

PEER IN BEASTS' EYES

SCIENTISTS MAKE EXAMINATION OF THEIR OPTICS.

Risky Work Which Is Carried On at Chicago Zoo by Investigators Who Would Study Ways of Wild Animals.

Chicago.—To catch a tiger or a lion and make a scientific examination of his eyes is not a task that appeals to the average oculist.

The study of the eyesight of wild animals is a branch of science little known but much interest was aroused among Chicago physicians by an illustrated lecture given by Dr. Casey A. Wood, of Chicago, before the American Academy of Medicine at its annual meeting in the Northwestern university building.

Dr. Wood gave to Dr. George Lindsay Johnson and Arthur W. Head, the latter an artist, credit for much scientific knowledge.

The tasks undertaken by these men in studying the eyes of wild animals exposed them to peril.

They investigated the eyes of the lion, tiger, rhinoceros, bear, gorilla, camel, zebra, kangaroo, polecat and many others. More perilous still, they made experiments on the eyes of the largest python obtainable. They peered deeply into the orbs of several crocodiles and other members of the same family.

The investigators wished to know why the rays of light flashed in the darkness by some of the wild beasts were red, some green and some yellow. They were anxious to learn what disease of the eye affected wild animals, and what defects of vision existed. They were curious as to the powers of convergence.

In doing this work the scientists employed an ophthalmoscope, which is an instrument for looking into the interior of the eye. A kerosene light was used, and when the rays were turned into the animal's orbs the fury of the creature would have passed all bounds had not the precaution been taken first to blind the beasts, cover them with nets and muzzle them.

In some instances atropine, cocaine or other drugs were used, and at first general anaesthetics were tried, but the latter treatment proved undesirable.

In the examination it often became necessary to hold the eyelids of lions apart with the fingers, a task calculated to send shivers down the backs of the workers. Special instruments were used to measure the refraction, angle or optic divergence and other ocular conditions.

One of the striking results of the work was the discovery of the variety and intensity of the coloration. The background of the human eye forms a beautiful colored picture, but it is faded and colorless when compared with that of any lower animal. In the stereopticon slides projected on the canvas at the lecture these colors were shown in a manner never before attained.

Another discovery was that many of the normal conditions observed in lower animals resemble those found in man in diseased or unnatural conditions. It is a curious fact, too, that when domesticated for several generations wild animals usually become nearsighted and afflicted with other defects of vision.

Dr. Johnson divides mammals, as to the eye colorings, into three classes: First, the red type, including all shades of red, brown, chocolate and gray; second, the yellow type, including orange, and, third, the green and yellow green.

Daddy Refused to Enter Into Any Plot Against Would-Be Son-in-Law.

"Now, papa, I want you to act like the traditional stern parent when Harry comes to ask for me. I told him what a struggle it would be for you to give me up. Don't forget that, daddy dear."

"But I'm not a good actor, my child," said the fond father, according to the Cleveland Plain Dealer. "You know very well I'm really tickled half to death to think you are going to marry Henry."

"But you mustn't let him know it. Treat him as if he came to steal something."

"But suppose I overdo it, and Henry gets mad and quits?"

"Then I'll sue him for breach of promise, daddy. Oh, you can trust this little golden-haired innocent. She knows her lesson. If you could kiss him, daddy, it would be just splendid."

"Gladly, I draw the line there. In the first place, I refuse to inflict any such chastisement on the son of my old friend, and in the second place every blessed one of my toes is too painfully tender to admit of any such recklessness. In short, I'm going to yield you up without a struggle, my child—without the tiniest bit of a struggle, and do it cheerfully, too."

HOGS ARE SKINNED NOW.

The Old-Fashioned Method of Scraping Has Been Generally Abandoned.

