

Then woman is perverse, and just as soon as it is not necessary for her to marry either for position or a home she is more apt to marry. No free-born American female likes to feel that she must get married in order to get a home. If that is the real reason for matrimony her mate is likely sooner or later to regret the necessity which drove his wife toward him. If the woman cannot take it out of fate she will out of the nearest individual who is prohibited by the code and by law from striking back. When woman can do exactly as she pleases, when there is no material or social reason why she should get married unless her free heart and judgment imperatively designate her mate, there will be many more happy and permanent marriages.

All that Professor Munsterberg has to say about woman, our school system, about democracy and about the difference between Germans and Americans is very interesting. "American Traits" has the prime quality of interest. Then the author has an untrammeled and original mind. His criticisms are sound and will be received by the candid mind in the spirit in which they are offered. It seems to me that like all professional scholars, he overestimates the value of scholarship. He thinks professors should be set on a little eminence all by themselves as they are in Germany, and should be accorded larger salaries and greater social deference than they receive in America. This is not so clear. It is hard enough as it is to maintain our consciousness of an equal calling and service to the state in the presence of a man who makes books or original investigation his lifework. The attitude of teaching gradually infects a man's attitude toward the world and he comes to think on a dais. Certainly the people in this country are not contributory to that state of mind. In Boston, perhaps, but Boston is no longer an American city.

Lives of the Hunted

On the cover of Mr. Ernest Seton-Thompson's book, "The Lives of the Hunted," there is a picture of a row of six trees. On the dense foliage of the trees a large eye is stamped, and near it a hand with index and little fingers pointing to the eye. Beneath and between the large boles of the trees are five four-legged animals: a dog, a coyote, a bear, a ram and a deer. An artist like Mr. Thompson could not have permitted himself the banality of a hand applied to a tree pointing to a large rayed eye unless he had a strong reason for it. It is said that no man has a right to add to the large number of books in the world if he has not a message to mankind that the swarm must hear soon or suffer great inconvenience and perhaps death. There are too many books on groaning shelves now; and no matter what literary or artistic message clamors for utterance, it is not enough that a man can say more gracefully what has once been said. Unless he has been on the mountain and seen a burning bush let him keep still and read the message that the faltering, tongue-tied Moses who has seen the bush, has already delivered.

No one can read Mr. Seton-Thompson's books without being convinced that he has a message to mankind from the dog, the wolf, the coyote and the bear. The eye that the author has so daringly placed on the cover of his newest book is his reason for writing. To show man that the holy passion of maternity the old masters labored to portray stimulates the little foxes to surprising interpretations of man's artifices to catch them, and that all the animals adapted themselves to man's new inventions and finally to show that the Creator loves man and beast, and has not made the animals for man any more than he has made man for the animals, is Mr. Thompson's message. For its graceful delivery he has chosen to illuminate the wide pages on which his stories are printed with spirited sketches of wild animals or their tracks or parts of their wide-awake flexible little bodies.

Sometimes when a truthful man is talking about the intellectual processes

of his favorite horse the stories are so marvellous that much must be accredited to favoritism and the owner's unconsciously strong interpretative imagination. It is necessary to remember when Mr. Seton-Thompson is telling about a favorite coyote, deer or mustang that he is a lover describing the miraculous beauties and clevernesses of his mistress. Yet if all the world beheld beauty with a lover's eye the blazzy dwellers in a weary sphere would see beauty that is always near and be the better for the sight. The story that reveals the human love and unselfish care of a little fox for her litter widens our sympathy and deepens our sense of kinship to the world of animals. At any rate that animals think and love to a certain degree is true. The old idea that animals were governed entirely by instinct or an unconscious, mechanical process conferred upon them instead of a mind by their Creator, is no longer a tenet of our instruction to children.

"Krag," the Kootenay ram, with his herd of ewes was chased by a small pack of wolves. The ewes' strength gave out, Krag stopped at a shoulder of rock where the path was only wide enough for one to pass at a time and let his ewes pass him while he faced the foe. One after another he threw the wolves into the chasm below. The fifth and last one tried to pull him

the illustrations which accompany them are spirited, faithful studies of the animals that the author is telling about. In all there are over five hundred drawings. The book is published by Charles Scribner's Sons, New York.

