

Poinsettia Plant Source of Rubber

Discovery of Chemist May Revolutionize Industry.

Washington.—Discovery by a heretofore obscure St. Louis chemist that the poinsettia can produce more than 6,000 pounds of rubber an acre in eight months, holds promise of revolutionizing the rubber industry.

If the hopes of Herman E. Pitman, the chemist, are realized, the price of rubber, which, under the British agreement, may reach \$1 per pound, can be produced in this country at not more than seven cents a pound.

The discovery that a species of poinsettia can be made to supply 60 per cent of America's consumption was made by Pitman after years of experimenting with various plants. During this time he had closely followed similar efforts of Thomas A. Edison, Harvey Firestone, John Burroughs and Henry Ford to extract rubber from milkweed, goldenrod, palmettos and palms.

Rubber in Sap.

Examining a poinsettia given to him a year ago as a Christmas decoration, Pitman found that the sap or latex contained a small percentage of rubber. This specimen proved too expensive for commercial development and its use deemed impracticable because the sap soured in a few hours.

Experimentation with other varieties of this plant occupied the chemist for some months and eventually brought the discovery that the mixture of a cheap chemical element with the sap eliminated the rancidity and presented a latent rubber which could be produced at a nominal cost.

An analytical chemist in Wash-

ington carried the tests further and found that the plant produced juice containing 60 to 65 per cent rubber.

100,000 Acres Ready.

Retaining a Washington lawyer to patent the process, Pitman proceeded with his plans to produce poinsettia on a large scale. Already 100,000 acres of land in the Everglades has been placed at his disposal and will be planted to poinsettia in February.

Against a yield of 6,001.65 pounds an acre from Pitman's poinsettia, in eight months, the rubber plantations of India and the Dutch East Indies produce only 1,300 pounds an acre and can be harvested only once in ten years.

Those close to the rubber industry see in Pitman's discovery a drop in rubber prices far below any scale known since the beginning of the rubber industry.

Chickens in Wyoming Uncover Gold Find

Cheyenne, Wyo.—If he hadn't happened to find several tiny gold nuggets in the crops of several of his chickens, Morris Willadsen, farmer, might not have recognized the presence of gold ore in a chunk of rock he plowed up in his fields one day. But forewarned proved to be forearmed in Willadsen's case and he was on the lookout for just such a find and thus did not miss the chance to open a streak of ore on his land about five feet wide and 15 feet deep that assayed \$67 a ton in gold and silver.

Dogs Attend Wellesley

Wellesley, Mass.—Dogs now attend Wellesley college. A Boston man has been engaged as instructor of blue-blooded dogs sent to the college. Already, 20 dogs have matriculated, and the number is expected to grow. The "pupils" are taught all the fine points of dogdom.

New Drug Is Help in Malaria Fight

Four Times as Powerful as Quinine, Scientist Says.

Atlanta, Ga.—Malaria, ancient scourge of the backwoods dwellers of the deep South, is being fought with a new and potent weapon which researchers have reason to believe may soon relegate the insidious disease to the virtual oblivion into which vaccination drove smallpox.

Atabrine—an amino-acridine de-

rivative with alkyl groups if you are chemically versed—is the new magic in medical science's ceaseless warfare against the deadly blood parasite.

It is four times as powerful as quinine and more palatable, though more costly, physicians explain. With it cures can be effected in five days, compared to five weeks required by quinine.

Amazing results have been obtained in tests. The malarial death rate in Malacca, small Asiatic country, dropped 50 per cent after its introduction. Favorable results were obtained by a South American fruit company in more than 300 cases.

While the drug is being introduced in all malaria-infested southern states, the Tennessee valley counties of Alabama are being used as a gigantic testing laboratory.

Dr. J. N. Baker, director of public health in Alabama, is being aided by the Tennessee valley authority's medical department in conducting a thorough malaria blood survey.

The drug is being made available to physicians through the state's public health system.

