

## LAND OF DEADLY SNAKES

### NEW GUINEA IS WET THE WHOLE YEAR.

#### Explorers Found One New Human Race and Surveyed 3,000 Acres.

Reuter's representative has had an interview with Captain Rawling, leader of the British expedition in New Guinea, who has returned to England after an absence of two years.

In conversation Captain Rawling said:

"Large collections have been made; at least one new human race has been discovered, and over 3,000 square miles of hitherto unknown land have been surveyed. Some idea of the difficulties we had to face and the terrible nature of the country may be gathered from our appalling list of casualties from death and sickness. During the first year about 12 per cent. were invalided out of the country. Of 300 men employed during the first year, only eleven lasted out the expedition, four of these being Europeans."

#### A WET COUNTRY.

Speaking of the country and its people, Captain Rawling said:

"For the first year we were never once dry, day or night, for when it was not actually pouring with rain the continual fording of the rivers completely drenched us. Want of food, and particularly fresh food; the absence of cover for nothing could resist the waterspouts of rain; the want of transport, together with the dense forest through which a way had to be forced; and the strain of working up swollen and almost impassable torrents were among the difficulties we had to encounter."

#### FULL OF SNAKES AND INSECTS

"The country is full of deadly snakes and puff-adders. Of these the natives show no fear, as with great dexterity they grasp the reptiles behind the neck, and, after smothering their heads, place them in the bags they carry and use them for dinner."

"When strangers approach, if the women are not too frightened to escape into the forest they signify that they require peace by throwing from hollow bamboos clouds of chalk into the air."

"Insects swarm everywhere, the worst being mosquitoes, leeches, and bluebottles, the last being the worst, for they spoil all food immediately, and their eggs turn into grubs in a few hours. Albinoes are occasionally seen, one man whom we came across being of a white pink color, with dark spots. We heard of one black couple who had a pure white baby boy two years of age."

#### THE SHAME OF CLOTHES.

"Wollaston and Marshall made an attempt to see the pigmy women in the hills, but without success. All the women had been hidden away, the chief objection raised by the male members of the tribe for not allowing the women to be present being that the whole of the British expedition was clothed."

"Eventually we reached the coast, and while waiting for a steamer, I made a side expedition in the motor boat along the coast and on two previously unknown streams. On this journey we discovered a number of large villages inhabited by people of a new type. They were hostile, and endeavored to rob the boat, and to avoid difficulties we did not camp in their villages. These people were of a much lower type. Many were quite naked, and in one of their villages we found two large public dancing halls."

#### SANITY AND HIGH HEELS.

There is Close Relation Between Heels and Wit.

If anything could be higher than the Parisienne's hat, it is her heels (says the London Evening Standard). The low English heel has once or twice enjoyed a brief season's favor in Paris, but at heart the Parisienne dearly loves to add a cubit or so to her stature, and she achieves it, of course, with her beloved Louis XV. heel. Perched thus on stilts, with the foot at an impossible angle, "le footing" becomes impossible; and Madame seats herself in a cab every time she starts out for a walk. That is why her boots and shoes are always new. Someone has discovered that there is a close relation between the heels and the wit. The conversation of the walker in low heels is trite and flat-bromidic, so to speak—but she who trips in high ones will soar unexpected altitudes of epigram and paradox. We know that great wit and insanity are near neighbors, and the Germans putting the theory in practice, are treating madness with a bare foot regime. The contact of the bare flat foot with Mother Earth is expected to bring back wandering minds to an everyday plane, and the experiment is naturally interesting.

## GREAT CENTER OF BUSINESS.

### Cornhill, London, Said to be Richest Street in the World.

Cornhill, E. C., is the hub of the universe, and, according to Deputy Millar Wilkinson, at a recent meeting of the city corporation, the center of commercial civilization, says the London Daily Sketch.

If you have any doubt about it, stand in Cornhill any forenoon and watch the stream of city traffic flow by. You will see more silk hats in five minutes than can be seen in West End in as many hours. And despite the democratic tendency of the times the silk hat persists as the outward symbol of commercial civilization.

But Deputy Millar Wilkinson, who had objected to the inconvenience caused to hundreds of thousands of London citizens by laying electric supply mains across Cornhill, had other and more weighty reasons to advance for the importance of this famous thoroughfare.

