

## IMPORT BANANAS BY THE MILLION

Americans Have to Have Them in Song and Reality, and Consume 15 Millions a Day, It Is Estimated.

Washington, July 27—Refutation of a popular song is found in a National Geographic Society Bulletin just issued which not only shows that we have "some bananas" but traces the origin of this fruit that, in name at least, is now on every tongue.

Known to only a handful of people on the Atlantic seaboard a generation and a half ago, and considered by them a tropical curiosity, the banana has become now the fruit of the American masses and hangs in great yellow bunches even in the remotest hamlets and in cross roads stores," says the bulletin. "The figures for banana imports are staggering. Between 40 and 50 million bunches were brought in last year. Allowing only three cubic feet to the piled bunch, there is more than enough of the yellow fruit to fill heaping full a gigantic box as deep as the Washington Monument and 460 feet square. Such a box would cover more than an ordinary city block. If this huge pile were evenly divided every person in the United States, old and young, would have several dozens bananas for his share. Each day on an average nearly 15 million bananas are consumed in the United States.

Eve's "Apple" a Banana  
"The banana is supposed to have originated in India near the base of the Himalaya Mountains; but a legend among eastern Christians asserts that it had a prominent place in the garden of Eden, and that it was a banana not an apple, that Eve ate in her search for knowledge. Botanists were perhaps unconsciously influenced by this legend, for they named two important species of the fruit *Musca paradisica* and *Musca sapientium*—Fruit of Paradise and Fruit of Knowledge.

"No one knows how this popular American fruit came to the New World, but it seems not to have been here when Columbus arrived. One explanation is that it was taken from Spain to Santo Domingo early in the sixteenth century and from there spread rapidly to the other West Indian Islands and to the mainland. American capital and initiative placed its development on a plantation basis in Central America, and now it is grown as a commercial crop to a greater extent there than any where else in the world. Jamaica is the greatest island producer, while Nicaragua and Costa Rica are the chief mainland sources of supply.

Brought Development  
"A large fleet of steamers—refrigerated in summer and warmed in winter—plies constantly between Central American ports and the seaboard cities of the United States; and from these cities hundreds of cars roll daily in the effort to keep our appetite for bananas satisfied.

"The development of the huge banana industry has had an epoch-making influence in the life of the Central American states. The turning of their jungle wastes into productive plantations has brought prosperity, railroad construction, harbor improvements and sanitary betterment. The 'yellow and cold' gold which the Spaniards took away in early days impoverished Central America; but the great stream of golden bananas is bringing back the precious metal and is building up the country in proportion as it flows forth."

### THIS RAILROAD HAS WOMAN PRESIDENT

Tallahassee, Fla., July 27—The Georgia, Florida and Alabama railroad, running from Richland, Ga. to Carabelle, Fla., on the Gulf of Mexico, has the distinction of having for its president one of the few women to hold such a position in the United States, Mrs. Cora B. Williams, of Atlanta, Ga.

Information given in the road's petition for the increase brought out unusual features in connection with its financial affairs. It was shown the road had an outstanding bonded indebtedness of \$2,113,000, and unpaid interest charge on that indebtedness of \$1,124,556.91, and also carried on its books for premium on stock of \$122,000.

All the bonds were owned by Mrs. Williams, according to the application, and that all of the interest due on the bonds were due to her. She also owned the \$122,000 premium on stock. They were secured by a mortgage held by New York trust companies.

This, the application said, "Mrs. Williams is willing to cancel and surrender up and cancel said bonds and lose all of the interest due thereon, and surrender and cancel her claim to \$122,000 premium on stock in return for the applicant's (the railroad) issuing to Mrs. Williams common stock of the railroad company in the amount of the proposed increase—the sum of \$2,235,000."

### "VEGETABLES"

When you buy Vegetables—always try for the BEST and FRESHEST.

At Garrett's you can get nice Sweet Corn, Tomatoes, Cucumbers, Squash, Country Cabbage, Beets. If it is anything in the Grocery line you want

CALL 697 or 698  
**R. L. GARRETT**  
(Real Service)

## Training Camp Alumni Organize

Task Will be Done at the Camps This Summer, It Is Announced

Chicago, July 27—The ground work for an Alumni Society that bids fair to be the largest in the United States in the course of time, is being laid by those who are organizing and preparing to conduct the Citizens Military Training Camps in the various states this year.

The announcement of the Alumni Society's organization says: "The men who attended the first voluntary camps in 1913, 1914, 1915 and 1916 joined in forming the Military Training Camps Association of the United States, and this is the real Alumni Society of all who believe in the 'Plattsburg Idea' of General Leonard Wood, and who have been trained in the citizens' camps.

"This year the men in each camp are invited to group themselves as a part of the nation-wide organization, to be known as the Citizens' Military Training Camps Alumni. "In order to make this effective the candidates from each county will select their own captain. These, in turn, will select their own state captain and these state captains will, in turn, select a corps area captain." Charters will be issued to each county company, but the real organization of the Alumni body will take place at the camps during this summer.

## Experiment on Producing Iron

Bureau of Mines Co-operates With Minnesota University in the Task

Washington, July 27—The United States government is now making iron, but only as an experiment and not for the commercial field. Its blast furnace is located at Minneapolis and is operated as a laboratory by the Bureau of Mines in cooperation with the University of Minnesota. After four years of experimentation to develop it, the furnace recently produced several tons of gray iron and spiegeleisen.

