

Democratic Watchman

Bellefonte, Pa., February 22, 1929.

EDISON HAS SECRET OF RUBBER SUPPLY.

Now Seeks Means of Extraction to Crown Career; Celebrated 82nd Birthday Last Week.

On the occasion of the celebration of the 82nd anniversary of his birth, on Monday February 11, Thomas A. Edison made public some of his plans and hopes for developing a supply of raw rubber for the United States. For years he has been experimenting on his estate at Ft. Myers, Florida, endeavoring to develop rubber plants that will grow and produce profitably in the southern States of this country. Should the experiments finally work out it would make this country independent of the foreign supply and be especially advantageous in times of war when prices of raw rubber go up, and even then the commodity might not be procurable. He is seeking to perfect some means of extracting "latex," a rubber producing fluid, from various plants of ordinary weeds at a cost that will not exceed what is described here as "5 cent labor."

This information comes from persons who assert they are cognizant of Mr. Edison's partial success in seeking to put an end to foreign rubber control and the price-fixing activities of English monopolists.

These informants assert that despite the fact that Mr. Edison has found abundant sources of "latex" in various forms of vegetation, particularly in what we have for generations regarded as utterly useless weeds, he is extending his researches. Here in Florida he has a ten-acre tract of land producing some 20,000 "weeds," as the natives describe them, and many hours of his time are given to experimentation with each species of these thousands.

He has surrounded himself with a staff of technical experts—chemists, botanists and other scientists—who assist him in making from twenty to forty chemical tests a day. In addition to the force of scientists here, two field crews are conducting a nation wide survey for "latex" producing plants.

Mr. Edison said: "First, we are going to definitely select the best plants for our type of rubber production and then we will plant them in large quantities and spend some time breeding them up to the most efficient stage possible. We will teach them to work overtime, night and day, to supply America with an emergency rubber crop."

"I have found more than 1200 plants which will produce a percentage of rubber latex, and about forty varieties tested to date are available for cultivation on a large scale."

"Henry Ford has given me the use of 32,000 acres of land near Savannah, Ga., and we are going to turn it into a vast rubber plantation and then get into actual production."

OMITS BIRTHDAY INTERVIEW.

It is usual for Mr. Edison on his birthday to make a sort of report to the Nation and to the world of the progress of his efforts. There was a time, when he met reporters informally, chatted with them freely and permitted himself to be interrogated. But the crowding years have made such interviews impossible. Deafness forces the submission of written questions and press of work requires that such questions be submitted in advance.

PRODUCTION HIS PROBLEM.

In explaining his work on rubber, Mr. Edison said his object is to produce it so speedily that this Nation can supply its own needs at a cost that will not exceed cheap foreign labor. It undoubtedly would be possible for the United States to produce rubber as it is produced in South America and Malay Islands, but this would require cultivation over a long series of years. Speedy production is Mr. Edison's object.

To that end he told correspondents about forty of the more than 1200 rubber-producing plants he had found will be cultivated on a large scale.

He has given no thought to the chemical development of synthetic rubber, because, as he said, "it has no future when rubber is selling at 23 cents per pound."

Mr. Edison is 82 years old, but in his search for the means of freeing this Nation from the monopolistic control of a primary necessity he is giving twelve to fourteen hours of each of his declining days to incessant labor.

When those hours of labor in the laboratory are finished he goes to his study to read—to search for new light in sciences in general and to seek the solution of the problem which he hopes will crown his career.

Penn State 70 Years Ago.

Seventy years ago, on February 16, the first student class entered the Pennsylvania State College and was enrolled in what is said to be the first scientific agricultural course offered in the United States. There were sixty nine students from 38 counties in the class which drove 25 miles to the college on the opening day from Spruce Creek. Old Main, the first college building to be erected on the two hundred acre plot which was then the campus, was only partially finished when the first class entered.

A rough board shanty served as the dining-room and kitchen while the dormitories, laboratories, classrooms and executive offices were all housed in the Main building. Some of the first class room work was farming. Each student was required to do three hours of work on the farm and nine hours of class work. The produce which the students raised was sold and the money received helped to defray the expenses of the institution.

