NEWS FLASHES

Nation Wide Happenings Briefly Told

Morris Zimerman, clerk in a Camden produce store, was arrested for selling potatoes at short weight.

The body of 3-year-old Kenneth Bowman, of Philadelphia, was found drowned in a swamp between Porter and Shunk streets. The child had been missing since April 29th, and its parents had come to believe that it was held by kidnappers.

John Barton Payne, Secretary of the Interior, has been named Director General of the Railroad Administration to succeed Walker D. Hines.

"Hard line, I calls it!" So Little Jeff would say were the case of Frank Fransco and Christiana Diamo, of Philadelphia called to his attention. Frank has been writing on an average of ten fervid love epistles a day to Christiana for the past three weeks. She objected and told the magistrate so and now the unfortunate Romeo is behind the bars.

Nearly 200 new oil companies were organized in the United States during March.

The United States consumes nearly two-thrids of the world's rubber supply.

More than 8000 people visited the Yerkes observatory at Williams Bay, Wis., on Saturday afternoons last summer.

As a result of a weed-cutting campaign carried out in New Orleans in the spring of 1916, the number of hay fever cases was reduced to less than 50 per cent of the usual prevalence.

Timber Helps Land

Timber is essentially a poor land crop. Steep slopes, poor soil, rocky land, unusual corners, gullied and wooded tracts—all these afford opportunities for growing timber profitably, says specialists of the Forest Service, United States Department of Agriculture. A careful survey of the average farm will reveal a surprising number of spots of this sort which can be utilized to advantage. If they do not already have trees, planting them with the proper varieties will materially increase the value of the land.

Bureau of Entomology Successful in War Against Destructive Moth Tribe

A Substantial Decrease in Infested Territory Reported, and New Fields Being Invaded

After years of warfare against the gipsy moth and the brown-tail moth the United States Department of Agriculture, through the Bureau of Entomology, reports a substantial decrease in the infested territory. The reduction amounts to 1,824 square miles previously infested with the gipsy moth and 5,385 miles with the brown-tail moth. Twenty-eight towns in New Hampshire, 6 in Vermont, 8 in Massachusetts, and 10 in Connecticut, 52 towns in all, were found to be free from gipsy moth infestation and and were eliminated from the quarantine area. There is now under quarantine on account of the gipsy moth 20,747 square miles in New England.

Isolated colonies of the gipsy moth found in previous years in New York, Ohio, New Jersey and the western part of Massachusetts were again carefully examined but no infestation was found. There seems to be no reasonable doubt, reports the chief of the Bureau of Entomology, that the insect has been exterminated in these colonies. The decrease in area infsted with the brown-toll moth includes 34 towns in Maine, 58 in New Hampshire, 6 in Vermont, 3 in Massachusetts, and 10 in Connecticut, a total of 145 towns. There remains under quarantine on account of this insect an area of 28,752 square miles.

The Most Intelligent Animal

We read much about animal sagasity and there is a common query—"Which is the most intelligent animal?" This query most frequently relates to the results in training animals to do surprising things or to do the "smart" things that many captive animals do. Association with the human and the artificial conditions of captivity bring forth many surprising traits in animals, but such have little to do with this story. When the writer is asked which he considers the most intelligent animal he has no hesitation in answering, although the subject designated may cause much surprise.

Despite the adaptation of the horse and the elephant to domestic use, the docility and affection of the dog, the marvelous feats accomplished by trained sea lions and other marked demonstrations of intelligence among the larger animals, the writer is unwavering in his decision and this comes after years of observation and deduction. He picks the beaver as the star of animal sagacity. And the choice comes from an order of mammals not usually credited with a high degree of intelligence. This is the order of rodents, or gnawing animals. It contains an immense number of species, the greater number of small size and scattered over all parts of the world. To this order belong the rats and mice, the squirrels, porcupines, rabbits and marmots. The prairie "dog" is a member of this order and a fair rival of the beaver in solving problems of ingenious construction.

