

GROW LARGER GRAIN

Professor De Vries Tells of His Recent Experiments.

Eminent Scientist Plans to Increase the Size of the World's Food Plants—New Species at Once.

New York—Prof. Hugo de Vries, director of the American botanical garden and the recognized dean of botanical lecturers at the New York botanical gardens on his recent observations and experiments in the mutation of plants. Many scientists attended the lecture and lauded Professor de Vries as "the successor to Darwin and a great benefactor to the nation."

Doctor de Vries, a man of about sixty years, does not mind being called a successor to Darwin, whose work he has adopted. He would deny, however, that he has gone further than Darwin in his understanding of plant life. It was exactly the divergence between Darwin's conclusions and his own conclusions that constituted the subject matter of Doctor de Vries' lecture.

Darwin, it is recalled, explained the origin of new species by the theory of gradual variation. Doctor de Vries, on the other hand, while he admits that there are no end of gradual variations in plant life, adds that new species also come into being by "leaps and bounds" in a single day, as it were. He explained his theory by the exhibition of slides illustrating his own observations.

The best illustrations of the mutation of plants, Doctor de Vries noted in such flowers as the forget-me-not, daisy, evening primrose and marigold. In his own experiments, starting with an ordinary single daisy and keeping all the seed and planting it, he noticed second year daisies having twice as many petals as they had the first year and at the expense of a diminution of center. Continuing the selection of the seed from the exceptional specimens in each daisy patch he grew within four years a daisy which had no center seed pods whatever, and which had increased its petals or ray flowers during that time from twenty-one to two hundred. Needless to say, the new flower did not resemble the ordinary daisy at all, and it remained distinct as a distinct species of flora.

This illustration was evidence, Professor de Vries maintained, of the necessity of increasing the yields of all plants, so that the increasing population of the future might not want. His optimism in the development of plant life extends to wheat and rice and the other grains, although he said he was yet experimenting in those fields.

"Doctor de Vries is not rivaling our own Burbank," said Dr. W. A. Murrill, director of the New York botanical gardens, after the lecture. "He stands supreme in his own line of endeavor. His experiments are purely theoretical. Burbank tries to develop the biggest plums and the biggest potatoes, but de Vries tries to make two petals grow where but one grew before. He is paving the way for the bigger Burbanks of the future."

"Our experimental stations, you know, are practical, and they seek practical results in the culture of food stuffs. But some day that line of experimental work will be exhausted, and scientists will ask for something new. Then some one will apply, in a practical way, the principles which Professor de Vries is now laying down. The secret of the future is to be able to repeat exactly by agriculture the mutations as observed now in nature. That is the work of science, and that is where the new and bigger Burbanks will have their future."

PLANT MISSION IS SUCCESS

Government Entomologist Wins Important Concessions From England, Belgium and Holland.

Washington—After several months of a tour of diplomatic missionary work in the interest of American plant interests, Dr. L. O. Howard, government entomologist, has returned to Washington. Dr. Howard conferred with the agricultural officials of Great Britain, Germany, France, Belgium and Holland.

The principal result was that England, Belgium and Holland agreed to get into operation a system of government inspection of plants instead of having that inspection performed by their surrogates.

The latter, it was feared, would meet the expense of raising the price of the American market. The French government is expected to adopt this government-inspection plan later. Germany has given no assurance.

BEGIN MEMORIAL TO HUGO

Corner Stone of Monument to Author to Be Laid on the Field of Waterloo, Belgium.

Waterloo, Belgium.—The first stone of a monument to Victor Hugo was laid on the battlefield described by the French poet and novelist in "Les Misérables." A great throng of French and Belgian attended. The memorial will be a simple granite column symbolizing Hugo's appeal for international peace. The relic house erected near the farmhouse where Napoleon established his headquarters was shown open for the first time. There have been gathered bones and weapons reflected from all parts of the field.

NO FAITH IN EGYPTIAN GODS

"Reincarnated Daughter of Pharaoh" Says She Has Rejected All of Ott's Faith.

St. Louis, Mo.—Mrs. Elbert "Lily" Ott, "reincarnated daughter of Pharaoh" who is suing her latest ex-husband for a divorce, has denied that she ever had faith in the old Egyptian gods. She adds that when her two children came she utterly lost all faith in her husband's fantastic beliefs and now, if she can recover her children through the courts, she will be satisfied with realities and "drop the stream-talk and the mumbo-jumbo of Mr. Ott."

