

"AIN'T NO SUCH ANIMALE, BUT —



TYLOS SAURUS



BRONTOSAURUS



ALLOSAURUS



STEGOSAURUS



OMEWHERE in "Darkest Africa" Capt. L. B. Stevens of England is searching for the prehistoric monster whose reported existence has been disturbing the scientific world more or less since 1903. It is supposed to be some sort of a dinosaur. Inasmuch as the dinosaur is a fifty-foot lizard that dates back to the "Age of Reptiles," which antedates man on this earth by anywhere from 60 to 600 millions of years, the scientists are naturally saying, with the country boy at the circus at sight of his first hippopotamus, "Gosh, there ain't no sich animile!"

Still there was such an animal once. And people are saying they have seen such an animal now. Hence Captain Stevens' expedition to Africa.

The earlier reports have been corroborated by two Belgian big-game hunters, who report sighting a huge beast of terrifying proportions and attributes. Mr. Gabelle, one of the Belgians, says his party caught a glimpse of a huge beast rending his way through the jungle verdure, which defied zoological analogy. He says it was in the general shape of a lizard, probably fifty feet long, with a thick tail like a kangaroo's, a hump on its back, and a terrifying horn on its snout. The monster was covered with scales, which were colored with great blood-red spots from which radiated pale green stripes.

A well-known English naturalist and collector, has written to the press that there is every reason to believe there is such an animal living in the heart of the unexplored jungles, if not great numbers of them. During his stay in Africa he heard the story from so many different sources, he says, that he is convinced there is some truth in it.

"Fifteen years ago, when collecting in the Transvaal, I heard an interesting story of a monster, half snake, half beast. My informant, of the Rhodesian police, who patrolled near Barotseiland, said he had approached within a hundred yards of it while it was lying asleep on the border of a swamp. It was, he declared, a hundred feet long, and its strange appearance so frightened him that it awakened and glided into the swamp before he could raise his gun. It traveled noiselessly and with great speed.

"The country round about was quite unexplored. My friend told me that I was the first to whom he had mentioned the story, as he was afraid to tell his comrades because they would have laughed at him.

"Once again when I was on the French Congo seaboard I heard fearful stories from the native hunters of the monster. I also heard the same stories on the way to the Belgian Congo, where the present so-called brontosaurus is supposed to have been seen. When you hear stories from three or four widely different sources I believe there is some truth in them. You must remember that if you travel to Fernan Foz and Sette Cama and go up into the interior, most of the country has never been explored. What creatures live in its vast mysteries we do not know. Whether the so-called brontosaurus is a prehistoric survival or not I would not care to say. I firmly believe the creature exists, but I believe it is an unknown creature of more modern descent.

"The brontosaurus, or whatever the strange creature is, makes use of its legs and its body—it glides. I should imagine it is a very dangerous creature. But that it is not all a fairy-tale I am certain. I have been there, and I have talked with natives who will not pass a certain boundary into an 'evil land' because of the huge monsters which live in its remote solitudes."

Walter Winans, an American living in London, the pistol champion and a big-game hunter, also believes in the existence of this creature.

"The late Carl Hagenbeck told me before the war," Mr. Winans said, "that two of his travelers, on different expeditions and in different years, had seen the brontosaurus in swamps in central Africa. I do not think it is impossible that some of the prehistoric animals have survived, and when several explorers have seen glimpses of what they think must be such animals they are most probably right. It is not as if some one not used to recognizing them instantly saw wild animals for the first time. These men are always on the lookout for new species and know all the animals by sight.

"It is possible that the sea-serpent is one of these so-called extinct reptiles, and that the dodo may still exist somewhere not yet explored. The quagga, too, which existed until a few years ago, may still live in some unexplored part of Africa and the mammoth and the cave bear still wander in Siberia."

Mr. Winans went further to satisfy the English public and drew an outline of what this animal probably looks like. With that picture, which appeared in the Evening News, he appended this bit of descriptive argument:

"The scientists draw this beast standing on its legs, as a mammal would. Now no mammalian animal has the combined heavy tail and long neck this animal has. A kangaroo has the heavy tail, but it is built very light in front, with only short rudimentary legs. It uses its tail as a third leg, in combination with its two hind legs and works on a tripod so formed. The giraffe has a long neck, but it is built light behind, and its tail is so light that it practically has no weight in comparison. The giraffe carries its head high so as not to put a leverage on it.

