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## \$200,000 FOR A MONKEY— \$100 FOR A BABY

If a child's life is worth only a dollar, a boy's legs \$31,175, a man's thumb and forefinger \$10,000, and a man's life anywhere from \$500 to \$75,000, what is the value of the life of an educated monkey?

According to Charles Judd, who owned a highly accomplished chimpanzee which he declared was killed through the negligence of a railroad company, the answer is \$200,000.

The question is now up before the United States District Court at Portland, Oregon, whose decision promises to add fresh complications to what is already a very much confused subject.

The monkey whose death is responsible for the present litigation, is Charles the First, who, because of his ability to dress and undress himself, his perfect table manners, his skill on roller skates and bicycle and his intelligence generally, made a name for himself and money for his owner on the vaudeville stage.

He was shipped in a box from Portland to Seattle on the Northern Pacific Railroad. Upon his arrival there it was found that he was dead. The owner claimed that the animal was cooked to death by steam that escaped through a pipe in the baggage car. The railroad claims that the animal was dead when shipped.

The interesting point, as far as the general public is concerned, is how the court will arrive at the amount of damages the monkey's owner may collect in case it shall be found that the railroad company was responsible for the animal's death.

In the case of human beings killed through the negligence of others, the amount of damages by the courts has been most varied. This is due to the fact that there is no law which definitely fixes the value of human life or limb. Each case is left to a jury to be decided on its own particular facts and circumstances, the single rule of law controlling being that the jury shall determine the pecuniary loss suffered by the victim of the accident.

It is fourteen years ago since this question was brought prominently before the public as the result of a remarkable decision by Chief Justice William S. Gummere, of the New Jersey Supreme Court. This judge reversed the verdict of a jury which had awarded \$5,000 to the father of a four-year-old boy who had been killed through the negligence of a railroad company, declaring that no child is worth, peculiarly, more than a dollar to his parents.

Indeed, the Justice went further, and said that in the great majority of cases, as far as the pecuniary

phase of the matter was concerned, a child is a burden rather than a benefit, and that the death of a son or a daughter is therefore a pecuniary gain. He conceded, however, that in such cases the parent should be awarded \$1 in order to carry with it the costs of the trial, which, he explained, the railroad corporation might be expected to be better able to afford than the plaintiff.

The case in which this decision was rendered was tried no less than six times, the jury in each instance returning a verdict for \$5,000 and the higher court invariably setting it aside. The case was finally settled out of court, the railroad company paying \$3,000 to the afflicted parent.

Since that decision, arousing comment the country over, no change has been made in the law, which is just as uncertain now in this respect as it ever was. Only a week or two ago two juries in the Brooklyn Supreme Court brought in two apparently irreconcilable verdicts the same day. To the father of a fourteen-year-old boy who was killed in an automobile accident one jury awarded only \$1,500 damages, while the other jury awarded \$10,000 to a workman who lost the thumb and forefinger of his left hand, and quite recently a third jury awarded \$31,175 to a boy who lost his right leg through the negligence of a railroad company.

But the verdicts rendered in death cases are quite irreconcilable. Sam Shubert, the big theatrical manager, who was killed in the Pennsylvania Railroad accident at Harrisburg was considered worth only \$25,000 by the jury which tried his parents' suit for damages, while \$75,000 was awarded to the representatives of Alfred N. Perrin, a bank president, and \$70,000 to those of Ernest F. Walter, a broker, both of whom were killed in a railroad accident on the New York Central.

The Perrin verdict represents probably the largest verdict ever rendered for the loss of a human life. What then are the chances of the owner of the educated chimpanzee who claims \$200,000?

In deciding the case, the Court will have to take into consideration the same elements which figure in cases where the value of human life is at issue, namely, the earning power of the victim and his natural expectation of life.

**Emperor and Empress, a Famous Pair of Monkeys Who Earn \$1,000 a Week in Vaudeville and Whose Lives are Worth \$250,000**



"If a baby's life is worth only \$1.00 and a man's life anywhere from \$500 to \$75,000 why is an educated monkey worth \$200,000?"



