

MAN EATERS AMONG SHARKS

Details of Instances Where
They Have Attacked Per-
sons in Bathing

Australian bathers must ever be on the alert for sharks. More than 70 species of sharks are known in Australian waters. Several species common on the Australian coast are dangerous to man; among these are the white shark, hammer-headed shark, tiger shark, gray nurse, blue nurse, blue pointer, sea shark, whaler and blue shark.

Some of these sharks are of immense size, for instance, the whale shark, which is known to attain a length of 50 feet. The white shark is undoubtedly the most ferocious of marine animals, attaining a length of 40 feet and being provided with many rows of large triangular teeth, well adapted for tearing flesh. It is more plentiful in the open ocean than near land. It has been known to devour human beings, and the fact that seals have been extracted from its stomach proves that it is as swift in movement as it is voracious. Small specimens, 8 to 10 feet long, are well known from the neighborhood of Port Jackson, and a Victorian specimen measured 36 1/2 feet.

There have been many dangerous attacks and some tragic fatalities made by these monsters upon bathers off the Australian shores during recent bathing months. A few of these attacks may be cited.

Last April a party of six went in for a swim at Bondi beach, near Sydney, and, when the group decided to leave the waters, one of the group, Maxwell Steele, who was following some yards behind the others, was suddenly seized by a shark. He was in water a few feet deep about 20 yards from the beach when a heavy wave washed the victim free of the shark's jaws, and rolled him toward the shore.

Steele's brother, who had been another of the swimming party, had just reached the beach when he heard a shout and saw his brother struggling. He afterward stated, "We did not see the shark. It all happened so quickly." The shark had stripped the flesh from the calf of Steele's left leg, from the knee to the ankle, completely exposing the bone, and, in addition to shock, he was suffering severely from loss of blood. A blood transfusion was necessary to save his life. His leg was amputated.

The victim, Maxwell Steele, was a powerful swimmer, a winner of many races, and a popular member of his club. His clubmates flocked to the hospital and submitted to blood tests then it was learned that there would probably have to be a transfusion operation. He described his attack in the following manner: "I felt a sharp stab of pain in my leg as the shark got me in its jaws. Then I went under and I tried to beat it off with my fists. I punched it several times, where I don't know. I think it was on the jaw, but it had me in a vice-like grip. Finally I succeeded, and in a flash I was free. My leg was not hurting much, it seemed numb. It was very strange, I could not do anything with it as I began to swim as strongly as I could toward the shore. How badly I had been hurt I did not know. After I had been swimming a little while I was tossed along by a wave. When I reached the shallow water I stood up and shouted, but it seemed such a long while before anybody came to me.

"Of course," he added, "I am not quite clear on just what did happen, it was very quick and very terrible."

One week before this attack, a man was killed by a shark at Merewether Beach near by.

A man who lives immediately above the scene of the Steele attack said that he had seen sharks in the water at this point so frequently lately that, when he wanted a swim, he walked the full length of the beach to the baths at the other end. He added that he had seen three or four sharks resting in the water at one time.

Another memorable shark tragedy was in 1924, when Miss Nita Derrett lost both feet as the result of an attack at Bronie beach. There have been at least five deaths resulting from shark attacks within the last few years around the waters near Sydney.

It has been pointed out that April is the time of year when sharks are most prevalent in Australian waters. The monsters are then cruising about the coast, chasing the shoals of salmon which are at that time moving to warmer latitudes.

EXERCISE REDUCES ANKLES

Eileen Bourne in Liberty Magazine.

Ove-developed ankles can be reduced by any woman who is anxious to have shapely feet by following a few simple exercises.

The simplest exercise is to stretch out the foot, spread the toes, and draw them together again. Then, pointing the toes down, bend the foot up, in—always from the ankle. Finally, hold the knee with clasped hands and rotate the foot, not from the knee, but from the ankle, as many times as possible.

Standing erect, bring the knee up as high as possible and give a vigorous kick forward with the toes pointing down.

