

Perfects Cure for Pernicious Anemia

Doctor's Discovery Wins for Him Nobel Prize.

Boston.—Dr. George Richards Minot is the name. The world has beaten a path to his door at the Thordyke laboratories in City hospital.

He has won the coveted Nobel prize for discovering that liver extract from cows, horses and hogs will cure pernicious anemia in humans—that dread malady that has claimed thousands of lives since time began.

Today, all over the world chemical firms are turning out hundreds of vials of the precious fluid. And untold numbers of humans, who might have been dead were it not for him, are sending him silent benedictions.

It was just a mere idea, he said, in explaining how it passed that he fell upon his eventful discovery.

Noted Medical Men.

He had been working on a means to cure the disease which destroys organs, stomach, nerves and tissues. Perhaps it was atavism that impelled him. For wasn't his great-grandfather the second professor of medicine at Harvard. And his great-grandfather, grandfather and father before him distinguished medical men?

In 1923—to use his own words—he had an embryonic thought. If that mysterious fluid which the liver requires could not be supplied by the system, why couldn't he adapt that manufactured naturally by animals?

Toward the last he was joined in perfecting the discovery by another young and famous savant, Dr. William P. Murphy, who shares the Nobel honors with him.

Explaining the chronology of his momentous contribution to medical science, Doctor Minot said:

"Others thought that in pernicious anemia, blood was destroyed too fast. I chose to think that blood stopped growing.

"It seemed to me that the victims needed something to make the

blood cells grow. "And then I thought that liver of animals might be appropriate. I started treating patients in 1925 and Doctor Murphy joined me.

Treatment Succeeds.

"A year after that we found most of the forty-five cases we had treated with liver were doing well. Instead of dying, some of them lived. That indicated to us that in order to stay well they had to eat or put in their stomach a large amount of liver—about eight ounces—a day.

"Now that's an awful big amount to ask a fellow to eat. The next question, therefore, was what is the nature of the substance in liver

that does this. Dr. Edward J. Cohn of Harvard Medical school studied the nature of the substance."

At this point, Doctor Minot said, they evolved a liver extract, which they tested. They found that a tablespoonful of liver extract taken by mouth would do quite as well as asking people to eat eight ounces of liver.

"As time passed, we found that the extract may be given by needle into the muscle. When given this way, it is thirty times as effective as by mouth, and assures the patient that he will retain it in the system and no trouble had in its absorption by the stomach or intestines."

If a person does not get cured by Doctor Minot's toxin, there are three reasons, he said. He wasn't given enough of the extract; the diagnosis was wrong, or he had a complication—such as pneumonia—serious enough in itself to cause death.

Discovers Bone of Prehistoric Snake

Scientist Finds Relic on Beach in Virginia.

Washington.—Monster sea serpents swarmed in the sea 60,000,000 years ago. A single vertebra of the largest fossil snake known from North America has just been deposited with the Smithsonian Institution by Dr. W. Gardner Lynn of Johns Hopkins university, who picked it up on Belvidere Beach, Va., in the so-called Aquia geologic formation. This was a marine formation laid down during the Eocene, or "dawn" period. The Aquia formation has yielded many other valuable fossils of sea creatures.

From the single bone about all that can be told of the ancient serpent is that it was a monster, according to Dr. C. W. Gilmore, Smithsonian curator of vertebrate paleontology. Comparing the size of this vertebra with those of existing snakes it would appear that the creature was comparable in size with the largest snakes known today. It must have been approximately 25 feet long and with a proportionately thick body. It is believed to have been distantly related to the present python family,

although probably not ancestral to those snakes.

Paleophis virginianus, as the newly discovered fossil has been named, had some contemporaries nearly as big, two of which have been found in New Jersey and a third in Alabama. All were marine creatures.

The earliest snake known from North America—also represented by a single bone, in the Smithsonian collection—was found in Wyoming in a formation dating from the upper cretaceous geologic period, approximately 100,000,000 years ago. It was a tiny creature, the bone measuring only a quarter inch in diameter. During the two geologic eras succeeding the Eocene a few snake fossils have been found, but all appear to have been small reptiles, and probably not poisonous.

