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NEW PLANT FOOD

Chayote From Central America Now Grown in U. S.

Is Related to Cucumber and Squash— Provides Excellent Fall and Early Winter Vegetable.

Among the plant immigrants to this country from Central America, the chayote promises to be one of the most satisfactory for use in the mild-wintered regions of the South Atlantic and Gulf Coast states and parts of California. The fruits and tubers of the chayote were among the principal foods of the Aztecs, Mayas and other peoples previous to the Spanish conquest of Mexico and Central America, and the vine today is one of the principal food plants of the inhabitants of these regions, where it occupies the position horticulturally that the potato does in more northern districts. The chayote has been grown for more than a generation in restricted areas of the South, where it has been known variously as vegetable pear, mirliton, and mango squash.

The chayote is related to the cucumber and squash, although the fruits are not similar, ranging in color from dark green to ivory white and in size from those weighing a few ounces to fruits two pounds or more in weight. There are also wide variations among the chayotes as to surface and shape. In the South the chayote provides an excellent fall and early winter table vegetable, the period of fruiting extending from early October until frost. Owing to its vigorous growth and prolific yield, a single vine in the garden or yard will produce more than enough chayotes for the average family under favorable soil and climate conditions.

Although the chayote is used here chiefly as a vegetable, it also lends itself to use as a forage crop, an ornamental vine, for greens, for producing blanched shoots which are used like asparagus tips, and as a straw which is used in making extra quality ornamental baskets, hats and other articles. In preparing chayotes for the table they are usually cut crosswise into thick slices, pared, and boiled until tender in just enough salted water to cook them. They may then be creamed or buttered and served. Because of its delicate texture and mild flavor the chayote is especially desirable for use in salads. It is prepared as above described, cooled, and then served on lettuce leaves with mayonnaise or French dressing.

BLACKBIRDS FEAST ON FISH

Make Raid on Trout Fishery Established on an Estate in Scotland.

Those who study nature find that age-long traits and habits are being in some cases modified and in others entirely changed.

The writer knows of a case where a bird has its habits changed by altered conditions.

A trout fishery was established on an estate in Scotland. During certain seasons a large number of the fry or young trout are crowded together in shallow ponds, as their inclination is to keep together just where the water enters.

One day a blackbird, drinking at one of these ponds, got hold of a young trout, probably accidentally, but found it was excellent feeding. A blackbird does not by habit get its food from the water, but this particular one, having tapped a new source of food supply returned to it again and again.

The following season this bird had by some means been able to impart its newly-found knowledge to all the other blackbirds on the estate, and instead of one bird stealing the young fish, all the birds got into the way of doing so. The owner had either to shoot the blackbirds or give up trying to rear trout.

That an entire change of food is not detrimental may be proved by the fact that many of the cows kept in Norway are fed on fish, yet who will say that a cow's teeth were made for dealing with a diet of this sort?—London Tit-Bits.

Spirit Renamed at Death.

During the life of a person in Luzon his spirit is called Tako. After the death it receives a new name. It is believed to go about in a body invisible to the eye of man, yet unchanged in appearance from the living person. If a man becomes unconscious, the natives think a vengeful spirit has lured away the soul of the sick man and they hold the ceremony of "Calling Back the Soul." Then they hold a big feast to which they invite all the spirits in order to induce them to bring back the sick man's soul.

A Pronged Spear is Supposed to Protect the People from the Ever Vengeful Anito, or Evil Spirits, who are Always Waiting to Trip One up on the Trail, to Cause Him to Fall and Hurt Himself or to Kill Him.—Detroit News.

CAUGHT IN PASSING

College professors, in a way, are manicures of the mind.

The old fellows may not attend, but they like to be invited.

A man is more apt than a woman to go crazy when he falls in love.

A woman is never seriously ill until she loses her interest in romantic novels.

You can make a man weary by mentioning the weather every time you meet him.

"Fortune knocks once," but misfortune drops in frequently without knocking.

The man who never told a lie is foolish to risk spoiling his reputation by saying so.

When a man gets up in the world a good reputation comes in handy as a parachute.

Wise is the man who doesn't sign his name to a friend's note or his own love letters.

Don't make yourself common; the world only sits up and takes notice of the uncommon.

The average woman's idea of an honest grocer is one who attends the same church she does.

Nothing is better calculated to give a self-made man a jolt than a bit of fare in French.

A good memory is one that enables a man to forget the things he does not care to recollect.

Some people display the best of taste by cutting out originality from their conversation.

A married man is glad that there is no place like home when it is filled with his wife's folks.