All the rodents are characteristic in having strangely developed incisor teeth—those immediately at the front of both the upper and lower jaw. These teeth, proportionately larger and longer than with other animals, are continually growing and their edges meet in a fashion to become much sharpened during constant use like a double set of rapidly moving chisels. Thus the rat gnaws holes through wood and plaster, the squirrel gnaws through the shells of the hardest nuts and the porcupine—much to the chagrin of the camper—chisels out a generous hole in one's camera in solving the nature of the interior.—Raymond L. Ditmars in Boys' Life.

BOYS WHO WERE "PREPARED"

"The story of Scout Candidate Verne Joseph, of Omaha, is worth telling," writes Chief Scout Executive James E. West in a recent issue of Boys' Life. "Note that he wasn't a Tenderfoot, but he was well on his way technically and as for scout spirit, well—even an Eagle Scout couldn't show anything much better. It was in the terrible days of the riot, when the mob had gone mad, were burning down the court house and trying to hang the mayor, when law and order were conspicuous for their absence and the police nearly distracted by the extra demands made upon them. In the midst of the chaos arrives one Verne Joseph. At the busiest corner of the city where two crowded streets intersect, there was no traffic policeman, though the need of direction was greater even than usual, in the confusion of the riot. Young Joseph, a sub-Tenderfoot, stationed himself of his own accord at this point and directed traffic with dignity and efficiency. The embryo cop's orders were obeyed, too. People understood he wasn't just a small boy. He was law and order and public safety, self-appointed but the real thing none the less. And modest—well, hear what he had to say about his feat.

"'It wasn't anything,' said the boy. 'Any fellow could do it. I saw that something had to be done at that corner because everybody was getting mixed up. People like to have somebody tell them which way to travel They get used to having a regular cop at the corners, and they get scared if they don't find one. So I just stepped out and started telling them when to come on. Any Boy Scout can do that.'

"And when it was all over he went quietly back to his old job of getting ready to pass his Tenderfoot test There isn't much doubt as to what kind of a scout he will turn out to be.

"Then there was Scout McCaferty, who was out hunting with his father, William J. McCaferty of the Rio Grande secret service, when the latter had his hand accidentally blown off. Was Scout McCafferty fazed by this emergency? Not a bit of it. He took command of the situation with the coolness of a person who knows his job. He tore a strip off his own underwear, improvised a tourniquet and succeeded in stopping the flow of blood from the arteries, and without doubt saved his father's life by his prompt and intelligent action. Scouting pays."

The Loving Cup

The origin of the loving cup is hazy. Some investigators have asserted that its beginning was the wassail bowl, belonging to festivities antedating the Christian area, and that on the advent of Christianity the custom of wassailing assumed a religious aspect. The monks called the wassail bowl the "pocalum caritatis" (loving cup). The ceremony of drinking from one cup and passing it around was observed at the Jewish pascal supper and on other notable occasions in their ritual.

Pet Lion Devours a Pair of Horses

Following an epidemic of horse stories that appears to be breaking out in the San Gabriel Valley, comes a sad tale from Monrovia, of a perfectly good horse that was fed to the lions all by mistake, say the Los Angeles Times. The story came out in Justice Reed's court, when Charles Smith, a Covina contracting teamster, brought suit to recover the cost of the animal from Felix F. Graf of Monrovia. An employe of the latter, it was claimed, had risen early in the morning and slain the animal before breakfast, in order that the mountain lions and other pet carnivora that infest the Graf premises might have a square meal.

This "horse" on Graf will cost him just $100, that being the value placed by the Court on the deceased equine. Following judgment a stay of execution of ten days was obtained by Graf's attorney.

According to his testimony, Mr. Graf, who has a flourishing private zoo on his beautiful Monrovia foothill estate, is always in the market for horseflesh, with which to provide nourishment for his hungry pets. He averred that he understood Smith to say over the telephone that he had one or more animals with one foot in the grave, and that was the reason, he told the court, that two horses were taken instead of one, and that a horse that by careful nursing might have lived a few weeks longer, had his earthly career career cut off in such an untimely manner by a too-early rising employe.

