To Grow Bananas In South

After seven years of intensive search and experimentation, Dr T. J. Harris has discovered banana seeds and is now introducing their cultivation in the South. He plans to make this great food fruit a profitable crop in Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Texas and later in South Carolina, Tennessee and Kentucky. Picture shows Dr. Harris in his southern gardens.

Bananas Will Be Coming Big Crop in Southern States

That old familiar strain, "Way down south in the land of cotton," some day will give way to "Way down south in the land of bananas," if the dreams of Dr. T. J. Harris come true.

Dr. Harris, discoverer of the banana seed declares the day will come when bananas will be the chief crop of the southern tier of these United States.

Already he has introduced the banana seed into Florida. There he cultivates the slippery skinned fruit on Melbourne Farms, the experiment station which he is conducting. Now he plans to plant his seed in Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi and Texas. Later he will invade South Carolina, Tensessee and Kentucky.

"One acreo of bananas yields a greater food supply than twenty acres of wheat," says Dr. Harris. "All I need is a temperate zone in which there is freedom from frost six months in the year."

"I'm not bringing these seeds to life to accomplish something freakish, but to grow this food plant or fruit."

Dr. Harris is certain that great banana plantations can replace the cotton fields of the South. Cotton crops are being eaten up by the boll weevil and other pests.

"No, we wouldn't have too many bananas," says Dr. Harris. "The banana crops would go into the making of banana flour which is as good as wheat flour."

The banana plant gave up producing seed years ago and multiplies itself vegetatively, according to Dr. Harris.

"It was necessary, therefore, if seed production were to be induced," he commented, "to subject the plant to conditions conductive to reproduction as opposed to the usual tropical conditions which, of course, favor vegetation, the bananas being one of these fruits which develops whether pollinated or not, and the more vigorously the plant grows, the larger will be the bunch of fruit. This is contrary to what transpires in the fruit orchards in the temperate zone.

"The pistillate of female flowers are at the base of the bunch, which, when it assumes the usual inverted position, places the staminate or pollen bearing flowers below; these are found under the braits of the tassel-like appendages. Then again, the male flowers are not ipen until the female flowers are not open until the fe-over and dead (one of Nature's devices to bring about cross-pollination). But, since the pollen grains are not wind borne, but are sticky and remain attached to the anthers, there is no doubt that in prehistoric times, some insesct or sectar sipping bird performed the function of transferring the pollen from one bunch of fruit to another; this agency either became extinct or the plant failed to produce the attractive nectar."

Dr. Harris successfully crossed the red banana with the commercial yellow from one to three large seeds developing near the flower end of the bananas experimented upon. The minute black specks sometimes found in bananas are unfertilized ovules upon the central placenta; the fertile seeds are three-eights of an inch in diameter.

Dr. Harris has been hailed as the Luther Burbanks of Great Britain. For seventeen years he was superintendent of the British Government Agricultural Experiment and Teaching Stations in Jamaica and Bermuda.

His creative work won him election as a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts and Industries of the British Empire.

WHISKERS ARE RULED OUT BY LIONS CLUB

That Springfield will not tamely submit to edicts coming from the "Trail to Rail" moot-court situated in Eugene was shown Friday by the action of the local Lions club at their weekly meeting. The manly spirits of Springfield's booster organization revolted from the extension of jurisdiction to Springfield and issued a counter edict which set at naught the fulmugations of the Eugene hierarchy.

Since Friday all unusual facial adornments have been under the ban in Springfield. The males of Eugene may tamely submit to hiddiing behind such brush as Moses wore, but not the men of Springfield. Such was the resolution passed by the Lions club.

The resolution states that "Whereas the Boosters and Sports of Springfield are wholeheartedly with Eugene in making the Trail to Rail celebration a success," therefore be it resolved that any Springfield or Eugene citizen caught wearing the "Trail to Rail Whiskers within the corporate limits of Springfield be arrested and fined 50 cents." The money thus raised is being used to defray the expense of Springfield entries in the parade.

