



THE VEGETABLE SEDAN

Henry Ford has just turned out a car with a plastic body made largely from vegetables. It is part salad and part automobile.



It marks the triumph of the vegetable over the steel industry.

Henry has been experimenting with the idea for years. He is a man who always looks ahead. And wipes his own windshield.

A farm boy, Hank always nourished the notion that the "Man With the Hoe" could do anything that could be done by the "Vice President With the Blueprint." And after all there was nothing so fanciful in the idea of making an auto out of vegetables. Henry had been making spinach out of automobiles all his life.

Henry's first problem was to find out which vegetables would go best in automobiles. He could dismiss the cucumber at the start. Too many people won't have anything to do with cucumbers.

He then considered onions, but dropped them quickly. After all, he was making a car, not a hamburger.

Lettuce and tomatoes were suggested, but vetoed after the opening debate. Mr. Ford did not want the public to get his car confused with a reducing diet.

The soybean had begun to poke its noggin up and attract attention for some time. Of all vegetables, none has gotten ahead in life like the soybean.

The jelly bean, the string bean and the lima bean were better known, but never got anywhere industrially. (Once in October, 1928, a string bean did succeed in getting into the reception room of Mr. Ford's offices, but it was kept waiting so long that when the word finally came, "Mr. Ford will see you now," it had gone stale.—Ed note.)

But it was soon found that almost anything from a harmonica to a trailer could be made from the soybean, and Henry always liked a bean that was ambitious and full of get-up and go.

In 1932 somebody suggested that automobiles could be made from hay, but word came from Detroit that Mr. Ford was satisfied to keep on making hay from automobiles.

Anyhow, Henry has succeeded in his experiments, and in the priorities crisis has found a way to make a flivver almost entirely from the vegetable garden. The plastic material has 10 times the strength of steel in resisting a blow. It's the iron in the vegetables.

Of course, the government can throw a monkey wrench into Mr. Ford's car by putting the soybean and other vegetables on a priorities list. Anyhow, good luck to the idea. But we hope we don't get another one of those tire jacks made out of mashed potatoes.

THE CALL

("OPM wants Marlene Dietrich's legs for use in drive to popularize stockings made from silk substitutes.")—News item.)

Hark, Marlene! The OPM's Calling for Those famous stems

Listen, kid— Your country begs For the right To use those legs.

All must make Some sacrifice; Give those legs! They will suffice.

Ankles such As yours, Marlene, In a war A lot may mean.

Forward, then, With calf and knee— In the cause Of victory!

LAMENT

Baby fingerprints to poets Are sweet and quite a thrill; Methinks they've never washed 'em off A grimy windowsill. —Beatrice Gittleman.

The Chrysler company is turning out scores of tanks per week. Of course it had the advantage of still retaining the designs for that model it turned out about 10 years ago with both ends alike.

FARM TOPICS

THIN OUT HERDS TO CUSHION DROP

Suggest Meat Producers Insure Future.

By PAUL L. MALONEY (Extension Service, University of Nevada Agriculture Service.)

Culling herds of all undesirable cattle and sheep is excellent insurance against the time when there may be less demand for meat products.

By selling off the undesirable animals now, the livestock producer can realize good prices, and, when more cattle are needed, they should be bred through the introduction of high quality sires.

The U. S. bureau of agricultural economics reports that there is an increase of more than 2,000,000 head of cattle and that the index price of beef is 125 per cent.

The question naturally arises, How can the livestock man protect himself from these extremes in the cycle of low and high prices and large and small numbers of stock? How can he prevent the calamity which has followed the rise in price and subsequent increase in numbers?

By vigorously culling the herds at this time producers will be enabled to put their financial houses in order, to get rid of their mortgages and find themselves with surplus funds.

All thinking stockmen who have gone through extremes in numbers of livestock and price cycles will advocate a straightening out of the cycle by knocking a little off the peaks and boosting up the bottom of the curve. This will prevent, to a great extent, the confusion which exists after every break in prices when there is a surplus of stock on hand.

While it is natural for stockmen to desire to keep every heifer and every cow which will produce him a calf to sell at the high prices, yet in the operation of any successful business enterprise it often requires the careful analysis of the past experience in order to make the best use of the present and future of the business.

