

THE NATIVE CHESTNUT IS COMING BACK.

Native chestnuts are again being collected in the woods of Pennsylvania from young sprouts that have come up since the chestnut blight swept through the forests of the State, according to information received from various foresters in the Department of Forests and Waters.

This fall John Aughanbaugh, research forester attached to the Pennsylvania Forest Research Institute at Mont Alto, collected more than a quart of nuts from Snowy Mountain in Franklin county. Foresters consider this unusual because of the difficulty of finding sprouts large enough to bear nuts.

Other chestnut stands are being combed for sprouts or seedlings that show indications of blight resisting qualities inasmuch as pathologists admit that there is some chance of resistance being developed naturally. Nuts gathered by Aughanbaugh are being carefully planted in various State Forests.

The chestnut blight is a bark disease of Asiatic origin brought into this country on nursery stock imported from Europe. The disease first appeared in Pennsylvania in 1909 and so rapid was its spread and so complete was the destruction it wrought that within the next ten years not a single tree in the entire chestnut stand escaped.

The United States Department of Agriculture and the Pennsylvania Forest Research Institute are co-operating in experiments to determine the possibility of again growing chestnut for timber. Seedlings of Chinese chestnuts have been planted in various State Forests to study their blight resistance and their hardiness under Pennsylvania climatic conditions.

Dr. E. A. Zeigler, director of the Pennsylvania Forest Research Institute warns timbermen, woodland owners, and nature lovers generally against too early enthusiasm for the return of the chestnut. Even should a few individual trees develop blight resistance, their propagation and introduction into forest stands closed by other species would require many years.

TO RETIRE OLD AND INEFFICIENT TEACHERS

Move to retire inefficient old teachers and employ training school graduates was made at the final meeting of the Budget Committee of the Board of Education of Pittsburgh.

It was suggested that all teachers who have reached 62 may be reappointed annually provided:

- 1. That the teacher has received for the current year a rating from the Personnel Department of "good" or better.
2. That the teacher successfully has passed a physical examination by a board of three physicians appointed by the Board of Education.

The committee passed a motion to recommend the change in retirement policy to the board at its November meeting.

The retirement policy of the board gives the teacher above 62 a pension amounting to one-eighth of her average salary for the last 10 years multiplied by her number of years service.

This means that a teacher earning \$2,200 a year, who has taught for 40 years, may retire between 62 and 70 on \$1,100 a year pension. At 70 all must retire.

CAMP LIMIT FOR DEER NOT CHANGED

Although the camp limit for deer and the regulations concerning it are the same during the coming season as heretofore, a great many hunters judging from the numerous letters received at the Game Commission, are not quite clear on this point.

That all hunters may know the proper requirements concerning the camp limit, the Game Commission today outlined the following regulations:

It is unlawful for any body of men, either camping together or hunting in unison, or in any manner co-operating with each other, to kill or possess in one season, more than six legal deer.

It is not legal for hunters to hire a hunting camp or other headquarters for the purpose of hunting deer with the assumption that such headquarters would be regarded as a public boarding house or hotel, and that each individual hunter residing at such headquarters would be permitted to kill one deer.

WHY Title of "Dan" Was Given to Cupid

"Dan" is an old title of honor equivalent to lord, master or sir. It is related to the Spanish "don" and like that title is probably derived from Latin "dominus," lord. "Dan" is now obsolete except in a few special connections, but formerly it was commonly applied to distinguished men, nobles, scholars, poets and even deities.

Dan Chaucer, well of English undefiled, On Fame's eternal headroll worthy to be filed.

In Roman mythology Cupid, the son of Mercury and Venus, is the god of love and is identified with the Greek Eros. The name is derived from Latin "cupido," meaning desire, passion or love, and Cupid was the personification of the amatory passions.

He is generally represented as a beautiful naked boy with wings, carrying a bow and arrow and sometimes blindfolded. Among the early English writers, as well as the writers of other countries, Cupid was given various humorous titles. We find him playfully referred to as "dan Cupido" about 1384.

In Shakespeare's time "Dan Cupid" was already part of everyday speech. In "Love's Labor's Lost," Act III, the poet puts the following words in the mouth of Biron, one of the lords attending King Ferdinand of Navarre:

This whimpled, whining, purblind, This wayward boy; This scolar-junior, giant-dwarf, Dan Cupid.

—Pathfinder Magazine.

Why Falling Cat Can Always Land in Safety

That the cat always falls upon its feet is generally known, but the how and why of it was recently made the subject of a lecture by an English scientist. Pussy scores, as demonstrated at a lecture on the physics of sport, by knowing a trick we cannot imitate—that of turning in the air. The star performer at the demonstration was the professor's kitten, which was held upside down and dropped a few inches on to a cushion.

