

SOAP MAKERS HUNT FOR INGREDIENTS

World Searched to Supply Oils and Perfumes.

Washington.—The United States is "soap conscious."

If all the soap normally used in the country in a year were equally distributed, every man, woman, and child would be allotted 25 pounds.

"In Colonial times, nearly every back yard was a soap factory," says a bulletin from the National Geographic society. "When the hardy Colonial housewives accumulated sufficient fat for a batch of soap, they placed it in a kettle over a fire and added lye which they made from wood ashes. The result was a coarse, soft soap."

"Although soap kettles still are in use in remote regions of this country, soap making has graduated from the back yards of America to huge factories employing thousands of men and women and maintaining hundreds of railway cars in which to haul supplies. The soot-covered kettles of Colonial days have given way to huge vats, some of which hold ten carloads of soap."

Basic Ingredients.

"Despite the growth of the industry, alkali and fats or oils still are the basic ingredients of soap. Manufacturers find a sufficient supply of al-

soybean oil the soap maker depends upon Manchurian, Chinese and Japanese supplies; while for cotton seed oil he has to go no farther than our cotton-producing southern states.

"Rosin which is used in the manufacture of laundry soap is another contribution from our southern states, but some rosin is imported from France. Pumice, which became an important soap ingredient when workmen demanded a soap that would 'cut the dirt' without injuring the skin, is imported from the Lipari islands which lie northwest of the 'toe' of Italy.

Makes Odors Last.

"Musk makes soap odors last longer. Soap makers import vegetable musk which is made from the dried roots of an East Indian plant, as well as animal musk which is taken from small sacks which grow on the abdomen of the diminutive musk deer. These animals are found in Tibet and in the Atlas mountains of northwest Africa.

"India, Australia, and the West Indies are the sources of sandalwood oil which is used as a disinfectant in soap. The fragrant oil of bergamot is pressed from the rind of fresh fruit of the bergamot tree which thrives in Italy and Sicily, while the lavender plant of France gives up lavender oil. "Oil of bay is produced from the

bark of the bay tree of the West Indies; the Island of Formosa and China are the sources of oil of camphor; while red thyme oil comes from an aromatic shrub which grows in Spain and in the neighborhood of Beyrouth, Syria.

"Rosemary oil comes to American soap factories from Spain and the Dalmatian coast; geranium oil from Algeria and Reunion Island in the Indian ocean; oil of citronella from Ceylon, Java and the neighborhood of Singapore; lemon grass oil from the East Indies; sunflower seed oil from Russia; and bois de rose oil from the rosewood trees of Cayenne and Brazil. The Atlantic ocean supplies many tons of menhaden, small, bony, inedible fish which supply a soap oil, while for whale oil ships rove the Atlantic and Pacific from the Arctic to the Antarctic."

HEAL THYSELF

By THOMAS ARKLE CLARK
Late Dean of Men,
University of Illinois.

McCarthy's hair was thinning—not so that it was particularly noticeable to his friends, but there were a good many hairs in the comb when he got through with his tonsorial performances in the morning, and he could detect the fact that his brow was gradually even though slowly creeping back and presenting a more noble aspect. The barber noticed it, too, as barbers will, and scenting a possible opportunity for additional profit, said:

"Can't I give you a tonic, sir? There is dandruff on your scalp, you see, and a few applications of whis-kerine, I am sure, will do the business. We guarantee it, sir."

It sounded convincing to McCarthy, who dreaded baldness as he did false teeth. He was about to yield. He hadn't noticed the barber before, but when he looked up he saw that the man was quite bald, with a shiny baldness that leaves no hope for the success of hair tonics. What about the man's own hair, he wondered, but he didn't ask any questions.

"No, I think not," he answered, and decided to stick to a gentle manipulation of the scalp twice a day. As he recalled, a good many barbers are bald. Possibly they never tried their own remedies.

Chapin has been limping around with a stiff knee for some time, and after trying poultices and liniments and hot applications and bone-setters of various cuts, he was persuaded to see a distinguished surgeon in a distant city. He foolishly called on the surgeon without first making an appointment in advance only to find the man was out of town.

"You see," the office girl explained, "Doctor Haven is out of town."

"Will he be back soon?" Chapin inquired.

"I can't quite say," the young woman said, "he's—he's—the fact is, he has had a very stiff knee for some time, and he has gone down to Martinville to try to get himself into good shape."

All of which indicates nothing, possibly, excepting that it is often easier to cure the ills of other people—physical, moral, or intellectual—than it is our own.

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POTPOURRI

Cork

Spain and Portugal supply most of the world's cork supply, and in some parts of the latter it is so plentiful that it is used instead of wood for many purposes. Cork comes from the bark of the ever-green cork-oak tree, which lives for 150 years. This outer bark is stripped every eight or ten years.

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SUCH IS LIFE

By Charles Sughroe

Some Play Winter Golf!



ODD THINGS AND NEW—By Lane Bode



England Jails Many for Debt

Increase During Depression Brings Demand for Probe.

London.—There are 24,000 persons in Britain sent to prison for debt every year. They constitute more than 45 per cent of the 60,000 receptions into prison, and public opinion is rising daily against such a system, writes William Hillman in Universal Service.

