

# EXPERT TELLS HOW TO SUCCEED

FORMER KEEPER OF NEW YORK  
ZOO VISITS COAST

HAS HAD MANY ADVENTURES

William Caldwell Explains Method by  
Which Success May Be At-  
tained in Handling Savage  
Beasts

William Caldwell, one of the fore-  
most animal trainers in the world, is  
in Los Angeles and has decided to  
make his permanent home in this city.

Few men have had the experience  
credited to Caldwell in his thirty-three  
years of existence. He has hunted wild  
animals in the jungles of India and  
Africa and has spent more than one-  
half of his life in studying and train-  
ing animals.

Beginning in 1894, he assumed the  
management of the Imperial zoo of the  
sultan of Johore, in the Malay Straits  
settlement, holding this position three  
years, during which time he was in  
absolute charge of the royal menagerie.

For two seasons he had charge of the  
Paris hippodrome and performed, un-  
aided, one of the most delicate and  
successful operations ever attempted  
and which has never been tried since.

### Delicate Operation

An unruly elephant, which was a  
most valuable animal because it was  
one of the largest in captivity, became  
angry one day during a performance  
and wildly rushed against a wall. Turn-  
ing its head, the elephant struck the  
wall heavily with its tusk, driving  
the long ivory tooth into its head, al-  
most piercing the brain.

This caused the animal to become  
deranged and three internationally  
famous veterinarians were called upon  
to extract the tusk, but without suc-  
cess. Caldwell, as manager of the ani-  
mals, undertook the difficult task and  
by boring holes in the tusk, through  
which wires were passed and fastened  
to a tree, he forced the elephant to pull  
its tusk into position after being goad-  
ed with steel pointed sticks by Cald-  
well.

Treating the tusk as if it were an  
ulcerated tooth, Caldwell secured a  
cure of the injury and restored the  
elephant to its normal state of health.  
For this success Caldwell was brought  
into newspaper notoriety throughout  
Europe.

### Bostock's Trainer

For two seasons Caldwell was con-  
nected with the Bostock animal shows,  
and held the position of boss animal  
trainer, having entire charge of the  
management of the ferocious beasts,  
for which this menagerie is famous.

Later he accepted the appointment of  
head animal keeper at the New York  
city zoo, holding that position until  
his resignation a few weeks ago, sever-  
ing his connection at that time be-  
cause of disagreements with the man-  
agement, afterwards being vindicated  
in his position by investigations made  
by New York newspapers.

During his career among the ani-  
mals he has experienced many thrilling  
escapes from death and has fought the  
beasts at all stages of their careers,  
from the jungle to the caged homes  
in zoos and menageries. In all  
his experiences he has emerged with-  
out disfigurement, and minor scratches  
are his greatest scars as mementos of  
the fights.

### Tells of Early Life

"How did I come to enter the profes-  
sion of animal training? Well, I sup-  
pose I drifted into it naturally," Cald-  
well said musingly yesterday afternoon  
as he sat on the steps of Trainer Rice's  
home at Eastlake park and looked over  
at "Big Ben" in his cage.

"I have had a love of animals ever  
since I can remember and the twelve  
years of my hunting and training  
career have only strengthened my re-  
gard for the dumb brutes.

"There are not many qualifications  
required to make a success of the busi-  
ness. It takes an average amount of  
pluck, temperance and enthusiasm.  
Reinforced by these characteristics,  
properly developed, any man should be  
able to get to the top of the profes-  
sion."

Caldwell has the appearance of hav-  
ing fully developed the qualifications of  
which he speaks. He is an English-  
man, 33 years old, rugged and sturdily  
built, and in whose blue eyes there lies  
kindness as well as strong determina-  
tion. He speaks with the full under-  
standing of his work, showing a wide  
range of knowledge from that of trap-  
ping and training of animals to their  
scientific classification.

He is all nerves, but there is not a  
nerve in his whole body that is not un-  
der his control. He can hold at arm's  
length a glass of water filled above  
the rim without spilling a drop of its  
contents. Caldwell smokes a great  
deal. He excuses his habit on the plea  
that the animals do not mind it and  
it is a good disinfectant.

### Hunted Tigers

From the back of the elephant he  
has enjoyed the regal sport of hunting  
the man-eating tiger; he has led in  
elephant hunts, trapped most of the  
different varieties of the cat tribe,  
wandered for months through the jung-  
les of India, traveled through most of  
the little known portions of the world,  
Tibet excepted, and would gladly wel-  
come the opportunity to repeat his ex-  
periences.