Why Coxe's "March"

Mr. Coxe's good roads bill was introduced in congress in 1892. Under this bill the treasury was to issue legal tender notes for use in constructing good roads. This in turn would make employment for men who were out of work.

Why Human Hair Differs

The contour of the hair is circular, oval or flattened. Whether a hair is to be curly or straight is largely dependent upon its contour; the more oval or flattened it is the more it will be curled.

Why Honey Is Good Food

Honey is one of the best of the high energy-producing foods, says the United States Department of Agriculture. Because it is composed almost entirely of simple sugars it can be assimilated with ease.

Why Keep Heat From Rubber

Hard rubber will last in the weather much longer than soft rubber. If hard rubber is not placed in the sun or where the sun can reach it, it will last indefinitely. If it is placed where the direct rays of the sun will reach it, it will last from five to ten years.

Why Goatskin for Bags

Water is carried, in the Indian army, in leather bags made of goatskin to accommodate the Mohammedans, who could not drink from a bag made of pigskin, and the Hindus, who would be unable to drink from one of calfskin.

Why Ball Bounces

A ball bounces because the force with which it strikes the ground flattens it on one side. The air suddenly compressed within resists and the tensed side pushes against the ground, sending the ball back.

Why Lath Shadows Show

The lines on a ceiling are caused by dust-laden air passing up through the plaster and leaving a deposit over the spaces between the laths.

Why "Veterinarians"

The word "veterinarian" is Latin in derivation. Veterinarius means of or pertaining to a beast of burden.

Writer Absolves Nero; Emperor Fought Flames

Arthur Weigall, the historian, has knocked into a cocked hat the notion that "Nero fiddled while Rome burned." Poor Nero! He not only did not know how to fiddle but was head of the fire brigade.

According to Mr. Weigall in his fine and scholarly volume on Nero, this gentleman when the fire broke out was at his country estate. And that exploded the popular notion that he set the place on fire for the fun of watching it burn.

He rushed back to town and spent six days and nights working like a Trojan—or like a Roman, it being another wrong notion that the Trojans worked harder than anybody else—and organized fire brigades all over Rome trying to put the fire out.

When, however, it got out near his own magnificent home with its great collection of art treasures and he saw it was doomed, he stood on the river bank in front of the house and sang a funeral dirge, for Mr. Weigall states that Nero was one of the greatest singers that ever lived—a tall, robust, red-haired, freckled-faced opera singer, more interested in his music than in fires or in burning Christians.

Thus do our notions crumble one by one before the onslaught of truth! —Albert E. Wiggam in International-Cosmopolitan.

Body of Cortes Rests in Mexico City Church

The Mexican government announced not long ago that it is in possession of documents proving definitely that the remains of Hernando Cortes, Spanish conqueror of Mexico, are in the central altar of the church of Jesus Nazareno in Mexico City.

Pathfinder Magazine. For more than a century there has been a mystery as to the final disposition of the remains of Cortes. He died near Seville, Spain, on December 2, 1547, and his ashes were sent to Mexico about 15 years later and placed in the hospital founded by him in the Mexican capital. When the agitation against everything Spanish was at its height in 1823 the ashes of the conqueror were removed to the church near the hospital for fear that they might be desecrated. The church, which will be made a Cortes shrine, is near the hospital which still benefits by the will of Cortes.

Sausages as Tithes

In the town of Demen, Germany, it seems, the church is entitled to receive 130 pounds of a certain kind of sausage, known as Mettwurst every year from the local tithe-payers. Recently the latter refused to supply the ration of sausage. The church invoked the aid of the law, and the tithe-payers had to deliver the customary Mettwurst. But the church was still unsatisfied—the sausage, it was alleged, was not up to standard—it contained too much beef.

Castle of Sleeping Beauty

The ancestral castle of the counts of Eltz is one of the finest in Germany, resting high on a precipitous rock, with cloud-piercing tower and rimmed with dark green woods. This is the castle made famous by Sleeping Beauty, if legend is to be believed. It dates back to the Twelfth century and its gray walls have seen many a battle waged. It might almost be said to be three castles in one, grouped about an inner court, and each of the three has its own entry.

Holyrood Now Obscured

The somber walls of Holyrood palace, Edinburgh, have lost remembrance of the grandeur of its former days, yet it holds some of the most glamorous and the saddest memories of Mary Queen of Scots. Here on the 9th of March, 1566, Lord Darnley murdered David Rizzio, an Italian, whom he accused of improper relations with Mary, his wife. Exactly 12 months afterward he himself was murdered by the earl of Bothwell, who married Mary after less than three months.

"Uttering and Publishing"

This legal phrase is most generally used in connection with the circulation of counterfeit money, forged notes, etc. Bouvier's Law Dictionary states that "to utter" in criminal law is to offer or to publish; also that "to publish" means primarily to make known. Webster's dictionary quotes F. Wharton that "to utter and publish a document is to offer directly or indirectly, by words or actions, such document as good."

