

TREES GROW ONLY FORTY DAYS A YEAR.

When do trees grow? Investigations of tree growth conducted under the direction of State Forester Joseph S. Illick of the Pennsylvania Department of Forests and Waters have brought to light some interesting revelations.

"The belief is prevalent," says Dr. Illick, "that trees grow throughout the general growing or vegetable season, which embraces in Pennsylvania from 150 to 200 days, and extends from the last killing frost in the autumn when the leaves exhibit their autumn coloration. This is a mere supposition, for most of the native and introduced forest trees in the Mont Alto State Forest, Franklin county, were found to make 90 per cent. of their height growth in less than forty days."

In the course of study, thousands of tree measurements were taken. Many trees, including more than half the different kinds found in the State, were measured at regular, usually weekly, intervals and detailed records of temperatures and rainfall were also kept in order to interpret the influence of climatic factors. Over 200 trees were measured daily during one growth season and in addition certain groups of trees were measured both in morning and evening.

Not all forest trees begin to grow at the same time. Some start early in spring while others begin rather late. The wild black cherry is the first forest tree to begin height growth in southern Pennsylvania. Its twigs begin to elongate about the 4th of April. The domestic cherry begins growth about four days later. Sweet buckeye begins about April 6, white pine about April 18, and tulip tree about April 25.

Pennsylvania is the meeting ground of many northern and southern trees and the southern varieties begin growth later in their northern natural extension, or where artificially planted, in this State. The eastern catalpa, from the South Atlantic States, starts growth with us during latter May, and other typically southern trees as persimmon, Kentucky coffee tree and bald cypress, postpone growth until late spring. This is a fortunate provision of nature, which defers their growth until the period of frost danger is past.

The first tree to complete its height growth of the season in Pennsylvania is sweet buckeye. It stops growing in the southern part of the State during the second week in May, and by June 15 one can find full sized winter buds for the spring of the following year. One year, on June 10th, seventy-nine different tree species were examined, and it was found that 70 per cent. of them had ceased height growth.

Most of our trees cease this growth by late May or early June. Only a few continue height growth into July, and by August 1st growth has ceased for all our trees.

It also was discovered that the first trees to complete growth are not always the first that begin growth in spring. Some of the first species to begin growth may take long to complete it, while others that commence late may complete the season's growth relatively early. Larch, for instance, is one of the first to open its buds in April, and may continue until middle or latter July, while Norway spruce starts about May 6 and by June 15th has made more than 99 per cent. of its growth, and all of it by the end of the month.

Another interesting discovery was that of intermittent growth periods, that is, some trees may grow awhile, rest for some time, and then resume growth. Such periodicity of growth appears to be peculiar to certain species, and is not unusual. Thus pin oak, chestnut oak, and pitch pine frequently begin to place a second growth 10 to 25 days after the original growth period is over.

Considered most interesting of all was the discovery that trees make most of their growth at night. The greatest growth is usually late at night, and the least growth in the afternoon when the trees are busy manufacturing food materials. Norway spruce actually made 82 per cent. of its height growth at night; white pine made 61 per cent.; allan-thus 65 per cent. On the average it was found that most trees make two-thirds of their height growth at night.

NEVER TAKE MEDICINE PHARMACIST 84, URGES.

In one of the oldest parts of Rome (one of the oldest cities in the world) is to be found the oldest pharmacy in Italy, presided over by the oldest pharmacist of Italy. Founded in the sixteenth century by monks, it was operated under religious auspices until 1730, when it came into the possession of the Prato family, which has conducted the pharmacy from that day to this—200 years in a single family. The store furniture and all the equipment are centuries old. President over this venerable establishment in the Piazza della Maddalena is Dr. Reole Scaletta, who at eighty-four years of age is rounding out his sixty-second year of service there. Doctor Scaletta works 14 hours daily, as he has for three-score years. So vigorous is Doctor Scaletta that one would think him twenty years younger than his actual age. Asked for his formula for longevity and good health, Doctor Scaletta generally replied that his first principle is never to take medicine! He drinks a half liter of water and smokes two cigars daily. "Eat heartily and take a bath daily" is another of the counsels of this veteran pill dispenser in an establishment which might well be one of the sights of the Eternal City.

CENTRE CO., DAIRYMEN RECEIVE RIBBON AWARDS.

