



MEAL FOR ANTEATER — Ed Maruska, head keeper of Children's Zoo at Chicago, holds a pygmy anteater which was recently received from the Amazon river area. The egg held by Maruska is part of the animal's diet. None of the little animals has ever survived in captivity. (UPI Telephoto)

OSC Gets Big Grant to Study Variation of Food Properties

Corvallis — Forest research grants totaling \$67,600 have been received by Oregon State college for studies in genetic variation of wood properties, Douglas fir seed embryo development, seed orchard production problems, and cone opening.

The grants from the Louis W. and Maud Hill Family Foundation will permit scientists to venture into new fields of research in forestry.

The project on extent of genetic variation in wood properties and relation of these variations to tree growing conditions and original seed sources will be headed by Dr. M. D. McKimmy of the school of forestry.

How Influenced
It will determine which of and how these wood properties are influenced by heredity — specific gravity, rate of growth, wood fiber characteristics, spiral grain, nature and amount of extractives, and other technical aspects of wood anatomy. Greater understanding of tree heredity is considered the key to improvement in tree form and growth.

Seed orchards of carefully selected, performance tested trees are in the pioneer stage of development now as a means of providing superior tree seed for the future. The new OSC project will include a detailed examination of some seed orchard problems.

Different methods of storing tree pollen used in hybridizing experiments will be studied also. The project will be a joint study by Dr. Helge Irgens-Moller, forest geneticist; Dr. Te May Ching, seed scientist; and Dr. Kim K. Ching, Oregon Forest Research Center.

X-Rays To Be Used
High-powered x-rays will be used by William P. Wheeler of the forestry staff to observe differences in development of "trees" just as they start growing within the seed hull.

Differences in cellular change in the small embryos may be related to geographical location of parent seed trees, it is believed. Forest researchers think this may hold the answer to several questions on seedling survival.

In the other project, Dr. Frank H. Smith of the botany department will experiment on Western conifer cones to determine just exactly what controls cone opening — an important factor in determining the reestablishment of forests.

Varies Widely
Foresters have long known that cone opening on forest trees varies widely without apparent reason. The OSC re-

searchers think the answer may lie in a detailed study of the cells at the base of the scale of the cone, but in any event, the project will provide important new information on cone opening.

The four projects will extend over a period of from two to four years, according to Dr. W. F. McCulloch, dean of forestry.

The Louis W. and Maud Hill Family Foundation which is providing the funds has supported forest research and teaching programs at Oregon State college for several years. A visiting forestry professor program that brings an international authority from a foreign country to the campus each year is included. The Foundation is also actively involved in a unique educational project in the Lebanon-Sweet Home area where it furnishes high school scholarships, and underwrites higher education extension courses.

Supreme Court Awards Damages In False Arrest

Salem — (UPD) — A man who was arrested for walking out of a market without paying for a 53-cent bottle of mouth-wash won \$10,150 in false arrest damages Wednesday from the Oregon Supreme court.

Mel R. Ira was arrested after he explained he had merely forgotten to pay for the bottle. He was charged by police and released on bail.

The next day Columbia Food Co. through William Triplett and Dan Health signed a formal complaint against Ira but he was acquitted.

Then Ira filed charges of false arrest and malicious prosecution, and Ira won the decision in the court of Multnomah Circuit Judge Pro Tem K. C. Tanner.

Columbia Food and Triplett and Health appealed but the high court affirmed Ira. "Without Probable Cause" Justice Alfred T. Goodwin said the evidence shows that Ira was persecuted "without probable cause."

The award includes \$5,000 for general damages, \$5,000 in punitive damages and \$150 special damages.

The court affirmed Multnomah Circuit Judge Paul R. Harris who quashed a summons involving suit against the tax commission seeking an income tax refund because the complainant failed to serve the summons by registered mail.

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Refugees Report Starvation Behind the Bamboo Curtain

Tokyo — (UPD) — Emaciated Chinese refugees who brave death to flee the "living hell" inside the Bamboo Curtain speak with horror of widespread famine and mass starvation in Communist China.

The underfed figures of refugees pouring into Hong Kong and into the Portuguese colony of Macao attest to months of malnutrition. They tell of masses of people staggering around with night blindness because of a lack of oils in their diet.

They state under oath that the rice ration — the staff of life in China — has been reduced in the commune dining halls to five ounces a day.

They say that the favorite Chinese delicacy, pork, is simply unavailable. Even vegetables are considered a treat in an otherwise unappetizing diet that barely sustains life.

Radio Peiping admitted that "severe natural calamities and the worst drought in a century" spelled failure for the Communist regime's 1960 target of harvesting 300 million tons of grain.

Let us assume that the United States decided to make up China's 100 million ton deficit. With the hundreds of millions of tons of U.S. surplus foodstuffs, it would present no drain on the American economy.

But it would require 1,000 cargo ships steaming across the Pacific day and night for a year to deliver the grain. It would mean 33 ships a day calling at San Diego, Long Beach, San Francisco, Portland and Seattle.

But where are their 1,000 cargo ships available for charter? Would a lesser amount suffice?

If you could get Red China's Agricultural Minister Liao Yuyen to admit the harvest total, the answer would be

more evident. The 200 million ton figure works out to an average daily grain production of 548,000 tons. Sending 100,000 tons of grain to China wouldn't even feed the people one meal.

Food Minister Sha Chien-Li, if he was acknowledging statistics, might tell you that 200 million tons of grain equally distributed would give one-and-five-sixths pounds of grain daily to every Chinese man, woman and child. The questions then, are: Where is all the rice going? Why the famine and starvation? Is it because grain is being exported?

Answer Elsewhere
Nationalist Chinese sources estimated that Red China exported six million tons of grain last year. That is three per cent of the total harvest. The answer perhaps lies elsewhere — probably in mainland China's transport system. It has been the weak link in the Chinese economic system for centuries. Railways are few and far between. Rivers overflow their banks in spring and run dry in autumn. Roads are as scarce as trucks.

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