

**CASSIA TEA IS NOW DRINK POSSIBILITY**

**Expert Says It Is Equal to Some Imported Teas; Contains Caffeine**

Of our billion dollar annual imports of food products, tea and coffee make up just about one-third. During the last year we imported 99,410,814 pounds of tea and 1,437,364,185 pounds of coffee, valued at \$345,000,000 wholesale.

It would mean much to our agriculture and make quite a flutter in our trade balance should an acceptable substitute for these beverages come into common use.

Dr. George F. Mitchell, official tea tester of the United States Department of Agriculture believes that in cassia, a shrub native to our own Dixie land, we have a substitute that could give tea, and to some extent coffee, a real run for the future American beverage trade.

After sampling cassia tea in Dr. Mitchell's laboratory, in competition with ordinary imported teas, a writer for the Nation's Business says he is bound to report that the American product is of good quality and superior to the meanest of imported teas.

Cassia has long been known and used as a drink. It was commonly used by the Indians and in Civil war times supplanted both tea and coffee in many southern homes. It contains the stimulant caffeine which the human race seems to demand. It is only within the last two or three years, however, that the secret has been learned of how to prepare this product to avoid a slightly bitter taste.

**PLAN EXHIBITS OF PREHISTORIC LIFE**

**Paintings and Groups of Various Types Under Way at Field Museum**

A series of great mural paintings and modeled groups of prehistoric animal and plant life, on a greater scale than ever before attempted, has been started by the Field Museum of Natural History, it is announced by D. C. Davies, director. The work is expected to take six years.

The project was made possible through the generosity of Ernest R. Graham, Chicago architect, and the Museum's Hall of Historical Geology has been named for him in recognition of his gift. Flying lizards, dinosaurs, three-toed horses, American camels and mastodons are among the features scheduled for portrayal.

Usually the fellow with an interesting past has the prospect of a very uninteresting future.

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**SOAP BUBBLE BOMBS MADE BY GOVERNMENT**

**Used in Experimental Work and Helps in Manufacture of War Material**

Soap Bubble bombs are being manufactured at the United States Bureau of Standards, says the Nation's Business.

Herbert Hoover says the work done along that line is basic. The manufacture and explosion of soap bubble bombs have revealed chemical changes that occur in minute detail, whereas nothing can be seen of these changes when bombs were made of a steel shell.

F. W. Stevens, a chemist who studied in Germany and who was an instructor in the chemical laboratories of universities, invented the soap bubble bomb as a means of studying energy transformation and the rate of flame propagation. Adjustment of cameras to photograph the changes has given complete records of the results.

Telling of the various experiments made before the soap bubble bomb was devised, Mr. Stevens says:

"A spherical bomb of glass was used instead of steel. This device proved successful."

It was then made to use a soap film container, fired from the center. The use of this sample and easily manipulated device in connection with photographic methods revealed not only the accurate symmetry maintained by the transforming zones during the reaction but showed also, that at constant pressure, the rate of flame propagation within the explosive gases remains constant during the reaction.

The record was broken in a New York town the other day when a used automobile was sold at auction for 66 cents. But it may prove to be not so cheap at that.

**HAS BIGGEST JOB IN WORLD; HEADS C. P. RY.**

**President of Greatest of Railroads, Steamship Lines and Other Interests**

The announcement that neither the biggest job nor the executive who holds it is American will probably come as a surprise to most people in the United States who are overfond of superlatives. However, writes F. S. Tisdale in Nation's Business Magazine, some comfort may be gathered from the fact that both are to be found on our own continent.

The executive with the biggest job is Edward Wentworth Beatty, LL.D., K. C., chairman and president of the Canadian Pacific railway, chairman of the Canadian Pacific Steamship, Ltd., and head of the varied enterprises in that company's immense family. The properties include:

"20,000 miles of railroad, owned and operated.  
"A \$25,000,000 chain of hotels; 16 in important points besides many bungalow camps for tourists and sportsmen.

"425,000 tons of shipping — 60 steamers on the Atlantic and Pacific oceans, 23 on lakes and rivers.

"100,000 employees scattered over the world from Europe to the Far East.

"A \$20,000,000 irrigation project. Millions of acres of farm lands.  
"An express company that serves the entire railway system and the world."

Instead of hauling sleepers for others, the Canadian Pacific builds and operates its own. Its telegraph service company runs a new service. Part of the food served in hotels and diners is said on the company's farms. The C. P. also owns coal mines, saw mills, smelters and grain terminals. There are other allied interests up to a hundred.

**TAX ON MOTORIST STILL INCREASING**

**Tendency in Others is Downward, but Auto Owner Still "Goat"**

"Although a revision downward is being made in taxes generally, the revision in automobile taxes tends upward," says Charles M. Hayes, president of the Chicago Motor club.

"The motorist is the first class of citizen to be taxed, and the last from whom a taxation burden is lifted. The war tax imposed by the federal government has been lifted from pianos, chewing gum, candy, perfumes, and cosmetics, but it still remains on passenger automobiles. The need for this tax has passed, but the federal government still continues to collect a nuisance tax from automobile owners. Consider the importance of the automobile in the business and social life of the nation, and then consider the articles which have been favored with the removal of tax. Are automobiles less important than candy, or cosmetics?"

"In addition to this taxation by the federal government, the various states come forward with additional

taxation burdens. In Indiana, it is suggested that the gas tax be increased from 3 to 5 cents; in Alabama it is proposed to raise the tax from 2 cents to 4 cents; Idaho also is considering increasing the tax to five cents.

"Although Illinois has more miles of hard roads than any other state in the union, and has voted bond issues for road building in far larger amounts than any state, nevertheless, it is suggested here, that motorists be forced to pay a gas tax in addition to their state license fees."

**TO LOAN ART WORK TO MANY COLLEGES**

Art loan collections valued at \$100,000 for use in teaching art will be sent by the Carnegie corporation of New York to 20 colleges in the United States and Canada. The collections consist of 1,800 reproductions in photograph and color facsimiles of the greatest works in architecture, sculpture, and painting; 50 original prints representing different processes and schools from the sixteenth century to the present; a set of textiles in 35 pieces illustrating materials and designs of different races and ages; and 200 books, many of which are

rare volumes in French and German, as well as English, on the art of every period and people. Cabinets have been provided for the sets and a catalogue prepared giving a description of each piece in the collection. Seventeen colleges in the United States, representing 13 different states and 3 colleges in Canada, are the beneficiaries. All of them are smaller colleges without heavy endowments and located in places not easily accessible to metropolitan centers.

**ELECTRIC RAILWAYS TO SPEND LARGE SUM**

Electric railways of the United States will spend almost a million dollars a day for new equipment, supplies, fuel and purchased power during 1927, transportation companies' budgets show, according to the Electric Railway Journal. This estimate does not include wages paid employees nor extensions to be financed from public funds.

Included in the year's budgets of \$360,000,000 are 3,000 new cars to be placed in service during 1927. This is an increase of 38 per cent over 1926. Practically all of this enormous sum will be spent in the United States, the publication states.

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