

**THIRD DEATH ADDS TO KANAGA RIDDLE**

Kodiak, Alaska.—Do the deep seaworn caves of lonely Kanaga island conceal strange animal-like men who venture out at low tide to prey on natives and white fox-farm attendants? For the third time in a year a Seattle man's death adds to the north riddle. Thus far the toll of Kanaga includes T. Shruger, Tom Marrah and P. H. Munro.

More than a score of Aleuts have fallen victims to some mysterious power at various times in recent years, yet there has been no witness of the terrible deeds committed nor has a clew to the malefactors been found. Fox-pelt poachers do prey among the fur islands, but they rarely molest the islanders, fearing disclosure of their crimes. The Aleut natives are peaceful men, seldom perturbed to the fighting point.

Kanaga is the home just now of the largest blue fox farm in the world. The island lies near the tip of the Aleutian group, the relic of terrific submarine upheaval centuries ago. Besides Aleuts, there are a few persons descended from the Baranoff explorers and the Muscovian influence is shown in their mode of living—low-roofed stone houses with large fireplaces where the fires seldom die down as a rule. Pelting of furs is the occupation, besides fishing and hunting.

Day after day in autumn and winter Kanaga is veiled with dense fog; the furious sea beats the rocky shores, wearing deep caves far into the bowels of the sandstone formation. Some of the caves are a mile back with high vaulted ceilings. In these natural tombs Aleuts bore their dead, each body rolled in layer after layer of long seaweed or kelp. The dead were mummified and today are in a good state of preservation.

In spring Kanaga casts off the drab clothing of winter. Lupines, lilies and wild celery transfer it into a great flower garden. Sea fowl by the million come to eat the wild rice and schools of fish. The towering cliffs are covered with spruce and there is a strange wild beauty all around. Wild and semidomesticated foxes overrun the land.

Lured by the natural torpid surroundings, the Aleuts have become half-dazed, the white settlers morbid, until all move about as dead living people. In the mummy caves are found grotesque masks, ikons and oriental carvings. The beach receives a backwash from many shores. Driftwood from Asia reaches Kanaga in

the Japan current. This adds to the terror and superstitions of the islanders.

Little wonder the stranger landing at Kanaga is held at a distance, and peering eyes watch from secret places until suspicion is overcome. On Kanaga island it is said Irish turn into Russians, Russians become Chinese and all finally become queer, primitive human beings, lacking ambition and imbued with a curious desire to worship the mummies in the echoing caves of Neptune.

**Grow Food Supplies for Zoo Denizens.**

Transportation of food to the animals is quite a problem in any zoo, and at the National Zoological park at Washington an effort is being made to grow provender right on the spot.

A large garden is operated not far from the pens and it supplies kale, spinach, lettuce, Swiss chard, beet tops and the like in huge quantities. Even the lawn clippings are fed to the ruminants and water fowl, and trimmings from trees—the leaves, bark and small twigs—are accepted greedily by the browsing animals.

Recently an orchard was set out and it is expected that soon all the apples that can be used will be grown right in the park.

**Bird Societies.**

In nearly every country town people have bird clubs established and they have come to be useful inasmuch as children are allowed membership and through the efforts of the older people to train and teach them why bird protection is necessary when considering that birds protect the food that feeds the nation, they learn a useful lesson that will ever be brought into practice in their future lives. It would be a nice undertaking and a splendid development for our game protectors to get started. There is no doubt in the least that that venture would be a successful one. The reasons that many do not protect wild game is because they are not educated to do so.—Osceola Leader.

**Feed for Wild Game Needed.**

On Tuesday the season for pheasants and turkeys came to a close. Perhaps a great many of the hunters are not pleased with the short season. But as the saying goes, "All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy." The next thing the hunters should turn their attention to is the providing of feed for the remaining birds and animals. The proper feed for wild game is very scarce in the woods and the sooner this is realized and action taken in the direction of furnishing feed before the cold weather sets in the better will be the supply of birds for the next season.

**FARM CALENDAR.**

It is necessary to put off until spring the overhauling of the sprayer. On inclement days it should be taken apart, oiled and worn parts replaced.

Now that the frost has killed the tops of cannas, gladioli, and other summer flowering stock, dig the bulbs and corms so that they can be stored for the winter.

