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THE SOUTHERN COYOTE.

Habits of This Cunning Animal Described by President Roosevelt.

These southern coyotes or prairie wolves are only about one-third the size of the big gray timber wolves of the northern Rockies. They are too small to meddle with full grown horses and cattle, but pick up young calves and kill sheep as well as any small domesticated animal that they can get at. The big wolves flee from the neighborhood of anything like close settlements, but coyotes hang around the neighborhood of man much more persistently. They show a foxlike cunning in catching rabbits, prairie dogs, gophers and the like. After nightfall they are noisy, and their melancholy wailing and yelling are familiar sounds to all who pass over the plains. The young are brought forth in holes in cut banks or similar localities.

Within my own experience I have known of the finding of but two families. In one there was but a single family of five cubs and one old animal, undoubtedly the mother; in the other case there were ten or eleven cubs and two old females which had apparently shared the burrow or cave, though living in separate pockets. In neither case was any full grown male coyote found in the neighborhood. As regards these particular litters, the father seemingly had nothing to do with taking care of or supporting the family.

I am not able to say whether this was accidental or whether it is a rule that only the mother lives with and takes care of the litter. I have heard contrary statements about the matter from hunters who should know. Unfortunately I have learned from long experience that it is only exceptional hunters who can be trusted to give accurate descriptions of the habits of any beast save such as are connected with its chase.

Coyotes are sharp, wary, knowing creatures, and on most occasions take care to keep out of harm's way.—From "A Wolf Hunt in Oklahoma," by Theodore Roosevelt, in Scribner's Magazine.

WOMAN'S RIGHTS.

First Move in This Direction Made in Medford in 1701.

The first recorded public meeting in the interest of "woman's rights" was held in the town of Medford in 1701. The gallery of the church was occupied by the young unmarried people of the congregation, one side and one-half the front gallery being given to the young men, the other side and the other half being given to the young women. But in the seating in the eventual year the young men were given the entire front of the gallery as well, and the young women were allowed only one side of the gallery.

Then it was that things began to happen. Treatment like this wasn't to be tolerated, even for a moment. The blood of the future mothers of the revolution was fully aroused, and the young women made such an uproar and emanation that it speedily became a town matter, and a town meeting was called to resolve to their rights in half of the front gallery.

The young men of the day were bitterly opposed to extending any new privileges to women, and the fight extended beyond Medford. Shortly after the introduction of pews into the churches, by which families were separated from the remainder of the congregation, the selectmen of the town of Newbury gave permission to a group of young women to build a pew in the gallery of the church upon their own side of the house. This extension of privilege was resented by the young bachelors to such a degree that they broke a window of the church, forced an entrance and backed the pew in pieces. For this act of sacrilege the young men of Newbury were fined \$10 each and sentenced to be whipped or pilloried. But they were manly enough to confess their folly and ask pardon, so this part of their punishment was omitted. So you see the "woman's rights" movement isn't a modern one.—Boston Herald.

Vessels in Tow.

When at nighttime a steamer meets a vessel which is disabled or for some other reason cannot proceed she takes it in tow, and at the masthead two white lights are shown. This is a very necessary precaution, as a vessel passing her at right angles in the dark might easily run right into the boat which was being towed unless some indication of its presence there were given. If a steamer is proceeding alone, however, only one light is shown at the masthead.

Had No Peil.

Mr. Makinbrakes (to chance acquaintance when he has met at a swell party)—If you have any influence with Mrs. Upjohn I wish you would suggest to her that she announce dinner. I'm frightfully hungry. Chance Acquaintance—Me? I haven't any influence with Mrs. Upjohn. I'm Mr. Upjohn.—Chicago Tribune.

Changing Fashions.

Father (meditating on time's changes)—Ah, yes, the fashion of this world passeth away! Daughter—Indeed it does, papa. I shall want a new hat next week.

VENETIAN FOOTBALL.

How the Game Was Played in Venice Several Centuries Ago.

A book published at Venice in 1555 by Antonio Scaino relates methods of play in a real football that was actually called by the same name. The field was so large that no one, however strong, could quite throw a stone from one end to the other, and it was about half as wide. Twenty, thirty or forty persons could participate on a side, the number being regulated by the size of the available field. Goals were set up at either end. No one was permitted to strike the ball with the outstretched arm or with anything he might carry in his hand. Nevertheless he was permitted to "strike the ball with whatever part of his body that he pleased." If the ball came rolling toward him he was allowed to kick it, the inference being that if it were lying still he could not do so. The field was divided by a transverse line "into two equal parts, and in the middle lay the ball. The players were chosen, those who were going to make up the opposing parties, by means of colors, by which, in the struggle of the contest, each could recognize his own side. When the signal was given by the ring of the drum or the blast of a trumpet, a player rushed forward, one who had been chosen by lot to be the first to kick the ball with his foot. This action was understood to be the beginning of the contest, so that after it it was permitted to no one from either party to seize it, to strike it and to drive it as victor over the goal. It was perhaps from the method of beginning the game that it was called football.

These Italian games had their origin in the ancient pastimes of the Greeks and Romans, and in reality approach nearer to the modern idea of football than do the beginnings of the game in northern countries. Football is believed by some authorities to have been a portion of the worship of the Celtic sun god, one of the rites attendant on the celebrative ceremonies. Some also hold a strong belief that its original form was introduced into England by the Romans.—Dennie P. Meyers in Outlook Magazine.

A CALL TO THE WOODS.

Commune With Yourself Occasionally For Your Own Good.

