

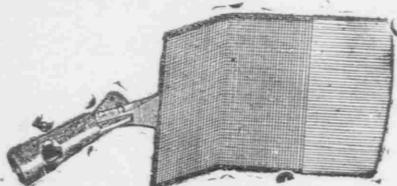
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RACE HORSES AT STATE FAIR.

Although the management of the State Fair has provided 500 stalls for race horses at the Fair grounds, advices received from horsemen not hitherto heard from lead to the belief that it will be found necessary to further increase these unprecedented accommodations. Major Hexter, who is in charge of the race meeting now in progress at San Antonio, Tex., which closes January 20, writes that 200 horses will be sent direct to Tampa at the close of that meeting. These are all Western horses, and have not appeared on Southern tracks. The best horses participating in the Savannah races will also be sent to Tampa, in addition to the horses now racing at Havana.

CHRISTMAS TREE CUSTOM UPHELD.

Washington, Dec. 26.—The country's forests have again been called upon to supply about four million Christmas trees, and again many persons have asked themselves and have queried the United States Forest Service, "Is the custom a menace to the movement for forest preservation?"

In the millions of happy homes ever the country where the younger generation has made the Christmas tree the center of play since early Friday morning, there are many mothers and fathers who have given the question more or less thought. From Sunday schools and other organizations, also, which hold an annual celebration around a gayly trimmed evergreen for the benefit of the little ones, has come the question whether it is consistent to urge conservation of forest resources and then to cut millions of young trees every year to afford a little joy in the passing holiday season.

"Yes, it is consistent and proper that the custom should be maintained," has been the answer of United States Forester Gifford Pinchot in every case. "Trees are for use, and there is no other use to which they could be put which would contribute so much to the joy of man as their use by the children on this one great holiday of the year.

"The number of trees cut for this use each year is utterly insignificant when compared to the consumption for other purposes for which timber is demanded. Not more than four million Christmas trees are used each year, one in every fourth family. If planted four feet apart they could be grown on less than 1,500 acres. This clearing of an area equal to a good-sized farm each Christmas should not be a subject of much worry, when it is remembered that for lumber alone it is necessary to take timber from an area of more than 100,000 acres every day of the year.

"It is true that there has been serious damage to forest growth in the cutting of Christmas trees in various sections of the country, particularly in the Adirondacks and parts of New England, but in these very sections the damage through the cutting of young evergreens for use at Christmas is infinitesimal when compared with the loss of forest resources through fires and careless methods of lumbering. The proper remedy is not to stop using trees but to adopt wiser methods of use.

It is generally realized that a certain proportion of land must always be used for forest growth, just as for other crops. Christmas trees are one form of this crop. There is no more reason for an outcry against using land to grow Christmas trees than to grow flowers."

The Forest Service upholds the Christmas tree custom, but recognizes at the same time, that the indiscriminate cutting of evergreens to supply the holiday trade has produced a bad effect upon many stands of merchantable kinds of trees in different sections of the country. Waste and destruction usually result when woodlands are not under a proper system of forest management. Foresters say that it is not by denying ourselves the wholesome pleasure of having a bit of nature in the

home at Christmas that the problem of conserving the forests will be solved, but by learning how to use the forests wisely and properly. The ravages through forest fires must be checked, the many avenues of waste of timber in its travel from the woods to the mill and thence to the market must be closed, and almost numberless important problems demand attention before the Christmas tree.

Germany is conceded to have the highest developed system of forest management of any country, yet its per capita use of Christmas trees is greatest. The cutting of small trees for Christmas is not there considered in the least as a menace to the forest, but, on the contrary, as a means of improving the forest by thinning and as a source of revenue. It is therefore constantly encouraged.

There is little doubt but that the time will come when the Christmas tree business will become a recognized industry in this country, and that as much attention will be given to it as will be given to the growing of crops of timber for other uses. This time may not be far off, for it is already understood that only through the practice of forestry, which means both the conservation of the timber which remains and carefully planned systems of reforestation, will it be possible to supply the country with its forty billion feet of lumber needed each year, as well as the few million little trees used at Christmas time.

SANFORD THE CELERY CITY.

The enterprising little city of Sanford is rapidly coming before the world as a center of the celery growing industry. The soil in the surrounding country is peculiarly adapted to the growing of this vegetable in its highest perfection, and Kalamazoo may well look to its laurels when the celery growers of Orange county get a hump on, which they are doing right now, and no mistake.

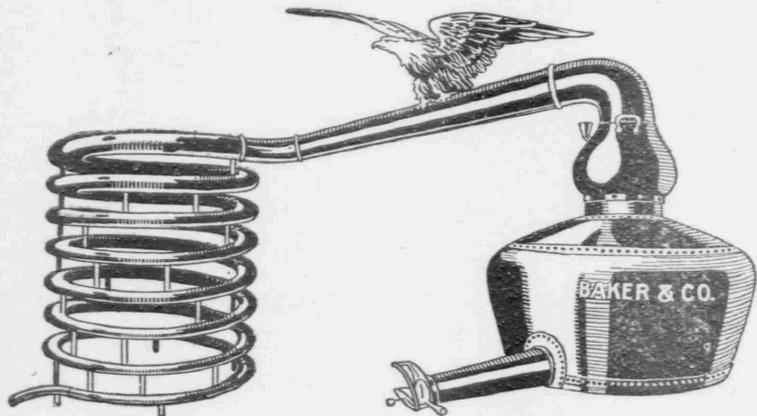
There is a large acreage already under growth and rapidly being prepared for early shipment to Northern markets, and many more plots are being underdrained and otherwise made tillable for more extensive operations next year.

Large shipments of lettuce have been going forward from Sanford for some weeks at the rate of from 15 to 20 cars a day.

Among the growers here who are "going some" in the celery line are T. F. Adams, J. L. Arial, W. T. Akers, C. F. Atkinson, W. P. Atkinson, T. B. Brown, C. W. Bowman, R. Cary, W. N. Culp, A. B. Cameron, F. N. Etheridge, G. B. Frank, A. U. French, J. S. Gardner, J. M. Hunt, W. E. Heroy, B. Heppe, C. H. and C. E. Hamilton, W. H. Lynn, R. E. Millen, J. L. Miller, R. H. Muirhead, W. A. Murray, A. D. Smith, J. N. Nipe, W. A. Raynor, F. J. Symes & Son., Speer & Malcom, W. S. Thornton, G. W. Woods, J. L. Wright and J. V. Weedon.

All these have very fine plots now growing in celery, lettuce, cabbage and other marketable vegetables, and are all enthusiastic regarding the future of Sanford and its importance in the produce markets of the North.

STILLS AT VERY NEAR COST



I have on hand a very large assortment of stills, ranging in size from ten to fifty barrels capacity. I have put the prices of these stills down to just a little above cost, in order to dispose of them. Copper is now exceedingly cheap, and there is no reason why the price of stills should not be reduced considerably. Naval stores are at a very low price, and I have decided to put the price of stills in keeping with same. Watch this space for my price list, which will be published later on. In the meantime if you are in the market for anything in the still line, ask me for prices, F. O. B. your railroad station. If I do not sell you what you want, I will make someone else sell you cheap. My specialty is closely riveted stills, with heavy bottoms, high crowns, large spouts, extra large worms and above all, stills that are guaranteed not to leak. Drop our nearest shop a line, or wire us for your wants. Ask for our booklet of testimonials.

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