

TRAGEDIES OF ALPS

Many Lives Lost in Attempting Their Ascent.

Death Toll Averages Between Sixty and Seventy Per Year—Dangerous Climb of an American Woman Related.

London.—High places are homes of ancient worship. Ascent is a consecrated type of labor with an exceeding great reward.

So wrote the late Mr. Donald Robertson in the Alpine Journal. And he, one of the finest climbers, who had traveled the Alps from end to end, was killed about four years ago while leading a party up a comparatively insignificant Welsh mountain.

Most mountaineering accidents occur in Switzerland, and the death-roll of the Alps has now risen to an average of between 60 and 70 yearly, while another 300 people are more or less seriously injured. In one year (1900), the number of the killed was no less than 119.

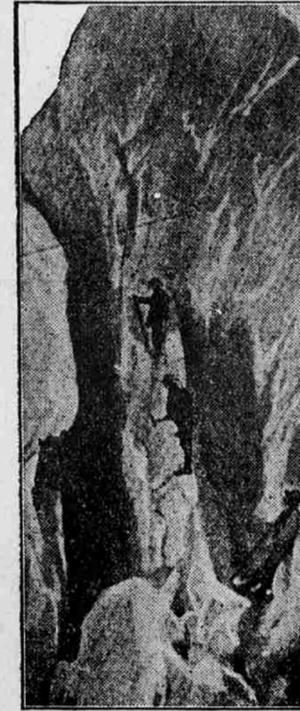
Examine the published statistics of these accidents, and two points strike you. First, that comparatively few of the tragedies recorded occur at great heights or in notoriously difficult places; secondly, that a large majority of the victims are women or very young men.

A third point is that in 92 per cent. of cases they were climbing without guides.

The fact is that ignorance or recklessness account for by far the greater number of Alpine accidents. People who have, perhaps, never climbed before in their lives start out to ascend mountains with which they are totally unacquainted. In most cases they are physically unfit for the severe exertion entailed by climbing, and very often they are not properly clothed or equipped for the expedition.

An instance in point is given by Mr. Julian Grande, a well-known member of the Alpine club. Accompanied by a friend, he was climbing the Schlithorn, a respectable peak of about 10,000 feet in the Bernese Oberland. At a great height, he noticed in the snow the track of a small boot, evidently a lady's. This was sufficiently astonishing, but the amazing point was that there were no signs of nails in the boots.

As they approached the summit they suddenly caught sight of a woman



In Perilous Situation.

alone, wearing a very long skirt, and plowing her way slowly towards the summit. They could hardly believe their eyes, for the climb is no child's play, and both watched in horror, expecting every moment to see her fall. They dared not call to her, for fear of frightening and causing her to slip.

Hurrying as fast as they could, they caught her up, and found she was an American. Mr. Grande asked her what brought her there, and she answered that she had followed the path marked in the guide book, and that she meant to come down by the sleighs.

"Sleighs?" asked Mr. Grande, much puzzled. She pulled out the guide book, and showed the following sentence: "The descent (two and one-half hours) may be considerably curtailed by glissades down three snow-slopes."

Mr. Grande quietly explained that this meant coming down on one's own feet, with mountaineering boots and an ice ax to regulate the speed, or stop altogether, if necessary; and the explanation not only surprised but frightened her badly. The end of it was that Mr. Grande had practically to carry the foolish woman down for a matter of 2,000 feet.

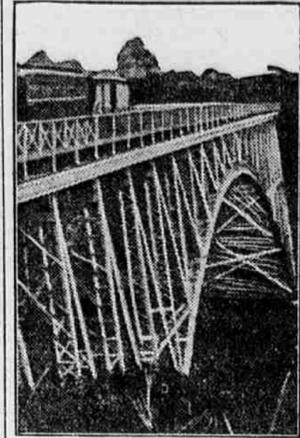
Horse's Sulcoid Causes Milk Famine.

Croton-on-Hudson, N. Y.—A milk famine ensued when the horse of the town's only milk peddler committed suicide by walking off a bridge.

PLAN ROAD THROUGH AFRICA

Cape to Cairo Railroad Will Be Built in Spite of Lions and Elephants.

London.—During the last few years much progress has been made in that romantic and daring undertaking the Cape to Cairo railway. Indeed railway trips from the Nile right through the center of the Dark continent should be possible within the next few years. The enterprise has been brought to public notice through the Belgian government having ceded to Great Britain a strip of land in the Congo so that Africa's first trans-continental line will run on British soil throughout from Cape Town in the extreme south of the continent



Bridge Over the Zambesi.

to Alexandria in the far north, a distance of 7,074 miles.

