

A TEAM OF ANTELOPES.

A New York Sportsman Has a Unique Driving Team in Training—Will Lower Records.

A New York sportsman is at present training a pair of antelopes in trotting harness, which he expects will considerably lower the world's best trotting record. The antelope has never before been considered seriously as a racing machine, but those familiar with them believe that they can be controlled by careful training as well as a horse, and capable of wonderful bursts of speed. The owner of the first team of racing antelopes is Donald Burns, who is famous as an animal trainer of wide experience. Mr. Burns is at present training his trained antelopes on a track near his home at Babylon, Long Island, and expects to have them in condition to take part in regular track racing events some time this fall. When Mr. Burns was seen last week by a representative of the Sunday Philadelphia Times he expressed himself as confident that his strange racers would better the world's trotting record of 2:33 by from four to six seconds.

It has been found in training this pair of antelopes that their peculiar nervousness or wildness gives them an immense amount of life or spirit on the race course. The average antelope, if its training be commenced early enough, can be brought to mind the whip and rein when about 2 years old and their racing life after that is about the same as that of a horse. They run very low, as the expression goes, the body falling several inches when they move at their best speed, and their long thin legs move with great regularity and evenness.

Their stride is somewhat different from that of a trotting horse, the step being slightly longer, but it is sufficiently like to allow them to enter a regular trotting race. Another peculiarity of antelopes is that they can travel at their best pace for natural wild state they can not sustain one of their sprints for more than a half to three-quarters of a mile and it is only by careful training that they can be made to cover a mile.

This is due to the fact that they are naturally very short-lived and their muscles are too slight to withstand any long exertion. Their speediness is due to the fact that they weigh from 200 to 500 pounds less than a horse, while their legs, with comparatively the same reach of stride, are lighter and more nimble.

Mr. Burns has found that the best results are obtained by commencing the training of an antelope just before it is a year old. Antelopes have not been born in captivity as yet, so that the sportsman must first catch them in their mountain haunts. They are still to be found in many of the western states, as well as the wild mountain regions in many parts of the world. In order to catch them without inflicting the slightest injury they must be lassoed, and great care must be exercised to prevent any injury to their very delicate legs, which are very easily sprained or dislocated. Once captured they are, however, easy to manage.

The first step in training an antelope to trotting harness is to break it to the use of the halter. Their wildness is not so much due to viciousness as to nervousness, so that it is a great mistake to force them into harness. Mr. Burns first breaks his antelopes by placing a rope about their necks and holding them about. After a few weeks of this they become very docile. The next step was to accustom them to the regular harness. They resisted any harness, and the first attempt to accustom them to it found them very skittish and unmanageable.

A fractious antelope behaves very differently from a horse, but is none the less difficult to control. An antelope does not buck or rear like a horse, though it has plenty of trouble-

some tricks of its own. Perhaps the most dangerous of these is its habit of jumping or springing, which it does with much more agility than any horse. It will launch itself through the air a distance of 10 or 12 feet without any warning, and instantly come again to a dead stop. In its wild state the antelope frequently kills snakes by jumping upon them and landing with all four feet gathered close together. It can be taught what to do with a snake, but it would work to a carriage and harness.

The next step in training trotting antelopes at Babylon was to accustom them to the shafts. The antelopes were first hitched separately to a pair of long poles on either side and led about by a halter. Both of Mr. Burns' antelopes succeeded in breaking several sets of these poles harnessed in this way. The poles, of course, accustomed the animal to the use of the shafts.

It was necessary to use very stout poles for the purpose, because the snake-killing jumps of the antelopes would soon splinter ordinary shafts. The groom, who was conducting these experiments, led the antelopes, by a very long halter in order to keep out of the way of these long flying poles. It required some eighteen months of continuous training to accustom Mr. Burns' antelopes to an ordinary racing sulky. At the end of this time, however, they were almost entirely broken to harness and the subsequent training has been aimed more particularly to develop their wind and endurance.

The slight of a pair of antelopes with their slender bodies and long horns trotting peacefully about the country has naturally attracted a great deal of attention. The residents of Babylon, Long Island, have decided that this curious freak of nature is merely the freak of some rich man, and the fact that they are actually training to beat a world's record will, much to the surprise of the sportsman, be kept secret.

