

The House in Session.



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GAME IS VANISHING

HUNTERS IN AFRICA BECOMING CONCERNED OVER DECREASE.

Gradual Disappearance of Wild Prizes Once Found in Large Numbers Leads to London Movement for Establishment of Preserves.

London.—The gradual disappearance of big game in Africa has stirred the English authorities to take some steps toward its preservation, and the idea of constituting reservations on the lines of Yellowstone park in the United States, has been proposed.

A report that was issued recently by the same commission in the English possessions in East Africa shows the remarkable number of big game hunters nowadays, as compared with a few years ago.

Brig. Gen. Swayne, reporting on the reduction of game in Somaliland, says that in one place in 1891 he estimated some 10,000 animals, where now he finds only a dozen at a time. It was not an uncommon thing 15 years ago, he says, for a hunter to go and kill a couple of lions before breakfast.

The Uganda district, the commission says, nets big game hunters a revenue of \$100,000 every year. Elephants are becoming so scarce in this district that it is proposed to restrict the sale of cow ivory or tusks below a certain weight. An effort was made to train African elephants for such work as stria Indian elephants do, but it was found to be impracticable. It is a curious fact that the African elephant has a concave back and the Indian animal a convex, the latter being much more easily loaded.

In certain parts of British Africa, however, lions are as plentiful as ever. An average of 50 a year are killed. When a lion kills a native in Somaliland, the young men of the village go out on horseback, locate the lion, and then gallop round and round him. As the lion turns swiftly around in the cloud of dust he becomes dizzy and is then shot with poisoned arrows.

HAS JOHN PAUL JONES' SWORD.

Relic of Famous Fighter Placed in Navy Department Library.

Washington.—In practically the same condition as when it was used by its famous owner, the sword of John Paul Jones now rests in the library of the navy department, where it has been placed by Commander Reginald Nicholson.

It is believed that the weapon originally was given to Jones by the North Carolina family of that name at the time he changed his own name in compliment to them.

The sword was given to Jones by Theodosia Burr, daughter of Aaron Burr. Theodosia Burr, after she was married to Joseph Alston, a wealthy planter of South Carolina, who in after years became governor of the state, presented the sword to Judge Matthew Davis, of Charleston, who gave it to the Rev. Dr. Durachet, of Philadelphia, and he gave it to Commodore Sumnerville Nicholson, and the commodore gave it to its present owner, Commander Nicholson.

It is 30 inches long, beautiful in design, very strong, highly tempered and still very mild. The hilt is of white brass with the portion known technically as the basket broken away. The tang is wide and strong and the grip piece of the handle is of wood covered with twisted copper wire.

Hicks Star of "Freak" Show. Bakersfield, Cal.—Stcher Hicks, whose sudden rise to notoriety through his entombment for 15 days made him the object of many show offers, has been engaged by N. J. Schmidt of Berkeley at a salary of \$100 per week for one year. The first exhibition was given in Bakersville. Harry Linville, prominent in the rescue work, was engaged to act as lecturer, and two of the miners also were taken along.

ELECTRIC SPANKER LATEST.

Inventor Comes Forward with Novel Corrective Machine.

Chicago.—Following the suggestion made by one of Chicago's school principals a few days ago that the most urgent necessity in the public schools of this city to-day is a spanking machine, Charles E. Gregory, president of an electric company, comes forward with the announcement that he has under construction an electric machine for this purpose, which he will exhibit at the January electrical show at the Coliseum.

It is described by Mr. Gregory as having the appearance of an inverted electric fan, connected with a wall fixture and usually placed in some convenient bedchamber where the noise from the "soothing" effect will not be heard by the neighbors and give the parent the reputation of being a brute.

The paddles on the device will be manufactured in various shapes. The inventor, however, is of the opinion that the style resembling a No. 12 slipper will be the most effective and popular.

The electrically rocked cradle will also be a center of great interest by the heads of families where there are infants. By this invention the proud father turns on a switch when the youngster yells at two a. m. and the electric current immediately produces an unlabored soothing rocking of the crib, which continues until the youngster is asleep.

ODD THINGS IN ANIMALS.

Eye of the Owl and Mouth of the Frog Have Their Limitations.

Washington.—Unlike most animals, horses have no eyebrows and hares are minus eyelids, says a naturalist. Consequently the eyes of the latter cannot be shut and a thin membranous substance covers them when asleep. The eye of the owl is also peculiar, seeing that it is immovably fixed in its socket and cannot stir in any direction. To compensate for this seeming disadvantage it can turn its head almost completely around without moving its body.

