

BIRDS OF PARADISE

Rare Specimens on Way to Experimental Career in Chicago.

Animal Keeper of Lincoln Park Zoo Will Try to Duplicate Natural Diet of His Gorgeous Guests From New Guinea.

Chicago.—The birdhouse at Lincoln park is all a flutter over the expected arrival of two birds of paradise. For the first time in the history of zoological gardens in the United States...

"The birds are an experiment with us," said Mr. de Vry, seated in his office, surrounded by a group of pet monkeys, a porcupine, a Persian cat and a few other zoological sundries...

According to the stories told by Mr. de Vry no bird in the world is quite as interesting as this emerald specimen. All through the middle ages the bird was the subject of many fables and legends.

The legend explained that the bird of paradise never alighted, but was accustomed to float around in space above some East Indian Olympus...

The actual behavior of the bird of paradise is stated now, according to Mr. de Vry, to be as interesting as the old legends. When the visitor approaches a bird of paradise, if the bird feels cheerful, the sounds "he, hi, ho, haw" are uttered as a welcome.

Mr. and Mrs. Patty, the two American black bears, which have been guests of the Lincoln park communitarians some twenty years, were visited by two storks a few nights ago.

LITTLE BUG IS BIG EATER

Thirty Caterpillars Each Day Provide Only Ordinary Meal for a Small Green Beetle.

Washington.—The house committee on agriculture has discovered that the green beetle, the tree-climbing variety, will kill about thirty caterpillars a day.

In considering the agricultural appropriation bill, the committee became curious as to the comparative voracity of the beetle, and sought light from Dr. L. O. Howard, Ohio entomologist of the department.

Chairman Scott voiced the opinion of most of the committee that, as the caterpillar was so much larger than the beetle, one caterpillar ought to furnish sufficient rations for several days.

Doctor Howard, however, told the committee that the beetle was extraordinarily voracious and could assimilate food readily. The fussy caterpillar is the beetle's main diet.

Whalers' Fine Season.

London.—Dundee whalers have completed their most successful season for 20 years. They caught 17 whales and 1,447 walrus. One of the incidents of the season was the wreck of the Tantina Agatha, the crew of which lived for months with the Eskimos.

Salts His Feet to Prevent Colds.

Millerton, N. Y.—Julius Barton, a hotel man of this city, uses salt as a preventive for colds and says he has not taken cold in 20 years. The salt he applies to his feet by sprinkling it in his stockings.

MANY NEW YORK COMMUTERS

Population of District Tributary to City is Estimated at 7,000,000—Few Figures.

New York.—One thing from which New Yorkers did not swear off on January 1 is commuting, since figures just compiled show that this city's army of commuters, the daily travelers by city and suburban transit lines is over 3,000,000.

The population of the area, including those who do business in the city, is nearly 7,000,000. The exact figure is 6,846,097, which is more than 1,000,000 greater than the population of Illinois, the third state in the Union, including Chicago, the country's second city.

This commutation district, consisting of the territory lying within thirty miles of Times square, contains one-thirteenth of all the people in the continental territory of the United States. It equals the population of six large southern states, with 100,000 to spare. It exceeds the combined population of Virginia, North Carolina and South Carolina by something over 1,000,000.

Going west one finds that the district of New York has a greater population than the 11 westernmost states, with nearly 250,000 in population still unmatched, notwithstanding that two of these states, Washington and California have more than 1,000,000 each.

Many foreign countries have armies and navies and pretensions to being world powers have smaller populations than the New York district. Among them are the Netherlands, exclusive of colonies, with 5,591,700; Portugal proper, with 5,423,000; Sweden, with 5,294,000; Argentine Republic, with 6,210,000; Chile, with 5,000,000; Greece and Denmark, with an aggregate population of about 5,000,000, while the district is within a few hundred thousand of all Belgium.

In view of these figures it is not difficult to understand the reason for the millions of dollars which are being spent here for transportation improvements.

PICKING BERRIES IN WINTER

Flowers and Fruits Thriving in Southwestern Part of England—Mild Weather Prevails.

London.—There are not many places in the United Kingdom where strawberries, raspberries and spring flowers are to be observed flourishing in the open during the winter.

But such is the case in Cornwall and some parts of Devon, where abnormally mild weather has recently been experienced.

The other day Mrs. Scott of St. Budeaux, on the Devon side of the Tamar, plucked ripe raspberries in her garden, and at Landrake, a few miles from Plymouth, Miss Benda Rawling also gathered raspberries in her father's garden, while close to the same village lovely strawberries were plucked by Stanley Harris, and a bunch of beautiful primroses by another man.

