

# Agriculture and Husbandry

## Gassed Fruit

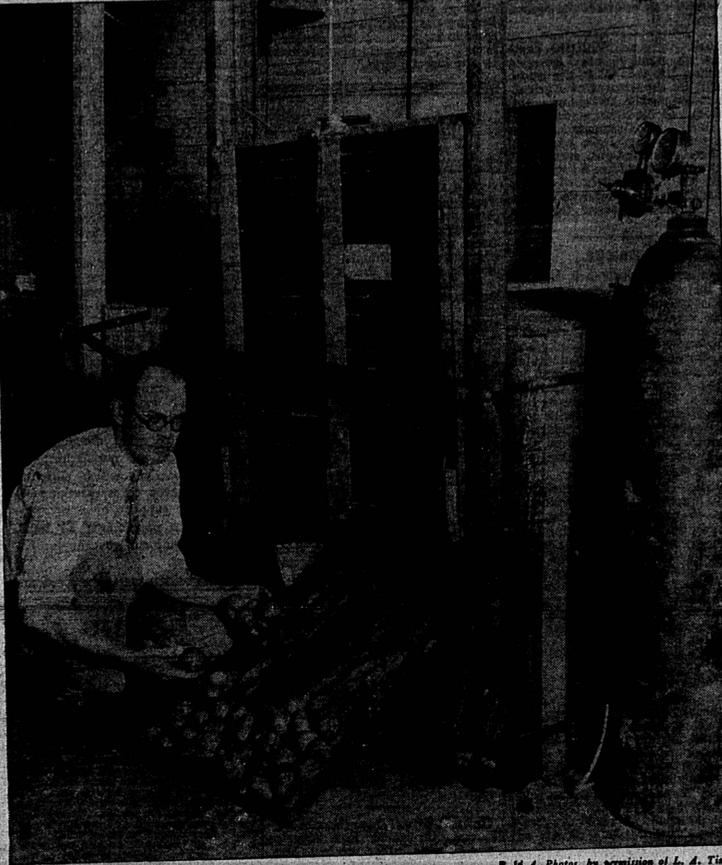
Some of history's most memorable deeds have been performed in no more romantic places than the confines of dingy, test-tube littered research laboratories. In laboratories, forlorn little men have changed the destinies of the world. Perhaps not of a world-altering nature, but of great importance to agriculturists was the recent discovery of Chemist F. E. Denny. At the Los Angeles research laboratory of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, dark-haired, serious-minded young Chemist Denny, fresh from the University of Chicago, worked long and diligently on an astounding public that green, sour fruit could be ripened better and quicker by ethylene gas (product of kerosene and natural gas) than it could by the sun's rays, that when it was ripened thus, it was not injured or impaired in any way.

Like many another discovery, Chemist Denny came upon the qualities of ethylene only by chance. His inspiration was a kerosene stove which had been placed in a carload of Southern California lemons to prevent them from freezing while being shipped across the country in the winter. When the lemons arrived at their destination and the car was opened the consignees found, to their amazement, that instead of being hard and green, as they usually were, the lemons were richly ripe and as yellow as gold. In other cars, where there had been no kerosene stoves, the lemons were still hard and green, had to be stored until nature ripened and colored them.

Packing houses, confident that heat would ripen the lemons, hastened to install steam-heating coils in their coloring rooms. But the lemons would not change their color or steam heat. The packers shook their heads. In dismay they disassembled their costly apparatus, told their troubles to Chemist Denny.

After hours of toil, thought, in his laboratory, he decided that lemons might react to kerosene fumes without being friendly to steam heat. Therefore, on these lines he experimented, found that without doubt the green skin of the lemons rapidly ripened in a room-filled of kerosene fumes, whereas, during the same space of time in the sun-light they were yet green and hard. And because the cold corners of the kerosene-smoked room the fruit ripened just as quickly as in the heated parts, Denny came to the conclusion that heat had nothing to do with the ripening. It was more likely that the gas caused the quick change. But before making up his mind definitely he repeated the experiment, with the same result: a small low-burning kerosene stove—and no other kind of stove—caused every green lemon to ripen weeks sooner than it would mature on trees or in storage.