See that you have good viable and disease-free seed for use in the spring. Be sure that all seed is thoroughly dried and stored in a place where it will not get wet or be destroyed by rats and mice.

Many eggs are broken and cracked before the shipper delivers them at the station. A recent survey showed an average of 7.5 eggs per case damaged when the eggs were delivered at the station by the shipper.

A cow in thin condition cannot do her best at the milk pail. The time to put the flesh on a good producer is when she is standing dry. A cow needs a rest of 6 to 8 weeks before freshening and at that time she should be put in condition for her next milking period, says Pennsylvania State College dairy specialists.

Garden refuse infested with diseases and insects should be cleaned up and burned before winter comes. This practice will eliminate considerable trouble with garden pests next year. Refuse not diseased or infested with insects may be plowed under at this time or placed in a compost pile to be used in the spring.

The San Jose scale is very often brought in on nursery stock. This is a small flake-like scale. In taking a knife and lifting up this scale you will find a small yellow insect underneath. Examination under a microscope will show that this insect has a sucking mouth part that it inserts into the tissues of the plant, and in this way obtains its food. One pair of these scales is capable in a year's time, under favorable conditions, of multiplying into 10,000,000.

If horses are lousy in the spring at shedding time it is more than likely they will go into the winter infested unless treated to eradicate the pests. When the animals shed their hair in the spring the lice seem to disappear, and the farmer is led to believe that his horses are free. Some of the lice usually remain on the animals during the entire summer, but not in sufficient numbers to cause annoyance or to be easily detected. The animals, therefore, usually go into the winter infested, and during cold weather lice increase very rapidly.

Since the best remedies are liquid dips, which cannot safely be used on horses during cold weather, fall dipping should be practiced whenever horses have been lousy at shedding time in the spring, says the United States Department of Agriculture. Three kinds of parasites are commonly found on the skin of the horse in the United States—lice, mange mites, and ticks. All three may be present on an animal at the same time. The lice can be eradicated by spraying or dipping the infested animals twice with an interval of from 14 to 16 days between treatments.

Mange is one of the most injurious skin diseases that affect horses. Four or more dippings at intervals of from five to seven days usually eradicate the most common form of the disease. Lime sulphur and nicotine dips are suitable for controlling mange.

Many different kinds of ticks affect horses. The spinose ear tick is prevalent on horses in the southwest and causes serious damage. The ticks enter the ears of animals, where they may be destroyed by a mixture of two parts pine tar and one part cottonseed oil injected into the ear canal. Complete instructions as to the various dips and remedies suitable for eradicating these three parasites of horses may be had by writing to the Bureau of Animal Industry, United States Department of Agriculture, Washington.

To learn exactly to what extent certain birds are aids to agriculture and to determine whether their good qualities overbalance the evil they do, the biological survey of the United States Department of Agriculture has for many years been making scientific studies of their food habits. All that can be learned out-of-doors by watching the birds is valuable, but the sure way of finding out what a bird eats is to examine the contents of its stomach and to identify what is found.

W. L. McAtee, a biologist in the bureau, describes the method of examining the stomach content of a bird. "It consists of washing all material into a white-lines tray, separating the larger particles on white blotters, catching the more finely ground food on a bolting cloth, transferring this to blotters, and finally identifying the component parts of the whole under a microscope. Identification is facilitated by comparison with collections of seeds, fruit, insects, snails, and bones of birds, mammals, reptiles, and amphibians; in fact, of all classes of objects eaten by birds. A card prepared for each stomach contains a full inventory of food items and their relative percentages by bulk, and when a sufficient number of these index cards have been accumulated for any species of bird the percentages of the principal items of food for each month are calculated, and the average for the season or year is taken. These are the figures quoted in official reports on food of birds. From the percentages and the economic value of the food items the utility of the bird can be closely estimated."