Ott is now in Springfield, Ill., with the two young children, and is expected to file a general demurrer to the wife's divorce charges this week. Her husband charges that she was an artist in the employ of her husband's father, Pharaoh. As in their modern romance, it was a case of love at first sight when the princess and the artist met for the first time in the queen's chamber of the Great Pyramid.

Ott's modern meeting of his 3,000-year-old soul was at University City after he had returned from a commission to study Egyptian architecture for E. G. Lewis. She was then Miss Jane Schaeffer, an artist's model.

In discussing her alleged "reincarnation," Mrs. Ott denied the authenticity of the article in regard to her birth, which were published over what was claimed to be her signature and she vilified the poor old gods of Egypt. Of her husband and children, she declared that she had heard nothing since she left them with relatives of Mr. Ott in Springfield.

Among other things in her divorce petition Mrs. Ott alleges fraudulence and cruelty, stating that at several occasions her husband had dragged her to the presence of company. It is also stated that on one occasion the elder Mrs. Ott, her mother-in-law, ordered her from the house.

FEEL PULSE AROUND WORLD

Harvard University Physicists With New Instrument Get "Long Distance" Heart Beats.

Cambridge, Mass.—That it is possible for a physician to sense the heart beats of a patient who may be on the other side of the world is the assertion of Dr. Percy E. Dixon of the Harvard Medical school. An instrument devised for that purpose has been installed in the Harvard Medical school. Doctor Dixon says: "With the proper attachments, the heart beats could be registered around the world. All the patient has to do is to place the hands in warm salt water and the electric current, with the hands the positive and negative poles, is carried by wires to the instrument, which shows the heart beats."

PRaise FOR FLY CATCHERS

Birds Do Much More Good Than Farm, Says United States Government Act.

Washington, D. C.—"Fly catchers," the kingbirds, phoebe and other birds that prey on insects, bees, ants, grasshoppers, caterpillars, flies, bugs and other insects were given a great bill of praise in a report issued by the department of agriculture. After an investigation by Assistant F. E. L. Seal of the biological survey of the diet of fly catchers, the department announced that the birds do undoubtedly more good than harm and should be protected in all of the forest and horticultural.

PIANO IN WRECK SAVES LIFE

Forces a Survivor That Found Him in It at Time of Crash of Train.

Shelburne, Vyo.—His plane landing him into a small open space in his car of household goods was all that saved J. S. Doyle of McCook, Neb., from being crushed to death when a freight train in which he was on his way home crashed into some empty cars north of Shelburne.

ROYAL SUTE FOR GIBBEL

King George of England Offers the Sovereign of Portugal Lining "guarantee" in Kensington Palace.

London—King George has offered to King Manuel a suite in Kensington palace. This another treaty rapidly becoming more or less a fiction as the treaty of Saint Germain. At present Manuel occupies a house at Richmond. If he accepts the suite in Kensington palace he will have as fellow residents the Duke of Saxe-Coburg and Prince Louis, Princess Henry of Battenberg, mother-in-law of King Alfonso, and the German Emperor.

WOMAN USES AX ON THIEF

Falls Into an Ho Battle With Her Husband, and Kills Him

Portland, Ore.—Mrs. J. E. DeLynn, keeper of a boarding house here, discovering an alleged burglar in the room of a guest, called her husband and went for an ax. When she returned her husband was being beaten. Drawing the ax, she struck the burglar on the back with the ax, and with a second blow tumbled him head first down stairs. When he recovered consciousness he gave his name as Raymond Knuth, and declared he was visiting at the DeLynn house.

PAY REWARDS FOR FAMILIES

Government Officials in Hungary to Be Paid Additional Salary for Children, \$75 for Three.

Vienna—Hungary has just taken a step toward "free schools." A new law, passed in July, provides that all government officials above a certain rank will receive from the state 25 crowns annually for one child, 50 for two, and when they have three or more 75 crowns, or 1125 annually for lower officials and all government employees half that amount.

DINES WITH VICTIMS

"Gentleman Burglar" Has Real Sense of Humor.

Some Two Young Girls in the Evening and Returns to Comfort Them at Breakfast Table in the Morning.