"Now the brontosaurus is heavy both in the tail and the neck, which, besides, are both very long. If it stood as the scientists draw it, the tail and neck would overbalance it and a slight puff

of wind from the side would blow it over. It is ridiculous to think that an animal a hundred feet long would have legs close together in the middle and have three-quarters of its length sticking out in front and behind unsupported in the air. My idea is that the brontosaurus was a reptile, practically a crocodile, with a snake-like neck, and not a mammal, that it carried itself as a crocodile does, that is, crawled on its belly when on land and did not walk on straight legs.

"I think it crawled with its neck drawn back so as to strike like a cobra and most likely had poisonous fangs. In fact, it was a big poisonous lizard, and that it was brilliantly colored, like them, and perhaps discharged poison through its skin like a toad when irritated.

"The best weapon to shoot it with would be the magnified Mauser rifle, such as the Germans used against tanks, only with an explosive shell instead of an armor-piercer. If I were younger I should be off after him."

Anyway, the monster is sufficiently real to have set the scientists disputing about his possibility, his identity and his looks. They call him all sorts of names—brontosaurus, triceratops, brolosaurus, tylosaurus and so on. One expert writes to the press:

"The animal in question can not be a bromosaurus, if the illustration in H. G. Wells' book, 'Outlines of History,' are correct. The illustrations show a very different creature from the descriptions in the newspapers of this one. What this one really appears to be is a triceratops, only that animal has two horns."

Another zoologist heaps scorn on the entire idea, asserting that while he believes there are undiscovered animals living in the heart of Africa, he doubts that a dinosaur or any other primeval beast exists anywhere today. He writes:

"The period in which they lived is incredibly remote as man counts time. Their bones are found in the strata of the Eocene period. The brontosaurus was remarkable for his very small head and small brain cavity. His whole skull was no larger than his neck bone. The name means 'thunder beast,' and one species was well over fifty feet in length and weighed probably twenty tons or more."

The evolution of man has been a long process—so long that the geologists and other scientists prefer to dodge the question of the millions of years involved and reckon in eras, an era being anywhere from six to 45 millions of years. They call the first era Archeozoic; it is ancient beyond all knowledge. Then comes the Proterozoic, with its very primitive forms of water life, lasting 33 millions of years. The Paleozoic, with fish, amphibians and land plants, lasted 45 millions; The Mesozoic, the age of reptiles and amphibians and of trees, saw the first mammals; it lasted 16 millions of years. The present era, the Cenozoic, has seen the rise and development of the highest orders of plants and animals and the appearance of man; its duration to date is put at 6 million years.

So that's what we are up against when we talk of there being at large in Africa a survivor of the Age of Reptiles.

Anyway, we know these reptiles actually existed because we find their fossil remains pretty much all over the world. Why, these fossils are so thick out in Utah, U. S. A., that we have the Dinosaur National monument. You see, once upon a time, the waves of an open sea rolled over the spot where now stands Long's peak (14,255 feet), "King of the Rockies." In this sea sported the marine monster of long ago and on its shores lived the grotesque creatures of the Age of Reptiles! Then the Rocky Mountains heaved themselves up and this great inland sea had to run off into the Arctic ocean and the Gulf of Mexico and the Pacific. And then the rains washed down the mountains and filled up the plains with the scourings.

Some of the creatures in this inland sea got mired and their bones are now found petrified in a remarkably perfect state of preservation. And it's no trick for a scientist who knows his business to reconstruct an animal from his bones.

Mr. Gabelle's monster seems to suggest the armored dinosaur, Stegosaurus. If that's the fellow, he isn't dangerous. He's herbivorous. He's scarcely any brains at all; that's why he is armored to protect him from his enemies. He's about 20 feet long and 10 feet high.

The Tylosaurus, "half snake half beast," isn't a Dinosaur, but a Mosasaur, though that probably makes no particular difference. He's a seapertentish sort of thing and probably requires more water than a morass affords.

The Brontosaurus, according to the restoration herewith reproduced, doesn't look especially formidable, except for his size.

The dinosaur that seems best able to pay his way and keep on going is the Allosaurus. He's got teeth and claws and looks as if he might move rapidly.

However, the fact that the African dinosaur does not seem to be exactly any of his prehistoric relatives proves nothing. It may be that the fellow Captain Stevens is after has evolved like the rest of the world and is prepared to present something entirely new in dinosaurs. Why should he not have developed? He's had at least six million years in which to improve himself.