Mr. Burns consented to talk very freely of his project, only declining to give the records his trotters have made in training on the track. He said he was entirely satisfied with the showing they have made thus far. "It seems to me that the trotting antelope is bound to become in time a recognized racing machine. There is no doubt in my mind that they will clip many seconds from the best trotting records within the next few years, and it is impossible to foretell when they may be made to do when they have been trained with any part of the care which is taken with race horses. I believe the antelope is faster by at least one second in a trotting race in the quarter mile and from three to four seconds faster in the half. The antelope at present has to be pushed to do a mile, and the best quarter is slower than the others."

"I presume I am the only one who has ever ridden blind an antelope at racing speed. It is an experience I would recommend to every one who loves speed and fast going. An antelope is the smoothest traveler in the world. When properly trained they settle down to their work and travel with an evenness in their long, swinging strides which goes away with practically all vibration or lateral motion in the sulky. Another point in their favor is that they are less liable to break into a run at trotting at a high speed than a horse. They must be run on smooth roads, however, for their little hoofs, which are formed very much like those of a deer, are readily injured by striking a hard stone or other obstacle. The condition of their hoofs must be perfectly or very nearly perfect for antelope racing. I firmly believe from my experience that the world's trotting record will soon be held by an antelope, and that at a good rate margin."

NOTHING MORE WONDERFUL.

"Man, know thyself," is an old maxim, but it is one that has been pretty generally disregarded, for there is not one person in a thousand who knows what a queer combination of things exists in the human body. Years ago a witty physician said that the greatest man on earth was nothing more than a bunch of white of egg and in this observation he came very near to striking the mark, for everything that is required to construct the perfect man of 150 pounds weight is contained in 120 eggs. If we only knew how to do it we could take the contents of these eggs and from them make a perfect man. But even this assertion, astonishing as it may be, is only a general statement of the case, as any careful student of physiology will attest. For this remarkable machine that walks, eats, sleeps, thinks, talks, laughs and cries is made up of the most complex mixture of gases, liquids and solids of which one could possibly conceive.

Solid as the body may seem it is largely composed of gases, the five gases, oxygen, hydrogen, nitrogen, chlorine, oxygen, constituting all but a small fraction of the body's bulk. In fact it has been estimated that there is enough gas in a man's body to fill a gasometer capable of holding 250 cubic feet. The nine substances that go to make up the solids in a man's composition are carbon, calcium, phosphorus, iron, sulphur, sodium, potassium, silicon, and magnesium. In some people traces of other substances such as copper, aluminum, manganese, lead, mercury, arsenic and lithium may be found but in such cases the unusual substances may be regarded as trespassers.

The amount of oxygen that is contained in the human body is something prodigious. In the 150-pound man it is

no less than 196 pounds and if it should be set free its bulk would be equal to a beam of wood one foot square and nearly a quarter of a mile long. It is measured by the gallon it would fill 242 barrels, each holding 36 gallons. This it can be seen that the oxygen represents many times the bulk of the body itself.

While the hydrogen is much lighter than the oxygen it is much more bulky enough being contained in each 150 pound man to inflate a balloon large and strong enough to lift himself, balloon and tackle included. Of nitrogen there is also enough to make 20 times the bulk of the body but the other gases are represented in smaller amounts.

Of the solids carbon is one of the most important substances, there being enough in a man's body to fill a sack of 21½ pounds, or, in other words, enough to make 65 crates of lead pencils. Carbon is the mainspring of animal life, the fuel of the body. It keeps us warm and gives us energy to move, and yet without phosphorus we should be in a pitiable state indeed. We should have no arms, legs, skull or teeth, but should be a soft mass, compelled to crawl about like the worms and live on some pap-like foods. The substances of which the human body is composed play such a prominent part that it is difficult to single out any one and say that it is the most important, but it must be admitted that the one pound and a half of phosphorus is as essential as the 106 pounds of oxygen. Small as this amount of phosphorus is it is enough to poison every resident of a good-sized village or to make 8664 boxes of matches.

Estimates vary as to the exact amount of each substance contained in a body but so far that matter, do the amounts themselves vary according to

the conditions of each body. It is not difficult, however, to fix an approximate and upon that some very interesting calculations may be based. Water is one of the important components in the body. It is composed of two parts of hydrogen and one of oxygen, and in a man weighing 150 pounds from 70 to 80 pounds are simple water, this being enough to fill a keg holding 9½ gallons. This water has a large number of uses, but the main purpose is somewhat curious. The greater part of the bone and fat that make up the body are what might be termed lifeless tissue. The substance that makes the body alive is protoplasm which exists in the shape of millions of minute globules. These globules could no more live out of water than could a shoal of fish. The more water there is in the body the more vigorous is the life without it nothing could be done.

