

# GYPSIES IN AMERICA

**T**HE number of gypsies in America is increasing rapidly year by year, and of late years several circumstances have combined to bring them prominently to the attention of the public. For one thing, representatives of this swarthy hued clan from all parts of the country met recently in one of our eastern cities to elect a "king," an event that takes place only once in ten years. Then, too, gypsies have of late years been brought prominently to the attention of many of our citizens through the growth of automobile touring. Motorists traversing



country roads and finding, at frequent intervals, large groups of gypsies camped by the wayside, have naturally come to have a new realization of what a numerous element of our population these nomads now constitute.

The average person, encountering American gypsies in a casual way, observes no differences or distinctions between the various bands and yet, as a matter of fact, there are among the "Romanies" as many and as sharply defined classes of society as in any other division of our population. As in other sections of our cosmopolitan national community, too, we find some of these nomads who are virtually outcasts among their own people, or at least with whom the aristocrats of the wanderers will not associate.

It is by no means strange, however, if the citizen beyond the pale of gypsedom fails to perceive these minute distinctions, for the gypsies are a mysterious and secretive people, and for all that they seem to live so much in the public eye they in reality let the outside world know precious little regarding them. The suspicions of the rest of the world directed against them for centuries have made the gypsies wary of strangers, for all that they need the money to be obtained in barter or fortune telling—and it is practically impossible for a "gorgio" (any one not of the gypsy clan) to really penetrate the reserve of these people. Their exclusiveness is rendered the more easy from the fact that they speak a strange tongue—an aptly termed "black language," which is almost never taught to an outsider.

For all that the gypsy in this pro-

pressive twentieth century occasionally travels by railroad, just as he occasionally makes use of the telegraph or even the telephone, his wanderings up and down the land are principally accomplished by means of the horse-drawn vehicles which present today much the same appearance that they did in the days of his forefathers on the other side of the Atlantic. There is this difference, however, that the big sleeping vans—their gaudily decorated exteriors calculated to stir the imagination of any boy—are more roomy and comfortable than were the gypsy wagons of a few years ago. The cots have modern mattresses and the up-to-date type of wood burning stove has supplanted the tripod and kettle of bygone days.

To that portion of the public which has been wont to regard the gypsy as all but akin to a beggar it may come as something of a surprise if not a distinct shock to learn that many of these wanderers are decidedly well-to-do. In the portable homes of the

black or white, can be found near the camp to undertake the work. In the same category of wonders is the growing practice of the gypsy women to employ seamstresses to make their clothing.

Other evidence of how the habits, if not the characteristics, of the American gypsies are changing is afforded by the fact that many a prosperous gypsy now owns a home, or more especially a farm, which serves as a sort of base of operations for him—a refuge that corresponds in a sense to the winter quarters of a traveling circus. The wander-lust, the love of travel, is so strong in the average gypsy that he cannot be content to remain long in any one place, even though he own the property and has fixed it up exactly in accord with his own notions, but he will spend a portion of each year in such temporary home if for no other purpose than to enable his children to obtain some schooling.

better class of gypsies one may now find china and silverware; more surprising, yet by no means all the gypsy housewives now do their own work, many of them having domestic servants, principally negroes, who travel with the caravan. And finally, to cite the acme of present-day gypsy luxury, it may be noted that at many a gypsy camp the washing is "sent out," this being regular routine among the more prosperous gypsies if washerwomen,

## GYPSY FORTUNE TELLERS

Ability to Read Future Simply Result of Cultivated Hun Perception of Details

The principal means of livelihood for gypsy men is horse trading, although, as has been mentioned above, some of those who acquire means go into the real estate field, and that same instinctive native shrewdness which makes them successful in the horse barter aids them to profitable investments in this other field. Gypsy women sometimes peddle lace and baskets from house to house, but their chief means of money making is fortune telling, and this is preferably carried on at camp, for the Romany sentiment is that a woman's place is in her home. Incidentally it may be remarked that gypsy girls are most carefully guarded and marriages with others than gypsies are discouraged.

The fortune telling of the gypsies, or "dukking," as they themselves call it, is a wonderful thing, and a power undeniably subnormal which reads "past, present and future, yer wish an' all ye want to know." But, though the Romany's gifts are marvelous, they cannot strictly be said to be related to psychical phenomena. Yet they are as interesting, being delightfully human and as mysteriously baffling as East Indian jugglery.