"The Outlines of History," H. G. Wells' new book, considers these early monsters quite fully: He says in one place:

"The earliest-known reptiles were beasts with great bellies and not very powerful legs, very like their kindred amphibia, wallowing as the crocodile wallows to this day; but in the Mesozoic they soon began to stand up and go stoutly on all fours, and several great sections of them began to balance themselves on tail and hind legs, rather as the kangaroos do now. Another division was the crocodile branch, and another developed toward the tortoise and the turtles. The Plesiosaurs and the Ichthyosaurs were two groups which left no living representatives. Plesiosaurs measured 300 feet from snout to tail tip—of which half was neck.

"The Mosasaurs were a third group of great porpoise-like marine lizards. But the largest and most diversified group of these Mesozoic reptiles was the group we have spoken of as kangaroo-like, the Dinosaurs, many of which attained enormous proportions. In bigness these greater Dinosaurs have never been exceeded, although the sea can still show in the whales creatures as great. Some of these, and the largest among them, were herbivorous animals; they browsed on rushy vegetation and among the ferns and bushes, or they stood up and grasped trees with their forelegs while they devoured the foliage.

"Among the browsers, for example, were the Diplodocus carnalis, which measured 84 feet in length, and the Atlantosaurus. The Gigantosaurus, discovered by a German expedition in 1912 from rocks in East Africa, was still more colossal. It measured well over 100 feet! These greater monsters had legs, and they are usually figured as standing up on them; but it is very doubtful if they could have supported their weight in this way out of water. Buoyed up by water or mud they may have got along.

"Another noteworthy type we have first is the Triceratops. There were also a great number of flesh eaters, who preyed upon these herbivores. Of these, Tyrannosaurus seems almost the last word in 'frightfulness' among living things. Some species of this genus measured 40 feet from snout to tail. Apparently it carried this vast body kangaroo fashion, on its tail and hind legs. Probably it reared itself up. Some authorities even suppose that it leapt through the air. If so, it possessed muscles of a quite miraculous quality. Much more probably it waded, half submerged, in pursuit of the herbivorous river saurians."

And along with these terrible beasts were bat-like creatures. "These bat-like creatures were the pterodactyls. But birdlike though they were, they were not birds, nor the ancestors of birds. The structure of their wings was that of a hand with one long finger and a web; the wing of a bird is like an arm with feathers projecting from its hind edge. And these pterodactyls had no feathers."

All of these creatures have disappeared from the face of the earth, Wells says. They ended abruptly. They were extinguished, as though by the waving of a magic wand, perhaps in order to make place for man; and Wells says that the ending of the reptiles is beyond all question the most striking revolution in the whole history of the earth before the coming of mankind.

"It is probably connected with the close of a vast period of equable warm conditions and the onset of a few, austerer age, in which the winters were bitterer and the summers brief, but hot."

The AMERICAN LEGION

Copy for This Department Supplied by National Headquarters of the American Legion.

INCREASE FOR DISABLED MEN

Darrow Bill Enlarges Amount by \$20 a Month for Veterans While Taking Training.

Another important victory in the American Legion's long fight for beneficial legislation in behalf of sick and disabled ex-service men is revealed in a telegram announcing passage of the bill, recently received at Legion national headquarters from Thomas W. Miller, chairman of the organization's national legislative committee in Washington.

The senate in a night session, according to the message, passed the measure as a rider to the deficiency appropriation bill, and as it previously had been passed by the house, it now awaits only the signature of the president to become a law.

The Darrow bill increases, by \$20 a month, the amount of money paid to disabled veterans of the world war while taking training under the direction of the federal board of vocational education.

This is the second time the Legion has obtained an increase for the malmed heroes, having pushed through congress, last December, the Sweet bill, which raised the amount of compensation for them from \$50 to \$80 a month.

"The passage of the Darrow bill," said Lemuel Bolles, national adjutant of the Legion, "was largely due to the work done by Legionnaires who visited Washington in its interest. General published reports at that time indicated that the Legion representatives confined their activities solely to the pending fourfold optional compensation bill. Results show that the needs of the disabled men always have stood first on the Legion's program and the organization is going right on working for these unfortunates, irrespective of what congress may or may not see fit to do with the problems of ex-service men as a whole.

"The passage of the Darrow bill will give great impetus to the Legion's cooperative plan to assist the federal board in getting every eligible disabled man into training at once, as many had refrained from taking training because of the inadequate compensation heretofore allowed."

