

Romance of the Delicious Apple



CEMENTED, BUT VIGOROUS

By ROBERT H. MOULTON

THE world is full of monuments erected to the memory of notable men and women, and in commemoration of notable events, and even famous race horses and pet cats and dogs have had their merits extolled on granite shafts. But the only monument to a tree of which there is any record stands in a field in Madison county, Iowa, and tells the romance of the big red Delicious apple, which was born in Iowa, and is now known and grown in every quarter of the globe where Pomona waves her wand.

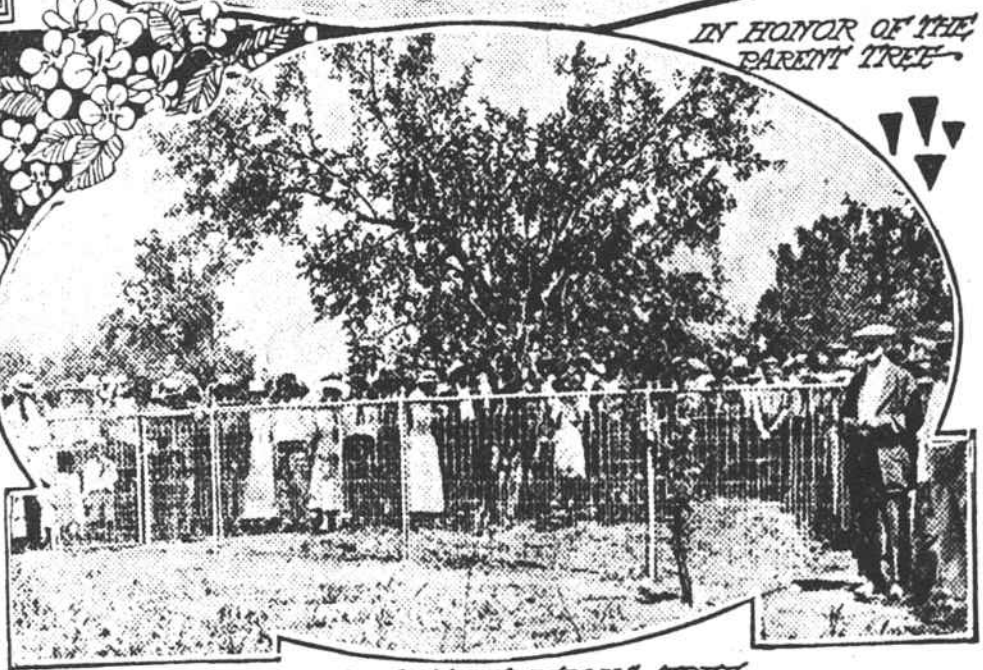
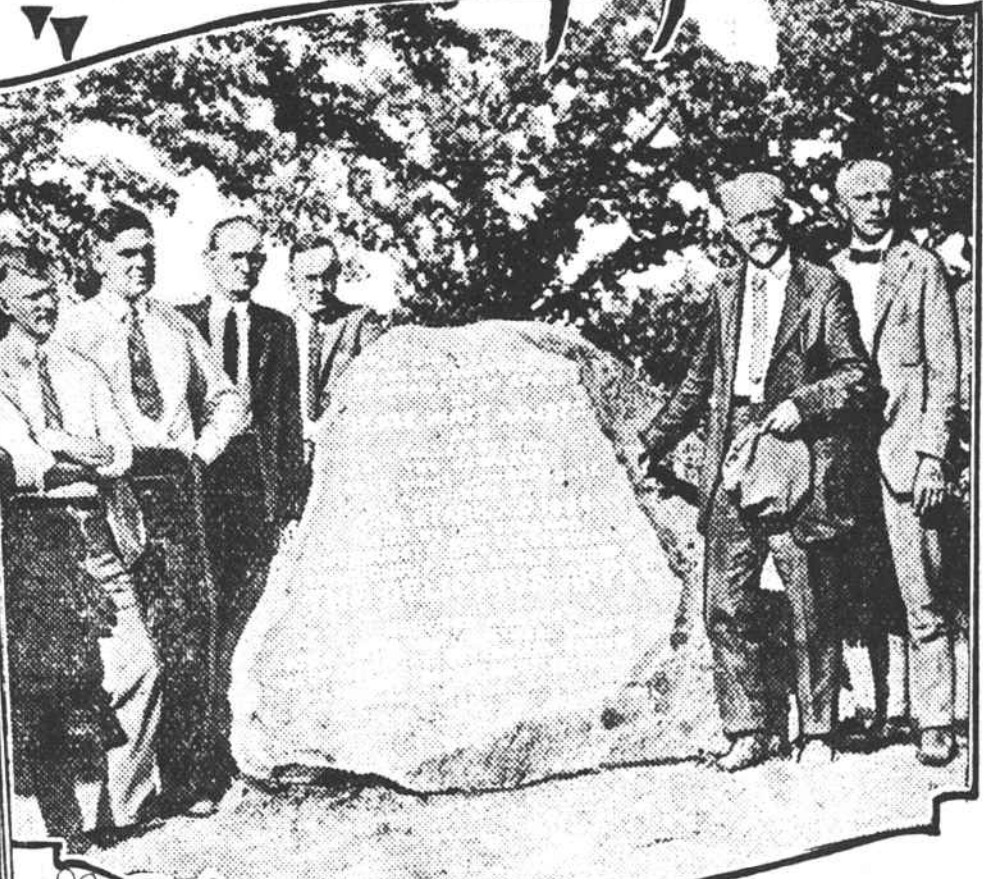
This unique monument was dedicated on August 15 to the parent Delicious tree which is still standing and still bearing apples abundantly after a life of 50 years. Its offspring, in trees distributed and planted, number more than 7,500,000. According to the lowest estimate by experts, fully a third of the baby trees have survived and grown to producing age. The same experts estimate that the annual crop of apples from these trees brings in the markets \$12,000,000 annually. Therefore, the fifty-year-old tree, near which has been placed this memorial, a granite boulder suitably inscribed, may call itself the \$12,000,000-a-year apple tree.