The plaintiff's story was that he had a sick horse, and as the animal was aged, he phoned graf, who he knew would always buy such animals, to come over and take the horse away. Smith declared that the call was made by Graf during the contractor's absence, and that Graf took with him two instead of one. When he discovered that the two horses were gone he immediately phoned graf to stay the execution, but unfortunately, Graf's employe had already done his duty, and by the time Graf himself arrived on the scene the mountain lions had picked the bones of both horses clean.

Why You See Violet

The sun is distant 95,000,000 miles from the earth, but the sun you see is only a part of the real sun. Do you know that the sun is composed of sodium, iron magnesium, cobalt, hydrogen, nickel, titanium, chronium, and a few other things? There are movements in the sun, but no signs of it being burnt out or exhausted, according to astronomers.

It is not the heat that gives you sunstroke, but the invisible violet rays of the sun, and the base of your skull is the vulnerable spot.

Sunburn is really the rupture and inflammation of the tiny veins of the skin. And you wear white in the sun not because it looks cool, but because white resists the heat rays of the sun better than colors.

The violet tinge over everything after you have looked at the sun is there because violet is the accidental color of yellow—the sun's color. You cannot really look at the sun, but birds can, because they have an extra eyelid which can be drawn down to act as a screen or shield.

The sun seems much larger at sunrise and sunset—although it never sets nor rises—because it is then nearer the terrestrial objects, and so gains by comparison.

A red sunset is said to portend fine weather; a red sunrise indicates wet—the vapor in the air being already condensed to clouds. Finally, the hottest summer sun will never, by itself, ignite natural substances, and for all the germs it kills with its light it brings as many more into existence with its life-giving warmth.

Sugar Planters Aid Entomologist

Louisiana sugar planters have placed $10,000 at the disposal of the United States Department of Agriculture to assist the Bureau of Entomology in importing parasites of the sugar cane moth borer, the most destructive enemy of sugar cane in the United States. The work of importing and establishing the parasites of the borer was undertaken by the Bureau of Entomology last year. An agent was sent to Cuba and succeeded in getting several hundred living specimens of the parasite to the United States alive. This parasite has apparently become established in the Louisiana cane fields, and will assist in controlling the pest. The planters realizing the importance of the work and the handicap under which the bureau was working for lack of funds, undertook to finance it to a certain extent. The money thus made available will enable the Bureau of Entomology to keep five agents this year instead of one, and thousands of this parasite instead of a few hundred will be sent to the cane fields during the coming season.

The proverb that brings the most comfort to the lazy man is the one telling us that Rome wasn't built in a day.

Junior Chamber of Commerce of U. S. to Hold Big Convention In St. Louis

Important and Unique Organization Will Exert Powerful Influence Upon Embryo Business Men

The United States Junior Chamber of Commerce, with headquarters at St. Louis, will hold a convention in that city on June 17, 18, and 19. The novel organization, says Clarence W. Howard, father of the movement and director of the United States Chamber of Commerce, is the link between the Boy Scouts of America and the Chamber of Commerce of the United States, as builder of men and an upbuilder of trade.

"There was," he says, "a crying need for care and constructive training of our young men from 18 to 30 along civic and commercial lines. Thus the Junior Chamber of Commerce idea found birth and expression, and provided an opportunity for the Boy Scouts to be encouraged to graduate into the Junior Chamber of Commerce and they in turn become members of the Senior Chamber of Commerce, thereby forming a wonderful foundation training for membership in the Senior Chamber.

Appeal to Father

"The Junior Chamber of Commerce presents a powerful appeal to the father, the employer and the young man himself. It furnishes an academic course in business and civics, causing the young man to appreciate the viewpoint and problems of his father as well as his employer. and fits him for intelligent, useful citizenship. It broadens his vision to a conception of the relation of his particular line of business to the commercial and industrial world.

