

AIN'T NATURE WONDERFUL!
Unnatural History by Gene Ahern



The Mule

This is between you and me—that doesn't look like a mule, does it? It looks more like a chewed up end of a pencil, doesn't it? But the sketcher who painted it says it's a mule, even if its anatomy is hunched all out of shape like a straphanger.

All right, Rembrandt, have it your own way, but the mule hasn't anything on you for stubbornness. Not mentioning any labels but there's a big political party that has the mule for a mascot. Just like the stubborn mule that balks on the railroad track with the 5:15 coming along 30 minutes late these politicians do the same stunt right in the road of "Kid Mars," the boy with the iron fist haymaker.

Excuse me, Leopold, but who gets the worst of it, the mule or "Kid Mars?" Why silly, "Kid Mars" of course, he gets the WURST OF IT.

The last three words in the sentence above are deep stuff, read them over again and see if you get the drift. You'd think on account of the big ears the mule would be very attentive to your orders, wouldn't you? But he ain't. You could yell and warn him till you are groggy and it would all go over his head like a tent.

Moral—Loosen up the traces and side straps, back the wagon up and

pull it away yourself. Don't look back to see what happens to Mr. Mule.

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WAITING TO SHOW OFF

"You're a swindler," exclaimed Mrs. Gobb, as she entered the bird store. "You're worse than a highway robber. You ought to be ashamed of yourself to cheat a poor, innocent woman the way you did. That parrot I bought from you last week is a fraud. You said it was a fluent talker and you charged me a big price for him, too, and that bird hasn't said a single word since I got him. not one word. Do you hear me? Not—one—single—word!"

"Perhaps," suggested the bird fancier, mildly, "you didn't give him a chance."

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SOMETHING WRONG

"What is there about betting on horse races that is so bad for the health?" said young Mrs. Brown.

"I never heard of anything," answered the visitor.

"Didn't you? Every time Charley makes a bet he comes home and says there is something wrong with his system."

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A SOFT SNAP



PAINTING THE RUDDER
ON A PRAIRIE SCHOONER.