This type of experiment is declared unique in the field of industrial research, as blast furnaces are not included usually in laboratory equipment. But with the demonstration showing every phase of the operation of iron making under complete technical control, it is believed the investigators at the Minneapolis station are in a position to undertake the study of various problems, the solution of which should be of great practical value to blast operators.

The furnace was operated first as a slagging-type gas producer until it had reached a steady state thermally and chemically. Iron ore without the addition of a flux then was introduced, and its descent in the furnace was followed by means of gas samples taken at various stations. When the effect of this charge had been dissipated, more ore was charged without limestone, and other sets of samples were taken. The purpose is to obtain a comparison of the gas composition at various planes of the furnace. Various sizes of ore also were used. The reduction of the ore at the stockline was found to be greater with smaller sized ore, as indicated by higher carbon dioxide.

One of the most important prob-

lems that will be worked out with the experimental furnace will be that of finding a means of extracting iron from the low-grade ores found especially in northern Minnesota.

## Cities of Rhine Are Stagnating

With French in the Ruhr, Factories are Closed and Tourist Turn the Other Way

Strasbourg, Germany, July 27—Strasbourg, capital city of Alsace-Lorraine, and Mannheim, the inland Rhine port which is the chief commercial center of Baden, both are suffering greatly today as a result of the continued French occupation of the Ruhr. Freights on the river are virtually at a standstill, and the tourist traffic of other days is no more. Hence docks are deserted and hotels are empty.

Strasbourg's factories are almost all closed down. The canal connecting the city with the Rhine is filled with idle ships. There is little activity on the railroad yards, and few trains cross the bridge. Tourists haveturned to other routes, where travel is easier and not subject to military interference, and the local hotels and cafes are empty. With its 300,000 inhabitants, Strasbourg is in a sad plight, and can be likened to a deserted orphan.

In Mannheim miles and miles of warehouses are closed and guarded by French soldiers in helmets and khaki field uniforms. Hundreds of idle ships and barges line the canals and the banks of the huge inner harbor, while the extensive railroad yards are filled with dead locomotives and freight cars. The streets of the city are relative-

ly deserted. Hundreds of factories are working only on part time and the owner of every good automobile has sent it away in fear of confiscation by the French. Mannheim, with its population of a quarter of a million, is listless and fearful of the future, and seems like a city that has gone to sleep.

## MUSSOLINI CALLS FOR MORE PLANES

Milan, July 7—Balked recently in a desire to fly to Mount Etna because no airplane was available, Premier Mussolini sent a telegram to a government secretary at Rome, saying "we must have enough airplanes by next year to hide the sun. We must fly! We will fly!"

### PUBLICATIONS IN DEMAND

Physical Culture, True Story, Movie Weekly, National Brain Power, Beautiful Womanhood and Metropolitan Magazine are now on sale at the newstands. They are in such demand that they are always sold out early each month. Brimful of interesting articles and absorbing stories their hold on readers strengthens with every issue, as is attested by their increased sales. The art covers by the noted artist, Leo Stelke, Jr. are most attractive. Each periodical presents an array of features unusual in scope and in vividness of appeal.

Where Society Brand Clothes Are Sold  
**D. Walter Harris**  
The City Tailor and Clothier


## Down Go The Prices

— ON —

## Men's Shoes

Big lot of brand new Men's and Children's Shoes being sold at cheaper prices than you can buy the same quality for in any store in Eastern North Carolina. Before you buy—compare our prices and quality.

**S. Ganderson & Son**  
"Good Quality for Less Money"



**Owens Shoe Co.**  
FOOTWEAR OF MERIT  
Main St., Hinton Building

## The Universal Radio

A TWIST of the wrist and the radio fan covers miles. A simple turn of the dial and he gets a bit of jazz here, a lecture there and perhaps a vaudeville act somewhere else. Hundreds of things are continually being broadcasted for his amusement and edification.

But radio, or no, don't forget that many things fully as interesting and far more vital to you are being broadcasted daily in this paper for your personal benefit.

Your messages always come clear. The condition of the air doesn't concern you. From the depths of your own armchair you listen in on the doings of the world. You know what is going on everywhere, almost as soon as the events occur.

Turn to the advertising columns and you are transported to the grocers, the clothiers, the music shop. You visit the factory of a manufacturer or talk with the maker of a new household appliance that will save you work.

And remember, too, that merchants and manufacturers who put their advertisements in this paper are progressive and dependable. They must give you good value. They know that advertising, by increasing the number of their sales, enables them to lower prices and give you more for your money.

The advertisements are broadcasted for you  
Listen in

# Announcement To Property Owners

For a number of years we have been handling real estate in rural sections of North Carolina and Virginia, dealing especially in the buying and selling of farm and timber lands.

We now wish to announce that we have engaged offices in the Hinton Building and are going to handle city property as well as rural property, on a commission basis.

We respectfully invite property owners to list their property with us and we also invite those wishing to buy property to call upon us and let us explain what we have to offer. We believe our experience will be worth something to you.

## GALLOP-SAWYER REALTY CO.

# NORMA TALMADGE

IN

## The Voice FROM The Minaret

### Salome! Sheba! Cleopatra!

To the desert where they loved in immortality, their spirit draws a woman to forget her vows and a man to lose himself in love!

Acclaimed the peer of "Smilin' Through" and "The Eternal Flame." Personally directed by Frank Lloyd. Adapted by Frances Marion.

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