

Alaska Porcupine Owl Has a Foghorn Voice

Lore concerning the porcupine owl, which, as the tale runs, finds its way in fog by sound and, as it travels the frozen water courses of the far North, makes unseasonable noises like those of a steamboat, has been brought to the states by J. P. Chisholm, a trapper from the upper Koyukuk valley, Alaska, and printed in the Philadelphia North American.

"Unlike the owls of temperate climates," said Mr. Chisholm, "the porcupine owl can see only in daytime. He would be just as bad off if he could see only in the dark, because where he lives the day and the night are each six months long.

"To overcome his blindness the porcupine owl has received from nature a vibrant and resonant voice. At a distance it sounds like the whistle of a boat, and many a newcomer in Alaska has rushed to the river looking for a steamer when the boats were frozen fast for the winter.

"The porcupine owl uses his voice as a mariner uses a siren in a fog. He hoots and then listens intently. If there is an obstruction, he gets the echo. A man or a beast carries an echo to the ear of the porcupine owl.

"This owl gets his name from a set of quills that weights him down so that he cannot fly. With these quills he can fight a man or a fierce animal in the dark. In such combats he often repels his foe."

Remedy Finally Found for Sleeping Sickness

Sleeping sickness of Africa is not the same as that known in this country. It is caused usually by the bite of the tsetse fly, which spreads the trypanosomes, as the irritant germs that cause the disease are called. The problem was to find some drug which would kill these trypanosomes in the blood in all parts of the body, and which would, at the same time, not harm the body, an exceedingly difficult and delicate matter. Dr. Wartel Jacobs and Dr. Michael Heidelberger of the Rockefeller Institute undertook this task. They took arsenic compounds and experimented with them, failing time and again to gain the desired effect, but noting the results carefully and altering the compound 68 times, they finally succeeded. That is why the drug trypanamide, used with such success against the sleeping sickness and paresis, is known as A68, the sixty-third arsenic compound. The first experiments were conducted on animals, and when trypanamide had proved its value, Dr. Louise Pearce went to Africa and experimented with it on the natives.

Clock Also Savings Bank

An American savings bank is making a present of a clock to every depositor who opens an account with it. It is a timepiece of a peculiar kind and is really a combination of a clock and a safe. It is alleged to keep excellent time for 24 hours, according to the Manchester Guardian.

Rewinding is then necessary, but before it can be rewound a nickel, dime or quarter must be inserted in it. The owner is thus compelled to add something to his savings every day, so that, in fact, saving becomes a daily habit.

The clock is advertised as "the watchdog of its owner's future," enabling persons to save who never before found it possible and enabling them to save "in an easy, sure and enjoyable manner."

No Longer a Man

A very pompous farmer was made a justice of the peace, and was so impressed with the tremendous dignity of his position that the village where he lived was much too small to contain him.

As he was swaggering along the road with his very important nose in the air, he walked into a barrow belonging to an old woman.

"Be careful where you're going, man!" she cried.

"Woman," replied the indignant farmer, "I am no longer a man; I am a magistrate!"

Boston No Joke Now

On being offered a Boston joke the editor of a humorous weekly proceeded to take the alleged humorist to task in no uncertain manner.

"I don't see any point to these whams about the highbrow proclivities of Boston," declared the editor. "They're out of date, to say the least. Boston has won her share of pennants and was once the home of John L. Sullivan."

Real Titian Discovered

An authentic Titian, owned for many years by an artist who never suspected its worth, has been sold to a Los Angeles art collector for \$100,000. The artist who sold it bought it at an auction in Florence, Italy, while he was studying art there in his youth. He paid the equivalent of \$150 in American money for the masterpiece.

Ants Destroy Light Poles

Utilizers of electric-light poles in California find it necessary, in many instances, to impregnate the entire pole with creosote to prevent serious damage by termites to the tops and cross arms.

Woman Conducts Orchestra

Probably the only woman conductor of a symphony orchestra in America is Madame Davenport Engberg, who directs the Civic Symphony orchestra of Seattle, of which she also was the founder.

Westerners Are Ugly in Eyes of Japanese

It has happened more than once that a Japanese baby has howled and shrieked in terror at the sight of a beautiful, fair-haired, blue-eyed girl.

This may strike you as comic or tragic, but it is a fact. Japanese standards of feminine beauty are different from ours.

A Japanese beauty must have straight, black hair. Should she have the misfortune to possess hair with the slightest tendency to wave, she will take endless trouble to straighten it out—as much trouble, in fact, as an American girl would take to produce the opposite effect.

Her face should be narrow and long; her forehead high and narrow at the middle, but wider and lower at the sides, so that it corresponds as nearly as possible to the outline of Fuji, the mountain beloved by Japanese artists.

Her eyes, of course, must be long and narrow, slanting upward at the corners; the eyebrows mere shadows, and high above the eyes; her complexion ivory-white with little or no color.

The Japanese girl carries her head and shoulders slightly forward, and inclines her body forward from the waist. She walks with short, quick steps, her toes turned in and her feet hardly lifted from the ground. To walk otherwise would be immodest!—Philadelphia Inquirer.

Heart Is Injured by America's Swift Pace

More deaths occur today in America from various diseases of the heart than from any other cause, says the New York Times. A few years ago tuberculosis headed the list, but while the number of deaths from this cause have been reduced, those from heart trouble of various kinds have increased.

The decrease in the ravages of tuberculosis is explained by the great educational campaigns carried on throughout the country for combating the evil and to improved sanitary conditions.