The hoped-for result is the saving of hundreds of lives now listed in the annual malarial death toll.

"In certain and quartan malaria atabrine destroys the parasite promptly and permanently," Doctor Baker said. "In avestive-autumnal or malignant malaria another drug, plasmochin, is used as an adjunct for complete control.

"The possibilities of atabrine as a check against this disease are great. Its use is a big forward step toward ultimate elimination of this ancient enemy of the South."

of the most stunning afternoon costumes on the present season's style program is a short jacket and skirt suit of superb black velvet which has a scarf-collared white ermine with a big white fur muff to match. The vogue for black and white which is more insistent than ever is also reflected in the smart afternoon one-piece dress either of black crepe, broadcloth or duvetyne which is tailored with utmost simplicity, a white ermine trim, perhaps a bow, perhaps collar and cuffs of the fur giving it an enlivening touch.

River Thames' Evaporation

During a hot day, the River Thames loses 30,000,000 gallons by evaporation.

SEEN and HEARD around the National Capital

By CARTER FIELD

Washington.—Gen. Hugh S. Johnson's selection by President Roosevelt to play a part in organizing the country so that it will be ready in all directions, should a war break out, is a most happy one for many reasons.

In the first place Johnson, while associated with Bernard M. Baruch, worked for almost ten years on this very idea. He did it at Baruch's direction. Baruch was much impressed, during the World war, with the chaos which resulted from this country's having been precipitated into that conflict. And this despite the fact that it had been at least a possibility for considerably more than two years that this country would be involved. Absence of any intelligent plan for obtaining the necessary raw materials, for example. Absence of any sane co-ordination of the railroads—a lack which led to the government's taking them over, and wasting probably hundreds of millions of dollars.

And then the big problem of unequal distribution—soldiers getting \$30 a month, having been drafted, and machine workers getting \$10 a day. The waste in building ships, especially wooden ships. The horrible memory of Hog Island.

So Baruch thought the thing to do would be to have a comprehensive plan, including every man and every bit of property in the country, so that at the outbreak of war the whole thing could be organized with that same efficiency that should characterize the mobilization of a European army, and at the same time as near a basis of equality between the citizens as possible, no matter what their particular niche in the scheme might be.

Having worked and thought for ten years on this subject, conferring with all the experts and best thinkers they could get hold of, Baruch and Johnson were obviously the two outstanding men in the entire country for this task.

Fond of Johnson

But there was another reason for the selection of Johnson, which was highly important. The President is very fond of the explosive general, and would like to employ his very great talents in the government.

The question was, where could he be placed where he could have any reasonable chance of getting along peacefully with those with whom he would have to work?

The gradual turning of a close friendship between Donald Richberg and Johnson in NRA—the repeated battles between Johnson and Frances Perkins, secretary of labor—the bitter enmities aroused by Miss Frances Robinson, Johnson's lieutenant, all made it difficult.

But one point stood out like a lighthouse. Johnson had demonstrated over a period of years that he could and would work like a slave when his work was directed by Baruch. So why not put him to work at something which very much needed to be done—technically with Baruch, but actually under him?

Which is precisely what the President has done.

Incidentally, seldom has a big piece of news been more distorted than announcement of this project. That very afternoon senators on the public committee hit the ceiling in Nye statements, thinking the move was intended to choke off their investigation.

Actually there is nothing in the present administration move which relates even remotely to the idea of American munitions makers selling to foreign countries while this country is at peace. Its only purpose is to have a definite and all embracing plan, which can be snapped into action the moment this country gets into a war.

But the words "take the profit out of war" seemed so timely that it is little wonder the headline writers jumped at them, especially as the sentence containing them was the only one on which direct quotes from the President were permitted. Even that resulted from a specific request by a newspaper man. It was not the President's original idea.

Involves Knotty Problems

Further march of the power of the federal government as against the authority of the states is seen in the determination of Secretary of War Dorn, spurred on by Senator Loneragan of Connecticut, to give the federal government control over industrial waste disposals in streams, lakes and coastal waters.