Rising on your toes 20 or 30 times a day stretches and rounds out the lower part of the leg. Indeed, any kind of new kick you can devise will aid you in this estimable endeavor. Try it lying down. Bring the knee up to the chest and kick forward as hard as possible.

Bull O' The Woods.

From Bulletin, Sydney.

"Here, what's the big idea—chuckin' the bricks down as fast as I bring 'em up?"

"It's all right—the boss keeps passing underneath."

"Oh, yes, accidents will happen, won't they?"

Q. Which of the Canadian provinces are called the Prairie provinces? N. D.

A. Prairie provinces is the name applied to the three Canadian provinces of Manitoba, Saskatchewan, and Alberta.

OF INTEREST TO FARMERS

SALT FOR WORK MULES

Common salt, or sodium chloride, is a very essential part of a work mule's ration and a mule should have free access at all times to this material, either in the flaky or the block form.

Salt adds palatability to the ration, and its chemical elements, sodium and chlorine, play a very important part in digestion and in body metabolism.

If salt is omitted from the ration the mules become unthrifty and their perverted appetite is demonstrated by their desire to gnaw on their feed boxes and mangers and to eat dirt.

Mules vary considerably in the quantity of salt needed, and the consumption of salt also varies with the amount of work the mules are doing and with the temperature.

For the last four years accurate records have been kept of the salt consumption of 20 head of mules on an experimental farm. These mules were doing heavy farm work during this period. Salt in the flake form was available for each mule throughout the test.

The average consumption per 1,000 pounds live weight daily for the group was four-tenths of an ounce. During the spring and summer the consumption ran as high as forty-six-hundredths of an ounce (1,000 pounds live weight daily), and this quantity decreased during the fall and winter season to an average of three-tenths of an ounce daily.

KNOW YOUR COCKERELS

September is the time to go over the cockerels being grown on the range for use as breeders next spring. The birds are now old enough to take shape and give some idea of the conformation and type they will develop. Plumage is sufficiently advanced to show whether it possesses any serious defects and to determine the excellence of plumage pattern.

The poultryman who has been doing pedigree breeding and wing banding will find it an advantageous time to study his breeding males, look up their pedigrees and determine the ones best suited to hold over for breeders next spring. Also to note serious defects, such as wry tails, crooked toes, crooked breasts, and so on.

In spite of rather careful selection at broiler age, a number of defects will get by. It is best to single them out, for the cockerels have reached an age when they will make profitable roasters and they should be marketed while attractive prices can be had.

The best way to improve the laying flock is to use breeding males of known ancestors. One should not postpone getting acquainted with the young generation of breeding males until it is time to use them.

GROWING A HERD SIRE

It used to be said that the bull is half the herd. Now it is generally recognized that the herd sire is more than half the herd. In growing out a herd sire into the growthy individual that is to be desired, some special care is required.

For the first six months the male calves will be cared for much as will the heifers. At weaning time, however, usually at six months for the heifers, the methods differentiate somewhat. Skimmed milk may well be fed to the bull calves for longer periods, say for from eight to 10 months of age. This keeps them growing and by 10 months of age, if fed on a good leguminous hay and a grain mixture consisting of, for example, five parts of bran, four of ground oats and one of linseed meal, the future herd sire should continue satisfactory growth without a break.

When mature, exercise yards should be considered a requirement. The too common practice of chaining in a dark corner of the barn or yard is an unfortunate one. A satisfactory grain ration for a mature animal is found in two parts of barley, four of ground oats, three of bran and one of linseed meal.

LIMING PAYS

In the fall of 1925, a western farmer limed 10 acres of a 17-acre field, applying two tons per acre at a cost of \$7 per acre. He seeded it to clover in the spring of 1926, securing a fairly good stand on the limed field. He did not pay much attention to the clover until he cut the hay crop in 1927, when he cut one-third more hay from the limed land than the unlimed. His biggest surprise came when he cut the clover seed. On the seven acres of unlimed land he threshed 14 bushels of seed, at the rate of two bushels per acre. On the 10 acres of limed land, he threshed 34 bushels or 3.4 bushels per acre, an increase of 1.4 bushels per acre, which at the selling price of \$16 per bushel was worth \$22.40 per acre more than that produced on the unlimed land. Liming pays.