It is on the basis of such information that the biological survey has been able to combat prejudices against certain birds, such as hawks and owls. The sharp-shinned Cooper, and duck hawks feed largely on birds and are injurious. The great horned owl gets only poultry that is improperly exposed at night, but is otherwise beneficial. The remaining species of hawks and owls, more than fifty in all, have chiefly useful habits. They feed on a great variety of rodents and have a tremendous effect in controlling the number of these pests. The

barn owl is one of the most useful of birds. Large percentages of mice, rats, and pocket gophers are noted on the feeding cards, showing that the barn owl is constantly doing work of great value to agriculture. Owls as a group have long been persecuted by man, but never has persecution been more unjust. When their numbers are greatly reduced in any community farmers will be forcibly reminded of the fact by a great increase in the number of destructive rodents.

**WHAT IS YOUR FEAR BOGY?**

Not so very long ago there were monarchs who lived in constant fear of being poisoned. They never partook of food until their cooks or other trusted servants had first eaten some of it. This was true of some rulers, even in recent times, notably of the late Czar Nicholas of Russia and the Sultan of Turkey.

Most people would say that life under such conditions would hardly be worth living. Yet there are few among the great mass of mankind today who do not live in the constant shadow of some kind of fear. People do not know just what they are afraid of, but they are afraid of something. They have a foreboding of impending evil, a sense of something hanging over them, a vague dread of some coming calamity that they can't escape. You will hear them say: "Well I'm sure something is going to happen, but I feel it very strongly. I don't know whether it's death, sickness, or an accident in the family, but something bad is coming."

I have a friend who has always lived under the shadow of fear, who is always and forever predicting trouble ahead. I rarely meet him that he does not see some impending catastrophe just in front of us; we are on the toboggan slide headed toward destruction; we are going to have hard times, worse failures than we have ever had before. We'll see bread lines and soup kitchens before spring. The Bolshevik philosophy is going to spread over the entire world; and this is going to seize ruin. On the personal side he is afraid that his health will fail, and that his wife may meet with an accident; that his children will go wrong and disappoint him. In short, there is nothing in the category of human ills that he does not anticipate. I have known this man for many years and few, if any, of the dire things he has predicted have ever come to pass.

Are we not all, in some degree, like him? Almost everyone I know is worrying about something, anticipating some evil or misfortune. It is estimated that there are more than 5,000 different kinds of fear. In fact fear, in all its different phases of expression, such as worry, anxiety, anger, jealousy, superstition, intolerance, greed and avarice, is darkening and crippling the lives of most of us. Fear is the greatest enemy of the human race. It has robbed men of more happiness and efficiency, has made more men cowards, more people failures or mediocrities, caused more crimes and suicides than anything else.

Yet this Fear devil, with all its attendant worries and evils, is the greatest delusion ever conjured up by the mind of man. Fear is nothing but a boggy of the imagination, an unsubstantial as a soap bubble or a child's toy balloon. No matter how dreadful the face it wears it collapses at the first touch of courage and common sense. But in spite of this the majority of us travel from the cradle to the grave, suffering, harassed, or driven to desperation through fear of something or other, ill health, accident, poverty, failure—in nine cases out of ten, something that never happens.

If we would only utilize the energy and vitality we now waste in worrying, what marvels we would accomplish! Quit worrying and work. Fretting and fuming over what is passed and cannot be helped, or anticipating ills that may never come will do nothing but drain your mental and physical forces, waste your vitality, and destroy your possibilities of growth and happiness.—O. S. Marden, in Success.

**Dogs Live in Luxury.**

The dog team that aroused the attention of the world in 1925 when it made a dash to diphtheria stricken Nome, Alaska, with anti-toxin, is enjoying the comforts of a hotel in a Cleveland zoo.

Balto and his seven teammates of the heroic dash through ice and snow, have forgotten their early privations in walks through the zoo park with school children, showers, and steam heat when the weather gets chilly.

On Saturday morning, the huskies, Balto, the exalted; Fox, Sye, Billie, Tillie, Old Mottoc and Alaska Slim go for a walk in the park with school children. Three times a day they have their ears sprayed to discourage flies from using them as a landing field, and at night they step under a specially-built shower in their kennel for an evening bath.

The kennel is steam heated, and is fitted out in a way that would give credit to the most careful handler of dogs. These facts were brought to the attention of the public recently when complaints were made that the dogs were being mistreated.

**Solution to Last Week's Puzzle.**

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ONE MOW ANT  
TITI ARE HIDE  
EMS O NEE D DUD  
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