Iron is another substance that has an important part to play, for without it the oxygen could not pass from the lungs to the remote parts of the body. The amount of iron in evidence, however, is very small, scarcely more than 18 grains, or about enough to make four or five good-sized tacks.

Ordinary table salt, which is a mixture of sodium and gaseous chlorine, is quite necessary to the welfare of the body, it being found in both fluid and solid substances, in spite of this, however, there are not more than six or seven ounces in the whole body, or a little more than enough to supply the dining table in a fair-sized boarding house. Small as this supply is the body is extravagant in its use and loses half an ounce every day. Another substance of which there is but a small amount in the body but that does a large amount of work is washing soda, or sodium in union with carbon and oxygen. Its mission in the body is to act as scavenger. Dissolved in the blood it travels from one part of the anatomy to the other, and wherever it finds a particle of carbonic acid it seizes upon it and carries it to the lungs, from which it is discharged into the air. This carbonic acid, poisonous as it is, is also a necessity, but if it is not quickly removed it would clog the machinery and death would follow.

Among the trifling substances without which existence would be impossible are chloride of ammonia, chloride of potassium and hydrochloric, the latter being the substance that kills most of the microbes in the food we eat, that prevents fermentation and assists digestion.

Starch and fat produce fuel for the body and this fuel is consumed at once or is held in reserve as need may require. Most of the fat that is eaten meets an alkali in the intestines and thus soap is made. There is enough fat in the body to make from 3½ to 7½ pounds of candles, and the average man manufactures some of soap during his lifetime. There is also an oil in the body when he does not have what would be equal to a large cake of soap concealed about his internal organs, and as in every well organized soap factory, he manufactures a large quantity of glycerine as a by-product.

Another important constituent of the body is starch. In the intestines a little water is added and the starch becomes sugar, in which condition it goes into the blood. It is estimated that there is always enough sugar in the body to fill a large bowl.

There are but a few of the components that may be found in the human structure and similar remarkable comparisons may be made in regard to his energy. One of the most astonishing facts is that man is not crushed to death before he takes his first step, because he is always carrying a load that would break the backs of 20 horses. Strange as this assertion may seem it is a matter that may easily be proved by mathematics. It is a matter of general knowledge that the pressure of the atmosphere at sea-level is 15 pounds to the square inch. The skin area of the average man is about 2500 square inches, so it is a simple problem to figure out the result. At each step he carries an external load of nearly 15 tons. The reason why he is not crushed as flat as the fattest pancake by this enormous burden is due to the fact that the internal pressure in the lungs as well as the expansive force of the gases of which his body is so largely composed are sufficient to counterbalance the external pressure.

Another fact that is not generally known is that the average man produces eight ounces of pure charcoal every day of his life. In the course of the 24 hours he will breathe out about 12,000 grains of carbon dioxide and this would produce the coal, and this leads up to one of the most interesting of the examples. The normal capacity of the lungs is 230 cubic inches, residual air occupying 100 inches, complementary air 130 inches, and 20 inches are tidal air. The average man breathes from 15 to 17 times a minute. By doing this he exhorts a force that if concentrated in a single effort would enable him to support on his chest a block of iron weighing nearly 4000 pounds, while the amount of air used by the inspirations and expirations would be sufficient to fill a balloon of 550 cubic feet capacity.

The heart is just as powerful as the lungs and the amount of energy it develops is simply astounding. During the 24 hours this vital organ produces energy aggregating 120 foot tons, or, in other words, power sufficient to raise 13,000 pounds one foot from the earth and it requires but a little calculation to show that during the day this little pump of nerves and muscles does the work of eight cart horses. A similar amount of energy exerted at once would enable a man to stand on shore and drag three 400 ton ships at a speed of six knots, or to carry 2000 pounds of coal to the top of a tower 450 feet high.

Such comparisons could be carried on indefinitely, but there are sufficient to prove that there is nothing more wonderful constructed or powerful than this strange machine that we term the human body.—Erwin Marks, M. D.

Slate pencils are made in Tennessee from slate dust and other ingredients compressed by hydraulic means. One concern made 25,000,000 in a year.

AMERICAN PEANUT CULTURE

A Valuable Article of Commerce—It Is Phenomenally Cheap and Practically Unspoiled.

