

# PLANTS "MADE TO ORDER" BY BURBANK

## PATIENCE AND HARD WORK ARE HIS "SECRETS."

### Worked Wonders in Plant Life, Producing Seedless Potatoes and Shell-less Walnuts.

While I was making my "tour of inspection" through California I took the opportunity of visiting Luther Burbank, says an English writer.

Burbank is one of the marvels of the age in his own line of business. He has improved upon Nature almost past belief. His specialty lies in making plants of all kinds much more perfect than they ever were before.

What is Luther Burbank's secret? There isn't one. He has simply used intelligence and patience in crossing plants, and has brought out more varieties of plants than any other man in history. But it has taken him his life's work to do it. He has made some 100,000 experiments. The seedless potato which he evolved some fifty years ago has had a greater effect on the world's supply than any single plant.

Horticulturists and floriculturists have been doing the same thing for centuries. Luther Burbank has been more successful than any of them because he possesses the capacity for taking infinite pains, and that is another way of saying he is a genius.

**Wishes Walnuts.** Patience and hard work, and especially patience, have been the chief factors to his success. For fifty years he has thought of nothing else.

Deciding first what he wishes to create, recreate, or improve in the vegetable world, he begins by selecting specially fine specimens, allowing them to go to seed, and then experiment with the seeds under all sorts of conditions of climate, soil, and nourishment. The products of these experiments are in turn improved until the desired result is obtained.

Far be it from me to belittle the fame of Luther Burbank. But I want to dispel the idea that he possesses any supernatural powers, just as I am anxious to dispel the stories of "black magic" on his part. The truth about this really great man is much more interesting than are the wild tales told about him.

The cinema is often spoken of as one of the greatest benefactors of mankind. Well, Luther Burbank has done more for his fellowman than all the film stars going. He has added to the wealth of the world to an extent that we cannot yet estimate.

Only he doesn't employ a Press agent, so the world doesn't hear much about him and his work.

I returned to my first question—how he had produced the shell-less walnut. For those who do not know this armor-plated plant, I just wish to say that the cactus is thorns and then more thorns. At least, it was until Burbank got busy with it.

"How did you do it?" I asked. "I simply experimented with the seeds until I got what I wanted," he replied, casually dismissing years of work. "It took time, and I don't know how many experiments. In the end I produced a new and better variety of cactus—and that's all."

"And that is what I am trying to do—to produce better grains, nuts, fruits and vegetables," he went on. "I am not only striving after new forms, colors and flavors, but for a better supply for the world with less waste. My new wheat has been awarded a first prize in Canada. It is the finest wheat in the world. I have also a new kind of new barley, which will add immensely to the world's wealth."

That now I am devoting most of my time to new varieties of fruits and nuts. You know, before I produced my plants it was impossible to export any California plums, as they got spoiled on the way. So I just grew a thicker skin on them.

I also developed some walnuts without any shells, but the birds ate them on the trees, so I had to grow the shells back again. I want to show you my walnut trees. I think they are one of the finest things I have produced.

**The Old, Old Story.** He led me out into his gardens, which, by the way, are not exceptionally large, and only boast of a greenhouse no larger than many of the conservatories one sees in the grounds of ancient amateur flower-growers. Here he pointed out to me a huge tree.

"I grew that tree in ten years, and it is as large as a two hundred and fifty year old tree," he explained. "It is a cross between the black and the English walnuts. Its timber is nearly ten times as valuable as that of the ordinary walnut. Think what that means. A forest of them would be worth a fortune."

As we walked about he pointed out to me various experiments which were under way.

And as we talked I got an insight into his philosophy of life, which was even more interesting than the plant wonders he had shown me.

Luther Burbank is an optimistic pessimist.

"There is as much in life to hope for as there is to fear," he told me. "Life is self-expression, with action in certain definite directions, based on mechanical or chemical change. You cannot get away from the facts of evolution."

