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A NARROW ESCAPE.

The arrest of a foreigner suspected of being a spy during the naval maneuvers off Milford Haven, England, reminds a correspondent of Smith's Weekly of the narrow escape of a friend of his, a retired officer of the German army, who made himself useful to his government by gathering information in and around Paris. He was walking in the neighborhood of fortifications, making mental notes of what he saw, when suddenly three policemen jumped out upon him, and asked him what he was doing there. He had a plausible answer ready, but their suspicions were roused by his accent and his soldierly bearing, and they insisted on his accompanying them to the police-station. Then the situation became serious, for he was carrying three compromising letters in his pocket. On their arrival at the station they found the inspector was out, and that they must wait for his return. The spy said he supposed he might smoke, and the policemen said, "Certainly." Then he offered each a cigar, took one himself, brought out one of the compromising letters from his pocket, slowly twisted it into a spill, lighted it at the fire in the most careless way imaginable, gave a light to each of the policemen, lighted his own cigar, and flung the rest of the letter into the fire.

There were still two letters to be got rid of, and the inspector was expected every instant. If he were caught it meant at least five years' penal servitude. He had never known such an anxious moment. He decided it would be quicker to let his cigar go out rather than smoke it through and light another. It seemed as if the cigar would not go out, and every instant he thought he heard footsteps outside.

At last he got rid of the second letter without exciting suspicion. Then he puffed away at his cigar with all possible speed, and had just lighted another when the inspector came in.

The spy was searched, and the search revealed nothing that compromised him, he was released with apologies. But had the inspector arrived a quarter of a minute sooner the German would have been undone.

LIONESS GOES BAD.

Animal Trainer Who Knew His Business. Drunk or sober, Sterrett knew things about animals that all my years of experience and study never taught me. It wasn't that he got on better with them than most, for his own lions hated him, which is unusual. But he had some method of interpreting their signs that was beyond me. When the Tiger Princess was going to give up one of her old performers because he was getting sulky and peevish, Sterrett looked over the troupe and said: "That one is all right, but the one over in the corner will bear watching."

"Why, the man talks like a fool," said the princess. "That's Zulka. She's the best actor I've got."

Sterrett laughed. "Train an undertudy," he advised. "I'll give Zulka three weeks to retire from the stage. She's going bad."

Zulka was a very beautiful young lioness; one of the best trick beasts I've ever known and one of the very few that seemed to have a genuine affection for the trainer. As a rule, the felines don't exhibit the softer emotions. They feel for man either indifference or distaste. But this lioness used to show signs of pleasure when her mistress entered the cage, and I've seen her put her muzzle up against the bars to fawn on the queen. Two weeks after Sterrett's advice, to which we paid little heed, it was when I knew less about him than I subsequently learned I saw the lioness caressing the woman at the close of the performance. As the Tiger Princess entered the cage the next day there was a snarl and a scream, and she was down. Zulka had her. Fortunately, some of us were near. We beat the animal off—of course the eyes of the other beasts had to pitch on, seeing their tyrant down—and got the woman out with no worse injury than a broken arm and a badly clawed back—McClure's.

Never Was a Wild Animal. Of all domesticated animals the sheep has from time immemorial been most closely associated with mankind. An erudite author sixty years ago, having laboriously collated an assortment of allusions to sheep made by sacred and profane writers, concluded that "the history of these animals is so interwoven with the history of man that they never existed in a wild state at all."

"Biblical history from the time of Abel is full of allusions to the flocks which formed the chief possessions of the Jewish people and their neighbors. The spoils of war and the tribute of vassal kings largely consisted of sheep. Thus we read that Mesha, king of Moab, was a sheep master, and rendered unto the king of Israel an hundred thousand lambs and an hundred thousand rams with the wool. Moses after his victory over the Midianites obtained as loot no less than 675,000 sheep and long before the Christian era sheep were cultivated in western Europe.

Spain and Italy possessed them from an unknown period, although long after Rome was founded the inhabitants had not learned to shear the fleece, and, until the time of Pliny, the practice of plucking it from the skin was not wholly abandoned, so that the humble shepherds of Syria preceded, in their knowledge of necessary arts, the future conquerors of their country.—Outing.

Its Appointed Work. Does the sun undertake to do the work of the rain, or Aesculapius the work of the Fruit-bearer (the earth)? And how is it with respect to each of the stars, are they not different, and yet they work together to the same end?—Theophrastus of the Emperor Marcus Aurelius. The first Mormon temple ever erected in Europe has been completed in Stockholm.

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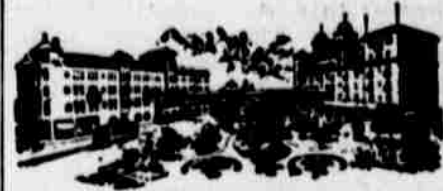
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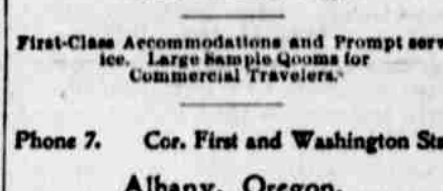
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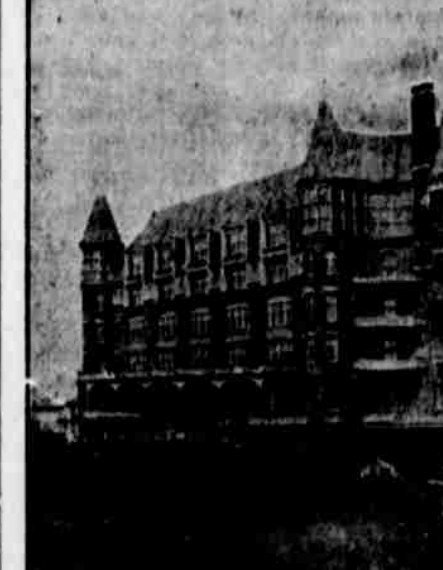
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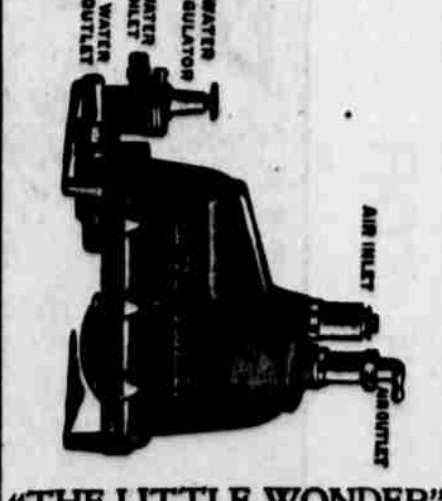
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