

SPEED IN COLLECTING INDIAN RECORDS URGED.

Washington.—If the languages, beliefs, traditions and customs of the Alaskan Indians are not to go the way of those of so many other native American tribes and be forever lost to human history, ethnologists will be compelled to work double time in the next few years.

Mr. Krieger found that the younger Indians have become thoroughly Americanized. For them the potlaches—once ceremonial events of great importance for the propitiation of those spirits who could insure good hunting or good fishing—are merely opportunities for a good time.

Mr. Krieger's expedition was carried out with aid from the Joseph Henry fund of the National Academy of Sciences. Its main purpose was to follow up certain archeological and ethnological leads uncovered by Dr. Ales Hrdlicka in his survey of Alaska under the Smithsonian institution last year.

As a result of Mr. Krieger's excavations at Bonasila and his investigations at Anvik, Hologochalk, Shageluk Slough and elsewhere along the Yukon, he believes that any archeological evidences of ancient man in the interior of Alaska are going to be very hard to find, though there is much of later date to be uncovered.

Mr. Krieger's most interesting discovery was made far from the mouth of the Yukon; it comprised examples of the carvings of a coast tribe unknown before last year when both Doctor Hrdlicka and the Canadian archeologist, Doctor Jenness found specimens of these carvings indicating the existence of the tribe on St. Lawrence and Nelson islands.

They are done in old ivory and are examples of an art unlike anything else known from Alaska. The modern natives dig them up from old graves and recarve the old ivory for commercial purposes, thus destroying many important specimens.

Evidence that a uniform stone culture prevailed at one time from the Yukon down southeastern Alaska was uncovered by Mr. Krieger. He found certain stone implements, chiefly a

type of ax, common to the entire area.

The places visited by Mr. Krieger on the lower Yukon represent the fusion points between the Eskimo and Indian cultures. Although the interior is now entirely Indian territory, Mr. Krieger found pottery, masks and other objects which typify Eskimo culture.

On his way back from Alaska Mr. Krieger continued earlier explorations for the bureau of American ethnology along the Columbia and Snake rivers. Last year he succeeded in tracing a single prehistoric culture characterized by semi-subterranean circular houses and cremation burials from British Columbia through Washington to Oregon.

This year he followed traces of the same culture down the Snake river into Idaho, hoping that it would lead him into Utah and the northern outposts of early Pueblo culture, thus connecting the prehistoric peoples of the West from Canada to Arizona.

Golf and Business no Longer Linked.

Golf is losing out as a business getter. Since the habit of play has become nearly universal among executives, mere common interest in the sport no longer brings individuals together. Devotion to the game has become so general that it has lost its competitive advantage as a business asset to a large extent.

In the early days of the ancient Scottish game, when golf players were few in number, a common interest in the same hobby made buddies out of bankers and customers, lawyers and clients. Now golf—like all non-business activities—serves merely to create an attitude of friendliness and to break down the formality of purely business contracts.

Incidentally, the tremendous expansion of facilities for playing golf in this country is tending to keep many men of wealth, who formerly went abroad each year, at home in the summer.—Nation's Business.

Says Air Mail Planes Will Land on Roof.

Washington.—Air mail planes will land on top of the New York city postoffice building within five years, Assistant Postmaster General Irving Glover has predicted.

The method devised, Glover told the house postoffice committee, would be similar to the one proposed for landing air mail planes on the roof of the Chicago postoffice.

Glover urged the enactment of the Kelly bill reducing air mail rates from 20 to 5 cents a pound and granting perpetual charters to air mail concerns.

ENGLAND RETURNS INDIAN WAR CLUB

American Museum Acquires Ancient Weapon.

New York.—The war club of an important Indian of the old Iroquois tribe is a new prize acquired from England by the Museum of American Indian, Heye Foundation, here. From marks on the weapon museum experts have been able to reconstruct a good deal of its past career, even though any records or stories attached to it have long since been lost.

