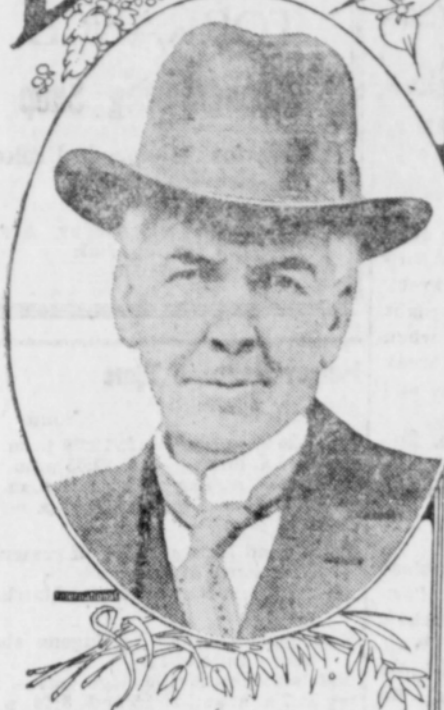


Burbank to Rest



Plant Wizard's Life Work to be Taken Over by Stanford University

By JOHN DICKINSON SHERMAN

LUTHER BURBANK is going to take life a little easier after this. He has earned the right to take whatever rest he chooses. He is seventy-six and for fifty straight years he has been busy at the work that has made him world-famous.

Just how much rest Luther Burbank will choose to take is a question. He is in good health and is as fond of work as Edison, than whom no one is fonder. Nevertheless, for two years he has been gradually getting his affairs in shape with the idea of having some qualified institution take over his experimental farms at Santa Rosa and carry on his work.

Stanford university, it is now announced, will take over the Burbank gardens for maintenance and perpetuation. The conditions under which Stanford was established require that each unit shall have its individual endowment. So a committee is now at work making the necessary financial arrangements.

It is not stated how much Burbank is to receive for his gardens. It is reported, however, that he turns them over at half their full valuation, the figures to be fixed by a friendly committee. The story goes that private interests made offers of \$100,000, of \$150,000 and of \$250,000 and that Burbank refused them, on the ground that he was unwilling to "commercialize" his half-century of work. It is also said that several mid-western and eastern colleges were desirous of purchasing. These Burbank eliminated as being too far away.

The story is that Burbank himself never would have thought of taking things easier, but that two of his personal friends, Edison and Ford, proposed the plan and convinced him of its advisability. David Starr Jordan of Stanford is another personal friend. He too took kindly to the idea. Among others interested in promoting the transfer are President Ray Lyman Wilbur, Herbert Hoover, William G. McAdoo, Rudolph Spreckles, Mrs. A. B. Spreckles, James Rolph, Jr., Herbert Slater, Mrs. Margaret Sartoris and William H. Crocker.

At Stanford it is intimated that a rearrangement will follow the transfer. The present idea seems to be that the gardens will be put in charge of a special faculty of scientists from all parts of the world. This faculty will be jointly chosen by Burbank and the university. Burbank does not plan to give up work entirely. He will presumably be needed. He is quoted as saying that "in twelve hours running" he would not be able to enumerate the experiments he now has under way in his gardens.

Luther Burbank was born on a 200-acre farm at Lancaster, Mass. He was the thirteenth child in a family of fifteen. His father gave him schooling in a private academy and then he had to go to work. He got a job at a wood-turning lathe in Worcester. The job paid \$3 a week. Forthwith he invented an improvement on the lathe, got himself put on piece work and earned some days as much as \$16.50. As soon as he got together a bit of money he went to work at farming—the Burbank kind—in Lunenburg. Horticulturists soon got to speaking



of him as a Yankee who had turned his inventive knack toward growing things—an experimental crank with a mania for improving on nature. Burbank himself has written:

I desired to deal with the forces of life and mold the plastic forms of living organisms rather than classify fixed and immutable phenomena . . . which would appear to be the province of the geologist.

The chief work of the botanist of yesterday was the study and classification of dried, shriveled plant mummies, whose souls had fled, rather than the living plastic forms. We have learned that they are as plastic in our hands as clay in the hands of the potter or color on the artist's canvas, and can readily be molded into more beautiful forms and colors than any painter or sculptor can ever hope to bring forth.