"If it were possible, without weakening the authority of the courts," says Sir John Gilmour, home secretary, "to reduce the number of persons sent to prison for non-payment of sums of money, every one would welcome such reform."

"A very large proportion of those sent to prison for debt," adds Sir John Gilmour, "are sentenced for non-payment of fines or for failure to comply with wife maintenance and affiliation orders and other court orders for payment."

Miss Margery Fry, a well-known authority on prisons, thinks that a good case has been made out for a government inquiry into the system of imprisonment for debt.

"Debtor prisoners," she states, "are liable to varying sentences. Imprisonment purges some classes of debt, but not all. Debtor prisoners greatly decreased in numbers during the war years, but have been steadily rising since, and follow with remarkable fidelity the curve of unemployment."

"The state seems to imprison not for poverty, but unwillingness to pay, yet the relation between the two is too close for mere accident. It is not likely that obstinacy goes up and down with unemployment, whereas it is certain that poverty does."

In Britain, if a man is sent to prison for non-payment of his municipal taxes, then imprisonment for a certain term wipes out the debt. But in the case of government taxes, however long the term, the liability still remains existent.

She Keeps Secrets



Miss Margaret Le Hand, having been confidential secretary to Franklin D. Roosevelt during his term as governor of New York, and his Presidential campaign, knows a lot of secrets and inside stories. But like all good secretaries she does not tell them.

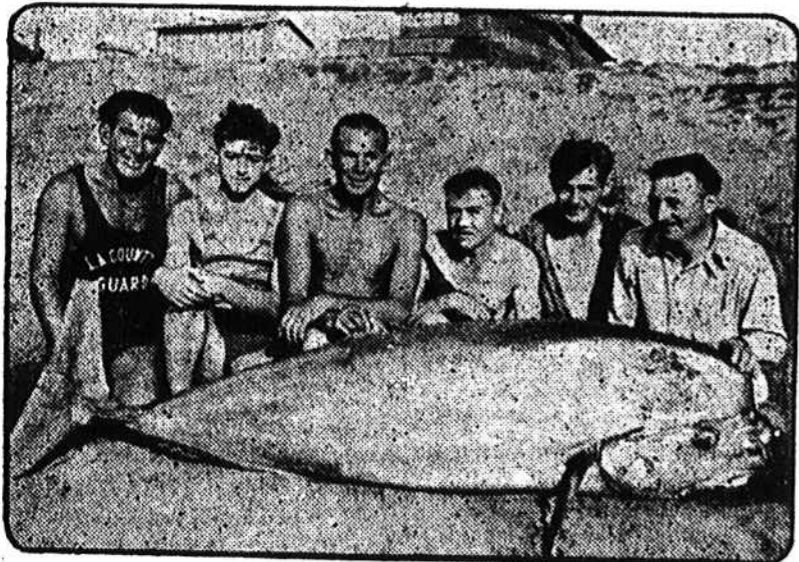
Ban on Hats 1,873 Years Old Is Lifted

London.—St. Paul's has raised a scriptural ban made 1,873 years ago. Hatless women are now allowed to worship in the cathedral for the first time since it was built.

In his epistle to the Corinthians St. Paul decreed that "every woman with her head uncovered dishonoureth her head."

Although no definite ruling has been made on this point, in the future Cathedral authorities will not expect women with uncovered heads to leave when services commence. Vergers will not ask hatless women who wish to attend the services to arrange a handkerchief over their heads as they formerly did.

Unnamed Fish Killed in Battle



Blood on the ocean at Redondo Beach, Calif., caused hundreds of eyes to turn seaward to witness one of the strangest of fish battles. It was a fight to the death between a marlin swordfish and a giant monster of the deep whose piscatorial identification is yet unknown. Half a mile off shore, the huge marlin was leaping high in the air to lunge its rapier at its thrashing adversary, splashing the sea with blood at every thrust. The spectacular battle soon ended, with the monster foundering to shore, where it died. It weighed 550 pounds, possessed a tuna-like tail, a small round mouth in a perpendicular face, and large brilliant eyes.

kalles within the borders of the United States, but the demands and whims of soap users for soap containing particular oils, perfumes and other ingredients, has made soap one of the most international commodities in the American home.

"If representatives of every race which had a part in the production of American-made soap were called together, they would form a heterogeneous crowd.

"Animal tallow, an old soap maker's standby, comes from the slaughter houses of the United States, but vegetable tallow is pressed from the seeds of the Mutazhu tree of South Central and western China. Coconut oil which is pressed from the dry pulp of coconuts (copra) is imported from the Philippines, Nigeria, Belgian Congo, and the Dutch East Indies are sources of palm oil.

"Spain, Italy, Algeria and Greece are the sources of the olive oil used in American soaps. Peanut oil, although obtained from southern United States, also is imported from China, Africa, India and South America. For

Next Stop, Norway



Eddie Schroeder, who was Chicago's contribution to the American Olympic skating team, has been selected as a member of the team that will compete with Norway's best skaters at Oslo in January. He is shown getting in some practice in his home city.