Mr. Busy Man, leave your task some day; let the shop take care of itself, let the mill go as it may, let the plow stand in its furrow, and take yourself into the depths of the solemn, shadowy woods. Call back, ah, call back the forgotten years; collect around you the old friends, the old thoughts, the old ambitions, the mistakes you made, the faults you had, the wrongs you did or suffered, the opportunities wasted, the vain things you sought, the work that you might have done better, the kind words you might have spoken and did not, the good deeds you might have done and did not, the curses that should have been blessings, the tears that ought never to have been shed, the wounds that need never have been made.

Commune with yourself—your past, your present, your future, your crimes, your weaknesses, your doubts, your fears, your hopes, your despair—and thus let conscience and the angels of your better self beat your soul into the prayer:

"God be merciful to me, a sinner!"—Watson's Magazine.

A Queer Ceremony.

A queer ceremony is performed every year on the 8th day of September in the Valle Maggio, Italy. The region abounds in vipers. The celebrants form into a weird procession, each person—man, woman and child—carrying a large figure of a snake stuffed with cotton. As they pass along they weep and lament, believing that by the expiatory ceremony they will render themselves proof against snake bites during the grape gathering.

Joy.

Joy is a prize unbought and is freest, purest in its flow when it comes unsought. No getting into heaven, as a place, will compass it. You must carry it with you, else it is not there. You must have it in you, as the music of a well ordered soul, the fire of a holy purpose, the welling up out of the central depths of eternal springs that hide the waters there.—Horace Bushnell.

The Singers.

"You opera singers are all jealous, aren't you?" quizzed the friend of the prima donna.

"Oh, no," replied the prima donna, "lots of us never sang in church choirs."—Philadelphia Record.

A Case of Surprise.

"You here, James?" exclaimed the slum worker visiting the jail.

"Yes'm," replied the new prisoner, who was in for burglary.

"Well, well, I certainly am surprised."

"So was I, ma'am, or I wouldn't be here."—Philadelphia Press.

Her Style.

First Woman Suffragist—Did you cut the ticket or vote it straight? Second Woman Suffragist (absently)—Straight! I cut it on the bias.

CONDUCTING A BUSINESS.

Usually Trouble When Head of the Firm Takes It Easy.

Conducting a business is like rolling a huge boulder up a hill. The moment you cease to push it, the moment you take your shoulder from it and think you will rest and take it easy, the boulder begins to crowd back upon you, and if you are not careful it will either run over and crush you or get away from you altogether and go to the bottom with a crash. It is necessary to be everlastingly pushing, following up the boulder, keeping it going, in order to get it to the top of the hill.

One of the greatest dangers of early prosperity in any line is a tendency to relax effort. Many a man ceases to grow when his salary is raised or when he is advanced to a higher position. Many a business man, after he has built up a large business, ceases to exert himself, and the moment he pauses in his campaign of pushing and struggling, the moment he begins to relax in giving his close personal attention, his business ceases to advance, and fatal dry rot sets in—one of the worst diseases that can seize on any individual or concern.

The man who attempts to run a business, large or small, must keep his finger constantly on its pulse in order to detect any rise or fall of temperature, any irregularity or any jar in the machinery. When the head of a firm is trying to take it easy, there is usually trouble somewhere.—Orison Swett Marden in Success Magazine.

DRAMA IN 1765.

Plays Were Acted Under Great Difficulties at That Time.

Here is an account of the sacking of a theater in New York from the Gazette of May 3, 1765: "The play advertised to be acted last Monday evening having given offense to sundry and divers inhabitants of this city, who thought it highly improper that such entertainments should be exhibited at this time of public distress, when great numbers of poor people can scarce find means of subsistence, whereby many persons might be tempted to neglect their business and squander that money which is necessary to the payment of their debts and the support of their families, a rumor was spread about the town that if the play went on the audience would meet with some disturbance from the multitude.

"This prevented the greatest part of those who intended to have been there from going. However, many people came and the play was begun, but soon interrupted by the multitude, who burst open the doors and entered with noise and tumult. The audience escaped in the best manner they could. Many lost their hats and other articles of value. A boy had his skull fractured and was yesterday trampled. Death is his. Several others were sorely set upon and injured. But we heard of no lives lost. The multitude immediately demolished the house, carried the pieces to the common, where they consumed them in a bonfire."

Ingenuity of the Quail.

Quail leave the nest the moment they are hatched. They have been seen running through the grass with bits of shell clinging to them. They do not stay in the nest a moment longer than necessary to get their "land legs," but run away through the grass, followed by the mother, who watches over them until they are old enough to take care of themselves. When suddenly surprised by a man or dog, the mother will try to draw attention away from her brood by running along the ground with drooping wings, pretending to be wounded. The young quail flatten themselves out on the ground and remain motionless. When the mother has succeeded in enticing the object of her fear a sufficient distance from her young, she will suddenly rise and fly away with the swiftness of an arrow.

The Squirrel Fish.

On account of the peculiar barking noise which is characteristic of squirrels a certain odd looking member of the finny tribe is called a squirrel fish. One might expect such a fish to possess a gray color or to be supplied with a tail like that of the squirrel, but beyond the bark there is no other resemblance displayed in the namesake. In color the squirrel fish is a brilliant red, which makes it a conspicuous inhabitant of the sea as it darts here and there with quick, alert movements. The body of the squirrel fish shows a few stripes and is well covered with sharp spines.

Common Names.

All nations have their Smiths, Joneses and Robinsons. In France the name which is used to signify one of a very large number of men, as Smith is sometimes figuratively used with us, is Durand, the commonest name in the French directories. In Berlin and other cities of north Germany Herr Meyer is Mr. Smith. But in some parts of Germany the name of Schultze is the most common name.

She—Suppose I were to die, what would you do? He—I should be almost crazy. She—Would you marry again? He—Well, I would hardly be as crazy as that.—Judge

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