

The SANDMAN STORY

ABOUT ZOO ANIMALS

WHEN all the people have gone home the animals in the zoo talk to each other, sometimes they talk about the times they were free, sometimes they talk of what they like best about the zoo and about their own family ways—and sometimes they talk about the people who come to visit them, and laugh at the different ways people have.

"People say," remarked the Rocky mountain bear, "that we don't get any chance to do as we please when we're in the zoo. They say we aren't free. But I fooled them yesterday."

"You did, indeed," said Muff and Ruff in chorus. Muff and Ruff were



"I Don't Believe You Will," Said Mr. Red Fox.

two Russian bears who were neighbors of the Rocky mountain bear.

"And you gave me away," said the Rocky mountain bear. "But no matter, I had my little outing."

"I couldn't bear it when I saw you bend your wires and manage to escape," said Muff.

"And so we both growled as hard as we could," said Ruff.

"That was what made the keeper see what had happened," said the Rocky mountain bear. "He didn't know whether I was down in my cave or not."

"But we kept on growling," said Muff, "and he came back once more to see what had happened. My, we were evasive."

"Oh, yes, I had a fine walk and stroll around the park," said the Rocky mountain bear, "and when they came to catch me and bring me back they said that they were so

frightened when they heard I had escaped.

"For they said my temper wasn't always as perfect as it might be and so they were afraid! Ha, ha, growl, growl, I frightened them when I had my walk!"

"I didn't do any harm, but I did what I pleased. I walked where I wanted to walk. I enjoyed myself. I fooled them yesterday, all right."

"It took eight of the creatures they call men to bring me back again. That was something for a Rocky mountain bear to boast about—eight men to bring him home!"

"And so, Muff and Ruff, though you were so envious you made my walk shorter yesterday by letting the keeper know something was up, or rather out; still I had a fine, free time, and I fooled the keeper."

"You frightened them, too, you lucky bear," said Muff and Ruff.

"Oh," said Mr. Gray Fox. "I wish I had got out of the zoo. I'm going to try. I'm going to climb up the side of my cage, and I'll escape. I will."

"I don't believe you will," said Mr. Red Fox. "The keepers weren't on the lookout for the bear doing this, but they are on their guard about you. They know that a gray fox will try to get away by climbing and climbing over the top of anything he can, a tree, a fence or anything."

"Now we would try to escape through one of the entrances to our home. We always have three entrances so we can get out of one doorway in our hole-home if we are attacked from one of the other two. You don't care about digging and burrowing—you would rather climb. You're not as clever as we are. You are not nearly so foxy."

"Oh," said Mr. Gray Fox. "I know that you are very clever and tricky and deserve that name, but I am worse than you are! There! As I said before, I don't care about anything. If I were free I would only think of myself. Here I only think of myself. I hate the keeper. I hate my family."

"No, I'm the gray fox, the sly, treacherous gray fox. Just now I don't believe I will try to escape for I am sleepy."

"But if ever I do you can think of me as out in the great world, perhaps back in my old home—being as cross and selfish as I was here in the zoo, and not feeling sorry about it in the least."

(Copyright.)

Joan I'eers



A Columbia picture star. Chicago sent her to Hollywood. After her latest picture, "Around the Corner," with Charlie Murray and George Sidney, Hollywood sent her to stardom. It took three pictures to bring her out of obscurity to fame.

For Meditation

By LEONARD A. BARRETT

SILENCES

CHARLES LAMB, in his letter to Coleridge, writes about "The silent thoughts arising in a good man's mind in lonely places." The mountain top may be a lonely place but its silence affords a splendid opportunity for a person to "Retire in the sanctuary of his own heart."

When the top of the mountain is high enough to be above the storm we may witness a majestic sight.

Above us is the cerulean blue, below are the elements in the turmoil of a storm. One can see the flashes of lightning and hear the peals of thunder. The storm has no effect upon the person above it except to incite wonder and admiration. Peace and security abides above the storm.

Life's storms are quite like these tragic occasions in nature when thunder crashes and lightning flashes. Storms of sorrow and failures are likely to master us if we permit ourselves to become victims of their depressing influence. If we can, however, climb into the mountain top of a strong mental and spiritual faith and witness these storms from above, we rise above them. We are thus able to master the storm rather than be mastered by it. This silence of mastery is a rare but most worthy attitude of mind and heart to acquire.

In the silence one can learn not only the lesson of self mastery but that very much needed trait of self-control. There is something fine about one's ability to heap coals of fire upon another. Many a battle has been won by silence. Occasionally we witness a person becoming famous by what he did not say. The silent look is the most severe rebuke. The silent attitude of mind and heart wins many a battle in which conflicting forces war for supremacy.

In the rush of our modern age we need hours of retirement. We need to go into "a desert place and rest awhile." In the silence of retirement one not only recovers his lost energy but acquires a new vision and fresh courage for life's work. It is possible to recapture one's soul through rest. Longfellow writes about laboring "for an inward stillness, an inward healing, a perfect silence where lips and heart are still, and we no longer entertain imperfect thoughts and vain opinions."

