

CATS ARE DISEASE CARRIERS

DEADLY GERMS ARE SPREAD BY MEANS OF TABBIES

Household Pets Said by Scientists to Be Prolific Cause of Dissemination of Infection

WHAT A GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL THINKS OF TABBY

"Cats are known to carry in their fur the germs of such dreaded diseases as tuberculosis, smallpox, scarlet fever and diphtheria. They communicate diseases to children. They are as susceptible to hydrophobia as dogs. Cats spread ringworms. They kill between three and four million game and song birds in New York state alone each year. Only about five per cent of them are mousers."

DR. A. K. FISHER, Biological Survey, U. S. Department of Agriculture.

WASHINGTON, D. C., August 4.—Peaceful tabby, purring upon the hearth, petted and pampered by the whole family, is now declared by a government scientist to be an agent of the most deadly germs, spreading disease and death among those who fondle her.

Investigation has proven that in a cat's sleek fur, upon which the baby delights to rub its cheek, lurk the germs of tuberculosis, of smallpox, and that deadly disease of babies and children, diphtheria.

The cat is a roaming animal. Even the most carefully watched house pet will sink out at night, and it is then that they come in contact with infected dirty cats which live perhaps in squalid shanties among disease-stricken people. Its long fur affords a natural breeding place for the germs.

"The cat returns to its home thoroughly innoculated. The mother smiles as the baby tumbles about on the floor with tabby. When the child is stricken every disease-breeding source is considered except the family cat," says Dr. A. K. Fisher.

It is a noted fact that people who would not touch a dog think nothing of fondling and kissing cats. Felines are particularly fond of jumping upon the beds of their masters and cuddling close to them. Babies are allowed to play freely with cats.

Practically the only thing feared from a dog is hydrophobia. To this terrible disease, says Dr. Fisher, cats are as susceptible as dogs, though they do not bite people as often, yet cases of hydrophobia from cat bites are not infrequent.

The biological survey is now working on plans to have laws passed in the District of Columbia as a guidance for all the states to license cats. The danger in the house cat, living in a clean home, comes mainly through its contact with alley cats. Licensing would permit the killing of stray cats.

Data is now being gathered by the survey upon the subject of disease infection by cats. Dr. Fisher hopes soon to publish a bulletin citing specific instances.

Two cases are given by a prominent French scientist, H. Bergeon, of cats which were infected with tubercular germs through contact with persons afflicted with the disease. In both instances the cats were owned in families where young girls died from the malady. The death of the cats occurred shortly afterward. The doctors had noticed the fondness of the girls for the cats. A post mortem examination of the cats was accordingly made, with the results that in both instances unmistakable traces of tubercular infection were found.

The next charge brought against the cat by Dr. Fisher is that it spreads ringworms, a very painful and sometimes dangerous disease. Rats and mice are peculiarly susceptible to this disease, and it is transmitted from them to cats. The presence of the disease on cats hidden by their fur is not uncommon. It was through the frequent appearance of ringworms on the hands of babies that the germ theory was first pursued against the cat.

Cats are considered the natural enemies of rats and mice. They are kept often simply to kill these pests. Dr. Fisher claims that not 5 per cent of cats are mousers, and that instead they kill game and song birds.

"As a matter of fact," said Dr. Fisher, "cats prefer birds to mice. They will spend twice as much time hunting birds as mice. If one keeps count of a cat's quarry during the year he will find that the birds killed far outnumber the mice."

"Recently there has been much attention paid to rats and the harm

they do, both as destroyers and as spreaders of disease. In this connection it has been pointed out what a valuable animal the cat is to keep down the rats. That is an error. I can state from my own personal observation that only about 5 per cent of the cats are mousers.

Little harm would be done if the whole cat tribe were exterminated, but there would be too much opposition to that. Still we think that when many of the facts concerning cats have been made public mothers will be more careful in letting their children play with them."

MANY MERRILL PEOPLE AWAY ON VACATIONS

News Items Concerning the Residents in That Thriving Community

(From the Merrill Record)

Miss Helen Heaton, a school teacher of Hay Springs, Neb., is visiting her former classmate, Mrs. Joe Dewey of this place.