During the first World War livestock prices skyrocketed to a very high figure; these prices encouraged the producer to expand his operations and at the same time encouraged the consumers to substitute many other cheaper, yet less desirable, foods for meat.

AGRICULTURE IN INDUSTRY

By Florence C. Weed

(This is one of a series of articles showing how farm products are finding an important market in industry.)

Cellulose for Plastics

Hairbrush bristles from wood, buttons from milk, fountain pens from soybeans. These are commonplace articles in everyday use, chosen from the 1,000 or more articles being made from plastics.

The word "plastic" describes a new chemical process whereby certain farm products are ground to a powder, mixed with chemicals and color, then hardened in molds into the shape of articles in everyday use. In this material, the color penetrates each molecule and does not have to be surface finished.

You have seen these objects many times—pencils, ash trays, toy animals, buckles and inexpensive jewelry. Soybean plastics make standard parts of Ford automobiles such as door and window frames, horn buttons, light switch levers. From wood and cotton plastics come colorful handles for tools, radio cases, lamp bases and telephone receiver sets.

Wood, cotton, soybean and casein plastics are being commercially produced, and a pilot plant in Louisiana is making cheap plastics from sugar cane on a small scale. Still in the experimental stage are plastics made from corn, known as zein. In Maine, experiments are under way to develop potato plastics which resemble clear glass. Other good possibilities which have not been developed are corn stalks and grain straws, pig and cow hair and poultry feathers.

While plastics are still in the gadget stage, research has started to adapt them to automobile and airplane bodies and housing materials. Sheets of proper strength and color have been perfected and are waiting for someone to find a practical scheme for fastening the sections together.

Agricultural Notes

Gathering eggs frequently will reduce the number of dirty eggs.

Cooling eggs as soon as they are gathered, to as near 50 degrees as possible, will prevent spoilage.

Top-dressing haylands with manure or fertilizer after the first cutting will help produce a good crop of second cutting hay.

Use Milk Can to Preserve Blood

Scientists Find Method to Refrigerate Liquid for Army Emergencies.

CHICAGO.—Two scientists have recommended the common milk can as an effective means of storing blood for army emergencies "under all military conditions."

The "milk can" bank was explained by Drs. Elmer L. De Gowin and Robert C. Hardin in War Medicine, published by the American Medical association and the national research council's medical division.

Terming the product of their investigation "a new, simple method for collecting, storing and transporting human blood plasma," the Iowa City, Iowa, physicians said they had developed and tested a bank which would have the following recommendations:

Practical usability under shell fire. Ability to withstand long distance shipment in any vehicle.

Easy maintenance by a supply sergeant or other enlisted man.

Use limited only by accessibility of snow or cracked ice for re-packing every 18 to 24 hours.

Make Many Tests.

The doctors disclosed that the new preservation method was equally applicable to whole blood and blood plasma (fluid part without red cells) but stressed the significance of plasma.

Physicians consider plasma of vital military importance because it can be used for quick transfusions without matching the type of the patient.

De Gowin and Hardin made the principal unit of their bank by fitting large glass flasks, in common use in hospitals, with rubber stoppers allowing self-closing needle punctures.

Tests showed the flasks could be immersed in ice water for long periods without leakage, and the contents safely administered directly from the flasks. They found that the red cells would precipitate in 24 to 48 hours.

Next, the scientists developed a delicate temperature indicator, simple enough for layman or soldier to read. A supply sergeant or someone else, the doctors said, could discard flasks whose indicators showed proper temperatures had not been maintained.

Find Milk Can Best. Searching for economical refrigeration containers, Hardin and De Gowin discovered after several experiments that "the commercial type of 10-gallon milk can" was most practical. Covered with insulated jackets, such cans accommodate 10 flasks and enough ice for 12 to 24 hours.

"The transportation of blood in these individual refrigeration units ought to be particularly practical under shell fire," the doctors said, "for the cans could be dispersed in many types of vehicles so that some would almost certainly arrive at their destination."

To test the banks, the physicians shipped two consignments of cans, one 720 miles by automobile and one 3,539 miles by airplane. The contents in both shipments were transfused to hospital patients requiring such treatment.

From 40 transfusions, there was only one unfavorable reaction, that of a patient suffering chills and fever.