County agent R. C. Baney has received from the Pennsylvania Dairymen's Association ribbon awards for members of the Centre county cow testing associations who had outstanding herd averages during the year 1928. These ribbons are presented to members of cow testing associations all over Pennsylvania on the following basis: Purple ribbons for those herds averaging 400 pounds of butterfat per cow, or better; blue ribbons for those averaging from 350 to 400 pounds of butterfat, and red ribbons for those herds averaging from 300 to 350 pounds of butterfat per cow.

The Centre county cow testing association No. 1 had a herd average, last year, including approximately three hundred cows, of 9567 pounds of milk, 340.7 pounds of butterfat, with an average return of \$135.67 above feed cost. The cow testing association No. 2, with 108 cows had an average of 7997 pounds of milk per cow, 319.5 pounds of butterfat, with an average return above feed cost of \$121.24. This is the fifth year for the No. 1 association and shows an average increase per cow in the association, during the five year period, of 3310 pounds of milk, 97 pounds of butterfat and an average return above feed cost of \$47.15 per cow.

Following is a list of the dairymen who received the ribbon awards: Purple ribbons—Allen Hartle and A. C. Hartle and Bros., Bellefonte; J. Fred Slack, Spring Mills.

Blue ribbons—J. V. Brungart, Rebersburg; Peters Bros., Port Matilda; W. C. Krape, Bellefonte.

Red ribbons—Hugh Wilson, Warriorsmark; Paul Bradford, Centre Hall; Nolan Bros., Nittany; John Dunkle, Mingoville; Western Penitentiary, Bellefonte; J. G. Miller, Pine Grove Mills; Epley White and George H. Wilson, Bellefonte; Peck Bros., Nittany; Henry J. Stover, Aaronsburg; W. F. Rishel, Centre Hall; R. C. Bair, Smullton, and F. S. Bowen, Bellefonte.

PREPARE SOIL WELL FOR GOOD GARDEN.

Prepare the soil of the home garden well if maximum yields are expected.

"Garden soil can be improved by the application of at least 20 tons of well-rotted animal manure per acre or by plowing under a green manuring crop," says county agent R. C. Baney. "Lime should be applied as needed and drainage provided where necessary."

Cultural practices include careful plowing through discing and harrowing, and final smoothing. Heavy soil should never be worked when it is wet.

Sufficient fertilizing also is essential in good gardening. This can be accomplished by applying broadcast at least 1200 pounds per acre of a complete commercial fertilizer, with top-dressings of nitrate of soda or chicken manure, in addition, where needed. A 4 per cent potash is good on heavy soils where manure also has been applied. Without manure, on light soils, the formula may be 4-8-4 or 5-10-5.

PLANT SOYBEANS FOR EMERGENCY HAY CROP.

Dairymen with poor prospects for a good supply of leguminous hay still have a chance to provide their own cows with nutritious roughage.

This is the note of encouragement sounded by county agent R. C. Baney for those who have clover fields damaged by winter killing or lime requirement that it must be at least partially satisfied before red clover will grow.

Soybeans will grow under such conditions because they are more tolerant of acid soils. They are high in protein content, being about the same as alfalfa in feeding value. Another valuable feature of the soybean is that it can be grown in any part of the State, providing the soil is of average fertility.

Wilson is the variety recommended for a hay crop. The rate of seeding is two bushels to the acre, using the oat compartment of the drill. All seed should be inoculated so the beans can utilize the nitrogen of the air. Planting time is when the soil is warm.

HOOVER WILL REMODEL WHITE HOUSE OFFICES.

Plans are underway to remodel the executive offices of the White House to provide a larger lobby, give Hoover's three secretaries suitable offices, and provide less conspicuous quarters for newspapermen and photographers.

One of the President's desires, it is believed, is to remove congestion. The visitor is usually greeted by a crowd of photographers hovering about the doorway with their cameras and equipment.

In the small lobby inside the door, nearly a score of newspapermen are usually congregated, since it is impossible for them to find space in the small press room.

One large reception room is to be wiped out entirely and become part of the lobby. The basement floor, which now serves as locker rooms for the White House police and other employees, will be rebuilt into offices.

