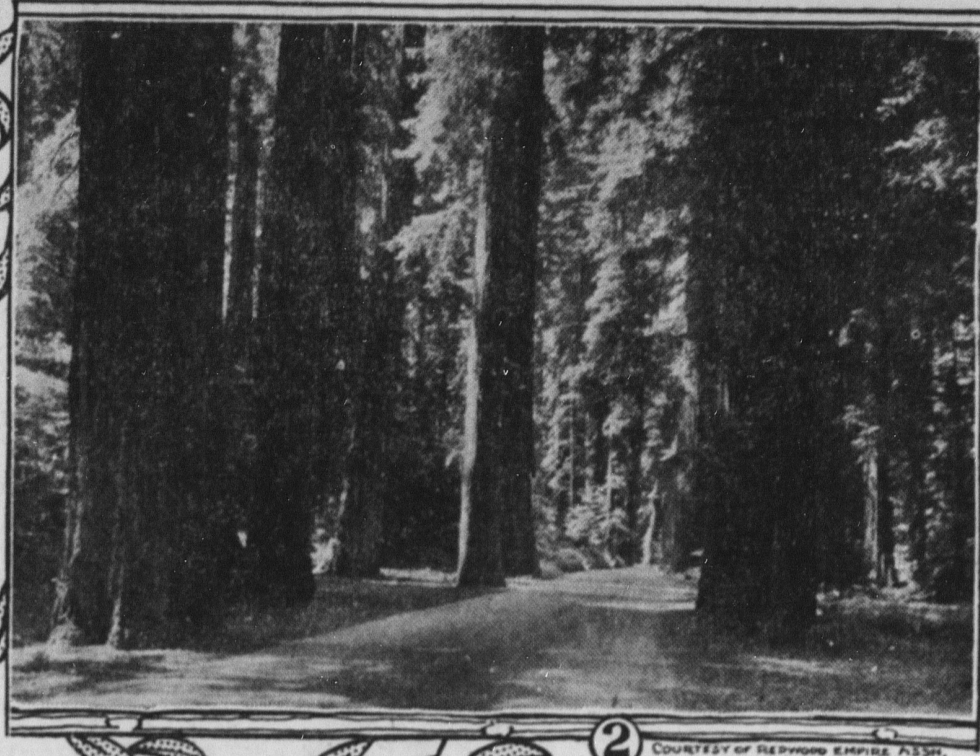
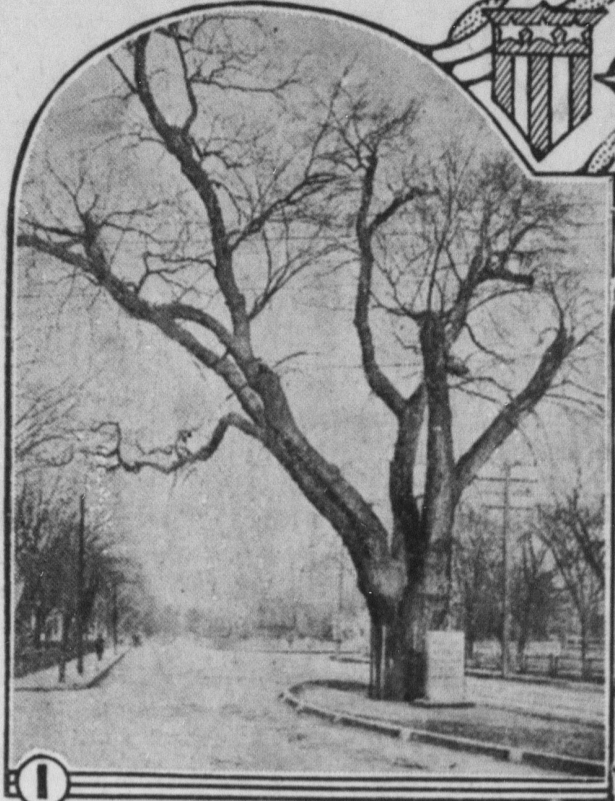


# WHAT SHALL BE OUR NATIONAL TREE? 22



By ELMO SCOTT WATSON

**W**E HAVE a national anthem—"The Star Spangled Banner." We have a national flag—the Stars and Stripes. The eagle is our national bird (with the turkey as the "unofficial national bird" on Thanksgiving and Christmas!). Several years ago a nationwide referendum to choose a national flower, conducted by the American Nature association, resulted in the wild rose polling the greatest number of votes, getting almost twice as many as the columbine, the nearest contender, and three times as many as the violet, which placed third.