In 1872 in Massachusetts, when Burbank was twenty-three, he undertook to improve the potato. Says Burbank: In this country the potatoes were nubby and small and subject to rot, and when they ran to any size it would be in one direction so that they looked like lady fingers. Sometimes they would be all eyes running clear to the center. They had to be trained to produce good roots, and that was a matter of selection and inviting surroundings. They had to be taught to stay in the hill. I found the seed-ball of an Early Rose, which seldom bears seed, and got thirty-two plants from it that were practically all different. From these came the Burbank potato. I sold it for \$150. It has probably contributed \$150,000,000 to the food values of the world.

Burbank arrived October 1, 1875, in Santa Rosa, Sonoma county, California. He was unheralded and unknown. But he had in his baggage ten Burbank potatoes that he had retained from the Massachusetts sale. Had the "Plant Wizard"—he got the name early—chosen to padlock his gardens and keep his mouth shut he might easily have posed as an international mystery. He chose the opposite policy and when success arrived he proceeded to take the public into his confidence. In 1893 he published his first work, "New Creations in Fruits and Flowers." Other volumes followed; in them he described and pictured his achievements. He worked alone, with no pecuniary assistance, until 1904, when the Carnegie institute granted him \$10,000 a year for ten years. Burbank is not wealthy, it is stated—merely well-to-do.

The title of one of Burbank's books, "How Plants Are Trained to Work for Man," is significant of his methods. He considers that he trains plants. He cannot train the individual plant, perhaps, but he trains the plant family through generation after generation making use of cross-breeding, environmental influences favorable to variation, selection of those qualities valuable to man. Nature herself plays a Burbank prank every now and then—for example, the Delicious Apple and the Temple Orange (soon to be on the market) are both "sports." And Burbank pats Nature on the back. His genius consists in infinite patience, in endless pains, in the ability to aid

In the JUNGLE With Cheerups and the Quixies by Grace Bliss Stewart

THE NERVOUS GNU

IT WAS a very trying moment for Mr. Gnu. He had just begun to wonder what kind of an animal he really was. All his friends were quite sure which family they belonged to. There was Mrs. Ostrich, Raffy Giraffe, Swift the Antelope, Springy Gazelle and Zippy Zebra, his jolly neighbors on the Great Plain. Each knew without a doubt where he belonged in the Animal World.

"But here am I," grumbled Mr. Gnu, "with the head and horns of a bull, the mane and tail of a horse and the body and legs of an antelope; just a mixture like patchwork. It's most embarrassing."

He took a sudden leap into the air, alighted on the ground and began to paw and wheel about like a frisky horse, which is a funny way Gnus have of doing when they are excited and disturbed. Then, kicking up his heels and flourishing his long tail, the Nervous Gnu scampered across the Broad Sunny Plain at top speed.

Soon the Great Trees and Twisty Vines of the edge of the Jungle loomed before him. Their cool shade looked very inviting to Mr. Gnu. "I haven't been in there for a long time," thought he, "I wonder what's going on in the Jungle these days. The same old Lions and Leopards are there, I suppose, and they would like a nice juicy something-or-other like me for supper. But I can't help that; I've just got to go in and look around for myself. It's so mysterious and exciting."

Now the Nervous Gnu is about the most curious animal in the world, so he lost no time in trotting down the

Charles De Roche



Charles de Roche was born in Port-Vendres, Pyrenees, France, July 7, 1893. He is six feet, one inch in height and weighs 185 pounds. He has brown hair and gray eyes. Before entering the "movies" he had a number of years' experience on the stage in France, playing all sorts of roles. He has been seen in some of the most popular pictures, playing opposite prominent stars.

Tickets by the Million

The company operating the omnibus lines in London issues about four million tickets every day. The number of tickets kept in stock is about four hundred millions, and each ticket is stamped with a number.



"Don't Be Alarmed," Called a Voice From the Palm Leaf Roof.

Winding Way into the heart of the Jungle. He was timid and suspicious, of course, but his curiosity quite got the better of him.

"Oh, what's that?" whined he with a jump, as he came suddenly into the clearing and saw Cheerups' little house standing there. "I don't believe it means anything good, whatever it is, and yet I should like to know."

"Don't be alarmed," called a merry voice from the peak of the small palm leaf roof. "I know it looks queer, but I just got up here on top of my house for a change and a better view of things. I'm Cheerups; is there anything I can do for you today?"