In Yates county, New York, farmers have found out that it is more profitable to skin their hogs than to scrape them. This change in method, says the Associated Farm Press, was brought about by an enterprising butcher who found a market for hog skin. He began to skin hogs for farmers, taking the skins for pay, as they are worth from 50 cents to \$1 apiece. It is a paying business, and from the standpoint of the owner of the hog it is a good thing, too. He is not required to make any extensive preparations at butchering time as before. No scalding platform to build, no water to heat, no extra help to employ. Now the butcher drives into the yard, kills, skins and cleans the hogs and hangs them up ready for market. The loss in weight is slight, from five to 15 pounds, according to the size of the hog, and the butcher will pay half a cent a pound more for pork skinned and cut up on the block, and for home use it is much better.

This practice of skinning hogs is rapidly spreading over the state, and it is believed by progressive farmers that in a few years it will entirely take the place of the old methods of scraping.

SUBWAYS SUPPLANT "L."

New Yorkers Take to the Underground in Preference to the High Line.

"Riding on the elevated railroad" is passing out of fashion, according to the man that dug New York's subway. He is quite sure that when the new underground roads are built and in operation the city will be able to tear down its 50 miles of elevated railway structures, restore 50 miles of ruined streets, and give back to its property owners hundreds of millions of dollars' worth of real estate values. The elevated railways were well for the time in which they were built. They have done much to develop the city and serve the convenience of the people. But their ugly structures obstruct and darken 50 miles of our finest streets. They are noisy, and make life uncomfortable for pedestrians. They shut out the light, and otherwise help to destroy the value of 100 miles of buildings, counting both sides of the streets. When the new subways are in operation the elevated system will have outlived its usefulness, as the old omnibuses outlived their usefulness when the modern street car lines came into existence.

COSTLY SUIT OVER \$2.16.

Two Judges, a Jury and Eighty-Four Witnesses in the Case—History of Litigation.

Esston, Md.—Two judges and a jury have spent four days and a night in Talbot county court here wrestling with a contest between a white man and a negro over a strip of land worth \$2.16. Even when the case is settled it will not determine the ownership of the strip and another suit must be filed.

The suit has been twice removed from other courts, 84 witnesses have been summoned, whose expenses will amount to \$350; the attorneys' fees will not be less than \$250 and court costs will amount to at least \$300.

The tract in dispute is triangular, formed by the intersection of two roads near Still Pond, Kent county. Horace Garner, colored, has occupied the strip in question, which contains an acre and a half. William H. Rowe bought the adjoining farm from Dr. John Kelley, who had previously sold the triangular strip to the negro.

Garner put up a fence on what he considered the dividing line. Bowers ripped it down and burned it. Garner brought suit for malicious destruction of property. The case was removed first from Chestertown, on account of impartiality to Queen Anne county court at Centerville. Then it was transferred here.

Eat Beans Worth \$6,598,272.

Bostonians are still true to the baked bean. They spent on their favorite diet last year more than the cost of two battleships or \$6,598,272. According to wholesale dealers, 68,732 barrels were consumed. The demand is increasing.

Eggs with Pedigrees for \$1.00.

A company has been formed to furnish chickens and eggs with pedigrees for the wealthy New Yorkers to eat. The eggs will be packed in separate boxes, according to course, with a special tax and will be sold for \$1 a dozen.

NO ROMANCE ABOUT HIM.

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GLUTTONY AMONG INDIANS

Enormous Quantities of Provisions Consumed by Remnants of Sioux Tribe.

To remedy the gluttony of the Indians and prevent them eating themselves to death, the Indian bureau is trying to make good housekeepers of the Indian girls. Ten times as much wheat flour is used by the Sioux today as 15 years ago. It is said by the agents that, where cereals and wheat flour are used by the Indians, there is some hope of civilizing them and curing them of gluttony.

At the schools, among the first things in their course, the girls are taught to make bread. But these lessons have not reached the wigwams on the reservations to any marked degree. The Indian cares little for wheat bread anyway. Cereals don't interest him. The reservations west of here are places at least where patent breakfast foods are not fashionable.

