Says Rabbit Fever Gaining On Peninsula

Rabbit fever which no serum will prevent or cure, has increased in Maryland in the last year, Dr. Robert H. Riley, director of the State Health Department, said this week.

Thirty-one cases were reported last year eight more than in 1937. Since 1928, when tularemia was discovered in the State, more than ten per cent of the cases have resulted in death the director reported.

The disease is caused by a germ transmitted to wild game and rodents by the bite of the rabbit, wood and dog tick. The most common source of the disease in Maryland is the wild rabbit.

Thirteen of the cases last year were reported in Baltimore and the eighteen remaining cases were recorded in nine counties—Anne Arundel, Caroline, Carroll, Dorchester, Frederick, Talbot, Prince Georges, St. Marys and Washington.

Since 1928 there have been 258 cases in the city and in the counties, except Calvert, Cecil and Garrett. The disease has stricken more persons in Frederick county than in any other section of the State. In the ten-year period twenty-eight persons died, eighteen in Baltimore.

Persons contract tularemia by handling or eating infected rabbits. The germ may enter the skin even if there is no break in it, Dr. Riley explained. He continued:

"In Washington county a few summers ago two boys developed tularemia in July. They captured a rabbit with their hands and cut it up for bait while fishing. Our records show that one case was due to the bite of a blood-sucking fly. Many other cases resulted from the skinning and cleaning of rabbits.

"While tularemia does not represent a major health problem in Maryland, nevertheless it causes a great deal of unnecessary sickness and deaths which might have been prevented if certain precautions recommended by the health department had been heeded.

"A single attack of tularemia invariably protects against a second attack. In Maryland there has been no record of a second attack . . . First signs of the disease are headache, chilliness, vomiting, pains and fever. These occur about three days after exposure to infection."

Hm-m!

Suitor (to prospective father-in-law): "I'd like to have your daughter's hand, sir."

Prospective Father-in-Law, "What is your profession, young man?"

Suitor: "Why, I'm an actor, sir."

Prospective Father in Law: (irately) "Well, get out before the foot lights." —Wall Street Journal.

IT'S TRUE!

By Wiley Padan

New York, N. Y.—"IT'S TRUE! that Charley Grapewin has written four novels...all published," says Wiley Padan..."Alan Curtis once actually drove midget racers in competition . . . Truman Bradley was given a screen test at the recommendation of Norma Shearer . . . Ruth Hussey was a fashion commentator before she became an actress . . ."

BOYS REACH HAITI ON WORLD CRUISE

Two Massachusetts youths with a home-made ketch and plenty of time on their hands recently reached Port au Prince on a voyage which is calculated to take them around the world in another year and a half. So far they have traveled 1,735 nautical miles from Rockport, Mass., since early November.

Russell and Sherman Woodfall, 24 and 22 years old, brothers of Braintree, Mass., had never even been on a sailboat four years ago when they happened to read the account of some one else's trip around the globe in a homemade ketch. Russell was a student at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Sherman was just out of high school. They conceived the name Volita for their boat and set about earning money to build it.

It has required the intervening four years to earn the $3,600 which the Volita's materials cost and to set up a stake for the trip's expenses. The craft was built in the Woodfall back yard, not without a certain amount of jeering from the neighbors.

But finally she was launched—thirty-five feet over all, a sail area of 750 square feet, a square sail for use before the wind and an auxiliary motor, which so far has been employed only for navigation within harbors. The Volita has a beam of 9 feet 6 inches, draft of 5 feet 9 inches and 13 tons' displacement.

In Dorchester Gardens

An excellent source of materials quite generally overlooked for use in making winter arrangements is the utilization of clippings from the foliage of house plants, or from the various evergreen shrubs and plants in the garden.

The average window garden will offer a great variation for such arrangements, not only in form of materials but in color and texture. There are the thick, beautifully marked, elliptical leaves of the cyclamen, the brilliantly colored coleus varieties, the dark, lustrous green of English ivy; the various geraniums, with their pungent odors; the many types of begonias; fronds cut from ferns, Wandering Jew; bits of grape ivy; the interestingly veined fittonia; and the slender foliage of the anthericum—to mention only a few of the many plants suited for use in foliage arrangements.

The clippings may be taken where their loss will least be noticed. Often the plants benefit by such a judicious pruning, which keeps them more compact and neat in their growth. As little as one leaf from a plant and a short spray clipped from another may provide an interesting foundation for a foliage arrangement.

Clippings can be arranged in low bowls partly filled with wet sand, where many of them will take root and thus supply additional plants for future arrangements. With the use of a little imagination and a few trials, arrangements will result which are both original and attractive.

The Chinese, who have long considered flower arrangement a fineart, discovered that flowers were not essential for a pleasing effect. They use the branches of evergreens or other foliage to compose their pictures, carefully pruning out all growth considered superfluous. The restraint of these arrangements gives a restful effect because of the absence of flowers of vivid coloring. It is possible to create interesting line arrangements in the Chinese manner with foliage cut from indoor plants.

Charming miniature arrangements may be made of foliage only. Sprigs of the miniature leaved ivies, leaves of oxalis, the smaller leaved coleus or bits of fern fronds may be worked into pleasing combinations.

Any observant person will find materials to form compositions with beauty of line and variety of texture in clippings from both deciduous and evergreen trees, shrubs and garden plants. A single branch of White Pine, with its soft, silvery-green needles, in a suitable container, casts a pleasing silhouette against a plain wall, and adds fragrance to a room. All the pines are effective—some with short needles and fat cones; others with long needles and slender cones.

Hemlock branches, with their delicate cones, add much to the attractiveness of a decoration. When using hemlock, the branches of which have a 'right' and 'wrong' side, it is well to keep in mind that materials are most attractive when arranged in a natural position.

Leucothe, with the bronze of its winter foliage, will add accent to any arrangement in which it is used. Andromeda or pieris is another useful and broad leaved evergreen, with the added beauty of its greenish-white flower buds, which remain on the plant throughout the winter months. If the foliage from mahonia is obtainable, this too is of great value in winter arrangements.

There are a great many other evergreen trees and shrubs from which a few clippings can be made and utilized in indoor decorations. The spruces, firs, balsam, arborvitae, junipers, rhododendronss, laurel, cotoneaster and firethorn are a few suggestions of what is available in many a home garden. In addition there are evergreen plants in the rock garden or herb collection which may be used in arrangements, bringing a spicy odor into the home.

Political Pie

Jackie: Daddy, you just said a lot of successful candidates would soon be eating political pie. What is political pie?

Dad: Well, son, it's composed of applesauce and plums.

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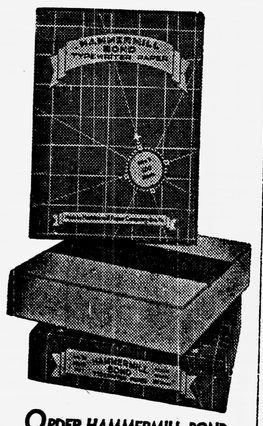

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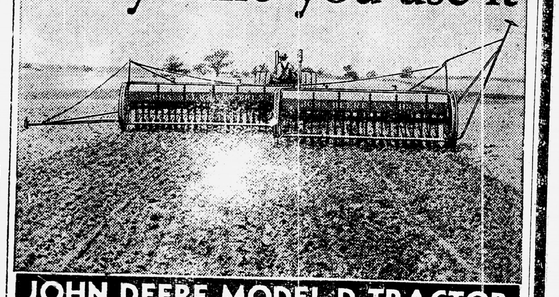

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