Philadelphia—"It's the people who haven't any sense of fun that make a success in the world," sighed George Wilson, "gentleman burglar," in his cell at police headquarters. "If you've got a streak of humor in you're no good, whether you're in business or burglary."

Wilson had a personal text to preach from. His desperate sense of humor had led him to lock a keeper of the New York Tombs prison in his own cell, while he (Wilson) walked out to freedom. And Thursday, in Atlantic City, the same facial love of the laughable made him call on two eminent young ladies in the evening, return and rob them at three o'clock in the morning and return again and comfort them at the breakfast table.

Wilson was strolling down the boardwalk the other day when Miss Lillian Price and Miss Mary C. McKag of Wilmington were out for a walk. The young women, who come of excellent families, were offended by a "frivolous" person, it is said, and Wilson went quickly to their rescue. He got the offender out of the way in short order, and the girls gave him permission to call.

After a considerable three days had elapsed he dropped in one evening. They found him charming—a man of culture, of experience, wit, wisdom and earnestness. He left well before the prescribed eleven o'clock, and he left with a cordial invitation to return at his pleasure.

About three o'clock in the morning the young women were awakened by a noise in their room. Miss McKag was out into the reception hall and was confronted by a pistol muzzle with a masked man behind it. "Please don't trouble yourself," he said. "I don't want to harm you. I know your jewelry and things and I won't disturb you a moment longer."

He drove her politely back to bed, and that left the women don't know how. In their excitement they called up the apartments of Wilson—the friend who had called on them the previous evening. He was out, but when he returned about six o'clock in the morning he called them up. To learn that their names had been robbed seemed to cause him into consternation. He went upstairs to comfort them.

They were all having breakfast together when the detectives who had been summoned arrived. One of the arrests seemed to cast an over-inquisitive eye at the gentleman guest. Wilson suddenly remembered that he must be in Philadelphia early. He left abruptly. The detective telegraphed his description on ahead of him and he was arrested as he stepped from a train here.

IS PAROLED FOR 7 YEARS

Agent Pleaded That Report to Probation Officer Every Sunday Morning.

New York—Every Sunday morning for seven years to come Ernie Duker must make a pilgrimage to the police court and report to a probation officer.

There had not been even a ripple of sound in the Duker home in Green Point for the forty years the couple had lived together until last Sunday, when Duker "developed a ground" and discharged a revolver at his youngest spouse. Then she had been arrested.

The old man was so repentant when summoned that the judge decided on the period of probation. Duker was paroled at the long term. "But I am already an old man and I shall die before the time is up, judge," he mildly remonstrated. "Well, if you do you will not be punished for breaking your parole," the judge assured him.

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MEN ARE BOORS AS FLIRTS

Noted European Singer Issues Terrible Indictment Against American Maids of Every Station.

San Francisco—American men, no matter what the classification, whether millionaires or Pullman car conductors, face the terrible indictment from the lips of Mme. Del Garcia de Pachere, a noted singer of Europe, of knowing nothing about flirtation. They are rude, not to say rough and boisterous, according to Madame. They lack the finesse of the European gentleman. It is their idea to haul around by the arm a lady whom they would charm, when the lady's arm has nothing whatever to do with her heart. They have no manners, they cannot tell whether a lady would flirt or not, and the rich ones are the worst of all.

These accusations—and more besides—were voiced by the chic and pretty Spanish singer on her arrival in San Francisco the other day from Madrid and Vienna.

"Your American gentlemen, they know nothing about a lady," she frowned. "They do not know the difference between the lady who will flirt and the one who will not. I will not," she smiled. "The American cannot treat the lady like she is being treated by the gentlemen of Europe. They do not know how. On the train they would come and sit down beside me and we would talk. When they wanted to be playful they would take hold of my hand or arm. I cannot stand to be touched. They always wanted to be holding to me, to help me walk here or there. I can walk alone. It was rude of them."

ROBBERS WORK IN CEMETERY

Two Holdup Men Jump From Behind Tombstones—Victim Goes to Bed.

Fort Collins, Colo.—C. E. Moore, a barber, was held up in the cemetery here. The fright he received has sent Moore to bed and he is under a physician's care.

While hastening to his home west of the city he took a short cut through the graveyard and was surprised when two men jumped out from behind a tombstone, ordering him to throw up his hands.

In addition to his barber trade Moore maintains a small ranch, and had just sold several hogs, which netted him \$41. This money, a gold watch and a pipe were taken by the highwaymen. Moore was so badly frightened that he was unable to give a description of the footpads.