Mrs. Taylor and family, Sam Fleece and Martin Ownsby composed a camping party that left for the berry patch Monday.

Dr. and Mrs. Demorest are in Fort Klamath on a pleasure and professional stay. They will be absent about a month.

Guy Merrill and family and Chas. Wilson left Tuesday for Diamond lake, north of Crater lake, where they will hunt and fish.

There will be no preaching services in the Presbyterian church during the month of August. Rev. Anderson, the pastor, will enjoy a well-earned rest.

Mrs. Alex Patterson's mother, who came here about three weeks ago, is reported to be critically ill at her daughter's home in the east end of town.

Rev. Anderson, Prof. Roberts, Jess Kidwell and Clifford Harter are in a camping party on the way to Crater lake for a week's outing. They left Tuesday.

W. C. Dalton and family, Bob Dalton and wife, Mr. Means and daughter of California and Mrs. W. C. Dalton's mother, Mrs. Little, left this morning for Crater lake on a ten days' trip.

Shriner & Bond passed through the lava beds one day this week with 8,700 head of sheep, which they will ship from Mt. Hebron. They brought the band from Lake county.

P. R. Merrill leaves Sunday on his vacation. He goes to Willows, Calif., where he will join Mrs. Merrill, who has been visiting with relatives in that place for several weeks.

A. F. Clabine says he lost about \$1,500 in the burning down of his saloon in Fairview. The report that a woman was seen leaving the place about the time the fire occurred is denied by Mr. Clabine.

Camping parties are beginning to leave for the mountains. One outfit which left here Monday consisted of Mrs. Cann, Clay Cann, Bert Irvine and son and Fred Orchard, bound for Crater lake on a bear hunting expedition.

Ray Merrill is giving the boys a clinching argument that he is an exceptionally bright business man and understands the proper way to tackle the buzz wagon game. Ray was out yesterday practising on another man's machine.

A forest fire has been raging in the country northeast from Egg lake to Timbered mountain. S. P. Hammond, who reported it while in from the Dry Lake country, says it started right after the recent electric storm, and is supposed to have been the result of a lightning bolt.

MACHINERY BREAKS IN LONG LAKE MILL

Accident to Log Hoist Causes Lay-Off for Part of the Day at Shipplington Institution

Some of the cogs in the log hoist at the Long Lake mill at Shipplington broke Friday, and as a result the mill was closed down for a part of the day. A break in the planer at the Great Northern box factory also necessitated the shutting down of that institution for a while yesterday. They are both running again today, however.

CALIFORNIA TOWN IS DESTROYED BY FIRE

MILPITAS, Calif., August 4.—Fire last night almost wiped this town off the map. Only a few buildings are left standing. The hotel and all of the principal business buildings were burned. Damage about \$250,000. The citizens are already conferring over plans for rebuilding.

OUTGROWTH OF THE PRICE CASE

IS CHARGED WITH FALSIFYING A PUBLIC RECORD

Accused Official Is Held for Trial Under \$2,500 Bonds—History of the Case

As a result of the investigation by the grand jury into the manner in which George L. Price was turned over to the San Francisco officers and the events leading up to that climax, Justice of the Peace A. D. Miller Saturday stands indicted under the charge of falsifying a public record. The record that he is accused of falsifying is his docket in the case. The indictment was returned late Friday afternoon and Mr. Miller was arrested on a bench warrant issued out of the circuit court. He was released on \$2,500 bonds.

