

BALDHEADED ALASKAN BEARS

Volcanic Ash Brings Hardship to Bruin on Kadiak Island.

Seward, Alaska.—It will take more than two or three years of enforced diet of straight meat and fish and a loss of hair to seriously set back the bear population of Kadiak island, according to D. Winn of the United States bureau of fisheries.

Kadiak island, says Mr. Winn, in 1912 was covered with volcanic ash at no point at a depth less than eleven inches. The ash killed all vegetation, and as all bears are fond of a mixed diet of meat, fish and vegetables, they found 1913 and 1914 unpleasant from a dietary standpoint.

Another effect of the fall of ash, according to Mr. Winn, was the havoc it created with the furry coats of the animals. Bald headed bears are now as common on Kadiak island as bald headed men in the front row of a musical comedy. The ash sifted down on the skins of the animals as it fell, and the first rain turned it to lye, which had the effect of almost tanning the skins of the bears while yet a part of their personal effects.

WHITTLES VIOLIN FINGERS.

Player Hopes to Increase His Proficiency by Surgery.

Wichita, Kan.—In order to become a more proficient violin artist Mark Sandfort, a member of an orchestra here, had a piece of flesh taken from each of his six fingers. The incisions were drawn together and sewn with horsehair. The operation was performed by Dr. H. S. Hickok, and Sandfort will be able to remove the bandages soon.

Sandfort has won a reputation as a violinist. However, his execution of musical selections was not as good as he desired it to be. He hit upon a plan. He would have his fingers whittled down. He waited until the season closed and had the operation performed.

According to physicians, this is the first time that an operation of this kind has been performed.

BOY FALLS; SERVICE STOPS.

Pastor and Congregation See Led Hit by Electric Current.

Little Rock, Ark.—Kenneth McEwen, eleven years of age, was electrocuted thirty feet in the air on a lightning tower in view of the congregation of a church that was holding services on the church lawn because of the heat.

The boy was knocking the wire that supplied current to the lights on the tower against the steel frame to produce sparks. Suddenly a flash of blue flames enveloped him, and he plunged downward, fracturing his skull on the pavement below. He died in a hospital a few minutes later.

The pastor of the church, the Rev. E. P. Aldredge, was preaching a special sermon to boys. He rushed over, aided in placing the dying lad in an ambulance and then resumed his sermon, using the accident as a warning to the boys.

GIRL'S PROFIT IN HOGS.

Raising Swine Not a Finishing School For Debutantes.

Holtville, Cal.—Raising hogs for pleasure and profit is the occupation of Miss Josie Fuller, seventeen, the youngest and best all around feminine pork producer in the Imperial valley.

It is her ambition to become the best expert on hogs in her district. Her herd numbers fifty strong and is increasing. "Pig culture isn't aesthetic work, of course," said Miss Fuller. "It can't be considered a finishing school for debutantes, but there's money in it." She has established a record of developing her porkers for the market at a cost of 3 1/2 cents a pound.

"Women may not admire hogs, but if they don't it's because they know so little about them. Once interested they become just as capable as men in handling swine."

TWO DEATHS IN ONE HOME.

Sees Mother-in-law Stricken With Heart Failure, Then Dies.

Philadelphia.—Stricken with heart failure just after she had called her son to dinner at noon, Mrs. Rebecca Thomas, seventy-three years old, a sister of Jesse Pratt, former mayor of Camden, fell dead in the dining room of her Camden home.

Mrs. Madeline Thomas, her daughter-in-law, who was in an adjoining room, ran to her assistance and was leaning over her, trying to lift her form to a couch, when she, too, collapsed and fell lifeless.

ANOTHER QUILTS SING SING.

Officials Think Prisoner Swam to Liberty.

Ossining, N. Y.—"I'm going into the garden to get some tomatoes for breakfast," said Elmer Schultz, a prisoner at Sing Sing, as he walked out of the power house, where he was doing duty as a freeman. Some hours later the big whistle tooted the message that another prisoner had escaped.