He told the Daily Sketch that once upon a time there was on Cornhill a standard or a stand-pump, erected by a Dutchman named Maurice, and it stood at the crossways where Cornhill, Gracechurch street, Leadenhall street, and Bishopgate intersect. From this point distances were measured, and suburban milestones marked.

There are not half the shops there used to be," said Millar Wilkinson regretfully. "But the street is full of big insurance offices of all kinds and banking institutions also add to its importance and its wealth. The Royal Exchange stands in Cornhill, and here, too, is Saint Michael's, which was rebuilt after the fire of London."

"Most people imagine that Cornhill was once a hill of corn and that sheaves were growing where people now make money. But the name has nothing to do with Corn, though there was once a corn market in Gracechurch street. It is more truly derived from a great owner of property here in the city, one Gervase de Cornhill, who was, I believe, a sheriff of London about the time of King Henry II."

Other inquiries convinced the Daily Sketch that Cornhill is, if not the busiest, assuredly one of the wealthiest streets in the world. "I reckon at a modest computation," said a banking man, "that we're worth a trifle over a hundred million sterling, and I suppose a single square inch is worth a country house with a park, a few peacocks and some shooting."

Close by Change alley, where there happened the biggest boom ever known in financial history, the historic South Sea Bubble, is a famous confectioner's establishment, which has supplied the city with luscious banquets for a couple of centuries.

## BRITAIN TO USE DOGS OF WAR.

### To Act as Scouts in the Dense Jungles of Assam.

Great Britain is to employ war dogs in order to settle a little matter existing between it and the Abors of Assam, who inhabit a wild and mountainous tract of land between China and India, where Noel Williamson and his party were murdered on March 30 last.

Lord Crewe has sanctioned a punitive expedition against them, and a Ghoroka regiment will march into the unknown, taking with them the Airedale dogs especially ordered from Maj. Richardson by the India office to act as sentries and scouts in the dense jungle.

"This is the first time in the military history of the British empire that the employment of war dogs has been officially recognized," said Maj. Richardson.

"The Airedales are as near the ideal war dog as it is possible to get. They are hardy and strong and possess good noses and keen ears. One of the dogs that have been chosen to go, while training in the country the other day, 'winded'—that is, scented—a tramp at a distance of 250 yards."

"In the description of the massacre of Williamson's party it was stated that the Abors themselves used dogs when hunting the coolies who were endeavoring to make their escape, and the fact that the Abors have dogs makes it even more necessary that the British force should employ them, too."

"Our scouting dogs, with the attacking force, will be able to give warning of the presence of the enemy before their dogs on the defensive know of our approach."

## DATES BACK TO CHARLES II

Few women are aware that the word "miss," as indicating an unmarried woman, dates from the time of Charles II. John Evelyn, in his famous "diary," writes of young girls as "misses, as they begin to be called." Until that reign even a small girl was addressed as "mistress," like her mother. It was found, however, inconvenient to use so little distinction between a girl and a woman, and so the word "miss" was invented, as a diminutive of "mistress," servants retaining the old form of address.

## CURIOUS COURTSHIPS.

### Sudan Swains at Their Lady's Call Day and Night for a Year.

Some customs prevailing in certain parts of the Sudan have been described by Artin Pasha, who recently made a journey up the Blue and the White Nile. The gentleman is Minister of Education in Egypt and in his letters to his wife gave an account of his experiences, which is now published in a book called "England in the Sudan."

He came across certain tribes where the women he says, "seem to have passed the limits of even American women," and he naively adds that but for the distance from Cairo and the wildness of the country he "would willingly pass several months in the midst of these good folk in order to learn the meaning of virtue in both the ancient and the modern sense of the word."

"One girl may have as many as from seven to fifteen wooers, who court and flirt with her for a whole year in the sight of her parents. They not only visit her in the daytime, but remain at night near her dwelling to mount guard outside her room, going so far even as to keep watch within her room in order to be at her service in case she should awake."

"If she asks for water, as many calabashes of water are offered to her as there are lovers in attendance. Should she desire to pay calls on her friends, the whole of her lovers offer to carry her palanquin, and again it is the aspirants to her hand who undertake to anoint her with butter every morning. The period of courtship lasts for a year, at the end of which period the beauty must make her choice. When she does so the unsuccessful wooers go off to repeat their performance with another girl."