The story of the Delicious apple tree is a genealogical romance without a precedent. Back in the fifties a young Quaker farmer left his home in Indiana and settled in Madison county, Iowa, near the little town of Peru. Jesse Hiatt was his name. He loved the apple and the apple tree with the love of one who knew their secrets. To him an apple was an institution, and a new apple was an epoch-making event. The new settler planted an orchard shortly after he acquired his farm. He made a specialty of apple trees. He grew trees of the popular varieties of that time, always seeking something newer and better.

One day in the spring of 1872 Hiatt found that a Bellflower seedling in his orchard had died, but from the root had sprung a tiny shoot. He resolved to watch that apple sprout and see if it was worth while. He would give it a chance in the world.

A few years later the Bellflower orphan reached the producing point. A few buds were observed in spring. By midsummer the buds had become tiny apples. By early autumn the baby apples had grown to big red ones, and from each emanated a most delicious aroma. Jesse Hiatt plucked one and ate it. The flavor, like the aroma, was delicious. The apple tasted like no other apple that he had eaten. The shape was different. Each apple on the tree had a quintet of rounded knobs, well defined. This precluded it being a Bellflower apple, in the opinion of Jesse Hiatt. It must be something else—a new apple altogether.

Thus it came about that, in honor of his adopted state, Hiatt gave his new apple the name of the Hawkeye, Iowa's nickname. For 15 years after bearing its first crop the new tree bore annually, and increasingly, before its discoverer found a way of making it known beyond his neighborhood. There, in the midst of Hiatt's big orchard stood the single tree, sturdy, a rugged trunk, branches radiating with strong self-support, the foliage of a glossy green, the fruit a rich red glory.