FARM NOTES

A classified advertisement in your local newspaper is a short cut from your farm to the consumer.

It is unsafe to hold back pullets by limiting feed when production starts. It seems wiser to feed such birds liberally so they can maintain weight while laying. Grain should be fed generously while mash is kept before the pullets.

Much of the dead chestnut standing for years in the woods is becoming more and more useless for posts or other timber. Unless it is cut and used soon it may as well be left in the woods. The value of such chestnut for poles and mine timber also has decreased.

Comparatively little equipment is needed for handling beef cattle, say State College livestock specialists. This is especially true of cattle being fattened for the open market. A satisfactory shelter for beef cattle is one that furnishes adequate protection from wind, rain, and snow.

Silage is a splendid roughage for sheep, but it should not be fed when frozen or moldy. Breeding ewes should receive not more than two and one-half pounds daily until after lambing time. Too liberal feeding may cause weak lambs.

A good farm record book accurately kept will enable a farmer really to know his business.

Boxes of leaf mold, rich garden soil, and sand can be placed in the basement now for use next spring when planting seeds in crates and boxes.

Each Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 11:45 to 12:15 special farm and garden programs are broadcast from WPSC, the radio station owned and operated at 1230 kilocycles by the Pennsylvania State College.

Where garbage is available in considerable amounts, it can be used as a feed for hogs with some success. Tests have shown that 20 pound of garbage will produce a pound of gain in hogs. Analyses of garbage on a dry weight basis give the following results: Protein, 15-18 per cent; carbohydrates, 31-69 per cent; fat, 13-33 per cent; ash, 16-36 per cent.

The danger in feeding garbage is in having some injurious substance present such as glass, paper, soap, sawdust, etc., or in exposing the hogs to hog cholera through the presence of rinds from hogs that had the disease. Hogs fed on garbage should be immunized against hog cholera, and some arrangement should be made so that objectionable substances will not be put in the garbage. The garbage is sometimes cooked, to prevent disease, but this makes it difficult for hogs to pick out and leave injurious substances that they will not eat when it is not cooked.

All of the eggs from the Dale Willard farm, Vermillion county, Ill., go to a select trade in Chicago, and bring from 10 cents to 15 cents a dozen more than Mr. Willard could obtain on the local market. This trade demands clean eggs, and that is one of the reasons why Mr. Willard keeps his flock in the laying house until noon.

Hens that are kept up until noon seem to develop the habit of laying in the forenoon," said Mr. Willard. "We get from 75 to 90 per cent of our eggs in the first half of the day. Whether it is fair of rainy the eggs are clean. If hens have their freedom throughout the day they track mud into the house and nests are so soiled that we would have to clean the eggs before shipping.

The hen that is permitted freedom only a part of the day will eat more mash and her ration will be better balanced than if she runs out all the time. We have been getting better egg production since we have kept our hens up. They eat more mash and it is mash that makes the eggs."

Common warts on cattle, though sometimes considered of minor importance, reduce the value of affected hides from slightly to as much as 25 per cent—sometimes more. Moreover the prevalence of warts on cattle is increasing, according to information gathered by the United States Department of Agriculture.

Leaflet 75-L, just issued by the department, tells how to prevent and remove these growths. Warty hides when tanned have roughness, and weak spots where the warts occurred on the skin, and the affected parts are considered worthless, the publication shows. Cattle buyers, therefore, make discounts for warty animals purchased in the markets.

Experiments conducted with wart material show that the growths are infectious and under ordinary conditions are probably spread when the infective material comes in contact with the injured skin of healthy cattle. Preventive measures include the removal of all warty cattle from the herd and the cleaning and disinfecting of exposed pens, rubbing posts, and other equipment. Small warts may be removed by clipping them off with sterile scissors or tying a sterile thread tightly around the wart near the base. The stumps remaining after the warts are removed should be touched with glacial acetic acid or tincture of iodine. The removal of large warts requires the attention of a veterinary surgeon.

Leaflet 75-L, Warts on Cattle, may be obtained free by applying to the Office of Information, United States Department of Agriculture, Washington.

Legume hays of good quality are high in protein and calcium. They are the best source of calcium and if home-grown are usually the cheapest source of protein.

775 Minus 135 Leaves 640
In our issue of Sept. 4th we made appeal to 775 of our subscribers who were in arrears at that time.
Since then 135 have responded, and to them we make grateful acknowledgment of their promptness in coming to relief of the financial strain we are under.
We are still hoping that the remaining 640 are not going to fail us.
By the way: If you have any printing jobs. Anything, large or small in the line of commercial printing, we would like to do it for you.
There is always one certainty about job printing done at this office. It is well done, and at prices no higher than are often paid for work that is not so good.
The Democratic Watchman