Prison officials had then found two iron pickets had been pulled apart and concluded that Schultz went through the opening, dived into the Hudson and swam to liberty.

Lost Dog Returned Home.

New York.—After a year's absence a beagle belonging to Louis W. Well of Flushing, N. Y., returned home. Mr. Well went on a hunting trip a year ago and took the beagle along. He lost the dog. The dog seemed to enjoy its homecoming, and the Well family showed its delight in a way that tickled the dog's palate.

Stagestruck Women.

William A. Page, the Chicago critic and publicity writer, says in the Woman's Home Companion in an article about stagestruck women:

"And what becomes of them? Caught in the eddies of frivolity, many of them temporarily abandon their stage ambitions in the kaleidoscopic life of Broadway. Others live in hall bedrooms, boil eggs over a gas jet and waste their young lives in the fruitless pursuit of a rainbow which they never find, only sooner or later to return home sadly and settle down to forget their stage ambitions. Others study, economize, sincerely strive for engagements, possibly get small roles with some obscure company and start in on a career which will be filled with many, many disappointments. And of the thousands who came so bravely to the front last year how many still remain in the lists? Not counting those who may have gone into musical comedy, perhaps a score still cherish the shrine of Marlowe and of Adams. For the rest, oblivion."

Shaw Didn't Like Himself.

"Many years ago in a house in Ashley Gardens," writes G. Bernard Shaw in the New Witness, "I was walking along a corridor with other guests at a musical evening when I saw coming toward me a man who produced an extraordinarily disagreeable impression on me, a tall young man in evening dress, with a blond beard and, as it seemed to me, a hateful expression.

"He was coming straight at me. I moved aside to avoid him, and he moved, too, apparently to get into my way again. An impulse of rage at this insult was checked just in time by the discovery that instead of walking along a corridor I was crossing a square landing and that the detestable apparition who had chilled my very soul with his abominable aspect was a reflection of myself in the wall of mirror which the tenant of the Ashley Gardens flat had put up to give his cramped dwelling an appearance of spacious magnificence."

Power In Plant Cells.

Along with the formation of the sugar, and caused in part by its accumulation, there develop within the minute cells of the blueberry plants enormous osmotic pressures, which enable the plant to push its buds open, F. V. Coville writes in the National Geographic Magazine.

These pressures are frequently as high as seven atmospheres or more than 100 pounds to the square inch—a pressure that would start a leak in a low pressure steam engine. The pressure may become as high as thirty atmospheres or 450 pounds to the square inch—a force sufficient to blow the cylinder head off of a thousand horsepower Corliss engine. The reason the plant does not explode is because it is broken up into many extremely small and strongly built cells instead of having one big interior cavity. These minute chambers are often as thick walled proportionately as an artillery shell.

A Famous War Horse.

Bucephalus, the charger that carried Alexander the Great through all his campaigns, received his name from the fact that, although white, he had a black mark resembling an ox's head on his forehead.

A Thessalonian had offered the horse for sale to Philip of Macedonia, but as none of the monarch's attendants could manage him the king ordered his own to take him away. Alexander, who was present, expressed his regret at losing so fine an animal, and Philip replied that he would buy the horse if his son could ride him. The offer was accepted by Alexander, who succeeded in the attempt. Bucephalus would never suffer any other person to mount him.

Airing a Room.

In airing a room there are two things to be remembered—first, that the impure air must be allowed to escape and, secondly, that fresh air must be admitted. Impure air in a room is always warm and will therefore rise toward the ceiling, when it will escape if the window is opened at the top, while cold fresh air will enter through the lower part of the window when opened.

A Grand Canyon Sunrise.

A sunrise in the Grand canyon lasts as long as you please. Each hour is a sunrise for some cavern deeper than the last, and, in fact, there are many where it has yet to rise for the first time since the canyon was made by those ages of running water.

His Ashes.

"So you prefer to be cremated when you die?" "I certainly do." "Why?" "So that my remains may be mingled with the ashes of the grate."—London Telegraph.