The Romany's usual method of divining the future is by the palm, though it is sometimes by cards sometimes by dropping coins into clear water, and again by certain charms, varied by trifling sleight of hand performances. In the gypsy's palmistry there is no book learning and little "science," although she professes to attach some importance to the lines of the heart and life. For the lines and mounts gypsies have their own explanations, which sometimes hap-

pen to coincide with those of the ordinary gorgio palmist, but which the most part are not to be found in any written book.

It is almost entirely upon face reading and a cultivated keen, ready perception of general characteristics that the gypsy depends. Nothing escapes her quick eye. The bearing of a stranger, the dress, speech and manner, the expression and type of feature and a thousand details which would be overlooked as unimportant trifles by a gorgio, count with the Romany. She refuses to "dukker" before more than one person at a time, possibly on the plea that she belongs to a "secret order" which forbids it, or that a fortune told in such manner would not come true. These statements, though deliciously appetizing, are lacking in truth, for the fact is only that she needs the undivided attention of the one who consults her. In order to get the best results of concentration of mind. In justice to the gypsy, it should be taken into consideration that the atmosphere of scepticism which is apt to surround a gay party of curiosity seekers, is not conducive to success in the exercise of any profession.

The Romany fortune teller is an adept in the art of flattery, for there are few exceptions to the rule that nothing is so interesting as one's self. The gypsy knows how to draw out unconscious admissions by confessions by her oft-repeated, "Do you on'stan me?" and "Can you look me in the eye an' say it is not the truth I'm a-tellin' you?" She forms the acknowledgment of truths at which she has already shrewdly guessed, and such ad-

missions are the stepping stones by which her "knowledge grows from more to more." She can, for instance, recognize at a glance the tokens of sadness by which the casual observer is blind, and whether the unmistakable stamp is from sorrow by visitation of death or the result of bitter earthly disappointment, the odds are that the gypsy will make the sifter tell her without being aware of having done so.

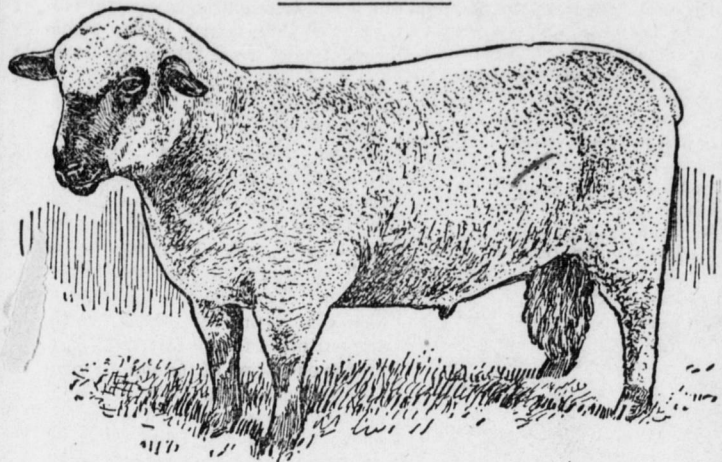
As a rule, as I have said, she flatters with brave promises of fair futures, but if displeased she may so threaten with the vigorous, compelling, dramatic art of which she is complete mistress that the horrors disclosed from imagination stand out before the "doomed" hearer with the real effect of a curse.—Century Magazine.

### "The Tempest."

"The Tempest" may be called the play of the upper and lower sides of human nature; the battle of intellect, conscience and spiritual aspiration against brute passion and appetite. Its leading character, Prospero, typifies the "better things," while the lower are set forth in Caliban, Trinculo, Stephano, et al. Ariel is merely by the reflection of Prospero, the materialization, as it were, of his all-conquering mind and spirit; and Prospero himself is a reflection of the mental and spiritual in the universal humanity. Prospero wins, not only against the storm, just as the brain and conscience of humanity are eventually to triumph over the forces of nature without us and the forces of the animal within us.

## EXCELLENT SHEEP BREEDS FOR VARIOUS PURPOSES

There Are Some Kinds That Produce Both Mutton and Wool—Shropshires and Hampshires Are Early Maturing.