Ten months in the year the Sioux Indian prefers meat, and the average meal consists of coffee, meat, beans, dried fruits and corn sirup. The last dish is a great favorite with the Indians.

At some time in the past the New Englanders traded beans for furs or wampum, and since that day the navy bean has been a favorite dish with the red man. They prefer it in soup, and as beans are sometimes dear and hard to secure 25 or 30 miles from the railroad, the soup of the wigwam many times consists of "one bean and two soups."

The potato has never had a high standing with the Indian. A dish similar to chop suey may be found in almost any Indian home, and a fair grade of Mexican chili can be secured, but the delicately baked potato, so easily prepared in the ashes of a camp fire, is as little known to the Sioux Indian as Saratoga chips are to the natives of Swat.

LIKE A NEW NATION.

The Emergence of Russian Medievalism Into the Freedom of Modern Activity.

There has been no such situation in all history as that we are watching in Russia today, the self-efacement of an autocracy that never before entertained a doubt of its mission or its power, and the sudden emergence into active national life of a people that have had no organized political existence in the sense in which we understand such terms. It is not, says the Philadelphia Public Ledger, that Russia is without well recognized and long established institutions; but the whole theory of government has rested absolutely on the will of the czar, never upon the rights of the people.

The sudden emergence of Japan out of isolation and obscurity has compelled the attention of the whole world. Of vastly more importance is this emergence of Russia out of a stolid medievalism into the free air of modern activity. The czar retains his titles, but the autocracy has vanished, never to be restored. It is practically a new nation that is come into life, with all the mighty potentialities of the old, newly quickened by the enthusiasm of liberty and the realization of its strength and its opportunities.

We read of such things in the past, but here are these tremendous events passing under our very eyes, so that as we read of them, from day to day, we scarcely realize the truth that we are witnesses of a great epoch of history.

DUCKS CAME WHEN NEEDED

Minnesota Homesteaders Out of Meat Provided For in Providential Manner.

The walking south through town of a wild goose that had become exhausted in flight, or wounded, recalls the incident of a few years ago when a wild duck in its swift pilgrimage south at night flew through a window in the old courthouse into a room where a party of card players were enjoying themselves, leaving them in the dark, as the bird struck the lamp and put out the light. One or two of the party would not play after that, believing that the duck had been sent by the Lord as a warning against card playing.

Another odd incident of a similar nature, says the St. Paul Dispatch, occurred south of Seneca, in Faulk county, when, on a dark, stormy night, while a family of homesteaders were lamenting their ill fortune of having no meat in the house, they were startled to hear heavy thuds against the outside of the building, when investigation with a lantern disclosed the fact that wild ducks had flown against it and had fallen to the ground to be easily picked up in their dazed condition. This settled the meat question, and there were some who figured that the ducks had been providentially slaughtered that night in their journey south.

Russian Peasant Character.

The Russian peasant is not trained to work. He feels no rest in it. He will not labor for more than is necessary to provide for the next few days. For the land is not really his own, and, therefore, he cannot love it as a husbandman should. His whole character has been operated by enslavement and bad government, which rendered him less than ever capable of struggling with bad times.

A Panama Joke.

First American—Why are the Panama electric lights like a certain well-known fever?

Second American—Give it up.

Because they are intermittent.—Panama Journal.

THE AUTOMOBILE IN INDIA.

Has Made a Hit with Wealthy Natives Who Take to It in a Hurry.

Motoring for pleasure and for utility purposes would seem to have firmly established itself in India. The fast speeding car was just the thing to appeal to the wealthy native, and hence it is that in Calcutta and Bombay elegant motor cars are very familiar objects.

In Bombay the wealthy Parsee, Mohammedan and Hindoo are in the majority. The European takes a back seat so to speak, and thus we see the most fashionable car the property of the native who thoroughly delights in this fascinating means of locomotion. Speed and reliability trials have done a great deal to make motoring fashionable, and in India, at any rate, there is a great future before the automobile.