Parental Care.

"Did your bride's father give her away?" "No, he didn't. He left me to find out a few things about her for myself."—Baltimore American.

Causes.

Bix—A physician says that yawning is caused by a lack of oxygen in the blood. Dix—Or a lack of pep in the conversation.—Boston Transcript.

The Comeback.

Skinflint—I have no money, but I will give you a little advice. Beggar—Well, if yer ain't got no money yer advice can't be very valuable.

Sooner or later the world comes around to see the truth and do the right.—Hilliard.

Coney Island's Start.

The first man to realize the great possibilities of Coney Island as a summer resort was Austin Corbin, a banker and railway official. From the beginning of the last century the beach at Coney Island was frequented by many New Yorkers, but it remained for Corbin to initiate the movement which has made "Coney" a synonym for a certain kind of amusement. Corbin started his financial career at Daventry, Ia., but in 1865 he opened a banking house in New York, and in 1873 he purchased the eastern part of Coney Island. There he created the great resort known as Manhattan Beach. He also became president of the Long Island railroad and played a big part in the development of all the summer resorts on Long Island. In the last forty years Coney Island has become the greatest popular summer resort in the world, and in addition to the millions of transient visitors from the city who go there for the day many thousands are regular summer residents of the hotels and cottages which line its shores.—New York World.

Money Mark Twain Refused.

By the time that Mark Twain had finally succeeded in paying off the burden of debt that had fallen upon him with the failure of his publishing venture he found himself one of the best paid authors in the world. He refused many offers of money that did not agree with his literary conscience. He declined \$10,000 for a tobacco indorsement, though he liked the tobacco well enough. He declined \$10,000 a year for five years to lend his name as editor to a humorous periodical. He declined another \$10,000 for ten lectures and another for fifty lectures at the same rate—that is, \$1,000 a night. And he was offered \$1 a word for his writing, which he also declined, making a final arrangement with his regular publishers that they should print whatever he wrote, the payment being 20 (later 30) cents a word.—"Boys' Life of Mark Twain" in St. Nicholas.

Persian Words In English.

Regarding the Persian language, we all have a few words from that source in our vocabularies, although we may not be aware of our indebtedness. There are about a dozen words in the English dictionary which trace to Persia, the most common being perhaps "orange," although this was thought by some to be derived from the Latin "aurum" (gold). "Sash," meaning a ribbon or band (the "sash" of a window is the Latin "capsa"), "shawl" and "taffeta" are other Persian words which have become thoroughly acclimatized, as have "chess," "caravan," "illic," "dervish" and "jac," while "emerald" and "indigo," "azure," "bazaar," "jackal," "musk," "paradise" and "scimitar" have also been traced to the same source.—London Opinion.

Sympathy With Nature.

'Tis an evidence of how directly we are related to nature that we more or less sympathize with the weather and take on the color of the day. Goethe said he worked easiest on a high barometer. One is like a chimney that draws well some days and won't draw at all on others, and the secret is mainly in the condition of the atmosphere. Anything positive and decided with the weather is a good omen. A pouring rain may be more auspicious than a sleeping sunshine. When the stove draws well the fogs and fumes will leave your mind.—John Burroughs.

Teeth as Sentinels.

"When thou sittest to eat with a ruler consider diligently him that is before thee," says the Hebrew proverb, warning a king's guest to regulate his appetite by his host's temper. Boswell, Dr. Johnson's biographer, gives in his notebook a modern paraphrase of the old Jewish proverb: "I said of a rich man who entertained us luxuriously that, although he was exceedingly ridiculous, we restrained ourselves from talking of him as, we might do lest we should lose his feasts. 'He makes our teeth sentinels on our tongues,' said I."

Fire and Matrimony.

In Persia the wedding service is read in front of a fire. In Nicaragua the priest, taking the couple each by the little fingers, leads them to an apartment where a fire is lighted and then instructs the bride in her duties, extinguishing the fire by way of conclusion. In Japan the woman kindles a torch and the bridegroom lights one from it, the playthings of the wife being then burned.

