

The Deep Sea Peril

By VICTOR ROUSSEAU

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ATTEMPTING TO RESCUE HIS SWEETHEART, PAGET ENCOUNTERS A NOISOME HORDE.

Naval Lieutenant Donald Paget, just given command of a submarine, meets at Washington an old friend and distinguished though somewhat eccentric scientist, Captain Masterman. Masterman has just returned from an exploring expedition, bringing with him a member of the strange race, the existence of whose species, he asserts, menaces the human family. At the club, the "March Hares," Masterman explains his theory to Paget. The recital is interrupted by the arrival of a lifelong enemy of Masterman, Ira MacBeard, and the former is seized with a fatal paralytic stroke. From Masterman's body Paget secures documents bearing upon the discovery and proceeds to the home of the scientist. Paget proceeds to sea on his submarine, the F55, and encounters a German cruiser. He sinks the enemy, which had destroyed the Beotia, on which Ida Kennedy, his fiancée, was a passenger. The girl escapes in a small boat.

CHAPTER V.

The Sea of Jelly.

He sank like a stone. No glimpse of him could be had. No rescue was possible.

Donald clung to the edge of the boat and scrambled in. He saw the amazed recognition flash out on Ida's face. He knew then that she loved him, and his impulse to seize her in his arms was almost unmanageable.

But at the same instant, looking past her into the sea, he experienced the same illusion that had beset him within the house in Baltimore, and again outside it—that of a woman's misty form outlined upon the water! Donald made a cup of his hands.

"Davies, fling out a rope!" he bawled.

But the submarine was some distance away, and in a moment a wall of fog came down, blotting her out.

Ida Kennedy watched Donald with approval. She had always liked him; shaken as she was now, his advent seemed the work of Providence. She had questioned her heart before she sailed, for she had known that her future was of her own choosing, whether it was to be spent with him or no.

Donald continued to call loudly, but the F55 was drifting in the mist and quite invisible. It was in fear of this sudden happening that Donald had told Davies to make for Fair island if he could not get a rope to the boat.

Fair island, less than six miles away, was the secret rendezvous where the oil-ship and biplane were to await the F55, the former to replenish her fuel supply, the latter to accompany her back to the mother ship.

Donald picked up a pair of oars from the bottom. He realized that he would have to pull toward Fair island alone as soon as he got an inkling of its direction, with the chance of being picked up by the submarine when the fog cleared. But it was approaching sundown, and the probabilities of their spending the night in the boat seemed strong.

He sat with the oars in the rowlocks. As he allowed one to drift through the water he discovered, to his surprise, that it was apparently plunged into a mass of some jellylike substance. He dipped his hand into it and scooped some of it up.

The water was apparently curdled, like thickened milk, and on both sides of the boat, which rolled in it heavily and high in the viscous medium.

As he withdrew the oar Donald had the sensation of pulling it from between the clinging fingers of a child.

He looked down. It occurred to him that he might have got the blade entangled in some marine growth; but the water was clear, almost black, and of the same strange, jellylike consistency everywhere.

Then, to his amazement, he realized that the boat was moving!

It was not like the pull of a towline, which is a sequence of crescendo and diminuendo, of starts and jerks, as the rope grows tight and slack alternately. It was a constant impulse. It was an intelligent impulse.

It was beginning to grow dark, and so row seemed useless until the fog dispersed. It was impossible to gauge the direction. Besides, to pull against that force would have been arduous, and to pull with it might have led to unexpected difficulties.

Donald backed water in experiment, instantly he felt the force increase. It was an effortless, persistent push, stronger than his own powers, and Donald realized that he could not resist it.

Suddenly he felt a stinging sensation on the back of his hand. He pulled in the oar. Five small, red spots had sprung out on his wrist, and the flesh seemed to have been cupped. Donald clapped his other hand down on it, and encountered something clammy and cool, which seemed to slip away. It was like the flipper of a little seal, or, again, like the hand of a child or monkey.

