

LONGEST SWIMMER IS MAN.

Records Made By Professionals Heally Outdances Those of the Water Loving Animals.

In spite of the fact that man is not an instinctive swimmer, as are most of the lower animals, he excels all of the latter that are able to swim in endurance in the water. It is reported that in attempting to swim across the English channel recently, a man covered 50 miles before he succumbed to exhaustion. The only land animals that are known to be able to approximate such a feat are seals, which are probably the strongest swimmers among animals not specially adapted by nature for the water.

Deer and horses rank next to bears and it is not uncommon to them to cover a distance of 10 or even 15 miles in the water. Horses are powerful swimmers, and have none of the aversion toward entering the water which is often shown by animals which swim well when forced to. A number of horses that were pastured on the American side of the Niagara river once swam in company across this broad stream in order to return to their old stables. It may be useful to know that, in crossing a body of water with a horse, the best method, if the horse is expected to swim any considerable distance, is to slide over his back, hold the animal lightly by the tail, and allow it to tow you across. This relieves the horse of the weight of the body, and enables him to swim faster and much farther than otherwise would be the case.

Dogs vary greatly in ability as swimmers. The water spaniel, retriever, mastiff and St. Bernard excel all others. A retriever known to the writer once followed a canoe for nine miles. The dog was much exhausted, however, when drawn into the boat. The elephant is a good swimmer, and the wild animal of the cat family, the tiger, the panther, the jaguar and others, do not hesitate to cross lakes and rivers. On the other hand, the domestic cat shrinks from immersion and drowns quickly. The nostrils of some small animals are so placed as to render breathing very difficult when they are in the water. Among these are mice and rabbits, which will drown without sinking below the surface. Rats are excellent swimmers. Almost all birds except those which are distinctly aquatic are nearly helpless in water. Small birds, in particular, have no power of propulsion, and, though they do not sink, they drown quickly. Even many species of waterfowl rise from the water with difficulty, or not at all, when their wings are wet. After a sea gull plunges and returns to the surface it stretches its wings so that they may be dried by the wind and sun before it attempts to fly. All reptiles swim. Almost all snakes move through the water with as much ease and rapidity as on land. Snakes, for example, are much given to swimming in placid water if it is not too cold. In the everglades lakes of Florida they may be seen. It is well to know that to attack from a boat a poisonous snake in the water is a much more dangerous proceeding than to attack the snake on land. The reason is that the reptile will immediately make for the boat, since it must have a solid base from which to strike. It half leaps and half climbs into the craft, and there is a fight at uncomfortably close quarters.

DAY OF 25 HOURS.

That the time occupied by our world in its diurnal rotation can be slowly lengthened, is of course (says the Electrical Magazine), not apparent to everyone. Several natural physical causes tend to effect the gradual arrest of the earth's rotation about her axis, such as the tides, the former molten state of the earth, etc.

It would seem that the immense energy stored in the rotation of a solid globe 7,925 miles in diameter, with a specific weight five and a half times greater than water, revolving at a maximum surface velocity of more than 1,500 miles per hour, could never be appreciably absorbed. By an interesting calculation, it can be shown that this surface velocity may be slowly, if inappreciably, increased by artificial means. Assuming our contemporary's figures, the force stored up in the earth is calculated at 30,333 billion horse power. To reduce the relative velocity of the earth's mass by as little as one second, 14,000 million billions of tons of mineral would need to be brought to the surface from a depth of 1,600 feet. At present 2,000 million tons of minerals of all kinds are annually brought to the surface. The energy stored in this mass being raised would require the comparatively endless time of six billion years to retard the earth's rotation by one second.

The drift from glaciers toward the equator would, however, appreciably affect the earth's rotation. The generation of magnetic effects and electric currents from pole to pole, owing to its rotation in a magnetic field caused by the sun's influence, would absorb some of the energy from the vast store represented by the revolving mass forming our world. But for the fact that other planets have been arrested of all proper motion in millions of past ages, one might consider that length of days will for a long time yet be without change.

A MEMORABLE ACCEPTANCE.

A young married man was reprimanded by his spouse for being too bashful when looking for employment. "You'll give a job, man, if you don't bit boulder. Gad only knows what'll becom of us at all," she reasoned.

THE AVERAGE GIRL.

The average girl thinks a man ought to propose to her a hundred times before she accepts him, but usually she is willing to take ninety-nine of the proposals for granted.

THE REPORT COURTEOUS.

"I sat no lobster." Thus he said. She asked her curly little head. "I'm glad," she said, "you're not at all 'fined to be a cannibal!'"

C. M. C. Hose Supporters.

COMFORTABLES. Made with a special wool filling. Chiniz coverings nicely quilted scrolls, etc. A good full size soft, fluffy quilt, worth \$1.50, for \$1.43. Extra large sizes in pretty colors, \$1.67, \$2.00, \$2.47, \$3.00 each.

KNITTED VESTS and DRAWERS. Made especially for Canadian trade. It has the weight, it's close fitting, it's elastic, it's pure wool and non-shrinkable, and it's not expensive.