PARALYZED AT TEAM'S FATE

Five Horses Killed by Train as Lad Holds the Reins Too Scared to Move.

Royersford, Pa.—Thomas Boorse, aged about sixteen years, had a thrilling escape from death on the Reading railway at the crossing just above Mingo station. The lad was hauling sand to the Mingo stock farm, and was about crossing the railroad, when the Williamsport express hove into sight. Seizing the brake and calling to the horses, he managed to stop them just as the locomotive struck and instantly killed both high-bred horses, tearing them from the wagon and leaving him too scared to move, still seated on the sand wagon.

JAIL RESTORES HIS MEMORY

Sight of Prison Brings Back Mind of a Convict—Recognizes His Jailor.

Everett, Wash.—Robert Carlson, a logger, who had forgotten his name and past life, and who had been brought here under guard from Arlington to be examined for insanity, regained his memory at sight of prison walls. He was booked as John Doe Christensen. When the jailer tried to question him, he suddenly blurted out: "I know you. I have been here before. I was in the upstairs corridor four years ago." Search of the records proved his statements.

PASTOR WINS BASEBALL FANS

Pitches for Home Team and They Go to His Church—Team Wins Steadily.

Columbus, Ind.—Rev. John L. Shaw, a former Methodist preacher of this county, who is now located at Norden, Neb., has written that he has greatly increased the attendance at his church in Norden by "wapping" work with his congregation. He proposed to the baseball fans of the town that he would pitch for the home team if they would attend his church. He is winning steadily, and the fans are attending his services.

SOLDIERS LIKE FILM SHOW

Fort McPherson Troops Will Be Entertained All Winter by Moving Pictures.

Atlanta—Motion pictures as a part of religious services for soldiers of the United States army stationed here, at Fort McPherson, have become so popular during the summer months that it has been announced that a modification of the idea will be used during the coming winter. Chaplain Durrant of the Seventeenth United States Infantry says biblical stories will be illustrated by slides. Films and recorded solos have featured the services during the summer.

RANGER REAL HERO

Fire Fighters Face Great Dangers in Forest.

How Pulaski, by Coyness and Bravery, Prevented the Loss of Thirty-Five of His Crew in Cour d'Alene.

New York—Prof. Welling, tanned and toughened by his summer's work in the Cour d'Alene national forest reservation, held his eastern visitors spellbound with stories of the fight he had helped to make against the fearful forest fire, says the Youth's Companion. He had gone out, with two others, under government commission, to study the forest and, coming back in August, they had met the fire and spent almost a month in fighting their way out of them.

"There are real men among those forest rangers," he went on. "In fact, there is no place for anything that is not genuine up there. The most thrilling story of heroism that I have heard in a long time is the story of Ranger Pulaski. It did not happen in the part of the reservation where I was, but I can vouch for its truth, for I have talked with some of the men who were with him."

"Pulaski had forty men under him, and they had been fighting a big fire for hours. Suddenly the wind rose until it blew a gale. The fire got beyond them, and it became a question of saving the lives of the men. They were many miles from a railroad or a clearing."

"Pulaski remembered that about a mile from where they were working was an abandoned mine shaft that ran back about forty feet into the hillside. He ordered the men to snatch their blankets from the camp and run for the shaft. Once there, they packed themselves like sardines into the hole. Pulaski placed himself at the opening and stretched a blanket across it.

"In a few minutes the fire overtook them. The blanket at the opening caught and Pulaski jerked it away. Again and again this was done, and when the supply of blankets ran low he held the burning fragments across the mouth of the shaft with his bare hands."

"The suffering of the men from the heat and smoke was pitiful. They were fairly maddened by it, and some of them made a wild attempt to push their way out of the shaft. For a while Pulaski held them back by sheer physical strength, for he was an unusually strong man. But he knew that he must soon be overpowered and that the men, in their frenzy, would rush out to certain death. He drew his revolver and told them that he would kill the first man who attempted to break away. The men knew that he meant it, too, and that knowledge brought them back to reason."

"It wasn't more than twenty minutes before the worst of the fire had passed the shaft. When it was safe to crawl out they found that five of the men were dead from suffocation, but the other thirty-five were all right. Pulaski himself was blinded and burned, but his sight was partly restored. He lost five men, to be sure, but with less courage and presence of mind he would have lost them all. I take off my hat to such a man. He is a real hero."

