

POLICE STUDY DOGS

Successful Use of Canines Attracts Attention of British Officers.

Great Britain Once More Following Up in Rear of Her Continental Rivals and Taking Cue From Their Advancement.

London.—Great Britain is once more following up in the rear of her continental rivals and taking a leaf from their books. At last she is thinking about it. That is, in the adoption of the doggie policeman. The force numbers only one at present, and he, the dog, is attached to the Berks constabulary. It is a good many years since Major Richardson of Harrow became a dog trainer, his pack of bloodhounds being a famed lot. It was Major Richardson who trained the dogs which did such good work by picking up wounded soldiers on the battlefields of Manchuria and which helped the Spaniards at Melilla.

Even before that both France and Germany realized the possibilities of trained dogs as auxiliaries to their gendarmerie and police forces. In Russia, too, the dog policeman is known. A story just reached here from Moscow about a dog known as Tref, which is becoming a perfect terror to evil-doers. A number of bank notes and other valuables had been stolen from a Moscow gentleman named Pokrofsky, and Tref's services were requisitioned.

He was put on the scent of the thief, and, after taking a circuitous route, entered a flight shelter, making straight for an old coat belonging to a house painter, who was known under the name of Alexander. The sum of 500 rubles, which had been stolen from M. Pokrofsky, was found in one of the pockets of the coat.

That London is evidently thinking about following the example of Berks seems likely, as F. S. Bullock, one of the chief constables of the Metropolitan police, has been over in Paris having a look at the kennels of the police dogs at Montrouge. London wants to know something about the use of those dogs before getting any of her own.

In some of the favorite "burglary" districts, as they are known, such as Hampstead, Ealing, Harrow and thereabouts, householders have not waited for the "swearing in" of any dog constables, but have acquired some of their own from Major Richardson, with very satisfactory results.

"It is no use having a dog that won't bite," says Major Richardson, "and these dogs, if they catch hold of a man, will worry him just like a rabbit. The dog is held on a chain and wears a specially contrived muzzle, which prevents him picking up poison. They can hear a sound 400 yards further than a policeman, and if a man is hiding in a garden they can scent him out when a policeman might pass him by. Their senses are even more acute at night than by day."

956 LIVE ON .34 OF ACRE

Congestion of Tenement Districts of Boston Worse Than New York Districts.

Boston.—Striking facts in connection with tenement conditions in Boston are set forth in the report of the house committee of the Boston-1915 movement, which was made public the other day.

It tells, for example, of sections in Boston where 427 persons are housed on a single acre, where 15 to 25 adults live in one small dwelling or flat, where kitchens are used as bedrooms, dining rooms, laundries and living rooms and all baths are taken in the kitchen sink.

The report was prepared by a committee headed by Philip Cabot and Meyer Bloomfield, the settlement worker, and covers the conditions found in four typical city blocks selected in the north and west ends, two blocks in the south end and one block each in South Boston, East Boston and Charlestown.

Only eight assembly districts in New York city, all but one of them in the lower East side, had over 407 persons to the acre when the last census was taken. Boston's tenement section in the North and West ends have, from the latest figures, a density of 427 persons for each acre.

Block No. 33, bounded by Prince, Thacher, North Margin streets and Lafayette avenue, is so far as known—the most densely populated block in Boston; it had, according to the latest figures obtainable, 956 residents on .34 acre, living in houses averaging 3.23 stories high—310 persons per acre per story. New York's most crowded block has 1,672 per acre in houses averaging 5½ stories, or 304 per acre per story.

Plan a Stage Uplift.

Chicago.—Uplift of the theater through organized attendance on good plays and non-support of bad ones is the purpose of the "Drama League of America," which came into existence the other day at a conference of representatives of women's clubs in the Art Institute.

"We do not purpose to fritter away our energy by striving to lengthen the skirts of the chorus girls," said one of the promoters. "Once a bad play comes to town we hope through organization to keep people away from it."

PIE THE KEY TO LONGEVITY

Hale Man of Ninety-Seven Names Best Kind of Food to Eat to Be Centenarian.