Many a man who humbly speaks of his own insignificance gets mad if other people allude to it.

Many a man gets a reputation for being good-natured because he is too lazy to stand up for his rights.

What a miserable crowd of pessimists we would be if we could see ourselves as others see us.

It may be better to be born lucky than rich, but the man who is born rich is lucky from the start.

When you see a young man at church every Sunday night it doesn't take a puzzle expert to find the girl.

While you may know a spinster like a book, it isn't nice to remind her of the fact that she is on the shelf.

At the age of sixteen a girl knows a lot more about men than a man at the age of sixty knows about women.

There is no satisfactory reason for believing that a woman who is always "harping" will make a good angel.

The woman who realizes she has made some other woman jealous is satisfied that she hasn't lived in vain.

It is unwise to judge a man by the criticism of his enemies. Only his friends can properly denounce him.

Public officials should be cheered when they do their duty. They need all the encouragement they can get.

After piling up a fortune many a man can see where the honesty of other men was a good policy—for him.

Don't cast your bread upon the water today and expect it to come back in the form of sponge cake tomorrow.

It isn't until a boy has celebrated his eighteenth birthday anniversary that he begins to notice his father's ignorance.

The Same Thing.

When Mr. Wombat came home and announced that he would have to cancel his vacation plans Mrs. Wombat demanded to know what was wrong.

He explained that he couldn't leave business. Whereat she was, to put it mildly, peeved.

"You put aside a thousand dollars for this trip, didn't you?"

"I did."

"Here I am expecting a trip to the seashore. You've got the money. And now you say you can't leave business."

"You take the \$1,000," suggested Mr. Wombat calmly, "and buy some new clothes. Probably do you as much good as a trip to the seashore."

Wool Growing is Declining.

The production of sheep for wool alone is rapidly on the wane in the United States. More and more emphasis is being placed on the production of lamb and mutton for the table, although only 3.7 per cent of the meat consumed by the average American for the last five years was lamb or mutton.

Qualified.

"We want a man for our information bureau," said the manager. "He must be a wide-awake fellow and accustomed to complaints."

"That's me," replied the applicant. "I'm the father of twins."—Cornell Widow.

Credit for Their Service.

World war veterans, applying for positions with the government, are allowed five points in the civil service examinations, while disabled ex-service men are given a credit of ten points.

Hollow Words and Empty.

First Critic—Poet Budd insists that he writes best with an empty stomach.

Second Critic—Judging from his poems, I would say they were also written with an empty head.

Keeping In Pace With The World

Every intelligent man or woman wants to know what is going on, not only in the neighborhood but all over the world.

There is only one way to find out. That is through the Newspaper

The Newspapers contain not only news, but the sayings and writings of the world's masters in politics, business, science, literature, art, music.

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Whatever else you read—
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For rates or local information consult your local newspaper or write to the Secretary of the North Carolina Press Association, Morganton, N. C.

EVIL EFFECTS OF HASHISH

Acts on Nervous System in Various Ways, Which Differ According to the Individual.

The Arabs call a man who indulges in the drug hashish a "hashash." The plural of which is "hashashoon." A band of Moslem fanatics who flourished in the Eleventh and Twelfth centuries and devoted themselves to murdering secretly the enemies of the prophet used to fortify themselves with hashish for their desperate deeds. They came to be known as "hashashoon"—hence the English word "hashish."

Hashish acts on the nervous system in various ways, which differ according to the individual and the strength of the dose. A small dose produces gaiety, a larger one hallucinations, delirium and sometimes cataplexy. An average dose induces a dreamy state, when the indulger becomes the sport of rapidly shifting ideas. The habitual "hashash" can rarely cast his thoughts, his memory goes and he is prone to curious errors of perception.

Herodotus records that the Scythians burned the seeds of hemp during the purification ceremonies that took place after a death and that they became intoxicated by the fumes.—Detroit News.

Makes Remarkable Discoveries.

The mechanical eye of the aviator's camera is adding materially to our knowledge of prehistoric man. Primitive disturbances of the soil may have disappeared so completely as to leave no trace whatever of their surface, and yet are plainly visible from an airship. The so-called "Avenue," leading from the famous monuments of Stonehenge, near Salisbury, England, has now been traced as far as the River Avon by means of aerial photographs and later verifications made by pedestrians.

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Queer Probation Suit in India.

