

SUCH IS LIFE—No Hoarding Allowed!

By Charles Sughro



Banana Tops U. S. Fruit Import

Fifty-Five Million Stems Delivered in 1931.

Washington.—If the bananas imported into the United States in 1931 were evenly distributed, every man, woman and child would have received several dozen, for more than 55,000,000 stems of bananas were delivered at our ports, says a bulletin from the National Geographic society.

"While the banana is one of the most popular fruits in the fruit bowls of the United States, it is an alien. Banana plants demand a hot climate with plenty of rainfall. That is why former Central American jungles have become the world's most prolific banana plantations. Central American republics supply more than half of our bananas; Jamaica, about one-fourth, and most of the others come from southern Mexico, Cuba and Colombia.

"The banana started its journey around the Tropics of the world from India and the Malay peninsula. When it reached the West Indies and Central America it is as debatable as the origin of the American Indian. It was a stranger in the United States until the latter part of the last century. In 1870, a schooner captain, returning to Boston from Jamaica, brought a stem of bananas as a curiosity. Fifteen years later a company was organized to appease the growing American appetite for bananas.

"Today hundreds of ships, armies of men—skilled and unskilled—miles of railroads, thousands of freight and flat cars, mules, horses and oxen, many square miles of modern warehouses and many millions of dollars are employed annually to handle the banana

traffic. The banana has turned vast acres of tropical jungles into food producing regions, and built modern, sanitary villages with hospitals and schools in former fever-infected regions.

Grow From "Eyes."

"The farmer of the United States who purchases acreage for a farm or plantation clears the land before planting. Not so with the banana plantation owner. He clears away weeds and vines, and plants bits of roots of healthy, producing banana plants among native trees. Each bit of root planted must have an 'eye', really a bud, from which a young banana plant sprouts. Later the native trees are felled and many of them are left to protect the young plants from the hot tropical sun.

"By the twelfth month, a banana plant begins to produce fruit. The plant, though it grows from 15 to 40 feet high, is an herb, not a tree. Its 'trunk' is a compact mass of leaves, the new leaves growing inside the old. A huge blossom thrusts itself out of the top of the 'trunk' after several months' growth. The blossom develops rapidly, becomes topheavy and slowly droops over the side of the 'trunk.' Shortly the bracts or blossom leaves fall and for the first time bananas are visible—clusters of tiny green fingers that stick straight out from the stem.

One Stem Per Tree.

"Each stem of bananas delivered at the ports of the United States represents a plant. Therefore, it took more than 55,000,000 plants to supply banana consumers of the United States last year. The old plant succumbs to the blade of plantation workmen but, meanwhile, several sprouts are shooting from 'eyes' in the old tree roots.

"At every stage of their journey to the fruit bowl, bananas are carefully handled to avoid bruising. Temperatures to which they are subjected also are as carefully watched as the temperature of an infant's milk. Too slow or too rapid ripening may mean the loss of whole cargoes of fruit.

"When the plantation manager is advised, perhaps by radio, that a fruit ship is due to arrive at his port and a certain number of stems are expected from his plantation, he dispatches workmen to bring in the required quantity. It takes an expert to select the stems of proper grade for shipment.

"To clip a stem of bananas from its lofty perch might mean destruction of the bananas and much loss of time, so the cutters, equipped with long poles topped with sharp knives, partially cut the plant just below the fruit so that the plant top and stem droop toward the ground. Then a 'backer' or banana carrier steps under the stem; it is clipped by another workman, and carried to a mule, horse, ox, tram or whatever transport is available to start the fruit on the long haul to the ship's hold."

Indoor Net Champ



Gregory Mangin of New York is the 1932 United States indoor tennis champion, having won the title by defeating Francis X. Shields in the tournament in New York.

to four kilometers an hour. Special glass forms the eyes of the apparatus, and a pincer-like claw can be operated electrically in front for fastening on to sunken wreckage.

The inventor hopes to be able to put his find to profitable use not only in search of many sunken "treasure ships," but also mentions the possibility of using it in laying and servicing the long-dreamed transatlantic telephone cable. He has already patented his device in Germany and several foreign countries.

Invents New Diving Bell

Expected to Reach Depth of 3,000 Meters.