PARENT DELICIOUS TREE

Hiatt hoped to introduce his new apple by selling to some nursery the right to use scions from the tree for reproduction. A scion, horticulturally is a slip or cutting from a twig or shoot of a tree, for grafting or planting. Ever since 1816 there had been in Pike county, Missouri, near the little city of Louisiana, a nursery, whose management was on the watch for new varieties; but this was more than 200 miles from the Hiatt orchard, and the old man's efforts to market apparently did not reach that far.

In 1893, however, Hiatt learned that every autumn there was held in the city of Louisiana a fruit show conducted by Clarence L. Stark, then president of the Stark nurseries, a grandson of the founder. He wondered if Stark would be interested in his Hawkeye apple. He decided to send down a few for the fruit show anyway, and accordingly boxed four Hawkeye beauties and shipped them to Louisiana.

They were placed on display, along with apples of many varieties from Missouri and other states and with samples of various other fruits. Some of the displays were much more noticeable, having many more than a mere quartet of samples.

The beauty of the Hawkeye apples caught Stark's attention at once. Their aromatic fragrance caused him to pause and pick up one of the apples. The man who knew apples from A to Z and back again bit into the Hawkeye.

"Delicious!" he cried, "Delicious!" Then eagerly he took another bite, and another, and several more, for the Hawkeye was a big fellow. Finally he had devoured the entire apple, there being no core to speak of. Then he looked to see who was making this exhibit but unfortunately the tag of the exhibitor had got lost in the shuffle and there was no way of telling where the apples had come from.

There was nothing to do but wait. In the hope that the unknown exhibitor would send samples the next year. And he did. In 1894 Hiatt sent another modest showing of Hawkeyes, securely tagged. Stark carefully opened the exhibit shipments himself that time, with the express purpose of finding the mysterious new apple about which he had dreamed for a whole year; and he found it. He recognized the apple by its aroma even before he opened the package.

He wrote to Hiatt immediately and soon a contract to propagate and market all scions from the tree was made. Mr. Stark always carried with him a little note book in which he jotted down appropriate names so they would be ready for new fruits whenever they were discovered. For a number of years he had retained in the book one name for which he hoped some day to find a new fruit worthy to bear it.

That name was "Delicious," and the moment he bit into the samples sent by Jesse Hiatt he knew he had found the apple he had so long sought.

So the exclamation "Delicious!" not only expressed the delight of an apple connoisseur but named, on the instant, a new apple. The Hawkeye from that time forth has been the Stark Delicious and that name is registered in the patent office at Washington.

With the naming and arrangements for introduction completed, the next problem was testing the tree and fruit in various apple regions. It had been estimated that from forty to fifty years were required for successful apples to become known by the fruit-growing public. Fifty years is a long time, and Mr. Stark felt that if this new apple was as widely adapted and as valuable as he thought it would be, it would mean too great a loss to the fruit world to wait that long.

So he adopted the novel plan of sending out each shipping season a few young Delicious trees free with the various orders going to different parts of the country. He felt that these trees would tell the story. If this apple, like some other sorts, would succeed only in a limited territory, there would be little heard from the trees. On the other hand, if it was widely successful under varied conditions of soil and climate, he firmly believed the Delicious would revolutionize all established ideas of apple growing.

How this unusual test turned out is well known. Several years after the first Delicious trees were sent out letters began to come in from all parts of the country, at first gradually and then in a flood. Everybody wanted to know the name of the new apple which didn't taste like other apples but had a distinctive flavor all its own. They wanted to plant more of them. And thus the Delicious started its flight toward national and, eventually, international recognition.

Mexicans in American Cities.

New York has a large number of Mexicans and Chicago is said to have 4,000. Many of them are working in the stockyards, having been imported to meet the shortage of labor. They are settling in the old Irish section east of the yards. The railroads employ many hundreds, housing them generally in box cars which have been fitted up for bunkhouses. Social and religious organizations have taken cognizance of the local Mexican population. The Presbyterian denomination maintains a church or mission for them at the Jefferson Park church, West Adams and South Throop streets, and also has a Spanish-speaking minister at large for the settlements. Very often special school arrangements are made for the migratory workers.