Two babies of unequal size are the starting point of a unique probation suit. A rich Indian merchant, Dewkanan Nandji, died leaving his fortune to his male children, of which he had several by his first wife. His second wife, a young Indian woman of thirty, gave birth to twins soon after her engagement, while traveling in a train from Bombay to Baroda. It was given out that the twins were a boy and a girl, and the widow immediately entered a claim for a share of the fortune on behalf of her son. The apparent difference in the ages of the children, however, aroused suspicion among the other heirs, and it is now alleged that the woman exchanged one of the twins, both of which were girls, for a boy baby from a foundling asylum. The case is in the courts.

World's Onion Seed.

In Santa Clara valley, Cal., on the lowlands the world's onion seeds are produced. The seed is not, of course, employed for edible purposes, inasmuch as they are allowed to grow until they are far too "old" for such use. Nearly 20,000 acres of land are used in the culture of the product. It is reported that one cultivator has under way a process whereby the stalks can be made into paper, much as wood-pulp has been for many years. About 2,000 flat-carloads of stalks are turned out each year.

Turpentine Is Superior Remedy for Wormy Pigs

Wormy pigs usually have good appetites and eat a great deal but are poor and do not grow fat. The hair of the pig looks rough and does not have a shiny gloss, and the pigs are usually "pot-bellied." Turpentine is the most economical and convenient remedy, one teaspoonful for each 100 pounds live weight. This should be administered in milk or slop and the dose should be repeated daily for three consecutive days.

BLIND FIDDLER IS WISE MAN

Psychology Teaches Him Where to Play to Get Coins From the Public.

It is the fad to talk psychology these days, but few put it to such practical use as does one blind fiddler. Somebody told him that a well-known violinist was to give a recital at one of the large concert halls. A half hour before the recital, just as the early birds were arriving, the old fiddler chose the curb in front of concert hall for a recital of his own. He unpacked his well-worn instrument, dropped his shabby black hat and started his repertoire. "The Last Rose of Summer" was followed by "When You and I were Young, Maggie," "The Old Oaken Bucket," and others of the same school.

The enthusiastic crowd grew so large pedestrians had difficulty in passing, says the New York Sun and Globe. As time for the recital inside the hall drew near, the crowd regularly dispersed, but not without first filling the old hat with bills and coins.

Nobody knew what the old fiddler muttered as he picked up the fiddle and went on his way. Maybe it was "They know good music when they hear it." But just as likely it may have been "You've got to know when and where to catch 'em."

Six Stock Salesmen to Avoid.

The Northwestern Banker (Des Moines) puts a deal of good advice into small compass when it tells its readers that the six stock salesmen for the investor to avoid are:

The man who tells you how stockholders in similar concerns became rich over night.

The man who wants to help you in keeping the contract away from Wall Street.

The man who talks about the "transferability" of stock.

The man who says that the stock will later be "listed on the exchange."

The man who wants you to buy because "the price is surely going up."

The man whose chief selling points are letters of recommendation from "leading citizens."

Shop Talk.

There was a new attendant at the spiritualistic circle, and he had formerly been employed in a big drapery shop.

The fact came to light when a client requested him to tell the medium that she wished to speak with a Mr. Green.

"Certainly, madam," said the attendant. "Can you give me his Christian name?"

"I'm afraid I've forgotten it, but he died quite a short time ago."

The attendant cleared his throat and approached the medium. "Please show the lady some of the latest shades of Greens," he said.

The Victim.

"Yes, my husband's laid up, a victim of football."

"But I didn't know he ever played the game."

"E doesn't. E sprained his larynx at the match last Saturday!"—The Passing Show (London).

The Snowshoe Glide.

"Are you from the Far North?"

"No, why do you ask?"

"You dance as if you had snowshoes on."—Barnmouth Jack o' Lantern.

FIRST SUBWAY IN LONDON

Enormous Difficulties Experienced in Construction of Underground Railway Opened in 1863.

In October, 1860, London's first underground railway was approaching completion, but it was not until January 10, 1863, that the first passenger train ran. Enormous difficulties were experienced during construction.

The third-class passengers traveled in trucks, but the first-class carriages were lofty and comfortable. The carriages held ten persons, and were lighted by gas. They were high enough to allow a tall man to stand wearing his silk hat.

Sir William Hardman, in "Mid-Victorian Peeps" (Cecil Palmer), describes the first time he took his wife to visit "The Drain," as the new Underground was called.

"It goes very smoothly and rapidly," he writes; "it feels very safe and quiet. I am spirited away to Epsom before I know we have started. The only difficulty is not to pass your station, for the stations are all precisely alike, without any distinctive features of surrounding streets or country to guide you, and if you are not carefully looking out you are carried farther than you intended to go."