Violets, primroses and strawberries have also been picked in other parts of Cornwall.

WOULD NOT SHOW HER FOOT

Actress Refuses to Take Shoes and Stockings Off to Win Case in Vienna Court.

Vienna.—An actress has just figured in an amusing suit brought against her by a photographer at Debrecen, Hungary. She had been photographed with bare feet, and had refused to pay for the photographs, alleging that her feet were made to appear ridiculously large.

In court she was asked to take off her shoes and stockings in order that a comparison might be made. This, however, she refused to do.

It was then decided to compare the finished photograph with the original negative, and it was seen that the photographer in "retouching" had modeled the actress' toes so as to make her feet appear really smaller than represented in the negative. He consequently won his case, the actress leaving the court in high dudgeon.

LOOK AT THE BIRD'S NAILS

In Selecting Good Laying Hen Evidence of Scratching Ability is of Utmost Importance.

Columbia, Mo.—"Chickens with short toenails are the best egg layers," said Prof. J. E. Rice, poultry expert for Cornell university, addressing students of the Agricultural College of the University of Missouri.

"These chickens have short toenails," he said, "from continuous scratching for food, and a chicken that is constantly scratching for food is sure to be industrious."

The hen of the olden time, Professor Rice said, laid on an average only 18 eggs a year, while the modern hen of pure breed will lay from one to two hundred eggs annually.

Tolstol's Grave is Mecca.

Moscow.—Tolstol's grave at Yasnai Poljana is likely to become one of the chief places of pilgrimage in the empire. Since the funeral large numbers of peasants arrive there daily. They come mostly on foot, and many are now on the way there afoot.

At the grave many hundreds may be seen on their knees chanting and kissing the soil. The pilgrims are allowed to pass through the rooms which Tolstol occupied, where nothing has been disturbed.

GIRL FACES PERIL

Americans Should Avoid Paris Unless Prepared.

Steady Income Needed for Young Woman's Study of Art or Music in French Capital, Says Mrs. Ada Leigh Lewis.

New York.—"A young girl should be possessed of health, good education, strong moral sense and an assured income of at least \$50 a month if she wishes to study in Paris. Deficiency in any one of these requisites means inevitable difficulty, probable danger and possible death."

That is the announcement of a woman who should know. She is Mrs. Ada Leigh Lewis, founder and for more than thirty years director of a chain of homes for English and American girls in Paris.

Mrs. Lewis is in America to obtain a fund for the rebuilding and enlargement of two of her homes. In her philanthropic work she comes in contact with thousands of young American girls who pour into the French capital every year. She was asked to tell what the life there required of these girls besides a love of art.

"No girl should come to Paris to study without a definite financial income on which she can absolutely depend," she said. "A girl should set aside at least \$20 a month for the demands of training; she cannot get on with less. Nor can she possibly live for less than \$20 a month, \$5 a week."

"Could not she get on more cheaply if she took lodging and prepared her own food?"

"That would never do in Paris for girls living alone. Aside from the great difficulty of finding safe, suitable lodgings, in the first place, the girls would be under the constant surveillance of the police as an unaccompanied single woman. It is a horribly disagreeable situation."

"But one hears that living is so inexpensive over there."

"It costs more to live well—to live, that is, as most English and American girls are accustomed to living—in Paris than in New York. Girls there are different physically and temperamentally from ours. They are content with dry bread, coffee and a bit of meat from which all the strength has been boiled; all served in a little, dark, unventilated dining room. Such living is inexpensive, but so it would be here. Our vigorous, healthy, hungry girls will not accept it anywhere."

"And are the moral temptations really so severe?"

"They are, and the test comes in two ways," explained Mrs. Lewis. "There is outward and inward danger."

"What would seem the widest melo-drama in New York is of common occurrence in Paris. It is no exaggeration to say that a girl cannot enter a shop or a restaurant alone, if she is pretty, without running the risk of being drugged. She cannot safely accept a seat from a gentleman in a public conveyance or the loan of a program from another woman at an art exhibit. It is never safe for her to go alone on the streets after dark, and she must exercise great care in her daytime walks. She cannot saunter about looking into the shop windows as the girls do here."

"But even more subtle is the peril within herself. One never knows what loneliness really is until one is a stranger in a strange city. Loneliness is bound to reach them sooner or later, and unless they find a legitimate diversion they must be strong indeed to resist what offers."

WANTS THOUSANDS OF CATS

Rancher in State of Washington Will Use Them in Ridding His Orchards of Pests.