SUMMER SILAGE

Dairymen experience more difficulties in tending their cows during August than they do at any other time of year. The hot weather lowers the production of the cows, and the flies are an annoyance, but the chief difficulty is the lack of good succulent feed.

Silage or soiling crops can take care of this need.

A western experiment station conducted an experiment to determine the value of summer silage. When the cows received silage to supplement the short dry pastures they yielded 10 per cent. more butterfat than when they had no silage. Also the use of silage kept the cows from losing weight and it started them into winter milk production in far better condition than when they were starved during the summer.

Rainfall was plentiful so that the usual during that season that our experiment was conducted. Furthermore, we reseeded and fertilized our pastures regularly, says the expert.

LOWER PRODUCTION COSTS

When a business is showing a loss there are two ways of wiping it out—Increase the selling price or lower the cost of production. Dairymen with average cows need both ways to break even these days. Increased returns can come mainly through better organization, but lower costs are up to the individual.

Where enough cows are kept to require more than one hand milker, a milking machine will save labor and usually do away with one full time employe. Or if a man is alone he can greatly increase the number of cows he milks and thus lower his overhead costs. We can

in charge, and they are better than the average run of pastures throughout the country. The dairyman with ordinary pasture and in an ordinary season will find more than a 10 per cent. advantage for the summer silage.

However valuable silage may be for summer feeding, some dairymen do not have it. The best solution for these men is to use soiling crops. In an experiment covering eight years' feeding, we found soiling crops and silage were of equal value. Some of the regular farm crops are excellent for soiling purposes. Green corn and alfalfa or clover are examples of this. Oats are an early crop that can be used for soiling, and a mixture of oats and field peas is the best combination we have ever tried. Amber cane is more valuable as a soiling crop than for pasture or hay, and soy beans, even though somewhat difficult to cut and haul, are very satisfactory.

MONEY IN SUMMER DUCKS

Each year we find an increase in the consumption of ducks in the United States, a cheering state of affairs to the producers. We still lag behind the Pilipino in our love of duck products. The industry there has developed the Balut, a fresh young-developing duck varying from 14 to 20 days in incubation. The demand is greater than the supply, which is produced by artificial hatching every week in the year. Our hatching season for ducks ranges from December to August, and provides the quickest turnover to be had in poultry. Ducks hatched in July and August can be most successfully and economically grown, for they thrive better during the hot days of summer than do young chickens.

A recent test shows that ducks hatched on July fifth made a weight of six pounds at 11 weeks of age. These birds were hatched by artificial incubation and brooder under the regulation coal-burning brooder stove. They were confined to yards with no water except that given them to drink.

One change only between hatching time and marketing was made in the ration that was fed in the test. The ration the first two weeks was 50 pounds of wheat bran, 50 pounds of yellow corn meal, 12 pounds of red-dog flour, 10 pounds of dried skim milk, 5 pounds of m-s scrap—50 per cent. protein—and 5 pounds of minerals. This was fed in a wet condition four times a day, as much as the ducklings would clean up.

From the third week up to marketing they received this mixture: 100 pounds of corn meal, 40 pounds of wheat bran, 10 pounds of red-dog flour, 20 pounds of meat scrap—50 per cent. protein—10 pounds of alfalfa leaf meal, 10 pounds of dried skim milk, 10 pounds of ground roller oats.

Ducklings hatched during the summer for the fall and early winter market are the most profitable, for not only do they bring a higher price at this time but the cool nights and warm days tend to mature them rapidly.

PROTECTION FOR POULTRY?

The poultry industry, grown to be one of our leading agricultural pursuits, has just passed through a somewhat depressing year, due principally to low prices received by the producer for poultry and eggs, accompanied by relatively high cost of production. During the last spring, egg prices at country points were slightly higher than 1927, but were still too low.

