



FINAL TRIMMING AND SORTING is done in the cache yard at the Ken-Dell Christmas tree ranch at Tennant. Here a party of foresters, timber operators and educators are shown on an inspection tour of the 5,000 acre operation.



A NEW TREE from an old stump is the principle on which commercial Christmas tree operators work. This picture shows the idea. One branch has turned up from the old stump and formed a "new" tree. This one has been given a "poodle dog" trim and will produce a grade one tree in a matter of another two years.

Historian Solves Riddle Of Columbus

Editor's Note: Where are the last remains of Christopher Columbus? In the past century, his bones have been claimed by three different cathedrals in three different countries. Now, Columbus' foremost biographer, Pulitzer Prize-winning historian Samuel Eliot Morison of Harvard University, offers a solution to this intriguing mystery. The following dispatch consists of excerpts from a chapter Morison has contributed to a book on the Dominican Republic which the University of Santo Domingo will publish next year.

By REAR ADM. SAMUEL ELIOT MORISON USNR (Ret.)
United Press International
Christopher Columbus died in 1506 and was buried at Valladolid, Spain. In 1509 his remains were removed to the monastery of Las Cuevas in Seville; and beside him his son Don Diego was buried in 1526.

At the insistence of Dona Maria, the Discoverer's widow, the remains of father and son were removed to Santo Domingo, in what is now the Dominican Republic. For convenience in transit the bones and ashes of each were placed in a small lead casket. They were interred before the high altar of the Cathedral of Santo Domingo.

There the mortal remains of the Discoverer and his son remained unmarked and undisturbed until 1795, when Spanish Santo Domingo was ceded to France. The then Duke of Veragua, unwilling to leave the ashes of his distinguished ancestor under the French republican flag, obtained permission to have them disinterred and translated to Havana, Cuba.

The excavators, starting in the center of the Capilla Mayor before the high altar, working toward the north wall, found a disintegrated lead casket with human bones and ashes. On the assumption that these were the remains of Chris-

topher Columbus, they were placed in a new casket and reinterred in the Cathedral of Havana.

It is these remains that were again transported overseas in 1898, to Spain, where they now rest in a monument in Seville Cathedral, with an inscription stating that they are those of Christopher Columbus.

In the meantime, in 1877, when the presbytery of Santo Domingo Cathedral was being enlarged, a vault was found next to the north wall, and in it a lead casket, upon which was the inscription "C C A" (Cristobal Colon, Almirante). Inside the lid was an inscription which, translated into English, said: "Illustrious and famous Gentleman, Don Cristobal Colon."

Inside the casket were found bones and ashes and a silver plate,

upon which was an almost obliterated inscription. In English, this said: "Final part of the remains of the First Admiral, Don Cristobal Colon the Discoverer."

The casket was opened, and the inscription examined, in presence of the Archbishop, the diplomatic and consular corps and other distinguished gentlemen. There is no doubt in this writer's mind that it contains the veritable remains of Christopher Columbus, and that Havana (and subsequently Seville) got those of Don Diego, his son, by mistake.

The ashes of the Discoverer now rest under a handsome monument in the Cathedral of Santo Domingo. After the completion of the remains of Christopher Columbus, Discoverer of America, first Viceroy of the Indies and Admiral of the Ocean Sea.

No Newfangled Stuff For Horseshoe Plant

By EVERETT R. IRWIN
JOLIET, Ill. (UPI)—Luke Benedick, 76 years young and tough as the horseshoes he helps to manufacture, spat disdainfully in the general direction of the new steel rolling mill.

"Broke down again," he grinned. "Stopped more than it's running. Damned machinery!" He spat again and pointed proudly to his own crew guiding long bars of molten steel by hand through successive molds that narrowed and lengthened the fiery snakes.

"We keep rolling," he said proudly. Benedick, for all his years, is head roller of the Phoenix Manufacturing Company's horseshoe division.

He and some 60 colleagues are dedicated to the sometimes questionable proposition that the horse is not vanishing from the American scene.

Chris I. Lennon, sales manager of the division, reckoned that Phoenix fashions 90 per cent of the nation's supply of horseshoes.

If they're a dying breed, the horseshoe makers are in no hurry to write their own obituaries.

Benedick, dean of the crew with almost 63 years of horseshoe rolling behind him, is 200 pounds of muscle. His helpers look equally hearty, though a dozen have been with the company more than 45 years and most of the others have been turning out horseshoes at least 30 years.

Joseph Gregorash, at 50 one of the "youngsters," beamingly told a reporter he had been feeding "blanks"—short lengths of rolled steel ready for final bending—into

the same furnace for 35 years.

Gregorash pointed to a tilted mirror at the far end of his furnace. It was improvised 15 years ago so the feeder could adjust his pace to that of the workman who takes white-hot blanks from the furnace and puts them into a machine that bends them into horseshoe shape.

The mirror is one of the few changes that have been made in the essentially hand-operated process since Phoenix was founded 76 years ago. The only other bows to progress are the use of electric power in place of steam and the addition of an electric welding machine to attach toe calks.

Faced with a steady decline in horseshoe sales, Phoenix gradually added other products and built, under the same roof with the horseshoe mill, the modern, automatic rolling mill.

The big mill isn't used to making horseshoes, Lennon explained, because it isn't economically feasible to change molds in it as often as they must be changed to make the shoes.

The company turns out more than 300 sizes and styles of horseshoes, compared with about 725 during the heyday of the horse. But horses and mules still come in assorted shapes and sizes, and the plant produces horseshoes ranging from six to 45½ ounces in weight.

California buys more horseshoes than any other state. Texas ranks second. The Army, which bought 4,400 kegs as recently as 1945, no longer is a customer.

Benedick admitted sadly that times have changed. "We rolled as high as 125 tons



SMALL CHRISTMAS TREES are formed into bundles in the "yard" operation at Ken-Dell prior to bundling for shipment. This shows one of the forms used in packing the small trees.

Worst Drought Since 1849 Viewed As Mixed Blessing

SAN FRANCISCO (UPI)—California farmers looked with apprehension today at an autumn drought, the worst since the gold rush days of 1849.

The drought has proved to be a mixed blessing. On one hand, it has enabled farmers to harvest such crops as cotton, citrus, avocados, dates and olive, and to plow and sow for next spring's crops.

On the other hand, cattlemen have been buying feed to make up for a lack of range grasses and citrus and vegetable growers have had to irrigate. Rain is needed soon for wheat, oats and barley

a day for shoes back in 1913-14," he said. "Maybe 15 tons in a good day today."

He recalled that he played hookey from school to start work as a billet boy at 13. "Made 50 cents a day," he said. "The guy that does my old job now gets \$16 a day, has a helper yet and think's he's working too hard."

seeded in dust in anticipation of moisture.

Agricultural experts said the situation is not yet serious, but they said rain had better come before much longer. And the Weather Bureau had no consolation. It predicted dry and fair weather through the weekend, with temperatures in the low 70s for much of Northern California.

In the Sierra Nevada, only one moderate snowfall has been reported. A brind new skiff at Mt. Shasta, which opened Nov. 15 with no snow on the ground, was said to be losing heavily.

Runoff from the spring snowpack is the principal source of California's water supply. However, it rained so much last year that reservoirs have enough water to take care of this year's needs. It may be a different story for areas that depend on natural water.

Only .30 of an inch of rain has fallen in San Francisco since July 1. Normal to date is 4.71. Last year, 6.55 inches had fallen.

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