

many weeks, shipping off seeds and specimens. Then when the heat gets too intense, I may move up to some quiet place on the coast of Shantung and work up the herbarium specimens I have collected these past 18 months. When chestnuts commence to come in by the end of September or early October, I may purchase several hundreds of pounds and ship them, and possibly seeds of *Pyrus ussuriensis* might be brought to us. I shall now try to answer various items which your many letters contain:-

"Your item of putting 300 acres in soy beans at Yarrow interests me greatly. It shows how food supplies slowly crowd out mere ornamental propositions.

"Concerning my giving you a careful analysis of Chinese food situations - Well, as you realize, China is a big land and feeding the multitudes presents problems that are at times purely local. As a whole, however, I can say that from my personal observations I can testify that here in Central China, rice forms three-fourths of the total amount of food the ordinary people take in; meat and fish supply a mere fraction and the rest is taken in the form of beans, peas, lotus-rhizomes, various roots and tubers and in leafy vegetables, the last in bulk often looking predominant, but being only coarse matter, really amount to a small percentage of the total.

"Concerning Dr. McCollum's idea that leafy green vegetables are essential in the human diet, well, this is a mooted question. The Russians at large use but few leafy herbs and thousands of cowboys, especially in the Argentine, live on an almost pure meat diet. Of all the leafy greens, the Chinese love especially those belonging to the cabbage and mustard group; it seems that the race has found out that they supply some essential factors. Spinach also is in great demand but it is a much dearer vegetable than various cabbages.

"Concerning Chinese substitutes for dairy products, well, the 101 different manufactures of the soy bean supply this protein, but I must admit that it will take some time for the white races to acquire a taste for the very large majority of these products. We are still at it, but being without an interpreter I don't find out as much as I would like.

"I am glad to notice your statement regarding the Feitcheng peach. And having come true from seed certainly surprises me.