The handle of the club is carved with the words "Oqdehtague le camara de Jeanson" which, translated, means "Oqdehtague, the friend of Johnson," according to Arthur Woodward of the museum staff. On the other side of the handle is engraved the strange looking word "Warragbiyage," which is the name the Iroquois gave to Sir William Johnson, the British superintendent of Indian affairs shortly before the American Revolution.

Bears Exploit Marks.

"The remainder of the cleared space on the handle is filled with a series of exploit marks," says Mr. Woodward. "There are war belts denoting the number of times the warrior had set out upon the war trail and the number of times he was wounded is shown. There is a rude carving of a full-length figure depicting on the body the tattoo marks worn by an old-time Iroquois fighting man. There are also figures representing 13 men each carrying a gun."

The ancient weapon recalls that in 1758, during the French and Indian war, an Onondaga warrior was slain by the enemy and Sir William Johnson's secretary recorded his death. This Indian bore the name of Otquenandaghte, which very nearly approximates the name on the war club, and the knife carried by this Indian bore the same words, "friend of Johnson," that are found on the club.

"It would seem that the knife and club both belonged to the same man," Mr. Woodward says, "and that the club, being a well-executed piece of work and more important than the knife, was taken as spoils of war by the Indian or Frenchman who killed its owner. Later the club may have been captured by some British fighter, and so it found its way to England as a curiosity. It would seem that the club belonged to some important man of the Iroquois who stood in well with Sir William, then the autocrat of Indian affairs."

Sent Back as Curio.

Many of the early colonists sent back to their homes in England, Holland, France, or Spain numbers of Indian "curios," he states. Today these souvenirs are among the most valuable of all American ethnological specimens, because they represent the culture of the American Indian at the time when he first came into contact with the old world civilization.

Usurers Are Targets of Press in France

Paris.—Usurers once more are being tracked down by newspaper campaigns and public-spirited citizens in France. After-war legislation has let down the bars so that 10 per cent a month loan sharks flourish. Their prey is furnished by the government, whose vast army of more than a million employees are among the more poorly paid workers. Their need of money drives them to the usurer largely because government functionaries still retain much of the prewar dignity that makes it difficult for them to borrow from friends.

Unable to prosecute money lenders in most cases, one newspaper has sent its reporters systematically to the loan sharks and reprinted the conversation regarding rates, with pointed comments intended to warn people against excessive charges.

Nation's Health Bill Totals \$4,000,000,000

Minneapolis, Min.—The nation's health bill is \$4,000,000,000—more money than the total cost of administering the United States government—the Co-operative Club of Minneapolis was told by Dr. John A. Hornsby, member of the University of Virginia School of Medicine.

Doctor Hornsby, while attending the convention of the American Hospital association, said this money is expended in connection with hospitals and sanatoriums, for drugs, health resorts and patent and quack medicines.

Pointing out that the \$4,000,000,000 does not include athletics and recreation that had health for their object, Doctor Hornsby declared that probably the largest sum of money directed to any human activity is invested in health.

140,000,000 Blacks and 4,000,000 Whites in Africa

Sydney.—"There are 140,000,000 blacks and 4,000,000 whites in Africa, and it is only a matter of time until Africa will be ruled by the black man," declared Dr. H. E. Warcham, who has had 25 years of experience in missionary work in northern Rhodesia.

"Africans are not an inferior species of people," said Doctor Warcham, "and they cannot be kept permanently in subjection. But they need the guidance of the white man.

"Co-operation with mutual respect is required."

Wild Creatures Made

Subservient to Man

Man gained the dog by domesticating the jackal and different species of wolves, in different parts of the world and then by crossing or, by a more or less unconscious selection bred different varieties, until we have at present a chaos of intermingled forms. Something similar but on a smaller scale was true of the domestic cattle, according to "The New Stone Age in Northern Europe," by John M. Tyler. One kind of domestic cattle appears fully domesticated in the oldest lake dwelling. It is unlike any wild European form. This is the Bos brachyceros. It was almost certainly imported. Mingled with its forms we find those of the Bos primigenius, native of Europe and north Asia, but apparently not domesticated. This is the urus, which was common in Europe in Caesar's day, and lasted in central Europe until 1000 A. D., and still lingers in Poland. This was a very large and powerful form with long spreading horns whose domestication appears to have commenced toward the close of the Neolithic period. It is not improbable that it was domesticated, or at least tamed, independently in different countries at quite different times. Raising of cattle was at its height during the Bronze age; afterward the results seem to decline and the cattle to degenerate.