Berlin, Germany.—The announcement of the American explorer, William Beebe, that he expected to reach a depth of 1,800 meters with a new diving bell has brought to light the work of a young German engineer, who claims to have perfected a diving apparatus capable of reaching a depth of 3,000 meters and of propelling itself electrically along the sea floor, fastening lines mechanically to submerged wreckage and greatly simplifying diving operations as they have been practiced to date.

Hans Philipps of Koenigs-Muelheim has worked for five years on a small egg-shaped diving bell with a rudder and propeller and with an electrically manipulated beak something like that of a bird, and he claims that his invention can dive to greater depths than any yet in use and can withstand greater pressure.

Philipps' bell is devised with double shell, forming an air chamber which contains liquid air. This can be heated electrically to expand and form any desired pressure from the inside to withstand the pressure of the water as the bell is lowered deeper into the sea.

The apparatus receives its energy from a mother ship, which also furnishes telephonic connection and the air supply. Inside the diving bell are two separated compartments, one containing motors, and the other for the operator, containing the oxygen supply measuring instruments, telephone and control.

The control, however, becomes automatic in case of any disturbance, signaling to the mother ship above and at the same time cutting off the stream of liquid air from above and releasing ballast water so that the device immediately begins to rise.

The diver himself is protected through special oxygen supply, and he can manipulate the device along the ocean's floor at the rate of three

She's Mayor Now



Mrs. Stella Alexander, wife of the village blacksmith of Issaquah, Wash., who was recently elected mayor of the town on an economy program.

Chic Spring Suit



A double-breasted check suit with revers faced in white and almost hidden by the huge boutonniere in red and white.

OF INTEREST TO THE HOUSEWIFE

Weather strips fitted to doors and windows will keep out the cold and make your house considerably warmer.

To make cakes light and feathery add a teaspoonful of glycerin for each pound of flour in mixing.

A delicious salad can be made by stuffing peeled, chilled tomatoes with crab or shrimp salad.

A little hot milk added a little at a time while mashing potatoes will make them light and fluffy. Heat, but do not boil the milk.

To stone or seed raisins without having them stick to the fingers soak them in hot water for two minutes, then plunge them in cold water and drain.

Adding hot milk instead of cold to mashed potatoes makes them lighter. Mash well, add salt, butter and hot milk last. Beat for a minute with a spoon.

WITHIN THE DOOR

By THOMAS ARKLE CLARK
Emeritus Dean of Men,
University of Illinois.

Liberty's is one of the largest and most beautiful stores in London. It faces on Regent street and is set down among buildings almost American in their pretentiousness. There is no front entrance to the store, however. One goes in from a side street where there is more privacy and quiet. It is rather an English trait, this tendency to veil the front entrance.

Within the doorway a most elegant lady is in waiting, gray-haired, alert, beautifully gowned, smiling, and gracious as a princess if princesses are really gracious as they should be. Her business is to find out yours and to make suggestions or give directions and so to conserve your time. She does this more as a friendly hostess than as a cold, haughty and mechanical floor walker would do. She puts one into a pleasant receptive frame of mind at once, which I am sure is conducive to trade. In the little shops with which the great store is filled there is the same sort of friendly greeting as one steps within the door that other shrewd business men might emulate. I should feel that if I visited London without going to Liberty's I had some way slighted an old friend. I always want to go back to see if the gracious lady is still standing to receive me within the door.

The merchant who wants to encourage trade should place something attractive just within the door.

Whatever business one is going to transact, social or financial, one always likes to find a friendly hand or a cheerful office boy within the door. The reception committee at church at a social function can put one into a very pleasant frame of mind. There was a time when Nancy and I went to parties given by young people that we were met at the door and greeted as if our coming gave some one pleasure. It is seldom so today. One finds his way about as he can. There is no gracious host or hostess within the door.

POTPOURRI

The Chinese Wall

The greatest defensive structure the world has ever known is the great wall of China. Over 1,500 miles long or a distance similar to that from New York city to Omaha, this wall was built in the Third century B. C. against invasions of the Tartars. The structure is 22 feet high, 20 feet broad, with towers every few hundred yards.

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GABBY GERTIE



"When a girl's temper gets away from her the nearest guy to her generally catches it."

"Share-a-Meal" Works Well in New York



The emergency unemployment relief committee in New York recently promulgated the "share-a-meal" drive, designed to provide meals for the city's unemployed, the result being that a central depot had to be established to receive the food contributed, reassemble it in unit packages, and carry it to the needy families. More than 2,500 stores in New York enlisted in the campaign, and now 13,500 meals a day are furnished. Here is a view in the central depot with workmen busy sorting the individual packages, 25 pounds to each needy family.