"My keenest enjoyment is in the cap-  
ture of wild animals," he says; "their  
training comes a close second. There

# FAMOUS TRAINER OF WILD ANIMALS SAYS: "BE KIND BUT FIRM AND AVOID LIQUOR"



WILLIAM CALDWELL, A FAMOUS ANIMAL TRAINER, WHO WILL MAKE HIS HOME IN LOS ANGELES

is little opportunity now for the former  
excepting where one has an abundance  
of money and can take it up merely  
as a pastime. There are too many pro-  
fessional animal hunters now to make  
the business a profitable one.

"When a hunter starts into the jung-  
les of India, taking with him from  
eighty to 100 coolies to act as beaters  
and packers he has not the least idea  
whether he is to be gone two months  
or two years, provided of course he  
goes with the determination to bring  
something back as a result of the trip.

"Take for instance tiger hunting.  
After the lair and the drinking pool  
have been found, the trap carefully pre-  
pared and other details accomplished  
there are seven chances out of ten that  
all the work will be in vain. The tiger  
has smelled a rat and has made off.  
Granting that all goes well, it is often  
a question of six weeks or more of  
tedious waiting before the capture is  
made. The rest is easy. The tiger has  
been fairly caught in the blind pit  
which you have carefully constructed  
near his drinking pool. He is entangled  
in the nets which the hunter has  
brought along for the purpose and with-  
out more ado he is hauled out by a do-  
zen of your coolies and placed on one  
of the movable cages which you carry  
with you.

### Many Narrow Escapes

"Naturally, one has a good many  
narrow escapes from death in my pro-  
fession. I really couldn't say which one  
has been my nearest approach to drop-  
ping animal training for all time, but a  
year ago at Paris I guess I came as  
near to it as I ever have or expect to.

"It happened at the Paris hippo-  
drome last September. I was in charge  
of Bostock's animals then and we ar-  
rived at our destination one night at  
about 10 o'clock. I had three elephants  
in my charge. I was told that I would  
find a place for them in the cellar, so  
I drove them thither. Old Liz, an ele-  
phant which I believe is the largest  
animal now on exhibition, had been  
chained in the dark hole for several  
months and was in an exceedingly  
ugly frame of mind. I attended to the  
animals I had brought with me and  
then started in to lead "Liz" to the wa-  
tering trough. I had heard that Liz  
had the habit of trying to kill her keep-  
ers by falling on them, so I was pre-  
pared for that, but she caught me in  
another way. I had loosened the chains  
on three of her legs and was at work on  
the fourth when she wheeled and  
caught me under the arms with her  
trunk. I was entirely helpless. A sec-  
ond later she had me in the air. I  
knew her purpose was to kneel on me  
and she would have been successful  
but for the fact that because of her  
close confinement her trunk was stiff  
and in lifting my body she threw me  
against the wall of the cellar, letting  
go her hold. I sustained two broken  
ribs, but I had no complaint to make.

### Another Adventure

"At another time I was in the arena  
of the hippodrome in an elephant act.  
The stunt was for me to lie flat upon  
the floor and have one of the animals  
lie down beside me, so that its body  
was entirely over me. I never could  
quite make out whether or not it was  
intentional or not, but when the time  
came the elephant lumbered over, its  
three tons of bulk escaping my body  
by a couple of inches. The audience  
enjoyed the act but I didn't. The old  
fellow came entirely too close for com-  
fort that time.

"There is no such thing as getting  
on the good side of an animal. Sooner  
or later they will turn on you, and the  
elephant, whose reputation outside

the profession of animal training is of  
the best, is no exception to the rule.  
Sooner or later he will 'go bad.' He  
usually shows symptoms of his mad-  
ness before it actually occurs. His  
eyes grow bloodshot. He will stand for  
hours, his trunk in his mouth and while  
he sucks he plans. He may try to strike  
his keeper with his trunk, or else step  
on him, but in a way which will seem  
entirely accidental. An elephant is a  
peculiarly sagacious and cunning ani-  
mal. 'Once bad, after that always  
good' is a fallacy. He may recover his  
senses but if he does he can be de-  
pendent upon to show his dementia at  
some future time. A determined man  
with two good bull hooks can usually  
manage the most unruly of the beasts.

### Kind and Firm

"Kindness and firmness are the  
weapons with which the trainer holds  
his power over his charges, but kind-  
ness must not be used when it is in  
order to use firmness. Many trainers  
make that mistake. A good elephant  
is an elephant that has had a sound  
drubbing. Of course, I do not mean  
that nothing but force should be used.  
When this is the case, the animal starts  
in planning revenge and at the first  
opportunity he carries out his intention.  
Enough force must be used to cow the  
animal and make him know that his  
trainer is his master.