All Around the House

Epicures prefer only salt and lemon juice with avocado pear salad.

Tinware will not rust if when new it is rubbed with fresh lard and placed in a hot oven for an hour.

To obtain onion juice, cut an onion in half crosswise. With a knife, scrape the cut side of the onion and the juice will flow.

When cooking cabbage or cauliflower, put in a piece of celery to keep the odor of the cooking vegetable from getting out.

To clean a badly burned pan, first heat over flame and then scrape with the prong ends of a clothpin to remove all the burnt particles.

When chopping nut meats for cake or candy, instead of using a knife use a cookie cutter. It is not so tedious and it does the work quickly.

Put a grapeleaf in bottom of fruit jar when putting up sweet pickles and a slice of horseradish on top. Then put over cool brine. Pickles will not shrivel, but stay hard.

Biscuit dough makes an excellent crust for meat pies. Make a good, rich dough and line the baking dish with half of it, pour in the meat mixture, top with more crust and bake until crust is browned.

Gown in Wine-Red



Outstanding among the timely suggestions of the season is this gown in wine-red crushed velvet, with peplum edged in kolinsky.

American Heroines

By LOUISE M. COMSTOCK

The Women of Bryant's Station

THERE are circumstances under which the humblest task may demand a heroism as great as the most gallant brandishing of weapons. The little company of pioneer settlers holding the fort at Bryant's Station, near Lexington, Ky., during the Indian siege of 1782, was in desperate need of water. A hot August sun beat mercilessly down on the clearing, and within the close interior of the stockade the children became restless, crying for water, and the men kept their grim watch beside their portholes with parched throats.

The nearest source of supply was a small spring outside the fortification, several rods away from the protecting walls. The Indians had divided their force into two bands. One of them, in plain sight of the defenders of the fort, prowled about the clearing, yelling, waving tomahawks, letting fly random arrows, trying to entice them out into open battle. The other, lying in ambush near the spring, waited to attack them when they ventured forth.

But water was necessary. Without it the little stronghold could not hold on to even its slim chance of survival. The question was, who should go after it? Were men to appear outside, they would simply be playing into the hands of the waiting Indians, and both those in ambush and those in the open would immediately join in an attack which must prove fatal. The women of the fort on the other hand were in the habit of bringing water into the stockade from the spring every morning. Were they to go about it now in their usual way, the Indians might conclude their ambush was still undiscovered and would not wish to risk making it known and defeating their main purpose for the sake of firing on a handful of mere women!

Thus the lot was cast. Some of the women, terrified by so dangerous a prospect, at first refused to go. There was no little hysteria in the fort. Finally, however, spurred on by the more courageous, they all consented. Grimly they took up their water buckets, swung back the gate of the stockade and started out across the clearing. A homely little band they were, straight-shouldered pioneer women, in shabby linsey dresses and broken shoes, wane from anxious days within the fort, tight-lipped in the expectation of instant death. In puzzled silence the red men watched them. They reached the spring, filled their buckets, one after another, walked back to the fort and through the open gate to safety. They had reckoned well. Not a shot had been fired!

Emily Geiger

GEN. NATHANIEL GREENE, whose vigorous campaign in Georgia and the Carolinas eventually won that territory for Washington and the colonists, was retreating before Lord Rawdon from Ninety-Six. When he reached the Broad river word was brought him that the pursuing troops had divided forces. He immediately conceived the plan of taking advantage of this division to make an attack, confident that though he had been helpless against the superior numbers of Rawdon's combined forces, he could easily defeat the two smaller forces, taken one at a time. His own lines were depleted, however, by the recent engagement, his men weary. To insure his success it was necessary to gain the aid of Gen. "Game Cock" Sumter, then scouting on the banks of the Wateree, many miles away. The message must be carried through dangerous country, ridden with Tories. Not a man would volunteer to make the journey.

Then there came to General Greene's quarters, offering to undertake this hazardous commission, a young girl named Emily Geiger. Of Emily's family, of her appearance, we know very little. Of her later life we know only that she eventually married a rich planter and became mistress of a plantation on the Congaree river.

But we do know that General Greene accepted Emily as his messenger, entrusted her with a letter to General Sumter, and read its contents to her, just in case of accident. So she set out, mounted on horseback and riding side-saddle. On the second day of her journey, she was intercepted by Lord Rawdon's scouts and sharply questioned. Now Emily could not tell an untruth without blushing. Her looks were very guilty indeed. Lord Rawdon's scouts promptly took her prisoner, and confined her in a room in a nearby farmhouse. They sent for an old Tory matron to come and search her.

Alone in the room, waiting for the matron, Emily's composure returned. Drawing out the precious letter, she tore it in bits, put it into her mouth piece by piece, chewed them, and swallowed them. The matron entered and searched the girl. But her search revealed nothing suspicious, and Emily was eventually released, to go her way.

Shortly after Emily reached her goal, General Sumter's camp, delivered her message, and as a result, Sumter's troops only a little later joined Greene at Orangeburgh.

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Jokes and Eras

You get a fine slant on the social background of an age if you just know its conception of what jokes can be told in the parlor.—Detroit News.