Spokane, Wash.—Albert J. Randall, a rancher of Okanogan county, Wash., who recently placed an order for 1,000 cats with S. E. Gilbert of Sharon, Pa., is receiving his mail in barrels at Conqually these days. The writers, who represent practically every state and province in America, say they will supply all the cats needed if Randall will pay the express and carriage charges.

Randall has taken up the work on behalf of orchardists and farmers in north central Washington, who believe they can rid the county of gophers and other ground pests by turning cats loose on the land. He will visit various districts in Pennsylvania, making headquarters at Sharon, whence a consignment of 7,000 felines will start across the continent in April. Gilbert and a score of volunteers have promised to assist in rounding up all the stray cats in and near Sharon. Randall says he is willing to pay a fair price for all the cats that are delivered to him. He will not say how he expects to rid the county of cats after the gophers leave.

Seventeen Warships for \$336,000

Paris.—Seventeen French warships of all ages, shapes and sizes were sold at auction at Toulon. The total sum realized was \$336,000. Among the ships sold was the wreck of the Jena. The cruiser Richelieu, which cost \$6,000,000, was sold for \$75,000 to a merchant from Amsterdam.

Increase in Land Values.

Aurora, Neb.—The average 1910 price for a quarter section of land in this vicinity was \$25,000. Ten years ago the average price was \$4,000, and 20 years ago it was \$1,800.

TRAGEDY OF THE DEEP SEA

Old Aaron Bentsen, Sailmaker of Bark Friedig, Fell Dead as He Talked of Christmas in Port.

Two barks flying the flag of Norway sailed into the offing of Stapleton, dropped anchor and shook out their top-gallant sails to dry. One was the little Friedig, coffee carrier from Java and Sumatra, and the other the Fortuna from Madagascar.

In the last days of November the Friedig found herself 250 miles to the northwestward of Bermuda, with the pleasant prospect of celebrating Christmas in New York. This was especially pleasing to old Aaron Bentsen, the sailmaker, who said: "At New York I shall have letters from the wife and my two boys." The sailmaker's home was in Grimstad, Norway.

At this point in her trip the Friedig had to head to the winds, which came stronger and stronger. They grew into heavy gales, which rolled over the deeply laden coffee carrier day after day.

On the third day of the gale old Aaron, at mess with his shipmates in the fore-castle, was smoking his pipe, and said: "Yes, before Christmas we shall be in New York, and then I shall get my mail from Grimstad, and there will be some gifts from the wife and the boys."

As he uttered the words he fell off the bench dead.

He was buried at sea next day while the ship was still rolling and taking the heave of green and white over her. The captain read the Lutheran service while the crew hung onto lifelines. —New York World.

SIGNBOARDS ON THE SHOPS

Rich Display of Painted and Sculptured Emblems Relieved Mean Appearance of Old Boston's Streets.

The mean appearance of the houses of old Boston (1784) was, to some extent, relieved by the rich display of painted and sculptured signs which adorned the front of the taverns and stores. The numbering of shops and houses had not come into fashion, and every business street was an endless succession of golden balls, of blue gloves, of crowns and scepters, dogs and rainbows, elephants and horse-shoes. They served sometimes as advertisements of the business, sometimes merely as designations of the shops which were frequented popularly and in the newspapers by their signs. The custom still lingers among the glove-makers, boot-makers, opticians, furriers and barbers. But we are accustomed now to regard the sign as bearing a direct relation to the character of the business it advertises. We should never seek for eyeglasses in a shop where whose entrance hangs a gilt boot, nor inquire for gloves in a shop before whose door stands an Indian in war paint and feathers. One hundred years ago no such relation was understood to exist and it was not thought remarkable that Phillip Freeman should keep his famous book store at the famous "Blue Glove" on Union street.—From McMaster's History of the American People.

Love Your Enemies.

There is an injunction in the Bible that is often laughed at, and that is, "Love your enemies." It is thought to be so impracticable and transcendental as to be beyond the very dream of human nature. And yet, there is no axiom sounder than that injunction. It is the very logic of good sense. Think over the fruits of hatred and see if there is one that you like. Think over the fruits of love and see if you don't like them all. The power of love is as definite and calculable as the power of steam or of electricity. An argument based on hatred is never an argument. One can never hold a correct opinion of another unless he loves him. He can never see the truth through the eyes of hate. He might as well try to see the white light through a green glass. Love is not simply a good-goody sentiment; it is a reality as big as the atmosphere or the sun. What there is of it, our civilization is based on. If we lose it, humanity would disappear like the pythons and megatheriums of old.