And now there is a plan on foot for holding a national referendum to choose a national tree, thus giving us another symbol around which to center our loyalty to our country. Between now and January, 1934, the people will register their will as to what tree has the greatest appeal to Americans, best typifies the American spirit and has been an important factor in our history. The result of the poll will then be presented to congress for whatever action it chooses to take in making the choice official.

It is difficult to predict what the result will be. Undoubtedly there will be many votes for the elm because there is still fresh in our memories the thousands of elm trees which were planted last year, during the Washington bi-centennial, in commemoration of Washington and of the historic elm in Cambridge, Mass., under which he took command of the Continental army.

No doubt some of the states will hope that their official state tree will be honored by being made the national tree. But that rather limits the choice, for there are only six which have such official state trees or trees so characteristic of those commonwealths as to be state trees. South Carolina is the Palmetto state, but it is doubtful if the palmetto is likely to be the national choice. For the national tree should be one which can be found in every section of the country and the palmetto is found only in the south. The same consideration may prevail against Indiana's official state tree, the tulip tree, and against that variety of the horse-chestnut which has given to Ohio its popular name of the Buckeye state. California, no doubt, would be well pleased to have its giant sequoias or redwoods thus honored, but there again rises the objection that they are indigenous to only one part of the country.

Illinois' state tree is the oak and the oak is found in one form or another in nearly every part of the United States. But objection already has been raised to this as the national tree because it is "hard-hearted" and such a tree could not very well typify the American people.

If historic association is to play a part in the selection of a national tree, there are innumerable individuals of several different species which will demand consideration for their particular kind.

Several years ago the American Tree association, under the leadership of Charles Lathrop Pack, embarked upon the laudable enterprise of establishing a hall of fame for trees and inviting citizens in all parts of the country to nominate historic trees in their communities for places in this gallery of honor. The following is by no means a complete list of those which have been registered in the hall of fame (some still standing and others long since passed away) but it will give an idea of the intimate association of some monarch of the forest with some history-making event:

Washington elm near Palmer, Mass., on the Springfield-Boston highway, of which it is recorded that "beneath this tree Washington rested and refreshed himself and delivered a short address only three days previous to taking command of the army at Cambridge."

Liberty tree, an elm which stood on Boston Common and under which meetings to protest against the Stamp act and other oppressions by England were held by the patriots. It was cut down in 1775, while the British army occupied Boston, for firewood and for revenge upon the "rebels."

Treaty tree, near Vincennes, Ind., sole survivor of a walnut grove in which Gen. William Henry Harrison held a council with the great Indian chief, Tecumseh, August 12-16, 1810.

Boone's "Bar" tree, on Boone's creek, a small tributary of the Watauga in eastern Tennessee, which while still standing bore the inscription, carved by the noted pioneer, "D. Boone killed A BAR on this tree year 1791."

John Brown's tree, a white oak near Barkhamsted, Conn., under whose branches John Brown of Ossawatimie and Harper's Ferry fame played as a child, calling it "my tree" and revisiting it every time he returned to the ancestral home in Connecticut. It is also called the Council tree, because of its use for that purpose by Indians of that vicinity.

Morse elm in Washington, D. C., named for Samuel F. B. Morse, inventor of the telegraph,

**FOR AND IN CONSIDERATION OF THE GREAT LOVE I BEAR THIS TREE AND THE GREAT DESIRE I HAVE FOR ITS PROTECTION FOR ALL TIME, I CONVEY ENTIRE POSSESSION OF ITSELF AND ALL LAND WITHIN EIGHT FEET OF THE TREE ON ALL SIDES.**

WILLIAM H. JACKSON



1. The Washington elm in Cambridge, Mass.  
2. A forest of redwoods in California.  
3. Tablet in Athens, Ga., which proves that an oak tree "owns itself." It reads "For and in consideration of the great love I bear for its tree and the great desire I have for its protection for all time, I convey entire possession of itself and all land within eight feet of the tree on all sides. William H. Jackson." This unique deed was recorded early in the Nineteenth century by Col. W. H. Jackson, at one time chief justice of the Georgia Supreme court.  
4. The Pan-American peace tree in Havana, Cuba, which was planted in soil gathered from the 21 American nations represented at a Pan-American conference held in that city in 1928. It is to be a shrine of peace and good will for the peoples of the countries represented at the conference.  
5. The last living horse-chestnut tree planted in a row of thirteen by George Washington in Fredericksburg, Va., representing the thirteen original colonies.

who often sat beneath it and related to interested listeners the wonders of the telegraph. Standing at the corner of Pennsylvania avenue and Fourteenth street, this elm had looked down upon every inaugural parade ever held in the Capital.