These maidens are black and nominally at least Mohammedans, but in the matter of rights and liberties they have little to learn. The Shilluks of the White Nile, on the other hand, are as far as possible from being Mohammedans, yet their women have similar privileges:

"With the Shilluks it is the women that rule the household, the young women themselves that choose their husbands and that, once married, assume the post of command. The strongest and most hot-headed man dare not beat his wife, for he would be looked down upon immediately and would be unable to find a second wife to succeed his first. No missionary effort effects the Shilluk women; it is practically impossible to convert her either to Christianity or to Islamism, for she is the guardian and depository of the Shilluk traditions, religion and historical customs."

## SINGING TO THE COWS.

### English Dairyman Says It Makes Them Give Milk.

Advertisements for good singers to milk cows in England are likely to be common in the near future, as cows, it is now admitted by dairymen, are made happy by the singing of human beings, and when they are happy they yield more milk.

"Comfort your cow; if you cannot sing get somebody to play a harp or a flute and—profits will go up. That seems to be the new doctrine for dairymen."

Mr. J. W. Gatecombe, a South London dairyman, gave an interesting opinion on this subject.

"Cows are much attracted and comforted by the sound of singing," he said. "Even whistling, provided it is done by a person they like, pleases them."

"This may sound an extraordinary statement, but I think cow-keepers will generally agree with me."

"A cow is a far more intelligent animal than one would think. If a milkman has no sympathy or feeling with animals the cow will be the first to realize it, and will turn sullen and only be milked under protest."

"But given that sympathy and a kink of pleasing animals, a cow will yield all the milk she can give. A happy cow is a far more profitable investment than a sulky cow."

"Singing and music has the same effect upon a cow as upon a baby, while the milkman acts, as it were, in the capacity of a nurse."

## LEPERS NOT INCREASING.

"The leper colony in Hawaii has not grown any the last several years," says O. B. Thomas, of Honolulu. "In fact the number of lepers confined on the island of Molekai has been decreased by the discovery that some of them were not suffering from the disease. The district in which the lepers live is separated from the mainland by a high range of mountains, and the lepers have a regular municipal government of their own. They have their schools and their amusements and pursue their daily work with as much pleasure and industry as the inhabitants of thriving villages."

If a man's head is filled with wisdom he doesn't have to use his mouth as a safety valve.

## SOCIETY WOMEN GAMBLERS

### HOW A LADY OF THE "SMART" SET SPENDS HER DAY.

#### Bridge Tournaments Have Taken the Place of Charitable Bazaars.

A few years ago Father Bernard Vaughan preached a course of sermons on the mania for bridge which was invading smart society. As a matter of fact, bridge is only one of the many forms of gambling in which the up-to-date English society woman indulges. Her field of operation includes the Stock Exchange and the Turf, as well as the bridge clubs and the tables at Monte Carlo and Dieppe.

#### HOW THEY SPEND A DAY.

The following is a fair sample of how a member of the "smart" gambling set spends her day. In the morning, after a careful perusal of the sporting news in the daily paper, she telephones to her bookmaker, asking what she considers the likely winner for the day. This finished, she either gets through to her stockbroker or else motors in to the city for a personal interview with him. Nowadays, many society women have a very shrewd business instinct. It was the great ladies of Mayfair and Belgravia who were the first to reap a profit from the rubber boom of last year.

After lunch, our fair gambler turns in to her card club, where she will play bridge, or its latest development—auktion bridge—till dinner time. After dinner, more bridge or baccarat, usually at home or at a friend's house.

#### CARD INSTINCT.

What is known as the "card instinct" seems to be more strongly developed in women than in men. At any rate, the proficiency at bridge of many prominent ladies of society is astonishing. At the present moment the best bridge player in London is the wife of a well-known Guardsman. This lady is generally supposed to make \$6,000 a year at bridge, and this result is due entirely to skill.

A curious feature of the gambling spirit in society is the way bridge tournaments have taken the place of bazaars. At these tournaments the entrance money and a percentage of the stakes is devoted to some charitable object. A fund organized by the Lord Mayor last spring largely profited by one of these tournaments.

Most gamblers are superstitious, ladies especially so. There is a certain countess, well-known in the bridge world, who has a method of her own for testing her luck before-hand. Every morning, after breakfast, she plays a couple of games of patience. If the cards come out well, she regards it as a good omen, and goes to the bridge club early. If the cards are perverse, she accepts the warning, and abstains bridge that day.