If you were to keep a frog's mouth open many minutes it would soon die, as, owing to its peculiar construction, it can breathe only with the mouth closed. On the other hand, fishes are compelled to keep opening and closing their mouths in order to give their respiration organs full play.

A curious fact about the eel is that it has less life in its head than in its tail, consequently when killing an eel the fisherman smashes the tail. It also has two hearts. Snakes usually have their teeth in the head, but one variety in Africa, whose principal food is eggs, is provided with a substitute for them in its stomach.

GIRL LOST EIGHTEEN YEARS.

Kidnaped at Four, She Comes Back to Her Father Married.

Franklin, Pa.—Kidnaped 18 years ago, when she was only four years, Mrs. Emma Harris has returned to the home of her father, John Wood, living near Franklin, who knew nothing of his daughter's whereabouts until he received a letter from her in North Dakota recently.

One day in 1888 the little girl was stolen from her father's home while Mr. Wood, who was a widower, was in Franklin. The neighborhood was searched without success and from the fact that his mother-in-law had left the community about the same time Mr. Wood concluded that she had taken the child. He was unable to locate her, however, and at the end of three years gave up the hunt.

From that time he knew absolutely nothing in regard to the child, who was married two years ago. She wrote that she had for the first time learned that her father was living and that she was coming on. She is now visiting her father's home in Cranberry township. Mrs. Harris remembers nothing of the kidnaping, but says it was her grandmother who spirited her away.

PRINTER ON WARSHIP

MODEL NEWSPAPER PLANT ON THE TENNESSEE.

Real Paper is Published on Board Vessel and the Crew Thereby Kept In Touch with the Outer World.

Philadelphia.—Among the interesting sights that visitors are plotted in the course of a tour of League Island navy yard are the small but modern printing plants that some of the larger vessels boast of. On account of its being among the latest of the additions to the rapidly growing navy, the new armored cruiser Tennessee is probably the most popular. It is on the gun board side aft, that the man of types and inks keeps solitary dominion over his department. The room, the proportions of which are 10x10 feet, is, like the rest of the vessel, built entirely of steel and iron. The door opens on the starboard side, and a look into its cozy, scrupulously clean interior results in the forming of a very favorable impression. Illumination is supplied by three electric lamps, which light up every nook and corner of the room.

The printing outfit, which is of the latest design and best quality, consists of one Gordon press, 18 1/2 inch paper cutter, imposing stone, ink cabinet, type rack and 12 fonts of type. In anticipation of heavy seas to come, everything is tightly clamped to the floor or walls, and about the only object not thus secured is the printer himself. The telephone, the use of which on shipboard has become so necessary, is also in evidence. Through connection with the main office all departments of the ship can be reached. Happily for the printer, all the ship's stationery does not have to pass through his hands, as in such event a corps of assistants would be needed. As it is, the printing shops of the government at Washington do the great bulk of this work. The ship's printer, therefore, merely has the special and emergency work to do, which is not enough for more than one person working moderately. The government red tape is probably more visible in the navy than anywhere else, and this compels a large assortment of blank forms of various sorts to be on hand.

The printer on the Tennessee is a young man by the name of J. E. Erwin, a native of this city, who learned the business in the offices of small suburban weekly papers. Seeing an opportunity for advancement in the service of Uncle Sam, he enlisted, and has been stationed at the League Island printing establishment, known as the "Lucky Bag," for the last year, until promoted to full charge of the Tennessee's outfit. He holds the rank of second-class printer, the highest and only rank that the navy provides.

The greatest advantage which the post of printer holds on board of one of the large vessels is that the man in charge of the plant is usually permitted to run a small monthly paper, devoted to the news of the ship and the service. These sheets are edited by the chief yeoman or one of his mates, and the printer attends to the mechanical end. The papers are sold to the men at ten cents a copy, and as the circulation includes nearly all on board, 300 or 400 copies are sold. The government charges nothing for the use of the presses and other machinery, and so the only expense is the cost of the paper and ink, which is trifling. The yeoman having complete charge of all the editorial and reportorial work, there are no expensive salaries to pay to editors and reporters.

Occasionally, when the ship is in Chinese waters or some other distant ports, where reading matter is very scarce, 25 cents or more has been paid for a copy of the Ship News. As it sometimes occurs that the yeoman and the printer may both be on shore leave at the same time, the publication of the paper is suspended, when all subscriptions are extended.