Scythe tree, in Waterloo, N. Y. When Wyburn Johnson enlisted in the Union army in 1861, he hung his scythe in a crotch of a small tree, to be left there until his return. He was killed in battle and the tree in its growth enveloped the scythe until now it is firmly embedded in the trunk with only the point showing.

Wesley oak on St. Simon's Island, Ga. Under this tree both John and Charles Wesley, founders of the Methodist church in America, preached their first sermons on this continent.

Webster tree near Franklin, N. H. On this tree Daniel Webster hung his scythe when he decided to go to Dartmouth college and "the path from this tree led Webster to congress and to the office of the secretary of state. He never reached the Presidency, but he twice refused the nomination for Vice President and in both cases the head of the ticket on which he would have been elected died in office."

Council oak in Sioux City, Iowa, beneath which Lewis and Clark camped and held one of their first councils with the Indians after leaving St. Louis.

Battle Ground oak at Guilford Court House, N. C., also called the Liberty tree. It stands on the battle ground of Guilford Court House, fought

March 15, 1781, "the battle that won the Revolution," since Cornwallis' costly victory there led directly to Yorktown and his surrender. General Greene is said to have tied his horse to this tree during the battle.

Kentucky Coffee tree in front of the Ver Planck mansion at Fishkill-on-Hudson, occupied by Baron Steuben during the Revolution. The first meeting of the Society of the Cincinnati was held under this tree.

Live oak at Pomona, Calif., marking the spot where in 1837 the first white settlers camped in the Pomona valley.

Abraham Lincoln tree in Decorah, Iowa, a hackberry planted by Hohn Finn in memory of the martyred President on April 27, 1865, the day which the governor of Iowa had designated as a day of mourning for Lincoln. The tree is now 110 feet high and nearly 12 feet around.

The Donegal oak at the Donegal church in Pennsylvania. Here in 1777 the congregation was interrupted by an express rider who roused the countryside with the information that the British army under Lord Howe had left New York to invade Pennsylvania. Tree and church are in an excellent state of preservation.

The Bath horse-chestnut near Bath, Pa., given to Gen. Robert Brown by George Washington as a token of friendship. Fruit from this tree, known as the Friendship tree, has been planted on the White House grounds and in each state to establish "Washington Friendship Groves."

The Brandywine sycamore near the Brandywine Baptist church at Chadds Ford, Pa. Under its wide branches is the stone house used by General Lafayette as his headquarters before the Battle of Brandywine in 1777. The French general was laid under this tree after having been wounded, and since that time the tree has been known as the Lafayette sycamore.

"The Lone Sentinel," a giant cottonwood by the river bridge in Dodge City, Kan. The tree was there when the settlers came in 1871 and 1872. It was one of three trees for miles along the river. This tree is nearly a century old, for Chief Satanta told the late A. J. Anthony that his tribe had named it "The Lone Sentinel" and had record of it for years. Tradition has it that several horse thieves were hanged from this tree, and the old cowboys and gunmen used to tack targets on it for pistol practice. The trunk is full of lead.

The General Sherman Sequoia, declared to be the oldest thing now living. It was of giant growth at the time of the birth of Christ, almost 2,000 years ago. Today, at an age of more than 4,000 years, it has a diameter of 36 1/2 feet and a height of 280 feet. This tree is located in Sequoia National park, where it stands as a memorial to Gen. William Tecumseh Sherman, as well as the undisputed monarch of the ages.

The Naturalization tree in Kentucky, a symbol of the American Spirit of today. Its fame rests on its service in connection with Americanizing recruits at Camp Zachary Taylor during the recent war. Under its branches thousands of aliens took the oath of allegiance upon being mustered into the ranks of the United States army. On a single day this tree witnessed the naturalization of 925 of these new Americans and saw their salute to the flag of their new citizenship.

The "Lonesome Pine" near Tate Springs, Tenn., which was the model for the artist who illustrated John Fox, Jr.'s "Trail of the Lonesome Pine" and which has become famous in song and story.

## Psyllid and Flea Beetle Do Damage

### Potato Insects Cost Growers Four Million Dollars in Past Year.

By Leslie B. Daniels, Deputy State Entomologist, Colorado Agricultural College, WNU Service.

Colorado's potato crop was damaged to the extent of \$3,702,000 during 1932 by two destructive insects, the potato psyllid and the potato flea beetle.

This estimate of damage is based on low prices paid for potatoes produced last year. In normal years, the loss to producers would have been much heavier. The psyllid damage totaled \$2,700,000.