LONG CAPES

By CHERIE NICHOLAS



They are the latest—long capes for evening wear. The one at the top in the picture is of red corded silk shot with gold. Worn flung back over the shoulders it shows a rich black velvet lining. Deep tawny zinnia orange is the luscious color of the longer cape below. The material is transparent velvet reversed with the same velvet as a lining. The yoke and collar of dark Kollinsky tines admirably to the rich color values in the velvet.

Crow Follows Boy to School

Dover, Ohio.—Mary had her little lamb, but Paul Haueter of Strasburg, near here, has his pet crow which follows him to school,

SEEN and HEARD around the National Capital

By CARTER FIELD

Washington.—Under much of the talk about merger of the telegraph companies, and whether the telephone company's commercial wires should be included, lies in the minds of lieutenants of the President a far more important plan. This is nothing short of the merger into one unit of all telegraph and wireless companies, as far as international business is concerned.

In this proposal are interested not only corporation officials directly concerned, but three departments of the government, which are seldom thought of in this connection—State, War and Navy.

For communications, far from being merely a question of local rates and service, is of the vastest importance not only from the standpoint of national defense—or offense—in time of war, but of international maneuvering in the meantime. It is a very important cog in all phases of international trade.

President Wilson, when he was advocating an American merchant marine, was fond of saying that for America to try to sell her goods in foreign markets, if they had to be delivered in foreign bottoms, was like one department store trying to compete with another if the rival did all the delivering. With the plain inference that the store doing the delivering would see to it that its products had the right of way and any other advantage which this control of delivery offered.

Even more important, the Roosevelt administration believes, is control of the commercial messages which concern sales and deliveries of American goods to foreign countries. If these communications are handled by the facilities of competitors for the business, it is expecting something superhuman to hope that our competitors will not take advantage of the situation.

Blocked by Law

At the present moment there is a small provision of law which stands in the way of what the administration would like to see, though at the time the law was passed this angle did not occur to anyone advocating it. The law forbids a telegraph company to acquire control of a wireless company. Obviously the law was intended to prevent the stifling of competition between the wire and the wireless agencies.

It is true that one telegraph company has embarked in the wireless business on the Pacific coast, but it got around the law by building up a new wireless system. It did not buy out an existing wireless outfit.

There is no real desire to go back on the spirit of that law. The government would like to encourage competition. The present attitude, however, is that government regulation of rates and service will solve that problem.

But internationally the need for merging all American communications companies into one, so that a united front will be held against other and competing countries, is regarded as much more important. For example, at the time many of the present contracts were made between American agencies and foreign governments, there was really only one American company. So if the foreigners wanted the business, they had to deal with it. When these contracts expired it is feared that terms will be imposed, due to the keen competition between American companies for the business, which will not only be hurtful to American revenues and impose what amounts to a foreign tax on American cables and wireless messages, but which may become actually of grave danger in the event of war.

What makes the point of more importance is that outside of the United States and Canada, communications are virtually government monopolies. There is a company in Britain, but the government controls it. Elsewhere it is mostly straight-out government ownership and operation. Japan does not even permit a foreign cable company to get its wires anywhere near its homeland. All messages to and from Japan pass through government channels.

Ickes-Moffett Squabble

Sometimes victories are so costly that it would have been better for the victor if there had been no battle. Which old military axiom seems to apply with considerable force to the recent encounter between Public Works Administrator Ickes and Housing Director Moffett.

Ickes took the side of cheap government money to build homes at low cost, disregarding what effect such action, if on a large scale, would have on existing property values, on existing mortgages, and hence on insurance companies and banks.

Moffett took the side of using only private capital for home construction, except where the repercussions would do no harm to the present financial structure.