ODD THINGS AND NEW—By Lane Bode

THESE ARE ALL PICTURES OF THE SAME PERSON...
CLAUDE OVERHOLT—THE RUBBER-FACED MAN—of Akron, O.

"RED" GRANGE HANDLED THE BALL 5 TIMES AND SCORED 5 TOUCHDOWNS—IN A GAME AGAINST MICHIGAN—NOV. 1924

THE LARGEST FLAG IN THE WORLD... 165 FEET LONG AND 90 FEET WIDE—in Detroit—

A ROOSTER BORN ON THE 5TH OF ONE MONTH CROWED ON THE 17TH OF THE NEXT MONTH

Mercolized Wax Keeps Skin Young

Get an ounce and use as directed. Fine particles of good skin peel off until all defects such as pimples, liver spots, tan and freckles disappear. Skin is then soft and velvety. Your face looks years younger. Mercolized Wax brings out the hidden beauty of your skin. To remove wrinkles use one ounce Powdered Hazelle dissolved in one-half pint witch hazel. At drug stores.

PARKER'S HAIR BALSAM
Removes Dandruff Stops Hair Falling
Imports Color and Beauty to Gray and Faded Hair
Sole and U.S. at Drugstores.
Hiscox Chem. Works, Paterson, N. Y.

FLORESTON SHAMPOO—Ideal for use in connection with Parker's Hair Balsam. Makes the hair soft and fluffy. 50 cents by mail or at drugstore. Hiscox Chemical Works, Paterson, N. Y.

Just How New Yorker Happened to Be "Let In"

John Stewart Bryan, himself a Virginian, tells of a man from Charleston, S. C., who returned home from a visit to New York. Somebody asked him how he enjoyed himself and the colonel said: "Fine! We had a great dinner at Delmonico's. Colonel Ravenel was there; Major Elliott from Columbia was there; three of the Screvens came from Savannah, and there was General Breckenridge from Kentucky and Beverly Randolph from Virginia."

"That made eight, with you?"

"No, there were nine. Oh, yes; there was a fellow from New York there."

"How did he get in?"

"Oh," said the colonel, "he was giving the dinner!"—Boston Globe.

Do You Get BILIOUS ATTACKS?

Constipation will upset your entire system and bring on dyspepsia, nervousness and lack of pep. Common as it is, many people neglect this trouble and lead themselves into serious ailments. Your doctor will tell you the importance of keeping bowels open. The easy, safe remedy is Dr. Morse's Indian Root Pills, made of pure herbs and roots. They not only cleanse but also regulate. At all druggists.

Dr. Morse's INDIAN ROOT PILLS
Mild & Gentle Laxative

Roman Altar Found

A delightful find has been made near Newcastle, England, on the line of the old Roman wall. It is a Roman altar in a good state of preservation, with its inscription still sharp and clear after all the centuries that have streamed away since Britain was a Roman colony. The altar was dedicated to mothers by a detachment of the First Cohort of the Verdun. The altar was found near Matient Piers by the North of England excavation committee. It is a great treasure that they have discovered.

Little Difference

The young bride was asked what she thought of married life.

"Oh, there's not much difference," she replied. "I used to wait up half the night for George to go, and now I wait up half the night for him to come home."

FROM WOMANHOOD TO MOTHERHOOD

Baltimore, Md.

"When I was developing into womanhood I suffered with convulsions; tried several doctors but not one helped me. I was advised to have an operation, which I did, and still no relief. I suffered thus until I was married, then had convulsions with five of my children," said Mrs. Minnie Gillingham of 1155 Washington Blvd. "Finally I was advised to take Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription and when my sixth baby was born I did not have the slightest trouble." Druggists sell **Dr. Pierce's Prescription**

The Honeymoon

Mistress—And did you have a honeymoon, Mandy?

Laundress—We-e-ell Rastus done he'pe me wid de washin' de first two weeks.—Many Laughs.

Religion is often the only consolation of the poor man. Money provides other solaces for some others.

Mothers! BEWARE OF WORMS

Be on the look-out for the common enemy of children. Watch for such symptoms as picking at nostrils, gnitting of teeth, poor appetite and frightening dreams. Expel these intestinal parasites with Comstock's Dead Shot Worm Pellets. Easy for the most sensitive child to take.

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