The American peanut is a small thing, but it is by no means to be despised. From the mere delight of the small boy and the joy of the ignorant vendor of street supplies it has gradually evolved into a valuable and respected article of diet and commerce, and food students, physicians, and scientific men in general are earnestly endeavoring to render it popular in the most named capacity. Every desirable food property is said to be in it, and in the insignificant looking shell of the peanut, and Uncle Sam's soldiers, it is rumored, are soon to have regular peanut rations served to them just as the British Tommy Atkins in India gets his share of prepared chocolate every day.

In addition to its nutritious advantages the peanut also enjoys those of being both phenomenally cheap and also practically unspoiled. And all this at every portion of the peanut, from vine to outer shell, may be made useful in some manner. The shells, ground into a coarse flour and mixed with bran or other preserver, make a food for cattle which turns them out looking fit for a king's chariot and actually longing for work. The kernels may be served up in a variety of forms ranging from flour to butter. Of the latter, which is said to be especially good to the taste, something like eight pounds may be manufactured for about 30 cents and peanut butter charms the heart of the careful and economical housewife on account of its extreme economy. Thinned down with a little cold water it makes a good cream for coffee, tea, or ice cream. Doubtless the quantity and you have a good milk to drink. Cream, and with the addition of some tomatoes or other flavoring matter, you have a delicious and health-giving soup. These, at least, are the conclusions reached by the physicians and students, who are peanut lovers for purely scientific reasons.

That the people of America in general and of Chicago in particular need no teaching in regard to peanut consumption would seem to be clearly evident. Over a million racks of peanuts, each averaging 100 pounds in weight, are shipped from the United States annually. A good three-fourths of the total come to Chicago. There are enough peanuts, shelled and unshelled, in the city at present to flood all the downtown district. At the single "peanut factory" in Chicago and there are but three such establishments north of the Virginia "peanut belt," sufficient peanuts are always on hand to cover the entire block upon which the factory stands to the respectable height of ten feet or thereabouts. And a goodly share of all these peanuts will progress in the evolutionary process by being ground to butter. There are no nut eaters in the world like those of Chicago, so says the men who ought to know whereof they speak.

The process of preparing peanuts for the market—"cleaning" them, technically speaking—is an interesting one. A peanut, like a pearl, is judged by its luster. Like a woman, its reputation depends upon the sustained spotlessness of its character. Like some women, also, it is pretty carefully powdered, being kept through the day in a box of talcum powder. It is not until the next day you purchase a sack of peanuts and less the shells disdainfully away.

The principal work of these hoppers, however, aside from the polishing process, is to remove the dirt and grime of the "earth nuts" from those in whose social class they do not travel. There are three varieties of peanuts, roughly speaking, the "Jumbo," or giant kind, which is only used for certain kinds of confections and candies; the ordinary or normal peanut, which everybody eats now and then; and the nuts of "Spanish" ancestry. Whether because of their name or no, the latter kernels are rather unpopular at present, although they are the best of all for salting or table use, and for this reason the Spanish nuts Americans have no more use or respect nowadays than they have for the Spanish infantryman. Romantically considered, the Spanish peanut, like the matador or the Castilian dancer, is all right; practically considered, the nuts grown from vines of American grafting, at least are far and away more valuable.

More and more peanuts are used every year in Chicago and the West. Time was and not so long ago at that, when the peanut was considered a poor thing, thought of including peanuts in the list of ordinary household supplies than the aristocratic chief dreamed of leaving olives or truffles out of his regular requisitions. Nowadays the head of one Chicago family out of every ten at least orders peanuts just as he does apples or potatoes. There is no better material in the world to grow strong and wholesome upon than the contents of good, healthy peanut shells, and for between meal lunches for children they far surpass the time-honored cracker. Especially is this true in cases of insufficient nutrition, anemia, or lack of proper material for the building up of the nerve and bone tissues. The excess of oily matter which renders it impossible for so many people to eat freely of other nuts is not present in regard to the peanut. It is for this reason that the verdict of the food students and the food producers is unanimous for ones in regard to the nut which grows in the ground.