It was Cecil Rhodes's ambition that the railway should traverse British territory throughout its entire length, but when the Germans annexed the whole of the east bank of Lake Tanganyika this plan was apparently rendered incapable of fulfillment. Mr. Rhodes tried hard to wrest a portion of this territory from the Germans and personally approached the kaiser on the matter, but in vain. The Belgians, however, evidently awake to the value of the railway, have now agreed to transfer a strip of the Congo to the British flag, thus making the Cape to Cairo project an all British route.

Northward the line has crossed into the Congo from northwestern Rhodesia to a place called Elizabethville, 2,320 miles from Cape Town, to which point trains are now running regularly. Then from Cape Town the rails have been pushed southward for a distance of 1,400 miles from Khartum, right into the heart of the Sudan. If advantage is taken of the upper reaches of the Nile and the great lakes here, the Albert Nyanza and the Victoria Nyanza, by placing steamers upon them and running them in conjunction with the railway less than 900 miles of rail will need to be laid to complete a through communication.

The line is being continued northward to Banka. Thus is Cecil Rhodes's great dream of an all British railway through the center of the Dark continent being realized. Today you can travel in up to date trains, possessing every modern convenience, right up from Cape Town to the Victoria Falls and beyond through the very center of Africa into the Congo.

JAP'S LANGUAGE PUZZLES COP

Officer Thinks He Is Being Insulted When Humble Oriental Mumbles a Profuse Apology.

Bryn Mawr, Pa.—While the "Court" of Squire Lewis was in session here in his office on the Lancaster pike, with the Lower Merion auto patrol out in front and Policeman Powers inside they saw a bicyclist shoot past, riding on the sidewalk. The cop shortly collared the rider, K. Kimmima, a subject of his majesty, the emperor of Japan. Kimmima, nearly frightened to death, muttered:

"Excellency, will most highly noble and honorable sawan-san make the squeeze with honorable fist not so tight on the neck of unworth Japanese boy?"

"What's that? What's that ye called me?" said Powers. "Judge, he aggravated the case by calling me names." Kimmima was deprecatory, and Squire Lewis adjusted his glasses. "This young man," said Powers, "was caught red-handed." Kimmima looked down at his hands—"in the act of actually riding a bicycle on the sidewalk of the Lancaster pike, Bryn Mawr. To make matters worse, he applied to me an opprobrious epithet when he was arrested."

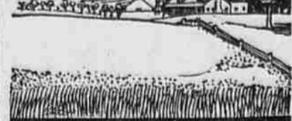
"O most illustrious sawbal-san," said K. Kimmima, "for why should the honorable and highly esteemed stout gentleman think me calling him bad names? Amid much excitement I speak to honorable sir and apply to him honorable Japanese word for policeman. So please kindly forgive my transgressions. Also I rode the bike on the footpath."

"You are not as bad as Powers makes out you are," said Squire Lewis with a grin. "I'll fine you five dollars and costs; but I'll remit the fine."

Aged Minister's Great Work.

Chicago.—In 63 years of preaching from one pulpit, Rev. Henry Wunder of St. Paul's Evangelical church, christened 17,330 infants, conducted 6,361 funerals and performed 5,062 marriages.

NOTES FROM MEADOWBROOK FARM



Do your churning today.

Diversification is excellent.

Alfalfa does best on manured soil.

British India alone has 34,000,000 head of goats.

The proper way to sow alfalfa is with some form of drill.

Be sure that the male at the head of the flock is pure bred.

Don't try to winter more birds than you have room for, or time to care for.

The man who has already used the silo will tell you whether it pays or not.

Crowded houses are sure to become damp, and hens will not lay when crowded.

Don't expect a good cow to develop from a stunted calf. They don't grow that way.

Feed plenty of charcoal, as it is one of the best things for keeping the poultry healthy.

A scrub hen is not worth much, but she is as good as any for the man who will not give his flock good care.

It is claimed that early-sown fall wheat is benefited when pastured with sheep to keep down the rank growth.

One of the successful ways to grub out white grubs in old sod ground is to enlist a drove of active pigs in the good work.

When removing a calf from its dam, do so while the cow is away from her stall so she will not associate with the loss of her calf.

Adding the silo to the farm simply means applying one of the first principles of modern manufacturing industry to the oldest of all industries.

Don't sacrifice your heifer calves to the veal fender. Cows are going to be in demand and you may not only have none to sell, but will be compelled to buy.

The boy who has an interest in the farm is usually pretty quick to see the possibilities of the farm and he is not in so much of a hurry about getting away.

Celery banked with earth late in the fall seems more palatable than where boards are used. Do not bank when the foliage is at all moist as this will aid decay.

