passed through Kashmir on its way to the Pamirs, by just what route it would return or how long its trip would last. There was some prospect, it was said, that the tour might be extended to January and that it was possible the expedition might be continued into China and not return to India.

The expedition, including Col. Theodore Roosevelt, Kermit Roosevelt, George Cherrle and Mr. Cutting, a cinema operator, made the first part of its trip into India without incident. The members traveled over the well-known route from Srinagar to Leh and Ladakh.

There is abundant game in that section of the country, but the expedition was interested in getting the ovis poul on the lofty heights of the Pamirs and the long-haired tiger in the Thianshan mountains of Chinese Turkestan.

Ovis Poul Hard to Shoot.
The ovis poul, or Pamir sheep, is not so rare as some may think, but as it habitates the high part of the Pamir range, the shooting of it is made difficult. This animal is the largest of the sheep family and sometimes weighs 300 pounds. Its head is beautified by its horns, each of which grows into a spiral form, five or six feet around the curve. The long-haired tiger found in the Chinese Turkestan regions often grows to a length of 12 feet.

The Roosevelt party went to Rawalpindi by train in the blazing heat of May when the thermometer registered 115 degrees in the shade. From Rawalpindi the party went by automobile 202 miles up and down the mountainside.

The travelers, while in the Kashmir valley, were guests of Sir and Lady John B. Wood, but they remained only sufficiently long for their transport arrangements to be made.

Made Haste to Avoid Cholera.
Their haste in getting away was due to the fact that this year there is a cholera epidemic of more than ordinary proportions. Deaths have been occurring at the rate of 1,500 to 1,700 a week since.

In the preparation of their equipment Colonel Roosevelt and his associates were ably assisted while in Kashmir by Maj. A. J. Hinde, assistant resident of Kashmir and British joint commissioner of Ladakh. In the transportation of their equipment and supplies coolies and yaks were used during the first stages of the journey throughout the Leh regions. Coolies are hired for 24 cents a day and ponies for 30 cents a day as far as Leh.

During the first 100 miles to Leh the expedition met Reverend and Mrs. Heber of the Moravian mission; Mr. and Mrs. Owen Jones of Chicago, and Maj. George Van B. Gillan, consul-general at Kashgar, who represents the American as well as British interests.

Obtain Passports From Peking.
In order to go into Chinese Turkestan the Roosevelt expedition was obliged to obtain permits from the Peking government, which enabled them to

enter territory which is truly a sportsman's paradise and very little traveled by white people.

Only 12 passes a year are given to travelers to visit Leh and Ladakh, six for the first half and six for the latter half, this being necessary because of food problems, much of the food having to be taken from Srinagar.

In addition to their interest in the hunting for rare animals members of the expedition always were confronted with food problems and some of them, especially Kermit Roosevelt, took every opportunity to help solve these. He always had ready his fishing rods and used them to good advantage for the entire party in the Dras and Tarkand rivers.

News Comes Slowly.
The progress and success of the Roosevelt expedition is being watched with considerable interest by English sportsmen now in India, although the news that filters through is very meager.

It is much the same as it was on the last Everest expedition when the news India received of the mountain climbing was dated London. Most of the dispatches that have come through up to this time merely said: "All's well with the Roosevelts," or words to that effect.

SIX BIG RESERVOIRS HAVE BEEN UNEARTHED IN WEST

50,000-Year-Old Tanks Are Found in Spring Valley.

Gold Hill, Utah.—A series of six immense reservoirs believed to have been constructed about 50,000 years ago have been discovered in Spring Valley, Nevada, by members of the Cosmographic society.

The reservoirs are triangular and range from a few inches to 60 feet in depth. The retaining walls are about 800 yards long and are feathered back into the hillside. The walls are from six to twenty-five feet thick and are believed to be composed of granite, covered with debris.

The huge tanks overlook a once fertile valley, where coal deposits have since been found. It is thought by members of the society that the reservoirs were used for irrigation purposes.

Claims that the reservoirs resulted from glacial action have been denied by the Cosmographic society, which points out that no trick of a glacier could construct six perfectly symmetrical masonry formations.

In a limestone cave in the mountainside above the reservoirs members

Open Church on Heights of Shenandoah Mountains

Orkney Springs, Va.—Consecration ceremonies for the Shrine of the Transfiguration, an edifice of native, unhewn stone erected on the heights of the Shenandoah mountains to the memory of prominent clergymen and laymen of the Episcopal church in Virginia, drew a large assembly of church representatives here.

Bishop William Cabell Brown of Virginia was the presiding dignitary for the ceremony.

Study Weather at U. S. Flying Schools

San Francisco.—Army service schools at the Presidio of San Francisco and elsewhere have begun to turn weather prophets.