Eastern Man Credited With Remarkable Pun

Though Judge Ebenezer R. Hoar's name is scarcely known outside of Massachusetts, he sat on the Supreme bench of that state, was chosen by President Grant as his first attorney general, and after the refusal of the senate—because of two honest rebuffs of senatorial intrigues—to confirm his nomination as justice of the United States Supreme court, he became the acknowledged leader of the Massachusetts bar. His wit was perhaps a little too caustic for political preferment. He was one of the perpetrators of what is doubtless the most remarkable pun on record—a triple pun. This feat was performed in a conversation between the judge and his cousin, Senator William M. Everts. The incident is related by Miss Ellen Emerson, Ralph Waldo Emerson's daughter:

Judge Hoar told me that he and Mr. Everts were talking together one day about a lawyer, bright, but of doubtful practices, who had lately come to some distinction. Mr. Everts said: "Yet he seems to have been getting on lately." The judge responded: "Yes, more than that, he's been getting honor"; and Mr. Everts instantly added: "And perhaps now he'll begin to get honest."—From the Outlook.

Efficient Spending

The measure of real necessity is surprisingly small. When one finds the medium ground between prodigality and stinginess he will realize that he can live there, even though his income may be moderate. Greater moderation in many things would leave us a healthier and happier race. To say nothing of what it would do for our bank accounts. Certainly, before buying a thing one should honestly ask himself whether he needs it. He should, likewise, give himself an honest answer.

The second principle of efficient spending is that when one has honestly decided that he needs a thing he should buy the best he can get. If one buys at all, it pays to search the market for an article of high quality. Moreover, he is very apt not to find an article of high grade unless he does search the market rather carefully.

Fake Teeth for Bears

Animal dentistry, says a dentist correspondent, is as risky as it is fascinating. The filing of rough or uneven teeth of a lion or tiger requires not only strength but nerve, for you cannot put a wild animal under gas as you can a man or woman. To extract an animal's tooth is far from an easy business, and in many cases it is easier to pull a screw from a piece of oak by means of a pair of pliers. A well-known menagerie owner once had an old pet bear fitted out with a complete set of false teeth. The plates had to be "glued" to the mouth of the beast in order to keep them in place.—Exchange.

War on the Sheldrake

Interesting and comely in appearance though the sheldrake is, its flesh is not always appetizing, nor in some other respects is it always worth its board.

It is like the grebe a wonderful diver, and has a reputation of living in burrows, which it never digs.

For years the natural history books declared that it was a vegetable and insect feeder, but it is now claimed that its strong red bill, with a knob at the base, is used for scooping up young fish and especially young trout.

The American Scene

Americanism, we have long been conscious, heartlessly takes the color out of our immigrants. There was an affecting instance the other day in an Eighth avenue excavation, where two Italian laborers were wrangling. We thought it quite picturesque, but on close approach observed that on their heads they wore the novelty caps so common at Coney Island. One of them bore the legend, "Where did you get those pretty blue eyes?" and the other said, "Kiss me, dearie, I'm lonely."—New Yorker.

Investment Trusts.

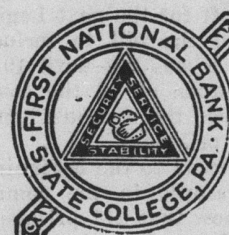
Government securities now pay little more than three per cent. The proper investment of money at rates yielding a fair return is becoming more and more difficult.

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Uncle Sam Makes Painless Traps for Animals.

Your Uncle Sam believes in kindness to animals; he hates to see them suffer.

