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Beaverton, Oregon

Can Scientific Breeding Produce Men of Genius?

Human geniuses must be bred as race horses by combining "carefully selected pedigree stock," the president of the Eugenics Research association said at a meeting of the organization in New York. Whether that is true of the future or not no one knows. It has not been true in the past. Physical development may be so influenced, and morons may be the descendants of morons. But genius and leadership appears in so many unexpected places and persons that we are unable to draw any diagram or arrange a plan whereby we can plot their creation. One genius may come out of a family which produces others of no account. Yet the brilliant intellect and the lazy nit-wit possessed the same parents.

Eugenists may prove that certain families over several generations have produced only mental defectives, while other families have given society a high grade of superior intelligence. But there are often exceptions to uphold or break the rule.

But genius is hard to trace. We do not know why one man becomes a great leader or a wonderful engineer, or education, or what? That man must continue to advance through evolution and better breeding is undoubtedly true, but that we can create a genius by planning is yet to be proven. No age has seen so many geniuses as the present, and eugenics had nothing whatever to do with the manufacture of this wealth of brains.—Miami Herald.

Nigerian Women Hold and Exercise Powers

In Yorubaland, Nigeria, women wield great power, having a very perfect franchise. In every village, additional to the head chief and his council, is the head woman, or iyalode, who also has her council of titled women. In her hands lies the responsibility for issuing the native administration orders to the women.

The potters, who are all women, have a guild, and it is their prerogative to be buried in their pottery.

The religions of this essentially happy people consist to a degree of ancestor worship, although they are primarily nature worshippers, revering a supreme Creator, accessible through such subordinate gods as those of thunder, of lightning, or iron, and agriculture.

Worth Remembering

There are loyal hearts, there are spirits brave, there are souls that are pure and true. Then give to the world the best you have and the best will come back to you; give love, and love to your heart will flow; a strength in your uttermost need, have faith and a score of hearts will show their faith in your word and deed; give truth and your gift shall be paid in kind, and honor will honor meet; and a smile that is sweet will surely find a smile that is just as sweet; for life is a mirror of king and slave, 'tis just what we are and do, so give to the world the best you have and the best will come back to you.—Author Not Known.

Europe's Longest River

The word Volga is the name of the longest river in Europe. It rises on the Valdai Plateau, south of Leningrad, former capital of Russia, and it flows in a southeasterly direction and then south across Russia, and empties into the northern part of the Caspian sea at Astrakhan. Its total length is 2,310 miles, and it drains an area of 585,000 square miles. It possesses only a slight and gradual fall, and this is excellently adapted for navigation. In spring floods the waters at certain parts are from ten to thirteen miles across. The river is ice-free from 193 to 200 days each year.

Scottish Kilt

The kilt is part of the characteristic and ancient dress of the natives of the highlands of Scotland. The word means that which is girded or tucked up. It is of Scandinavian origin. The Danish word kilt, in use today, means to tuck up. The kilt of the highlander is short but has a very full skirt, belted in at the waist, and reaching to about the knees. The early kilt was not a separate garment, but merely the lower part of the plaid in which the Highlander wrapped himself, hanging down in folds below the belt.

Letter Oddly Addressed

Every post office employee has experienced troubles with performing the work of delivering letters owing to the obscure or insufficient directions inscribed upon missives passing through their hands. The postmaster of Southampton, England, was confronted with this one recently: "To the Chemical Cleaners who are Dyeing an Overcoat for Arthur Lewis. Near the bridge same street as the Market is in, near top of St. James Road, Southport." The letter was delivered.

Rabbit Was Traveler

The driver of a motor car in Switzerland tells the story of the astonishing speed and long-sustained effort which a rabbit is capable of. He happened to start one, which on its flight kept to the road. In order to keep up with the rabbit, the man had to speed up to 34 miles an hour, and the sturdy little creature held out for over a league before it finally jumped into a ditch by the roadside.

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