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Farmers of Future May Use Wood Waste, Stalks As Fuel for Motor Cars

By ALBERT HERMANN
In Charge Western Pine Laboratory
(One of a Series)

About three or four weeks ago there appeared in the daily papers an Associated Press dispatch telling of the work of an important laboratory in which the claim is made that carbohydrates can be converted to hydrocarbons, apparently at low cost. Carbohydrates are natural products of plant growth such as starch, sugar, cellulose, lignin, etc., whose composition includes carbon, hydrogen and oxygen. Hydrocarbons, on the other hand, consist of carbon and hydrogen only. They include various petroleum products, coal tar products, etc. The chemical trick of conversion consists of substituting hydrogen for oxygen in the carbohydrate molecule, resulting in hydrocarbon products. This has been done for quite some time by the Germans and explains their synthetic gasoline. The German process, however, is carried on under extreme pressure and at high temperatures that require an enormous investment in equipment and makes for high costs which cannot compete with nature's petroleum. While the article telling of Carnegie Tech's work did not specifically mention cost, it did say that every farmer would be able to make his wastes such as cornstalks, straw, etc., into his own motor fuel.



Hermann

That implies, at least, that the process is simple and the cost therefore probably low. If this is correct, then the announcement is of tremendous importance, since it would have the effect of bringing us back once more to an economy employing currently growing products for power instead of products that were modified and stored by nature. It hinges upon the utilization of coal and later oil. These are vegetable and possibly animal products which developed ages ago and have been modified and condensed by nature.

With this view of industrial development there can hardly be much serious argument. However, if we can take all of our carbohydrate wastes such as waste wood, cornstalks, sugar cane, straw, bamboo, etc., through an infinite number, and convert them to high grade hydrocarbon products, petroleum might well lose its importance and so-called "have not nations" become "have nations" over night. There would appear to be none so poor that they could not grow some crops for conversion to hydrocarbons. All this is implied in the newspaper article to which I referred but whether or not the thing is possible remains to be seen. If it is, it probably transcends in importance anything else being done at the moment in the research laboratories of the world.

Ten days after the above announcement, there was another one in the news by another laboratory, indicating a new reportedly low-cost method of impregnating wood with methylolurea. The method consists of dissolving this organic material, known as methylolurea, in hot water and impregnating wood with various amounts, depending on the effects required. Among the claims made for wood so treated were a great increase in hardness, increase in resistance to decay, decrease in swelling, shrinking and warping and increased fire resistance. Also the impregnated wood may be compressed as in the forest products laboratory process. These claims, you see, are not at all modest. The cost is indicated at 3 1/2 cents to 4 1/2 cents per board foot. In lumbermen's language that would be \$35 to \$45 per thousand board feet and not high enough to be staggering if the properties obtained are as claimed. Some advance information was available to us prior to the public announcement to which I referred and we think well enough of the proposed treatment to make a thorough exploration of the process in the association laboratory. Before the year is out we hope to know a great deal more about methylolurea treatment. My guess is that the announced costs are for material only and do not include the cost of impregnation and subsequent seasoning and heat treatment. Also it probably ignores the degrades which necessarily occur when dry material is soaked with water and redried. These degrades can be very serious or very minor, depending on circumstances. There is probably much experimental work still to be done before this process becomes an accepted part of our economy.

(Continued Tomorrow)

Along the Nature Trail

A column devoted to conservation, true sportsmanship, and outdoor recreation.
By TOM PARKER

Hello, folks! It's good to be home again. Travel in these times is not exactly pleasant, and if we think that we are restricted and handicapped by shortages, a trip to our sister state to the south will convince us that we are very fortunate.



This writer spent last week at Yosemite National park, where he, with sixty other National Park officers and officials, met to discuss forest fire problems and to practice the latest methods of prevention and suppression of our ever-present enemy, fire.

Last week was "Stop Forest Fire" week in Klamath Falls, and from all reports there was much enthusiasm and interest shown for this worthy cause. Let us not relax in a feeling of false security but be alert and watchful throughout the fire season. Our forests are truly "Green Gold" and it behooves us all to guard our wealth.

After gazing on the awe inspiring beauties of the Yosemite in May, with its towering cliffs, domes, and majestic waterfalls, I feel refreshed and rested, and I have a deeper appreciation of the sublime and mysterious lure of our own Crater Lake. The Ahwahnee hotel at Yosemite has been taken over by the navy as a rest hospital for disabled sailors and marines, and some nine hundred of them are regaining their health amid the peaceful and beautiful surroundings of the Yosemite valley. It is hoped that such a plan may be worked out for utilizing Crater Lake National park for a like purpose. Such a plan is being considered by the officials of the local Marine Bar-

racks and if realized will no doubt play an important part in the health-building program of the marines. More about this project later.