PETER AND THE HUNTER ARE CLOSE TOGETHER

IT WAS a smart dog who was chasing Peter Rabbit. There was no question about that. Even Peter himself admitted it, and you know Peter is rather inclined to think that dogs are very easy to fool; in fact that they are not smart at all. But this one wasn't easy to fool. Peter had tried every one of the common tricks and not one of them had bothered that dog for more than a few minutes. It was clear that he knew a great deal about rabbits and their ways.

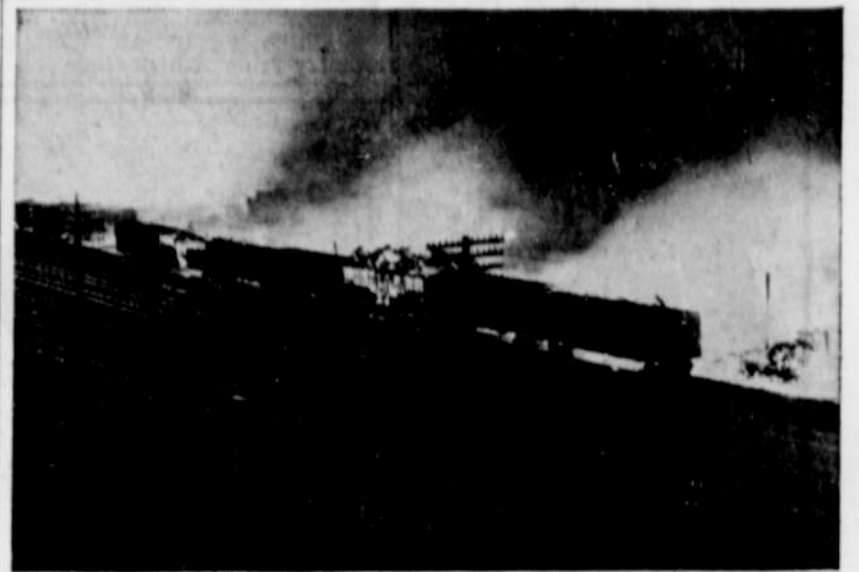
Peter wouldn't have minded this particularly if the dog had been alone, but when Peter found that a hunter with a dreadful gun was looking for him and was standing where he could shoot Peter if he should try to run to the dear old Brier Patch, why then Peter did begin to get a little worried. It was very clear that he must get rid of that dog somehow. Without the dog the hunter never could find him, never in the wide world.

So Peter ran a little harder than before, lipperty-lipperty-lip, just like that.

When he had almost caught up with the dog, Peter ran off to one side in a straight line a little way and he ran very fast. Then he turned around and ran straight back in his own tracks almost to where he had turned off and there he did a very surprising thing. That is, it would have been surprising to anyone who didn't know Peter and his tricks. He leaped off to one side, making just the longest leap he possibly could so that there was a long distance between the place where his feet left the earth and where they touched it again. Then he did it again and again and still again. After that he headed straight for the Laughing Brook and when he reached it he ran along in the water on the very edge until he came to a hollow log lying on the bank. That log was hollow its whole length and open at both ends. Peter crawled into it from the end nearest the Laughing Brook and there he made himself comfortable while he rested and listened to the dog.

He could tell just what that dog was doing as well as if he were watching him. You see Peter leaves a little scent in his tracks. He can't help it. So all the dog had to do was to keep his nose to the ground and follow that scent. All the time he kept barking to let his master know

Four Missing in Million Dollar Fire



Flaming box cars are shown in the dramatic photo above of the mysterious fire which swept through a block-long wheat warehouse and two fish-reduction plants in Porta Costa, Calif. Four men are missing and feared drowned. They were from a sea-going tugboat, a wheatblower barge and a whaling boat, all destroyed in the fire.

'Paralyzed Oath' Is New One to Courtroom

PORTLAND, MAINE.—A "paralyzed oath" has no standing in municipal court. Answering a charge of assaulting a woman, a defendant in the court said: "I'll take a paralyzed oath that I never struck her." The defendant explained a "paralyzed oath" meant, "I will be paralyzed by the Almighty if I don't tell the truth."

Dried Human Blood Used With Success in Clinic

HOUSTON, TEXAS.—Dried human blood plasma that can save life for as long as five years after being taken from the donor's veins was one of the chief chemical developments on display at the recent Texas Pharmaceutical association convention.