The business man now discards his gharry, but saves time and money by using his latest motor car. The (flea gharry) wallah is becoming really alarmed for his hire is in less request and soon he may pass off the face of the earth altogether.

The recent reliability trials, Poona to Satara and back, for the Aga Khan's cup, showed up a six horse-power car in a very favorable light. This car, driven by Lieut. Jenkins, won the cup, but, while it did so well, other cars acquitted themselves most creditably and demonstrated that reliability is assured to users of motor cars in India.

Every native ruler and chief in the country now possesses a stableful of motor cars, and when the prince and princess of Wales pay their visits to these native potentates they will be met, not on elephants clothed with heavy gold raiment, but in the most up-to-date twentieth century motor car.

PIG'S LONG JOURNEY HOME

Young Porker Swims Two Rivers and Travels Several Miles to Get Back.

A farmer living down toward Harward had a most knowing pig which he sold to a little islander, who took his prize in a boat to his home at the island, reports the Kennebec Journal. Safely shut up in the spacious pig pen was this new inmate of the family, and the farmer man went peacefully to rest, much content with his new purchase.

In the morning the pen was empty and no little pig could be found on the island. Some time afterward he went again to town and here saw the first owner of the lost one. "I've lost my pig," he gloomily announced. "I know it," chuckled his friend. "He's down to my house, came back the next morning."

What had that homesick little pig done but swim across two rivers, the Little Island river and the Kennebec, walked across Big Little Island, trotted happily down the two miles of road on the Richmond shore, and finally presented himself to his old master, footsore and hungry, but mighty glad to be home once more.

CHILDREN CLEAN STREETS.

Youngsters of Wisconsin Town Band Together for That Purpose.

"Not many cities of the same size go ahead of Sheboygan for public spirit," says a citizen of Chicago, according to the Milwaukee Sentinel. "I have just returned from my first visit to the city and it was a revelation."

The school children all wear green buttons, and after I had seen several hundred of these about the streets I asked a merchant what they signified. He said that the children had all been banded into a society to keep the city neat and clean. Each child who joins is given a button, and from then on it is his duty to keep the streets and yards cleared of the little bits of paper and other waste material which present such an unsightly appearance.

"The youngsters have entered thoroughly into the spirit of the thing. They have collected more than \$100 by popular subscription, and with this money they are planning to purchase waste paper boxes to be put on the different street corners."

English Towns in France.

"La Monde Moderne," of Paris, describes two little English cities near France. Chantilly and Malesherbes-Lafite have become Anglicized because of the racing establishments there. Their streets are filled with English sportsmen, English horse trainers and English jockeys. A great stable is labeled in capitals "Box Hall," a bar has the sign "English Tavern," and there is an English Protestant Episcopal church. The English rector and curate are familiar figures in the town. Altogether these cities have become about as English as anything in England.

The Ideal Fish.

While scientists are taking liberties with flowers, fruits and vegetables, why don't they try their hands on fishes? The man who will invent a fish having the properties of the pompano and the shad will confer a blessing on epicures and mankind. Think of a fish having as few bones as the pompano and the delicious flavor and tenderness of the shad. Get busy, Messrs. Scientists.

Different Next Day.

"You should have heard Bangs roasting Goodley last night. He used some pretty hard words."

"Yes, but they didn't seem so hard to Bangs last night as they did this morning."

"How do you mean?"

"He had to eat them this morning."—Philadelphia Press.

COURSE OF ARCTIC DRIFT.

Determined by Casks Set Afloat by Explorers in the Far North.

