

Rubber Found By Columbus On Second Voyage

Black Elastic Balls Discovered in Hayti: Cultivation Later Spread to India

Thicker and thicker grow the rubber bands that stretch around the world.

Constant tracking of rubber trees back to Europe with the parts of the earth; zipping up remote parts of zep pelins, with monstrous water pipes, gas bags making new use for rubber; new engines set in rubber to avoid vibration; rubber aprons and rubber garters and ink rubbers. There are few who do not use some form. And the most did know least all of its history. They don't know, for instance, that it was discovered by Columbus, with his crew, to stand an egg on end.

Discovered on Second Trip

It was on the second trip of columbus, when he stopped at Hayti, that he first found introduction to rubber.

He carried several bunches back to Europe with him. He didn't know their source. Some time later, the men those balls were made of would drop one of the world's greatest and richest industries, and could be traded in a single nation at the London Exchange.

Columbus discovered that the balls were made from the bark of a tree. But it was not until a century later that the Portuguese settled Brazil, found that the same kind of gum tree grew there. They discovered that water would not soak through it. They used it to make the world's first rubbers, insuring the safety of their feet by padding them as they walked across the rocks to get to the sea.

Wanted by English Select

Another was given its name in 1770 by the English scientist, Priestley, who discovered that a ball of gum would erode paper more rapidly than any other material.

But the continuing price war discovered however, rubber much adulterated, a fine, thin, masticated food, something the countrymen of old heard when grown at sticks as incense when

burned.

Empire Free Trade

Finally to make the public have absolute confidence in such arrangement, working out satisfactorily. The fear would be felt that "times" would cause to create "corridors" in wheat supplies and raise prices to unjustifiable heights. A general suspicion of the wiles and strategy of the speculator undoubtedly exists, and it can easily be played upon for political purposes by unscrupulous agitators. We can all remember election campaigns not very far distant at which the "small man" and the "big boy" were made to serve a useful purpose in propaganda.

The peculiar circumstances of Britain in regard to dependence for food supplies on outside sources have to be taken into account, and they would undoubtedly militate against that feeling of security which ought to accompany the carrying out of an "Empire Free Trade" scheme.

British Hunter In French Hands

Nairobi, (S.A.) — Some sensations have been caused here by the reported arrest by French troops in the French Congo of Mr. Marcus Daly, an old East African gamehunter.

Gathering the rubber was a herculean task. White men who directed the natives often were forced to treat their workers like slaves, beating them if they failed to bring in their quota at the end of the day.

Critical Start Cultivation

Then it became apparent that the rubber tree could be cultivated. English-owned plantations of India came into being. There the difference is different. "Everything is based on a business basis. The owners know just how much latex is available and how much they will take."

On the huge Indian plantations start out at dawn, making the rounds of 300 or 400 trees. First they cut a thin strip from the sloping edge of the hill to which a cup is attached to collect the milk. The cups are either in the morning or the evening taken where the plantation "factories" liquid is emulsified and it looks something like clotted cream or perhaps large chunks of chewing gum. It is then pressed into sheets or melted into crepe rubber, which is used for the soles of golf shoes.

50,000 Tons Received Monthly

The rubber is shipped either in crepe sheets or in simple ribbed sheets, which are of three prime, good and ordinary grades.

The first is rated a "real" and the other "inferior."

The marketing of crude rubber has to be a precarious business. The spinner never knew what could expect for his cargo. Rubber dealers were out, east and west, and the market was wide, and manufacturing was large, and stocking heavily, and there was no way to insure their crops by hedging.

Exchange Stabilizes Business

The operation of the Rubber Exchange has gone far toward stabilizing the business. Rubber is bought and sold as far as twelve months ahead on the exchange, and, due to the hedging facilities offered by the exchange, importers, dealers and manufacturers can protect themselves against losses due to declines or advances in the price of the raw material.

A manufacturer who purchases 1,000 tons of crude rubber for December delivery can sell futures equivalent to 1,000 tons of rubber on the exchange.

Suppose he paid 20 cents a pound when he placed his order and that by December rubber is down to 18 cents. He has a loss of two cents a pound on his 1,000 tons.

But as he holds December futures on the exchange he has two cents a pound profit on them to offset his loss. In other words, having hedged his purchase by the sale of an equivalent amount of futures, his imperious desire to know whether the market goes up or down, for he is protected against either a decline or an advance.

Education and Examinations

Captain George Angus. The late President Wilson used to tell a story of a candidate at an examination who wrote indignantly: "This question is unfair; it requires thought." The candidate had no doubt been crammed in the approved fashion and was prepared to find that none was required of him than a mere effort of memory. And yet it is obvious that the sort of knowledge which evaporates soon after the ink has dried on the examination paper is a very poor preparation for subsequent study or for the requirements of business life. If, therefore, it can be dispensed with altogether, it is clearly of importance that they should be so arranged that they will foster, and not hinder, the acquisition by the pupil of sound intellectual habits. Falling this goal, a great part of the money spent on secondary education must be wasted, and the majority of pupils will leave school destitute of the power of self-direction and, therefore, singularly ill-prepared for the hard battle of life.

