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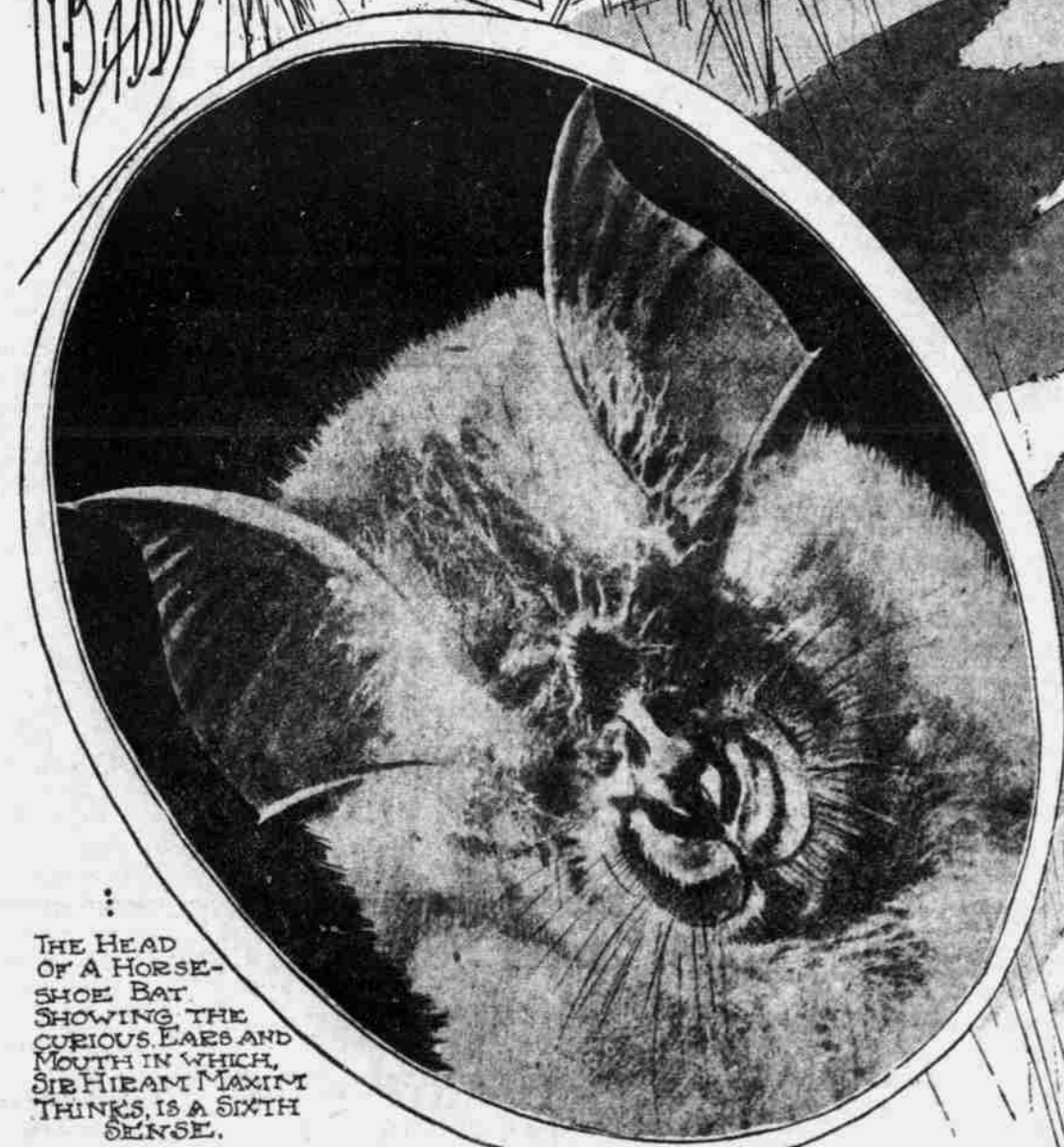
CAN WE DEVELOP A SIXTH SENSE?

"A girl swung high on cables receiving vibrations to her developed sixth sense by way of her hair and delicate instruments strapped to her ears—the scientific Prophetess of the future!"

THE INTERESTING PREDICTION OF SIR HIRAM MAXIM WHO THINKS THAT THE FIVE WE HAVE ARE TOO FEW FOR THE INCREASING COMPLEXITIES OF MODERN LIFE



THE ORACLE OF DELPHI. MOTTE'S PICTURE OF THE PYTHONESSE ON HER TRIPOD. SHE WAS SUPPOSED TO HAVE WHAT MAY BE CALLED A SIXTH SENSE.



THE HEAD OF A HORSE-SHOE BAT SHOWING THE CURIOUS LAEB AND MOUTH IN WHICH, SIR HIRAM MAXIM THINKS, IS A SIXTH SENSE.

seen obstacles and dangers that threaten him, to enable the automobilist to perceive the presence of unseen cars that are coming round the corners, and to enable man to display new forms of sensibility in a thousand ways made necessary by modern civilization.

We can easily conceive the existence of senses different from those now possessed by man from the example of animals and existing scientific instruments. Sir Hiram Maxim, in fact, was led to speculate upon the possibility of a sixth human sense by a scientific instrument which he had just invented.

This instrument is intended to enable a ship to detect the approach of an iceberg. Vibrations quite imperceptible to human senses are sent forth by this instrument. When they strike an iceberg they are echoed back to the ship, and strike a kind of diaphragm, which repeats them in a form audible to the human ear, although otherwise they would be inaudible.

Now, if this instrument can perceive vibrations imperceptible to man, why cannot the human ear be trained to perceive them?

It can be proved that many animals are possessed of sense perceptions so far beyond those of man that they almost amount to additional senses.

Dogs can recognize a scent which is absolutely imperceptible to man. There is a kind of blind bat which is the most expert fly

catcher on earth. Evidently it is able to tell the approach of flies by some sense which is not possessed by man.

The cat animals use the hairs on their noses to detect the approach of enemies or the vicinity of obstacles in the dark. It may be argued that this is a development of the sense of touch, but if so it is a development entirely unknown to man.

This fact about the cats has led Sir Hiram Maxim to the idea that the newest sense of man may be located in the hair. Apparently our hair has certain sense possibilities hitherto neglected. We have heard that the hair will stand on end from terror, and it is also said that it will droop from fatigue.

If the new sense is to be located in the hair, then it seems probable that women will possess it more generally than men. Men are too frequently bald or losing their hair. It is scarcely to be expected that a new sense will show itself in a part of the body that is falling into decay.

The development of this sense in women would be in line with an observed tendency of modern evolution. As brute force becomes less and less a factor and delicacy of sense perception a greater factor in human affairs, then the role of woman must grow relatively more important.

We can imagine an exquisitely sensitive woman, with abundant highly vitalized hair, occupying the directing seat in one of the newest scientific devices, which requires for its guidance keener faculties than man has hitherto possessed. The services of a woman are even now essential to the operation of a telephone exchange, and they will be even more necessary with complicated machines of the future, requiring the perception of vibrations beyond present human senses.

NO less a scientist than Sir Hiram Maxim, the greatest gun inventor in the world and a pioneer of aviation, declares that man must develop a sixth sense in order to grapple with the complexities of modern civilization.

The sixth sense is needed to enable the aviator to perceive the air currents that constantly threaten his safety and life, to enable the submarine navigator to perceive the un-