The increase in heart troubles is attributed largely to the increasing pace of modern life in America. A decade ago the death rate from tuberculosis was 159.2 per 100,000. At that time the death rate from heart troubles was 140.9. A recent survey showed that while the rate for tuberculosis has been reduced to 114.2, that for heart disease has jumped to 141.9.

The highest fatality from heart disease has been found in Vermont, New Hampshire and Massachusetts in the order named. The lowest death rate is reported in Montana, Mississippi, Tennessee, Kentucky and Nebraska. It is increasing in New York.

Familiar Signal Missing

At a horse race in Dublin one of the animals proved refractory and, despite all efforts, his rider could not get him into the line. The patience of the starter became exhausted as he shouted for the tenth time: "Bring up that horse! Bring him up!"

"I can't, sir," yelled back the rider of the stubborn equine. "This here's been a cab horse; he won't budge till he hears the door shut, an' I ain't got no door."—Boston Transcript.

Indian Tribe Believed Men Changed to Brutes

The Santa Barbara Channel Indians, before the influences of white civilization came among them, believed just the opposite of the modern theory of evolution, according to J. P. Harrington of the Museum of the American Indian, says the Santa Barbara (Cal.) correspondent of the New York Post.

These Indians, said Harrington, thought that all the animals once had been people and had attained their various forms by a slow process of evolution. There had been a time, according to the lore, when people were the only form of life. Gradually the "first people" came to resemble certain animals, into which they eventually turned.

The ancestor of the owl was said to have been an ordinary-looking Indian, but rather fat and hairy and with a habit of inserting the syllables "muhu" between his words. The bullsnake had been an excessively thin Indian, with shifty eyes, a fleet runner. The coyote, the most popular animal, was declared still to resemble an Indian man, though it was admitted, his hands had become paws, his nose projected rather far, his lips were black and he had grown a tail.

The medicine men used to say the coyote still had human speech, though he uttered little yelps between his words. This creature was credited with magic powers.

Clock Made Wholly of Glass Except Springs

A Bohemian glass pollisher has performed a wonderful feat in the glass industry. He constructed a clock, which, with the exception of the springs, is made entirely of glass.

The glass plates and pillars of this extraordinary timepiece are bolted together with glass screws. The dial plate hands, shafts and cog wheels are all glass, and glass wedges and pins are used for fastening the various parts of the running gear.

All parts are ground to the average proportions of the metal parts of other clocks of the same size. The teeth of the cog wheels are cut with minute exactness, only the balance wheel being heavier and thicker than it is in an ordinary clock. The key with which the clock is wound is also of glass. Many of the parts had to be made over and over again before a clock that would go and keep time was produced.—The Pathfinder.

"Pop" Not Important

"Many people," says a Scottish registrar, "seem to think that popping the question is the important event in every courtship. As a matter of fact, in many courtships proposals are never formally made at all.

"I have put the question to many couples to satisfy my own curiosity, and have been informed that no such thing was done—that they had just drifted into an engagement.

"I believe that if some country girls had to wait until their sweethearts made a formal declaration of marriage they would never get married at all."—Edinburgh Scotsman.

We're Boosting

Aurora Borealis Theory

Protracted researches into the nature of the Aurora Borealis, known as the "Northern Lights," lead Professor Vegard of Christiania university to believe that its essential character is nitrogen, and say that the green line which is the chief feature of it consists of small particles of frozen nitrogen in the highest part of the atmosphere. This line appears when frozen nitrogen is exposed to electric rays.

Presbyterian Church

On Sunday last Children's Day was celebrated and a lasting impression was left on the many who participated and the many who attended the interesting program given.

On Sunday evening next the subject of the sermon will be "Fables."

The Bible class, studying the Book of Daniel, was brought to a conclusion on Tuesday evening last. A social repast followed and many thoroughly enjoyed the good things provided.

Sunday School at 10 a. m.

Singer-Taufest

A wedding of much interest to their many friends was that of Miss Mabel Taufest and Paul Singer which took place on Sunday at the home of the bride's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Taufest. The ceremony was performed by Rev. Boyd Moore of the Canby Methodist church.

The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Taufest of Fargo. The groom is the only son of Mr. and Mrs. John Singer of Donald. Those present were: Mr. and Mrs. Henry Taufest, Mr. and Mrs. John Singer, Hazel and Edith Taufest, Ralph, Alvin and Russell Taufest and John Kister.

After a short wedding trip Mr. and Mrs. Singer will be at home on the Singer farm north of Donald.

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The Ten-Millionth Ford

The 10,000,000th Ford car left the Highland Park factories of the Ford Motor Company June 4. This is a production achievement unapproached in automotive history. Tremendous volume has been the outgrowth of dependable, convenient, economical service.

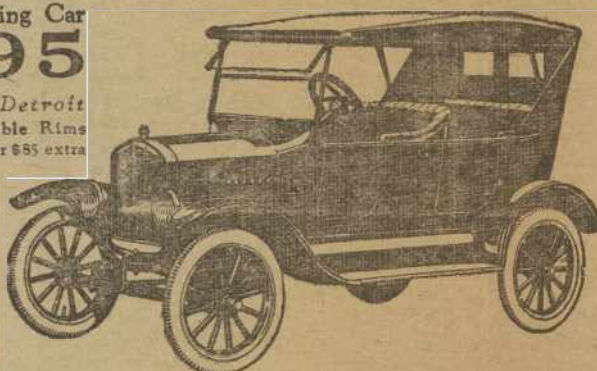
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