The history of the arrest of George L. Price on the demand of the officers of San Francisco, Calif., is still fresh in the memory of the people of this city. As soon as Mr. Price was arrested he began a fight to gain his liberty. It was the conduct of the district attorney, D. V. Kuykendall, Justice of the Peace A. D. Miller, Sheriff W. B. Barnes and the two police officers, Chief Townsend and Sam Walker, that was the subject of the investigation of the grand jury during the past week, and as a result of which the indictment was returned against Mr. Miller. Last Thursday E. J. Evans appeared before the grand jury and asked that an investigation be made of the case. After that matter had proceeded under the direction of District Attorney Kuykendall for two days, affidavits were presented to Judge Noland asking that the court appoint a special prosecutor to act in the place of Mr. Kuykendall, as part of the matter to be investigated was the district attorney's connection with the subject then being considered by the grand jury. Judge Noland appointed E. L. Elliott as special prosecutor.

For four days witnesses were examined, and every phase of the case was looked into. The returning of the indictment against Mr. Miller is the result.

Under the statute governing the matter with which Mr. Miller is charged the penalty is a heavy one. It provides for a penitentiary sentence of not less than two nor more than twenty years.

The trial of this case will undoubtedly be one of the most noted in the judicial annals of the county. That Mr. Miller will make a determined fight is certain, and he will no doubt be represented by an array of the leading counsel of this bar. Who will conduct the prosecution is problematical. Attorney Elliott feels that his duty has been fulfilled, and he may not longer remain in the case. District Attorney Kuykendall would hardly care to stultify himself by acting in the capacity of district attorney, as the indictment of Mr. Miller is the outgrowth of an investigation in which he was one of the leading figures.

GIANT NEGRO SEEKS FIGHT WITH JOHNSON

McCOMB CITY, Miss., August 6.—A McComb City negro, a giant in build, named William Harris, who stands six feet nine inches, weighs 350 pounds and measures seven feet from finger tip to finger tip, has sent a challenge to Jack Johnson in Chicago to meet him in the prize ring at any time or place, to contest for the world's championship. He has also wired Jim Corbett to arrange to do his training.

This big negro is 28 years of age, physically perfect and docile, and was never in trouble in this community. He is well liked by the white people of McComb City, practically every one of whom would assist him in his ambition to defeat the Galveston brawler.

BALLINGER WILL FIGHT TO THE LIMIT

He Will Not See Party Phase of the Resignation Proposition, Says Friend

WASHINGTON, D. C., August 6.—Secretary Ballinger does not intend to become "anybody's goat," said an intimate friend of the secretary of the interior today. It is certain he will fight to the limit "the politicians'" efforts to force him out of office, according to the same authority.

"I have known Secretary Ballinger intimately for a long time," he continued, "and I know that when it comes to such a proposition as Senator Crane is alleged to have put up to Ballinger, Ballinger will not see the party phase of it, and will not see why he should be sacrificed for the sake of some one else."

John P. Irish Jr. had business here Saturday.

WAS OUT ONLY A FEW MINUTES

RETURNS A VERDICT IN THE LIQUOR CASE

Charles Reid and C. P. Schirmeister Acquitted This Morning—Charge Against Ballis Dismissed

The jury in the case of the State vs. Charles Reid and C. P. Schirmeister, who were charged with violating the local option law by selling intoxicating liquors, returned a verdict of "not guilty" in the circuit court Saturday morning.

Reid, Schirmeister and T. A. Ballis were charged jointly with the violation of the law but the case against Ballis was dismissed on the grounds that there was no evidence to show that he was a proprietor of the place where the liquor was alleged to have been sold.

A jury consisting of I. S. Davis, E. W. Wilkerson, Wm. L. Welch, Al Melhase, J. C. Ferguson, M. L. Allison, Fred McKendree, Frank Downing, Carl Deal, P. C. Ripley, W. T. Smith and H. J. Winters was empaneled and the evidence was submitted.

C. W. Demorest, a detective retained by the Anti-Saloon league, was the first witness. He was with W. A. Lank when the latter purchased a bottle of beer for 35 cents. W. E. Faught, O. A. Stearns and Mrs. Geo. Bean were also examined as witnesses. Faught was the one who made an analysis of the contents of the bottle purchased, and Mrs. Bean was introduced to testify as to what she knew of the lease, which had been made on the building which Ballis & Reid, occupied, and in which the liquor was alleged to have been purchased.

