

### Plate Depicts Discovery of Indian Sea Passage



A magnificent silver dish, twenty inches in diameter, presented by King Emmanuel of Portugal to the famous explorer Vasco da Gama in 1499 in recognition of the latter's discovery of the sea route to India, was recently on exhibition in the windows of the downtown office of the Canadian Pacific Railway.

The dish is circular, with a wide border and is a beautiful specimen of the most exquisite repousse work of the celebrated European silversmiths. In the center is admirably depicted in practically every detail the quaint old ship, the San Gabriel, which was Da Gama's flagship on his famous voyage to India.

Around the figure of the ship are striking impressions of wild beasts and flowers. On a raised border of silver around the vessel are two inscriptions, barely visible to the eye. The first reads "Emmanuel le Grand to Vasco da Gama, 1499". The second inscription is: "Marquis Nica da Gama to M. Anne Duportail, Commandant du Cygne, 1846". The second inscription was placed there when the relic was given to Commandant Duportail for saving the life of the Marquis, a descendant of da Gama.

Vasco da Gama was called to the Portuguese court and given an expedition to discover a sea passage to the Indies. He was given the following instructions by his king: "Go south as far as there is water. And when you have reached the edge of the world, turn towards India which we know exists because we have made land journeys there." On July 8, 1497 a helmeted, powerful figure stood on board a vessel waving adieu to Lisbon. Determination was depicted in the powerful brow. An iron will was evident in the steel-grey eyes. Every motion, every movement, this mighty man made told of his high resolve to do as he had been commissioned by his king.

The San Gabriel rounded the Cape of Good Hope after da Gama had quelled a mutiny of his rebellious sailors, and reached the coast of Malabar, the south-west corner of India in May 1498. On September 1, 1499 the vessel sailed proudly into Lisbon to the accompaniment of loud shouts from the huge crowd assembled to greet her and the heroic commander. It was in that year that da Gama was awarded the historic silver dish by a grateful monarch as an expedition in foreign soil. So it was brought back to Portugal and buried in 1638 with all the honor and homage due a national hero.

It is interesting to note that a Canadian Pacific liner, the Empress of Scotland, is present sailing around India through the very waters which Vasco da Gama was the first European to traverse.

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### SOY BEANS IN ONTARIO

NEW LEGUME CROP GROWN IN LAKE COUNTIES. Value as Meal, Oil Cake and Mlage and Some Points About Difficulties and Advantages.

Profitable live stock farming depends in part on economical food production. The soy bean has proven to be a very useful crop in the lake counties, as a source of hay, silage and grain feed.

The chief value of the soy bean in Ontario will be as a hay crop. Feeding trials have demonstrated that well made soy bean hay has a feeding value that is slightly less than good alfalfa. In seasons of probable feed shortage the soy bean can be used as an emergency hay crop to greater advantage than any other plant used for the purpose. Dairy cattle, sheep and beef cattle do well on the hay, eating it up clean with the exception of the coarse parts of the stalk.

Soy bean meal as a stock food has a value comparable to linseed meal or cotton seed meal. It is fully as rich in digestible, crude protein as linseed meal and even higher in this property than cotton seed meal. For dairy cows soy bean meal can be used instead of either linseed or cotton seed meal, where the concentrate is not required in excess of two pounds per day.

Soy beans meal makes a good protein rich addition in fattening beef cattle and sheep, having for this purpose a value equal to linseed meal. Soy bean meal can be used in growing young pigs, but it should not be fed in excess. When fed in conjunction with tankage or skim milk to pigs that have free access to a mineral mixture it gives best results. Soft pork may result from excessive soy bean feeding. Soy bean meal should be freshly ground. Old meal becomes rancid due to high oil content. It is good practice to mix other grains with the soy beans at the time of grinding. Dry, starchy grains like corn, oats or barley will take up the excess oil, thereby aiding in the grinding process and keeping qualities of the meal.

Soy Bean Oil Cake. About 300 pounds of oil may be pressed out of a ton of soy beans. The hard, dry cake that is left after pressing is ground up leaving a product known as soy bean oil meal or oil cake. As a feed for dairy cows this mill product has a value equal to the best grade of linseed meal. As a feed for swine, soy bean meal furnishes one of the best protein rich concentrates available. One hundred pounds of soy bean oil meal replaced 32 pounds of tankage and 20 pounds of corn, in feeding experiments. From its high value as a pig feed can be appreciated.

Soy Beans for Silage. Soy beans in combination with corn in the proportion of one ton in three tons of green corn makes an excellent silage. Ensilaged alone the soy bean does not make a very palatable silage, and should therefore always be mixed with corn or other starchy plant, as sorghum, sunflower, or clover.

Harvesting Soy Beans. The soy bean is a crop comparatively new to Ontario. It has its peculiarities and is not the easiest crop to raise as hay. Late and early ripening, it is ready to harvest from August 10th on. Weather conditions in late August and September are not as a rule favorable to good hay making. The nights are cooler, days shorter and moisture more abundant than in July, when the clovers are harvested.

For Hay. Good hay curing weather is the first requisite for good soy bean hay. The pods should be partially filled, and the leaves light, to make the best colored, nutritious and palatable hay. A hay that is green in color and has a sweet and pleasant aroma and is free from mould can only be made during favorable weather. The cutting should be done not later than August 15th regardless of the stage of plant development. Every day after August 15th leads the haymaker nearer to the production of mouldy and unpalatable hay. The soy bean crop for hay should be handled in such a way as to save all the leaf portions and give a bright green hay. The best machine for this work is the sweep rake reaper, it having the advantage of delivering the bean stalks into small piles which will cure without further labor. The ordinary mower may be used for cutting the crop and the side-delivery rake to roll the bean stalks into windrows, where they can cure after being put up into very small cocks. All handling while curing must be done while the leaves are still green or damp. The blower blinder has been used to harvest the crop for hay with good success when the weather was favorable. In damp weather the bundles will mould if not opened and the centres exposed to the air and sun. Soy beans will shed considerable rain if put up in cocks while still a little green. Curing in the swath and the use of the hay tedder is not to be recommended because of the great loss of leaves and poor color produced. After making, it is best before drawing in to barn or stack to turn the cocks over and expose to the sun for a few hours.

Thrashing Soy Beans. The best machine for thrashing is the regular pea and bean thrasher. The ordinary grain thrasher can be used successfully providing the cylinder speed is reduced to 400 or 500 revolutions per minute; and all concaves and sieves of the cylinders be removed if the beans are dry and brittle. A corn shredder has been used for bean thrashing successfully. After thrashing the seed should be stored in shallow bins and shovelled over frequently until all surplus moisture has been removed. Care in storage is necessary or mouldy beans will result. Stevenson, O. A. College, Guelph.

1926

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	1.85	1.85	.00

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