President Roosevelt sided with Moffett, which was a victory. But Moffett as a result seems headed for the toboggan. Congress will be yapping at Moffett's heels within a month, as the more radical of the New Dealers are already. And

Moffett is handicapped, in such an encounter, by the fact that he is hopelessly tagged as being allied with the "predatory interests." For did he not work for the Standard Oil before coming to the government? Can any man, the radicals demand, have a heart that beats for the plain people who once has been contaminated with a corporation that wrings its profits from the defenseless consumer?

As it happens, the radicals are particularly sore with Moffett over this victory. And they are very apt to get his head on a silver charger. Which is most interesting in view of the fact that in this fight, which so angered them, Moffett expressed precisely the Roosevelt view on the most important of economic questions of the moment.

Ickes May Not Win

For in the opinion of nearly all disinterested—personally—observers the Ickes method would defeat Roosevelt's hope to preserve the capitalistic system. Certainly it would be a long step in that direction, tending to force all returns on investment from whatever they may be at present down to around 3 per cent. Roosevelt has made it clear that personally he favors 5 per cent. And very few economists, including the radicals, believe that private capital would take any risk at all merely to get a 3 per cent investment. And, obviously, there is a certain amount of risk in building a house to be rented, or in placing a mortgage on that house.

The fact that Mr. Moffett's political life seems in grave danger does not mean that the Ickes ideas will prevail. Roosevelt is a very stubborn man about his own ideas, and it may be taken for granted that the Moffett plan, having been approved by him after mature deliberation, and along lines previously indicated by his 5 per cent statement, the President will stand firm on the issue.

But this will not be enough to save Moffett. The radicals will never forgive him, will never fall to pin the "Standard Oil" tag on him, and will wear him down on every issue presented from now on.

All of which is complicated by the fact that, although in this particular battle Roosevelt agrees with Moffett, and not Ickes, actually the Public Works administrator is much closer to the throne than Moffett. There is a much closer tie on general political and economic lines.

Cheap Grain and Flour

The loud screams of those objecting to the deluge of cheap grain and flour that has been pouring into this country—despite the tariff wall—since the drought situation became acute, were based on the fact that much of this grain and flour was subsidized by the governments of the countries in which it was produced. In some instances the bounty for wheat ran as high as 50 cents a bushel American money. So the producer did not have to get a very high price in America for his grain to net him a very satisfactory profit, even after paying the normal duty.

It appears from what has been happening that this business of sending bounty-paid grain to America has been increasing very rapidly, to the great distress of American millers and farmers. Not always has the charge that the grain is bounty-paid been accurate, but it has been true in enough instances to justify the campaign that has been brought to Washington.

Strangely enough, congress foresaw this situation, and provided against it, but so far the law has not been enforced. The power to enforce it has lain with the customs division of the treasury, but its teeth were not brought into action. In fact, up to date it has been a dead letter.

The law provided that if any foreign government subsidized the production of grain, the precise amount of the subsidy should be added to the ordinary tariff when grain from that country was brought into American ports. But none of these excess tariff duties have been levied, despite the fact that grain, which in some instances was subsidized by the producing country up to 50 cents a bushel, has been pouring in.

Sought Feed Abroad

When the drought picture began to loom up in true proportions last year, there was quite a movement to acquire cattle feed from abroad to prevent the sacrifice of American cattle for which there was no domestic feed. Thousands of head of cattle were moved, of course, by the government from parched areas to places where feed was available. But this was not enough.

Also, the government itself, in its relief activities, went into the market to buy large amounts of grain and flour for human beings. Due to these two complications, the treasury was not much interested in taking any steps, which would check the inflow of cheap food for man and beast. Especially, as the existing tariffs seemed high enough.

In a way the whole problem is a most curious one, from the cold standpoint of the economist. For it would seem at first blush that if Europe, for example, wants to subsidize foodstuffs productions, thus feeding workers in another country partly at her expense, she is handicapping herself in the fight for world markets.

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ABOUT ELEPHANTS



Pedicuring a Circus Elephant.

Prepared by National Geographic Society, Washington, D. C.—WNU Service.