"The Junior Chamber programme has proved itself to be far more attractive to the normal, healthy young man than the pool room, the dance hall, etc. It advocates temperate social activities, but gives the young man the right perspective and correct sense of proportion, as well as the relative value of things. It is true that 'all work and no play makes Jack a dull boy,' but it is also true that all play and no work makes Jack a fool.

"The members of the Junior Chamber of Commerce of St. Louis were so pleased and benefited by their organization that they were fired with an impulse to share these benefits with the young men of every community in the United States. They conceived the idea of calling a national caucus of other Junior Chambers and young men's organizations that had developed in various American cities, with the intention of forming a National Junior Chamber of Commerce as a clearing house for information and ideas and the promotion of forming these Junior Chamber organizations throughout the country.

"The caucus was called and it was a great success, having twenty-seven cities represented and which formed the United States Junior Chamber of Commerce, with headquarters in St. Louis, as St. Louis is the center of the United States.

"At this caucus arrangements were made for the calling of a convention to be held in St. Louis, June 17 to 19 of this year, and it is expected three or four thousand young men full of pep and expressing honesty of purpose and truth of character will attend."

The Furrow

News and Views About the Farm

PUREBRED PAY IN POULTRY

That the value of purebred males counts as much in poultry raising as in stock raising is shown by the records of three flocks of Leghorns, the data for which have been supplied the United States Department of Agriculture by the North Carolina Experiment Station. Flock 1, the egg production of which is included in these records, consisted of common hens; flock 2 was produced by breeding these hens to common males; flock 3 was produced by breeding flock 1 to a rooster from a high-producing hen. The following year the original flock laid 89 eggs a hen; flock 2 laid an average of 88 eggs a hen; and flock 3 laid an average of 136 eggs a hen. This increase of 54 per cent in one year tells very specifically the benefits of using a pure-bred male. But the percentages alone do not tell the whole story, for a big proportion of the increase came at a season—May and June—when the production of flocks 1 and 2 were relatively low and the prices were good.

PROCEDURE IN JUDGING

In judging a class of cattle or inspecting a single individual one should first make a general survey of the animals. From a distance examine the general features of the animals and note the general outline and typical beef form. When first approaching the animal note the front view and general features of the head and the width and depth of the chest. On moving toward the side, note the depth of the body and the lowness of the flank. The rear view will give the width of the back, spring of ribs, and thickness and development of the hind quarters, particularly the thighs and twist.

After a general survey of the animal from a short distance a close inspection of the various parts of the body should be made, beginning at the head. Examine the various parts of the head and proceed backward to the neck and shoulders. After examining these parts it is well to move a step or two away from the animal and compare the straightness of the top and underline, at the same time noting the depth of the chest and the constitution in general. Continuing the examination proceed toward the loin and hips feeling the skin and paying particular attention to the evenness and covering of flesh. In the examination of the hind quarters note the smoothness fo the hips, levelness and width of the rump, and depth and thickness of the thighs and twist. The quality and condition should be obtained from the handling of the various parts during the examination. In classes which are very close the condition and quality may be the deciding factors, especially in fat cattle. In such classes a close examination of the thickness of flanks and the fullness of the cod may be very helpful.

GOSSIP OF PEOPLE ABROAD

The untimely death of the Marquis of Ormonde removes out of London society one of its most prominent figures. He was commodore of the Royal Yacht Club, of Cowes, for a good many years ,and as such enjoyed an immense popularity being the dispenser of all the hospitality for which that institution was famous.

It was said at one time that he got into the black books of the late King Edward VII for his resistance to the election by members of this exclusive assemblage of a few of the monarch's personal friends to whom he objected for some reason or other which he was wise enough to keep to himself.

The marquis was a large landowner in Ireland, where he had his family seat, Kilkenny Castle, one of the most imposing piles in the United Kingdom, which, apart from its historical interest, contained wonderful collections of pictures and tapestries and rare china and manuscripts. Not being at all well off, thanks to the Irish disturbances, and seeing his rent roll dwindle day by day, he tried to sell some of these treasures, which he could not succeed in doing on account of the opposition of his brother and eventually successor, who, not being on good terms with his sister-in-law, the Marchioness of Ormonde, whom he accused of being extravagant, refused his consent to his scattering of family heirlooms compromised in the entail of the property. This led to much friction and during the last years of Lord Ormonde's life, he was hardly upon speaking terms with his brother.