(By WALTER B. LEUTZ.)  
Most men who now raise sheep and those who are about to make a start want a breed that will produce both good mutton and good wool—a rather difficult combination.

There are some breeds, however, that produce both, but like the dual cow they are not in favor with the men who believe that one must breed for milk and butter, or for beef, and not for all.

The following breeds of sheep are probably better fitted by nature and improvement to produce wool and mutton:  
The Shropshires are much thought of throughout the west. The ewes weigh from 125 to 180 pounds, are very early maturing, producing very excellent carcasses, and shearing from 7 to 10 pounds per head.

The Hampshires are a large sheep, not quite so early maturing, but producing very large lambs at an early age. They shear approximately the same as Shropshires.

The Oxford are very similar to the Hampshires in size and character.

The Southdown is particularly a mutton breed, producing a fleece somewhat lighter than the breeds mentioned above, but nevertheless producing a good fleece and a most excellent carcass of mutton.

The Dorsets, when mature, weigh from 130 to 180 pounds, and are very prolific. They shear a fleece of medium weight, and yield a good carcass. They are particularly valuable because of their extreme prolificacy, producing frequently three times in two years.

The Rambouillettes and Delaine Merinos are fine wool sheep, and produce fleeces which will yield from 10 to 16 pounds per head. They also produce good carcasses of mutton; however, more emphasis has been placed upon the fleece than in the breeds mentioned above.

The greatest difference between the Rambouillette and the Delaine Merino is in the greater size of the former. The Cotswold, Lincoln and Lester are known as the long-wooled breeds, producing fleeces weighing from 8 to 12 pounds, and producing good carcasses before the lambs reach the age of one year. These three breeds are comparatively large.

But breed is not everything in the selection of breeding-rams and ewes. After one has made up his mind as to the breed he wants then he must know how to select the best individual of that breed.

There are some mighty poor specimens of the best breeds, and the trick is to know enough to let these alone.

## PUPPY LIKED FRESH MILK

Boston Bull Found to be Supplying His Own Rations Three or Four Times a Day by Milking Cow.

A farmer of Underwood, Wash., had a bull puppy shipped out from Boston. The puppy's principal diet had been milk served from the bottle. During his first day on the farm the puppy was intensely interested in the operation of milking the cows, and for several days never failed to watch his master closely during the milking time, morning and evening. When one of the cows began to fall in her



Supplying His Own Rations.

usual supply of milk, investigation disclosed the fact that the puppy was supplying his own rations three or four times a day by milking the cow himself.

### Apples Without Cores.

Almost everybody has heard the story of the boy who asked his companion for the core of his apple, to which request the companion made the historic remark: "There ain't goin' to be no core."

Now Justice of the Peace David Barb of Clifford, Bartholomew county, Indiana, has an apple tree, and that tree bears apples. Should any person ask for the core of an apple from the tree he would be doomed to disappointment, because the apples do not have cores.

Justice Barb says the tree that bears the apples never blooms in the spring, but through some freak process it bears apples the same as other trees. These apples are without a core, and they are also seedless.

### Kills Predatory Chickens.

A farmer in Illinois who scattered grain to kill his neighbor's predatory chickens had to pay a fine of \$50 and narrowly escaped a prison sentence.

## IMPROVE THE FARM HOME

Ample Supply of Running Water Is Not Only Household Convenience, but Is Big Money Saver

(By C. R. BARNES.)  
Few things will contribute more to the comfort and "sanitation" of a home than an ample supply of running water. This is one of the substantial attractions of the city home. That it is found in comparatively few farmsteads is a reproach to the thrift of the owners, as well as to their characters as husbands and fathers.

A supply of running water is not only a household convenience, but it is a money-saver in numerous ways. In the mere matter of watering cattle, it will not only make a large saving of labor, but it will increase the flow of milk in dairy cattle and cause fattening heaves to lay on more flesh than when their drink is limited.