Chinook. Not all the warm winds of Montana and the regions north and south have their origin west of the Rockies. Various causes contribute to the formation of descending air, and when the descent is a number of thousands of feet, the winds resulting are always warm. Such winds blow over prairie regions west of the Missouri, but not always adjacent to the Rockies. Similar warm winds are known in other parts of the world, as in Switzerland, where they are called Föhn winds.

LAI'D ON ALTARS

In All Ages Wealth Has Flowed Into Religious Temples.

Gold, Silver and Precious Gems Offered as Tribute Both to Idols and the Unseen God.

Requisition of church valuables by the soviet government, reported in dispatches from Russia, raises a question as to the wealth of the various religious institutions of the world. "Since the dawn of history people have been lavish with their gifts for religious purposes, whether they worshipped idols or an unseen God," says a bulletin from the headquarters of the National Geographic society.

"The result is that in all ages treasure, usually in the form of gold and silver and precious stones, has flowed to temples and churches, monasteries and other religious institutions. In any period and in most parts of the world, then, except during recent decades in the West, a considerable part of the liquid wealth of the world has been in ecclesiastical hands. Only the treasures of temporal princes surpassed those of the religious institutions, and in some instances, as in Tibet, the monasteries and temples held practically all the country's treasure.

"Archaeologists find pagan temples of civilization's dead for thousands of years were ornamented with a wealth of precious metals. Indian temples of several faiths have had their rich treasures and their ornaments of gold and silver for centuries, and they have made use, as well, of a glittering array of diamonds, rubies, sapphires and other jewels. Many an idol today, from the dim interiors of Indian temples, looks out through eyes of great lustrous, precious stones and wears other gems that might ransom an emperor.

"Christianity had to fight for its life for the first 300 years of its existence and its rites were carried on in the simplicity that secrecy made necessary. But with its official recognition came the tendencies which had marked most of the openly accepted religions which had come before; toward the making of gifts to churches by devout followers and powerful patrons and toward the use of more elaborate and costly paraphernalia in the services. Constantine, first Christian emperor of Rome, lavished gifts on St. Peter's church in Rome and on Sancta Sophia in his own capital, Constantinople. He thus had a hand in enriching the two most famous, and once the two richest, churches in Christendom.

"The marked enrichment of Christian churches began in earnest in Italy and the East in the Fifth and Sixth centuries and spread in early medieval times to France and other western countries. Not only did the churches accumulate gold chalices, patens, candelabra and other small objects, but many had large screens of gold and silver, as well as fonts and statues. To a few of the churches, altars of solid gold were presented, but later church regulations prescribed stone and wood as the only permissible materials for altars. Precious stones also came in use to ornament images of the saints, or as gifts to them. Thus the Sacred Baby of the Church of Ara Coeli in Rome has been given over a space of many years a wealth of jewels.

"The accumulation of treasure by temples and churches and monasteries has not been unbroken. Time and time again these convenient stores of precious metals and precious stones have been seized by conquerors. Pagans have looted the shrines of other pagans. Mohammedans looted Roman churches, including St. Peter's in 846, and the churches of Constantinople in 1453. Sancta Sophia, after the break between the western and eastern churches, was sacked by western Christians during the fourth crusade. Church vessels were taken or destroyed in many cases at the time of the Reformation.

American Boy Child at Seventeen. In America a boy is still a child at seventeen. In England he is a man, with a man's air, a man's costume and a man's interests, having put away childish things, which still exist in spite of his clothes. He does not go tearing down the street in his long trousers and high hat as would an American boy if he was initiated into the same costume at the same age.

An American boy would (and let us hope he always will) destroy the whole effect and would run around the corner to the nearest pump to measure the fluid capacity of his wonderful headpiece or to fill it with luscious stolen fruit.—Exchange.