#### "PATIENCE" GAMBLING.

Patience, by the way, is often made a medium for big gambling, especially that form of it known as "montana." In a certain ladies' club it is no uncommon sight to see two members gambling heavily at "montana." One plays the cards and the other bets her a certain sum against the cards coming out. In this way \$50 or \$75 often changes hands in a single afternoon.

As long as they are in England, society women do their gambling in private. But all this secrecy is thrown off as soon as the channel is crossed. At Monte Carlo in the winter, and at Dieppe and Dinard in the summer, any casual visitor to the Casinos at these places can watch some of the most exclusive of the society dames playing baccarat or chemin de fer with Tom, Dick and Harry.

They are there for the purpose of gambling, and so long as they win, it is no concern of theirs from whom their winnings come, or to whom their losses go, for the matter of that. Many of them gamble in the most reckless fashion; but, with hardly an exception, they are most unemotional players.

There is no greater offence than to grumble when one loses or to chortle when one wins.

#### WILL INSPECT KITCHENS.

A woman has been appointed as kitchen inspector in Cincinnati. She is an officer of the board of health, and is expected to enforce cleanliness in the kitchens of hotels and restaurants. Part of her duties will consist in inspecting the kitchen arrangements, seeing that the quality and condition of the food are good, and that the cooking is carried out in a clean and sanitary way. It is said that the appointment is welcomed by the managers of the good hotels and restaurants, as they have nothing to fear from inspection and will be glad to have their establishments advertised as being properly managed.

Things worth while are more apt to come your way if you go after them.

## PROTECTION FROM CHOLERA.

### Prof. Metchnikoff Says It Is Not Dangerous.

The possibility of an outbreak of cholera in France has led Prof. Metchnikoff of the Pasteur Institute in Paris to express his opinion on the subject. Among other things he says:

"Cholera is not dangerous. It is easy to protect oneself from it. I have lived in contaminated areas and never felt the least fear. The measures taken by the Government are excellent, but I must confess I have only a moderate confidence in them. The only measures to be taken are individual measures."

"The strictest hygiene must be observed; one must wash often, but above all drinking water must be boiled and all fruit scalded. People who say that raw fruit is dangerous make a very great mistake. Let people eat their melons without fear; they run no risk. The only essential precaution is to plunge the melons in boiling water for a minute, for the rind may have fragments of earth on it containing the germs which propagate cholera. These germs will die at once. The same is true of all fruit. Cholera and typhoid fever can only contaminate any one by means of the digestive organs. The hands must therefore be kept perfectly clean and all foods carefully sterilized."

"Another mistaken idea is that boiled water is easily contaminated. That is not so. Boiled water keeps its properties for a very long time. It is quite enough to keep it in a properly covered jar. Personally I prepare my supply of boiled water in sufficient quantity for two days."

## RADIUM INSTITUTE.

### The Latest Word in The Medical World.

The Radium Institute, London, England, which was recently opened, was the daring scheme of the late King Edward, and is the latest word in the medical world. It has over a quarter of a million dollars' worth of radium at its disposal, is fitted with the most expensive and effective medical instruments known to science, and will employ a staff of physicians whose names are known to the medical profession of all countries.

Chief among the wonders of this remarkable place is the last quantity of radium that has been accumulated for use in scientifically treating disease. This accumulation will enable tests never before tried in medical history, and as the chief aim of the new hospital is research, there is every probability that science will be materially advanced as a result of its work.

The institute will be worked in direct connection with the medical profession, and all application for admittance, must come from a doctor. The poor will be treated free of charge; the well-to-do will pay in accordance with their means. In both cases the care and attention bestowed will be identical. With regard to the researches of the institute it may be added that all scientific delvings into the "why and wherefore" will be made without the assistance of mutilated animal organisms. No animals of any kind will be permitted either on the operating table or in the observation cages.

## LORD OF 10,000 YEARS.

### Daily Life of the Baby Emperor China Described.

Some details have been made public of the daily life of the baby Emperor of China, who is not yet quite 6. He lives secluded from the world, even his mother only being allowed to pay occasional private visits.

As soon as the Emperor Kuang-Hsu died the baby Pu-Yi was taken from his mother and placed in the Forbidden City in the hands of the Empress Dowager, who was henceforth regarded as the baby Emperor's mother.

The baby Emperor is addressed in the palace as Wan-Sui-Yeh (Lord of Ten Thousand Years).