The theory that has frequently been advanced that there is a westerly drift across the polar ocean north of Europe and Asia receives added support from the announcement made by Mr. Henry G. Bryant at a recent meeting of the Geographical society of Philadelphia. He reported that two of the Bryan-Melville casks that were set afloat some years ago in the polar sea have turned up. The first was thrown overboard from a revenue cutter some 35 miles northwest of Wrangle Island, which is north of Behring strait. This barrel was afterward recovered on the coast of Siberia. A second barrel was placed on an ice floe northwest of Point Barrow, the northernmost point of Alaska, in mid-September, 1899. Almost six years later it was recovered near the northern coast of Iceland. In that time it drifted with the floss through the Arctic ocean from the Pacific to the Atlantic, a course that may have carried it within a short distance of the pole. Explorers have frequently planned to take advantage of this ice movement in a polar expedition. Nansen did so in the Fram. De Long attempted it with the Jeannette. Two men who have been connected with the Ziegler expedition via Franz Josef Land have since their return advocated sending out a new party with a slanch ship fitted to resist great ice pressure to attempt this voyage. The fact that a barrel has made such a journey will doubtless be urged as a new reason for attempting to gain the pole by this route.

SHE ENTERTAINED HIM.

Little Sister This Time, Who Made Things Pleasant for Sister's Beau.

While the swain was waiting in the parlor of a Lexington avenue home for his inamorata that lady's younger sister ventured into the room to entertain the caller, relates the New York Herald.

"Sister! be down soon, Mr. Swilright," she said. "Say, can you tell me when a door is not a door?"

The young man looked surprised at the ancient conundrum.

"That's a chestnut," he said. "A door is not a door when it's a jar or a jam."

"That's right," said the young sister, gleefully. "Now, here's another: What makes more noise than a pig under—"

"Little girl," interrupted the young man somewhat testily, "why are you asking me to guess those old gags?"

"Why, to entertain you till sister comes in. Isn't that the way Belle talks to you when she's here?"

"What makes you think so?" asked the young man.

"She told me that you had proposed several times, but that she was going to keep you guessing every time you called."

EXPENSIVE INAUGURATION.

Induction of President Roosevelt Cost More Than Any Other Like Ceremony.

To inaugurate Theodore Roosevelt President cost \$145,491, a greater sum than was ever spent for any previous inauguration. The details of this expense were made public the other day in a report by Gen. John M. Wilson, chairman of the inaugural committee.

Notwithstanding the large expense the committee has turned over a balance of \$4,730 to the Auditorium association, an organization formed to erect a building in which to hold future inaugural balls. Gen. Wilson strongly urges the erection of such a structure.

It cost \$17,999 to decorate the pension building for the inaugural ball, which was the largest item of expense. The committee raised \$150,221, more by \$14,600 than any previous inaugural fund.

Gen. Wilson gives the figures of receipts for the last five inaugurations. They are as follows: 1849, \$125,250.50; 1857, \$91,655.31; 1897, \$114,817.15; and 1901, \$136,308.83.

Largest Sailing Ships.

The largest sailing ship in the world is the German five-masted ship Preussen, launched in 1902. Each of her five masts is full rigged, and her yards, which number 30, as well as her masts and topmasts, even her topgallant masts, are of steel. She carries 550 tons of water ballast in her double bottom. She is 440 feet long, beam 52 1/2 feet, depth 33 feet, draft 29 feet, 8,500 tons dead weight, capacity, net register, 4,826 tons; displacement when loaded 11,150 tons. She carries a crew of 46.

Paper Beds.

In several places in Prussia, experiments are being made with a somewhat novel material for soldiers' beds, namely, shavings of paper. These are stuffed into bags on which the soldiers lie. They are said to be more comfortable than straw and moss springs. Straw beds, moreover, must be changed every six months.

The Deaf for Office.

A West Virginia postmaster died, and within six hours after he fell in the hands of the undertaker 14 able-bodied citizens had formally applied for the office, which is one of the smallest in the state, paying less than \$50 a year. The desire to hold office is born.—Atlanta Constitution.

One Difficulty Obscured.

Mariana was explaining the Mottled Grange.

"It's perfectly lovely," she said, "you see the cook can't leave us."

Thus do we observe the advantages of medieval architecture.—N. Y. Tribune.

ATTRACTING WILD GEESE.

Electric Lights in Western Towns Enticed by the Flying Fowl.