One of his men Vernon Bailey, chief field naturalist of the Bureau of Biological Survey, has perfected a trap that will catch animals without causing them to suffer so terribly as do the old devices. Instead of toothed steel jaws which grip into the flesh of the unfortunate animal, causing it unspeakable torture during the long hours before the trapper arrives to kill it, is a wire mesh net which completely incloses the captive. The plans for making it are given to anyone who wishes to save suffering.

Mr. Bailey designed the trap especially for his work among the beavers. By its use he is able to capture these animals alive in considerable numbers and move them long distances absolutely unharmed. He has returned from his commission to help stock the streams of the State of Pennsylvania with beavers. From a small number, the beaver population of Pennsylvania has increased by leaps and bounds.

A beaver caught in this humane trap actually will look upon his captor as his friend in a few days, according to Mr. Bailey. When he is released on his new breeding grounds, he will not make a wild dash for liberty, but will come up to his captor to be petted. The human characteristics of the beaver in many respects, make it especially fitting that more mercy be used in trapping it, Mr. Bailey believes.

Slight variations on this trap render it suitable for the capture of muskrats, minks, and other fur bearing animals which inhabit the banks of streams.

Another of Uncle Sam's devices used by the Biological Survey removes the necessity for the most cruel of all steel traps, the great bear trap, which required exceptionally strong jaw springs to hold the great animals who blunder into them. The new device is a form of the old box trap on a much stronger scale. When the bear grabs the bait, a spring is released and a plank door drops down behind him. He is not harmed in the least.

The cruel steel trap will soon be a thing of the past. This means much for the thousands of animals that are trapped every year.—Ex.

Pins by the Billion.

More than twenty billion pins are used annually in the United States, or about 200 for each inhabitant, according to recent statistics, and the number is said to be ever increasing. Ten factories are engaged in their manufacture.

"Good gracious, Son; we've just run over a poor man! Stop! Stop!" "Keep still, Mother; you'll make every one think this is the first time we were ever out in an automobile."—La Rire.

Safety First is Now Considered.

Highway engineers are recognizing as never before the fact that building for safety is one of the greatest responsibilities resting upon them in developing the road programs of the country.

Road builders are making every effort to build safety into the road rather than depend upon warning signs and devices alone to protect the motorist," said Prof. S. S. Steinberg, of the University of Maryland and assistant director of the national highway research board, in a recent address. "Many state highway departments, as Maryland, Connecticut and Pennsylvania, and many large cities are making a careful study of the causes of highway accidents."

"Records are left by means of a highway map on which a colored pin is inserted at the spot on the map where an accident has occurred. A different colored pin is used for each type of accident. An accumulation of pins shows in a graphic manner the location where the construction should be changed.

"Highway engineers are also relocating the main roads to eliminate curves, to avoid railroad grade crossings and to reduce steep grades. Incidentally, these relocations save distance, avoid costly bridges and mean benefit to the motorist in the cost of vehicle operation.

"In Illinois a road 1150 miles long was relocated almost entirely through out its length, thereby saving 300 miles of unnecessary distance and eliminating 31 grade crossings. Relocating the road from Kansas City to St. Louis, a length of about 300 miles, saved 41 miles in distance and eliminated 15 grade crossings."—Ex.

Instant Death.

The efficiency and rapidity with which criminals are put to death in the electric chair is explained by Frederick Tisdale in an article in Liberty.

"The process of strapping in the criminal and attaching the electrodes is completed in about 49 seconds," points out the writer. "So swiftly do the attendants work that the current enters the prisoner's body 70 seconds after he enters the death chamber. The current is kept on about two minutes. A second and even a third shock may be administered as a precaution. While the current is on a humming sound is produced in the body.

"Penologists declare that death by electrocution is instantaneous," continues the author. "The heart is stopped and the brain paralyzed before the nerves can register any feeling. The veins and arteries offer a perfect course for the current."

Those Funny Welsh Names.

A school teacher from Ypsilanti, one from Kokomo, and one from Spokane went on a Cook's tour and visited Wales.

"What funny names these Welsh towns have!" exclaimed all of them, in unison.—Life.

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