SHE MAKES THE MOST CALLS

American Legion Headquarters' Switchboard Operator, Lula B. Vize, is Known as "Sunshine."

The girl who "calls" more people and gets "called" oftener than anyone else at national headquarters of the Legion is Miss Lula B. Vize of Indianapolis. She has charge of the telephone switchboard and a sort of general information bureau adjoining the offices of the national commander. She offers complete proof of the fact



Miss Lula B. Vize.

lacy of the theory that red, or "titan" hair is indicative of a fiery temper. Her perpetually sunny disposition has earned for her the office sobriquet of "Sunshine." Married? You ask. Well, as some facetious "buddy" might say: "You tell 'em, concrete; we're too mortified!"

Accepts Men From All Branches.

David W. Jameson Post No. 183, Philadelphia, which was originally started as a Chemical Service post, has in accordance with the desires of the state and national conventions abandoned the unit basis of membership, and now includes men from all branches of the service.

Should Be a Holiday.

Armistice day, November 11, should be a legal holiday throughout the United States, according to resolution adopted by the Great Falls Post No. 3, Great Falls, Mont. Copies of the resolution were forwarded to the Montana congressional delegation at Washington, signed by Charles Davidson, Aaron Slight and E. J. Fitzpatrick.

TRIBUTE TO EX-SERVICE MEN

National Commander D'Olier, in Letter for Memorial Service, Compliments Men Who Served.

Listen, buddies, to what Franklin D'Olier, your national commander said about you in a recent letter. A Legion post at Westville, N. J., asked Rev. Howard E. Thompson of Woodbury, N. J., to conduct a Memorial service for them, and the minister wrote the national commander for a message which he could read publicly on that occasion.

"In a very few years," Mr. D'Olier wrote, in part, "the ex-service men of this country will be the most prominent in business, in the professions and in politics, not merely because they are ex-service men, but because, in order to enter the service, they were picked men, physically, mentally and morally, and being thus selected and having the advantage of great experience in the army, navy and marine



Franklin D'Olier.

corps, they will necessarily be leaders in all walks of life.

"The American Legion proposes to keep the ex-service men together in an organization whose ideals are service to our country and service to our comrades, and their reward will be the continuing satisfaction of unselfish service faithfully performed."

FURLOUGH AT ATLANTIC CITY

Famous Resort Post Arranges to Accommodate Former Service Men on Their Vacations.

The Atlantic City post of the American Legion is hooking up the A. E. F. leave area idea to the possibilities of America's summer resort. It is inviting Legionnaires from any part of the United States to spend a furlough at Atlantic City, and it is establishing for them a tent camp at which the expense item of quarters is reduced to a minimum. So, even though our well-known former skipper, Uncle Sam, isn't available to issue transportation and commutation of rations and quarters, any Legionnaire may now spend a vacation at Atlantic City without going financially flat in the process.

Bill Fisher, formerly post sergeant of Company C, Twenty-third engineers, is the father of the Atlantic City leave area plan. He put the scheme up at the Atlantic City post and the post voted to carry it out. A committee was authorized to go ahead with the scheme.

The conception of the camp which the committee had in mind when it started work was a tent town which should be operated on the simplest plan feasible. It should provide for a nominal sum living quarters under canvas, thus saving the Legionnaires the expensive hotel bills and at the same time assuring them of a place to stay in a city in which it is sometimes difficult to obtain hotel accommodations at any price. Living in the tent town, the ex-service men should be able to take advantage of the bathing, the boating, the dancing on the piers, the shows in the theaters and the many other diversions which the resort offers.

The committee has named the tent town Camp D'Olier in honor of the Legion's national commander. It has worked out all the details of the camp. The city councilmen, led by the mayor, granted the post the right to use a plot of ground owned by the city and the city engineer laid out the camp streets and planned the sanitary facilities.

All the Boys Know Him.

What do you know about pediculosis? The bug experts in the bureau of entomology of the department of agriculture are seeking information about this five-syllabled affliction, which the A. E. F. veterans know by the shorter term of "cooties." A report of the bureau says that if lice-borne diseases should get a foothold in this country their appearance in epidemic form is not impossible.

Had the Goods on Him.

"What's the charge against this man?" asked the judge. "Fighting in the street," replied the officer. "You're fined \$9.00, my man." "What is the 90 cents for, your honor?" "War tax." "But, your honor, the war's over." "Over nothing; you were fighting weren't you?"