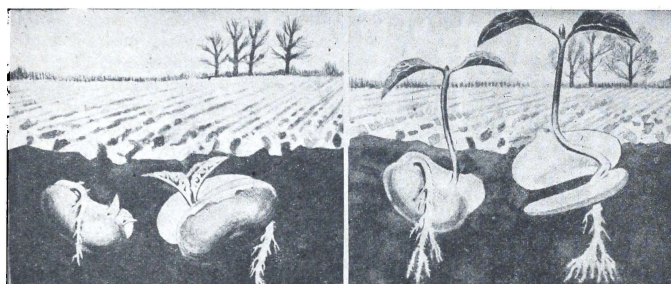


ELEMENTARY SCIENCE SECTION**THE HUMBLE BEAN***The Seed Bean Beginning to Grow.**The root always goes downward and the leaves always go upward.*

THE BEAN, humble though it may be, is one of the most valuable of garden vegetables, for beans furnish nutriment at a lower price than any other of the staple foods of the world, even rice and wheat. Many varieties of beans are grown throughout the world, forming a large part of the food of the human family. They are so rich in protein that in a measure they can be used to replace meat in our diet.

Bean is a name given to several kinds of leguminous (pod-bearing) seeds and the plants producing them. Probably they originally belonged to Asia.

Beans were believed by some of the ancients to contain the souls of their ancestors, and Pythagoras, a Greek philosopher born about 582 B. C., would not eat beans for that reason. One of the bean family still retains the name of the Pythagorean bean.

Beans were introduced by the Moors into Spain, whence they came to France

and later to England. It is possible they were brought to Britain by the Romans. The Spaniards probably brought beans to the Philippines, although there are native varieties growing in different provinces which may have come from China or some other part of Asia.

Bean plants are annuals, grown as low bushes or vines from the seed. They have clusters of creamy butterfly-shaped flowers which are followed by pods, usually from two to eight inches long, containing the seeds or beans. One variety has pods as long as a man's arm. The beans in the pod vary in size and color, often being beautifully marked with contrasting hues.

One of the best known beans is the white navy bean which may be bought in any good grocery store. It is one of more than 150 varieties of the kidney bean, the original stock of which is thought to have come from South America. This

(Please turn to page 77.)

THE HUMBLE BEAN

(Continued from page 63)

species also includes many varieties of wax and string beans, eaten green with the pods, or shelled and dried.

The lima bean also came from South America. It has large flat beans in a broad pod that grows on either a bush or a vine. The pod is not edible, but the seed is eaten both green and dried.

Soy beans are the common beans of China, Japan, India, and the Orient, where they are an important item in the diet of the inhabitants who eat much rice. Soy beans are not eaten as a vegetable, but are prepared in a great variety of complex forms.

The common bean of Europe is the broad bean which has been used as a food since remotest times.

Beans are prepared for use in a number of ways. Enormous quantities are ripened, shelled, and dried. Dried beans are also cooked, seasoned ready for the table, and canned as baked beans. String beans, and shelled green lima beans are also canned.

SOMETHING TO DO

Tell as much as you can about the bean after you have studied this article.

ASPHALT

(Continued from page 64)

from underground sources. This lake, the world's largest supply of relatively pure asphalt, occupies more than 137 acres with a maximum depth of more than 175 feet.

CHALK

(Continued from page 64)

tions.

In color chalk is usually white or whitish, and is composed chiefly of carbonate of lime.

When chalk is mixed with some other substances, it becomes the crayons which we use in school.

AMBER

(Continued from page 64)

Amber is usually found in small pieces but some lumps weighing 15 or 18 pounds have been found.

Amber, which is expensive, is used chiefly for the mouthpieces of pipes, for beads, and for other ornaments.

REVIEW

1. Tell all you can about asphalt.
2. Tell all you can about chalk.
3. Tell all you can about amber.

KAPTAIN KIDD

(Continued from page 76)

3. Here is a list of the big words in this story and their meanings. Can you memorize these?

unconcernedly, not caring

brazenly, without shame
prodigious, big

stalks, walks

surreptitiously, slyly

lopped, dropped or hung

back

ceremoniously, with

great display or show

immaculate, very clean

achieved, secured

overtures, offers

fastidiously, daintily

mangy, mean

phenomenon, unusual

happening

worsted, defeated

primly, in a very polite

manner

apologetically, as if asking

pardon

accusingly, as if blaming

gyrating, moving

promenaded, walked

minute, small

accomplishment, something well done

4. What have you learned from Kaptain Kidd?

5. Why did the children like Kaptain Kidd?

6. Do you think Kaptain Kidd would ever learn to say h-ow?

7. Why did he learn the other three "words"?