

**Domestication of African Elephants.**

Experiments in the domestication and training of elephants in the Congo Free State indicate that they can be used to advantage for portage work in regions where the opening up of the country is most difficult because of lack of transportation facilities. Contrary to the general belief that Central African elephants could not be tamed and made to perform the same service as their Asiatic fellows in India, a bulletin issued by the Congo government announces the complete success of experiments conducted at an "elephant farm" at Apl, in the Uele district, in the northern section of the state.

Here a small herd of young elephants has been kept in captivity for several years, and, finally, after much effort in training them, satisfactory results have been obtained. The director of the elephant station, in an official report, says these experiments demonstrate that the African elephant can live in captivity and that by good treatment they can be induced to perform labor. Already the oldest members of the elephant farm at Apl execute the portage and traction work of the station. They carry drivers on their backs and pack saddles with loads. Some draw wagons, and others are trained to draw the plow.

None of the animals are more than seven years old, and since the Indian elephants are most efficient at the adult age, 15 years, it is believed even better results may be looked for. Mortality among the elephant newly captured has been great, and as yet it has not been possible to workbreed them in captivity, but experience is solving the problems of domestication: the deaths are now few, and fresh recruits are constantly being added. With a beginning thus made the scope of the work of Apl will doubtless be enlarged and eventually it is expected, elephant caravans will be established. Success in the undertaking means a great deal for the future of the country. Despite railroads and steamboat lines, the Congo will always be a country of forests and of savannas intersected with swamps.—Consular Reports.

**An Ancient Discovery Revived.**

A chemical discovery, or rather re-discovery of what was an old Roman secret known to have been used about 600 years ago, which likewise seems full of practical possibilities—is a liquid preparation to prevent from rust and wall dampness. When applied to the bottom plates of ships it is said to prevent oxidation, animal or vegetable marine parasites and growths, and, besides preserving the life of the iron plates, will also add to the speed of the ships and war ships. When the inside of a ship is coated over with the liquid it stops the "weeping" of the inner skins of the iron sides, which, as shippers so well know, is so often the cause of much damage to ships' cargoes.

Freshly plastered rooms, when painted with the same preparation, admit of immediate occupancy or decoration, as the paper can be applied without delay or damage. The tests have extended over a period

of many months and the results have been announced as successful. My inquiries to date, however, have failed to elicit any definite information as to its commercial manufacture, as it is reported that experimentation has not yet been concluded.—Consul Blake at Dunfermline.

**Our Aristocratic Schools.**

There are several fashionable schools in New York city whose doors are graciously open to the sons of the multimillionaire. Coming as he does from a home of the very rich, he might enter a small and very select school where all the boys are from very rich homes, and where they have an automobile club with a score of members. Imagine an automobile club with its members in knickerbockers!

Then there is an ultra-English school, whose head master and instructors are without a single exception Oxford or Cambridge men. The instruction is somewhat incidental in importance, but an English atmosphere is most consistently and successfully maintained. After six years of English mannerisms a youthful graduate, with his English inflection and laugh, his placidly stoop and walk, ought to pass the scrutiny of even a London shopkeeper as a "just-a-good" product. It must prove disconcerting to an American boy to hear the story of the Revolution told with an English lisp; but the master knows that things have changed greatly in this country since the Revolution, and later in life the pupil may realize the fact as he rides over a historic battlefield behind a pack of imported English fox hounds.—Broadway Magazine.

**How Russia Drifted Into War.**

General Kurapatkin, in his story of the great Russian-Japanese war, which opens in the September McClure's, describes the strange course of events by which Russia and her rulers drifted into a war with Japan, entirely against their will. He says: "The future historian, who will have access to all documents, may be able, from study of them, to determine why the will of the Russian monarch to avoid war with Japan was not carried into effect by his principal co-workers. At present, it is only possible to say, unconditionally, that although neither the emperor nor Russia desired war, we did not succeed in escaping it. The reason for the failure to the negotiations is evidently to be found in our ignorance of Japan's readiness for war, and her determination to support her contentions with armed force. We, ourselves, were not ready to fight, and resolved that it should not come to fighting. We made demands, but we had no intention of using weapons to enforce them—and, it may be added, they were not worth going to war about. We always thought, moreover, that the question whether there should be war or peace depended upon us, and we wholly overlooked Japan's stubborn determination to enforce demands that had for her such vital importance, and also her reliance upon our military unreadiness. Thus the negotiations were carried on by the respective parties under unequal conditions.