THE elephant, whose huge bulk and many human qualities have made him the foremost citizen of zoo and circus, is an indispensable "laborer" in the East where he is a combination royal transport, truck, tractor and derrick. He also is the leading source of food for many native tribes in Africa.

Nature gave the elephant the thickest of hides, but failed to bestow upon him a good heating system, thus the pachyderm prefers to live near the Equator. With its inch thick skin the elephant should be able to defy cold. Instead, the animal is as sensitive to cold as a geranium. The slightest trace of cold curls it up with severe cramps in its stomach.

In the state of nature, elephants are very sociable and live in herds, or family parties, usually from 20 to 40 animals. Herds of 100 or more have been reported by hunters, especially in Africa. Such associations are not herds but a number of herds living together in the same locality.

True herds of 40 or so elephants remain together for years. There are usually as many bulls as cows, but, as a rule, the herd is led by a cow. The stronger bulls do not drive out either the younger or the older and infirm bulls. A spirit of friendliness seems to exist among them, such as is found in no other gregarious animal.

Elephants of opposite sex often form strong attachments for each other which endure as long as they live. Such love matches have occurred among zoo elephants. When separated, such elephants often refuse all food and show every indication of profound mourning. Because of their fondness for one another, elephants are seldom kept solitary. Zoos usually keep them in pairs; circuses, as a rule, carry a herd consisting of females, all the same species—Indian.

"Rogue" Elephants Are Savage.

When an individual breaks the laws of the herd he is driven out and becomes a so-called "rogue." He is a social outcast and becomes a savage animal. Rogues charge men or other animals on sight; they are a menace to natives and are hunted down and shot. They have even been known to raid villages by night, charging through the flimsy grass huts and trampling them in the dust.

The colossal bulk of the elephant leaves him immune to attacks of all other animals except other elephants, such as the "rogues," or outlaws. In Africa the elephant is associated with the hippopotamus, the rhinoceros, the fearsome lion, and the buffalo, but there is no enemy among these jungle monarchs. Baby elephants, though quite helpless, are so energetically protected by the herd that no predatory animal is known to molest them.

The large tusks of the bull elephant are useful to him on rare occasions, when his social position is menaced by an outsider or when a herd brother starts a family quarrel. Occasionally single-tusk elephants are found in Africa, one tusk having been broken off in fighting or in prying up trees. Tusks in some individuals do not develop, and such elephants remain tuskless through life. Such bulls often attain large bodies and seem able to hold their own in the herd. Tuskless bulls are especially common in India.

In old African bulls tusks average 40 pounds apiece; tusks weighing 100 pounds each are not rare, and really big tusks weigh 150 pounds each. The heaviest known single tusk weighs 235 pounds and has a circumference of 25 inches. Tusks of Indian elephants are much smaller than those of the African animal.

Man His Only Enemy.

Man is virtually the only enemy of elephants in a wild state. Since immemorial times he has attacked the animals in their jungle homes. Elephants usually fight him by trampling him with their feet or knocking him out with their trunks. Methods of capturing and killing employed by the African savages today probably are similar to those of prehistoric man.

The Africans hunt the elephant for its meat, which they especially relish. When the news is spread that a white man has killed an elephant, all the natives within miles

converge. With their long sword-like knives, which are their homemade weapons, they squat about the camp fires built to roast the meat.

When the skin is off, pandemonium starts. Instantly the huge carcass is smothered by a fighting, howling mob, each hacking and chopping out chunks of meat and fleeing to the camp fires, where the steaks are slightly roasted and greedily eaten.

After the gorge is over the remaining meat is placed in baskets and carried to their villages, where it is "jerked" and partly sun-dried in the smoke of a slow fire, which protects it from insects.

The hunting tribes of Africa capture elephants in deep pits cleverly excavated in the elephant paths of the forest. These pits are cunningly hidden by a covering of branches and leaves, but such camouflage seldom deceives mature elephants. They detect the pits as hollows by their sensitive feet, or by some other unknown sense, for their sight is not nearly as keen as man's. It is the young elephants which are captured and promptly eaten.

