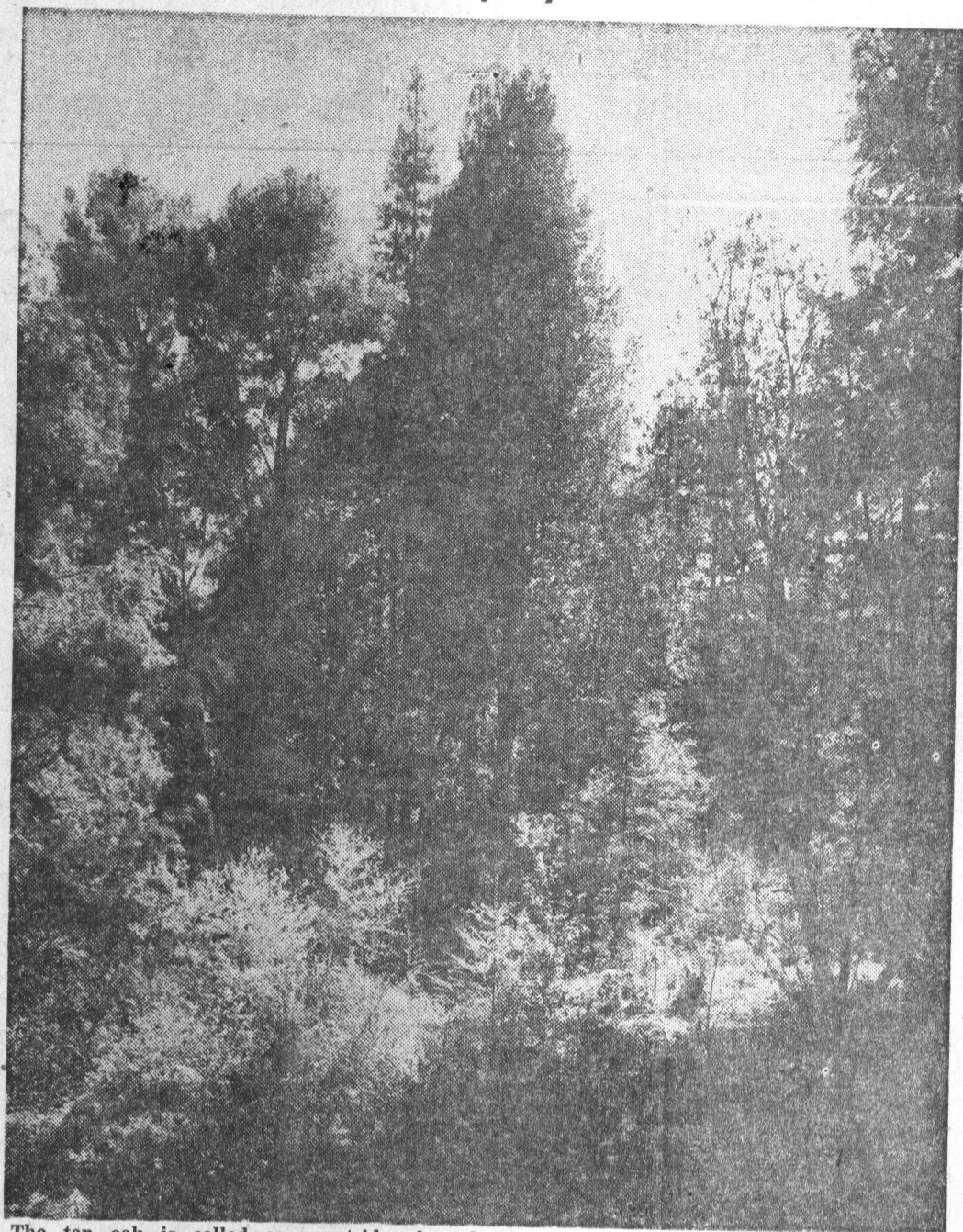


Tan Oak Likes Company Of Other Trees



The tan oak is called an admirable hardwood tree. Here it is shown in the center of the picture with its tall, dense crown and thick foliage. It is very difficult to find a tan oak

outside of a cluster of trees. Gordon Lyon took this shot on the William Fetherston property behind Tanglewood near Felton.

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These Are Leaves Af Tan Oak



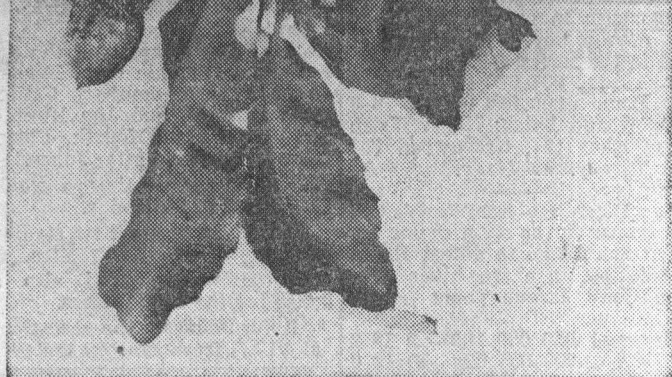
Leaves of the tan oak are large, rather heavy and leathery. Evergreen, they are from three to five inches long. They

are light green in color. The acorns come alone or in pairs with prickly caps. The nuts are an inch long and fat.

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Tan Oak Plays Important Role In County's Leather Industry

Editor's note: This is the last in a series of articles on the trees growing wild in Santa Cruz county.

By Wally Trabing

The tan oak (*lithocarpus densiflorus*) is a very important tree to the leather industry of this area. The bark is used in processing hides.

It grows from the southern coast of Oregon through California to San Luis Obispo county where redwoods are found. It nestles among other trees, particularly redwoods, and is seldom found growing alone.

The flowers stick up like white candles when it blooms. The tree has an appearance very unlike an oak, rising tall into the air with a long, narrow crown at the peak.

The tree is found in many cases to grow 70 to 80 feet high and sometimes to 150 feet. Powerful roots spread out over the ground to take a mighty grip for the powerful structure above.

The tannin content of the bark makes it important in the tanning industry. In most areas, however, the tan bark is imported from foreign countries.

Its wood is hard and is good for furniture making, but it is not heavy enough in growth to log profitably. Indians formerly used the acorn to make flour and mush. They called it the squaw oak. Other names attrib-

uted to the tan oak are chestnut, peach, burr and sovereign oak. It sometimes lives for 500 years.

Library Books Are Reviewed

How-to-do-it books are the subject of Miss Elizabeth Barnes' short reviews this week. All are available at the Santa Cruz public library.

"Atoms In The Family," by Laura Fermi. A biography of the man who was the leader of the research team which brought the first self-sustaining chain reaction which led to the atomic bomb.

"Minerals For Atomic Energy," by Robert D. Nininger. A handbook covering the geology and identification of these minerals and the tools, equipment and methods to use in prospecting.

"Uranium," by Paul D. Proctor and others.

"How To Get Land From Uncle Sam," by Harry Kursh. How to buy or rent land from the government.

"How To Build Children's Toys And Furniture," by Norman Cherner. On suiting toys and furniture to children and making them at home.

"Color Harmony," by Sterling McDonald. An excellent book on using and combining colors.

"Package Design," by Ladislav Sutnar. This book shows how a package most effectively can meet the needs of new sales ob-