Many of the ship editors are men of considerable literary ability, their work showing a finish and excellence that is highly creditable. The various departments, such as notes from the crew, matters relative to athletics, personal comments, jokes and reminiscences, and general news, are artistically arranged, and the composition is attractive and proper. A good feature of these marine literary outputs is that each ship exchanges with the others, thus keeping the crews in touch with their brothers in blue in all parts of the world. Each paper also sends a copy to the main paper, called the Blue Jacket, which is published at Newport, and the circulation of which is very large.

Only on the large ships of the armored cruiser and battleship classes are printing plants sustained, there not being sufficient work to warrant the added expense on all warships. The plan of having a special room for this establishment is recent, as on the older ships the work is done on deck.

Was it a Lemon Adam Got?

New Haven, Conn.—The American Modern Language association, recently in annual session at Yale, has decided that it was not an apple that Eve handed Adam. The association set aside a morning to discover whether it was not a lemon that caused the trouble in the Garden of Eden. Prof. Oliver M. Johnson, of the Leland Stanford university, California, who has made a special study of tropical fruits, was appointed to lead the discussion. He insists that there were no apples in the Garden of Eden.

KILL 20 000 A YEAR

FATALITIES AMONG AMERICA'S INDUSTRIAL ARMY IS APPALLING.

Compulsory Data is Wanted—Dr. Josiah Strong Says 575,000 Are Now Under Sentence of Death During Next Ten Years.

New York.—Important steps are soon to be taken in this city and elsewhere to establish a system of compulsory and accurate records of the enormous number of persons who are annually killed and injured in America's vast army of industrial workers. In New York city alone the meager records obtainable are startling. In 1904 there were 4,162 persons killed in New York city through accident and negligence as shown by the reports of the department of health, and these reports are said to be incomplete.

Dr. Josiah Strong, president of an Institute of Social Service, in speaking of the number of persons killed each year in our industrial occupations, made some astonishing comparisons. He said: "We in the United States kill in four years some 80,000 persons—more than fell in battle and died of wounds during the four years of the civil war. We are killing more than twice as many every year as perished by violence in both the French and English armies during the three years of the Crimean war."

"There are more killed and wounded on our railroads every year than the entire losses of the Boer war on both sides in three years. We have industrial casualties enough every year to keep one conflict like our war with Spain going for 1200 years. Our peaceful vocations cost more lives every two days than were lost in battle during the entire Spanish war."

"From the best statistics obtainable, I may say there are to-day 575,000 persons in the United States under sentence of death to be executed at an unknown moment during the next ten years—1,100 next week and the same number every week until the ghastly work is complete. An intelligent and earnest effort would procure the reprieve of a multitude of these innocent victims."

For two weeks beginning January 29 an exposition will be held in the American Museum of Natural History, in this city under the auspices of the American Institute of Social Service for the purpose of studying and exhibiting safety devices for dangerous machinery, methods of industrial hygiene and to set in motion the movement to establish a more accurate record of industrial fatalities and accidents in all parts of the country. At present Wisconsin is said to be the only state in the union where any effort is made of official compilation of these statistics.

In Europe there are several permanent museums of this character where experts are constantly studying how to safeguard industrial employees and as a result the percentage of death and injury from accidents has been greatly reduced. Ex-President Cleveland and many other prominent and influential citizens are interested in this movement.

GOT RID OF THE DEVILS.

Chinese Sailors Used Fireworks to Evict Unwelcome Visitors.

New York.—A story of a fight with devils and their conquest by its crew of 47 Chinamen was brought to this port by the steamship Erroll from Hong-Kong.

"Devils all gone down side one time, chop, chop," said Wan Goon, boss, in telling of the conflict. The Erroll shipped her crew of Mongolians in Hong-Kong and set out for Yokohama. On the night of August 4 there suddenly came a dazzling rain of meteors, lasting 16 seconds. In the meteoric display the moon entered upon a total eclipse. Wan Goon and his men were stricken motionless with fear. But when they found their moon had been devoured by a big devil fear was galvanized into frenzy.

Finally, in answer to their petitions, the devil disgorged the moon. After that the men were quiet, but mistrustful. There was not the slightest doubt that a great many minor devils remained on board even after two nights spent in chasing them with handspikes, capstan bars and chunks of coal.