"Let us be silent that we may hear the whispers of the gods."—Emerson. (©, 1929, Western Newspaper Union.)



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Strawberry Has Made Progress

Striking Example of Expansion of So-Called Luxury Crops.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

The growth of the strawberry industry is a striking example of the great expansion of the so-called luxury crops in recent years, says the bureau of agricultural economics, United States Department of Agriculture. Time was when the strawberry season was limited practically to the season of locally grown berries. Fast transportation and refrigeration changed this until now consumers may enjoy strawberries practically the year round. Within ten years the commercial acreage of strawberries has increased from 93,429 acres in 1920 to 202,180 acres in 1929, and a projected area of 183,680 acres this year.

Descendant of Wild Meadow Berry. "The commercial strawberry," says J. W. Strawbridge in a technical bulletin on the origin and distribution of the commercial strawberry crop, just issued by the United States Department of Agriculture, "is believed to be a descendant of the wild meadow strawberry native to the country. The crossing of this wild strawberry of the eastern part of the United States with the cultivated varieties from Chile resulted in hybrids from which the strawberry grown at the present time developed."

"Market production began about 1800, but, because of the perishable nature of the varieties then grown, only small quantities were produced and those in localities near points of consumption. The expansion of the industry as a commercial proposition began about 1860 and has been encouraged by improvement in methods of culture and by the development of varieties which are adapted to meet the variety of growing conditions in many producing sections and which have qualities that give a reasonable assurance of delivery in good condition to distant markets. Refrigeration and other improvements in transportation have aided the development of the industry in sections far removed from the centers of consumption."

Best Markets. New York, Chicago, Boston, Philadelphia and Detroit are the leading carload markets, but the consumption in these markets is considerably greater than is indicated by carload receipts, as augmented by increasing use of the greater use of motor transportation. Delaware last year trucked strawberries as far as Montreal, Canada.

Mr. Strawbridge has written a comprehensive publication on the various phases of the strawberry industry including discussion of areas of production, yields, acreage trends, production and shipments, varieties, the industry by states, costs of transportation, and market receipts. It has been issued by the Department of Agriculture as Technical Bulletin 150-T under the title "Origin and Distribution of the Commercial Strawberry Crop."

Inoculate Alfalfa to Secure High Returns

It is not advisable to inoculate alfalfa seed as much as six weeks ahead of the sowing. The best time is to inoculate it just a day or so before sowing. Or if it could be inoculated in the forenoon and sown in the afternoon, it is just that much the better. The inoculating bacteria are easily killed in the sunshine and seed treated with inoculating bacteria should be kept in the shade until sown. It is important also to have it incorporated with the soil immediately so as to get it out of the sun's rays at the earliest possible moment.

Farm Hints

Cleaning up the garden this fall will save a great deal of trouble with insects and diseases next spring.

Bees not having good quality or ample quantity of stored food should be fed sugar sirup before cold weather comes.

Despite the dry weather there will be many vegetables to store for winter use. There are different requirements for storage which should be observed if the vegetables are to keep well.

Land that is to be used for a row crop next spring and wheat or oat stubble land that is to be used for a small grain crop may be put in better shape for spring planting if plowed or listed this fall.

This is just the time to lay plans for woodlot thinning during the winter. Let that riot of autumn colors henceforth cover tall, straight, well-crowned, sound trees of good growth and useful kinds instead of "just trees."

In storing winter squash and pumpkins, harvest them before they have been exposed to frost, vegetable specialists urge. Handle carefully to prevent bruising. Do not remove the stem. Store in a warm, dry place, and try to keep the temperature from fluctuating much. The same requirements hold true for sweet potatoes.

Is Easy to Extend Garden Usefulness

With Little Work One Can Prolong Season.

With just a little work one can prolong the season of a few vegetables—just enough to supply the family table—for several weeks beyond the first killing frost, if action is taken quickly, suggests the home economics department of the state college of agriculture at New Brunswick.

Tomato vines may be pulled up by the roots and hung to the rafters in the cellar. Select vines which have a number of well-developed green fruits. These will ripen slowly and prolong the season of fresh tomatoes. Some people have served tomatoes for Thanksgiving dinner by storing them in this way.

All vegetables to be stored must be sound and dry, for bruised, diseased, or frosted products will soon rot. The root vegetables like carrots, beets, turnips and parsnips should be dug and allowed to dry in the sun a few hours before placing them in storage. Boxes of clean sand are the best for these vegetables. Onions and cabbage keep best on open slatted racks, and potatoes in slatted bins that allow a circulation of air.

Not many family gardens supply all the vegetables which one may store for winter use. At this season when the growers are digging the vegetables for winter storage, one might order the amounts of potatoes, carrots, beets, cabbage, celery, etc., needed for the family. Many dollars are sometimes saved by the thrifty housewife who orders her supply of vegetables directly from the producer instead of buying them in small amounts each week. A generous supply of these foods in the cellar also encourages the housewife to serve more vegetables and offers greater variety from which to plan the meals for the family.

