
NATURE RAMBLINGS

By FRANK THONE



Azalea

Lovers of the fine flowering shrubs that are native to American woods sometimes complain that Americans do not show a proper appreciation of their own good things when they send to Europe and Asia for ornamental plantings for their lawns and parks. But so far as one genus is concerned, that which takes in the azaleas, they have no just cause for complaint. The azaleas have conquered for themselves a favored place on the planting lists of those who know, and in all parts of the country where soil conditions will permit their growth, home and public shrubberies are bright with azaleas now.

Azaleas can be found in all ranges of colors, from delicately pink-tinged white to strong, bright red, and there is one species that has the startling color of flame. This is one of the shrubs that seems to like the ancient mountain spine of the Eastern United States, for its natural range is limited to the woods of Southern New York, and thence up the mountain slopes from Pennsylvania to Georgia. But its bold color scheme has caused people to carry it far and wide, for use wherever a sudden note in strong hue is appropriate among the milder expressions of the rest of the flowers.

Azaleas have as wide a choice in their places of habitat as they have in the color of their petals, for some of them are found only on the rock ledges of the mountains, some in the woods, and one species makes glad the gloomy shades of Southern swamps. This, of course, is again an advantage from the cultivator's point of view, for it means that an azalea can be found for successful planting in practically any kind of ground.

The oldest proof of iron in Egypt was found in the grave of the Pharaoh Tutankhamen.



and a new era of Science was born

ANTON VAN LEEUWENHOCK, the Dutch janitor who astonished the scientific world of some three hundred years ago, was the first man to see an entirely new type of life form.

By means of a crude, simple microscope he demonstrated that living organisms of a kind up to that time quite unknown were to be found in putrifying fluids, saliva and other similar media.

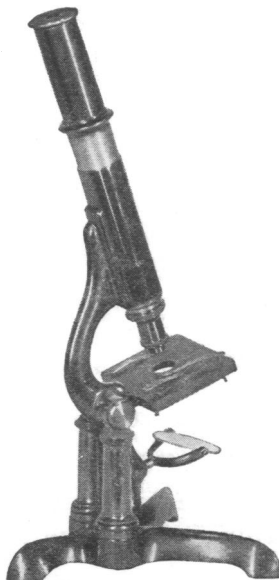
His discovery opened the gates to other discoveries which have proved to be of primary importance to the knowledge and well being of the race. It influenced and made possible the work of such men as Pasteur.

In 1875 the first American microscope was produced by the Bausch & Lomb Optical Company. The progress of the sciences which make use of the microscope has steadily increased until today this instrument is to be found not only in medical and scientific laboratories, but also it is being extensively used in the world of industry.

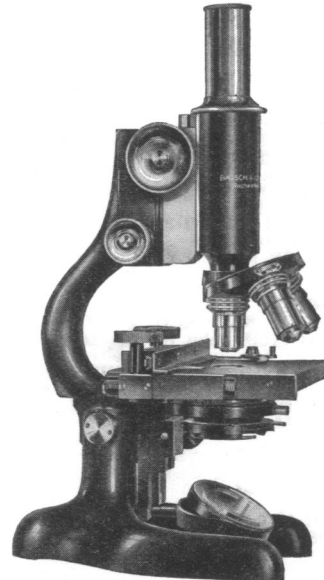
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tried - out improvement is adopted and its instruments are complete and practical in every respect.

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