Belleville, Ill.—The most remarkable man in Belleville, Benjamin West, who is ninety-seven years old, straight as a soldier and spry, has given the world the secret of longevity. Here it is: "P-i-e."

Any kind of pie will do as a steady diet, from Washington pie to lemon meringue, says Mr. West. All kinds are equally stimulating and helpful.

Mr. West was formerly a merchant in Belleville, but he retired in 1884, and has since lived in Minneapolis. Twice each year he comes to Belleville to visit his son, Robert.

"I'm going to have a centennial in three years," he said while here last. "Rules of health? Well, I can't say that I have any. I have just lived a prudent life. I do not know the taste of whisky or wine. When I was living here I tried to drink beer, but I didn't like the taste of it and I guess I never got enough of it in my system to hurt me."

"I never smoked, but I chew tobacco, not to excess, though—just a couple of small chews a day. I have made it a rule to eat not more than one pound of meat a year."

"I never miss my three big meals a day. Next to pie I like vegetables best as a steady diet. I am not a vegetarian, but I have proved in my own case at least that vegetables are the healthiest food. I eat milk and eggs, but I like cabbage, beets, turnips, corn and potatoes much better."

Mr. West said that he had not been ill a day in years. As a young man he was sickly and it was predicted that he would die before he was thirty.

At ninety-seven his white hair is the only indication of his extreme age. He carries long walks every day and carries a cane, not for the support, but for style. He wears the frock coat and the broad slouch hat once typical of the "southern gentleman." He was born in Virginia when Uncle Sam was winning the 1812 pennant in the championship series with John Bull.

DARES DEATH AMONG SNAKES

New York Zoo Employee Enters Cages of Diamond Rattlers to Clean, and Has Close Call.

New York.—Housecleaning day in the dens of the poisonous reptiles at the New York Zoological park, is fraught with danger to the keepers.

A large number of persons watched the cleaning of the rattlesnakes' cages recently. Slowly the cage of the diamond-backed rattler was opened from the rear. With a forked stick the snakes were gently urged into a corner. One went over willingly, as if framed. Another started, but half way across the floor stopped and flung himself into a coil and raised his wicked head, and the humming of his rattles was distinctly heard by the watchers.

The keeper backed away till he was beyond the length of the snake's body, when he gently put his crotch of the stick over the reptile's head, and, taking him in his hands, just back of the head, dropped him into a sack, which he tied up and put in a box.

The other snakes, having been urged into the corner, a board three feet wide was stood up against the wall, shutting off the light. This darkening of the cage generally keeps them quiet till the cage has been cleaned, but this day it didn't.

While the keeper was scrubbing the wall a snake reared itself back of the board and looked around the cage. The keeper paused, not daring to move, till the head slowly lowered again. Then with a white face the man backed out of the cage. A blanket was laid over the top of the board until the cleaning was finished.

MANITOBA INVADED BY RATS

Department of Agriculture Is Distributing Tubes of Poison for Extermination.

Winnipeg.—An invasion of rats threatens serious damage to the crops in southern Manitoba. It was three years ago that the first of these little animals were seen in Manitoba. It was at Gretna, on the international boundary line. Since then the rats have increased rapidly and Canada is fearing the invasion. At first little attention was paid to them, but when the damage began to be serious officials of the Manitoba department of agriculture began a war against them.

Already two thousand tubes of virus have been distributed, but with little success, for want of co-operation of farmers and others. The virus is placed on bread, and every rat that eats it breeds fatal disease, which is carried to its mates. In districts where it has been diligently used the rats have almost disappeared inside of two or three weeks.

Hen With Human Features.

Chicago.—Guests and employees of a downtown hotel are interested in a white hen that has features of a human being—a clearly defined nose and lips in place of the beak and mouth of a chicken, and feet like knobs instead of claws.

"The chicken is nine months old," said Michael Singer, one of the hotel porters, who owns the fowl, "and is compelled to eat from the hand of a person, being unable to pick food like other chickens. It cannot scratch and does not cackle nor make other noises like a chicken. It has laid two eggs, both of which were flat on one side and of extraordinary size."

