



Soothes Sore Throats

You can't always find time to gargle or paint a sore throat regularly—but you CAN be sure of soothing relief by taking Nyal Iodised Throat Tablets. Containing pure iodine in a pleasant-tasting form, Nyal Iodised Throat Tablets soothe inflammation and help check the spread of infection. Two sizes, 35 tablets 1/2, 60 tablets 1/8—all chemists. Made by Nyal Co. (N.Z.) Ltd., 153 Albert Street, Auckland.

NYAL Iodised Throat Tablets

Scientists and Farmers

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in. They have seeds of 70,000 kinds of crops, including the largest collection of wheats ever brought together anywhere. When Leningrad was besieged, a small band of scientists, led by a woman—Dr. Pantileeva—kept guard over these collections. There was no heat in the building. It was damaged by bombs and shell-blast; but this rear-guard of scientists used to stay in the building to protect the collections against robbery and fire.

Vavilov's Expeditions

This Institute of Plant Industry is the headquarters from which plant-hunting expeditions have been sent to all parts of the world. The inspiration for these expeditions was, up to 1940, a man named Vavilov. He was an intellectual giant. He had the effect of stirring up everyone he met into intense activity. He could make the dulllest job into an exciting adventure. He slept about four hours a night, and for the rest of the time he worked, talked, and laughed. When the Soviet Government put him in charge of plant breeding he threw himself into the organisation of a 20th Century Odyssey, to hunt the world to find the cradles of agriculture—the

places where our crop plants originated. He sent out expeditions in the grand manner. He liked to have 100 men in the field at once. He used aeroplanes, motor boats, camels. He stayed in regions long enough to pick up some of the language and the folk-lore of the people. He spoke English, French, German, and two or three oriental languages, fluently.

From the data collected on his expeditions Vavilov made his greatest contribution to science; his work on the origin and distribution of wheat. He found that the earliest farmers developed wheat from its wild plant ancestors in two parts of the world independently: soft wheat (the sort you grow here) came from the mountains of Kashmir; hard wheat (the sort macaroni is made of) came from Abyssinia. At Pushkin, near Leningrad, Vavilov's staff grew every year thousands of varieties of wheat, and by hybridising them produced many new varieties suitable for the Russian climate.

Tragic Ending

Vavilov's leadership in science was so outstanding that he was made a foreign member of the Royal Society of London; but his life ended in tragedy. In the late 'thirties a terrific argument broke out in Russia over the science of heredity. It got into the papers and stirred up all sorts of people. A man called Lysenko, whose contributions to science are quite negligible, came out with the view that the principles by which heredity is studied all over the world are wrong principles, and contrary to Marxian philosophy. Lysenko proposed another set of principles, which are contrary to the facts as we know them. In the ordinary way this sort of nonsense in science is soon rubbed out, but Lysenko got a strong following because he had worked himself into a position of great influence through his political affiliations and his services to agriculture. Vavilov, who was a great fighter (if he'd been a New Zealander you would have suspected a bit of Irish in his blood), led the campaign of all honest biologists to ridicule Lysenko's views. And his ridicule, like everything else he did, had the touch of genius. But it was ineffective. If you look at the 1940 issues of the journal published by Vavilov's institute, you find that Vavilov's name has gone from the title page in the second number. In the third and successive numbers Lysenko's name is frequently quoted as an authority. By 1941 Vavilov had disappeared. He was never heard of again, and it is believed on good evidence that he died in prison in 1942.

Attitude of Scientists

I think you should know that this sort of thing is still apt to happen in Russia—just as it used to in the days of the Czars; but it should not blind us to the fact that side by side with this there is a great deal of excellent agricultural research, which we would do well to follow very closely. I wish I had time to tell you something of Soviet medicine and Soviet chemical industry; but it is getting late, and I must try to sum up these three talks.

I did not meet a single scientist in Russia who was hostile, suspicious, or unwilling to talk, provided he had official permission to meet me. Among scientists there I found the greatest sin-

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What a friend! If YOU have INDIGESTION

When food lies like lead on your stomach and after-meal pains take all the pleasure out of eating, you need help. And what a friend in need is the sky-blue canister of De Witt's Antacid Powder. Immediate relief from pain ... stomach soothed and settled ... discomfort disappears ... what a relief!

De Witt's Antacid Powder neutralises excess gastric acidity so quickly that even after one dose you may feel the pain dispersing and your sour, disturbed stomach beginning to settle down. Such speedy relief is a godsend, but De Witt's Antacid Powder does more than ease immediate distress. It soothes and protects the inflamed



stomach lining, so that your next meal will not further irritate an upset digestive system. For that reason the prompt help of De Witt's Antacid Powder often prevents simple digestive upsets from developing into chronic dyspepsia.

So, if indigestion is making you turn from the very sight of food ... if you are always wondering dare I risk it? before eating the things you like ... surely it's time you turned to De Witt's Antacid Powder for the help you so obviously need? Get the sky-blue tin from your chemist.

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