Eggs have had to face large imports of frozen and dried egg products, principally from the Orient. These imports come in direct competition with our low-grade eggs, and indirectly with the high quality eggs we produce for table purposes.

The great volume of foreign products does not allow a satisfactory price to encourage home breaking, drying and freezing, hence a large quantity of low grade eggs which should be broken must find a market here in the shell. This throws a mass of low grade shell eggs into direct competition on the shell egg market with higher quality products, with unhappy results to both quality and price.

Increased quantities of live and dressed poultry are also coming into the United States from South American, European and North American countries, thus giving our poultry producers severe competition under the low tariff schedule. During 1927 close to 2,000,000 pounds of live poultry, and more than 4,000,000 pounds of killed poultry were imported, which volume seriously lowered prices. Turkeys from South America and Europe are also coming over the low tariff wall.

The poultry industry is organized through the National Poultry Council to secure for our poultry farmers more adequate tariff protection. The same protection which industry enjoys will safeguard the poultry industry and will insure the American consumer high quality eggs and poultry at reasonable cost. Our poultry industry can supply every legitimate market demand under adequate tariff protection.

VALUE OF SILAGE

It is difficult to give the value of silage in terms of money for the reason that many of its properties that have an actual value cannot be measured. For instance, while an analysis will show probably no more food units than in many other feeds, silage has succulency, giving it much of the properties of grass. This means that the stock will eat more of it and assimilate it more readily, but one cannot express that value in figures. It takes far less storage space than hay or other feeds, pound for pound, saving a cost of buildings and their maintenance. Another and far greater consideration to the dairy farmer is the increased production of milk from the feeding of silage.

thus get the same milk production with lower labor costs or an increased production with the same labor costs. On my own farm, says an up to date dairyman, we have so far this year secured both increased production at lower labor costs. I believe milking machines are fast becoming an economic necessity for the man who is trying to run a dairy at a profit.

DON'T FORGET

Low-production costs are essential these days if dairymen are to exist. Costs are influenced by various factors, but the greatest opportunity for lowering costs is still increased production per cow.

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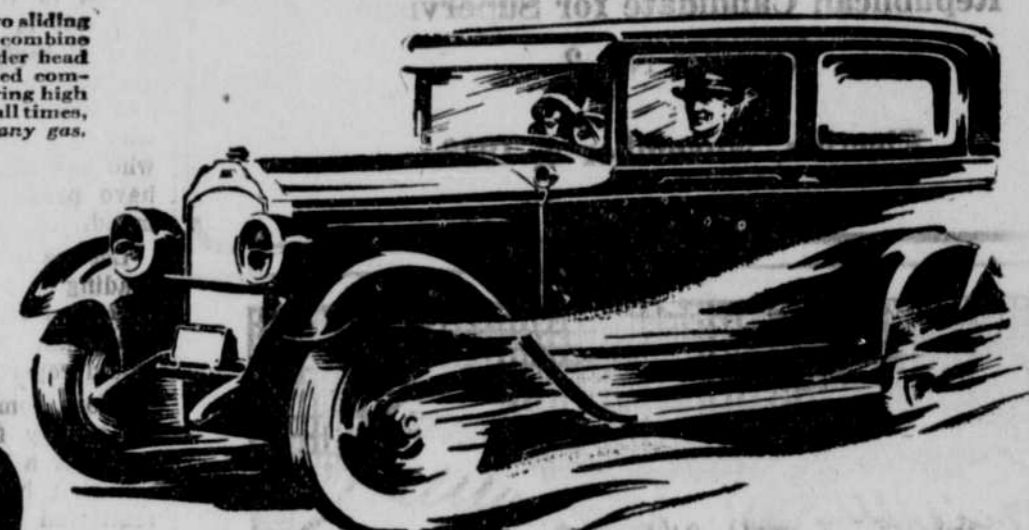
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