Mrs. Martin Fauble suffered considerable shock on Sunday through an accidental fall in her home on east High street. While her injuries were not at all serious it wasn't a pleasant happening to occur while the family was celebrating the anniversary of her birth.

EXPOSES PRIVATE LIFE OF OYSTER

Expert Says Shell Closes When Peril Nears.

Washington.—Since more oysters than human beings attend the dinners of the great, it has occurred to at least one scientist that the private life of these gentle creatures may be a matter of some public concern.

In a somewhat formal expose of "The Private Life of the American Oyster," Dr. P. S. Galtsoff of the bureau of fisheries credits the oyster with a sense of taste more refined in certain respects than that of its human admirers.

"It has been found," he says, "that the oyster reacts to the application of quinine and detects this substance in a concentration four times weaker than the minimum which can be noticed as applied to the human tongue. "Apparently a well-developed sensitivity is a compensation which the oyster obtains for its loss of power of locomotion and absence of special organs of vision and hearing."

Its ability to protect itself from poison, he explains, has been measured by putting different quantities of potassium salts and other chemicals in water where it was feeding.

Efficient though they are, however, the oyster's organs of sense are few, being confined to a double row of tentacles or feelers on the edge of each mantle, the soft layer of membrane which can be seen covering the creature when it makes its appearance on the half shell.

When the shell is open and the oyster is feeding, Doctor Galtsoff relates, the tentacles expand and stick out into the water, ready to contract at the first warning of danger through any mechanical disturbance or change in the intensity of illumination of chemical conditions.

As the tentacles draw in the mantle contracts, the big muscle which holds the shells together closes them and the oyster may—if oysters can—revel in the sense of security which man enjoys when shut up in a warm, cheerful room on a stormy winter night.

The oyster's nervous system is a possession which might be envied by many a jump dinner guest. It is so simple that, no matter what distressing occurrence is forced upon the oyster's attention, it always acts in the same way, shutting out trouble by closing up the shell and letting the rest of the world go by.

Richmond to Restore Historic Bell Tower

Richmond, Va.—The old gray brick bell tower on the capitol grounds here is to be restored and a mild-toned bell is to end a silence unbroken since 1865.

Erected in 1824 the structure now standing was built to replace an old wooden building constructed many years previous to house Virginia's public guard. These soldiers policed public property and maintained order on Capitol hill.

The bell in the old tower pealed forth on all festive occasions, and tolled for the funerals of the great of that day, summoned the legislators to their duty and rallied regular and volunteer soldiers to the defense of the commonwealth.

One of the notable occasions upon which the bell called Virginians to their posts was in June, 1813, when rumors reached Richmond that the British had attacked Craney Island, at the mouth of Norfolk harbor, and would come on to Richmond. The bell gave the news when Virginia seceded from the Union. It cracked in 1865 and was removed from the tower.

The restoration work is under the auspices of the Daughters of the American Revolution.

Philosophy Popular Among Danish Coeds

Copenhagen.—Danish coeds are a serious lot. One-third of the 1,000 women undergraduates at Copenhagen university are specializing in philosophy. There are a thousand coeds in the student body of 5,000.

Danish women cannot hold church positions, but six girls are specializing in theology, 163 are going to be doctors, 59 lawyers, 22 political scientists and 97 specialists in English. Mathematics appeals to 87 coeds, but more than 250 girls are unable to decide on which branch of science to specialize.

Mt. Whitney, Highest Peak, Is Shrinking

Visalia, Calif.—Good news for mountain climbers!

The task of scaling Mount Whitney, highest peak in the United States, will be less arduous now, for the famous mountain isn't as high as it used to be, according to the coast and geodetic survey.

When last measured in 1905 it towered 14,509,737 feet into the clouds.

But figures of the latest survey, just completed, place the elevation of the peak at a mere 14,495,811, a shrinkage of nearly 14 feet.

Even with this reduction, however, Mount Whitney remains the highest mountain in the country by a safe margin.

Farmers Worked Up Over Spanish "Lions"

A wag's remark to farm tenants near Dover, N. C., during the Spanish-American war caused much apprehension for several days to the simple folk of the countryside. He told them the American naval and military forces were superior but Spain had "more lions." He even went so far as to say 500 of the beasts had been landed at Beaufort, not far away, the night before.