**Charles I. Who Earned \$500 a Week as a Vaudeville Performer and Whose Owners Claim \$200,000 Damages for His Death**



**Consul, a Famous Educated Monkey, Whose Life Was Insured for \$50,000.**

be assessed at over a quarter of a million dollars, even without taking into consideration the fact that with greater experience they will demand larger remuneration.

Consul received \$500 a week for his clever work, and when he died, through natural causes, his owners collected \$50,000 from the insurance company which had insured his life.

Charles I., the monkey whose death precipitated the present legal fight, was earning \$500 a week on the Orpheum and Keith circuit. He was very quick to learn, and there can be little doubt that but for his untimely death he would soon be earning considerably more.

Monkeys, like human artists, obtain a certain vogue on the vaudeville stage. They have their admirers, just like other matinee idols, and the longer they appear on the stage the bigger crowds they draw.

"It is true that Charles I. was earning only \$500 a week when he

was killed," declared Mr. Charles Judd, his owner, "but even at that figure his life would be valued at \$200,000, if we take into consideration his expectancy of life and what he would earn during his remaining years."

"But I am quite sure that had this monkey lived he would have become the most valuable animal who ever faced the footlights. He had an aptitude for the stage which I have observed in no other monkey, even the greatest of them."

"In a couple of years Charles ought to have been drawing anywhere from \$700 to \$1,000 a week for his number, the greatest salary ever paid to any animal on the stage."

"For these reasons, while \$200,000 may seem a lot to ask for a dumb animal's life when the lives of human beings have been valued at so little by the courts, I think the position I take is quite logical in all these cases. It is the pecuniary loss which the courts try to arrive at, and just as the pecuniary loss may be only \$1 when a baby's life is being considered, a monkey's life may very well be assessed at \$200,000."

As far as the earning power is concerned the evidence to be offered in the case of a monkey is not very different from that which is offered every day in cases based on the death of human beings.

It will be sufficient for the monkey's owner to show the income the monkey has earned in the past, the contracts still in existence, and the demand existing for the services of educated monkeys.

In the case of Charles the First it

is claimed that he had earned no less than \$25,000 a year in vaudeville, and that as his education progressed and his accomplishments and popularity increased he would have been able to earn considerably more.

The only remaining question, therefore, will be as to the number of years he might have been expected to live but for his untimely death.

This phase of the matter will

necessitate perhaps the testimony of zoologists, for obviously the tables of the insurance companies which give the expectancy of human life and which are received as evidence in courts of law where the value of human lives is to be decided will be of no value in the case of a monkey.

What is a monkey's allotted span? Amid his natural surroundings a normal chimpanzee lives anywhere from ten to twenty years, but in captivity it is said that they survive more than five or six.

But even on this basis the value of the life of an educated monkey easily ranks with that of the lives of bank presidents and other millionaires.

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## A King and 3 Queens--Who Wins?



**King Frederick of Denmark and His Three Royal Aunts Playing What is a Family Gathering in Copenhagen. From Left to Right the Aunts Are—Alexandra, Late Queen of England; Dagmar, Former Empress of Russia, and Thyra, Duchess of Cumberland and Brunswick**

At least once a year the royal palace at Copenhagen is the scene of one of the most interesting family reunions in Europe. Recently it brought together at the white table "a King and three Queens," the Queens all sisters, and the King—Frederick of Denmark—their nephews. The Queens were Alexandra of England; Dagmar, Dowager Empress of Russia, and Thyra, virtual Queen of the royal Duchy of Cumberland and Brunswick.

Never since they went away at the early age of nineteen, nearly half a century ago, have Alexandra and Dagmar failed to return to Copenhagen for this little holiday, which they call the brightest spot in their existence. With less than three years' difference in age their intimacy has always been of the closest, and one of the stories which the Danish women relate with amusement is, that so cramped for space was the royal household, with its six children, that up to the time when Alexandra went out as the future Queen of Great Britain, the two had been obliged to share the same sleeping room.

