

FOSSILS IN EGYPT.

A Natural Wonder Unusual for That Country.

Some rare fossils have been discovered in northern Egypt by an exploring party under the direction of Professor H. F. Osborn, vice president of the American Museum of Natural History, and Walter Granger and George Olsen, members of the museum staff.

The fossils were discovered in the Fayun desert, situated a few miles from the Nile valley. The collection made was put into 27 large packing cases and shipped on a freight steamer which has already arrived in New York.

The main object of the expedition was to seek the ancestor of the elephant. A very important find was that of the ancestral elephant known as the palaeomastodon. The skeleton is not complete, but the skull, the lower jaw, leg and foot bones and several vertebrae were found. A thorough search was made for the missing bones, but with no success. According to Mr. Granger the animal dates back more than 1,000,000 years.

Another important fossil found was that of an arisnotherium, which takes its name from Queen Arisnoe, who reigned 316 B. C. The skull, which is very rare, is the only one in this country, and there are only two in the world. The bones of the body and legs of this animal have never been found.

Among other fossils in the collection are the bones of ungulates and rodents. It is the first time that the fossil rodent was ever found in Egypt, but many have been found in other parts of Africa. Several skulls of the ancient crocodile were found, their heads being from three to four feet long. Judging from the size of the skulls, the bodies must have been from twenty to twenty-five feet long.

In some of the excavations skeletons of the ancient and aberrant whales were found, which existed generation ago. They have become entirely extinct. Ivory teeth that belonged to animals that existed so far back that the time cannot possibly be established were also unearthed.

The American museum of natural history has now the largest and rarest collection of fossils in the world.—Scientific American.

Promised Another.

It was in a Washington Sunday school. The sweet girl teacher had been telling her class of bright-faced youngsters about the life of Christ, and at the conclusion of her recital she told the children that she wanted each one to promise to try to live like Christ for the ensuing week.

"How many of you," she asked, "will earnestly try to live as did the Savior until we meet here again next Sunday?"

Every little listener raised an affirmative hand save one—a chubby girl, the pride and joy of the teacher's heart.

"Why, Susie!" said the teacher in a pained tone. "I counted on you so." Tears of disappointment crowded to Susie's eyes.

"Dear Miss Kate," she almost sobbed, "I should love to do what you want, but I have promised aunty to be like George Washington."

Rational Destruction of Rats.

To provide an object lesson for the people at home and abroad in the rational destruction of rats the committee selected Copenhagen and the neighboring Frederiksberg.

The total "bag" obtained in 18 weeks amounted to 103,000 rats, at a cost of 13,255 kroner (about \$736) paid for premiums and cremating, or 1 1/2 d per rat.

"Now," said Zuschlag and his committee, "you will agree that each rat eats and destroys each day at

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THE WORLD OF FASHION.

Jumper Styles for Evening Gowns—Yellow a Modish Color—Black and White Combinations—Black Velvet Bands for the Neck.

Yellow is one of the most fashionable colors for evening gowns this season and it is also used to make the most charming cloaks of broad-cloth. These soft, beautiful new

of wider velvet ribbon held by a handsome steel buckle. This jumper was worn over a low necked blouse of fancy net with short sleeves coming just below the elbows.

The same idea could be carried out in taffeta or China silk or silk and cotton eolienne and worn with an all-over lace or net waist.

A Black Lace Frock. Pale blue, pink, light green, and lavender are all popular evening colors this year in spite of the above



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shades of yellow are worn alike by blondes and brunettes, by society women, young or old, and are more becoming by artificial light and look warmer than any other of the evening shades. Yellow fans are also smart and with these costumes gilt slippers or pumps and silk stockings of the same rich tint are considered an appropriate finish. Every possible variety is shown in evening wraps from the simple circular cape which can be very easily and quickly made at home to the most elaborately draped cloaks and Japanese form of garments.

A Stylish But Inexpensive Evening Gown.