Then, too, our position was made worse by the form that Admiral Alkoxoff gave to the negotiations entrusted to him. References were made that offended Japanese pride, and the whole correspondence became strained and difficult as a result of the Admiral's unfamiliarity with diplomatic procedure and his lack of competent staff assistance. He proceeded, moreover, upon the mistaken assumption that, in such a negotiation, it was necessary to display inflexibility and tenacity. His idea was that one concession, if another, and that a yielding policy would be more likely, in the end, to bring about a rupture with Japan than a policy of firmness."

**Balancing a Flying Machine.**

From "The Wright Brothers' Aeroplane" in the September Century. The balancing of a flyer may seem at first thought, to be a very simple matter, yet almost every experimenter had found in this the one point which he could not satisfactorily master. Many different methods were tried. Some experimenters placed the center of gravity far below the wings, in the belief that the weight would naturally seek to remain at the lowest point. It was true, that, like the pendulum, it tended to seek the lowest point; but also, like the pendulum, it tended to oscillate in a manner destructive of all stability. A more satisfactory system, especially for lateral balance, was that of arranging the wings in the shape of a broad V, to form a dihedral angle, with the center low and the wingtips elevated. In theory this was an automatic system, but in practice it had two serious defects; first, it tended to keep the machine oscillating; and, second, its usefulness was restricted to calm air.

**Salmon's Importance as Food.**

During the last few years canned salmon has been taking its place very rapidly among the important food supplies of the world. The expansion of the markets in the United States has been truly remarkable. Brokers taking the aggregate of the 1906 pack, in comparison with the amount of salmon remaining in first hands before the opening sales on the 1907 pack, show that 4,000,000 cases of canned salmon—virtually the entire 1906 pack—found a ready market after the 12 months after its production. Because of this increased demand the usual allotment of half a million cases to the markets of the United Kingdom was reduced to less than 100,000 cases, leaving the British jobbers clamoring for stocks months before the new pack was available. In nine months' time the consumption of canned salmon in the United States amounted to virtually 3,000,000 cases, or, concisely, 2,956,000 cases, and three months before the 1907 pack arrived jobbers were sending in orders for stock which could not be supplied. The clean-up of the 1907 pack was accomplished with an equal facility, only a few months being necessary to mark the exhaustion of all grades of salmon except one, which, being a cheaper grade and not so largely in demand, was carried over in considerable quantities. This means that canned salmon has become of primary importance as a food product and taken its place with other universal foods such as beef, pork, mutton and breadstuffs. Packed under the most sanitary conditions, containing more nutritious qualities than any other staple food, and being sold at a price easily within the reach of the most slender pocketbooks, it has gained a world-wide favor that is well merited.—From "Farming the Seas," by Daniel L. Pratt, in *Outing* for September.

**The New Hudson Bay Route.**

The first move in the direction of establishing a new outlet for western exports to the seaboard via the proposed Hudson Bay route is now being made by the government. A survey party is being sent out by the interior department to lay out the town site of Fort Churchill, the future metropolis of Hudson bay and the terminus of the proposed Hudson Bay Railway. The future city will be located on the eastern side of the river, opposite the ruins of old Fort Bruce of Wales, and across the river from the Hudson Bay company's trading post. Plans and drawings of the harbor are also being prepared under the direction of the department.

The present population of Fort Churchill consists of four half-breed families, a mounted policeman, and one settler. The latter is the only man whose home is pitched on the future town site. He settled there with his wife before the area in question was reserved for settlement, and is therefore entitled to claim a free quarter section of 160 acres of city real estate.

It is expected that the government measure providing for the construction of a railway to Hudson bay will be introduced in the house of commons at Ottawa shortly.—Consular Report.

**STATE NEWS.**

Medford, at an election yesterday, turned down the proposition of granting a 50-year franchise for a street railway by a vote of 99 to 216.

Hubbard hop yards have decided to pay 40 cents a box for pickling.

Grain threshing is about over in the valley near Hubbard.

The first hops picked were received in Eugene yesterday.

Willamette falls, the beautiful cataracts near Oregon City, are a thing of the past, the water being utilized by a \$100,000 concrete dam to furnish power for the Portland Railway, Light & Power company.

The little town of Gladstone, near Oregon City, is in an uproar over the petition of a saloonman to secure a license to sell beer.

Harriman is suffering from rheumatism and for this reason will extend his stay at Klamath Falls for another week.

The launch "Blue Bells" under command of Captain R. E. Voth nearly came to grief from big seas while returning to Newport from a 35-mile run up to the Big Banks yesterday.

The Cascade Development company was incorporated at The Dalles yesterday and will build a power plant on Hood River.

Daken's drug store, the office of Dr. M. E. Guire and some nearby barns, in all valued at \$3000, were destroyed by fire at Mt. Angel early yesterday morning.

**NEWS FROM HERE, THERE AND EVERYWHERE**

Republican Chairman Hitchcock has appointed Senator Dixon, of Montana, chief of the speakers' bureau in Chicago.