American Milk in Hungary. American evaporated milk has scored a hit in Hungary. There is a great scarcity of fresh milk and there has always been a prejudice against the canned article which is in extensive use in the United States and other countries, but recently a quantity of evaporated milk was sent there through the American relief, and it has made its way into public favor. Preparations are being made to take large quantities of it, as it has been shown that it can be sent there at a cost much less than the dairy product can be obtained.

Appreciation. "John, dear, did you enjoy the Welsh rabbit I made?" "Darling! And the biscuits! Enjoy them? Why, I couldn't sleep all night for thinking about them!"—Richmond Times-Dispatch.

Wiping Out Pests. A record of 303 pocket gophers and 99 moles caught in 11 months ending in November, obtained for Roy Hanenkrat, an Oregon boy, a prize of \$25. Another boy, Ferdinand Beeker, caught 820 moles and received a second prize of \$15. These boys were taking part in a contest organized by Tillamook county, Oregon, to eradicate these pests. The county was divided into three districts, and prizes amounting to \$50 were allotted to each district. Forty boys and girls entered the contest.

Forest Fires Raging. Kinston, N. C. — LeGrange reports told of extensive forest fires in that section. Several thousand acres of wooded land have been burned over. Houses have been threatened in some localities. One farmer reported several hundred dollars' damage on his premises from a blaze started by rabbit hunters in an adjacent thicket. Rainfall over the district has been below normal for several months. The farmers have been compelled to quit work to cope with the fires in some places.

SHOWED LIFE IN OLD EGYPT

Remarkable Picture of Daily Routine of Thousands of Years Ago Revealed in Tomb.

It is difficult to believe that anything happening today is as significant or as interesting as things that happened in Egypt a few thousand years back. Besides, the history of present-day Egypt might as well be that of India or Syria or any number of other countries. The effort to attain self-expression, natural self-expression, is now a matter of stenciled pattern. It involves trite slogans. It makes use of the familiar weapons of boycott and strike. It is recklessly extravagant with ink.

I do not mean to belittle national aspirations—but the exploring mind finds greater novelty in the marvelous delineation of Egyptian life on the walls of Ty's tomb at Sakkara, Gertrude Emerson writes in Asia. The sacrificial bulls are hobbled and thrown. Ti and his wife inspect the forced fattening of geese, the feeding of cranes in the poultry-yard. She kneels by his side, and together they watch the harvest operations, the reaping of corn, the loading of sacks upon the backs of asses, the treading out of grain by the oxen. Three village elders are brought to the estate office by overseers to give evidence concerning taxes. Ships are being built, with animated conversation going on among the workmen. Carpenters are sawing; men are blowing a furnace. The life of the Delta is depicted with a thousand intimate details. Ti is sailing through the papyrus marshes in a boat, superintending fishing and bird-snaring. Some of the men harpoon hippopotamuses while others draw in the fishnets and empty the narrow-necked baskets. A hippopotamus bites a crocodile. The thickets are filled with birds, fluttering about or sitting on their nests. Cattle returning from pasture are led through the shallow water; one man carries a sheep on his back. Two dwarfs are seen leading a pet ape and a leash of greyhounds.

And I came up out of the crowded tomb with its marvelous lore of life and retraced my steps across the sand of the empty desert, where shards are strewn and bits of broken blue porcelain continually catch the eye, past the colossal statue of Rameses II, lying, prone in indignity, near the dirty little village of Mit Rahineh, which once was Memphis, and so back to Cairo, with its cosmopolitan uproar, its sophistication, its flaming hatred of Europe and its new-born interest in politics. The tomb seemed far closer to realities.

Eyesight and Marksmanship. Some curious researches have been made by army surgeons to determine the relationship between good eyesight and good target practice. It would appear, at first glance, that the two things must invariably depend the one upon the other. But the facts lead to a different conclusion. At least, they show that one may have very defective eyesight and yet be a very accurate marksman. Astigmatism, myopia and other defects of vision may exist in a marked degree without destroying the ability to aim and shoot straight. In various armies soldiers are permitted to shoot from the right or the left shoulder, according to their own preference, which is often guided by the superiority of one eye over the other. Accuracy of judgment counts for as much as acuteness of vision with the good marksman.—Washington Star.