Fashion is very kind this winter to the woman with a slender income or the young girl with but a small amount of spending money for there are a great many styles of simple evening gowns that can be made at home very successfully at comparatively small expense. To begin with the jumper costume is strikingly well adapted to this purpose. A successful frock lately seen, made in this style, was of pale blue nun's veiling with one of the new circular skirts trimmed with two deep folds of the material. The jumper portion consisted of two wide straps with the fullness held in the shoulder by three deep tucks, stitched down to yoke depth back and front. These straps were edged with narrow blue velvet ribbon and joined across the front and back with five straps of the same ribbon, trimmed at each end by a tiny cut steel button. The draped belt was

fad for yellow. White is of course always worn and a great many black evening gowns have been seen at recent festivities. This sombre color is however usually relieved by touches of scarlet, pale blue or yellow or it is made with a lace or chiffon guimpe and sleeves. A fascinating frock of this style was of black Chantilly lace with the body of the waist and the mikado sleeves cut in one and finished with a square neck edged with a band of jet. A transparent yoke of white all-over lace filled in this aperture, while short puffed sleeves of the same lace extended just a little below the mikado sleeves of the Chantilly. The skirt was one of the new five gored models with pleated front and back and circular sides.

New Ornaments for the Neck.

The old-fashioned black velvet band has been revived for evening wear and is, at the present moment, the very height of fashion. This is worn up on the throat under the chin thus hiding the least attractive part of the neck and revealing the curves at the base of the throat. These bands are seldom more than three-quarters of an inch or an inch wide and are often decorated with slides and ornaments of diamonds, paste or rhinestones. Often, however, the velvet band is left perfectly plain and fastened at the back with a handsome brooch. For the woman who cannot afford costly jewels this fashion will prove most acceptable and she can rest assured that it is the very latest mode.
LUCY CARTER.

least one farthing's worth of food and material. One hundred and three thousand rats would cost you about \$39,000. Having spent \$736 on killing them, we have saved you \$38,000 odd."

This way of reasoning appealed to the economical Dane. Campaigns were undertaken in other places with similar satisfactory results, and so much had Zuschlag's scheme impressed the public mind with its practicability that in the following year first the Farmers Union, then the Property Owners' society, and then all the borough councils presented petitions to the government and Riksdag asking that Zuschlag's proposals should be embodied in a law without delay. Several bills were consequently brought in and dropped, but last year the home secretary introduced a measure which was passed unanimously by both houses of parliament and became a law last March.

This rat law is now in full swing. Under the act the state undertakes to spend £1600 annually for three years, and compels the county and borough councils to spend 3s 3d a year for each 100 inhabitants, on the society having given the undertaking that they will spend at least £500 each year. In return for this expenditure the society is entrusted with the entire working of the act.

By way of concluding this article it may be well to ask two questions: (1) As last year there died in India over 2,000,000 persons from

the plague, would the India office think it worth their while to take steps to bring the results of the Danish system to the notice of the plague officers in India, with the view to its being adopted?

(2) If, according to Zuschlag, each rat costs at least a farthing a day to keep; if, according to him and others, there are at least as many rats in Great Britain as men, women and children; and if, consequently, it costs Great Britain every year some ten millions and odd hundred thousands of pounds, would it be worth our while to consider this whole question very seriously with the view to spending the odd hundred thousands a year in order to save the odd millions?—William R. Boelter in London Mail.

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The Capital of Ecuador.

Quito, the capital of the republic, is situated in the interior, on the high table-lands in the central part of the province of Pichincha, at the foot of the eastern slope of the volcano of the same name, and on the northern bank of the Machangara river, a small tributary of the Rio Guallabamba. The city of Quito proper is quadrangular, and lies about 9500 feet above sea level, some 15 miles south of the equator.

The streets are straight, generally crossing at right angles, very uneven on account of the difference in elevation in different parts of the city, and few of them are more than 20 feet wide. The streets are paved with cobblestones, and the sidewalks which are also narrow, are paved with small, rough flagstones from a quarry in the vicinity.