A Record In Governors.

Mrs. Richard Manning of South Carolina had the distinction of being the only woman on record who was the wife of a governor, the sister of a governor, the niece of a governor, the mother of a governor and the aunt and foster mother of a governor.

Accounted For.

Aunt—My goodness, Eddie! Why did you take the biggest apple in the dish? Eddie—I was afraid some one else would get it.—Chicago Herald.

Cotton Seed.

It is estimated that one seed of cotton, given the application of all possible care and skill, would produce 40,000,000,000 seeds in six years.

Almost as Bad.

Kathryn—I hear that you said I was double faced. Kitty—I never did. I merely said you were double chinned.—Exchange.

Conscience is harder than our enemies, knows more, accuses with more nicety.—George Eliot.

Famous Aztec Runners.

Communication (among the Aztecs) was maintained with the remotest parts of the country by means of couriers. Posthouses were established on the great roads, about two leagues distant from each other. The courier, bearing his dispatches in the form of a hieroglyphical painting, ran with them to the first station, where they were taken by another messenger and carried forward to the next, and so on till they reached the capital. These couriers, trained from childhood, traveled with incredible swiftness; not four or five leagues an hour, as an old chronicler would make us believe, but with such speed that dispatches were carried from 100 to 200 miles a day. Fresh fish was frequently served at Montezuma's table in twenty-four hours from the time it had been taken in the gulf of Mexico, 200 miles from the capital. In this way intelligence of the movements of the royal armies was rapidly brought to court, and the dress of the courier denoting by its color that of his tidings, spreading joy or consternation in the towns through which he passed.—From Prescott's "History of the Conquest of Mexico."

Picardy Names.

Whence come the names of the Picardy villages, strange even in France? Among the names of places are Bray, which is of Celtic origin and signifies a swamp or morass. Fay is from the Latin "agus," meaning a beech tree. Hem is a home or habitation. Estree is from the Latin "strata," meaning route. Fins is from "finis," signifying the limits. Combles means vales or valleys. The termination "oy" is applied to a plantation—Quesnoy, Tilloy, Autoy, Rosoy. The name of "Bois des Trones" is simply "the wood of the thrones." The name of the city of Albert was formerly the same as the name of the stream, Ancre. It was changed when the lordship passed to the house of Albert de Lyne of the family Alberti, originally of Florence. Peronne, noted because of the captivity of King Louis XI, at that place, was for a long time called La Pucelle, "the maiden."—Indianapolis News.

Hard to Kill.

An alligator's tenacity of life is remarkable. "I remember one time," says an English traveler in India, "I was with a shooting party on the Ganges when the natives brought in a six foot alligator. They hoped some one would want to buy it, but no one did, so it was determined to kill the creature. It was hauled out of the tank and tied to a tree. Bullets from a small rifle or an ordinary twelve bore gun seemed only to irritate the saurian, and he did not seem to care very much when a native thrust a spear down his throat. Finally they were obliged to get axes and chop off its head. Even then the tail thrashed around, and the body was almost cut to pieces before all movement ceased."

A Brassy Cheek.

"You," exclaimed the indignant old gentleman—"you want to marry my daughter! Why, sir, it is only a few years ago that you were caddying for me." "Yes, sir," said the young man, "but I don't intend to let that stand in the way. I hope I am philosopher enough to realize that a very bad golfer may make a fairly good father-in-law."—Boston Transcript.

White Specks In Butter.

White specks in butter are sometimes simply fine particles of milk curd, resulting from lack of care in skimming. Sometimes they are small scraps of dried cream, having been scraped from the sides of the pan and being too dry to thoroughly soften and mix with the rest.

Lost and Found—A Heart.

Nothing seems so hopelessly lost, when it is lost, as a heart, yet nothing, when it is lost, is by the experience of the centuries so absolutely certain of recovery.—Puck.

As It Will Be.