MASSACHUSETTS COBBLER IN REVOLUTIONARY WAR.

The Fisherman Who Helped Washington Execute a Great Retreat and Win a Great Victory.

On two very important occasions when failure to do his part would have meant defeat and perhaps disaster to the cause of American independence, John Glover, a Massachusetts cobbler and fisherman, rendered valuable assistance to George Washington, when the distressed commander of the American forces needed it most.

Glover, with a regiment composed largely of fishermen and therefore called the "amphibious regiment," had charge of transporting the American army from Long Island across the East river on the night of August 29, 1776, after its defeat by the British under Sir William Howe. He and his regiment, which was regarded as one of the best in the army, also effected the crossing of the Delaware river on the night of December 25, 1776—that historic occasion when Washington made one of his bold strokes and won a heartening victory.

On both these occasions there were tremendous difficulties to be overcome, and it might be said the success of the American cause hung in the balance.

Washington had a force of about 10,000 men on Long Island. The British under Howe numbered over 20,000 and had surprised, defeated and captured the American General Sullivan and part of his force, including a number of American officers of various ranks. As there was an English fleet near at hand, Washington decided not to defend Brooklyn Heights and determined upon the bold enterprise of transporting his army to Manhattan Island. This great feat was accomplished, as Woodrow Wilson says in his History of The American People, "while a single night held." From early evening until daybreak the work of transporting men and stores went on, fog helping to cover the American retreat.

The East River, which had to be crossed in small craft, is really not a river at all, but a salt water strait, about three quarters of a mile wide with a swift current. To negotiate it in a rowboat is no easy task under the most favorable circumstances; to noiselessly transport a large army, with its artillery and stores, its wounded and prisoners across this water without arousing the British was a magnificent achievement.

We all have seen the picture of the floating ice in the Delaware when Washington made his unexpected Christmas call on the British and Hessians. History records also that a snow storm was raging. About 2,500 men and six field pieces, were taken across the ice-filled river in the dead of night by John Glover and his men, and Washington, the bold commander, who conceived the daring plan, was enabled to electrify the patriots of America with a great victory when it was needed most.

Glover, with his regiment, which he was instrumental in raising, joined the army at Cambridge, and saw a great deal of action. He was with Washington at Valley Forge, February 21, 1776, he was appointed a brigadier general. He took part in the campaign against Burgoyne and conducted the English prisoners to Boston. He also was a member of the court of inquiry which considered the case of Major Andre.

Although a small man, Glover was a man of action who could be depended on in an emergency. Glover was a member of the Massachusetts convention that ratified the Federal constitution. It is said that after the stirring days of the war he resumed the trade of cobbler. Glover was born in Salem, Mass., November 5, 1732, and died at Marblehead, Mass., January 30, 1797. There is a statue of Glover in Boston.

LEWISTOWN'S FAST TEAM DEFEATS BELLEFONTE AGAIN

Lewistown High School's fast basketball team came over the mountains Friday night and beat Bellefonte Hi by a good lead. Several hundred people from Lewistown witnessed the game. About an equal number of Bellefonte people were present.

The game started at 8 o'clock and Lewistown got in the lead and stayed there. In the first few seconds of play Lewistown had a field goal to their credit.

Lewistown was greatly helped by their star, Clelan, who plays center. He was taller than Montgomery and was able to get every tip off; this gave the ball to Lewistown many times and Bellefonte seldom was able to get possession of the ball.

Thal and Whippo played well as forwards and did some neat dribbling and passing but were unable to find the basket. Norb and Sam played fine at guarding Bellefontes' goal but were unable to prevent Lewistown's forward from making long shots, which proved accurate.

Jack was playing fine at center but was greatly handicapped by the superior height of Clelan. Lewistown's captain and star center. The substitutes, Kelleher, Shope, Taylor, Brickner, and Wintner also played well at their positions.

Lewistown took the lead in the first few seconds of the game and held it throughout the game. Bellefonte rallied in the last quarter but due to elimination of several of the Red and White regulars on fouls was greatly handicapped. The game ended, the score stood 39-18 in favor of Lewistown.