AIRSHIP OUST NAVY?

Aviator Curtiss Declares Drednaughts Are Out of Date.

Swarms of Light, Swift Aeroplanes Will Replace Monster Battleships, Dropping Their Terrible Poison Bombs.

New York.—Glenn H. Curtiss, the aviator, believes that the day of dreadnaughts and monster battleships is past, and that by the time of the next great war the huge Florida and the other costly floating forts of this and other nations will be useless.

Swarms of light, swift aeroplanes, he says, will replace the tardier, more sluggish ships of the sea, and will swarm like deadly insects over the old-fashioned navies, dropping their terrible poison in the shape of acid bombs before the unwieldy men-of-war are able to retaliate.

More than a thousand aeroplanes can be launched for the price of a single battleship, he says.

"I was much interested in the launching of the Florida the other day," said Mr. Curtiss. "I heartily subscribe to the preparations we are making to defend our country from all aggression. But I do not believe that we are going about it in the right way in view of modern conditions."

"Battleships have been impressive engines of war, but their day is practically done. It is as sure as death and taxes that the airship will supersede the great floating structure of steel with its immense guns."

"Imagine, for instance, that a hostile fleet is 20 miles off New York. Suppose it consists of some of the most powerful of modern vessels, like the Florida. Before it could begin to shell the city, our fleet of aeroplanes would start from the New Jersey flats. Suppose we had only 200 of them. Each is able to carry 200 pounds of bombs."

"Bombs were used in the South African war which weighed not more than ten pounds. They were made of picric acid. There is nothing more deadly."

The missiles can be hurled down upon such a target as a war vessel with great precision. Foreign experiments, carried on in secret, have demonstrated that objects can be dropped from a moving aeroplane and hit a target within a radius of 12 feet.

"During the day the aeroplanes could soar away at a great height. They could be painted the color of the sky. Before the lookouts on the hostile fleet could discern the mosquito-like fliers, the aeroplanes could swoop down and blow the warships to pieces. Before the ships could bring any of their clumsy guns into action, the aeroplanes would be off and safe."

"Before another year has passed many nations will devote the millions they are now spending on dreadnaughts in building fleets of aeroplanes. It is inevitable."

COUPLE MARRIED 44 TIMES

German Has Wedded Same Wife in Every State in Union With Exception of New York.

Newark, N. J.—Ludwig Lewisohn, German professor and writer, born in Berlin 30 years ago, claims the distinction of having been married to his wife in every state in the Union except New Jersey. He has just added New Jersey to the list, the nuptial knot being tied for the forty-fourth time.

This raises the question: "Can a man legally marry his own wife?" Lewisohn, with his wife, walked into the county clerk's office and asked William Christian for a marriage license. Lewisohn said he was eager to get a certificate which would add this state to the list. He was directed to the office of Justice of the Peace Henry Bossett, where the marriage was performed. The couple smiled and appeared as happy as if it were their first venture.

"The laws of New York are peculiar, but some day I will have the knot tied there," said Lewisohn. "I feel that I am not violating any law, and as my wife and I love one another what harm is there in it?"

MACHINE TELLS ONE'S AGE

New Bertillon Apparatus Also Indicates Temperament and Physical Idiosyncrasies.

Paris.—Alphonse Bertillon's new machine for the detection of criminality has caused a sensation. A test has been made in the anthropological department of the prefecture of police.

It measures either visible or invisible marks of pressure made by human muscles upon material objects and thus indicates approximately to the expert investigator the age, strength, temperament and sometimes the physical idiosyncrasies of persons exerting such pressure.

There is a considerable margin of vagueness in the evidence which it affords and if it is ever put to practical use it is thought great caution must be observed in founding conclusion upon the records of its action.

Sickness Causes \$55,000,000 Loss.

London.—About \$55,000,000 is annually lost by the wage earning class in this country owing to temporary inability to work through sickness or lunacy, said Stephen Paget at the London School of Economics recently.