Since Friday its provisions have been strictly enforced. The first offenders to suffer the trials of the "Trail Twisters" court were H. J. Cox and Harry Stewart, who were caught with the proof of guilt upon their faces.

Besides passing this manly resolution the club listened to the reports of the committee chairmen in charge of the Trail to Rail float built under the joint auspices of the Lions club and the Chamber of Commerce. Julius Fulop reported on money raised to pay for the float, and G. G. Bushman reported upon the general plans for the floats.

An invitation was given the Lions to inspect the Ables irrigated ranch Saturday, August 21 which has been conducting a series of experiments under the direction of the Experiment station of the Oregon Agriculture College.

Jess Smitson was a guest at the luncheon.

In Court For Throwing Tomatoes

A family quarrel found its way into the courts today when Bert Woods was fined $10 in justice court for throwing tomatoes at J. H. Harris. The two families are neighbors, Harris lives on B street and Woods on Fifth. The children of the two got to fighting and calling names and last night the parents became ivolved. A large supply of vegetables furnished the ammunition for the two men who indulged in the sport for some time before they were compelled to quit.

Bayb Boy Born—Mr. and Mrs. Walter Palley of Mable announced the arrival of a baby boy Tuesday morning. The baby was born at the Pacific Christian hospital.

FOR SALE—Payroll sheets, printed and in stock at the News office. Form suitable for road, construction work, sawmills, etc., with table to compute workman's compensation and deductions. No employer should be without these forms when they can be purchased for a few cents

OREGON NEWS ITEMS OF SPECIAL INTEREST

Brief of Resume of Happenings the Week Collected for Our Readers.

Ingvald Lien, 17, son of Mr. and Mrs. R. K. Yien of Canby, was killed while blasting stumps.

Fees in the Columbia county clerk's office for July amounted to $624.10, an increase of $170 over July, 1925.

Final surveys have been made preparatory to beginning construction of the new $300,000 theater at Klamath Falls.

Aproximately 300 men are reported to be fighting 11 forest fires on state and national timber land in Jackson county.

The entire Cascade national forest, lying east of Eugene and comprising 1,023,510 acres has been closed to smokers.

John Lynn, 30, died at a Salem hospital of injuries suffered in an explosion while blasting stumps near Sublimity.

About 100 delegates from 28 Oregon counties attended the annual convention of the Oregon Title association at Astoria.

Boardman ranchers who planted wheat are highly elated over the heavy yield which is running from 40 to 60 bushels per acre.

Plans for the North Morrow county fair are nearing completion. September 3 and 4 are the dates set and it will be held at Boardman.

W. L. Clinton, 60, Portland, was killed instantly when his car turned over on The Dalles-California highway, 45 miles north of Klamath Falls.

The public service commission denied the application of the Coos Bay Boom company for permission to cease operations on the Coquille river.

Ladders are used to pick evergreen berries in the vicinity of Reedsport, the bushes growing 15 feet in height and covering about 20 feet square.

Halsey and Tangent gardeners are complaining about the damage done by the China pheasants by scratching out the squash vines and other plants.

Labor conditions in Salem are the best on the Pacific coast, according to a report for July issued by the United States department of labor in Portland.

Fire losses in the state of Oregon, exclusive of Portland, during July aggregated $646,340, according to a report prepared by Will Moore, state fire marshal.

The number of inmates at the Oregon state penitentiary has reached its peak in the history of the institution. There are now a total of 592 convicts in the prison.

The Ladd & Bush bank at Salem, which is one of the oldest financial institutions in the state, has received a permit to remodel its quarters at a cost of $50,000.

William Burch, who has been a logging contractor for a number of years, was killed instantly at the Scheider mill, near Lorane, when struck by the top of a falling tree.

Redmond has been selected as the site for a 45,000-egg hatchery which is to be operated by W. H. Thompson of Canby. Work of installing machinery probably will be started in September.

Because he used a circle of fire in timbered country to keep coyotes away from his flock of sheep at night, Frank Byrne, camptender for Pat Reilly of Jefferson county, was arrested near Bend and fined $25.