Several reports of good catches of fish have come to my attention and if one has the inclination, plus sufficient gasoline, our close-by rivers and creeks will no doubt be fairly generous to the devotees of the pastime. Worms are suggested, although you might try a spinner.

"I've stood in some mighty mouthed hollow That's plumb-full of hush to the brim; I've watched the big, husky sun wallow In crimson and gold, and grow dim. Till the moon set the pearly peaks gleaming And the stars tumbled out, neck and crop; And I've thought that I surely was dreaming, With the peace o' the world piled on top."

The above is quoted from Robert Service's "The Spell of the Yukon."

Rev. Delauney Talks to Rotary At Friday Lunch

Rev. Father Delauney, dean of men of Portland university, gave an interesting talk before Rotary club Friday using as his theme, "How to Keep People Happy."

Chairman of the day was Rev. Father Timothy Casey of Sacred Heart church. Gerald Einarsson, retiring KUHS student body president, was presented with a watch by Alfred Collier. Bob McLean, incoming president, was welcomed into membership of Rotary. John Johnston, member of the club who leaves soon for Portland to reside, was given best wishes of Rotarians in his new work. Tribute was paid to the late James Swansen, for 22 years a member of Rotary. During that period Mr. Swansen had not missed a meeting of his club.

WORKERS! WHO SUFFER 'FACTORY' ITCH SKIN RASHES

Zemo promptly relieves tortures!

First applications of wonderful soothing, medicated liquid Zemo—a Doctor's formula—promptly relieve intense Itch and burning of simple skin rashes, eczema and similar skin and scalp irritations due to external causes. Zemo also aids healing. Backed by 35 years' successful Clean, stainless, invisible Zemo won't show on skin. 8 different sizes.

ZEMO

Wanted! Men and Women Who Are Hard of Hearing

To make this simple, no risk hearing test. If you are temporarily deafened, bothered by ringing buzzing head noises due to hardened or coagulated wax (cerumen), try the Ouline Home Method test that so many say has enabled them to hear well again. You must hear better after making this simple test or you get your money back at once. Ask about Ouline Ear Drops today at

STAR DRUG
Main and Fifth

FIFTH WAR LOAN GROUP OILS COGS

Executive committee members of the Fifth War Loan were oiling the machinery that will set the drive in motion June 12, when Klamath county folks will be expected to raise three and one-half million dollars. Sponsor group is the Klamath Falls Kiwanis club.

Joe Hicks, general chairman, announced committee chairmen Saturday. One of the largest committees will be headed by Fred Peterson, Klamath county school superintendent. Hicks said, Peterson will direct the agricultural committee which will contact areas outside of Klamath Falls. He will be assisted by sub-chairmen E. A. Geary, C. A. Henderson, Dick Henzel, Henry Semon and Lee S. McMullen.

Other chairmen, whose assistants will be announced later, are: Charles Mack, payroll savings. Ted Reeves, retail sales. Rose Poole and Mrs. F. L. Weaver, women's activities. John Houston, assisted by K. A. Moore, special events. Ed Ostendorf, publicity and advertising. Malcolm Epley, newspaper. Jack Keating, radio. Lester Offield, drive headquarters. Mrs. Claude H. Davis, secretary. Myrtle Adams, clean-up. Vern Moore and Mitchell Tiltonson, branch and local corporations. Charles F. Scharfenstein, small business owner. R. C. Dale, small business employe. Lloyd Lamb, theatres. E. M. Igl, Klamath area suppliers. Dr. J. M. Hilton, medical doctors. Dick Maxwell, professional. Arnold Gralapp, schools and children's activities. Bob Lamott, Boy Scouts. Mrs. R. Heber Radcliffe, Girl Scouts. Mrs. Azita Kennedy, Camp Fire Girls. L. Orth Sismore, residential canvass.

MORSE OBJECTS TO WINCHELL TALK

EUGENE, May 22 (AP)—Wayne L. Morse asked Walter Winchell last night to correct his Sunday radio statement that Morse's triumph over Sen. Rufus C. Holman in the Oregon republican primary is a victory for the New Deal.

Morse sent Winchell in New York this telegram: "I strenuously object to the serious mistake you made in your broadcast when you referred to me as a New Dealer and to my victory in Oregon as a Roosevelt victory. 'My victory is a republican victory in direct opposition to the New Deal and I predict it as a forerunner to a nationwide republican victory over the New Deal administration next November. Please extend to me the fairness of correcting your mistake.'