"Here is a little argument which will  
appeal to members of the W. C. T. U.  
A man must be temperate in his habits.  
Animals, and the elephant above all  
others, can tell when his trainer has  
been drinking. Immediately they lose  
their fear of him and with their fear  
goes respect. They seem to know that  
the man is not himself and the habit-  
ually hard drinker ends up with being  
a dead animal trainer. Many men lose  
their courage and start in drinking  
stimulants to make them brave. It is  
all off with them then.

### Watched by Big Ben

"Do you see the way Big Ben is  
watching me?" Caldwell asked when  
there came a lull in the conversation.  
"Should that lion break from his cage  
at this moment I would probably be  
the first person he would attack."

Caldwell was 150 feet away from the  
big lion and there were many persons  
near the cage, but a sudden motion  
of Caldwell's body would cause the  
lion to look menacingly in the direction  
of the trainer.

"Animals are like people in a great  
many respects," continued Caldwell.  
"Sometimes they take an intuitive dis-  
like to a person and 'Ben' has a decided-  
ly poor opinion of me. Three days ago  
when I came to the zoo, I wore a pair  
of dark spectacles. A cinder had  
lodged in my right eye and I was not  
a very good trainer for an animal to  
look at. When I approached 'Ben's'  
cage he let me know his opinion of me  
by a growl. I have not changed in his  
regard." With this Caldwell walked  
over to the cage. "Ben" had just been  
fed and was crunching a big bone hun-  
gerily, but he left off immediately to  
look up at the trainer.

"What value would you place on the  
animal?" Caldwell was asked. "I  
should say that he is worth from \$1200  
to \$1500 to any zoo," he replied, and  
perhaps \$2000 to a showman, as he  
could easily be taught to do a line of  
stunts. So far as I know, he is one  
of the finest in the United States, and  
he is an animal that is in excellent  
condition at the present time."

Seagby—There's a little summer ro-  
mance dished, all right, I bet.

Rigsby—Yes; she made believe she  
was drowning, and the chump called a  
life guard instead of pulling her out  
himself.—Judge.

## NINETY FOOT PIT IS CAUSE OF COMPLAINTS

### COTTAGES IN DANGER OF FALL- ING INTO ABYSS

Citizens and Property Owners Assert  
That Brick Company Is Encroach-  
ing Upon Street and Lives Are Im-  
periled by Immense Excavation

Citizens of that section of the city  
near the brick yard of Berg & Oxby,  
on Alpine street, are much incensed  
over the action of that company in ex-  
tending its yards and pits.

In a statement to The Herald, a citi-  
zen living near the yard said yester-  
day:

"The people living in the vicinity of  
the yard are being made sick by the  
showers of dust and soot which are  
thrown up by the blowers under the  
kilns and the roar of these blowers  
makes it next to impossible to sleep at  
night.

"While this yard has been in opera-  
tion for years, it is only lately that ex-  
tensive work has been done. They are  
extending the yard and working night  
and day. Some of the pits are ninety  
feet deep and are dug straight down  
from the side of the street, with only  
a rickety fence to guard pedestrians  
and those in vehicles from falling into  
the abyss.

"They are not only encroaching upon

the street, but are endangering our  
homes as well. In one place the side  
of the pit drops sheer for almost ninety  
feet from the side of a cottage. There  
surely must be some protection from  
such people.

"The brick men evidently want to get  
our property for about nothing. The  
most of us living near there own our  
homes and have for years, and  
now these brick men come along and  
ruin them. Not only are people being  
made sick but they are in constant  
danger. The houses bordering on the  
hole may cave into it at any time.  
When wet weather comes it will not be  
safe to go near the place."

## SON RESENTS ATTACK MADE UPON HIS FATHER

T. F. Fry, manager of the Homer  
Laughlin ranch, near Hollywood, sus-  
tained numerous painful bruises about  
the body and face during an alterca-  
tion and fight in which he says he was  
engaged in the office of P. H. Haack,  
324 Byrnes building, yesterday.

According to Fry's statement to the  
police, he attempted to serve a copy of  
a petition for an injunction against  
Haack to restrain the latter from in-  
terfering with the water rights on the  
ranch owned by Fry's brother.

Fry asserted Haack closed the door in  
his face and he became incensed and  
kicked Haack, whereupon the latter's  
son, Henry Haack, struck him in the  
face.

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