Sun-Loving Star Gazer. She was a sun-loving Smith college freshman from the South, and although greatly interested in studying the stars, she found as the weather grew colder that she could hardly endure the night observing that her astronomy course required. So she took the advice of her friends and tried hats, fur coats, woolen stockings and warm gloves galore, but her hands and feet still froze and she was miserable. One night she appeared at the observatory with a beaming face and hands that were to stay warm. She had solved her perplexing problem. In either bulging pocket was a metal hot-water bottle filled with the hottest water that her house could provide, and, although for the first night of her experiment her hands sought her pockets more often than her books, she now does her observing almost willingly.—Chicago Journal.

Soldier Ants. Before the biological society in London a naturalist described his studies of the African termites, or white ants. Certain individuals in every nest have no other apparent function except that of fighters or soldiers. Some have a long beak from which they eject an acrid, corrosive fluid; others inspire terror by making a loud clicking noise with their mandibles; but they neither shoot nor bite. One singular observation of the naturalist was that the soldier ants, which rush out to defend an attacked nest, do not return to the nest, but wander about and soon perish from exposure to the outside air.

Peacock to be Given Hearing. Lakeland, Fla.—Dr. J. W. Peacock, who escaped from the criminally insane department of the North Carolina state prison and who recently was declared sane at Arcadia, Fla., will return to North Carolina without requisition papers provided he is assured no technical charge is placed against him and he would be tried only for insanity, it was reported.

The decision is said to have been arrived at at a conference between Dr. Peacock and his attorneys. Dr. Peacock has been visiting here but could not be located.

Recall Brings Surprise. Despite Departure of British Commission, Early Agreement Reached, Not Be Surprising.

WASHINGTON. — Although the British debt commission has not yet come with the mission which it brought to America uncompleted, the formed officials in Washington no means pessimistic over the probability of an early agreement on the refunding of the British war debt to the United States.

In view of the facts disclosed at the first time, some of those familiar with the recent exchanges between the British and American commissioners would not be surprised if they assent to settlement plans tentatively worked out here is given soon. Chancellor Baldwin and his colleagues of the British commission arrive in London.

While the greatest reserve is shown here regarding the nature of the tentative plan, it is known that it represents the well considered judgment of both commissions as embodying the maximum concessions that might reasonably be granted by the United States. In view of the advanced stage which has been reached in the discussions, the sudden decision of the British government to recall its commissioners to London for consultation, instead of authorizing them to conclude the agreement.

As the home government had been kept fully informed of every step in the progress of the negotiations, it had been assumed that the absence of objections to the plan as it developed could be construed only as forecasting assent to the final stages.

The conclusion has been drawn in diplomatic circles here that the change in the European political situation after the two commissions began their work caused the British government to hesitate to assume any new financial burdens at this time when it was assured of the ability of the taxpayers to bear them.

Among the many elements of apprehension which thus may have influenced British officials, are enumerated the possibility of an expensive war with Turkey, heavy losses of trade as the result of the operations of the French in the Ruhr, followed by increasing unemployment of English workmen, unrest in India, and unsatisfactory conditions in Egypt, which might make it necessary to modify the present independent status. To the up the government in such an enormous financial transaction as that contemplated by the commission under these ends is said to have been viewed as hazardous in the extreme.

BRITAIN LIKELY TO ACCEPT PLAN

TENTATIVE PLAN WORKED OUT AGREEABLE BOTH COMMISSIONS.

RECALL BRINGS SURPRISE

Despite Departure of British Commission, Early Agreement Reached, Not Be Surprising.