The great sorrow of the late marquis, which indeed threw a gloom over his whole life, was the fact that he had no heir. His marriage with the pretty and attractive daughter of the late Duke of Westminster. Lady Elizabeth Grosvenor, was blessed only with two daughters.

One of the two "Ormonde girls," as one called them familiarly in those select circles of London society in which they moved, the eldest, Lady Constance Butler, did not marry, and is still her mother's faithful companion.

As for the youngest, Lady Beatrice, she had quite a romantic story in her young days. When scarcely 17, and reputed the loveliest girl in England, she fell in live with Colonel Reginald Pole-Carew, who though a rich man of unimpeachable lineage and character, was about 35 years older than herself, which, of course, was a serious obstacle to her wedding him, not only in the opinion of her parents, but also in that of the old Duke of Westminster, who was alive at the time, and who had announced his intention of settling a large sum on each of his granddaughters if they wedded in a way that was agreeable to him.

When he heard of Lady Beatrice's "infatuation," as he called it, for the popular and gallant Pole-Carew, he declared that he would not leave her one penny if she persisted in the idea of becoming the wife of a man he thoroughly disapproved of. The lovers had for some time to submit to circumstances, and to make up their minds to wait. This was just before the Boer war, in which Colonel Pole-Carew, who soon became General Pole-Carew, distinguished himself greatly and won honors. When he returned to England he was lionized, of course, and made very much of, and he found that the lady of his heart had not forgotten him, but was waiting for him and always bent on marrying him.

The Duke of Westminster had died in the meanwhile, and left Lady Beatrice something like 50,000 pounds and the Marquis and Marchioness of Ormonde, seeing that their daughter was still bent on becoming Lady Beatrice Pole-Carew, granted her at last their consent and she was wedded with great pomp and solemnity in London to the man she had loved through so many long years of patient and anxious waiting. The union turned out very well and the bride of that day, now no longer in her first youth, is said to have declared more than once that she had never occasion to regret her choice, and that she had been supremely happy ever since the day when she pledged her vows at the alter of Sir Reginald Pole-Carew, as he had become in the meanwhile. The couple are often seen in London ,but live most of the time in their beautiful place, St. Anthony, near Penzance, in Cornwall.

Letters from Germany, which begin to arrive in a more or less regular way, declare that the condition of things is very dreadful indeed, owing to the enormous taxes imposed by the government.

Among the most hard hit people is the Prince Poless, the husband of pretty Miss Daisy Cornwallis West whose coal mines, out of which he derived his principal revenues, are situated in that part of the Silesia which has been allotted to Poland, and now hardly yield sufficient income to pay the immense taxes imposed upon their output.

Talking of Prince Piess and of his wife, it is a curious thing that the two daughters of the late Colonel Cornwallis West, who were supposed to have married so brilliantly and so richly, are now left with comparatively little to get on, especially in view of their extravagant habits. The Duchess of Westnmister is divorced and has to live on something like 12,000 pounds a year, almost what she spent on dress alone in former times when she was the mistress of Governor House, in London, and Eaton Hall, in Cheshire, and the princess of Pless, apart from the fact that her position in Germany is a most difficult one, will have to content herself with a more than modest income.

New Grapes In the Wine Districts

Investigations being conducted by the United States Department of Agriculture have apparently demonstrated that long-keeping grapes can be successfully grown on a commercial scale in the wine-grape districts of the Pacific coast. The Chief of the Bureau of Plant Industry reports that the culture of the Obanez and other late varieties can apparently be carried on advantageously with a view to their taking the place of the Almeria and other types of long-keeping grapes that are now imported into this country from Spain and elsewhere. This industry, in connection with the development of the Panarita and other currant grapes already under way gives good promise of future profits for the wine-grape growers of the Pacific coast.



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