The New Woman—I'm going to the club, Algeron. Algeron—Very well, but I've done all I could to make the home attractive.—Philadelphia Ledger.

PRACTICAL HEALTH HINT.

Proper Eating.

Eating is important to every one. It is a matter that calls for thought, for eating anything and everything without thought is certain to breed disease. Good health is necessary to our happiness, and health depends largely on the food we eat, its quality and quantity and the regularity of our meals. Quality includes the cooking. There are some who, as the Scotch say, "dig their graves with their teeth." Louis Corano some hundreds of years ago wrote discourses on how to acquire and keep good health. The chief thing, according to Corano, was to eat simple foods in moderation and lead a temperate life. His theories are quite as good today as in his time. Cicero said, "Eat to live, not live to eat." William Penn gave advice, "Always rise from the table with an appetite and you will never sit down without one." Overeating, eating without regard to digestion, is the cause of a large proportion of our sickness. Gluttony kills more men than the sword. "Who minds not his stomach will soon mind little else."

Advertisement for Quinade hair products. Includes images of women's faces and text: 'QUINADE GROWS HAIR REMOVES DANDRUFF SEND FOR SAMPLE QUINASOAP THE IDEAL SHAMPOO SOAP THOROUGHLY CLEANSSES THE SCALP QUINACOMB HAIR STRAIGHTENER SHAMPOO DRYER SEEBY DRUG COMPANY, NEW YORK CITY, N. Y.'

Giant Grotto.

The immense cavern known as the Giant grotto is situated near Trieste, Austria, and is said to be the largest known to exist. It consists of one vast chamber, 787 feet long, 433 feet broad and 452 feet high. There are three entrances, two in the roof and one at the edge of the roof, which has been provided with ladders with steps, so that visitors can safely descend into the grotto. Once on the bottom, progress is easy. The cavern contains remarkable groups of stalactites, some of them of gigantic size and others of bizarre shapes. The tallest stalactite has a length of little more than thirty-nine feet. No side or underlying caverns have yet been discovered. The bottom of the grotto is 625 feet below the surface of the ground forming the top of the roof, which in turn is about 1,580 feet above sea level.—Pearson's Weekly.

Old Engraved Rings.

Among the legends of Greece it is told that the father of Pythagoras, the famous Greek philosopher, was a celebrated engraver of gems, and, according to classical history, both Helen of Troy and Ulysses of Greece wore engraved rings.

Engraving on stones that were partly precious was an art at a very remote age. The British museum proudly boasts the possession of a small square of yellow jasper bearing the figure of a horse and the name and titles of Amenophis II., believed to date back to about the year 1450 B. C. The very finest specimen of engraved gem now in existence is a head of Nero carved on a first water diamond by the brothers Castanzi in the year 1790 A. D.—St. James' Gazette.

Gained Her Object.

There's method in some people's seeming misbehavior, although the reason for so much privation does not strike ordinary folk as sufficient. A Swiss village owes its fine peal of bells to this sort of self sacrifice.

About ten years ago a widow who had lived in great misery for no less than fifty years went to the commune and presented it with over \$4,000 for a peal of bells for the old church. She had saved the amount penny by penny, dressing like a beggar and starving herself. She said she had gained the object of her life.

Breaking a Looking Glass.

The breaking of a looking glass superstition is a very old one. Hundreds of years ago it used to be a common belief that those who wished to harm others could do so by getting pictures or making images of their enemies and destroying them. The destruction of the picture would be followed by the death of its original. Even the victim's reflection in a mirror was enough for the purpose, provided the mirror was promptly broken.

All In.

Friend—I was just in the art gallery admiring your "Napoleon After Waterloo." The fidelity of expression on Bonaparte's face is positively wonderful. Where did you get it? Mr. Dobber—From life. I got my wife to pose for me the morning after she gave her first reception.—Puck.

An Old Smallpox Cure.

The following primitive "cure" for smallpox was discovered by the Leytonshire (England) guardians in one of their registers for the year 1700: "Take thirty to forty live toads and burn them to cinders in a new pot, then crush into a fine black powder. Dose for smallpox, three ounces."

