

stretches of our country, the choicest roses cannot be grown successfully out of doors without the most elaborate kind of protection in winter. And summer drought is often just as unkind to them.

Fortunately, these lands of hard winter do not need to be without their roses. They have wild roses of their own, that are worthy of places in anybody's gar-

den; and there are simpler roses in cultivation, too, that can withstand even a Dakota winter. To many persons, these simpler roses have a stronger esthetic appeal than the richly doubled ones, because their flowers without stamens and carpels being diverted into extra petals, are more natural and normal.

Science News Letter, May 30, 1942

that place predicted by English astronomer Cripps (not Sir Stafford).

Amateur astronomers may want to look for comet Grigg-Skjellerup, which Kanda reported to be 10th magnitude on May 9. It is moving rapidly through the southeastern part of Gemini in a northeasterly direction. Predicted position is:

June 2. right ascension 8 hours 53 minutes, declination 25 degrees 15 minutes north.

Science News Letter, May 30, 1942

ASTRONOMY

International Cooperation In Reporting Returning Comet

By CHARLES A. FEDERER, Jr.

Harvard College Observatory

A COMET whose terrestrial history is more significant than its celestial record has returned to our evening skies, bringing with it an example of the results of international coordination among scientists in spite of wartime hates and horrors.

"Pure science knows no international barriers" is a statement made by modern scientists, but often its truth is belied by the serious facts of war.

But the heavens are still free hunting-grounds for all men, and friend and foe alike coordinate their efforts in tracking down its vagabonds, chief of which are the ever-mysterious comets. Latest wanderer into our embroiled part of the solar system is what astronomers prosaically call "periodic comet Grigg-Skjellerup."

According to Dr. Harlow Shapley, director of Harvard College Observatory, the new visitor might well be called the international salesman of the sky, for it represents first New Zealand, then Finland, then England, Belgium, the United States, Sweden, Denmark, and last, but not least, Japan. No two countries figure twice in its history, which begins with its discovery by New Zealander Grigg in 1902.

The latest re-discovery of comet Grigg-Skjellerup has been made by a Japanese astronomer, S. Kanda, our information coming in the form of a cable from Lund, Sweden, where it had been received from Copenhagen, Denmark, which had gotten the news from Japan. (In the past year, Lund has replaced Copenhagen as a clearing house for European and Asiatic information.)

However, Kanda's observation was no news to American astronomers, as the Belgian-American, Dr. George Van Biesbroeck, at the University of Chi-

cago's Yerkes Observatory, had already seen the comet on April 11. Dr. Shapley stated that announcement of this failed to reach Lund, as cablegrams and radiograms cannot go through, and Harvard's regular announcement cards, sent by mail, are apparently still in transit.

Finland enters this comet's history in 1922, when Skjellerup re-discovered it; after that it was seen in 1927 and at five-year intervals. Its return this year was therefore expected, and the position reported by Kanda is almost exactly at

PUBLIC HEALTH

Pellagra, Disease of South, Found in the North

PELLAGRA, dread vitamin-deficiency disease once thought limited to the South, has been found in Northern communities, and probably exists throughout the world. One to two out of a hundred patients admitted to two Ohio hospitals had this illness. This is the conclusion of Dr. William Bennett Bean, Dr. Tom Douglas Spies and Dr. Marion A. Blankenhorn of Cincinnati (*Journal, American Medical Association*, April 4).

The three Ohio physicians found 111 victims of pellagra in Lakeside Hospital, Cleveland, and 128 in Cincinnati Gen-



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