The economies it will effect on even the moderate sized farmstead will amount to a good deal more each year than the interest on an investment of \$500; and only rarely would the outlay for its installation amount to so large a sum as that. Forest Henry, in a recent article, figures that—a well being already available—the cost may be kept within \$200; which includes a 100 windmill; 100 feet of 1 1/4-inch pipe, connecting with house and barn, and cost of laying same; the building of a cistern; a small stock tank; float valves and sundries. The interest on \$200 at six per cent. is only \$12 a year. It is safe to say that any farmer, with an ordinary "bunch" of cattle, loses several times that amount in butter or beef product alone, from the limitation of the amount of water which is inevitable where much labor is involved in watering the animals. All this without taking account of the conveniences, the improved healthfulness, and the saving of labor in the house, which accompany the introduction of running water.

The farmer should realize that it pays better to put profits into farm improvements of his own than to loan it at five per cent. or six per cent. to improve some other man's farm.

The question with farmers should not be whether they can afford an equipment for running water, but whether they can afford to go without it. Those who have installed such an equipment are usually prompt in answering this question with an emphatic negative.

### World's Crop of Oats.

The world's crop of oats is nearly 3,700,000,000 bushels annually, according to the department of agriculture. The United States annual crop for 1908-9 was about 900,000,000 bushels, and the United States is aligned with European Russia, Germany, France and Canada as the principal oat producing countries.

# OWES HER HEALTH

To Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound

Scottville, Mich.—"I want to tell you how much good Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound and Sanative Wash have done me. I live on a farm and have worked very hard. I am forty-five years old, and am the mother of thirteen children. Many people think it strange that I am not broken down with hard work and the care of my family, but I tell them of my good friend, your Vegetable Compound, and that there will be no backache and bearing down pains for them if they will take it as I have. I am scarcely ever without it in the house."

"I will say also that I think there is no better medicine to be found for young girls to build them up and make them strong and well. My eldest daughter has taken Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound for painful periods and irregularity, and it has always helped her."  
"I am always ready and willing to speak a good word for the Lydia E. Pinkham's Remedies. I tell every one I meet that I owe my health and happiness to these wonderful medicines."  
—Mrs. J. G. JOHNSON, Scottville, Mich., R.F.D. 3.

Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound, made from native roots and herbs, contains no narcotics or harmful drugs, and to-day holds the record for the largest number of actual cures of female diseases.

### It Wasn't a Fire.

The principal of one of the New York East Side night schools was enrolling a new pupil, who was togged out in a suit of clothes so new that it hurt him. Just before the boy came in the principal had heard the sound of fire engines in the street.

"What is your name?" the principal asked the lad.

"Tom Dugan," was the reply.  
"Where was the fire, Tommy?" asked the principal as he wrote down the name. There was no reply; only a scowl.

"I say, where was the fire?" repeated the principal.

"Don't git gay wit me," was the somewhat astonishing answer. "Dere wasn't no fire, see? I bought dis here suit and I paid seven-fifty for it."

### Careless and Cappy.

We have undertaken to blend in one the best of the two proverbial conditions—to be careless and happy, hairless and cappy. We are now happy and cappy, and frequently careless as well. A pretty figure may be conjured up—a figure in leaf-green satin veiled with rose and silver shot gauze.

The dark hair is covered by a sailor's cap, point and all, worn flatly over the whole head, the point falling at the back. Instead of being made of scarlet cashmere, it is of the gauze, over silver tissue, and studded with pink and yellow topaz, while it is bordered with great gray pear-shaped pearls, these, of course, hanging around the back of the neck and over the soft hair in front.

We have taken to caps!

### Where He Made It.

"Hullo, Blinks!" said Wobbles. "I hear you've been in the chicken business."

"Yep," said Blinks.  
"Made anything out of it?" asked Wobbles.

"Yep," said Blinks. "Ten thousand ollars."

"Ten thousand dollars in the chicken business?" demanded Wobbles.

"Nope. Out of it," said Blinks.—Harper's Weekly.

### Illness at the Zoo.

An unexpected result of the Portuguese revolution was the indisposition of the animals at the Lisbon zoological gardens. They all became ill, having been so alarmed by the bombardment that they refused to eat and drink.

## If You Knew How Good

are the sweet, crisp bits of

# Post Toasties

you would, at least, try 'em.

The food is made of perfectly ripe white corn, cooked, sweetened, rolled and toasted.

It is served direct from the package with cream or milk, and sugar if desired—

A breakfast favorite!

"The Memory Lingers"

POSTUM CEREAL CO., Ltd.,  
Battle Creek, Mich.