Newly purchased hogs should be carefully examined for vermin, and should not be turned out with the herd until they are known to be free from these pests.

When you test your cows for quantity, you must also test for quality in order to determine definite results. Some cows give a greater per cent. of butter fat than others.

The first thing to do after drawing the buttermilk from the churn is to pour a pailful of cold water on the butter and give the churn three or four quick revolutions.

Are you getting the most out of your dairy herd? If not, is it the fault of the breed, the individuals or the owner? It is up to you to work out this problem yourself.

Shredded fodder is much more convenient to feed than the shock fodder. The time and labor saved in feeding shredded fodder about compensates for the time and labor taken in shredding.

Pigs may be taken from their mothers as soon as they eat heartily. By selling the pigs young the sow may be relieved of the necessity of nourishing her pigs and soon prepared for the second litter.

Green ground bones are rich in albumen, phosphate of lime, and phosphoric acid, which go to make eggs and shells. It will pay any poultryman to buy a bonemill to grind bones for his fowls.

Too much emphasis cannot be put upon regularity in the dairy work. Irregular hours greatly interfere with the milk production, and a long delay in milking must be painful. For best results there should be regular feeding hours.

Good seed corn is a profitable investment at from \$2 to \$5 if you don't have it. If you can select, store, and test it for \$1 per bushel, how much will that save on next year's crop? Sell your surplus seed to your neighbor, don't wait and buy from him.

Buy a well-made silo.
Pure air prevents disease.
Burn all trash in the garden.
Cowpeas are used for cover crops.
Don't let the churning go until tomorrow.
Don't keep your horses in poorly ventilated stables.
The Asiatics or meat breeds are, Brahmas, Cochins, and Langshans.

One thing should not be forgot. Send surplus cockerels and old hens to pot.

Vancouver, British Columbia, is to have a \$400,000 factory for preserving milk.

Improper ventilation makes more hen houses cold and damp than rain and zero weather.

Give close attention to the little things and the larger matters will take care of themselves.

The number of cows in the dairy does not mean success always, but it's the kind of cows that counts.

Hand separator cream produces better butter than that separated any other way, say those who know.

Physicians say that a laboring man can do as much work on a diet of eggs as he can if fed on pork or beef.

Parsnips have the finest flavor if allowed to stay in the ground rather late. A frost or two makes them sweeter.

Farming is becoming a more systematized business. This is one thing that has removed the drudgery from the work.

The manure on the farm is the most valuable by-product, but it doesn't do any good as long as it is left in the barn yard.

No hen is going to lay winter eggs if her system is run down, her molt not over, and she is made to scratch her own living.

It is better to raise your own calves, for then you know what you have. To buy up heifer calves promiscuously is an uncertain business.

The good road brings the market nearer your farm and adds materially to the value of the place whether you want to sell or live there.

A painted fence post is certainly an addition to the road side, but a painted post hidden by nice thrifty weeds is not exactly a good combination.

The housewife who makes good butter, so good that it has a distinction of its own, can always find a ready market and eager customers.

This is a good time to buy that pure bred male, or that breeding pen of fine fowls. Breeders will sell a little cheaper now than they will be a little later.

Every farmer owes it to himself and his posterity to do a limited amount of experimenting in crop production, stock breeding and the maintenance of soil fertility.

Most of the visible dirt in milk is stable manure. However disgusting that may be, the real harm is done by the growing bacteria washed from the stable manure.

Keep a good, deep, dry bed under the horse while he is in the stable, day or night, on Sundays especially. The more he lies down the longer his legs and feet will last.

Cows must be fed regularly in order for them to do their best work. We have found regular meals to be a necessity for our own welfare, and the same applies to animals.

Remember that the cow is not exactly like a machine or a mill. You can't put in certain food and get milk of desired quality. The cow makes it in her own individual way.

If you have saved a fine crop of hay—and have no room for it in the barn better invest in some canvas stack covers. They will pay for themselves in one or two seasons when hay is high.

Do not ask the cow to make milk and keep herself warm with the same feed. At least give her a fair chance to be protected from the storms and then let her use the feed for milk-making alone.

There are not so many purebred bulls among the farmers as there ought to be for ideal results. Let there be more interest in improving the herd. A good bull is the first consideration.

There is nothing to be gained in the long run by breeding a heifer before she is two years old. To offset any profit in an early milking period and the calf, you have stunted growth and the risk of a shortened milk flow for all time.

The experiment stations have been kept busy this fall answering calls for help from the ravages of the grasshoppers. A poisoned bran mash was used in most instances, one treatment costing on an average of \$1 per acre, labor not included.

Are Your Hands Tied?

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