Chinese Minister Wu Ting Fang to the United States, it is rumored, is to be recalled for expressing his views, in speeches, too liberally.

The British balloon, "Queen Zeiss," which was taking part in the international balloon race, fell into Lake Erie, its pilots being rescued by a passing steamer.

Mrs. Anna Ludwig is mourning the loss of \$2460, which stolen from a baby buggy, which she used as a safe for her savings from her Chicago boarding house.

Lee H. Johnson, well known wealthy mining man, was arrested in Seattle yesterday, charged with the murder of his wife, whose body was found cut in three pieces and crated in a buried box under their cabin. He admits disposing of the body, but denies the murder charge. Johnson was married before his father secured a divorce for his first wife, thus giving the police the in-

pression that there is reason to suspect foul play.

President Roosevelt yesterday greeted the returning athletes and especially the Oregon heroes and praised the "far-away northwest state."

W. S. G. Williams, who is accused of having shot Charles B. Roberts when the latter and Williams' wife were taking an outing in rolling chairs, was in Atlantic City, where the shooting took place at the time and not at Cambridge Springs, Pa., where he claimed to have been, according to the statement of his cousin.

**MONUMENT TO CIVIL WAR HEROES**

(United Press Leased Wire.) Toledo, Ohio, Sept. 1.—The principal event in the great reunion of the Grand Army of the Republic today was the dedication of the monument to the dead heroes of the Civil war at Fort Meigs. The thinning ranks of blue

marched to the scene in various formations. Here and there could be seen the remainder of some once resplendent company—perhaps half a dozen grizzled old boys—marching along stiff and straight in soldierly array.

The ceremonies at Fort Meigs this afternoon were of great interest. The states whose troops participated in the events commemorated by the monument were represented by high officials.

Governor Harris appeared for Ohio. Governor Willson spoke in behalf of Kentucky. Lieut. Gov. Murphey was present as the representative of Pennsylvania and Major Robert Hunter represented Virginia.

**BORN**  
COX—To the wife of Dr. H. W. Cox, at the residence of M. E. Pague, Tuesday morning a 9½ pound boy.

Twenty-nine thousand cars have been put to work in the U. S. in two weeks, and it is called increased prosperity.

**SALEM WATER COMPANY**  
OFFICE CITY HALL  
For water service apply at office. Bills payable monthly in advance.

**Berry, Prune Hop Growers**

all need....

**Tickets!**

In harvesting their crops--If you want a special form or a rush job GO TO ELLIOTT'S

You will never be disappointed!

223 South Commercial St. Phone 1243

SEPT. 14-19 Salem, Ore.

EXCURSION TRAINS and Special Rates

SEPT. 14-19 Salem, Ore.

**OREGON STATE FAIR AND EXPOSITION FOR 1908**

The LARGEST and BEST PACIFIC COAST FAIR

CHILDREN Monday, 14th. FREE

RESERVED BOXES CAN BE HAD IN ADVANCE FOR THE RACES

CHILDREN Saturday, 19th. FREE

- Greatest Exhibit at any Coast Fair.
- New buildings all completed.
- Walks and grounds the finest.
- Free camping for thousands.
- Agricultural college to hold meetings.
- Races six days; commence Monday.
- Free evening entertainments.
- McElroy's Band and Orchestra.
- Prominent men will speak.
- Fancy stock shown daily.

Complete Program for Six Days--Two Great Shows Day and Night--Something Doing Every Hour

One Hundred Thousand Oregon People Attend the Fair and are Better for it.

A WEEK OF PROFIT FOR YOU! ENJOYMENT FOR THE FAMILY! SUMMER SCHOOL FOR ALL!

Low Rates Salem, Oregon Sept. 14-19

**COME**

Low Rates Salem, Oregon Sept. 14-19

Every Non-Progressive Merchant Becomes Your Competitor

When You Cease to Advertise Aggressively

When a merchant "slows up" in his advertising, and concludes to "save a little money" in that direction, then the merchant who never had the courage and foresight to advertise adequately BECOMES A REAL COMPETITOR. Even the merchant who never advertises at all reaps a certain amount of profit from the "slowing up" process of the live store.

Not many merchants, of course, who have at any time set the pace for progressive advertising, will be content to take a backward plunge into the company of the non-progressives, of the LITTLE MERCHANTS, the easily satisfied ones, the un-awakes! But that is just what the "live one" does when he imagines that his advertising is costing too much, and that its curtailment means "saving."

If business conditions ever suggest retrenchment in advertising, the wise merchant knows that this should be interpreted as a signal for "full speed-ahead," for redoubled efforts to WIN the business that does not come so easily as usual.