The product, perfected by a leading pharmaceutical firm, was released for general hospital use June 2 after more than 10 years' experimental work in clinics and laboratories under the supervision of leading scientists.

Its chief advantage is that it is usable after long periods whereas liquid blood is seldom kept more than four weeks.

The product is made by freezing plasma to over 100 degrees below zero. With less than 1 per cent moisture when it is dry, it is sealed in vacuum containers and distributed for hospital or other professional use.

Liquid blood must be kept and transported with refrigeration but the dried plasma can be handled under adverse conditions, it was pointed out. Too, its use is extremely simple.

Nip and Tuck

By BESS GOE WILLIS



Beat it, Nip! I'll take care of this guy. (Public Ledger—WNU Service.)

Windsor Household Aids By Forming a Pig Club

WINDSOR, ENGLAND.—Like other patriotic citizens, members of the royal household at Windsor have formed a pig club—the 1000th to be registered with the National Pig Breeders council.

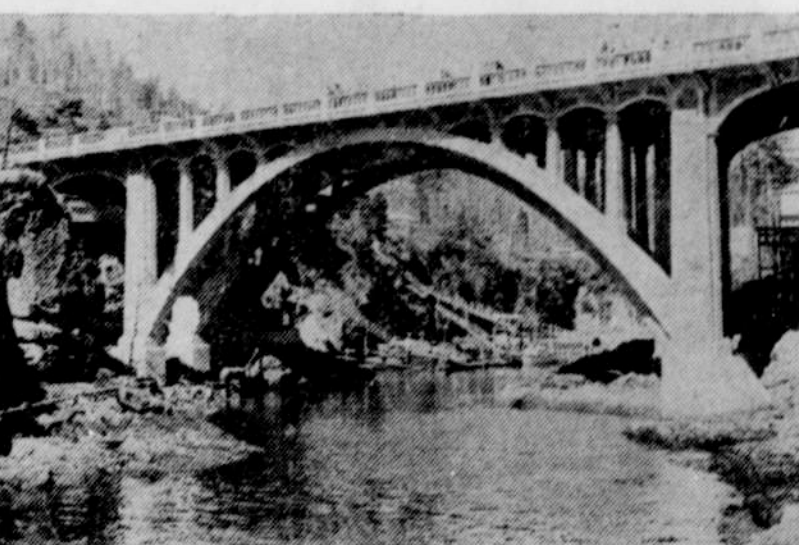
The scraps from the castle are being put to a new use. They go straight to the pigs.

Each member of the club paid a subscription of \$4 and among them they own 52 pigs.

Cheap Living

You can live comfortably in Santiago, Chile, for as little as \$1.75 a day.

World's Most Narrow Harbor Entrance



Here is the narrowest harbor entrance in the world, spanned by a four-lane highway bridge of the Oregon Coast highway, U. S. 101. The entrance from the Pacific ocean to Depoe bay, Ore., is only 22 feet wide and nine feet deep. Only fishing craft, trawlers and sports boats can negotiate the tortuous channel.

FRENCH WOMEN USE U. S. FLOUR SACKS FOR CLOTHING

VICHY, FRANCE.—Two hundred thousand sacks that contained the United States gift of flour to the people of unoccupied France have been transformed into sheets, aprons, bibs, dresses, shirts and underclothing for the children of French unemployed.

In an interview with the newspaper Journal a member of the unemployment bureau told how this had come about.

"One of our employees who was in Marseilles when the Red Cross was distributing the American flour happened to remark the flour sacks and to exclaim on the beautiful cotton material of which they were made," she said. "The Red Cross official present said that if they could be turned to useful purposes for the unemployed he would donate them gladly. The gift was arranged and thousands of French unem-

ployed women received the task of preparing and making useful things from the sacks.

"By scraping and beating the sacks after they had been emptied by the Red Cross, these women were able to recover 30 kilograms of flour from each 5,000 sacks. This flour was distributed among the most needy of the unemployed.

"In the endeavor to remove the trade marks and designs stamped

on the sacks the women found that part of the cloth turned to a pale pink. This part has been used in making underwear. The work on all the articles is fine, and they are serviceable.

"The string that tied the sacks was sorted, combed and made into yarn, and with it the unemployed women have knitted more than 4,000 suits of rompers."