RIVAL ROUTS ELK HERD KING

Jerry, Long Leader at St. Louis Zoo, Defeated in Battle—Victor Kills Another.

St. Louis.—Jerry, the royal elk buck in the zoo at Forest park, is monarch of the elk herd no longer. The crown passed to Big Ben, three years his junior, after two sanguinary battles, in which Jerry was completely routed and a year-old buck killed on the field.

Although unchallenged as the undisputed king, Big Ben is enjoying no royal prerogatives. Lustrous for battle, he bellows impotently behind the steel bars of his prison, where he was unceremoniously thrust after his double victory. His challenges are unanswered, however. Jerry, who ruthlessly ran the herd for five years, is completely cowed by his defeat and hides himself when his conqueror hurls defiance.

Jerry, until the other day, never tasted defeat, and in his years of power had beaten down every contender. But Big Ben had shown signs of restlessness under Jerry's rule. Realizing that his power was threatened, Jerry tried repeatedly to force the fight, but the younger bull each time escaped.

Big Ben stood his ground when Jerry approached the other day, and a battle royal was on. It lasted but a few minutes, but its fierceness made up for its brevity.

Jerry forced the fighting, charging madly at his younger opponent. Finally Big Ben became the aggressor. He rushed savagely and Jerry ran. The retreat became a rout, and the two traveled a merry pace around the preserve, each of them bleeding from many cuts and bellowing with rage. Keepers ended the fight and saved Jerry's life.

Big Ben, arrogant with his new authority, was not satisfied with one battle. He kept the herd on the move all day, and in the afternoon celebrated his victory by ruthlessly killing a yearling bull that crossed his path.

WAGE WAR ON WHITE PLAGUE

London Medical Authorities Devoting Their Attention to Consumption—Aim to Prevent.

London.—Consumption has been occupying the attention of the London medical authorities, especially within the last 12 months, and the result is a determined effort on their part to combat the disease. Besides the 20,000 fully developed cases of consumption in London, at least 150,000 persons in the metropolis are regarded as "suspects," on account of their living in close proximity to the malady—a state of things intensified by the congested and insanitary conditions prevailing in the homes of the London poor.

During 1909 a tuberculosis dispensary—or "dispensary campaign," as it is called—was established in London somewhat on the lines of the original institution opened in Edinburgh about 23 years ago, under the direction of Dr. R. W. Philip and others in America and France designed to fight all kinds of pulmonary diseases.

The special work in London consists in keeping registers in various districts of all cases of tuberculosis diseases, making examinations and distributing patients into hospitals or sending specialists and trained nurses to visit them in their own homes, according to their individual needs. The principles of sanitation and hygiene are taught in the homes of patients, and special attention is paid to children who may have become exposed to infection by sending them to convalescent homes or farm colonies with a view to fortifying their health.

Full inquiry is made into the antecedents of each case and all possible means are adopted to hinder the spread of the disease. Thus it will be seen that the special aim of the "dispensary campaign" is preventive even more than curative, and the hope is expressed that consumption in this country perhaps within the next decade or so will become almost as rare as smallpox. King Edward was deeply interested in the work and in this connection it may be recalled that last October he opened a dispensary at Montreal by pressing an electric button on this side of the Atlantic.

Can Chickens Swim?

Newmarket, N. J.—If Justice of the Peace Clark T. Rogers of this place decides that a chicken can swim Julian Duckhdt will have to pay his neighbor, Munson Knight, whatever amount the justice names up to \$250 compensation for the destruction of 2,000 strawberry plants. Duckhdt's defense is that his chickens are unable to swim, which they would have to do in order to get at Knight's berry plants. Judge Rogers withheld decision of the case till he had made up his mind whether a chicken can swim or not.

Hear Heart Beats Miles Away.

London.—Professor Milne and four distinguished doctors on the Isle of Wight, testing a new invention, listened over an ordinary telephone to the beat of a woman's heart in London. The instrument employed in London was a stethoscope with a telephone relay by which the minute sounds were magnified.

World Champion Milk Producer.