At the same instant Ida screamed. Donald saw that she seemed to be struggling with some invisible adversary. The boat was tipping dangerously. Donald flung his weight over, and he heard the thud of a soft body against the bottom.

The thing—whatever it was—was in the boat!

Donald leaped forward and clasped Ida about the waist. She writhed in the clutch of the monster, and there was a look of intense horror upon her face. She seemed to be lifted bodily toward the water. Donald felt the slippery fingers of the invisible being glide his grasp. His hands moved up and down over a smooth, blubbery body.

And then he knew what it was. It was such a creature as he had seen

you always. Will you have me, Ida?" She raised her lips to his for answer. And in the happiness of that moment, which atoned for all that they had endured, Donald perceived that the boat had begun to move again. The respite had been of brief duration. Incredibly pertinacious, and cruel beyond belief, the monsters had once more taken up the chase. But in the unhuman forms were minds as shrewd as his, organizing them for one supreme purpose, the elemental one of food.

They were swimming beside the boat. Donald could see the agitated churning of the water. Were they pushing or pulling? Taking the oar in his hand, Donald went to the bow and drove it down into the sea. But he struck only the jellylike medium in which the boat was traveling.

He went to the stern, stepping over the body of the girl, who had relapsed into unconsciousness. This time, as he thrust, there was a scurry among the waves, and he felt the yielding, blubbery form, and the same sensation of a burst balloon. The boat stopped. Donald thrust out furiously, feeling always the contact with slippery flesh.

The monsters were pushing the boat, not pulling it.

And gradually there followed the same stupendous incarnation into visible being, the shadowy shape that grew and crystallized into the milky, opalescent body. He heard the school precipitate themselves upon their prey, and saw it rent and dismembered before his eyes.

Through the increasing darkness their pupils glared as the monsters strove together.

Donald went back to where Ida lay and placed her in the bottom of the boat, her head against a thwart. They were moving swiftly.

Suddenly the boat began to tilt upward at the bow. Donald heard the scraping of the flippers against the stern. Then, as if a heavy dog had scrambled in, the boat tipped high into the air and righted itself. Another of the monsters had gained entrance.

Donald seized the oar and brought it down upon the beast's head. The oar splintered; he heard the cracking of bone, and a splash followed.

The edge of the boat was dragged beneath the waves. It tilted and overturned. Donald found himself struggling to save Ida in the sea of jelly that sucked him down. Somehow he

caught her and dragged himself to the keel. He shouted, and the brutes scurried away, leaping and falling with resounding splashes, like sharks at play.

Donald felt Ida's arms seek his neck. She turned to him instinctively, not as her rescuer alone, but as her lover.

He filled his lungs and shouted. To his amazement he heard an answering shout. He strained his eyes through the darkness. Surely that was a human cry! He shouted again, and the answer came once more; and there was no longer any doubt.

The conning tower of the F55 came drifting out of the night. She ran awash, with hatches off, and Davies was standing on the deck among a group of sailors.

"Where are you?" he shouted.

"Here!" Donald cried. "Reverse engines, Davies! Coming aboard!"

The engines stopped and the submarine grazed the sides of the overturned boat. Donald grasped Ida in his arms and clambered to the deck. And Donald found himself shaking a man's hand as if he were his brother. Instead of merely Sam Clouts, able seaman in the navy, trying to keep his hands from straying toward his mouth organ.

"We were trying to make Fair island when we spotted you, sir," said Davies. "I thought we'd pick you up in the morning when the fog cleared. It's been hard work making anywhere. There's something the matter with the sea."

"How, Davies?"

"We're only able to make a knot and a half, sir. It isn't the engines. At least there doesn't seem to be anything the matter with them. It's as if the sea's—well, turned to jelly, or molasses, sir. Perhaps you noticed it. I've never seen anything like it in my experience," continued the little middy, whose experience of the high seas was limited to a couple of short cruises on a training ship, and one on a transport.