Legislation providing for this will be introduced in both houses early in the session, and will, it is learned, be vigorously pressed despite the very knotty constitutional problems involved.

The new bill, an effort to end stream pollution, is to be shaped by a committee headed by Secretary Dorn and composed of other government and state conservation officials. It will also include some sportsmen. It is expected to call for granting authority to some existing government department or agency, though it may provide for the setting up of a new agency. To whatever body is given the assignment will be granted power to enforce the provisions of the law.

No matter how the law is drafted, or what section of the Constitution is relied on to give the federal government power to go into a field which had always been supposed to belong to the states, a quick test will be made by opponents of the proposal, which will not be determined finally until it has been passed by the Supreme court.

Part of the bait to bring about co-operation instead of a battle by the states and local communities will be loans to be offered by the federal government to cities and factories that will institute some form of disposal which will keep the waste out of the streams and other waters. In some instances, it is thought, disposal systems may be installed where the by-products will actually make the whole change profitable.

Best possible advice will be supplied free by the federal government as to this, for a staff of engineers familiar with waste disposal problems will be maintained by the federal agency entrusted with this mission.

Talk of New Party

Conviction that the Republican party, as far as that label is concerned, is doomed, and that the new opposition party to the Democrats—or more accurately to the New Deal—must not only be a new organization, but must have another name, was voiced by many old-line Republicans leaders who came to Washington, not for a political powwow, but on the excuse, at least, of attending the Gridiron dinner.

Foremost among those insisting that it is wasting time to try to preserve the Republican party was Clarence C. Haulin of Colorado Springs, former Republican national committeeman from Colorado for many years and one of the original Hoover men in 1928.

At the other extreme are Republicans like former Senator George H. Moses of New Hampshire, and James E. Watson of Indiana.

They believe the Republican party is no further down the hill than the Democratic party was in 1928. They point out that of the total vote cast in the 1934 election, which was a Democratic landslide, of course, the Republicans polled 46 out of every 100 that went in the ballot boxes.

New Estate Tax

A new system of estate taxes, with very powerful support in the personnel of its advocates, is being urged on President Roosevelt, leading senators and members of the house ways and means committee.

It aims at avoiding the highly deflationary effect of the present estate taxes, and at the same time accomplishing the original object of their unearned increments.

The idea is simply to have the taxes paid by the recipients instead of by the estate.

The chief objection to the present tax, as viewed not only by its critics and by the treasury, but by recovery minded administration officials and business men, is that it prevents the most available money for investment there is—that owned by capitalists retired from active business—from being put into channels where it would produce employment, pay rolls, and spending.

The retired capitalist is nearly always a man who has begun to think about his estate, and what will happen to it after his death. He knows about estate taxes, and he has seen numerous instances of where the best part of an estate was sacrificed at bargain counter prices in order to obtain the cash necessary to pay the death duties. Consequently his whole inclination is to keep his estate very liquid indeed—in cash or government bonds.

Such a man worries not only about what would happen in such sacrifice sales from the standpoint of his heirs, but from the standpoint of his associates in any business enterprise of which he happens to own a large share.

Speakership Prospects

One of the big factors that is working to make Sam Rayburn the next speaker of the house, instead of Joseph W. Byrns of Tennessee is that the last campaign showed that the old cry of "Southern Domination" is no longer effective politically in the North.

This was proved particularly in the Maine election in September. In Maine, for that matter, Tennessee would probably be regarded as just as southern as Texas, but this is far from true politically. Tennessee not only went for Hoover in 1928, when the South was cracking in its allegiance to Democracy, but it had gone for Harding in 1920, when no religious issue was involved. As a matter of fact, it was very close in 1924.

So, from the Washington political viewpoint, Tennessee has not been regarded as part of the "Solid South" for many years.

But Texas is, despite the fact that she slipped her political moorings in 1928, with Virginia, North Carolina and Florida.