Oregon News Notes

By The Associated Press
The Willamette river yielded the body of Ellen M. Johnson, 20, missing from her Portland home since May 12 when her coat and purse were found on the bank near the city center. Sheep shearing was reported in full swing in the Silverton area with fleeces heavier than last year. University of Oregon set commencement exercises for Sunday evening, June 4.

Rhubarb harvesting is under way in the Central Point district near Medford. Frank G. Fitz-Patrick, vice president of the Chicago and Northwestern Railroad company, said in Portland that the nation's railroads are handling 80 per cent more freight than in the last war and doing it with 25 per cent fewer employes. Oregon State college set its annual campus weekend celebration for June 3. Reed college granted bachelor of arts degrees to 30 seniors at its 33rd commencement exercises Sunday.

Hawley Pulp and Paper company at Oregon City announced plans for a \$175,000 log-barking plant adjacent to its No. 1 mill.

If it's a "frozen" article you need, advertise for a used one in the classified.

HARTFORD INSURANCE

Accident and Indemnity Company

T. B. WATTERS

General Insurance Agency
FIRE . . . AUTOMOBILE
615 Main St. Phone 4193

Robinson's Grocery Sale Announced

Sale of Robinson's Cash grocery, 4839 S. 8th, was announced this week by Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Robinson. New owners are Nels Nelson and Inez Diskins, both of whom have been in the grocery business for a number of years.

Robinson constructed the brick building on S. 8th in July, 1941. He and his wife came here five years ago from Grants Pass. At the present time their plans are indefinite. The new owners have taken possession of the business.

FOOD COST DOWN

PORTLAND, May 22 (AP)—Food costs declined .8 to 1 per cent here in the month ending April 15. William A. Bledsoe, regional director of the bureau of labor statistics, said today. Spinach dropped 41 per cent; carrots 18; eggs 11; canned tomatoes and fish 2. Onions, lettuce, oranges and potatoes went up.

Classified Ads Bring Results.

MRS. GUY CORDON HEARS OF VICTORY

PORTLAND, May 22 (AP)—Mrs. Guy Cordon and her youngest daughter, Carolyn, learned of U. S. Senator Cordon's victory in the state republican primary upon arrival here Saturday from Washington D. C., en route to their Roseburg home.

"I just made up my mind to get the news in one fell swoop from the first newsstand we found after getting off the train," said Mrs. Cordon, "but friends met us and told us of my husband's success. We are all so pleased."

Carolyn disclosed she will be married in June to Don Crouch, son of Mr. and Mrs. M. C. Crouch of Portland, who is training as a bombardier in New Mexico. They plan to be wed in Roseburg. The Cordons have two other children, a son, Lt. Allen Cordon, is with the air corps in Italy, and a married daughter lives in California.

Authorities Probe Dehydrating Fire

DALLAS, May 22 (AP)—Authorities sought today the cause of a fire that destroyed the J. C. Tracy and company dehydrating plant Saturday.

The firm employed about 100 persons in dehydrating potatoes for lend-lease. Dallas fire trucks, called nearly two miles outside the city limits, pumped water from a creek to save one building housing a prune drier.

Sprague Assures Cordon of Support

PORTLAND, May 22—United States Senator Guy Cordon was assured today of ex-Governor Charles A. Sprague's full support in the November election. Making the promise in a congratulatory telegram to Senator Cordon Saturday, Sprague added:

"I want to express my sincere thanks to my friends who supported me in the campaign. I hope they will give their support to Senator Cordon. As for me, I am going to stay in the newspaper business."

Gas on Stomach

Believed in 5 minutes or double your money back
When excess stomach acid causes painful, suffocating gas, sour stomach and heartburn, doctors usually prescribe the fastest-acting medicine known for symptomatic relief—medicines like those in Bell's Gas Tablets. No inactive, Bell's Gas Tablets come in a 50¢ or 100¢ bottle to us for double money back, 25¢.

Come In and See The New All Wool SPRING SUITS

In gabardine and worsteds
ARRIVING DAILY
At
DREW'S MANSTORE
733 Main

Soap and water Summer

In and out of the suds in a twinkling. Smooth and slick beneath the iron . . . that's the formula for successful Summer dresses. If you've lost your gem of a laundress to a war job, you'll bless us for so many classically simple cottons . . . so easy to care for . . . so becoming to wear.

LaPointe's

TONIGHT AT 7:15

LOWELL THOMAS
America's Top Newscaster
KFJI
DON LEE-MUTUAL