"Clap on the hatches and make full speed for Fair island," ordered Donald.

He cast his eyes along the horizon. There was no sign of the F55. He turned toward Ida.

As he bent over her her eyes opened. She looked at him intently and sighed. The horrors of that day seemed temporarily to have banished her mind and robbed her of memory. And Donald did what he had never dared to do before.

He raised her in his arms and kissed her.

"I love you, dear," he said. "If we come out of this—as we shall—I want

Not the Right Kind. "Safety first is no good," said Uncle Eben, "when a man dodges his share of the risk an' puts it up to some other feller."

The F55 is invaded by the weird monsters and Paget has a terrible struggle to save himself and Ida. It is described in the next installment.

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

Keep All Sides Open. During warm weather it does not matter which side of the house is open—it would be better if all sides were out.

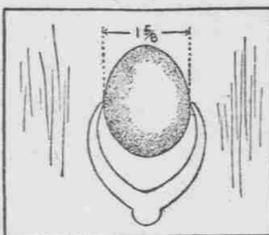
Clean and Fresh Water. Let the ever-present watchword of the poultryman be, "Clean and fresh water at all times."



EGGS OF ANY DESIRED SIZE

Expert of United States Department of Agriculture Has Adopted Gauge for Farmers.

Mr. Franz C. Hare, in his work for the United States department of agriculture among the South Carolina farmers, has adopted the accompanying egg gauge so that the farmers can select eggs of the desired size. An egg that will not enter the hole crosswise is a standard sized egg and will weigh two ounces or more. An egg whose smaller dimensions is less than one and five-eighths inches, the distance



An Egg Gauge.

between the two points of the gauge, is rejected for sending to market. It might be well to fashion one for your own use.

DETERMINE AGE OF POULTRY

While There Is No Positive Rule to Go By There Are Certain Conditions to Guess By.

Strictly speaking, there is no positive test for the age of poultry. However, a close guess can be made under certain conditions. For instance, the size of spurs generally distinguishes a two-year-old bird; yet the writer has had young birds develop spurs that would have done credit to older birds. On the other hand, he has had two-year-old birds with spurs that were as short and rounded as those of a cockerel. To some extent the texture of the leg is a guide, and so is the delicacy and freshness of the skin of the face and comb. Yet there will be occasional hens that have a youthful appearance to a remarkable degree.

Probably a better test is the skin of the body, that of the older fowl being coarser and drier in appearance. A pullet will show rose-colored veins on the surface of the skin under the wings. Long silky hairs will also be grown there; but after the pullet has become a year old these hairs and veins will disappear and the skin will grow white and velvety.

COOPS FOR FATTENING HENS

Object Is to Reduce Exercise and Increase Consumption of Fat-Producing Materials.

Fattening rations are not complicated or need not be to bring fair results. The principle of fattening is to reduce the exercise and increase the consumption of fat-producing food. If the farmer possesses a number of small shed-roof brood coops such as are used for sitting hens with chicks, these coops will be fine for fattening hens. Each coop will accommodate about five hens without crowding and they will have little opportunity for fighting or scratching. Feed them three times each day from a pan containing a sloppy mixture of sour milk and corn meal and allow the hens to eat all they will consume. After each feeding remove the pan so that any remaining feed will not become contaminated with dirt and cause the birds to lose their appetites.

Contrary to Opinion of Few Years Ago, They Are Best Layers—Fatten Early Molters.

The late molting hens are often better layers than the early molting hens. Fatten the early molters and put them on the market. Keep the late molters. The hen that molts in October and November, as a rule, is a better layer than the one that molts in July and August. This is contrary to the opinion of some years ago.

FANCY PRICE FOR BROILERS

Around Holiday Season There Is Always Big Demand for Chickens Hatched in Fall.