Some tribes set poisoned spears above elephant paths so that they will fall and pierce a passing elephant which has tripped on the vine attached to the trigger, releasing the spear.

Their Uses When Domesticated.

In very early times, in Asia, man accomplished the miracle of domesticating the elephant. By friendship and intelligence he made a servant of the mightiest beast of all times. Probably the Asian man began with baby elephants. He, too, captured them in pits, but instead of killing them he took the captives home as pets for his children. Baby elephants are as playful as dogs and are quite as intelligent as our most clever canine friends.

As time went on and such elephants grew to adults they remained docile and finally were trained to be beasts of burden. Probably the first use of adult elephants after their early domestication was in war. Any tribe in India possessing elephants capable of being ridden into battle was sure to win.

In India today elephants are captured by driving them into forest stockades built of logs strong enough to withstand the charges of the enraged monsters. In some districts this round-up occurs annually; in others every two or three years.

An astounding difference between elephants and all other animals is their submissiveness to training when adult. Mature jungle elephants, which have led a life of complete freedom in the jungle, can be trained as quickly as those reared in captivity from babyhood. No other wild animals captured in the wilderness when adult can be domesticated as can the elephant.

Playful Baby Elephant.

For this reason elephants are seldom bred in captivity. Their slowness in reaching maturity would make them much more expensive than the wild-caught specimens. All the so-called "baby elephants" brought from India are wild-caught, and have been taken away from their mothers at the age of weaning, about three or four years old, when they are able to eat solid food. Circuses usually exhibit with the baby a foster mother.

Very young baby elephants are as amusing as kittens and indulge in all sorts of mischief making with a seeming intent to bully or frighten their indulgent mothers. They run into corners and hide, then emit squeals of distress, and when the frightened mother comes to the rescue they will rush out and butt her in the belly as hard as they can. At birth they have a woolly coat of downy hair over their grayish-pink skin. Their heads are covered with erect, coarse black hair.

At first the trunk hangs limp, the baby having no control over it. After a few months the youngster begins to lift its trunk a bit and is slowly taught by the mother how to use that appendage.

Then comes the amusing day when the youngster tries to drink water as its mother does, through the trunk. At first it blows bubbles in the water, or draws out the trunk and sprays the contents all over the ground.

Jungle Trails Are Hard to Negotiate

Penetrated Only in Quest of Ruins and Chiclé.

Washington.—Central American jungles are penetrated only by archeologists in search of ruins, and chiclé-bleeders looking for chewing-gum ingredients, the Carnegie Institution believes.

For twenty years, institution scientists have invaded the jungles in quest of the complete story of early Central American civilization.

Dr. Oliver R. Ricketson, Jr., Carnegie staff member, penetrated the heart of the Guatemalan jungles to study ruins of an ancient Maya site. He has recorded impressions gathered while traveling through the region.

Doctor Ricketson visited the ruins of Uxactun, in the north central portion of the department of Peten, Guatemala. The ruins lie in a dense, high jungle which today is devoided of all permanent habitation between Peto, Yucatan, on the north, and Flores, Guatemala, on the south.

Travel Conditions Difficult.

"So difficult are conditions of travel," he said, "that we may safely say the only people who penetrate the region are archeologists in search of ruins and chiclé-bleeders in search of the indispensable ingredient of chewing-gum—the gum derived from the latex of the sapote tree."

Although Uxactun lies only 120 miles in an air line from Belize, British Honduras, Doctor Ricketson said the journey generally consumes a week or more.

Three or four days are needed

to ascend the Belize river in a 60-foot launch and five days more are spent on mule-back. Twelve or fifteen miles is considered a day's journey during the "dry" season. Location of "aguadas," or water holes, the scientists said, also is a factor on determining the length of the journey.

Feels Suffocating Sensation.

As the outsider enters the jungle he undergoes a suffocating sensation, not from the heat, but from the subdued, green light, and still, silent air.