To Wales

A mystic land of mountain seas and wind. Where beauty lifts the heart of me to God. Is there a tree that bends before thy gales.

Or how nurtured by thy Cynthia soil? They does not gladden eye, and glad die.

For knowing life beneath thy cloud-swept sky?

Surely there are no birds so sweetly singing.

As they that breathe thy occident, fed al-

The very waves that breaking, leave thy feet.

More wondrous music makes for dying there!

And gently may the sun to moon-give shine.

At bath, in passing, bade the darling face!

"W. A." in The Welsh Outlook.

Character and Intellect

"Antaeus," in the Spectator (London): "There is a widespread tendency in England to compare and contrast intellect and character. It is believed that these qualities are mutually exclusive, and that the possession of the one implies the lack of the other. It is quite commonly assumed that intelligence cannot, in practice, be developed above a very humble level, save at the expense of character; if this confusion of thought has affected unfavorably the education of our youth—on whom our whole future welfare so directly depends—all other counsels which can be brought against it may be regarded as of trifling importance. But it does work, 'tisself in many other ways."

It leads to a widespread preference for men of ordinary or of inferior intelligence for the conduct of public—and private—affairs. Large numbers of such men are to be found in Parliament, in municipal and county councils, on the governing bodies of various public institutions and in nearly all public committees. And in very many cases, they owe their appointment to this popular belief—that lack of intelligence implies possession of character. That loss to the nation caused by this state of affairs is, in the aggregate, enormous. Its effects are felt everywhere. It impairs our national capacity to deal with current problems, and it detracts disastrously from our material and moral welfare. We cannot afford to persist in this error.

This was assumed by those who know to be the terrible story of this man's fate.

That night the fleshy inhabitants approached the cavern, armed with axes, and two immense carts laden with wood, which they piled before the opening of the cavern and placed stakes against them, to prevent their being carried by the water.

Then, with a lighted torch, the whole pile was fired. Thick volumes of smoke proceeded from the cavern, and in about a quarter of an hour a hideous object, with long crooked claws, suddenly appeared in the shadows, and then threw itself forward at the opening.

A little boy at his scripture lesson said: "Please, teacher, was Pontius Pilate of an airship or a liner?"

One of the men, fearing that it would leap over the fire, threw his hatchet, and aimed at the creature so well that, for an instant, the blood which flew from its wound half-drenched the fire, but soon the flame revived, and the horrible insect was consumed.

Old gent, pointing to a tawny youth at his side in the train car: "How much for this boy—half fare, I suppose?" Conductor: "Hardly! He looks as if he were kept on half fare at home, and needs a change!"

Mutt and Jeff

"YOU'RE SCRATCHING YOUR HEAD TRYING TO GET AN INSPIRATION?"

"YES, I WANT TO USE A ONE-TOOL COMB FOR THAT?"

"OLD GENT, POINTING TO A TAWNY YOUTH AT HIS SIDE IN THE TRAIN CAR: 'HOW MUCH FOR THIS BOY—HALF FARE, I SUPPOSE?'"

"CONDUCTOR: 'HARDLY! HE LOOKS AS IF HE WERE KEPT ON HALF FARE AT HOME, AND NEEDS A CHANGE!'"

Laurentian Night

With beaving larch and spruce of flaming smoke.

The last train clattered departs.

Flinging its wailing cry to the echoing hills.

While down the winding road,

The homing line of autos starts.

Quiet falls the eve in each Laurentian village.

Black spears the lonely pines against the rose-red sky.

Blazing sparks the fireflies flash and vanish.

The whip-poor-will sends forth its plaintive cry.

The cow-bells tinkle thro' the growing darkness.

And mountain mists make out of him and sky.

The yellow moon climbs up.

And o'er the lake.

Stars in the mirror while the water marks."

—A. Williams, Montreal.

The Man-Eating Spider

New Terror of the Wilds

By P. B. PRIOR

When Madame Merlin first described the loathsome spider-monster—vile, avicularia—the scientific world ridiculed it. Captain Steedman, however, subsequently secured a living specimen. This spider, he wrote, so hideous that the very sight of it sufficed to occasion a tremor throughout, even in persons most accustomed to inspect the deformities of nature.

The spider-monster is sometimes of gigantic size and great muscular power. The body is dark-green or black, color and clothed with short hairs, intermixed with bristles. The lower surface of the feet are covered with a thick pad of sticky hair, protected with adhesive power, so that they are able to climb vertical surfaces.

Georges, the abode of the spider-monster, is an extensive region in the Northeastern part of South America, bounded by the Amazon Ocean, and is north of Brazil.