The alleged purchase of the liquor was said to have been made on the 28th of March, but Ballis did not purchase an interest in the place until the 31st of that month, and the charge against him was dismissed.

The case against Reid and Schirmeister was given to the jury about 10 o'clock, and they were out only about ten minutes. They took one ballot on each man, and the verdict in each case was "not guilty."

H. M. Manning was the attorney for the defendants.

This case has probably cost the county over \$500.

JAPAN WILL BUILD MORE BIG SHIPS

\$10,000,000 a Year in Extending the Navy Is the Plan Finally Agreed Upon

VICTORIA, B.C., August 6.—Japan has decided upon a naval expansion policy, according to Japanese newspapers received today. They report that negotiations between the Ministers of the navy and finance have been concluded, but the principle of large ships and heavy guns is to be adhered to. The policy decided on is that the expansion shall be carried out as soon as practicable on the lines of the minimum scheme formulated by the naval authorities, finances to be obtained from surplus revenue. To avoid the outflow of specie, building is to be confined to Japanese yards, and no alteration is to be made in previous programs. Ten million dollars a year will be added to naval expenditures.

MOUNTAINS OF COTTON SALES IN NEW YORK

No Port in the World Has Ever Had Such Quantities Awaiting Shipment

NEW YORK, August 6.—With 215,293 bales of cotton in warehouses and on the piers, all of which must be moved with the greatest possible dispatch, New York is today the largest cotton port in the world. Brokers who say that cotton is not being sold on speculation and that they are more occupied these days in signing bills of lading than in stock accounts, declare that such a situation has never existed here before, and that no port

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WINTERS

For Wedding Presents

in the world ever had so much cotton "on the move."

In South Brooklyn the bales can be seen piled mountain high. At a single terminal there are 110,000 bales. The supply now on hand is made up largely of July and August cotton, though it is said that "May staple is also in evidence to some extent."

The Prince Friedrich Wilhelm of the North German Lloyd line will leave tomorrow with 2,127 bales in her hold. The Caroline of the French line will take 5,571 bales on Saturday. Other steamships have been booked by cotton men for space throughout this month. On the other side those operators who are short on the market are engaging freight for 120,000 bales, and this means that the fight between those who now hold the cotton and those who have to deliver it is not ended.

KNEW HE COULD SMELL THOSE WOODEN HAMS

EAST ORANGE, N. J., August 3.—Max Rose had a butcher shop here. Max went away, leaving in the deserted shop a number of canvassed hams swinging in the window as an advertisement.

John Smith, a druggist, after a few days, complained to the health board that the hams were emitting an odor that was not only offensive, but dangerous. A number of neighbors joined in the complaint.

The authorities burst in the door of the shop, and, with clothpins on their noses, seized the hams and ripped off the canvas covering. The hams were basswood.

F. A. Gentry of The Dalles went to Odessa Sunday to oversee the Oregon Trunk work that is being done in that part of the county.

DEMANDS EQUAL FREIGHT TARIFF

COMPLAINT FILED WITH INTERSTATE COMMISSION

Rogue River Asserts It Is Charged Double What Portland and Sacramento Pays

SAN FRANCISCO, July 4.—Representatives of Medford, Ore., have filed a complaint with the Interstate Commerce commission demand that that city be granted equal freight rates over the Southern Pacific railroad. It is asserted in the complaint that the Southern Pacific makes rates on shipments between Sacramento and Portland at about one-half that charged on consignments to Medford. The rates involved affects all shipments to points in Central Oregon.

The filing of this complaint with the Interstate Commerce commission is the outcome of an agitation that has been more or less prominent along the main line of the Southern Pacific for some time. It is alleged by shippers at Ashland, Medford, Roseburg, Grants Pass and other points that the difference in the rates charged for freight to those points has been exorbitant, as compared with the rates charged on shipments from San Francisco, Sacramento and Portland. If Medford's effort meets with success it will benefit all of the interior towns, and this city is vitally interested in the outcome of the matter.

G. Heitkemper Jr. and family left for Crater lake Saturday, where they will spend a week or more.

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