When the Erroll made Yokohama every man went to the captain and demanded all the pay due. At nightfall a delegation of sailors returned, with several great bundles of fireworks. Wan Goon told the captain there was going to be such a pyrotechnical evicting of devils as the ports of all the seven seas had seldom witnessed. It was even so, and at the conclusion of the display the boss announced that not a devil was left.

Asked to Decide Complexion.

Washington.—The school authorities of Washington have been called upon to decide whether a Filipino is white or colored. The problem was brought before them by Major M. F. Waltz, U. S. A., who sent a communication asking that his Filipino servant, 22 years old, be admitted to the white schools of Washington. Major Waltz said that his servant had been denied admission to the public schools of Atlanta, Ga., on account of the prevailing race feeling. After much discussion the question was referred to a committee, which has not yet reported.

MECCA FOR DIVORCES

ONE DECREE FOR EVERY THREE WEDDINGS IN OMAHA.

Easterners Desiring an End to Marital Woes Flock to Nebraska Town—Widespread Practice of Withdrawing Records.

Omaha, Neb.—Nearly 500 divorce suits were filed in the district court in Omaha in the first 11 months of 1906, or approximately one for every three marriage licenses issued, according to statistics just compiled at the court house. Up to December 1, 1,548 marriage licenses had been issued in 1906 at the office of County Judge Leslie, and in the same period 484 divorce suits had been filed in the district court. In nearly all the divorce suits filed decrees were granted.

These startling figures indicate the growing importance of Omaha as a divorce center. Within the last two or three years this city has become far more important as a divorce center than Sioux Falls, S. D., and unless the divorce laws of this state are revised it is probable that Omaha will soon become the mecca for divorce seekers from other states, for it is much larger and is a more desirable place of residence than its rival to the north.

The records show that a large majority of the men and women who applied for divorce in the courts here in the first 11 months of the year make their homes in eastern states, but in order to get standing in the courts and procure their decrees of divorce they came here and established a legal residence.

The laxity of the law that permits a legal residence to be established in six months is in a large measure responsible for the rapid growth of the divorce business here. Another thing that attracts divorce seekers to Omaha is the fact that the city is large and prosperous enough to give them employment while they are establishing legal residence and waiting for the granting of their decrees.

The rapid increase in divorce suits in the last few years has attracted the attention of persons who favor more rigid divorce laws than those now on the statute books of this state and a strenuous effort will be made before the legislature at its next session to secure revision of the existing statutes on the basis of the model law recommended by the divorce congress which met in Philadelphia last fall.

A practice that obtains here and that is condemned by divorce experts is the action of lawyers in withdrawing from the public files the records in divorce cases immediately after the suits are brought. Many courts forbid this practice, but it never has been forbidden in Omaha, and it is charged that the practice has encouraged the bringing of divorce actions here. The model law recommended by the divorce congress contains a clause forbidding the withdrawal of records in divorce suits and requiring that all files as well as all hearings shall be public.

It is said upon good authority that many Omaha lawyers who make a specialty of divorce suits hold out as an inducement to divorce seekers to come here to bring their actions a promise that decrees may be procured without publicity. It is their practice to withdraw the petition and other records immediately after filing the suit. In this way the plaintiff to an action is saved the annoyance of publicity.

Hundreds of divorces were obtained in the district court here last year, but the number this year will be greater than last. Each year shows a substantial increase over the previous year and the end is not yet.

TRAMPS IN MANY NATIONS.

Walking 60,000 Miles to Disprove an Old Age Theory.

London.—There arrived in London the other evening an aged man named Mark All, who has been wandering for the last six years.

Mark All is an engineer by trade and he set out from Fleet street on August 6, 1900, with the object of walking 60,000 miles in seven years. The idea of the enterprise was to disprove a theory, which All attributes to engineering employers, that after a man has reached 45 years of age he is useless for manual labor.

Some gentlemen who were desirous of disproving this theory agreed to pay All £500 if he could walk 60,000 in seven years, earning his living at his trade, and that he shall not beg, sell photographs of himself or picture post cards, make speeches or exhibit himself at music halls. All these conditions, he says, he has faithfully observed. He has been all over the three kingdoms and has visited France, Spain, Switzerland, Belgium, Holland, Italy and Germany, but failed to get into Russia. His record now is 68,000 miles.

He proposes to take a week's rest in London, then walk to New Haven and cross to Dieppe, where he will resume his pedestrian exercises through France. Throughout his travels Mark All wears the union jack on his right arm.