The next step was to determine which gas did the trick. Therefore he sought to separate the gasses



P. A. Photo, by permission of L. A. Tins.

## RIPENING GREEN PEARS WITH ETHYLENE GAS

They beat Nature by weeks in ripening lemons, pears, tomatoes, celery

let off by burning kerosene. And that took time, for those hydrocarbon gases had to be tried singly. Alone in his laboratory, he tested them one by one. But one by one they refused to ripen the fruit until at last, testing the effect of ethylene, he watched the lemons grow quickly yellow and soft. Thus he had found it—a gas which would beat Mother Nature in ripening lemons and probably many another citrus fruit. Pleased was Chemist Denny indeed, but still more pleased was he when he learned that ethylene could be bought in cylinders and that a single cylinder contained enough ethylene to color a whole trainload of lemons. A single carload could be treated, he found, for as low a cost as 18 cents.

Jubilant at his discovery, Chemist Denny lost no time in telling his associates, packing and shipping companies, of it. But the shippers, incredulous, asked questions, were wary. The question: Does this rapid ripening injure the fruit?

Dr. Edwin M. Chase, Chemist Denny's superior, investigated further, found there were no injurious effects. Said he: The ethylene merely hastens the chemical action going on in the fruit. In citrus fruit it increases respiration from 100 to 200 per cent, causing it to give off carbon dioxide much faster, changing the starch in the cells to sugar. All this is what nature does while ripening the fruit in her slower way.

Following Denny's pioneering experiments, Dr. Chase applied ethylene to other fruits, plants. Persimmons, under ethylene's influence, rapidly turned a ripe red, did not wrinkle, and were sold at higher prices than sun-ripened persim-

mons. Pears, too, have been examined. Already has it been found that pears which ordinarily take fourteen days to ripen on the trees will ripen in four or five days under the influence of ethylene. The ethylene process is now being applied to celery and tomatoes, and will be soon tested out with apricots.

## Persimmons Abroad

Well-known is the popularity of California citrus fruit in foreign lands. The brand Sunkist has greeted the eyes of Asiatic and Caucasian consumers for many a year past.

With the aid of well-equipped ships, persimmon growers of Southern California have for some time been shipping persimmons to Honolulu, a trip taking approximately one week for freight ships. Last week, Tustin (Orange County) persimmon growers, for the first time in the history of the industry, filled an order direct for London, England. Ice-cooled ships will keep the cargo in order during its journey through the tropical Panama Canal, the Caribbean Sea and across the wind-swept Atlantic to London's "East India" Docks and lower reaches of the Thames River (about a 25-day trip). California persimmons, not plentiful in London, will grace the windows of high class green grocers, fetch fancy prices.

Comparatively recently exploited, the demand for persimmons outside of California had to be largely exploited, created, a market built up. Local growers believe the demand in the East and elsewhere will grow when these districts become more familiar with the persimmon, even as the people of California have.

## Imperial Boosters

If it is known that a person has ready cash, it is not long before salesmen bring something to sell. At Owens Valley, where the populations of four cities are selling out to Los Angeles (News Review, Sept. 2-8), all the people have ready

cash. At Calexico, Imperial Valley boosters, knowing of the imminent sale of the Owens lands, scented possible new settlers for the Imperial district. Therefore, ambitious, they organized the Chambers of Commerce of Imperial Valley gathered together many a representative, planned a motor excursion to leave early next week for Owens Valley. Reason: The Imperial Valley men try to induce ranchers in Owens River Valley, who are selling their holdings, to invest in Imperial Valley farm lands. Chairman Bunte of the excursion explained that the trip was not a real estate scheme, but to be more in the nature of a goodwill trip, designed to interest Owens Valley farmers in the opportunities that exist in the Imperial area for profitable ranching.

## Golden Butter

Nobody ever saw a slice of bread 76,785,682 square yards square. But if someone in California were to manufacture a piece this size, there would be just enough California butter to spread over the surface of it, allowing one pound to the square yard. This immense amount of butter was churned during the last six months from the milk of thousands of California cows, a report from the State Department of Agriculture declares.

Like many another commonplace food, romance co-mingles with the history of California's butter. Imaginative persons hark back to the early days of the gold rush, when a party of few, longhorned cattle, made the hazardous journey to California from points east. And from that insignificant beginning, from that comparatively inferior stock, has developed a dairy industry in California involving approximately \$150,000,000.

Housewives today, who grudgingly take 50 or 60 cents from their too well-filled purses, would not have used butter at all in those early days, when butter was priced from \$10.00 a pound. Equipment was crude; milk was placed in shallow pans and the cream allowed to rise. Skimming was done by hand and the milk was churned in crude

boxes. Brine was used for cooling. California's first creamery was established at Ferrdale, Humboldt County, in 1882. Since the modern invention—hundreds of them—have increased butter production to its present high level; State laws insure its purity and freshness. Even with the huge growth of butter production, California has not enough for its citizens, must continually import large quantities from the east.