Mysterious disappearances take place which are attributed to unknown monsters which dwell in the high altitude of the impenetrable forests. Whilst spending the winter in West Indies, some years ago, Professor Poumire, a noted English naturalist, first came in contact with Mysore, avicularia, and heard many reports of its fatal attacks on man.

The worst of them referred to a monster which dwelt in a cavern half hidden in moss and shrubs, near Pierres, in Honduras. Doctor Guttmann,

Some of the oldest inhabitants remembered the strange disappearance of a young girl named Loisa Müller, who lived with her grandmother in a cottage near the cavern. She had gone out one morning to gather herbs, and was never seen or heard of again, but her apron had been found a few days later near the mouth of the cavern. The superstitious inhabitants believed the devil inhabited the dark, gloomy place and terror spread throughout the district.

One evening, two men friends stood within a hundred paces of this deadly cavern of Sphynx. The shrubs around the entrance were remarkably green. The water as it flowed from the cavern was as if hollowed, and there formed a small lake, from which it again burst forth and descended into the valley below.

One of the men decided to bathe while his friend gathered wild strawberries in the neighboring forest to help. An hour afterwards, the latter returned, but the bathers were all that could be seen. The sun was going down and the shadows lengthening. He climbed to the rock above the cavern and looked around on all sides. There was nobody to be seen. He called out, but there was no answer. Only the sound of his voice repeated by the echo, which filled him with horror. Light was coming on. Suddenly he perceived the disappearance of Loisa Müller, and he hurried down to the bottom of the cavern.

There he stood in alarm, and looking round, saw two red, motionless points. Then the dark object moved farther back—further, perhaps, than human eye could see. It was a hideous, pale, toothed, clawed fiend, the man's heart bounded over the rocks and shrubs to a place of safety. His friend had entered the water and dived. The spider-monster saw his bathers back from his hideous den. It had been hunting the white ants on the water attracted him. All of a sudden it raised out, and put its filthy claws under the man's neck. It stung him and went "ack." Soon the poor fellow fell into the water and died.

Then the spider returned, spun its web round him, and swam slowly, gently back to the extremity of the cavern, drawing its victim after it by the thread attached to its web.

This was assumed by those who know to be the terrible story of this man's fate.

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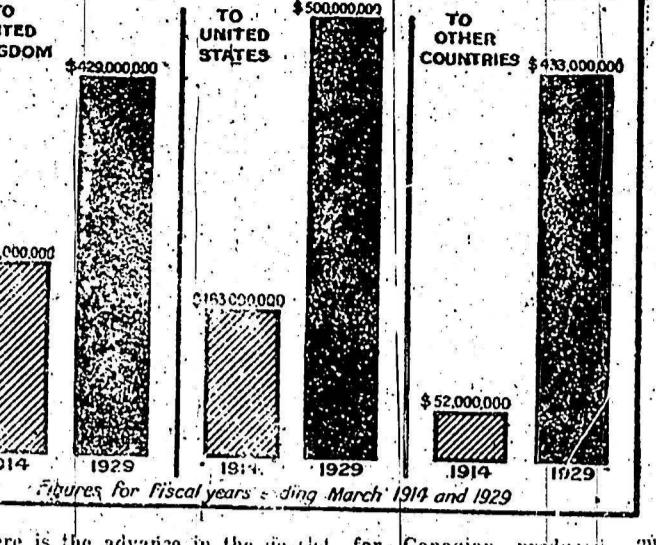
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The Growth of Canada's Exports

EXPORTS OF CANADIAN PRODUCE



Nowhere is the advance in the development of Canada's resources more vividly reflected than in the records of the Dominion's export trade. The sheer increase in the value of that trade is amazing enough in itself, but no less astonishing is the manner in which Canada's exports have spread out into new channels.

The United Kingdom and the United States have long been Canada's two greatest customers, and until recently the Dominion's export trade had made any continued expansion, at least in lands where the foreigner could hope to find a permanent market, the weaker and less developed people that has always gone to the wall. Where he has not been exploited by force of those fatalistic superstitions, the opening of those frontier countries has been doubly disastrous to him and to his country.

To these widely scattered and lesser-known markets Canada's resources furnish an immense variety of products in natural and manufactured forms. Silver and artificial silk to India, newspaper and sardines to Australia, potatoes to Cuba, lead and lumber to Japan, herring to China, foxes and lobsters to Sweden, oats and furs to France, cheese and furniture to South Africa, rye to Norway, zinc and asbestos to Germany, codfish and upper wire to Brazil, aluminum and wood pulp to Italy, and, of course wheat and flour to all quarters of the globe—these and a thousand and one other items help to extend the web of Canadian commerce across the seven seas.

Early Traders Keen on Beaver

And See

Fun Markets Keep Pace After Man

And Their

Countless numbers of people

from what is now known

during the three centuries

of several varieties, six

marten, badger, mink,

squirrel, contributed

sea otter, and the

example of changes

former is now practical

the beaver occupies

the chief emblem of

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