Cake is 10 by 10 Feet in Size. Milwaukee.—William Meyer, a baker, presented to Agent Frelson of the Associated Charities a huge cake, which will be cut and distributed among the city's poor. The cake is ten feet long and of the same width. It is called "stollen" by the Germans and is filled

CHARACTER IN THE TONGUE.

Germany's Way of Sizing People Up Available Chiefly to Doctors.

Germany has taken up the pastime of reading character and telling fortunes by the tongue. Somebody has been making a study of the organ of speech and has discovered that it is full of indications.

A long tongue is said to denote openness of character, it suggests generosity and free handedness. Its possessor makes friends and enemies easily, but doesn't save money.

When the tongue is long and thick the openness degenerates into a tendency to gossip and scandal. The future of the owner is beset with troubles of his own making. It also indicates flightiness and inconstancy. Short tongues indicate secretiveness and dissimulation. Their owners make good detectives and attorneys.

The owner may acquire some money by economy and guile, but has not largeness of spirit to make a great fortune. Thin pointed tongues are found in different people who do not succeed in life.

Short and broad ones accompany craft and falsehood; the person who has such a tongue is compelled by it to deceive and betray, whatever effort he may make to keep straight.

The vibrant, quivering tongue denotes the artistic temperament. Brilliant carmine hue is a sign of long life; pale pink tongue denotes weakness of character and delicacy of constitution.

"If it's all true," says a German newspaper, "it is lucky that it is only at the doctor and not at our friends that we stick out our tongues."

TWO TYPES OF LAWYERS.

But the Late Judge Thayer Was of a Different Kind.

A Philadelphian was praising his former and uprightness the late Judge M. Russell Thayer.

He quoted the moving passage from Judge Thayer's will:

"Owing to the fact that almost my entire life has been passed in the public service of the United States and of the state of Pennsylvania, I have but a small estate to leave to my dear children and wife."

"Those are different words," he said, "from the kind we have been hearing lately. It seems odd to us to think of a public servant regarding his post as anything but a plum tree. We have here another proof that a man really honorable can never become rich."

Judge Thayer was an honorable man. First as a lawyer, afterwards as a judge, he treated all with whom he had dealings with the greatest fairness. Once, years ago after he had served me well in a difficult case, I remunerated with him about the smallness of his fee.

"Well," he said, smiling, and smiling the flower in his buttonhole, "I, you know, am not that type of lawyer whose client once said:

"I never was entirely ruined but twice. Once when I lost a lawsuit and once when I gained one."

Ade's Autobiography.

Met Henry W. Savage the other day, and accumulated the following quite characteristic story of George Ade. As of course you know, Mr. Savage produced "The Sultan of Sulu," "Peggy from Paris" and other comic operas of which Mr. Ade's prolific pen was the proud progenitor, and he was urging the Hoosier librettist to write another musical comedy for the Savage office.

"Can't do it, governor," cried Mr. Ade, shaking his head, gloomily; "can't do it; I can't write lyrics to save my immortal soul."

"You can't write lyrics," echoed the tall manager. "Well I'd like to know what's the matter with Rem-o-see." "Great Sulu's Sultan!" wailed Ade, grimly; "Rem-o-see wasn't a lyric; it was autobiography."

Repose.

The most beautiful thing about life New York clubman is his repose. If you want to be a successful clubman cultivate repose. Eat, drink, think and dream repose. Never hurry. Never get excited. Talk deliberately and mysteriously. Let your eyes droop. Never appear interested in anything. Make believe you have seen whatever of life that's fit or unfit to print and are looking only for rest. Let nothing surprise you. Appear bored. Avoid introductions. Be "at home" to nobody. Keep your hat on. Never shake hands.—New York Press.

Washing Done by Nature.

As a weaver nature produces fine work. Certain tree barks and leaves furnish excellent cloth, as for instance, the famous tapa cloth used in the South Sea Islands. Nature is a glassmaker, too, according to the Indian Review. By discharging her lightning into beds of quartz sand she forms exquisite little pipes of glass. She makes valuable ropes of various kinds in the shape of tropical vines and creepers.

Busy Meanwhile.

"Lost your temper, eh?" said the father, sternly. "Didn't I tell you if any of the other boys ever said anything to make you angry, you should count 50 before you replied?" "Yes, sir," replied the husky boy. "But I didn't get time to count 50. Before I counted 20 the other fellow yelled 'Enough.'"—Philadelphia Press.

Practical.

"What did she say when she heard he was dead in love with her?" "She wanted to know if he carried any life insurance."