The military importance of the subject has led army men to a deep study of atmospheric conditions. Graduates of the meteorological section of the signal school are placed on duty along the numerous War department airways, where weather forecasts must be supplied to aviators before they start on flights. Not only temperatures and storms must be predicted, but upper air currents and the direction and duration of winds.

In planning the erection of new airdromes and flying fields the experts are given careful hearings.

NATIONAL BODY TO WAR ON CRIMINALS

Score of Influential Men to Push Fight.

New York.—War has been declared against the growing cohorts of crime. A score of influential men pledged themselves at a meeting in the office of Elbert H. Gary to do their utmost to stem the tide of lawlessness now sweeping the country. Their efforts will be exerted through the national crime commission, which, instead of a temporary body as at first planned, is to be organized permanently with nationwide affiliations.

Headquarters will be opened in New York and crimes of violence will be the first to come under attack. Mr. Gary promised assistance, financial and otherwise. He has been asked to head the commission, but his decision is not yet known.

An executive committee of five or six members, representative of the entire country, is planned. The work of drawing up the nominating slate is in the hands of a committee headed by George W. Wickersham, former attorney general of the United States.

Others taking part in the preliminary work include Richard Washburn Child, former ambassador to Italy; former Gov. Charles S. Whitman, Gov. George S. Silzer of New Jersey, George Gordon Battle and John W. Davis.

New Railroad Connects South American Countries

Washington.—Recent completion of a 124-mile railroad line connecting Bolivia and Argentina was hailed in a statement by the National Geographic society as bringing "the long-cherished dream of uniting the republics of North and South America with bonds of steel another step nearer realization."

In addition to providing a new outlet for Bolivia, which has no seacoast, the new line connects with the railway systems of Argentina at its southern terminal and through them, with the lines of Uruguay and Brazil, while at Atocha it is possible to make connections with Pacific coast ports and to continue as far north as Cuzco, Peru.

"More than half of the 10,211 miles separating Washington and Buenos Aires have already been paved with steel," the statement said.

EDITOR FOR 33 YEARS

of the Smithsonian Institution found several crude implements and weapons, among which were several "arrow springs," a little wooden rod with one end bent into a hook. The arrow was placed into the crook and the rod sprung after the fashion of the catapult. The "arrow spring" is considered to have preceded the bow by several hundred years.



Mrs. Chattie Coleman Westenus has successfully managed the newspaper Headlight of Stromsburg, Neb., for 33 years. The Headlight was founded in 1885 as an organ of the old Anti-Monopoly party, but when Mrs. Westenus took control she adopted an independent policy.

Huge Increase in Taxes Since 1914

United States Pays \$7,716,000,000 Annually.

New York.—The immense financial burden imposed upon the principal nations associated during the World war against the central powers is analyzed in a comparative study of taxation in the allied countries made by the national industrial conference board.

Taxation in the United States nominally has more than trebled since pre-war days. The total amount of local, state and federal taxes levied in the fiscal year 1923-24 amounted to \$7,716,000,000, as compared with \$2,194,000,000 in 1913-14. Taking into account the decrease of purchasing power of the dollar during the war decade, this represents an actual increase in the tax burden of two and a quarter times that of the last pre-war year.

Per Capita Tax Doubled.
Per capita taxation more than doubled in both the United States and Great Britain. But Great Britain 1924, six years after the signing of the armistice, led all allied countries both in amount of taxes levied per head of population and in the proportion of total national income diverted into channels of governmental expenditures.

France, Italy, Belgium and the United States follow in order, according to the burdensomeness which their respective tax systems imposed upon their people as measured by the relation of taxes to national income.

British per capita taxes, amounting to \$27.11 in the fiscal year 1913-14, had risen to \$58.40 in 1923-24. In terms of 1913 purchasing power; per capita taxes in the United States, figured on the same basis, increased from \$22.73 in 1913-14 to \$45.27 in 1923-24; in France, from \$24.70 to \$29.53; in Belgium, from \$11.39 to \$17.76; in Italy the per capita tax remained the same, \$14.28, taking into account the lower purchasing power of the 1924 currency. Comparative figures for Germany are not available.

Increased Relative to Income.
In both the United States and Great Britain taxation in proportion to na-

Lack of Tourists Arouses the Irish

Dublin.—At the Rotary club in Dublin complaint was made that the tourist traffic, particularly from America, had not reached expectations this year.

One member who had returned from America said he was humiliated there by the questions asked regarding Ireland, by the doubts expressed as to whether the country was safe for travelers, and by the impression that Ireland was in a backward state of civilization, "with pigs in the drawing room."

P. J. O'Brien, secretary of the Irish Tourist Development association, answering these statements, said that, while there had not been anything in the nature of an American invasion, the arrivals at Cobh totaled more than 1,000 a week, and the traffic between Ireland and England on one of the most important services was practically double what it was last year.