Columbia, Mo.—Chief Josephine, the Holstein at the state farm, gave 98 pounds of milk the other day, and has been averaging 90 pounds a day since her tests began. It is claimed she will prove the champion milk producer of the world.

EAGLES RAID RANCH

Monarchs of Air Attack Persons and Carry Off Stock.

Big Birds, Now Busy Gathering Food for Young Ones, Leaving Nests in Cascades, Are Unusually Daring.

Seattle, Wash.—Eagles now busy gathering food for their young ones and flying down from their nests in the crags of the Cascade and Olympic mountains are unusually daring.

Instances are being reported where they have attacked men, women and children. They are also charged with carrying off lambs, pigs, dogs, cats and farmyard poultry. A month's file of a local daily newspaper shows the following:

George Hartman, hunter of North Yakima, Wash., attacked by eagle and severely scratched and flesh torn, April 14.

A stage coach driver near Hartford, Wash., attacked while sitting on his wagon and face badly torn by big eagle's talons, April 15.

April 17—Farmers near Brinnon say they are losing much young stock by thieving eagles. More eagles are nesting in the foothills of the Olympics than ever before.

April 19—A report from Mason county states that bald eagles are swooping down on farm yards and carrying off poultry, principally ducks and geese. A big rooster on a Mason county farm fought a fierce battle with a small eagle of some unknown species and won out, putting the marauder to flight.

April 21—Blaine county farmers observed two eagles descend from high in the air and attack and carry for over a mile two-day-old lambs. The sheep in the pen were so badly frightened by the flopping of wings and bleating of the dying lambs as to break from the inclosure and run pell mell into a brook, 15 drowning.

A news story under a Enumclaw date, April 23, telling about a pair of eagles that had a nest on a high, rocky ledge near there, says: "A newly-hatched eaglet fell from the nest 300 feet into the valley. Several children coming from a Sunday school picnic passed near by and were set on and badly frightened by the old birds. So incensed were the eagles that they followed the scared boys and girls to their homes and were only routed by the firing of a shotgun toward them as they circled over the houses."

On April 25, 27 and 28 items were printed from various towns on the Pacific slope of the Cascade mountains noting the presence of many eagles and the inroads they occasionally made into the pig pens of ranchers and yards of poultrymen.

Henry Gregg, dog catcher for Seattle, shot a large bald eagle April 30, when the big bird was circling over the inclosure containing over 100 captive dogs. Whether the bird intended to capture a dog for food is not known, but the dogs had observed the eagle and set up such a continuous howl as to attract the attention of the manager of the pound.

ALASKAN TALE CAUSES HUSH

Congressmen Hear of Cucumbers and Lettuce Grown Under Steam Pipes in Far North.

Washington.—Henry M. Hoyt, now attorney general of Porto Rico, but formerly district attorney in Alaska, testified before a committee of the house the other day, and was asked what he knew of the agricultural resources of Alaska.

"Up in Nome we grow cucumbers and lettuce," he said, "planting the seeds near the exhaust pipes of the electric light plant. The soil is fertile, and when the little green shoots show above the ground we walk into the steam cloud and attach our cards to such of the plants as we wish, thus staking out our claims. When the lettuce is well grown and the cucumbers are round and plump we give banquets to our friends."

For a moment there was stillness in the committee room; then the chairman suggested an adjournment.

Alimony for a Horse.

New York.—Hugh A. Todd of Plainfield, N. J., has been ordered by Vice-Chancellor Howell of Newark to pay his wife, Sarah, \$31 a week for her separate maintenance; also counsel fees.

Mrs. Todd had asked for \$25 a week, and in doing so told the court she was under an expense of about six dollars a week in keeping a horse her husband owns.

The court could find nothing in the statutes providing for a horse sharing in alimony, but found a way out of the difficulty by giving the woman more than she sought.

Old Wreck Yields Coins.

Hallfax, N. S.—The schooner Hazlewood has arrived here from Barrington, N. S., with a cargo of material from the steamer Hungarian, which was wrecked in February, 1860, with the loss of 400 lives.