Old Custom Maintained.

One of the peculiarities of the average Englishman is that he loves to perpetuate the quaint customs of his forefathers. The will has just been proved at 2144, 431 of Sir Henry Tichborne, of Tichborne Park, Hants, over whose succession to the Tichborne estates and title the famous Tichborne case was fought. A curious provision in the will is that in which Sir Henry desired that the family custom should be continued of distributing a small silver coin to every person present at the funeral of a member of the family, one coin for every year of age of deceased. The custom also includes the distribution of 54 quarter loaves to the poor of the district.

Parisian Chief of Festivities.

The Indian potentate, the Maharajah of Kapurthala, who married a beautiful Spanish dancing girl and is the most Parisian of the Eastern princes, has invited Andre de Fouquieres to direct the grand court ball for the wedding of his son with an Indian princess. Fouquieres has accepted this invitation and he will lead the cotillon. This will be the longest journey the famous Parisian Beau Brummel has undertaken for such a purpose.

MORE TOMBOY GIRLS

Professor Advises Physical Training for Young Women.

Scott Nearing of University of Pennsylvania Says Emancipation of Women Will Only Come Through "Tomboyism."

Philadelphia.—"More girls should be tomboys—only through a physical and industrial development may woman hope to emancipate herself."

This is the theory advanced by Scott Nearing of the faculty of the Wharton school of the University of Pennsylvania, in a book he will publish soon upon "Social Adjustment."

"The city woman's physical durability," says Mr. Nearing, "is the culmination of a misdirected training begun in youth. Boys are taught to go out and play rough games and romp and develop physically. Girls, on the other hand, are expected to stay at home and be 'ladylike.' If a boy does not soil and tear his clothes he is a 'sis.' If a girl does soil her clothes and romp she is a 'tomboy.' It is as disgraceful for a boy to atrophy physically as it is for a girl to develop physically."

"The development of the girl's body should be begun and carried on at the same time and on the same basis as the development of the boy's body. Their plays should be equally arduous, until the age of twelve at least. There is no justification for denying to girls the physical development provided for boys, making them weaklings before the age when there is any physical differentiation due to sex development. Already this truth is being realized and the emancipated women of the United States are emancipating the bodies of their daughters, by putting them in 'rompers' and sending them out to play with the boys."

"Every normal being should engage in some form of constructive occupation. The woman is no exception, and the education of the woman of the future should include not only effective physical development and an adequate training in self-knowledge, but also a training that will enable her to fill some position in life and fill it well. Home life is narrowing and unless supplemented by education leads to the life in 'social sets' so disastrous to the development of individuality."

Mr. Nearing adds that there are five groups of women who should always be engaged in some form of gainful occupation. He classifies these groups as follows:

"First, girls between the end of their schooling and their marriage.

"Second, women who are suffering from any transmissible disease or defect should be absolutely denied the privileges of motherhood and should, therefore, spend their adult lives in some form of industrial occupation.

"In the third place, women who are geniuses—perhaps one in ten thousand—and the social value of whose careers would be lessened by motherhood should continue their chosen vocation.

"Fourth, a large group of young wives who during the first two or three years of wifehood have no children should by all means begin or continue some productive occupation, principally, as Doctor Patten has pointed out, because of the addition to the husband's income, but also for self-development.

"In the fifth place, women who at middle age send their last child to college or to work and have no exacting duties in the home.

"If woman is to mean all that she well may mean in the future, she must engage in some form of occupation—if she is capable, in motherhood; if not, then certainly in industry—she must be trained to take her place in the world and to perform her occupation efficiently, and she must realize that occupation and achievement and character are a trinity which complement each other and make for the highest and best in life."

FALL IN VIENNA BIRTH RATE

In 1910 It Was 20 for Each 1,000 Persons, While in 1870 It Was 40—Causes Alarm.

Vienna.—Precise figures of the census of Austria, taken December 31, are not yet available, but it is known that the birth rate of Vienna has decreased alarmingly and that the fact is causing serious concern among the authorities. The birth rate in 1910 was only 20 in 1,000, compared with 40 in 1870. Vienna recorded 53,000 births in 1900, but in 1910 the figures dropped to 44,000 in spite of ten years' growth of population and the annexation of the new suburb of Florisdorf with 23,000 inhabitants.

On the other hand, the death rate has been reduced from 36 a thousand in the early '70s to 15 today. Improved hygiene has also succeeded in greatly reducing infant mortality, but these gains fall to counterbalance the declining birth rate and consequently the official estimate that Vienna had 2,128,000 inhabitants at the end of 1910 is likely to prove excessive. The returns will probably show a little more than 2,000,000.