The houses are usually two stories in height, built of adobe, with flat roofs of red tiles. There are few windows facing the streets, the rooms of the houses being lighted from an inner courtyard surrounded by balconies above. The entrance to the courtyard, which also leads to the main entrance of the building, is generally high enough to admit a mounted horseman. Heating is not provided for, though sometimes the temperature drops to the freezing point. The stores are small and usually without windows.

The street are lighted with electricity. Water, which is obtained from the adjacent mountains, is delivered to the city through public fountains or brought in jars from the mountains. At present that served through the fountains is badly contaminated.

Ice is brought from the mountains. Water, which is obtained is facilitated by the inclination of the streets, the number of natural drains, and the heavy rainfall. In the city of Quito are five plazas or squares, a botanical garden, a hippodrome and two public promenades, the larger being shaded with eucalyptus, oak and other trees.

The city also has five public libraries, two museums of natural history, two chemical laboratories, an arsenal, several hospitals, two within its limits 33 churches and six banks and five hotels. There are convents, occupying nearly one-fourth of its area.

The Franciscan monastery, said to be the largest in the world, possesses extensive farms in the vicinity, and its various buildings occupy an entire square. The most conspicuous buildings are the government palace president's palace, archbishop's palace, palace of justice, municipal building Sucre theater, and the astronomical observatory.

Education is provided for by a university, four colleges, a medical school, an institute of science, a school of arts and trades, an academy of fine arts, a theological school, three seminaries and three schools for young ladies.

A telephone service is maintained. Manufacturing interests are represented by 22 flour mills, a number of breweries and a sugar refinery.

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There are also establishments engaged in the making of woolen blankets, ponchos, bayetas, common carpets, matting, shoes, Indian felt



GERALDINE FARRAR.

American prima donna who is quoted in an interview in Germany as saying that her fellow countrymen are utterly lacking in appreciation of music and that art is impossible in America because of political corruption.

hats, furniture, pottery, saddles, carts, adobe, hard bricks, roofing tiles, chocolate, cheese and candles.

Quito is noted for the large amount of religious painting and sculpture done within its limits and exported to adjacent countries. Laces and embroideries are also made. Other important industries are the carving and coloring of small figures from vegetable ivory, and the drying of bird skins, particularly the skins of humming birds brought from the Napo river by the Indians.

The city has telegraph connections. Severe earthquakes were experienced in the years 1844, 1859 and 1887. The population is estimated to be 80,000. The distance from Guayaquil to Quito is 280 miles and can

be covered in two days.—Report.

"Necessity the Mother of Invention." There was a crowded meeting at Des Moines. The day was so hot that the great audience could not breathe. Suddenly a quiet, determined-looking man stepped forward and exclaimed: "I want to put a question to the speaker!"

"Well, sir," good-naturedly answered the orator of the day, "here to answer questions. Go ahead."

"Then," queried the man, "did Lincoln say in 1862?"

"An absurd question," retorted the speaker. "Lincoln said many things in 1862."

"Never mind that!" loudly retorted the man who had interrupted. "Tell me what he said in 1862!"

At this juncture the audience began to show signs of disapproval, but the quiet man proved irresistible.

"I again demand," he said, "be told what Lincoln said in 1862. This proved too much, and the man was seized and ejected from the hall, and when he was outside said:

"What on earth induced me to make such a fool of myself?"

"Because," smilingly replied the quiet but determined man, "was very hot and close. I could not breathe. I could not move. It was the only way to get out of the delphia Public Ledger."

Bird Club Meeting.— There will be a meeting of the Salem Bird Study Club at the studio on State street, Tuesday evening, December 10, at 7:30. All interested attend.

A Historic Corner.— In the grocery trade of Salem, the corner of Commercial and State streets is historic. It is so called by M. Lawrence, who is maintaining the reputation for quality and prompt accommodation of the vice.

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