"Why—why—yes, sir, there is," stammered the Gnu, remembering all of a sudden the knotty question which had troubled him that morning. "I'd like to know what I am. Now there's a poser for you! You see my chums, Raffy Giraffe, Mrs. Ostrich, Springy Gazelle, Swift the Antelope and Zippy Zebra, all know who they are. We are very happy and sociable out on the Broad Plain, sir, but I am bothered about my family tree."



(© by McClure Newspaper Syndicate.)

Your Last Name

IS IT HINMAN?

THERE is no English Hinman family. Burke gives arms for Inman, Hindman and Hyndman. A genealogist of the American Hinman family suggests that Inman is the original form of the name for which Hinman is a Cockney variation.

At any rate there was early a big family of Hinmans in this country. The first of the name here was Sergeant Edward, who is recorded in Stratford, Conn., between 1650 and 1652. There is a family tradition that he was a sergeant-at-arms in the body-guard of King Charles I, and that that is where he got his designation as sergeant.

There is record that he and Capt. Charles Underhill, in Albany, offered their services to Governor Stuyvesant to help the Dutch fight the Indians but Stuyvesant turned down their offer, saying that he considered the Indians as good friends as the English.

(© by McClure Newspaper Syndicate.)

ABBREVIATED STORY

THE RASPBERRY TRAIL

IN GREAT agitation, Sloopwing Wompers burst in on Waxine Beans, the beautiful lady detective, as she was at work on her forthcoming volume, "How to Exercise the Tongue to Improve the Taste."

"Read this!" he panted, slapping down a badly scrawled, badly stained note, reading: "If you fail to put \$38 under the back gate at midnight tonight, your sun will be put to death."

"My child has disappeared as completely as though the earth had swallowed him up! And to think—the disgrace of it!—his abductors can't even spell correctly and value his priceless life at only \$38! Oh, the shame! And such a vulgar note, all covered with stains! The unspeakable humiliation of it!"

"Stains are my specialty," said Miss Beans cheerfully as she passed her dainty tongue lightly over the note. "I'm. So."

After an hour's search in the neighborhood of the Wompers home, she found a small boy licking an all-day sucker behind a barrel.

"What flavor is it, sonny?" she asked winningly.

"Raspberry," he replied.

(© by McClure Newspaper Syndicate.)

A LINE O' CHEER

By John Kendrick Bangs

THE SPUR

THE wolf was standing at my door. Including in the usual roar I'd heard so many times before.

I'd got so used to him that he for all he howled so lustily somehow no longer bothered me.

And soon I came to look on him as if he were a creature grim to spur me on to greater vim.

And do you know that every day he wagged his tail in manner gay And grinning broadly loped away!

(© by McClure Newspaper Syndicate.)

Sex Differences

Psychologists estimate that 30 per cent of the men are as emotional as 50 per cent of the women, but this is in a measure offset by the statement that for generations the female has been encouraged from earliest childhood to express her emotions, while the male is taught to repress his. Doctor Thorndike of Columbia university says: "The individual differences within one sex so enormously out-

weigh the differences between the sexes in the intellectual and semi-intellectual traits that for practical purposes the sex differences may be disregarded."

Graduated

Little Helen was inclined to be selfish, and her mother, hoping to correct this fault, taught her to hand around anything nice she might have, after remarking to visitors, "I always take some of what Helen offers, whether I want it or not, so that she will learn to

New Afghan Coinage

The government of Afghanistan has introduced a new system of coinage which has for its unit the amania, a silver coin worth approximately the same as the Kabull rupee (about 16 cents). The name of the new coin is derived from Amanullah, the name of the present sultan of Afghanistan. In addition to the amania there will be coined half-amania pieces and nickel coins of smaller denominations. Ac-

ording to press reports the required silver has been purchased in India through a German firm and the nickel through an Italian firm. The manufacturing stamps have been imported from Europe.

Maryland's Flag a Copy

The state flag of Maryland represents the escutcheon of the paternal coat of arms of Lord Baltimore. The first and fourth quarters consist of six vertical bars, alternately gold and

black, with a diagonal band, on which the colors are reversed; the second and third quarters consist of a quartered field of red and white, charged with a Greek cross, its arms terminating in treflois, with the colors transposed, red being on the white ground and white on the red, and all being represented as on the escutcheon of the present seal of Maryland.

The beaver, though looked on as an embodiment of industry, sleeps ten hours a day.