

Dewberries and blackberries are very similar fruits and are practically the same botanically. The dewberry is a trailing blackberry, unable to stand erect because of its less woody stem.

#### SUPPOSED COMET A MINOR PLANET

The Tempel-Swift comet is still far away from the earth, and the object sighted on June 28 by M. Delporte, a European astronomer, and supposed to be the comet, is in reality a tiny planet, Amphitrite, which has been known to astronomers for many years. This statement was made by Dr. Edwin B. Frost, director of the Yerkes Observatory, as a result of photographs made of the object by Dr. George Van Biesbroeck of the observatory staff.

"Delporte probably photographed the moving object while searching for the Tempel-Swift comet," said Dr. Frost. "Later computations which we have received from England, however, indicate that perturbations by Jupiter will delay the return of that comet until next year."

#### CENSUS SHOWS MANY TYPES OF INSANITY CURABLE

That nearly fourteen out of every hundred patients admitted to hospitals for mental diseases recover, and that more women are cured than men, is shown by an investigation of all hospitals for mental diseases in the United States which the Federal Census Bureau has just completed. The recovery rate for insanity due to drugs was about forty-three for every hundred cases, the highest recovery rate of any type of insanity. Next comes alcoholic insanity with thirty eight and a half of all cases curable. Women recover twice as often as men do from insanity due to physical injuries, but they should stay away from alcohol, for only thirty women recover from alcoholic insanity to forty men. The most hopeless of all types of insanity is general paralysis or paresis, of which only five out of a thousand recover.

#### YEAR'S SECOND SOLAR ECLIPSE

The second eclipse of the sun during 1925 occurred July 20-21, but unlike its now historic predecessor last January which was observed by millions of people, those who saw the second one could probably be numbered in the hundreds. Scientists did not travel to see it, for it is what astronomers call an annular eclipse, and scientifically of slight value.

The apparent diameter of the moon, as seen by earth dwellers varies slightly. When nearest the earth, it appears larger, and when an eclipse occurs at such a time, the sun is completely obscured and the eclipse is total. However, when the moon is at its greatest distance from the earth, and then comes between the earth and the sun, that orb is not completely covered, and a brilliant ring of light, called the annulus, is seen around the dark disc of the moon.

The annulus can only be seen over a narrow strip of the earth's surface, which corresponds to the path of totality for a total eclipse. In the recent eclipse this path was about 180 miles wide and extended from a point between Australia and New Zealand across the southern Pacific Ocean, ending several hundred miles west of the southern end of South America. The only land crossed was

the northern tip of New Zealand and a few small islands. A curious feature of this path was that it crossed the International Date Line, where it is Tuesday on the west side and Monday on the east. On this account the eclipse began Tuesday, July 21, and ended Monday, July 20, apparently the day before it started.

As the outer rim of the sun that remains visible is so bright, the corona, the chief feature of a total eclipse, to see which astronomers often travel great distances, was not visible.

---

#### ARE WE FISHING THE OCEAN EMPTY?

By Lewis Radcliffe,  
Deputy Commissioner, U.S. Bureau of Fisheries.

We have cut down almost all of our forests, and killed almost all of the wild game they once sheltered. We are rapidly exhausting the fertility of our soil, and emptying our mines and oil wells. Will we do the same to the food resources of the sea? Many look upon the sea as a vast untapped storehouse of food. While it is not as barren as it looks, its supplies are by no means inexhaustible as some would have us believe. This has been quite forcefully demonstrated in the fisheries of the North Sea, Iceland and other areas. From 1906 to 1913, the average catch of a British trawler per day's absence from port ranged between 1,837 - 2,027 pounds. As a result of the restrictions on fishing operations during the Great War, the fisheries were afforded an opportunity to recuperate. With the renewal of operations in 1919, the average daily catch increased to 3,483 pounds, or 80 per cent. greater than the pre-war average. In 1921 it had declined to 2,173 pounds, and in 1923 to 1,568 pounds. Thus within a five-year period of fishing, the increment gained during a five-year closed season was wiped out and new low levels reached. The record of British trawlers operating in Iceland waters is similar. The average daily catch per day's absence for the years 1906-1913 ranged within the limits of 4,883 and 5,376 pounds. In 1919, it increased to 7,638 pounds, falling to 4,872 pounds in 1923.

The story of Dutch trawlers operating in the North Sea is corroborative. In 1905 the average catch per voyage day was 1,965 pounds; in 1913, 1,738 pounds in 1918, 5,744 pounds; and in 1923, 1,723 pounds.

As a result of the impoverishment of the nearby fishing banks, the present trend is to build larger fishing vessels, capable of making longer voyages. No less than thirty such vessels are being built at Hull, England. The White Sea is being drawn upon, and several expeditions have been sent to Greenland waters, even as far as Davis strait, to ascertain the abundance of fishes. The great numbers of fishes found in these areas will undoubtedly lead to their exploitation.

African fisheries are also being exploited on a much larger scale than ever before. This depletion of certain areas and expansion of operations emphasizes the need of extensive studies of the life histories and habits of the important marine fishes to prevent their ultimate exhaustion. Fortunately the nations are beginning to realize the importance of such work and to expand their program of scientific research.

---