

INDUSTRIES, NOT FIREWORKS TO BLAME FOR EYE ACCIDENTS

Fourth of July accidents are responsible for 200 of the 4,456 accidents in which the eyesight of man, women, and children has been destroyed or seriously injured during the past year is the report of the investigation made by the National Committee for the prevention of Blindness. Industrial accidents account for 85 per cent. of the victims.

Twenty-five per cent. of the total are children who become blind through play accidents and automobile accidents.

BRITISH PORT BIDS FOR INCREASED TRAFFIC

Thirteen million pounds have been set aside by the Southern Railway company of England to extend new works at Southampton in order to attract increased traffic to the port. Work will begin at the end of the year on the reclamation project when two large jetties, 1,000 feet long, will be begun. It is estimated that it will take five years to complete the work which will provide for five 1,000 foot jetties with sites reserved for additional ones.

SKIN COLOR AND SIZE INHERITED TOGETHER

Given a big, clear skinned tomato and a small, yellow skinned tomato, how can you get a small, clear skinned tomato?

This problem is bothering research specialists at the University of Iowa because they have found a strong tendency for skin color and size to travel together. This represents one of the most frequent stumbling blocks in the production of new varieties.

Suppose that a big, clear skinned tomato and a small yellow skinned tomato are used as parents. Among the grandchildren of this pair there will be big, clear skinned tomatoes and small, yellow skinned ones, resembling the grandparents. Real small clear skinned individuals would be very infrequent or entirely missing. The combinations of size and color present in the original grandparents are still present in the grandchildren. This is what the scientists call linkage. Novelties are possible because of the ease, so frequently encountered, with which the traits that compose plants or animals are separated from one another, shuffled up and dealt out in new combinations in the course of reproduction. Linkage balks this easy shuffling up of characters.

FRENCH ARMY PLANE FITTED WITH ELEVATOR

An airplane fitted with an elevator is being constructed for the French army. This will be used by the gunner in charge of two batteries of machine guns, one at the top and the other at the bottom of the fuselage. The machine is a giant bomber. Should an attack come from above the gunner simply lifts himself by means of the elevator and gets in position to man the top guns. When an attack comes from below he can lower himself the same way.