Herbert Hoover, secretary of commerce, plans to lose himself somewhere in the wilds of Oregon the last 10 days of August. Just where he will spend his time, or with whom, the secretary would not say.

The Valley Brotherhood of Baptists, which includes representatives from Marion, Polk, Benton and Linn counties, held its annual picnic at Santiam park, near Jefferson. More than 300 persons attended the banquet.

For having the most attractively arranged and best kept garden in a club of six, John Crosta of Yankton received the first prize in a garden inspection tour conducted by George A. Nelson, Columbia county agent.

China pheasants are unusually abundant in eastern and western Oregon and deer are plentiful in every section of the state where deer are to be found, according to E. F. Averill, state game warden, in his monthly report.

A mortgage given by the West Coast Hydro-Electric corporation to the Bankers Trust and Savings Bank of Minnesota for $785,000 has been filed with the Columbia county clerk. The mortgage covers land, leases, electric works, power houses, etc., of the corporation in Columbia, Douglas, Harney, Hood River, Lane, Lincoln, Multnomah and Tillamook counties and in Mason, Wahkiakum and Skamania counties, Washington.

Under construction since March 4 the Crooked river bridge, spanning a basalt walled gorge more than 300 feet in depth on the route of The Dalles-California highway in southern Jefferson county, was opened to general traffic Sunday.

A. C. Dixon, general manager of the Booth-Kelly Lumber company, of Eugene, an authority on western lumber conditions, has been appointed a member of the national committee on wood utilization, which has its headquarters in Washington, D. C.

Another new recent record for the Willamette river level was set at Eugene when a mark of minus .7 feet was reported by the observer. This is the lowest mark recorded since the start of taking of the measurements a number of years ago.

Two hundred and fifty head of cattle are reported to have died in an alarming epizootic, which for two weeks has been depleting herds near Corbett, Damascus, Troutdale, Boring, Gresham and Springdale. The disease is diagnosed as hemorhagic septicemia.

The Jackson county court has offered a reward of $500 for the arrest and conviction of forest firebugs to be coupled to the $500 offered by the state for the same purpose. The action was taken following the setting by an incendiary of six fires on Evans creek.

An average of one deer a week is being killed on the highways of Oregon by reckless auto drivers, according to E. F. Averill, state game warden, who has given game wardens instructions to arrest drivers for reckless driving when the responsibility appears to rest with them.

The reclamation bureau is hurrying to completion plans for the drainage system of the Warm Springs division of the Vale irrigation project, and will advertise for bids as soon as the courts have approved the contract entered into between the Vale irrigation district and the secretary of the interior.

Receipts from timber sales in the Deschutes national forest for the 1926 fiscal year were surpassed by those of only one other forest in Oregon—the Crater. Timber sale receipts from the Deschutes forest for the past year total $101,454.54. Receipts from similar sales in the Crater national forest amount to $215,973.76.

Negotiations on the part of Bend for the past two years to obtain water from Tumalo creek for a domestic supply ended when the city became owner of rights to six second feet. The supply was secured from the Tumalo irrigation district, the city trading 9½ second feet of Deschutes water and paying $25,000 for the Tumalo rights.

Papers were served on members of the public service commission at Salem in a suit filed in the United States district court in Portland to restrain the commission from enforcing an order placing the valuations of the Coos and Curry Telephone company at $844,597 for rate-making purposes. This order was issued by the commission on April 1, 1926.

Voters of the state of Oregon at the general election in 1928 will express their attitude on the question of repealing the 18th amendment to the federal constitution, according to an initiative petition filed in the offices of the secretary of state at Salem. The petition was filed by the World War Veterans' league, of which F. O. Mercer of Portland is president.

The state game commission at its next meeting in September probably will be asked to adopt two measures to protect game fish in Oregon, according to E. F. Averill, state game warden. One measure would prohibit the use of salmon eggs in catching rainbow trout in Diamond lake and the other would make unlawful the smoking and salting of trout.

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