# THE WAY TO BE WELL

## Good Health Maintained Through Rich, Red Blood.

There are many men and women who, every few weeks, have spells of weakness, during which time they are little better than invalids; yet at other times they feel very well. Why does their health fluctuate so?

In the case of men worry and overstrained nerves are usually responsible for this state of unfitness and inability to face the anxieties of daily life.

As for women, her back aches, she is dizzy with sick-headaches, and often has stabbing pains in the side. The only real health is all-the-year-round health; and the secret of it is good, red blood and plenty of it. One way to keep the blood in good condition is to take Dr. Williams' Pink Pills. There is scarcely a nook or corner in Canada where someone will not be found who will tell you the benefit they have had through the use of these pills. And the reason is that through the improved condition of the blood they strengthen and tone up the nerves of worried, enfeebled men and women, and at the same time have given new vigor to pale, delicate girls and thin weedy boys. The value of these pills in all run down conditions is shown by the statement of Mrs. Lawrence Brown, Walton, N.S., who says:—"When I began taking Dr. Williams' Pink Pills, I was in a weak, bloodless and nervous condition suffering from all the depressing symptoms that accompany this run down state of health. I had taken much medicine but it did not do me any good, and as I had a family of small children, I was much discouraged. Then, reading about Dr. Williams' Pink Pills, I decided to try them, and I can honestly say that I feel these pills have saved me from prolonged misery. My health is now good, and we now keep the pills in the house for use as a family medicine."

You can get Dr. Williams' Pink Pills through any dealer in medicine or by mail at 50 cents a box or six boxes for \$2.50 from The Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Brockville, Ont.

Australia exports 24,000,000 rabbit skins every year.

Ask for Minard's and take no other.

**Timely Warning.** The newly-appointed manager of a banking branch was being introduced to his employees.

He singled out one of the men at the cashier's desk, questioning him in detail about his work.

"I have been here forty years," said the cashier's assistant, with conscious pride, "and in that time I have only made one slight mistake."

"Good," replied the new manager. "But hereafter be more careful."

# Surnames and Their Origin

**HARKER**  
Racial Origin—English.  
Source—A given name.

An older but obsolete form of this family name would be "Harkerson" or perhaps "Harkison," for it really belongs in the classification of surnames which end in "son" and which originally indicated the parentage of their bearers.

In a sense the name can claim greater antiquity than the English names of Norman origin, for it comes not from a Norman given name but from an Anglo-Saxon name which was in wide use prior to the Norman invasion, and which persisted even through that period, just as many other Saxon names did. As a matter of fact, however, it is likely that the family name was formed just about the same time as the others were, and it is only as a given name that we can pick it up prior to the Norman invasion.

"Hardiger" and "Hereger" were the spellings which the Anglo-Saxons gave the name, and if you'll try it yourself you'll see there is really little difference between the pronunciations of "harker" and "hardger." The meaning of this given name was "strong spear," or in the more general sense, "strong weapon."

# Did You Know This?

Many ordinary, everyday things have names to which they are not really entitled. Take this, for instance. They have no right to the name, for they are made of sheet iron, with only the thinnest coating of tin.

Nor is "galvanized" iron really galvanized; it is merely dipped in solution to give it the galvanized appearance.

The camel has nothing to do with the camel-hair brushes so beloved of artists, for they are made principally from squirrel's hair, and sealing-wax does not contain an atom of wax. It is made from shellac, cinnamon, and turpentine. It is the same with lead pencils, which contain no lead, and kid gloves, that have no connection with young goats but are made from sheepskin.

From its name, one would think that the tit-mouse was a rodent, instead of a harmless, dainty little bird. The nightingale is not by any means only a night singer; its sweet song is heard just as frequently by day.

Small flies are not baby flies, they never grow any bigger, for the size of flies does not vary once they are fully formed. The dragon-fly is often accused of stinging; in reality, it is perfectly harmless.

It is a fallacy to suppose that a cat can see better in the dark than in the daylight, for it cannot, though its powers of sight at night are more highly developed than those of man and many of the humbler creatures.

