

'Animal' Constellation Is Visible in Eastern Sky

By **FAY BENTLEY**

"Help! Help!" screamed the princess to her ladies-in-waiting as the bull upon which she was riding, and had thought to be so gentle, plunged into the waters of the sea.

Struck in fear and alarm the attendants ran towards their princess, but in a few moments, both bull and rider had disappeared from view.

Jupiter, king of the gods, while visiting the earth in mortal form saw Europa, lovely daughter of King Agenor of Phoenicia, walking in the garden with her maids. Attracted by her great beauty he started towards her.

Flees to Palace

The approach of a strange man frightened Europa and with her ladies-in-waiting she fled to the palace.

The following day when the princess and her maidens entered the garden, no strange man was in sight, but in a nearby field grazed a beautiful, snow-white bull, who slowly moved to the spot where Europa was gathering flowers.

"He seems so gentle," said the princess to her companions as she playfully formed a wreath of flowers and hung it over his horns. The bull then knelt on the grass and Europa seated herself on his back.

Worried Maidens

"I shall only take a short ride around the garden," she said to her maidens who were rather worried by the confinement placed in this strange animal.

For a short distance the bull walked slowly, then suddenly he threw up his head, gave a loud bellow and dashed for the seashore. Entering the water he swam to the island of Crete, where he knelt for Europa to dismount. Jupiter again assumed mortal form and the princess recognized the stranger who had started her the day before.

Home-sick and lonely at first, the lovely Europa soon forgot her unhappiness in the magnificent castle which the king of the gods gave her for a home.

Places Constellation

In memory of this event Jupiter placed the constellation, Taurus the Bull, in the sky and adorned it with the Pleiades and the Hyades, two lovely, star clusters.

The tiny, dipper-shaped Pleiades which glow so beautifully in the heavens during the months of November, December, and January, were discussed in a recent column. These stars representing six charming maidens are considered to be the shoulders of the Bull.

Forming the face of Taurus is a second star cluster named the Hyades (HIGH-a-dees). Alde-

baran, a large, twinkling, rose-red star of first magnitude is the right eye of this animal.

The Hyades are in the shape of a capital V lying on its side with the point or vertex of the V to the right or south while the tips of the V extend to the left or north, with brilliant Aldebaran marking the tip of the lower side of the V.

Stars Mark Horns

Two stars on the left of the V make the horns of the celestial Bull. As he is swimming in the sea, only the head, shoulders, and fore legs are shown.

Aldebaran, whose magnitude greatly exceeds all the other stars in this star picture, may be seen when clouds hide the others from view. Strangely enough, this beautiful rose-red star is not actually a part of the cluster called the Hyades. Located between the earth and the more distant stars it only appears to be a part of this star group.

However, Aldebaran at a distance of 37 light years, or 342 trillion miles, is not exactly close to the earth. The diameter of this star is estimated to be about 30 million miles. The diameter of our sun is about 865 thousand miles.

Unusually Devoted

According to mythology, the sisters of a great hunter, Hyas, were unusually devoted to their kind brother. At his death they grieved so deeply that the gods placed these maidens in the sky in recognition of their sisterly devotion.

Europa the princess whom Jupiter abducted from the land of Phoenicia is not shown in this sky picture.

To find this fascinating "animal" constellation, look to the eastern sky about 8:30 or 9 p.m., and locate the tiny dipper-shaped Pleiades, fairly high in the heavens. Directly beneath them, at a distance of about 15 degrees, the rosy Aldebaran marks the fiery right eye of the Bull. (Remember, the Pointers in the Big Dipper are about five degrees apart.) The fainter stars of the Hyades can be located by looking for a V in which Aldebaran is the lower tip.

Imaginary lines which spread slightly apart, for a distance of about 15 degrees to the left of each tip of the V point out the two stars which mark the top of the horns. Some rather dim stars to the right of the Bull's face represent the fore legs of this swimming animal.

Salem — (UPI) — Dr. Carl Kennedy, Portland, has been named as a member of the State Board of Naturopathic Examiners.

Estimated 100,000 Acres May Be Planted in Trees

Portland—An estimated 100,000 acres in Oregon and Washington may be planted to trees under the Conservation Reserve portion of the Soil Bank program, according to Regional Forester J. Hebert Stone, Portland.

Farmers planning to take part in the program in 1957 must be signed up by March 15, 1957, Stone said.

Responsibility for developing forestry phases of the department of agriculture's "soil bank" was assigned the forest service.

Technical Assistance

State foresters will supply trees and technical assistance to farmers. Specific information on the application of the soil bank program to local areas is secured from Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation committees.

The soil bank has two parts. The first is the acreage reserve, intended to reduce surpluses of six basic crops. The other is the conservation reserve, intended to cut back production of crops by shifting acreage to long-range conservation uses.

It is under the conservation reserve that producers may want to retire marginal or sub-marginal cropland by establishing an approval cover by planting trees, Stone said. To do this, he pointed out, farmers will designate in agreements with the department of agriculture specific acreage to be included.

Steps Outlined

Stone outlined the six steps of the process. They are: (1) A farmer learns from the ASC office rules and establishes his soil bank base acreage. (2) With the local forester and the ASC committee he works out the location and plan of the conservation reserve acres and signs a contract. Tree planting contracts extend for 10 years after planting. (3) The farmer buys and plants trees best suited to the site.

(4) Through the county ASC committee the federal government reimburses the farmer up to 80 per cent of the cost of the trees and planting. In addition the farmer is paid an annual rent, varying by counties from \$8 to \$14 his land is in conservation reserve.

(5) The farmer maintains the tree crop. Financial help is available for cultivating the tree plantation for two years if this is necessary to give the trees a good start. (6) Spread of noxious weeds must be prevented and, if necessary, the "reserve" will have to be fenced to protect it from livestock.

Luring the life of the contract no harvesting from the area may be done.

Agreements Reached

Agreements have been reached

between the forest service and the state foresters to develop nursery production sufficient to supply the number of trees needed. Oregon is expected to have 1,000,000 or more tree seedlings, one year old, ready for the fall of 1957.

Washington is expected to have 5,000,000 seedlings two

years old. Plans have been made to produce 15,000,000 seedlings annually within the next few years in Oregon and a similar amount in Washington.

Currently and during 1957, Stone said, not enough forest tree seedlings will be available to meet the demands under the soil bank. But, he added, it should not keep any farms from entering the conservation reserve program tree planting.

Stone stated that a farmer can sign up now, receive his annual payment in 1957 and each year thereafter for 10 years after the trees are planted. This has the

LOW BEER

Guttenberg, N.J. — (UPI) — Tavern owner Emil Mayer still has nickel beer. He started dispensing the low-priced suds during the depression. Despite current prices he hopes to hold the line at a nickel.

effect of extending a 10-year contract period by the number of years trees are unavailable, he said.

Any farmer is eligible to take part in the conservation reserve, Stone said.

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