## Ruined Walnuts

Hard times last week descended upon at least two walnut growers' packing houses in Ventura County. Suffering one of the first setbacks in the history of the walnut industry, packing houses at Saticoy and Camarillo both were forced to close their doors to deliveries from the growers. Reason: Excessive breakage of the nuts during processing.

At Santa Paula, also, the walnut packing plant was forced to close temporarily, but last week opened its doors again, and during the week four cars of nuts went rolling away, carrying an average of twenty tons per car.

## Plentiful Valentias

"People don't eat oranges any more—they drink them," was the assertion of Manager B. A. Crawford of the Tustin Hills packing plant last week in explaining the huge demand for Valentias during the past season.

The tremendous increase in orange shipments for a single week, last fortnight, over the corresponding week of a year ago was brought to light through a report of the California Fruit Growers Association. Last week the association shipped 468 cars in the week, while last fortnight 1188 cars were shipped. Never before in the history of orange growing in California has there been such a huge crop to dis-

## W. H. Cook Used Cars

Two Locations  
1834 So. Figueroa, L. A.  
'27, '28, '29 Models—1/2 Down,  
18 Months to Pay—Buicks,  
Studebakers, Dodges, Chevrolets,  
Fords—\$395 to \$1000  
152 West Pico, L. A.  
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\$195—Terms \$4, \$5, \$7 per wk.  
Hudsons, Buicks, Chryslers,  
Jewetts, Etc.  
Low Terms—We Trade

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ADVERTISERS in the News Review Section are assured a circulation of 80,000 by Weekly and Semi-Weekly Newspapers in the Los Angeles and Orange Counties of California.

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FOR SALE: 1927 FORD TRUCK, 2 1/2 tons, long wheelbase. Rebuilt, \$600. Du. Fagel Motor Sales, 760 E. 9th St., Los Angeles.

40 ACRES Lina Beach or Walnut Land. Good record. Madding, R. 1, Box 272, Huntington Beach, Calif.

EXCHANGE: Real Estate  
We specialize in EXCHANGES. Let us match your property large or small. Real estate interests, Eastern property handled. Ernest E. Gagnon Co., 1004 W. 6th St., Los Angeles.

PENNING: CROWN FENCE CO., 890 S. Broadway, Pasadena, California. Telephone 9965.

FOR SALE—Baby Chickens  
CLOVER LEAF CHICKS assure good luck, success, satisfaction. Eastern bred, range State Accredited breeding stock used exclusively. The very best. We understand hatching large, bright, sturdy, thrifty chicks. Especially graded. Clover Leaf Hatched Rocks feather well, mature quickly. 100-500 16c. 600 up 15 1/2c. Buff Orpingtons, 100-500 16c. 600 up 15 1/2c. Large type White Leghorns, characteristic Eastern vitality, heavy livers, 100-900 15c. 1000 up 14 1/2c. Delivery charges prepaid. Send no money. We deliver collect. Immediate delivery. Reliable bank reference. To think best check CLOVER LEAF MATCHERY, Burbank, Calif.

MACHINERY: ELECTRIC MOTORS BOUGHT, sold, rented, repaired. NORTON & NORRIS, 1212 N. Broadway, Los Angeles, Calif. CAsio 0485.

BONDS: S. W. Straus Co., 541 S. Spring St., Los Angeles. R. W. Jarecki, Manager. FRANK 7022.

BONDS—STOCKS; Charles L. Egan, 7022 S. W. Straus Co., 541 S. Spring St., Los Angeles, TUCKER 5265.

## Kiko, Child of Peace, Celebrates 11th Birthday

Kiko Kato, who first saw the light of day on the morning of the 11th anniversary of the 1918-1919 influenza epidemic, celebrated his 11th birthday on Tuesday by giving a party to her teachers and playmates on the 11th anniversary of the 1918-1919 influenza epidemic. Kiko explained that her name was named for Kiko which means "Peace" in the Japanese language.

The party was held at the school and the school was decorated with an outdoor luncheon, both of which were tempting and attractive.

The teachers present were Miss Pearl Miller, Miss Florence Scott, Miss Rose Spevak, Miss Gladys Blanchard and Miss Mildred Beck. Miss Sibyl Anderson, nurse; Dr. A. Meyer, Mrs. Edna Clark, clerk and Mr. G. W. Clark, physical educator, were also present.