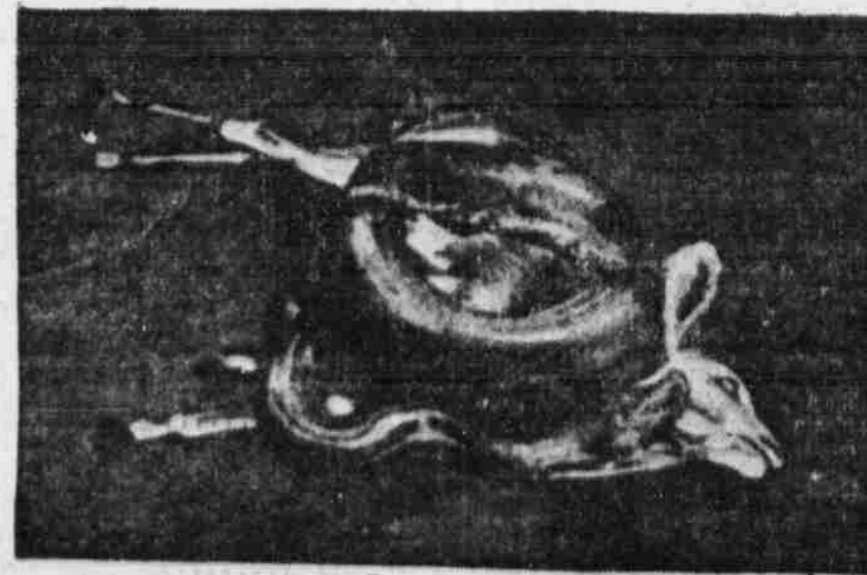
And yet from this unpretentious palace have gone out not only the two distinguished sisters, Alexandra and Dagmar, but also Thyra, as the wife of the wealthy Duke of Cumberland and Brunswick, a direct descendant of King George III. and

head of the house of Guelph, who also would have been a King except for the reorganization of the German Empire. To his little kingdom Greece turned for her ruler, and a son became George I., King of the Hellenes, married to a Russian Grand Duchess, and here Norway found her King, Haakon, whose wife is sister to the present King of Great Britain.

While old King Christian was alive he held the inharmonious factions of his family together, but after his death, when the daughter-in-law became supreme, it may well be imagined there was not room enough in the palace for the imperial ladies from Great Britain and Russia when they came for their annual sojourn in Denmark. It was their only opportunity for a visit together, which they could not give up, and fortunately they had an opportunity to purchase the handsome villa of an old Danish patrician family just outside of Copenhagen and not far from the Summer palace of the King, where they had spent their childhood days.

Only a low iron fence and hedge separate this residence of Empresses from the public thoroughfare, along which a trolley line runs and hundreds of teams and bicycles pass daily. There is no guard in sight, but on a conspicuous sign are the significant words: "The dogs are loose—light!"

## Very Odd Photograph of a Monster Snake



**A Huge Boa Constrictor Crushing a Deer in Its Coils and Sucking Its Life Blood**

HERE is a very unique photograph. It shows a giant boa constrictor in the act of crushing a deer in its mighty coils.

The photograph was taken by M. Sally, an official in the Upper Ubanghi district, South Africa.

He came suddenly upon the tragedy of the jungle. The deer was drinking at a spring. With inconceivable swiftness the mighty serpent, which had been hidden in the sand, sprang upon the deer.

The snake took a hind leg and in another instant crushed the animal to death. Then the snake caught the deer's throat in its jaws and began to suck the warm blood.

At this instant the Frenchman took his photograph. The click of the camera caught the snake's attention and it raised its hideous head in an angry manner.

M. Sally's rifle was not loaded. To avoid further trouble with the snake he leapt at it while it was still entangled with the deer and broke its back.

With the aid of several men he dragged the snake back to the station. They found it measured exactly twenty-one feet long.