Serious outbreaks of psyllid disease this past season also have occurred in Utah, Wyoming, Nebraska, Arizona and New Mexico. Common perennial ground cherries furnish probably the greatest menace as a host to psyllids. These plants harbor millions of the insects from spring till fall.

Farmers of Colorado have been gambling with psyllids for the past thirty years. The enormous number of these insects present throughout the state in 1932 would indicate that we are close to a peak in numbers. When such peaks occur there are ordinarily natural forces such as parasites that enter to reduce the population for the coming season.

We know that a specific parasite was doing effective work in destroying psyllids last season, although it did not become active early enough to effect the course of the disease.

It is highly possible that the psyllid insects will be so reduced in numbers by this parasite that they may not do much damage this year. Although this is highly possible we cannot predict it with absolute certainty because we still have much to learn about the psyllid.

As to control of this insect through the use of insecticides there is very little that I can say. We did treat fields in Morgan county with lime-sulphur and oil sprays, but neither controlled the condition.

We are expecting to continue rather extensive investigations on control this season, providing funds are made available.

## Too Many Branches Cut Off Trees First Season

Many orchard growers, in an effort to make their trees appear properly pruned, remove entirely too many branches the first year, says T. J. Talbert, chairman of the horticulture department of the Missouri College of Agriculture. This usually happens when growers take possession of an orchard in which pruning has been hadly neglected, or when they appreciate too late the value of pruning in their orchards.

This severe pruning after years of negligence may throw out of balance the top and root system and produce a heavy growth of water sprouts which may result in little or no fruit development. It is a much wiser procedure to prune only moderately the first year, removing and thinning out the small branches in the top of the tree, here and there in the center, and on the sides in order to open up the tree for the admittance of sunlight and air.

It is seldom advisable or necessary in the neglected orchard to remove limbs larger than 1 1/2 inches in diameter. It is true that occasionally limbs larger than this will be found growing in undesirable places.—Missouri Farmer.

## Woman Leads Growers

More than 85,000 farmers in England and Wales have registered as wheat growers under the new wheat act. The first person to register in County Tyrone, Ireland, was a woman. A drive to enroll more farmers in Ireland and Wales is being considered.

## Farm Hints

Ten South Carolina counties report a total profit of \$19,133 from 920 4-H club projects conducted in 1932.

Sixty-one former 4-H club boys and girls are enrolled in the freshman class at the State college of Washington.

Some farmers are seed growers and most farmers are seed users; the seed users would make more money if they bought new seed every few years from the growers.

With modern machines 4,000 men could harvest the United States wheat crop; with the equivalent of a century ago this task would employ several million men.

About 22,000 pigs were raised in Nevada in 1932, a decline of 7,000 from the previous year. This is in line with a slight decline in pork production for the United States as a whole.

With 17 members owning 150 animals, the first rabbit club in the state of Maryland has been organized.

A statement issued by the fertilizer division of the Dominion Seed branch, Ottawa, shows that Canada is now self-supporting in essential fertilizer items.

A farmer of Halifax county, N. C., has over 60 per cent of his cultivated land planted to cover crops and all of it will be turned under for soil improvement.

## MARKET FOR WIVES

Rev. Louis L'Empereur, apostolic prefect for the Katanga, Belgian Congo, writing in *Libre Belgique*, gives particulars of the way in which Belgian administration works indirectly against polygamy among the natives. Wives are purchased in the Congo, often before birth, the sale becoming effective only if the child turns out to be a girl. A good wife can be got for \$60, although prices run higher in some districts. Bargains are obtainable, but the woman will afterward reproach her husband with not loving her, as he paid so little for her.

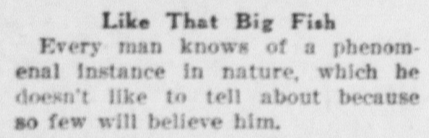


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## Like That Big Fish

Every man knows of a phenomenal instance in nature, which he doesn't like to tell about because so few will believe him.

## What SHE TOLD WORN-OUT HUSBAND

SHE could have reproached him for his fits of temper—his "fall in" complaints. But wisely she saw in his frequent colds, his "ragged" coat, his "son edge" condition the very trouble she herself had whipped. Constipation! The very morning after taking MR (Nature's Remedy), as she advised, he felt like himself again—keener, alert, peppy, cheerful. MR—the safe, dependable, all-vegetable laxative and corrective—works gently, thoroughly, naturally. It stimulates the eliminative tract to complete, regular functioning. Non-habit-forming. Try a box, 25c.—at druggists.

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