The transportation companies concerned were satisfied with both results and prospects.

In Ulster, the tourist traffic is reported in excess of previous years and in several districts has reached the pre-war standard.

In Memory of Maine Log-Drivers



This statue is to be erected in Bangor, Maine, as a monument to the old-time Penobscot river log-drivers, now almost extinct. It is known as the Pierce memorial in honor of the donor, Colonel Pierce, who bequeathed \$30,000 for it.

BEST OF DRESSERS



Mrs. Joseph Moran, wife of a wealthy Brooklyn ship builder who has been called the "best-dressed woman in the world" by newspapers in Paris and London. But Mrs. Moran, who returned to New York a few days ago, disclaimed the honor. She believes in American-made clothes for American women, and her extensive wardrobe was acquired not in Paris, but in New York. She says she dresses only to please her husband, and succeeding in that, she pleases herself.

been received from British capitalists for the construction of a sanatorium above the snow line of the mountain to be used by tubercular patients.

The plan includes the building of an extraordinarily complicated aerial railway for the ascent of the mountain. Part of this line is to be an ordinary funicular or cog incline railway. This is to reach as high as the grades up the mountain's side will permit. From there on an aerial line, cars to be run on a cable, much like elevators dropped into mine shafts, will make the further ascent possible.

The investment is to reach \$500,000. The Popocatepetl crater will not interfere with the plans, it is said, as it is proposed to build the road and terminal on the side of the volcano facing Mexico City, while the sulphuric eruptions and smoke clouds that the mountain emits continually make their exit from its internal calderon from an opening on the east side of the mountain facing the city of Puebla, although the smoke spread above the peak is visible from Mexico City.

Forest Fires Cost \$38,000,000 in 1924

Washington.—There were nearly 92,000 forest fires in 1924, which swept 29,000,000 acres of public and private lands and did \$38,000,000 damage exclusive of injury to young growth, watershed protection, wild life and recreation facilities.

The figures, gathered by forestry officials, are said to be accurate and to indicate how criminal is the carelessness of those responsible for much of the loss. Many of the worst fires, it was reported, occurred in several of the southern states and in California.

PLAN SANITARIUM ON MOUNT POPOCATEPETL

Will Be Erected at Altitude of 17,843 Feet.

Mexico City.—At an altitude of 17,843 feet, near the snow-covered peak of the volcano Mount Popocatepetl, practical use is to be made of the romantic lure of the "mountain that smokes," as Popocatepetl is referred to frequently.

The ministry of public works makes the announcement that an offer has

World War History in Hoover's Library

Collection Endowed by Secretary of Commerce.

Stanford University.—The Hoover war library, endowed by Secretary of Commerce Herbert Hoover at Stanford university, has received 44,500 books and pamphlets, in nearly all languages. Every one bears in some way on the World war.

The largest number, 12,000, are printed in Russian; 10,000 in French, 9,000 in English. The rest are divided among Hungarian, Italian and other languages.

Many of the items, printed or out of print, are irreplaceable. It offers students facilities duplicated nowhere and paralleled only by the Musée de la Guerre at Paris.

Documents of All Nations.
The program of the institution calls

for procuring all important official documents of every nation throughout the war and during the reconstruction period. Three-fourths of this material already has reached the library.

The manuscript collection includes 65,000 reports and communications bearing on conditions in Europe during and after the war. This file is supplemented by copies of private papers of men who were active in world affairs of the time.

Files of Newspapers Gathered.
The library has collected from each country involved a file of newspapers in sympathy with the government, together with those of two opposition papers, representing the left and the right.

Mr. Hoover graduated from Stanford in 1895. He is a member of the board of trustees.

Boss Vetoes Pay Boost Voted Him by Employees

Olivet, Mich.—Methods of putting into business the principles of allowing workers to dictate the salary of officials, handling executive business of the company through a council of workers and making the same rules for workers as executives were outlined by William P. Haggood, president of the Columbia Conserve company of Indianapolis before the conference of the Fellowship for a Christian Social Order.

Haggood declared he allowed his workers to decide what his salary should be, had repeatedly refused increases of salary and had protested that his salary was already too high.

At present, the speaker said, profits are being used to buy out the stockholders. The goal of the workers is complete ownership of the business.

War on Suggestive Movie Titles Bringing Results

Hollywood, Cal.—The fight against suggestive titles to motion pictures has made definite progress during the last six months, Will H. Hays, director general of the industry, declared on his semi-annual trip to the Hollywood film plants.

"The press books for the coming releases of pictures contain only three objectionable titles," Mr. Hays stated. "The open-door policy of the producers and distributors has met with gratifying response all over the country in the shape of letters of suggestion as to the improvement of motion pictures. Further suggestions from the public are solicited."