WASHINGTON. — Although the British debt commission has not yet come with the mission which it brought to America uncompleted, the formed officials in Washington no means pessimistic over the probability of an early agreement on the refunding of the British war debt to the United States.

In view of the facts disclosed at the first time, some of those familiar with the recent exchanges between the British and American commissioners would not be surprised if they assent to settlement plans tentatively worked out here is given soon. Chancellor Baldwin and his colleagues of the British commission arrive in London.

While the greatest reserve is shown here regarding the nature of the tentative plan, it is known that it represents the well considered judgment of both commissions as embodying the maximum concessions that might reasonably be granted by the United States. In view of the advanced stage which has been reached in the discussions, the sudden decision of the British government to recall its commissioners to London for consultation, instead of authorizing them to conclude the agreement.

As the home government had been kept fully informed of every step in the progress of the negotiations, it had been assumed that the absence of objections to the plan as it developed could be construed only as forecasting assent to the final stages.

The conclusion has been drawn in diplomatic circles here that the change in the European political situation after the two commissions began their work caused the British government to hesitate to assume any new financial burdens at this time when it was assured of the ability of the taxpayers to bear them.

Among the many elements of apprehension which thus may have influenced British officials, are enumerated the possibility of an expensive war with Turkey, heavy losses of trade as the result of the operations of the French in the Ruhr, followed by increasing unemployment of English workmen, unrest in India, and unsatisfactory conditions in Egypt, which might make it necessary to modify the present independent status. To the up the government in such an enormous financial transaction as that contemplated by the commission under these ends is said to have been viewed as hazardous in the extreme.

Car Carried North Carolina License. Jacksonville, Fla.—Although Thomas creek, 20 miles north of here, was dynamited four times following the finding of an automobile submerged at the end of a "blind" road, without any bodies being revealed, county officers were of the opinion that several persons perished when the car catapulted into the stream. The creek will be dynamited further downstream.

The automobile, which was removed from the water, bore a Greensboro, N. C., city license No. 307, and a North Carolina state license No. 40-735. There was a shriner's emblem on the front of the car.

A short distance from where the automobile was submerged were found a baby's tin horn, a pair of woman's stockings, a handkerchief, some oranges and crackers. These articles had lodged in some vegetation growing near the bank.

A farmer, hearing the automobile going down the "blind" road, went to investigate and found the machine in the water. The road ends at the stream.

Peacock to be Given Hearing. Lakeland, Fla.—Dr. J. W. Peacock, who escaped from the criminally insane department of the North Carolina state prison and who recently was declared sane at Arcadia, Fla., will return to North Carolina without requisition papers provided he is assured no technical charge is placed against him and he would be tried only for insanity, it was reported.

The decision is said to have been arrived at at a conference between Dr. Peacock and his attorneys. Dr. Peacock has been visiting here but could not be located.

Forest Fires Raging. Kinston, N. C. — LeGrange reports told of extensive forest fires in that section. Several thousand acres of wooded land have been burned over. Houses have been threatened in some localities. One farmer reported several hundred dollars' damage on his premises from a blaze started by rabbit hunters in an adjacent thicket. Rainfall over the district has been below normal for several months. The farmers have been compelled to quit work to cope with the fires in some places.

'Developed' Monstrosities

In ancient, medieval and later times dwarfs were in so much demand as personal attendants of noblemen and their wives that the Romans practiced some method of dwarfing the poor. Bishop Berkeley had an idea that he could manufacture giants, and accordingly adopted an orphan named Magrath, and is believed to have fed him on mucilaginous foods and drinks, though there is no actual proof of it, but he

was nevertheless so successful in his treatment of him that at the age of sixteen Magrath was seven feet tall, and at his death, which occurred with all the symptoms of old age, at twenty, he measured 7 feet 8 inches.

Cattle Graze in Fields All Winter. It is because of the warm Chinook winds that cattle on the prairies of Alberta, Canada, can graze in the fields all winter, a snowfall of a foot or more disappearing in a few hours before the warm, dry breath of the