That a bag of peanuts constitutes a remarkably inexpensive hunger-fighter most people are aware. Few people, on the contrary, are aware of the large element of profit which accrues from the commercial handling of the humble peanut to some people. The peanut grower seldom grows rich, the large dealer rarely but a moderate profit, and the girls who see to it that only fine and perfect nuts fly past them on the swiftly moving hopper belt only go to Europe occasionally, but the peanut vendor makes about \$25 on every hundredweight of peanuts which he handles. Realizing this fact one ceases to wonder at the ever increasing num-

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ler of Greeks and Italians who are able to return to their native lands in comfortable circumstances every year, and something of the edge wears off the feeling of gratified surprise consequent upon learning that one particular peanut man in the neighborhood is giving two bags of peanuts instead of one for a nickel.

The wholesale handling of peanuts in Chicago is of comparatively recent origin. Ever since peanuts have been recognized as a distinct article of commerce they have been kept largely in the "peanut district," consisting of Virginia and a small slice of Tennessee, in which they are grown, Norfolk, Va., being the peanut headquarters of the world. But since the serious popularity of the peanut has begun to spread and the California article has declined to fulfill its original promise the Western consumers have begun to complain of wasted time and delay in getting supplies. Chicago, by reason of its natural character and location, is obviously the best middle station of the United States for peanut handling, and it is predicted that in the near future it will become the "peanut" center of the earth, while the American peanut, after years of ridicule and unpopularity, is to speedily evolve into a valuable product and source of revenue to the American farmer. Even our conservative English brethren are learning to eat peanuts freely, moving thereby in part by the vegetarian and food study clubs, and next year at least two of the continental armies will have a chance to prove the life-sustaining properties and values of the nut which isn't a nut at all, technically speaking, because it grows underground.—Tribune.

A PROGRESSIVE RAILROAD.

The Rio Grande Western railway, otherwise known as the "Great Salt Lake Route," is and has been, since the opening of the "Ogden Gateway," the popular transcontinental route between the Pacific Northwest and the East. To add to its popularity, arrangements have been made to make its train service and equipment superior to any of its competitors. Already the running time of its several express trains has been cut down so that the passengers from Portland reach Chicago in less than four days, and New York in less than five days. Effective May 1st, a perfect dining car service will be established. This will make the trip via Salt Lake City the ideal one. To further add to the comfort of its patrons, handsome excursion tourist cars are being built for the run between Portland and Chicago. With the dining car service established and the new tourist cars running, there will be little to be added to make a perfect train.

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A QUEER KIND OF CLIMBING PLANT.

A queer kind of climbing plant has lately been found in Brazil, where it grows in the open air. Its flowers have flat, horny plates, just above the nectar cups in the center of the blossoms, and which are called pinching bodies. When an insect thrusts its sucker into the nectar the plates pinch it fast, and when it leaves the insect must either carry off the center of the flower or leave its sucker behind. In the former case the pollen is likely to reach and fertilize another flower; in the latter, the poor insect dies. Sometimes the legs, as well as the noses, of insects are found sticking in the flowers. Only the bumblebee seems to be strong enough always to get away whole.

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AN ARMY OF INFANT DEWEYS.

George Washington is now hopelessly relegated to second place, with Abraham Lincoln a bad third, for having babies named after them. Dewey did it. The number of new-comers named after the hero of all heroes is now 400, and they are still coming—babies and names, too. It has been figured out that, according to the ratio in a country of 70,000,000 people, the number of the admiral's namesakes should reach about 6,000 now. Not only the boy babies are eligible to the honor, but many girls have been named Georgiana Dewey, and a few have been called Deviana. There is one in this city called Deviana Dewey. When the admiral reaches this city the bureau of vital statistics will have a rubber stamp made, and it is not improbable there will be a regiment of young Deweys in baby carriages to greet him. This is another of the penalties of fame.—New York correspondence Pittsburgh Dispatch.

About one month ago my child, which is fifteen months old, had an attack of diarrhea accompanied by vomiting. I gave it such remedies as are usually given in such cases, but as nothing gave relief, we went for a physician and it was under his care for a week. At this time the child had been sick for about ten days and was having about twenty-five operations of the bowels every twelve hours, and we were convinced that unless it soon obtained relief it would not live. Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy was recommended, and I decided to try it. I soon noticed a change for the better, by its continued use a complete cure was effected and it is now perfectly healthy.—C. L. Rogers, Sturtevant, Glenview Co., W. Va. For sale by J. H. Lunn, druggist, Salem, Or.

The rewards of literature are frequently disappointing, but many a writer in other branches of activity would be satisfied to leave his family the \$10,000 lent easily by the novelist, William Black, to his wife and children.

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