Taking up the joke, villagers rigged up a "horse fiddle," or resined box across which could be drawn a piece of wood as a bow, emitting sounds similar to the roaring of lions. This was secreted in the neighborhood and "played" throughout the night. The tenants were terrified and among some of them the belief in the lions remained alive for a long time. William Warters, resident of Dover, recalling the tale, said that for several days barred doors and loaded guns were the rule in the district.—Detroit News.

Only One Requirement Insisted On for Book's

The affable salesman in New York book stores are seldom surprised at any request—the public demand being what it is. But one of them reports that the other day he had a request from a dignified little old lady that—to use his own words—"knock" him for a row of bookshelves.

"I want a book—any kind of a book—with a jacket that is green, with red in it," the little old lady said. She insisted it could be a cook book or one about the home life of the bee or South pole explorations—anything as long as its jacket was the color scheme she described.

"She wanted it," the salesman explained, "to match the decoration of her new reading lamp. Can you beat it?"

Safe Delivery

A Melbourne man recently telegraphed from Sydney that he was about to leave by train for home. The message put up a stiff contest, and the passenger walked from Spencer street would undoubtedly have won the race.

He took a taxi (in my opinion, an unfair advantage) and beat the wire home by a clear ten minutes. He was explaining to his wife that the telegram should have reached her the previous evening when his small daughter spoke up: "Daddy should have brought his telegram with him . . . those silly people might have lost it."—Sydney Bulletin.

Chinese Superstition

There are towers in Shanghai where men watch for fires. When one is discovered the fire-bell is rung. When the old custom house was built a large clock was placed in its tower. For some weeks after this clock began to strike the hours there were very few if any fires.

The Chinese said it was because the fire-god thought that every time the clock struck there was a fire announced, so he could rest without helping. All these things seem ridiculous to us but are very real to the Chinese.

New York's Early Days

An article published in the Christian Advocate says: "At the beginning of the Nineteenth century the 'commercial metropolis of the United States' occupied only the lower end of Manhattan island, what is now 'up town' being still made up of spacious farms and country estates, including the little village of Harlem. The actual measurements of the city proper are given as three miles in length (from the Battery to Fourteenth street), one and a half miles in width and eight miles in circumference."

Man and Fish

A fish's fear of man is born, a Carnegie institute's bulletin suggests, by the fact that he approaches from above, a direction from which the fish has learned to expect attack by birds or other enemies. When a man walks on the ocean floor in diver's dress, fish large and small display the greatest curiosity. Even the fierce barracuda, after nosing the diver in friendly and inquisitive fashion, must be pushed out of the way and goes without showing undue resentment.—San Francisco Chronicle.

London's Wall Street

Lombard street, the principal bank quarter of London, takes its name from the Lombards, Italian goldsmiths and money lenders who settled there in the Twelfth century. At that time they were commonly called "long beards" and the thoroughfare was called Longbroad and Longebred. A century later it was called Langebourne—meaning "long brook"—and this title is still maintained for the place where it was situated.

Breathless

The teacher was telling a story to the kindergarten and interest was intense.

"So that night the wicked red fox came and stole a chicken. The next night he came and stole another chicken. And the next night he came and stole another chicken. And"—dramatic pause—"what do you suppose happened the next night?" "Oh, teacher!" panted Peter. "Did he git another chicken?"

FOR AND ABOUT WOMEN.

Daily Thought.

Beauty is truth, truth beauty, that is all ye know on earth and all ye need to know. —KEATS.

NOTES FROM THE EARLY OPENINGS. Length of Line—Extreme length of line in evening clothes (that is, skirts that trail on the floor) give added importance and increased femininity. Many of the afternoon dresses are frankly longer, and even sports run-about dresses, and tailors seem to be descending further below the knee than heretofore.

Belless dresses and skirt yokes give a new length of bodice line that contributes to the new graces.

Length of line is also apparent in longer evening coats (as long as the dress), and in some cardigans and suit jackets that are longer than usual.

Silhouettes—Fulness is placed very low below a long, snug, yet supple princess bodice. This low fulness is either gathered, pleated, circular, shirred, or in panels.

The skirt silhouette is fuller and achieved through subtle means.

Flounces (that often turn into panels), tiers, peplums, stiff flares, soft transparent flares, ruffles. Pleat-circular, tucked, ordered with contrasting material or colour, overlapping, sheath-like. Applied at hem, at hips, spirally, diagonally.