A "norther" in Oklahoma a week or two ago brought with it a heavy flight of wild geese and ducks. At Guthrie and other towns having electric street lights geese circle all night in the illuminated mist, often flying so low as to be in reach of shotguns. A number of geese were killed, reports the Kansas City Times.

An old hunter said that on such a night wild geese in high flight mistake these radiant spots in the darkness for water. Once in the light the geese quickly lose their bearings, become confused and seldom extricate themselves until daylight revealed the cause of their deception. "Knowledge of the attraction of fire beacons for wild geese on stormy nights was used to advantage by native sportsmen in southern Kansas and the northern Osage country where I lived in early days," said the hunter.

"As fall approached, a high landmark would be chosen by the hunter and on its top he would pile wood for a big fire. Then he waited for the storm that brought the geese. Lighting his fire, his glare could be seen for miles. Geese were drawn to the spot by hundreds. I have known hunters to kill a wagonload of geese in a single night."

WAS CRUELTY TO POULTRY

Eggs with Chickens in Them Had No Business in Cold Storage.

The woman with the short hair and severe steel spectacles walked determinedly into the office of a downtown warehouse, relates Judge.

"Sir," she said, after a preliminary gesture with a bulky green umbrella. "I came here in the interest of dumb animals—to save them from unnecessary cruelty."

"But, madam," protested the manager, "there is absolutely no animal life here to be maltreated. See; there are thousands of cases of eggs in cold storage here."

"Well, some one told me that there was cruelty to animals in here," persisted the crusader. "I understand that these are cold storage eggs, preserved for six months or more in a frigid atmosphere below zero. Now, young man, could you swear that none of these eggs contain young chicks?"

"Why—er—some of them may contain chickens, but—"

"That will do!" snapped the crusader. "You see that every one of those young chickens is provided with a warm overcoat and is paired with rubbers in this cold storage, or you will hear from me very soon."

The manager promised.

HAVE FEWER POCKETS.

Number in Men's Clothes Reduced by Tailors to Prevent Bulging Garments.

The real difference between man and modern woman is that a man's clothes have 14 pockets and a woman's have none. But an American salesman who returned from London recently declared that even that distinction was disappearing.

"I had some new sack suits made in London," he grumbled, "and now I have to wear my overcoat in all weathers as a baggage car. London tailors don't alter styles much, but they are constantly tinkering with fittings. My new coats have one inside pocket and no outside pockets at all. The flaps are only dummies. The trousers have one side pocket and one 'ticket pocket,' as they call it there—about as big as a watch pocket—and no hip pockets at all."

"We find that gentlemen load their clothes up with useless books and papers and get them dragged out of shape. We are trying this as a mild measure of reform," the tailor said. "And now I have either to wear this overcoat in all weathers or leave everything I need about me at home."

HIS MAJESTY WAS WISE.

Knew Something About the Ways of the White Man with a Craft.

As the fearless white man entered the kraal of the native king, a salute was sounded on a drum of serpent skin, and six warriors, with necklaces of human teeth rattling about their shouy throats, led him before a rough ivory dais, on which sat a majestic and formidable figure.

"Hail!" said the white man.

And without loss of time he took out one of his brass watches, wound it up, and showed its works to the dusky monarch.

"This marvel," he said, "I will give your majesty, making you the envy of all men and all tribes. In return for your six tusks of not less than 70 pounds weight each."

The king took the watch, produced a monocle from a pouch hidden in his shield, and, after a moment's study of the brass trinket, returned it with a languid smile.

"Last year," he said, "in London, I exchanged an old wooden war club for a bushel of these things, and, by Jove, there wasn't one of them that ran above a week."

He Knew It.

Mrs. Bryden—And is this chair really an antique piece of furniture?

Mrs. Swolly—Antique, madam? There's no doubt about that. Why, it was so worm-eaten when I bought it that I had to have a new back, and a new seat, and three new legs made for it.—Chicago Tribune.