A hot-exeter does not get his name from the fact that he eats nothing but beef. The original word was *butifetier*, a French word, meaning a man who waited at the Royal table or buffet.

Perhaps you have thought that it is steam which you see coming out of the kettle spout when the water boils. Steam is invisible; what you see is condensed moisture.

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# A Devout Oriental.

While on a special mission to the United States, a Persian official was entertained by a wealthy American, who invited the Oriental to his country place near the national capitol. On the morning of the Persian's arrival his host visited him in his apartment and was astonished so the story runs, to see the Persian hopping about the floor in the most curious way. The host ventured to ask the reason for this extraordinary conduct; whereupon the Persian said:

"This rug is, as you see, green in color with pink roses here and there. Now, green is a sacred color with Persians, so I am obliged to hop from rose to rose. It is very good exercise, but somewhat fatiguing."

# Says Indigestion Was Entirely Overcome

Hope for the millions of unfortunate men and women who are victims of stomach trouble is sounded by Mrs. O. E. Smith, of 169 Yarmouth Road, Toronto, Ont. Mrs. Smith was a victim of stomach trouble in its worst form but was completely restored to health by taking Tania. She says:

"I suffered terribly from indigestion, headaches and dizzy spells. My kidneys also bothered me, and my back and legs hurt constantly. But since I took Tania my digestion is perfect and I never have an ache or pain of any kind. In fact, I feel just fine all the time."

Undigested food ferments in the stomach and soon the entire system is filled with poisons. Tania was designed to restore the stomach to a healthy condition and build up the whole body. Millions everywhere have acclaimed its wonderful power. Get a bottle today.

Tania is sold by all good druggists.

# SALESMEN

We pay weekly and offer steady employment selling our complete and exclusive line of whole-retail and cash-dog-to-order traps and plants. Best stock and service. We teach and equip you free. A money-making opportunity. **Once Brothers' Nurseries, Montreal.**

# DOG DISEASES

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# A Stone-Dust Car-Blower.

A car has been designed for distributing stone dust in coal mines, to prevent explosions.

Much coal dust lodges on the "ribs" of coal-tunnel tunnels and in crevices of the rough-hewn walls. Currents of air created by trains of coal-cars passing through, or by other means, constantly blow it about. When the coal dust is mixed with air it becomes a dangerous explosive.

Accordingly, resort is had to the expedient of blowing stone-dust over the walls and ribs of the tunnels. The same air-currents that scatter the coal dust distribute with it the stone dust, which, mixed with the coal dust, renders the latter non-inflammable.

A conical receptacle is filled with stone dust, which is discharged through a hose, a gasoline engine actuating an air-blast that drives it out in a dense and powerful stream.

# "Cascarets" 10c

Best Bowel Laxative When Bilious, Constipated

To clean out your bowels without cramping or overacting, take Cascarets. Sick headache, bitterness, upset stomach, gas, indigestion, sour, upset stomach, all such distress gone by morning. Nicest physic on earth for grown-ups and children. 10c a box. Taste like candy.

**Playing It Safe.** In many circles there is told the story of an old sailor named Bill Taylor, who, while under court-martial, had been so impressed with the instructions of the young officer detailed for his defense that he was determined to exercise all care as to qualifying evidence when he was not absolutely certain. So, when the Judge Advocate asked him his name he replied:

"My name is William Taylor—or words to that effect."

**MONEY ORDERS.** The safe way to send money by mail is by Dominion Express Money Order.

You cannot dodge your responsibility by running away from duty. Minard's Lintment for Distemper.

# Saving Time Lengthens Life.

Think of the tremendous efforts and pains business men take to attain the highest possible efficiency in manufacturing, in handling and selling, in building, the cutting off of unnecessary steps, studying the science of short cuts and effectiveness; but how few pay any attention at all to the time efficiency, the saving of the minutes and the hours as precious success products.