The very low, barely apparent, jutting flare on day and sports skirts continues.

Waist-Lines—The low waist-line, this season, is only a survival. The very high-waisted belts still look too extreme, but natural body proportions and the natural waist are everywhere moulded, though not underlined.

Horizontal Motifs predominate in weave, print, cut and trimming.

Long Jackets, Short Jackets, and Cardigans—The newness of the long jacket or three-quarters length coat is important. The longer version of the cardigan is even newer than the three-quarters length coat. Most of these long jackets and three-quarters coats are collarless and without fastenings.

Short and long Dalmatian jackets, or casino coats are shown for evening. Usually of bolero length, sometimes sleeveless, of lace, chiffon, crepe, beaded tulle, or of material to match the dress.

Cardigans were never before seen in such numbers. No sports costume is complete without its cardigan. They are usually of the same material as the skirt with which they are worn. Cardigans are shown also for afternoon and evening. Sometimes sleeveless. Matching, contrasting, print over plain, plain over print. Of classic cardigan length and sometimes longer.

Coats—Of all lengths—four-fifths, seven-eighths, three-quarters, long jackets. Three-quarters coats and long jackets for day. Very long coats and very short ones, really about knee length in front, are new and smart for evening. Except for a few evening models, the best summer coats are without fur.

Use of cape effects on coats conspicuous. Cape wings, cape backs, and cape sleeves are seen everywhere on the new models.

Capes—Capes are shown everywhere for day and evening. When they have appeared before, smart women considered them only for evening.

Suits are important—particularly the soft dressmaker suits, in plain and printed taffetas, heavy dull crepes, dull crepe satin, printed crepe de Chine.

The trim tailored suits are in excellent materials, masculine in inspiration.

The use of two different wools for one suit is new.

Blouses—Prevalence of soft blouses in dull satins, toile de sole, men's striped silk madras shirting, organ-die, handkerchief linen, printed crepe de Chine. With or without jabots. A few are tucked inside the skirt.

Skirts—Circular cut newer than pleats.

Pleats in skirts best when combined with circular cut.

Circular skirts with fulness gathered at each side back, giving decided swing to back of skirt, are new and extremely graceful.

More material is used in skirts than last season.

Sleeveless Dresses—Many sleeveless dresses being shown, both for sports wear and for afternoon.

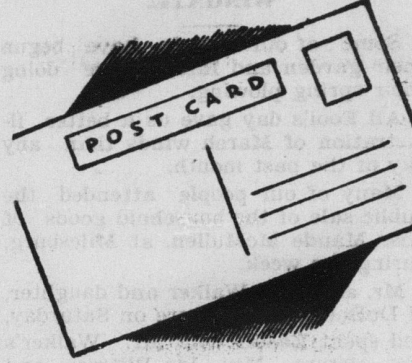
Runabout Dresses—Light-weight woolen one-piece dresses are very important, both in light, dark, and mixed colours.

Formal Afternoon Dresses—Many formal afternoon dresses, of plain or printed chiffon, or in black, with irregular hem-lines. Some have three-quarters coats or jackets. —Vogue.

There is more than just tradition about the high rating of good English clothes for men. One look at a well-dressed man from London and you notice something about the set of the shoulders, the fit of the coat that gives ample roominess, yet manages to convey an impression of being slightly fitted.

Parker Bryant of London is one young man who illustrates the point. Whether he wears golf, tennis, swimming or evening togs, he is always pleasingly correct in his attire. He favors cream flannels, instead of white, with cream silk shirts and ties with a bit of color in them. He wears single-breasted jackets, with wears single-breasted jackets, with a bone buttons, one of them being a snuff beige of decidedly yellow tone. With this he wears a tie of blue, and red and white on beige, and his colored do not have the prevalent tabs. His shoes are apt to be brown and white or black and white.

Changing one's neckline changes one's appearance so very much that it is of real interest this spring for women of note that a single type of frock can have as many as 12 different collars. Russian, Prince of Wales, revised scarfs, sailor, bowknotted, Kerchief, Peter Pan, sports shirt and bat-cheaf, Peter Pan, sports shirt and bat-cheaf are some of the more popular collars.



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