So the prospect of having both Texas of congress presided over by Texas, which is the picture at the moment, not only with the blessing but with the active co-operation of the administration, might have been regarded as political dynamite a few years back, but occasioned no concern to the Democratic candidates for the house anywhere in the North, Northeast or Northwest this year.

CZECH OLYMPIC



Macedonians in Praha for Czechoslovakian Olympic.

Prepared by National Geographic Society, Washington, D. C.—WNU Service.

EVERY six years Czechoslovakia stages its own "Olympic." Praha (Prague) the capital city, dons party dress, puts out its welcome mat and moves to a heightened tempo. Hotel rooms are reserved weeks ahead; a chair in a restaurant puts a visitor in a privileged class. Special trains, trailing one another into Wilson station, disgorge colorful crowds from rural districts. Airplanes drop off visitors from the four winds of heaven.

The enormous stadium on Strahov hill, bleakly barren between meetings, bustles with barelegged athletes of both sexes with the fire of enthusiasm in their eyes, and eager youngsters imitating their elders in athletic prowess.

Outside the distant gateways long lines of performers await the signal to invade the 567-acre field in which the largest "big top" would be but a side show.

Czechoslovakia's own Olympics return to the old stamping ground, and the greatest group drills on earth are fitted together out of hundreds of units, each a mosaic of all classes. This national concourse of gymnasts is not a mere physical culture exhibit. It is the mobilization of a nation's sinew, spirit, and dreams.

When the Czech Yankee Doodle sticks a feather in his cap, that feather marks the wearer as a falcon—a Sokol. In Slavic lands, from the Baltic to Turkey, the word evokes familiar heroes of age-old legends.

The Sokol movement affects all classes and all ages. Children of six move in uniformed companies. Mature citizens lift their centers of gravity to military contours. Country women arrive wearing so many bright petticoats that they seem to be smuggling woolen goods into a besieged city.

Scenes of Gaiety and Splendor.

Native arts, handicrafts, and songs take on new lease of life. The factory girl whose usual "best dress" is plain cotton brings forth old aprons strident with color and balloon sleeves bulging with embroidery. The society lady lays aside her clinging gown for such homespun finery as her mother habitually wore on festival occasions when costume was local rather than international in pattern.

Long before the main performance starts, the Charles bridge resembles an endless belt of ethnographic exhibits issuing from the archway of a fine Gothic tower and losing themselves in the long arcades beyond the Vltava. Costumes from Cechy (Bohemia), Morava, (Moravia), Slezsko (Silesia), Slovensko (Slovakia), and Podkarpatska Rus (Ruthenia) make the close-packed streets of the Mala Strana, or "Little Town," look like aisles in a dahlia show.

Czech theaters put on their best artists to supplement the mighty drama of the Pan-Sokol Festival. Art Galleries vie with the living picture of a nation's strength. Concert halls furnish a musical relaxation after hours of suspense and emotional excitement. Dvorak's "New World Symphony" is seldom better played than in the Old Town at Praha.

Czech genius is many-sided and there is a strong current of individualism, but there are no star performers in the mass drills, in which 60,000 arms and legs compose quick-flashing scales of eye music for 155,000 spectators. The home-run, the last-minute touchdown, the final lunge to personal victory, are lacking in the group displays. Much of the drama is psychological, for the precision, the verve, and the magnitude of the spectacle are but visual evidences of a mighty spirit underlying all.

High on the roof of the tribune, hidden from the most-favored spectators, are the group leaders; but the invisible director is the man whose centenary was celebrated in 1932, at the Ninth Pan-Sokol Festival, Dr. Miroslav Tyrs.

The Sokols united the Czechs when they were still men without a country. Thomas G. Masaryk, the distinguished and revered first and only president of the Czechoslovak republic, added the pen stroke which won the geographic setting for an accomplished fact.

Started in 1862.