A Matter of Distance.

Aesop was asked how far it was to a certain place. "Let me see you walk," replied Aesop. The man protested that he wished a civil answer. "You foolish person!" said Aesop. "How can I tell how far it is to that town until I see at what pace you travel?"

Three Classes on the Cars.

An Italian drummer explains in the Milan Domenica del Corriere that "in the first class the passengers abuse the trainmen, in the third class the trainmen are rude to the passengers, in the second class the passengers insult each other."

Muffed.

"They tell me Jimson is over his ears in debt." "Yes; so much so that he can't hear the doorbell when his creditors call."—Exchange.

It is not every man that can afford to wear a shabby coat.—Colton.

Old English Furniture.

That fine old furniture is yet found in Great Britain in many unexpected places is said to be largely due to the stirring up of the country that was given by the great exhibition at London of 1851. This was soon after the development of the railway system in England, and there flocked to London a large number of squires and their wives. A new world had opened to the country dames. The new things had a wonderful fascination for them. On returning home they got rid of much of their old furniture and bought new. Much of the old furniture found its way to secondhand shops and was sold to poor folk who could not afford to buy new. This accounts for the finding today of much good old furniture in small houses in provincial towns and among country people.—Indianapolis News.

Napoleon Obeyed the Mob.

In "The Corsican—A Diary of Napoleon's Life in His Own Words," Bonaparte tells how as an obscure soldier he witnessed some of the opening scenes of the revolution: "I lodged at Rue du Mail, Place des Victories. At the sound of the tocsin and the news that the Tuileries were attacked I started for the Carrousel. Before I had got there in the Rue des Petits Champs I was passed by a mob of horrible looking fellows parading a head stuck on a pike. Thinking I looked too much of a gentleman, they wanted me to shout 'Vive la nation' which I did promptly, as may easily be imagined."

Just Used Him.

They met again at Atlantic City. The young man asked the girl: "Now that you have become engaged to George why have you flirted with me so long and let me take you motoring, golfing and theater going? Why did you encourage me so long when you intended to accept George?" The girl blushed a little and sighed. "I wanted," she said softly, "to test my love for George."—Pittsburgh Chronicle-Telegraph.

He Won the Trick.

"Oh, George, dear," she whispered when he slipped the engagement ring on her tapering finger, "how sweet of you to remember just the sort of stone I preferred! None of the others was ever so thoughtful!"

George was staggered but for a moment. Then he came back with: "Not at all, dear. You overrate me. This is the one I've always used." She was inconsistent enough to cry about it.

Retort Caustic.

Artist's Friend (patronizingly)—I think those thistles in your foreground are superbly realistic, old chap! Pen my word, they actually seem to be nodding in the breeze, don't you know! Ungrateful Artist—Yes, I have had one or two people tell me they would almost deceive an ass!

A Perfect Being.

Once upon a time there was a human being who never made a mistake. And his neat little tombstone records the fact that he was one day old when he died.—Springfield Union.

Perfect Fit.

Clara—Is she satisfied with her divorce suit? Bella—Yes; she wouldn't have it altered for the world.—Chicago Herald.

Advertisement for Practical Health Hint. Includes text: 'PRACTICAL HEALTH HINT. Bran as a Medicine. Bread or muffins made from bran make a nutritious breakfast food. Because of its coarseness and bulk bran is highly laxative. Persons of sedentary habit and those who eat much meat invariably suffer from constipation. Uncooked bran makes a more active laxative for such cases. It should be eaten once a day—two or three tablespoonfuls of sterilized bran mixed in with the breakfast cereal or stewed fruit or taken with a pinch of salt and milk or cream over it. A warm preparation of uncooked bran can be had by stirring it into soup. The aged enjoy the bran bread for breakfast, dinner and supper. It does away with the need for a cereal at breakfast for them. Digestive disturbances are apt to result from a too steady diet of cereals, and bran preparations prevent and correct disorders of digestion.'