Make Silo Walls Tight for Filling in Fall

The silo filling season will soon be upon us again and it is not too soon to go over the silos and see that they are in shape to take care of the silage properly. The foundations should be pointed up, stave silos straightened and hoops tightened, and all walls made tight against passage of air and water.

In experiments at Iowa State college a number of treatments were tried by dividing a silo that has been giving trouble, into five sections. The materials used were cement wash, a waterproof solution of soap and alum, asphalt and paint and cement plaster. The fifth section was untreated. In another silo a number of commercial waterproofing materials, most of which had an asphalt base, were tried out.

The experiments have shown that a cement wash and asphalt paint when properly applied are satisfactory and economical. To apply a cement wash successfully, the walls must be clean and damp, and the cement wash carefully brushed on to the surface.

New Year for Poultry Begins November First

The new year for poultrymen begins November 1. On that date the spring pullets should be in permanent winter quarters and well started on the year's production. If flock records have not been kept in the past, now is an excellent time to begin. Are your birds returning good interest on the money you have invested in stock and equipment or are you keeping them at a distinct loss? Throughout the year strict account should be noted of every expense: feed, repairs, stock purchased, etc. Credit the flock with market eggs sold, hatching eggs sold, eggs used on the table, chickens eaten and all market poultry and breeding stock sold.

Use of Sweet Clover for Green Manure Is Urged

Allowing sweet clover to stand the second year ordinarily does not pay, according to C. M. Linsley, University of Illinois. A seed crop or pasture may justify keeping the second year growth but not otherwise.

Sweet clover if thick and vigorous will yield 150 pounds of nitrogen per acre, enough for 100 bushels corn crop. There is no point to allowing clover to stand late in the second year for plowing it under. It contains practically as much nitrogen early, as late, and it is better to plant corn as early as possible, Linsley says. The nitrogen in the early spring growth is all moved up from the roots and not gathered from the atmosphere.

Pear Psylla Is Cause of Harm and Poor Fruit

Pear psylla is a serious limiting factor in the production of pears in many districts. It causes injury and unpleasant results in several ways. The nymphs of this insect feed on the tender growth, sucking out the plant juices and in that way using up elaborated foods that are needed by the pear tree for wood and leaf growth, the formation of fruit buds and the production of fruit of good quality. They not only compete with the tree for food material but injure the leaves in such a way that brown spots appear and the leaves turn yellow and finally drop, so that severe defoliation may occur even as early as July 1.

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Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound

THE WHY of SUPERSTITIONS

By H. IRVING KING

THUMBS UP

THERE is a common New England superstition that if, when a person closes his fist, his thumb sticks up he is a capable or an honest man, whereas if his thumb is down, he is a scoundrel and rascal, they say, always double their thumbs in when closing the hand. There is here a clear echo from the days of the gladiators—the "pollicis verto" and the "pollicis premo" of the Romans. When in a gladiatorial combat the vanquished was not killed but lay at the mercy of his antagonist the people decided his fate. If they decreed his death they extended their hands with the thumbs bent under and concealed; if his life they reach forth with the thumb extended outward and up. With the humane and the just among the spectators it was thumbs up; with the blood-thirsty and the criminally inclined it was thumbs concealed.

The Roman legions lift their eagles high no more and the stars glimmer through the loops of time in the Flavian amphitheater. But when we consider that out of the world of today was built up, and that for over four hundred years Old England was Roman it is not surprising that among the superstitions of New England still linger echoes from the days of the Caesars.

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How It Started

By JEAN NEWTON

THE "BANSHEE"

"SH! QUIET, or the banshee will surely get you!" It is with these cautionary words that many a mother sends her little child off to sleep.

For the banshee is believed to be a dreadful creature that does harm to people and frequently kidnaps children.

In Ireland particularly, which is presumed to be the native habitat of the banshee, it is believed to be a spectre which warns of the approach of death.

The word itself is a corruption of the Gaelic "Beau sidhe," meaning woman-fairy.

(Copyright.)

SMILES

GABBY GERTIE



"Many a motor trip is just a bus ride."

Dear Editor:

WHEN I was a boy we read Diamond Dick in secret. It was reprehensible because the books were supposed in some mysterious way to upset our morals. What they probably did was to weaken our eyesight and ruin our digestion.

Those were the books wherein the hero went night and day without eating or sleeping or paying attention to routine physiological matters. It seemed heroic and smart to skip a meal.

Nowadays such a hero would be hygiene-minded. Here's a sample, perhaps. "Rudolph rose, stretched, slipped three glasses of water, brushed his teeth with a downward motion, and started his morning exercises. Fifteen minutes later he sat down to a heaping bowl of oatmeal with one spoonful of sugar."

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