Doctor Tyrs built his dream on a drill squad of 75 Sokol members, who initiated his system of gymnastics on March 5, 1862. The First Pan-Sokol Festival in 1881,

including 696 Sokols gathered from 76 different units, was considered a great success.

The Seventh Sokol Festival in Praha in 1920, involving the mobilization of 70,000 trained athletes and countless spectators, was a major factor in the consolidation of a new nation in the heart of Europe. Czech consciousness and patriotism, fostered by the Sokol organization for nearly sixty years, had proved its worth.

From the air the great stadium on Strahov hill seems more like a village than an arena.

There were 140,000 participants in the meeting of 1932. From June 5 to July 6 the athletic colony was busy. Preceding the main adult festival, from July 2 to July 6, first the children, then the adolescents, displayed their skill and training. From June 29 to July 6 the streets were a riot of color in informal or formal parades of marchers in local or national dress.

Delegates from neighboring lands added even greater variety to the display, which took on characteristics of a fashion show of peasant handicrafts and needlework. Although membership is limited to Slavs and a few nationals from countries which fought on the side of the Entente during the World war, Serbs, Croats, Slovenes, and Bulgars have been allied with the Czechs in the Sokol movement and recent festivals have had an international aspect.

The Stars and Stripes wave over many a colorful procession and July 4 is celebrated as the "Fourth of July."

It is hard to understand how drill teams from 3,144 widely distributed units arrive at such perfection; but the Sokol organization has its own publishing plant and the music to which the movements are set is distributed long before the show.

Special gramophone records are made and sent to all parts of the country, and on Sunday mornings the Praha broadcasting station is used by Sokol instructors, who give directions and the words of command which are employed in the final exhibitions. Nothing is left to chance. That is contrary to the entire Sokol spirit.

Great Allegorical Pageant.

The festivals are distinguished not only by mass drills and colorful parades, but also by an allegorical pageant. In 1932 this allegory related this radio-directed spectacle with the original Olympic festivals which inspired Doctor Tyrs.

From the central stage a figure impersonating the Sokol founder expressed his aspirations for a healthy state composed of healthy beings. Time turned back to Olympia, where such ideals were so notably exemplified. Greek champions, warriors, priests, and poets engaged in spirited contests, and ancient Greece lived again.

These representatives of antique glories then turned into lifeless statues. There was a pause, during which one could sense the loss the world suffered when the glory that was Greece became a memory. Then the statues came to life, cast aside the drappings of an outworn past, and appeared in the Sokol uniforms which had won new glory during the mass drills of the earlier days of the festival. The Olympic ideal, resurrected, took a place in practical, modern living.

All classes unite in this great exhibition of individual health and group efficiency. Visitors here see a unified nation in concerted action. Many a Czechoslovak is getting an even greater thrill. Splendid as is the spectacle from the side lines, a part in the big game is even more moving. Every six years a hundred thousand players, trained away from awkwardness and self-consciousness to grace and group-consciousness during months or years of practice, win a rich reward for their efforts. Small teams of athletes cannot attain this nationwide spirit of co-ordination. The Sokol Festival is the flower of an entire nation's growth.

During these golden days in Praha a highly industrialized and modern nation lives in the fairyland of beauty and dreams. Where has a dream proved more practical than that of Tyrs, who, behind trained muscles, glimpsed clear, clean, thinking minds and the free state they were to build and serve?

Machinaw Trout Grow Large

The lake or Mackinaw trout, largest of all trout, may reach a weight of 60 pounds.

Drop Trout 1,500 Feet to Water Without Injury

Montreal.—A series of remarkable experiments, proving that fish can be dropped into water, or even to the ground from altitudes up to 1,500 feet without serious injury, have just been concluded by the Quebec department of fish and game.

The experiments were part of the department's researches into new and speedier methods of restocking lakes. One of the methods under consideration was dropping fish from airplanes. It was doubtful, however, whether the fish could survive the drop. The experiments proved beyond doubt that they could.