FALSE TEETH LEGAL TENDER

Bartender Accepts Molars for Beer in Lieu of Nickel From Man With Thirst.

Kansas City, Mo.—Into Tony's place at 402 Main street came the man with a permanent thirst. He sidled up to the bar and in a husky whisper announced to Jerry, the red-headed bartender:

"Say, Bo, I got to have a drink and there's no use discussin' any compromise. I'd rather drink than eat an' my stomach craves food. Jus' to show you I'm all right, even if I hadn't got no money, an' I'm sincere an' all that, here's my false teeth fer one bowl of suds man's size an' thy 'er collar. Do I cash 'em in?"

"You do," replied the bartender, and took the man's upper and lower maxillators without so much as a "bat of the eye."

"I'll be back and redeem 'em tonight," assured the jag.

"If you don't fit another man to 'em," warned Jerry as he wrapped the molars in a piece of tissue paper and rang them up in the cash register as "five cents."

SLIM JAILBIRD GETS FREE

Little Window Just His Size and Stocking-Rope Make Escape Easy.

Pottsville, Pa.—Stimley Bogden of Shagandoh owes to his slim build and a rope of stockings his liberty, which he gained some time between midnight and five o'clock in the morning by squeezing through the small aperture which served as a window in his cell in the Schuylkill county prison. He then dropped to the ground, 13 feet, pulling the lightning rod to the top of the jail building and with the stocking rope lowered himself to the street on the other side of the jail wall.

LIBERTY BRIDE GETS WORK

Mrs. Washburne Gets Employment on Magazine as Part of Prenuptial Arrangement.

Los Angeles, Cal.—In conformity to her part of a prenuptial contract that caused comment from all sections of the country, Mrs. Charles Washburne, until a few days ago Miss Helius Chandler, obtained a position with the firm by which her husband is employed.

The company publishes a magazine, and Mrs. Washburne will do illustrating for it.

A part of the prenuptial contract, which, as a whole, provided for the greatest personal liberty on the part of husband and wife, specified that each should earn an independent livelihood, and should share the expenses of maintaining a home and of caring for children, should any result from the marriage.

"The account of my mother being prostrated and moaning over the disgrace I have brought upon her are merely trash," said Mrs. Washburne. "I have received several telegrams of congratulation and commendation from my mother since my marriage."

WIDOW'S JOKE A BOOMERANG

Mrs. Evert Is Held in \$500 Bail for Sending Post Card to Man Just for Fun.

New York—Playing a joke on a professional entertainer is an expensive pastime, as Mrs. Mary E. Evert, a widow of East Orange, N. J., learned. United States Commissioner Jones held her in \$500 bail for the grand jury on complaint of Malcolm B. Shackelford, a neighbor, to whom she admitted sending a postcard with the picture of a woman seated in a man's lap, and underneath the following inscription:

"You are a great one to keep a date. I waited for you until 9:30. Why don't you keep your engagements?"

"FLORENCE"

When the postcard arrived at the Shackelford home there was trouble. It was discovered that Mrs. Evert's name had first been written on the card in pencil and then erased. The police declared she admitted she sent the card as a "joke."

RICHES COME TO THE POOR

Wife of Itinerant Piano Tuner Gets a Check for \$30,000 From Aunt's Estate.

Webster City, Ia.—A check for \$30,000 has been received here by Mrs. C. C. Morton, the pretty little wife of an itinerant piano tuner, as part payment on a big legacy left to her by an aunt who recently died in Kentucky.

The estate, said to amount altogether to \$70,000, is left entirely to Mrs. Morton, who is only twenty-four years old, while her husband is sixty.

They have been living in a modest boarding house for two weeks while he went about his trade. When Mrs. Morton undertook to deposit her draft in a local bank the officials were doubtful whether to accept it, until investigation proved that the piece of paper was genuine.

KITTEN GIVES AN ALARM

Leads Mother to Where Child Hangs Head Downward on Amusement Pier.

Venice, Cal.—A kitten saved twelve-year-old Olive Henderson, of this place, from probable death.

The child and the kitten had gone for a walk and after a time the kitten returned alone. When it drew the attention of the girl's mother it started away, but returned and renewed its cries when she failed to follow. When it started again the mother followed.