Contrary to popular opinion, Doctor Ricketson pointed out, the monotony of the jungle trail seldom is broken by animal life, except, possibly, for the wall of a howler monkey. Bird life, however, he said, is plentiful.

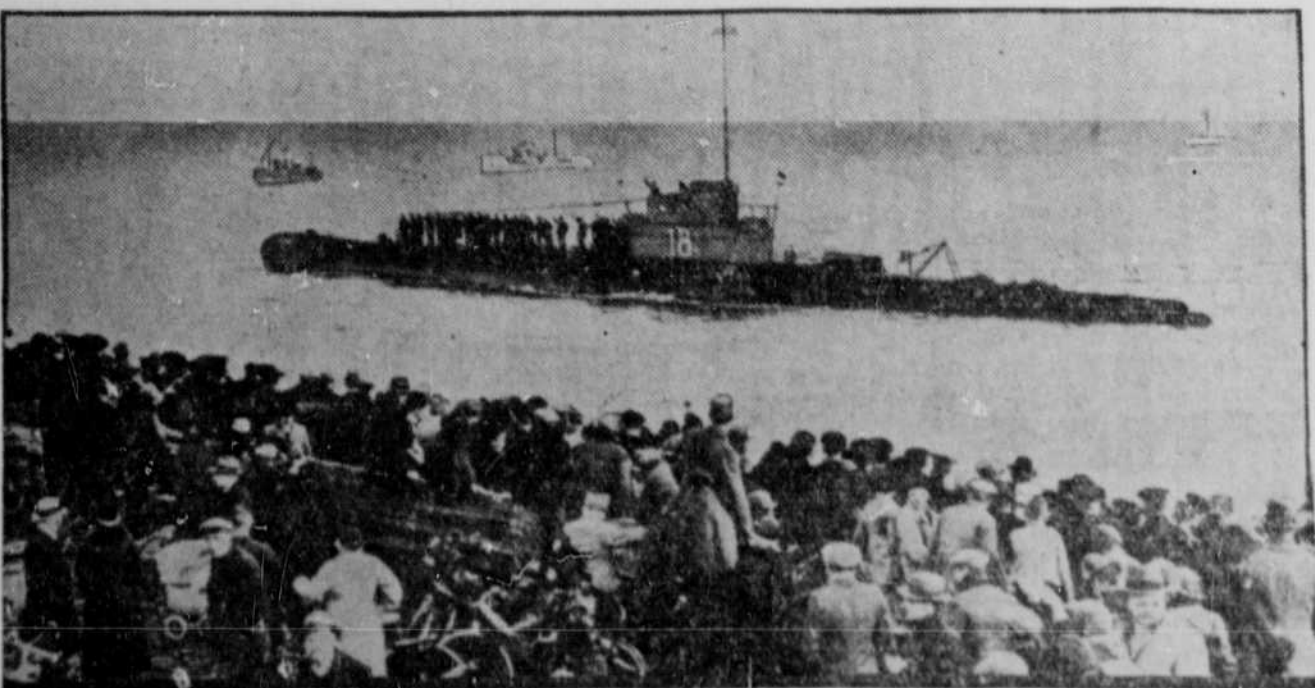
Snakes are well represented, but Doctor Ricketson again refuted popular opinion by saying that snakebites are gained only by treading upon the reptiles.

"In fact," he concluded, "life in the jungle is a great deal safer than in one of our modern cities—the only enemies being malaria, fever and intestinal infections neither of which are even remotely liable to prove fatal with our present-day medical equipment."

When a Jail Isn't a Hotel

Norwalk, Ohio.—When tourists traveling through Norwalk began applying for "hotel accommodations" at the county jail, Sheriff David A. Berry scratched his head. He discovered finally that the mix-up was caused by a large sign in front of the jail, advertising a near-by hostelry.

Dutch Submarine Starts on Long Cruise



Thousands of persons lined the docks at Den Helder, Holland, as the Dutch submarine K-18 left on what is the longest trip ever undertaken by an undersea boat. She will visit five continents on her eight months' cruise.