The School Board

When, in the course of events, it becomes necessary for a city to economize, it is never proposed to cut down the salary of the loafers for whom places have been made in order to reward activity at elections. If there is one function of the city government that councils consider more useless than another, it is that of education. Besides it is conveyed to the young by women who cannot vote. The places they hold and the salaries they draw are wasted patronage and wasted money, politically considered. If it were not for the teachers think how many more chairs would be tipped up in the county and city buildings, how many more spittoons would be needed for office-holders whose services to the city would be as remote from need as those of King Edward's armor-bearer. It is not surprising, therefore, that economizing city fathers begin on the teachers. From their point of view teachers are useless. In the case of the Omaha school board which has just reduced the salaries of the kindergarten teach-

ers, are approaching. A large number of respectable citizens are disgusted with the city council as at present constituted, but it is likely it will be the same or worse, if the present activity of the politicians is not defeated. The good, overtaxed citizen hopes that the primaries will nominate worthy men for councilmen from his ward; but he does nothing himself to bring such men forward. The politician who hopes to work some nefarious scheme with the aid of the city council does not confine himself to hopes and prayers, but to activity in his own ward. He is acquainted with "the good men" in all the wards, and he is making it his business to see that their chances for re-nomination are of the best. Hopes and fears and prayers, if not supplemented by muscular energy actively directed, are mere forms of speech. But they are about all the instruments the average citizen makes use of before a city election. Afterwards he bewails the corruption of American city politics, pays his taxes meekly enough, though he knows they will probably be wasted in wages to supernumeraries holding sinecures in the city or county building because they know this or that ward boss and vote as he directs.

Tests

School gradings or markings are based upon the accuracy with which the scholars repeat or write down what they have learned. The prizes of life are won by the men who have worked their experience, their instinct, their knowledge and their inspiration all together; the product is the man, the ego, the individual, different from any other man. What does it profit a man to know how plants grow, what the earth is made of, how to speak with tongues, or all about the stars if he does not incorporate his knowledge into himself? If it is only loosely attached to him and may be amputated without killing him, he might pass a good examination in college, but not until it has passed into his bone and marrow will the whole collection be of any use to him. The boy with an overmastering tendency to think his own thoughts in his own way is quite likely to be near the foot of the class in school and at the head of a large number of men in life. A schoolmaster who has noticed this said, "I always make friends of the dull boys in my school, they are such useful friends after they get into business." No examination can test the individual quality of a boy's inspiration. If it is abundant and it is something like good sense, when the boy becomes a man it is more than likely that he will be one of the principal men in the community, or in the nation. Success is made up of foresight and sense, energy and again sense. The power to think independently and soundly is the object of education, sometimes attained and sometimes overlooked. The grown man with a reputation for knowledge is the man whose knowledge has been digested and assimilated into himself and not the pedant who has accumulated a large number of facts on related and unrelated subjects.

TELEPHONE WORKS WITHOUT WIRES



NATHAN STUBBLEFIELD AND WIRELESS TELEPHONE TRANSMITTER

From a test recently made at Murray, Kentucky, there is strong reason to suppose that Nathan Stubblefield, an eccentric electrician, will rival Marconi's fame as a discoverer. Stubblefield and his 14-year-old son have invented a wireless telephone that appears to work perfectly.

down. "None but a mad wolf could have failed to take warning; but on he came, and Krag, in savage glory of the fight, let loose that living thunderbolt—himself—and met the last of the furry monsters with a shock that crushed him flat against a rock, then picked him up on his horns as he might a rag, and hurled him farthest yet, and standing on the edge he watched him whirl and gasp till swallowed in the chasm. The great ram raised his splendid head, blew a long blast from his nostrils, like a warhorse, and gazed a moment to see if more were coming; then turned and lightly bounded after the ewes he had so ably guarded."

Mr. Thompson's descriptions of the heroic animal are like nothing else in literature. They stir the blood like the old tales of knightly deeds and chivalrous, unselfish giving from the strong to the weak. The tales are true, for Mr. Thompson vouches for them with his knightly word. The spirited style and devotion are his, and by that sign he has conquered the heart of the American boy and his sister and his cousins and his aunts. There are few Seton-Thompson boys when they grow to be men who will shoot at pigeons thrown into the air by a trap. The first lesson this good author teaches is to give every creature his chance. Only the coward takes a mean advantage. The stories are wholesome and

ers, the members doubtless believe that anyone who can read and write is competent to teach a little child. There is no period in the unfolding of a rose more critical than the bud period. Bungling hands will injure it forever, where later they might only rub the bloom off a petal or two. The composition of school boards is an interesting study. As a political reward it is one of the first. If a man has been active in the primaries or at elections for a few years, he naturally requires encouragement, so he is frequently offered a place on the school board. The place does not pay any salary, but there are contracts to be let and patronage to be bartered and the man of ideas makes it pay. When the men who allow this or that candidate to run sort out the various city offices they talk about the composition of the school board without regard to the fitness of the candidates for the special duties connected with the place. In Lincoln it is considered essential that an employe from each of the principal railroads should be a member of the school board. Not that a railroad man is supremely interested in educational matters, but it is a convention of politics that the railroads should be represented on "the board."

Works

The March primaries, which will settle the composition of the city coun-

J. F. Harris

NO. 1 BOARD OF TRADE
CHICAGO

**Stocks
and Bonds**

Grain, Provisions, Cotton

Private Wires to New York City and
many Cities East and West.

MEMBER
New York Stock Exchange,
Chicago Stock Exchange,
Chicago Board of Trade.