United States and English silver coins have been found covered with rust, but otherwise in good condition, after having been more than half a century in the water. The articles recovered have been eagerly seized by souvenir hunters.

Divers are still working at the wreck.

CHOOSE HUSBAND BY SCIENCE

English Professor Lectures to Girl Students on Importance of Knowledge of Eugenics.

London.—How to choose a husband scientifically was the subject of a lecture delivered to girl students of the Bedford college by Prof. W. M. Inge. A knowledge of eugenics, he said, prevent girls falling in love with the wrong men. But a frequent objection made to the science of eugenics was that it constituted undue interference with an individual's free choice in falling in love and marrying.

"To a certain extent," said the professor, "I sympathize with that objection, but I do think a certificate of sound health should be one of the things insisted upon before marriage. The insurance policy is rarely more important than the marriage settlement. Some knowledge of eugenics," he added, "would in many cases prevent falling in love with the wrong people."

"Unconsciously, as it is, we are much guided by eugenic considerations. Generally, a man's attraction for a woman is attributable to his fine and strong physique, and in the same way the points of beauty in women are those which belong to her womanhood. But some training in eugenics would enable a young man or woman to detect those signs of degeneracy which are obvious to the scientific eye."

The professor boldly advanced it as the duty of every beautiful woman to marry. She owed it to the race. On the other hand, people should not be too scrupulous, because "physical health is not everything and many families physically defective are yet of great use to the community."

Physical degeneration in this country is going on at an alarming rate, Professor Inge believes. He went so far as to say that if the process continued at its present rate, in three generations the English stock, which a few years ago was one of the best in the world, would be one of the poorest.

BEETLE HEADS FOR HATPINS

Women Overcome Fears and Use Insects of Various Colors in Latest Fashion Fad.

London.—Women have overcome their natural repugnance for insects sufficiently to wear imitation beetles and flies. Will they proceed a step further and adopt the real beetle as an adornment?

Hatpins with heads consisting of real beetles are the latest fashion created for women's hats.

The beetles, which are about an inch and a half long, and an inch across, are in their natural state, minus their legs, and some are very beautiful and might be admired by the most nervous woman.

The first four to be shown in London were to be seen at a well known Regent street establishment. One of these—light green in color—has the appearance of a perfectly enamelled beetle.

One dark green beetle and one which is a dark copper color tinged with green show the natural sheen of the insects. Less pretty, but unique, is the "Rhinceros beetle" hatpin head, which is larger and brown in color. They are all tropical beetles.

"The hatpins have been sent from abroad by a naturalist who conceives the idea of turning the beetle to useful account," said a representative of the firm.

"They will be somewhat expensive when first put upon the market, but more will be ordered if women like them."

"The hatpin heads are all lamellipeds, a naturalist said. "The green beetles are similar to the English rose beetles."

HORSE PARTLY DEER AND COW

Freak Animal in Canada Is Only One-Third Equine—Backbone Is on One Side.

Ottawa.—At the village of Buckingham, on the Quebec side of the Ottawa river, a few miles from this city, is a horse, if such it can be called, that is only one-third horse, the other two parts being divided equally between cow and deer.

As a freak the animal probably has no equal. The normal parts are its head, eyes, teeth and one hind leg. Its backbone is not in the center, but runs along the side of its back.

One side of the body is that of a deer, perfectly formed, with the fine close-set ribs and the delicately curved body, while the other side resembles that of a cow, very full, with big rough ribs and the hide much rougher than on the other side.

"Clubbing" for Education.

London.—Londoners are considering with interest the scheme of Lady Edward Cecil by which a number of families, living in the country, might club together to retain the services of two first-class teachers to conduct classes at one of their houses. The teachers are to be paid extra to provide their own board and lodgings. In the case furnished by Lady Edward Cecil, as an example, the cost amounted to about \$1,100 a year for a class of six children.

600,000 Eggs Held Up.

New York.—Fifty thousand dozen "canned" eggs are being held by the food inspectors in Brooklyn as the result of a raid on refrigerating plants there. The eggs came here some time ago from Chicago in metallic caskets.