A Chagrined Sea Fighter.

Outside the harbor of Charlotte Amalie, on the coast of St. Thomas Island, a huge rock looms out of the sea. Sail Rock it is called, and it bears a startling resemblance to a ship. As I gazed upon it, says Mr. A. Hyatt Verrill in his book "In the Wake of the Buccaneers," I could not blame the helioco captain of a French frigate who a century and more ago sighted the rock off night and, mistaking it for a privateer, ran close and hailed it.

No response came back. Again he hailed, and as still no response came he blazed a broadside at the shadowy mass. Back came the echoing thunder of the cannonade, and the rebounding shot, falling on the frigate's deck, convinced the Frenchman that the privateer was returning his fire.

For hours the battle raged; the French gunners poured broadside after broadside at the massive cliff. Not until day dawned did the deluded commander of the frigate discover his mistake. Then, crestfallen and mortified, he crept away, leaving Sail Rock unscathed and triumphant.—Youth's Companion.

Why He Was Late.

Flattened and arrived home late from the office, and his wife was not the sort of woman to let a thing like that pass unnoticed.

"Why didn't you catch the 7:30 train home tonight, Herbert?" she demanded.

"Well, you see, dear," replied Herbert, "I asked a porter from which platform my train started, and he said, 'If I turned to the left I'd be right.'"

"Well, didn't you?"

"Unfortunately, no, my dear!" replied her husband. "A little mistake on my part. I turned to the right and was left!"

The Big Item.

Bill, the chauffeur, had so much dash that a certain magnate on the block decided to secure his services. This gentleman went to Bill and made what he evidently considered a brilliant offer. Said he: "I'll pay you \$200 a month."

Greatly to his surprise, Bill hesitated.

"Why, that's a splendid salary for a chauffeur."

"Maybe so," responded Bill. "It all depends."

"On what?"

"Do I pay my own fines?"

HEADLESS HORSEMAN RIDES

Ghost Goes Forth Nightly in Sleepy Hollow in Search of Head Laid in Battle.

The graveyard of the old Dutch church, Tarrytown, N. Y., is described by Washington Irving at the beginning of the "Legend of Sleepy Hollow." "On the Tappan Zee there lies a small market town or rural port known by the name of Tarrytown. Not far from this village there is a little valley which is one of the quietest spots in the world. A small brook glides through it, with just murmurs enough to lull one to repose."

The enchanted region of Sleepy Hollow is haunted by the apparition of a figure on horseback, who in a mythical battle had lost his head.

"Certain of the more authentic historians," continues the author, "allege that the body of the trooper having been buried in the churchyard, the ghost rides forth to the scene of battle in nightly quest of his head, and that the rushing speed with which he sometimes passes along the Hollow is owing to his being in a hurry to get back to the churchyard before day-break."

Just below the bridge flows the brook, and near the church bridge Ichabod Crane had his terrifying encounter with the headless horseman.—Detroit News.

HEAR MOANS IN MOUNTAINS

Peculiar Sounds Heard in the Chilean Andes—Peak in England Screams.

A deep note to be heard at certain seasons of the year proceeding from the mountain of El Brannador, in the Chilean Andes is one of the weirdest sounds in the world. In former days the natives listened to it with superstitious fear, while even a white man, hearing it for the first time, is startled at the mountain's "moans."

Another curious mountain exists in Nevada, though this one usually gives out a note resembling at first the jangling of bells, and ending with a deep, organ-like swell.

In both cases the sounds are due to a peculiar formation of the earth, which under certain conditions of weather allows the separate particles to rub against each other and so produce uncanny effects.

In England is a mountain which looks in such a way that formerly it was supposed to be the haunt of demons. This is Cross-Fell, in Westmoreland, where local conditions produce a gale with several peculiarities, including an awe-inspiring scream that at times can be heard for miles.

Fashions in Wives Vary.

Fashions in wives are not quite so capricious as fashions in clothes—they vary with the seasons and of with season it wasn't so long ago that the "last year's wife" was the most approved model of femininity. Elizabeth immortalized her in "The Spectator," we remember. "Indeed, the perfect woman does not talk at all. Who wants to hear her? All that we ask of her is that she shall be intelligent with a few words, a sentence, to tell about our own thoughts and that she should be silent when we want anything. Surely this is not much to ask. Matches, ash trays, and one's wife should be, so to speak, on every table; and I maintain that the perfect wife copies the conduct of the matches and the ash trays, and combines being useful with being dumb."

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