Kiko is the only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Kato of the Kato Brothers Produce Company of Waller, who sponsored Miss Kiko's delightful birthday party.

## Contributions for Crippled Children Are Unnecessary

Water question, crippled children, street improvements, and the Torrance zoning were among matters that came up for discussion at the semi-luncheon meeting of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce held at the Elks Club.

There is no need for anyone to contribute money for the care of crippled children, said S. S. Lancaster in answer to a query of the necessity of contributing to the support of the California Crippled Children's Association representative of this association, assisting Torrance residents in making contributions. Dr. Lancaster explained that the state Torrance two years ago passed an act authorizing the necessary for the treatment of crippled children. The problem now is to get the crippled children, Dr. Lancaster stated, as parents in many cases seem to hide a child that is crippled. If anyone will report any child that is crippled the state will pay the expenses for the treatment.

Water Problem. Engineer Frank Leonard reviewed the water situation for Torrance residents. He stated that the delay in circulating petitions was due to an indecision on the part of city officials and others interested in the water question in determining the best form that the petitions should take. However, Mr. Whyte stated that he expected in a short time and the petitions in a short time would be settled by the signatures. Wallace Gilbert said that he thought the water question was one of the most vital to the city's progress and hoped that measures could soon be taken for providing better water at a cheaper rate.

East Torrance Zoning. The Chamber of Commerce was assisting the residents of East Torrance in initiating proceedings for proper zoning in the Shoenberg Strip. Mr. Hyde explained that while this district is within the city limits of Los Angeles it was important to Torrance as well as to property owners of East Torrance that protection be provided against unsightly construction in this section.

A discussion regarding the possibility of building a new road, a 400-foot wide road, between Redondo and Cedar and IFS buildings, that this tract was badly needed for residential purposes. There is only one all-berk remaining in this district, and this has been abandoned, according to Carl Hyde.

## Divine at E. Church Sunday

Walter C. Loomis, newly appointed district superintendent of the Beach district will preach this morning. This eminent divine comes to Torrance for the first time. The pastor Rev. R. A. not only urges all Methodists to attend, but extends a hearty invitation to all citizens of Torrance. They will be glad to see this announcement and all to give him a warm welcome. Young will preach Sunday.

## Scout Troops Change Leaders and Meeting Place

Girl Scout Troop of Torrance is making a change. The senior girls who formerly met at Mrs. Miller will meet at the home of Mrs. R. R. Smith. Their day will be Tuesday from 6:30 to 8:30. The girls from the primary and junior high schools meet directly after school Wednesday afternoon with Miller in the high school. Both troops will be working at a Girl Scout house in Torrance.

## Stone Chamber Planning Dinner Saturday, 23rd

A Blumker dinner Saturday, November 23, at Boosters' hall, dinner is being given by the Torrance Chamber of Commerce and its women committee, composed of Mrs. Charles LeBoon, a program is being arranged entertainment committee, of which are Roy Berry, Mrs. Pernia Wippen and Mrs. George Nahmets.

## Legion Auxiliary Going to Bell

A large number of members of the American Legion Auxiliary from the local unit are planning to attend a meeting of the 19th district to be held tomorrow evening at 8 o'clock at the Ebell club, located at 6327 Fishburne avenue, Bell.

Those planning to make the trip are requested to get in touch with Mrs. R. E. Budge at once.

## ONE IN JAIL; OTHER HAS 3 BROKEN RIBS

Triof Mexicans Crash Into Car on Redondo Blvd.—Charged with Drinking

Angel Navarro of Pueblo, a suffering from three broken ribs and Felipe Ortega is lodged in the city jail as the result of an accident on Redondo boulevard about 7:55 Tuesday evening.

It is asserted that the two men, with Joe Cerda were coming from Redondo Beach and crashed into the rear end of a car belonging to Mrs. W. A. Barnett and parked in front of 2414 Redondo boulevard.

Navarro was treated by a doctor and taken to his home.

Ortega was charged with reckless driving, and driving while under the influence of liquor, for the given help in the county jail of the former charge and \$50 or 60 days on the latter charge. Besides this, Ortega must spend 20 days in the city jail and do hard labor for the city.

The Ford touring driven by Ortega was completely wrecked and considerable damage done to Mrs. Barnett's car.