A number of trout first were taken up to a height of 200 feet and dropped into a pond. They swam on as if nothing happened. Then fish were dropped from heights of 1,000 and 1,500 feet. The result was identical. The trout did not appear to have been troubled in the least by the fall.

Not satisfied, the research workers then placed trout in a receptacle with narrow openings at each end, took it up to a height of 1,000 feet and dropped it to the ground. The receptacle was smashed to pieces, but the fish were unharmed, and quickly revived when placed in water.

Albino Deer Bagged

Raleigh, N. C.—An albino deer has been killed in Northampton county, and presented to the State museum. The 170-pound buck is only the second of his species to be received at the museum.



This swagger kneelength coat is of black Lyons velvet. The fact that it buttons severely on one shoulder bespeaks a last-minute styling. So many of the new wraps fasten in novel ways. The jeweled clip at the neckline adds greatly to its chic. Ermine from the elbow on the flaring sleeves is an outstanding and significant feature, for to trim with white fur this season is to be highly styled. Nor is this vogue for white ermine or white galyak trim confined to formal night fashions. One

Department of Agriculture Payments to States

The following figures show rental and benefit payments by the Agricultural Adjustment administration made to the farmers of the nation up to November 1, 1934, as prepared by John B. Payne, comptroller. The figures given are by states and by products, showing a total disbursement of \$421,697,389.40.

State	Schedule	Total	Cotton	Wheat	Tobacco	Corn-Hogs
Alabama	2	16,481,957.06	15,278,998.09	20,592.66	1,566.00	201,392.97
Arizona	2	650,309.74	608,364.53	1,945.00	180.00	477,719.87
Arkansas	2	16,994,112.91	16,514,268.04	1,772,272.11		829,007.81
California	5	2,637,983.01	636,708.09	1,610,321.63		798,384.30
Colorado	6	2,408,705.93				299,640.60
Connecticut	7	320,561.85		92,869.00		20,921.25
Delaware	8	108,092.80		15,223.90		185,463.13
Florida	8	768,097.90	895,609.87	441,790.89	243,269.64	129,213.39
Georgia	10	14,736,194.86	8,364.54	1,470,243.39		69,714.62
Idaho	11	3,089,893.51		2,864,178.94		225,714.57
Illinois	12	18,537,687.61	2,392,697.56	267.95		16,144,722.10
Indiana	13	12,807,227.19	2,135,005.42	75,045.47		10,597,176.30
Iowa	14	31,770,308.12	441,790.89	31,328,517.23		24,001.94
Kansas	15	39,428,940.19	8,052.00	32,244,197.82	3,611.55	7,176,078.82
Kentucky	16	4,559,418.63	46,307.14	2,335,622.71	2,705,329.24	1,552,119.54
Louisiana	17	8,223,366.55	8,223,366.55			
Maryland	18	1,406,672.23	1,415,513.88	38,288.87		222,874.48
Massachusetts	19	302,818.99		117,555.86		185,463.13
Michigan	20	2,118,802.81		927,824.53		1,290,978.28
Minnesota	21	10,529,918.98		1,622,568.20	27,864.94	8,879,485.84
Mississippi	22	18,211,357.81	15,142,590.31			28,967.50
Missouri	23	16,447,131.19	2,519,926.04	1,853,236.90	64,632.54	11,019,335.71
Montana	24	6,745,075.00		6,516,724.64		226,850.36
Nebraska	25	19,983,745.01		7,350,473.60		12,503,271.41
Nevada	26	58,642.54		82,285.90		26,356.64
New Hampshire	27	13,085.90		10,491.60	2,594.30	
New Jersey	28	125,405.96		12,895.44		112,510.52
New Mexico	29	1,396,762.94	612,989.10	624,495.63		159,278.21
New York	30	162,394.08		42,489.10	26,820.01	93,584.97
North Carolina	31	11,231,519.59	5,322,699.02	56,442.00	5,890,367.63	113,022.11