There is nothing so precious as time, because we cannot separate a particle of our existence from a moment of time. They are identical so far as we are concerned. We live in what we call time.

Now, I presume that the majority of people could save at least one hour a day during their whole active careers, by rearranging their life schedule. Most of us sleep too much. It doesn't follow that because we are sleepy when our usual time arrives to get up we need more sleep. If we lie abed nine hours or eight hours, and even if we sleep most of the time, it does not follow that we would suffer if we should cut out an hour of this precious time, because we would naturally sleep better during the shorter time we allowed ourselves.

I believe that seven hours of good sound sleep is enough for anybody, except small children and babies. I doubt if any healthy adult needs more. If those who are strong and in good health only allowed themselves this much time, I believe they would get all the sleep they needed.

Just think what it would mean to save an hour a day for self-improvement for good reading, for self-culture in different directions! How we could enlarge and enrich our lives with all these saved hours a week! O. S. Marden.

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# Classified Advertisements

DIAMOND & MAYHEW, RENT BLDG., 100 Yonge Street, Toronto, Registered Patent Attorneys. Send for free booklet.

**FOR SALE.** YARN—WONDERFUL VALUES AND Colors, samples free—Georgetown Mills, Ont.

**WEEKLY NEWSPAPER WANTED.** WE HAVE A CASH PURCHASER for a weekly newspaper in Ontario. Price must be attractive. Send full particulars to "Publishing Co., Ltd., 33 Adelaide St. W., Toronto."

# BELTING FOR SALE

FRESH BELTS AND SUCCESSION these new and used, shipped subject to approval at lowest prices in Canada. York Belting Co., 116 York St., Toronto, Ont.

# MOTHER!

Move Child's Bowels with "California Fig Syrup"



Happy mother! Even a sick child loves the "fruity" taste of California Fig Syrup, and it never fails to open the bowels. A teaspoonful today may prevent a sick child tomorrow. If constipated, bilious, feverish, fretful, has colic, cooie, or if stomach is sour, tongue coated, breath bad, remember a good cleansing of the little bowels is often all that is necessary. Ask your druggist for California Fig Syrup which has directions for babies and children of all ages printed on bottle. Mother! You must say "California" or you may get an imitation fig syrup.

# WHAT IS A LETTER

Many Times It's a Guide to Health as is This One

# Women—Read It

Marmion, Ontario.—"Before I read Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound I was a total wreck. I had terrible pains in my sides and was not regular. Finally I got so weak I could not go up stairs without stopping to rest halfway up. I saw your medicine advertised in the newspapers and gave it a trial. I took four bottles of the Vegetable Compound and was restored to health. I then tried the Compound for Children and do all my household work and enjoy the best of health. I also found the Vegetable Compound a great help for my weak back because my babies were born. I presented it to all my friends." Mrs. Hester J. J. Marmion, Ontario.

Letters which you read in the newspapers recommending Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound and how they have been helped by this special medicine. They are anxious for other women, who may be suffering as they did, to know of the great benefit of this medicine. Each box, with her reputation, stands ready to be sent out to sick women the way to health. Lydia E. Pinkham's Private Text-Book upon "Albumen" and "Women" will be sent you free upon request. Write Lydia E. Pinkham Medicine Co., Lynn, Mass.

# Never Mind What Granny Did—Remember—You're You!

MANY people refuse to believe that tea or coffee can possibly harm them, because they have used these table beverages ever since they outgrew the health rules relating to children.

"Nonsense!" they say, "Why, Granny has been drinking tea or coffee all her life."

It's true that some folks drink tea and coffee without apparent harm. These are the exceptions. But to most people there comes a day of reckoning.

Sold by grocers everywhere

# Instant Postum FOR HEALTH

"There's a Reason"

A generous sample tin of Instant Postum sent, postpaid, for 4c in stamps. Write: Canadian Postum Cereal Co., Ltd., 45 Front St. E., Toronto. Factory: Windsor, Ontario