## NATIVE SHRUBS LANDSCAPING CLASS TOPIC

Use of California Crown Products in Beautifying Homes Rouses Interest

California native shrubs and their use in beautifying the California type of home will be the topic of discussion at Mr. S. E. Merrill's landscaping class at the evening high school next Monday evening from 7 till 9.

The lecture will be illustrated by specimens of the various native shrubs. Following the talk will be a round table discussion.

This course on landscaping is both a lecture and discussion course and will offer help to many young gardeners and home builders. Each member of the class will be given help in working out his individual problem, and in this way everyone will be benefited.

Classes are open to the public, whether registered for the course or not, and everyone is especially invited to the coming lecture.

The class meets every Monday evening from 7 till 9, at the Torrance District Garden club meets, and on those evenings the classes adjourn to the Garden club meetings.

## Torrance Drug Stores Ticket Offices to East

Tickets may now be secured at the Beacon Drug Company and the Torrance Pharmacy to any point on three trans-continental stage lines and from Eastern points to Torrance and other Southern California cities, according to officials of the Motor Coach Company.

This same service is also provided on Western Air Express and Maddux Airlines. The three trans-continental stage lines represented by the Torrance drug stores are Union Pacific, Atlantic Pacific and Gateway.

## District Deputy Visits Local Lodge

District Deputy Pearl Andrews of Hermosa Beach paid an official visit to the local Bethel of Job's Daughters, last Thursday evening, accompanied by Mr. White, associate guardian of the Hermosa Beach Bethel, and the guardian secretary, also of Hermosa Beach. Refreshments were served at the close of the session.

## Auxiliary on Trip to Sawtelle

American Legion Auxiliary members will go to Sawtelle next Tuesday to spend the afternoon at bridge with the boys there. They will leave the clubhouse at 1 o'clock and take fruit and cakes with them.

Those who cannot go but desire to send fruit or cakes, may leave same at home of Mrs. Caroline Collins at 2283 Carson street.

## NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS!

TWO ISSUES A WEEK 'TIL CHRISTMAS  
Look for Your Paper Tuesday Afternoon and Early Friday Morning, Beginning Next Week

Beginning with next Tuesday, November 19, the Torrance Herald will be published twice a week until after Christmas.

This action was decided upon by the management of the Torrance Herald in order to afford local merchants and other advertisers the opportunity of advertising their Christmas stocks more frequently during the holiday period.

There will be no added cost to the subscriber. The Tuesday issue will in every sense be a regular issue of the Torrance Herald with all news content, features, and all the regular departments of the Thursday issues. During the period from now until Christmas the Herald is issued twice a week, the Thursday issue will be delivered early Friday morning, before the carrier boys attend school.

Advertising copy for the Tuesday issue will close at 5 p. m. Monday and for the Thursday issue at the usual time of 5 p. m. Wednesday.

Never have Torrance merchants offered such a variety of Christmas gifts as they have bought this year. The older stores have enlarged their stocks and many new retailers have been added to the business has been made possible by several factors. There is a growing patronage from Torrance residents as the better services become known. There are more people living in Torrance than ever before, and a wider circle of suburban trade is looking to Torrance as their trading center.

The Herald has been assured by local merchants that some exceptionally attractive holiday goods will be advertised during the next few weeks and readers are urged to watch the advertising columns for these announcements.

## RAIN - - RAIN

Makes Rain When You Want It  
Thorough even distribution of Moisture, Air, Fertilizer. Complete use of your soil. Write for Catalogue  
SKINNER IRRIGATION CO.  
232 E. 12th St., Los Angeles, WE 8034

## Materials to Build BUNGALOW \$1225

WHITING-MEAD CO.  
We have something to be proud of, and something we want you to see. It's one of the largest displays of Farm Machines ever assembled on the Coast. Be sure to see our new home.

## SOMETHING TO SHOW

in the International Harvester Building the next time you're in town. The largest repair stock in California is available here and plenty of parking space all of the time.  
FELTHOUSE & ZARLEY,  
1224 Lawrence St., Los Angeles

**BILL BARBER SAYS**

It Will Be a Scotchman Who Will Find a Way to Condense Shampoo Suds Back into Soap.

Action will be taken by the registrar against all who have neglected to register under the act, which provides a penalty of not to exceed \$500 fine or six months in jail or both for engaging in the contracting business without a license. Warning has been given by letter to those whose names appear on a list of contractors secured by the department who have not filed applications. This will be followed by a second and final warning if the first is ignored, and prosecutions will be instituted against those who remain unregistered.

**ONLY 34 DAYS 'TIL CHRISTMAS**

SHOPPING