Chickens hatched in early fall should bring fancy prices as broilers or fryers near the holiday season. There is generally a great demand for fryers or broilers at that season and those who have them usually are fortunate.

Ventilating Henhouses.

Poultry houses should be well ventilated in summer. Every glass window, cloth curtain and board door should be left open night and day, or removed until cold weather.

Paint Up for Winter. Now is a good time to paint up for the winter. Paint is cheaper than wood and iron.

Come in Handy Now. The wasted cornstalks and burned strawstacks of other years would come in very handy this winter.

Something Wrong. When farm machinery makes a noise, there is something wrong. Noise means wear.

DESTROY WEEDS WITHOUT COST TO FARMER

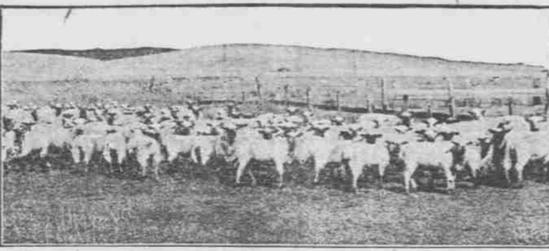
(From the United States Department of Agriculture.) Sheep will pay for their keep as weed destroyers alone, says the United States department of agriculture, which just announces the result of a study lately completed in New England.

One of the fields of the Morgan Horse farm in Vermont, maintained by the bureau of animal industry of the department, largely for the purpose of keeping up a supply of good horses for the army, was infested with the weed known as paintbrush, or devil's paintbrush. This weed has recently come into northern Vermont, and it is said that some farms have been ruined by it. It is now common throughout the Northeast. It throws up a tall, slender stalk, but the damage is done by the leaves, which are spread from the crown and form a dense mat on the surface of the ground, eventually killing out all other vegetation.

Devour Paintbrush. On the Morgan horse farm an area of about two acres was fenced off. This area had some bad patches of paintbrush. The grass and weeds were

mowed and 45 dry ewes placed in the enclosure the first week in July. In two weeks' time the sheep had eaten almost every leaf of paintbrush in sight. They seemed to prefer the paintbrush leaves to anything else; at any rate, they would search out isolated plants in the grass, and the patches which were covered with paintbrush are now almost bare. The cleanest field in the Morgan horse farm is the one which has been used as a sheep pasture for several years, and which, when the farm was bought, was as badly infested with weeds as any.

Pay for Their Keep. This experience indicates that even if wool and meat only meet expenses, a flock of sheep can be kept for the labor saved in keeping the farm clear of weeds. It is doubtful, says the department, whether any other farm animal has so wide a field of usefulness as the sheep when intelligently handled. Sheep produce meat at a less cost of grain than any other animal. They pay their way with the wool they yield and they exterminate noxious weeds practically without cost.



SPLENDID FLOCK OF SHEEP ON WESTERN RANGE.

BRIGHT FUTURE FOR FIRST-CLASS STOCK

Majority of All Breeders Now Use Purebred Sires, Says Kansas Authority.

A bright future for purebred live stock is predicted by Edward N. Wentworth, professor of animal breeding in the Kansas State Agricultural college.

"The use of grade sires is gradually decreasing," said Professor Wentworth. "Seventy per cent of the horse breeders, 65 per cent of the sheep breeders, 60 per cent of the cattle breeders, and 50 per cent of the swine breeders use purebred sires."

"From 8 to 10 per cent of the hogs are purebred, approximately 2 1/2 per cent each of beef and dairy cattle, 2 per cent of draft horses, 3 per cent of light horses, and from 1 1/2 to 2 per cent of sheep."

"These proportions may be those actually required to furnish the bulk of breeders with purebred sires, although it is probable that there should be from 6 to 8 per cent of purebreds in order to supply one purebred for every 30 grade females, to maintain purebred herds, and to permit a rigid selection of breeding animals."