Bellefonte's defeat meant the ninth straight victory for Lewistown as she lost no games this year.

Confer	R. Forward	Reynolds
Thal	L. Forward	Clelan
Whippo	Center	Hanice
Derstine	R. Guard	Goddard
Montgomery	L. Guard	Goddard

Substitutes—Bellefonte, Kelleher, Shope, Brickner, Taylor.
Lewistown—Fallon.

FOR AND ABOUT WOMEN. DAILY THOUGHT.

Upon a wild and lonely coast
A lighthouse sent afar
To mariners its friendly beam,
And o'er it blazed a star.
The lighthouse fell into the sea,
But still supremely bright
The steadfast star remained to guide
The sailors in the night.

So names of lesser glory burn
O'er Time's resistless tides.
Then topple and are swept away,
But Washington's abides.
It shines above a stormy world
Immutable as Fate,
The bright immortal star by which
We steer the ship of state.

My Dearest Madge:

We are all excited here over the Colonial Party for the 22d. Do you remember the letter that General Greene wrote about the sedate and staid General Washington? "We had a little dance at my quarters last night," he wrote. "His excellency and Mrs. Greene danced upwards of three hours without once sitting down. Upon the whole, we had a pretty little risk." It was the custom in colonial days to dance all evening with your partner, but these are not colonial times and we expect so many people to dance with on that night that no one will know who the partner of the moment is.

I wish you could come. The costumes will be gorgeous and they are so becoming. Last year one girl wore the most charming gown of yellow satin with long sweeping lines in the back and with this she wore a picture hat of black, trimmed with ostrich plumes and tied under her chin with a pale violet ribbon. Her sleeves and the front of the gown were trimmed with old duchess lace, while her hair was powdered. Of course, the dress was not purely colonial, yet it was most becoming.

Another girl in green wore the redingote and vest, while a sort of pancake hat was fastened on with green ribbons. On her hands she wore black mitts and carried a long cane quite a la Tosca.

Janice Meredith with snowy locks wore a pale green gown with a paleot which fell open in front at skirt and waist, showing waterfalls of ecru lace and mellow old brocade.

Most of the men of costume, quite appropriate for his excellency's birthday, black coats, colored vests, lace stocks, ruffled shirts and tricorne hats. You would have been surprised to see how this style became our modern beaux. The queue and powdered hair took some of that hard-headed, practical look from their business-like countenances, while the lace at their throats added an air of refinement.

I went as the Widow Nice, that famous hostess who, when her British guests complained of the quality of the butter on her table, offered to ride to a neighboring farm and procure some more to their taste if they would lend her a horse. They eagerly granted her request and the lady rode away not to return. My bonnet was a circle of white linen gathered in to fit the head with a band of black velvet, and the same adorned my neck. A chemise of linen and over that a paletot of heavy violet silk. A shortish skirt worn with buckled shoes and black silk mitts completed my party costume.

Even these few days in advance we are all adopting Washingtonian expressions and quoting the witty remarks of our great-grandmothers.

ELEANOR

To decorate individual cakes the simplest plan is to bake your favorite cake in a large sheet or loaf, then with a fancy cutter cut in hearts or any other fancy cutters that can be bought so inexpensively. Cut smaller cakes from the large sheet. In order to frost the cake without getting the frosting filled with crumbs, coat the outside of the cut edge of the smaller piece with a glaze made by beating an egg white until it is stiff and putting a small quantity, not over two tablespoons, of sugar into the egg white. Brush the cut edge of the cake with this glaze and allow it to stand until it is dry. It will take about an hour. After that the cakes are ready to be coated with any kind of frosting that you may choose to use.

A fondant which is melted carefully in a double boiler may be used very well for these smaller individual cakes. However, a butter frosting may be desired, in which case the cakes are easier to frost. Fondant is quite apt, in the melting and hardening, again to become granular or hardened before the decorations may be put on. A pastry table may be used to make a small decoration, whether it be flower or heart, or other fancy trim.

