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ISTORY OF RUBBER.

Used Rubber Balls Many Years Ago.

Years Ago.

The average man believes that rubber is rubber, just as silver is silver, and ivory is ivory, but, as a matter of fact, the different kinds of rubber run into the hundreds. Originally all rubber came from the valley of the Amazon. When it was discovered no one knows. At any rate, when the first white men visited South America they found the Indians playing with balls made from the exudation of the bark of a certain tree, and these halls differed from any the Europeans had ever seen, for they bounded and rebounded and were full of life. The Indians smeared this milk of the tree on their blankets to make them waterproof.

Two hundred years and more went by, and while many wise men believed this elastic, cohesive, impermeable

ed this elastic, cohesive, impermeable substance ought to be full of useful-ness, nobody found any way to use it to any advantage. It was so brittle in cold weather and so disposed to get soft in hot—eather. But in the fullness of time a Connecticut Yankee started to puzzle it out. It took him the better part of ten years, but he did it, and in 1839 gave the world his volcanization process—which is in use to this day. Up to that time rubber was so cheap that ships from South America sometimes used it as ballast, taking their chances of sell-ing it for what they could get in some American port. With the discovery of the vulcanization process, rubber took on a new value, and the tropics were searched for it everywhere. It was found in the vines of

where. It was found in the vines of Africa, and gutta percha, a sort of first cousin to rubber, was found in Borneo; and a few years ago a large volume of rubber was found in the Guayule shrubs of Mexico.

As rubber grew in value the chemists fell to work and devised ways of recovering it from old shoes and hose and other articles into which it entered and thus "reclaimed rubber" soon came to equal the new rubber in volume; and all these varieties found some legitimate use. Gutta percha makes unapproachable insulpercha makes unapproachable insul-ation for ocean cables. Balata, which comes from the Guianas, is famous for belting, and even "re-claimed rubber," taken from the junk heaps, serves perfectly well for flooring and mats, and other articles where resiliency is not needed

where resiliency is not needed.

For many years the best rubber was that which came from the banks was that which came from the banks of the Amazon. The people of that country enjoyed a practical monopoly and determined to keep it. Not a rubber seed would they let go out of the country under heavy penalties. But in 1876, by means of generous presents here and there, a venturesome Englishman sailed out of the Amazon with 70,000 rubber seeds, and that was the start of the great rubber plantations of Ceylon and the Malay Peninsula. It was 29 years after these seeds left the Ama-zon before the first plantation rubber was ready for the market, and then the total was only 145 tons. That was in 1905. Last year it was close to 100,000 tons.

Those who attended the Interna-tional Rubber Exhibition held in New York in the fall of 1912 will re member the difference in appearance between the Amazon rubber and the plantation product. The first, cured in the forest over smoldering palm nuts, was smoke-colored, while much of the plantation rubber from the eastern plantation cured by the scientific application of acetic acid, was as clear as amber.

Raffling a Name.

The Japanese have many quaint sustoms handed down from generation to generation. One of the customs naned down from genera-tion to generation. One of the strangest is that of their christening ceremony. When one month old a Japanese child gets its first name with ceremonial. Trumpets are blown, and the child is borne in great state to the family temple, and be-hind the procession march the house-bald coverage correspond to infortaning the procession march the nouse-hold servants carrying the infant's wardrobe. The servant in the rear of the procession bears a huge box, in which is the priest's fee, together with three slips of paper, on which three names are written. On reach-ing the temple the names are thrown into the air, and the first that touches the ground is the one which the child receives.

When three years old the child is again christened, accompanied by elaborate religious rites. At the age of 15 his education is supposed to be finished, and as he then enters man-hood (according to Japanese law) he

is again christened. When he takes to business he re-ceives his "business" name, by which he is known in the commercial world, and upon every upward step in life he receives a new name. If his master happens to have the same name he must at once change it, as it detracts from his superior's dignity. At his marriage his name is altered again, and his last and only perman ent one is that given him after death, which is written on his tomb.—Tit-

Miller's Worm Powders will eradicate Miller's Worm Powders will eradicate the worm evil that bears so heavily on children and is believed to cause many fatalities. They are an acceptable medicine to children and can be fully relied upon to clear the food channels thoroughly of these destructive parasites and restore the inflamed and painful surfaces to healthfulness. They are an accellent remedy for these cults. excellent remedy for these evils.



Free Sample



To City, Town and Village Dwellers in Ontario.

Keep hens this year

EGG and poultry prices, the like of which have seldom' or never been experienced, certainly make it worth anyone's while to start keeping hens. By doing so you have fresh eggs at the most trifling cost. At the same time you have the splendid satisfaction of knowing that' you are doing something towards helping Britain, Canada and the Allies achieve victory this year.

Increased production of food helps not only to lower the high cost of living, but it helps to increase the urgently needed surplus of Canada's food for export. It saves money otherwise spent for eggs and poultry at high prices, and saves the labor of others whose effort is needed for more vital war work.

The Ontario Department of Agriculture will give every possible assistance by affording information about poultry keeping. Write for free bulletin which tells how to keep hens (address below).

"A vegetable garden for every home"

Nothing should be overlooked in this vital year of the war. The Department earnestly invites everyone to help increase production by growing vegetables. Even the smallest plot of ground, when properly cultivated, produces a surprising amount of vegetables. Experience is not essential.

On request the Department of Agriculture will send valuable literature, free of charge, giving complete directions for preparing soil, planting, cultivation, etc. A plan of a vegetable garden, indicating suitable crop to grow, best varieties and their arrangement in the garden, will be sent free to any address.

Address letters to "Vegetable Campaign," Department of Agriculture, Parliament Buildings, Toronto

Ontario Department of Agriculture W. H. Hearst, Minister of Agriculture

Parliament Buildings

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