

## TELLS HOW TO GET RID OF POISON IVY

### Field Museum Gives Simple Plan for Identifying and Eradicating Plant

Reports that considerable poison ivy is growing in various places within the city limits of Chicago — in one case climbing right up the porch railings and supports of an inhabited house—have reached the department of botany at Field Museum of Natural History, along with requests for a method of eradicating the dangerous plant. People in suburbs and summer resort regions near the city are also often annoyed by the ivy.

Many vacant lots in which city children play are overrun with poison ivy, according to James B. McNair, assistant curator of economic botany at the museum, who has conducted research to find the best methods of eliminating the plant, of immunizing people from its effects, and of curing those who have been poisoned.

#### Used As Climbing Vine

In the case of the house, out on the far south side, where poison ivy was growing, it had actually been encouraged by the tenant. He had found the ivy growing in the woods, admired it, and transplanted it for a porch climber, unaware of its poisonous nature, Mr. McNair says. The occupants of the house all apparently were people who are naturally immune, as many people are, from the poison, but neighbors and several persons delivering goods to the house became poisoned. Mr. McNair was called upon to aid in getting rid of the ivy.

The method of eradicating the ivy is very simple. It can be destroyed by spraying with low-grade kerosene, which suffocates the cells in the plant tissue and causes destructive chemical action. Higher grades of kerosene are not so effective because they are too refined and too volatile. The maximum effect may be obtained in hot weather, when the soil and air are dry. Crude oil as well as kerosene is effective. Repeated cutting of the plant close to the ground facilitates destruction through starvation. The cutting causes it to use up all the food stored in its roots, and, due to lack of foliage, the plant is prevented from manufacturing new food for re-growth.

The ivy is fully described and pictured for identification in a leaflet, of which Mr. McNair is author, published by the museum. The leaflet contains the outstanding prescriptions for a lotion to immunize the skin from poison ivy's effects, and for the cure of persons already affected. As a further aid to identification of the plant, the museum has on exhibition a life-size reproduction showing it exactly as it appears in the natural state.

Stefansson, the famous explorer, and a companion went on a meat diet for a year as an experiment, and it develops that at the end of the year they are healthy and better able to resist disease than before. Now watch for an outcry from the spinners and caroteers.

## Lake County Second in Illinois in Car Sales

Discarding the ancient story of mid-summer slumps Illinois automobile dealers sold more cars in July than in any month this year, according to a bulletin from the Illinois Chamber of Commerce, which reports July new car sales in Illinois at 29,813.

This figure tops the April sales, which were the highest this year, by 88 new cars and passed the mark for June, by 6,607. According to the state chamber's report the July sales brought the total for the first seven months of 1929 up to 167,192 new cars, an average of 23,885 cars per month, making it necessary for Illinois dealers to sell an average of

only 16,561 cars per month for the rest of the year to reach the quarter of a million figure.

Every section of the State is well represented among the leaders in county totals. Cook county and Lake county, representing the northern section, were first and second with 14,931 and 610 new car sales respectively. Winnebago county was third with 601 sales while Madison county, in the southwestern portion of the state was fourth with 586 sales. Kane with 577 and Peoria with 566 followed close behind.

When the June bride, along in July, quits baking hubby hot biscuits and falls back on rye bread and cold boiled ham, the honeymoon may be said to be on the wane.

## Start Construction of New State Reformatory

Work on the new state reformatory for women, located just west of Dwight, is progressing satisfactorily. Contracts have been let for eight cottages and work will start soon on an administration building. The new women's reformatory is being constructed on the cottage home plan rather than on the institution plan so that all women sentenced to the institution will be taught all the elements of successful home making.

Explorers say that Africa is rapidly passing as a big game country. About the only place left where there is any good shooting is Chicago.

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