Pigs and Chickens in Zoo.

New York.—Four Jersey chickens and a pair of pigs are to be added to the "barnyard zoo" in the Central Park menagerie, if Park Commissioner Stover decides to buy a cow. He is reported to be in favor of purchasing. The chickens and pigs are offered as a gift by a charitable citizen of Metuchen, N. J.

Drank 218,000,000 Typhoid Germs.

London.—The director of water examination to the metropolitan water board states, in his sixth report, that during his tests he drank half a pint of Thames water, containing 218,000,000 typhoid bacilli, without any evil effects.

OSTRICHES ON GERMAN FARM

Hagenbeck Tries Experiment Which Proves Success—Birds Sheltered Only From Wind.

Berlin.—In Hamburg, a town which experiences a cold winter, the breeding of a tropical bird such as the ostrich has just proved to be not only possible, but profitable.

In the course of a tour of the German zoological gardens Dr. Chalmers Mitchell, secretary of the British Zoological society, has just paid a visit to Carl Hagenbeck's ostrich farm at Hamburg, in company with Seth Smith, the zoo's curator of birds.

"This ostrich farm," said Dr. Mitchell, "is undoubtedly the most remarkable zoological experiment of modern times. Mr. Hagenbeck went to the experienced manager of an ostrich farm, and engaged him to start a farm. 'Where is it to be?' asked the expert. 'In Hamburg,' was the reply. The astonished manager, though polite, almost hinted his doubts of Mr. Hagenbeck's sanity."

However, the farm was started on some bleak flat fields—eight or nine acres in all—fenced into separate paddocks and stocked with eighty or ninety birds. The birds were sown with lucerne, on which the birds fed freely, and their diet was supplemented with crushed bones, boiled maize, etc.

In the center is a big shed, in which the birds feed and shelter, but the doors and windows remain open. This shed is carpeted with peat moss and is divided into small "cubicles."

A great incubator hatches the eggs, taking the place of the tropical sun, and the young birds run about on a miniature Sahara of sand.

"When we saw the farm," said Dr. Mitchell, "there were forty or fifty young birds, some nearly full grown, and all bred at Hamburg. There was a fine show of feathers, for which good prices could be obtained. The whole farm was a most eloquent sermon on the value of fresh air as opposed to mere heat."

Dr. Mitchell said he saw no reason why equally good results should not be possible in other countries.

"You must have an experienced manager," he said, "a dry, sandy soil, in a spot preferably sheltered on the north and east, and then there is no reason why an ostrich farm should not be made to pay."

COLD FINE HAIR RESTORER

Explorer Shackleton Asserts Trip to Polar Regions is Best Remedy—Germs Absent.

London.—If you would have a good crop of hair—go to the Polar regions. Extreme cold, it appears, is one of the remedies for strengthening hair.

Sir Ernest Shackleton, the Antarctic explorer, said: "All of the men who went with me on the South Pole expedition, with one or two exceptions, possessed stronger crops of hair on their return to civilization."

"Extreme cold strengthens one's hair." "As our party approached nearer the South Pole our hair grew more slowly, but became thicker and stronger."

A well-known London doctor said that one reason why one's hair would grow quicker in the Antarctic was the total absence of germs and other impurities which abound in all civilized countries.

An official of a London cold storage company said that they had not a bald-headed man in their employment. "The men work all day in a temperature of 20 degrees of frost, and the cold undoubtedly makes their hair thicker."

HISTORIC TABLE IS LOANED

Institute of Architects Use One on Which Ghent Treaty Was Signed in 1812.

San Francisco.—Members of the American Institute of Architects who attended the recent annual convention held in this city sat at the table upon which this was signed the treaty of Ghent, ending the war of 1812 with England.

The table became the property of President James Madison after the signing of the treaty and was placed in his office at the original White House. The White House was burned soon after and the table was one of the few pieces of furniture rescued.

President Madison moved his executive office and the table to Octagon House, in Washington. Octagon House is now the home of the Institute of Architects, but the table has had a vagabond career and has come into the possession of Mrs. Alfred Voorhies of this city. She loaned it to the architects for the conference.

Wagner Autobiography.

Berlin.—The publication of an autobiography of Richard Wagner, the existence of which has been a matter of doubt, is announced for May 1. In a preface the composer authenticates the manuscript, which was dictated to his wife, and directs that it remain unpublished until some time after his death in order that others mentioned therein shall not be embarrassed.