Anything appropriate to the occasion for which you are using it can be put on the small cake. I have found that the colored gum drops are most effective when cut into strips and arranged as flowers or other figures of the small cake. The coloring of the gum drops is always delicious and makes a most attractive cake very easily. If you should care to have cake in hatchet shapes that are particularly appropriate for Washington's birthday, cut a pattern of a hatchet from stiff cardboard, then lay this on the sheet of cake and with a sharp knife cut around the edge. If you wish to frost these hatchets, it will be necessary to glaze them in the same way, that I suggested before, with the egg whites and sugar, then frost them with any sort of frosting that you choose.

Candied cherries are particularly appropriate for the small cake decorations for Washington's birthday and a green gum drop will give you the right color for the branch or for the leaves. The branch, however, can be made from melted chocolate.

Cabbage is a winter vegetable deserving of a wide use in planning well balanced meals. Science has proved that this once so plebeian vege-

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YOUR INCOME TAX IN A NUTSHELL.

Who? Single persons who had net income of \$1,500 or more or gross income of \$5,000 or more and married couples who had net income of \$3,500 or more or gross income of \$5,000 or more file returns.

When? The filing period ends March 15, 1929.

Where? Collector of internal revenue for the district in which the person lives or has his principal place of business.

How? Instructions on Forms 1040A and 1040.

What? One and one-half per cent normal tax on the first \$4,000 in excess of the personal exemption and credits. Three per cent normal tax on the next \$4,000. Five per cent normal tax on the balance of net income. Surtax on net income in excess of \$100,000.

Forms for filing returns of individual incomes have been sent to taxpayers by collectors of internal revenue. Failure to receive a form, however, does not relieve the taxpayer of his obligation to file a return and pay the tax within the period prescribed—on or before March 15, 1929, if the return is filed on a calendar year basis.

Persons whose net income for 1928 was derived chiefly from salary or wages and was not in excess of \$5,000 should make their income-tax returns on Form 1040A.

Persons whose net income was derived from a profession or business, including farming, or from the sale of property or rent, although the amount was less than \$5,000 are required to use the larger Form 1040. The use of Form 1040 is required also in the case where the net income was in excess of \$5,000, regardless of whether from salary, business, profession, or other taxable sources.

It is as impossible for a man to be cheated by anyone but himself, as for a thing to be and not be at the same time.

—Emerson

table contains all of the essential vitamins, an excellent source of minerals, supplies roughage and is even more wholesome raw than when cooked. It can be used in the making of many salads, but it should always be finely shredded when used in this way.

VOLCANOES IN PENNSYLVANIA.

Evidence of at least six volcanic eruptions which covered central Pennsylvania with fine dust deposits has recently been discovered in the limestone formations of the Nittany Valley by Professor C. A. Bonine, head of the department of geology and mineralogy of the Pennsylvania State College.

The material is a very fine grained clay formed by the alternation of the dust-like particles of volcanic ash as they fell into the inland sea which covered the region millions of years ago during the geological period when the limestones were being formed. The volcanic vents from which the ash was blown have not been discovered but Professor Bonine believes that they are probably located further south in Kentucky or Virginia where beds of similar material of the same geologic age several feet thick have been found.

A remarkable Himalayan tribe, the members of which have not been sick for nine years, is reported by a British medical officer. Their diet consists of grains, vegetables, fruits, fowls, and eggs.

New Way to Test Spark Plugs.

The screwdriver test to determine whether a spark plug is functioning seems to be passing out. The reason, of course, is the simpler connection now generally used. It's easy to slip off the connection, hold it about an eighth of an inch from the plug, and see whether the spark jumps the gap. It is one of those simpler methods that the modern car owner should know and employ.

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Wayne Calf Meal	4.25 per H.
Wayne All mash starter	4.00 per H.
Wayne All mash grower	3.60 per H.

Purina Dairy, 34%	3.10 per H.
Purina Dairy, 24%	2.80 per H.

Wagner's Dairy, 22%	2.50 per H.
Wagner's egg mash	2.80 per H.
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Oil Meal, 34%	3.30 per H.
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Cotton seed meal	3.00 per H.
Fine ground Alfalfa	2.25 per H.
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