Every morning he is awakened at 6 o'clock by the singing of eight eunuchs, and he has three meals a day, at 8 a.m., noon and 6 p.m., retiring to rest at 8 p.m. His diet is simple, the only rule observed being never to put any article of food upon his table which cannot be procured immediately at any time of the year. The reason is that the Emperor is supposed to get anything he asks for, and if this is impossible the unfortunate official responsible is liable to severe punishment.

The Emperor is said to be wilful by nature and to revel in mischief, especially when he can induce his attendants to follow him into a flooded courtyard after a heavy shower of rain.

## INDIA HAS 315,000,000.

The provisional census returns for British India indicate a population of 315,000,000, an increase of about 20,000,000 as compared with 1901.

## IND. 2

## FEMALE LABOR IN GERMANY.

### More Than Eight Million Women in Various Occupations.

Female labor is already an important factor in Germany's national economy, and without it many important branches of industry would not be able to pay their way. In 1907 out of a population of 61,000,000 there 36,000,000 working in the principal trades. Of these 6,000,000 were women, but 1,051,723 female servants living with their masters are not included in the total.

That same year in Saxony about 350,000 female workers were making their living in mining, building and similar industries, about 900,000 male workers being engaged in the same industries. In trade and commerce there were 211,570 males and 75,073 females. The number of females in "public employment and independent work" was only 16,000. The number of female farm laborers was over 100,000 in Saxony in 1907, but that was less than it had been.

Owing to the increased duty on tobacco, female labor is being used more and more for sorting in the cigar industry of the Chemnitz district. Owing to the last business crisis, the same may be said of different branches of the textile industry. According to Consular and Trade Reports, the tendency is to use female in places of male labor wherever possible.

From the statistics of sick funds it is learned that the employment of female labor is increasing much more rapidly, comparatively, than the female population. From 1906 to September, 1910, the number of female workers increased by 24.5 per cent., that of male workers by 13.9 per cent. The great accession of able bodied female workers in the last few years is remarkable, and is to be attributed to the rise in the cost of living, which causes women to leave household duties for more remunerative work.

## THE ENIGMA OF GROWTH.

### Reasons why Persons Do Not Keep on Growing.

Six pounds and a half is the weight of the average child at birth; at the end of the first year the average weight is eighteen pounds and a half, a gain of twelve pounds, and at the end of the second year the weight is twenty-three pounds, a gain of only four pounds and a half. And with each successive year the gain is less and less until maturity is reached. Why is the gain less each year? And why does it finally cease altogether?

The reason is that the absorbing surfaces inside the stomach and intestine do not and in the nature of things cannot grow proportionately to the growth of the body as a whole. During the first year of growth the child's body becomes approximately three times as large as it was at birth, but the interior of the stomach and bowel of the child at the age of one year is not even twice as large as it was at birth, let alone three times as large. Yet all the nourishment which supplies materials for growth has to be absorbed by the small intestine. It is therefore plain that growth of the body as a whole must gradually subside as the tissues to be nourished gradually approach a size at which their demands balance the utmost supply of nutrition taken up by the stomach and intestine.

## SALT LAKES IN BRITAIN.

### Proved to Have Existed in Pre-Glacial Times in Leicestershire.

The existence of salt lakes and deserts in Britain in pre-glacial times was stated by W. W. Watts, professor of geology to the Imperial College of Science, at the Royal Institution, to be shown by the peculiar geological features of Charnwood Forest, Leicestershire, says the Dundee Advertiser. It was by far the oldest landscape known in Britain. To-day where the marl had been swept away by denuding agents the rocks protruded in peaks, and in some cases the rocks were harder than steel. The resemblance of the scenery to deserts in Arabia and Arizona, he said, went to show that in the pre-glacial period there must have been deserts in Britain occupied by salt seas. As a further proof of the existence of deserts ages ago he indicated by means of slides the smoothness of a number of the rocks in Charnwood Forest. Their polish, he said, could only have been produced by the action of the wind drifting sand against them. From vastly ancient days the marl had preserved the original rocky landscape.

## CAUTIOUS.

Dr. Bill (meeting former patient)—Ah, good morning, Mr. Jones. How are you feeling this morning? Mr. Jones—Doctor, does it cost anything if I tell you?

## SO SMALL.

Waiter—How do you find your chicken, sir? Guest—With a magnifying glass.