"The present proportion of purebreds seems to be sufficient in order to supply the present users of purebreds, but so rigid a selection can be practiced as might be desired. The fact that probably all breeders will ultimately use purebred sires will allow a doubling in the percentage of purebred cattle, an increase of two-thirds in the number of hogs, slightly more than one-half in sheep, and one-third in the number of horses, without increasing the severity of selection."

"Such an expansion will afford a prosperous future for purebred live stock even though the standards of selection are not raised. Since, however, standards of selection are being continually raised, an even higher percentage of purebreds may be expected."

EARLY FALL PLOWING BEST IN NORTHWEST

Result in Productive Soils Is Accumulation of Plant Food for Next Season.

(By A. C. ARNY, University Farm, St. Paul, Minn.)

The chief reason for plowing is to put the soil in shape to produce good crops. For the best results the plowing must be done at the right time. Grain crops in particular need generous supplies of readily available plant-food early in the season. Therefore, in the Northwest early fall plowing for grain crops is to be preferred. This allows the needed changes that take place in loosened soil to get started early and to continue until the ground is frozen. The result in productive soils is the accumulation throughout the cool fall months of plant food and this is easily taken up by the grain plants the following spring.

For corn, black loam soils should be plowed in the fall. On the heavier clay soils spring plowing for corn is often preferable.

Good plowing means more than making the field appear black. It means more than making straight furrows. However, a good plowman usually makes straight furrows. In a well-plowed field the soil is stirred

and pulverized to the depth indicated as necessary by the kind of soil and the crop to be grown; and the stubble and rubbish are completely turned under where it will be out of the way and quickly decomposed. For most crops, deep, rather than shallow plowing, is the best practice.

To do good work with a minimum of power, plows must be equipped with properly shaped and sharpened shares. A good share allows a plow to run true and little or no effort is necessary to hold it in place.

To turn under all rubbish a good jointer properly adjusted is necessary. No stubble or weeds are left sticking up between the furrows where a good jointer is used.

Keep the plowshare properly shaped and sharpened. Use a jointer so that all rubbish is turned under completely. Increase the depth of plowing an inch or two each year for several seasons.

COMBINATION OF CORN PLANT AND ALFALFA

Largest and Most Profitable Gains Made on Cattle Tested at Nebraska Station.

A combination of alfalfa hay and corn plant gave the largest and most profitable gains on cattle tested at the University of Nebraska. Corn was fed both in the form of silage and stover, and of these, silage was superior.

The cattle were fed in groups of eight steer calves, each for 20 weeks. Each animal of one group received 7 1/2 pounds of corn, four pounds alfalfa and 3 1/2 pounds shredded corn stover daily. The other group were fed six pounds corn, 3 1/2 pounds alfalfa and 1 1/2 pounds silage.

The silage-fed calves averaged 1.8 pounds gain daily per head, or about one-third of a pound more than the stover-fed steers. They required only 3.4 pounds grain per 100 pounds of silage made instead of five pounds, as in the case of the stover-fed animals.

Valuing corn at 45 cents a bushel, alfalfa at \$8 a ton, shredded stover and silage at \$3 a ton each, the silage ration made 100 pounds gain at a cost of \$4.66, the profit per steer during the 20 weeks being \$5.88. With the stover ration, 100 pounds gain cost \$5.42, the profit being only \$1.31 per steer.

PROPER FEED FOR DRY COWS

Roughage Supplemented by Daily Allowance of Bran and Oats Is Recommended as Good.

During the eight or ten weeks that cows go dry, their food should be chiefly roughage. A daily allowance of two pounds of bran or oats, or a mixture of two parts each of bran and oats and one part of linseed meal or corn-oil meal makes a proper feed for a cow near calving. Some roots, cabbage, pumpkins, or squashes are also very good. Highly carbonaceous roughage, such as straw and corn stalks, is not good at this particular time. Such feeds, with cold water, cold drafts, or lying out at night on damp or frozen ground, are the chief causes of caked udder or garget.

CHEAP RATION IS PUZZLING

Difficult to Provide Formula Which Contains a Sufficient Amount of Protein.

In the maintenance of farm poultry much difficulty is often experienced in providing a cheap and economic ration, and especially in providing a formula which contains a sufficient amount of protein.

White wash and disinfectants must be used freely about the hog house and yards about an outbreak of cholera. If the cleaning and disinfecting is carefully done we may be able to stock up again within a few weeks after the hogs have stopped dying and suffer no further loss but it is usually best to wait two or three months before we do this, or depend on the hogs that have survived for a fresh start.

Examine Udder of Ewes. Ewes should have their udders examined after lambs are fully weaned, and if their udders are full and tender, they should be milked out, and sweet oil well mixed is the best ointment to use.

Pasture Sow and Litter. Pasturing the brood sow and her litter keeps them all in good health, the pigs will make satisfactory gains, and there will be a decided saving of grain.

FARM STOCK

PUREBREDS MUST BE MARKED

Breeder Must Be Absolutely Certain of Pedigree, as Uncertainty Makes Them Worthless.

The purebred breeder's newcomers must be marked in some way, as any uncertainty will make their pedigrees worthless as purebreds. The breeder must be absolutely certain in the pedigree he writes. Many of the systems for marking seem complicated and hard to remember. I have been using a system that has proven very satisfactory to me, writes C. A. Steele of Clarke county, Ohio, in Ohio Farmer.

I stand behind the animal and make four notches on the outside of each ear. The count is made from the base



Marking System.

of the left ear—at the base 1, the next 2, near the point 3, point 4; then over to the point of the right ear, 5, then 6-7-8. A notch in each ear is 9. A notch at the base inside the left ear is 10, the next 20 and 30. Inside near the point of the right ear is 40, then 50 and 60; in this way you number up to 60. I label these notches with a label punch.

Then you can cut V-shaped notches with a knife. I commence at 70 and go on up to 129 (see illustration), which would be high enough for most herds or flocks. If any one should want to go higher it would be an easy matter to make a different kind of notch to do this.

At breeding time I mark my breeding ewes on the back with a figure to show which ram they are bred to. Then when they lamb I have all that is required to write out a pedigree. This I put in a small note book that I carry with me or leave in the barn. Also if a lamb should become separated from its mother I can easily find her. I transfer these notes to another book from time to time so in case either should be lost I would still have a record. My note book gives the following information: Date of birth, number of ewe, sire, ram or ewe lamb, ear mark, remarks.

TREATMENT FOR AILING PIGS

Breaking Out of Body Caused by Narrow Ration High in Protein Can Be Remedied.

When pigs are fed on a very narrow ration with a high content of protein and a limited amount of energy and fat-forming material, they are subject to a breaking out of the body which causes considerable irritation. This has been noticed when pigs are turned on a pasture very rich in protein, especially when the pigs had previously been on a feed that was lacking in this content. These pigs will unquestionably improve if you will feed a mixture of 12 parts of cornmeal, two parts of shorts and one part of oil meal along with the separated milk. Spray these pigs again with light crude oil and apply over the worst spots of the body a mixture of three parts of unsalted lard and one part of flowers of sulphur.

FEEDING ROUGHAGE TO EWES

Animals Consume Large Quantities of Bulky Feed and Need Comparatively Little Grain.

Breeding ewes consume comparatively large quantities of roughage and need but little grain. Of this roughage corn stover and oat straw may well form an important and economical part, but they should be supplemented by other feeds containing more protein. Sheep will eat about 25 to 35 per cent of the total weight of the stover, leaving the stalks. Wheat straw is not so valuable for sheep feeding as oat straw, while eye straw has practically no value in sheep rations.

AFTER A CHOLERA EPIDEMIC

Make Liberal Application of White Wash and Disinfectants About Hog House and Yards.

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