\$12.50 Costumes at \$4.50. This hardly sounds reasonable, nevertheless it is a fact, a good stylish costume, made of Oxford Tweed, color, are dark grey, navy and black. Worth \$12.50; sale price, \$4.50.

Boys' Special Heavy Wool Hosiery - - "Something That Will Wear."

ASK FOR THE "STONE-WALL" IT GIVES SATISFACTION.

BLACK DRESS GOODS.

Black Swiss Satin Cloth, \$1.10 yard. Black Duchesse Suitings, \$1.00 yard. Black Cheviot Serges, 75c to \$1.40. Black Sea Bird Serges, 60c to 75c. Black Cord-de-Sole, \$2.00. Black Granite Cloths, 85c to \$1.00. Black Basket Canvas Cloth, 75c to \$1.00.



Marcelle 2-clasp. EUGENE JAMMET'S FRENCH KID GLOVES.

SPORTING. The Ring.

JIMMY BRITT IS A GLUTTON FOR FIGHT. Jimmy Britt, now practically the lightest champion of the world, is one of the most remarkable figures in the world of sport today. He fights because he likes to fight. This far he has given and taken many more blows for fun than he has for money. He is a smiling, good-natured lad, but he is always ready for battle at a moment's notice.

It was the moral superiority that made Britt win. So far as mere physical strength went, the negro was his equal, but in vim, dash, ferocity, the unconquerable determination to succeed, the white boy was far the superior.

James Edward Britt was born in 1893 south of Market street, San Francisco, the district locally known as "South of the Slot." His father is a plumber who has grown rich on big contracts and has also served as supervisor. James is five feet six inches tall, with big shoulders and a chest, a 16-inch neck and the body of a water-wreath. His hands and feet are small. He has blue eyes that are mild in repose, but blaze like searchlights during battle.

ROBERTSON, TRITES & CO., (LIMITED).

No romancer with graceful pen is required to spin imagination tales about these values—variety that will please the most fastidious—prices to please the most critical and economical.

Saturday Evening's Shopping List.

CORSETS. HOSE SUPPORTERS. UNDERWEAR. HOSIERY. GLOVES. RIBBONS. DRESS SHIELDS. SNAP FASTENINGS. HANDKERCHIEFS. ALL KINDS LACES. NECK-TIES. BELT BUCKLES.

Boys' Special Heavy Wool Hosiery - - "Something That Will Wear."

White Cottons. Special Skirt Cloths.

Manish Tweed effects, \$1.20 and \$1.50. Broadcloths (plain colors), \$1.50 to \$2.25. Covert Cloths, Brown, Fawn, Grey, \$1.25, \$1.55. Wool Motions, Grey and Black, 90c to \$1.05. Vicuna Cloths, Navy and Black, 75c to \$1.40. Fancy Tweeds, great value at \$1.10 and \$1.35. Oxford Suitings, Navy, Black, Brown and Grey, 85c, \$1.10, \$1.20, \$1.40 yard.

Kid Gloves. White Quilts. Black Sateens.

Guaranteed qualities, special selected skins, New fall shades. Made carefully, Fit perfectly. Lock fastenings. Special Black Gloves, \$1.25 pair. Special White Gloves, \$1.00 a pair.

LADIES' - WEAR - OUR - SPECIALTY.

ROBERTSON, TRITES & CO., (Limited), 83 and 85 Charlotte St ST. JOHN, N. B.

WATSON'S Celebrated Underwear.

WINTER GLOVES AND MITTS. Our assortment of Fabric Gloves is one of the largest and best selected stocks in this city. It comprises all the standard makes, and includes all the staple and fancy weaves, stitching and new shades.

A BARGAIN IN CHILDREN'S COATS.

Just one kind, but prices are right. Made of Heavy Oxford Tweed, in Navy and Royal Blue, full length, with full back, small shoulders, trimmed with black braid, double breasted, steel buttons. Inside seams neatly bound, in four sizes.

5 to 7 years (net price), \$1.60. 7 to 9 years (net price), \$2.25. 9 to 12 years (net price), \$2.61. 12 to 14 years (net price), \$2.88.

Corsets.

Bias Filled Corsets. Lady Curzon is a low bust, Bias Filled, Straight Front Corset. Lady Ellen is a medium bust, Bias Filled Straight Front Corset. Price \$1.25 a pair. They satisfy the most exacting. They please the most fastidious.



Beaver Flour.

Made from the world's best wheat. Made by the world's best milling methods—the best family flour in the world. Makes the best bread—the best biscuits—the best pastry. Never spoils a baking. Get it from your Grocer.

W. V. BARBOUR, ST. JOHN, N. B. New Brunswick Selling Agent.

HIGH ROLLING AT EL PASO.

One City of the United States Where Gambling Goes on Incessantly in the Public Place.

Eight hundred miles away from any city of size comparable to its own, the centre of a desert radiating 500 miles in every direction, situated on the boundaries of two states, one territory and two republics, is El Paso, Texas, the Monte Carlo of the United States.

More than \$2,000,000 passes over the gambling tables at El Paso every year. This is an average of \$30,000 a day, or about \$3 daily for every citizen, man, woman or child, as the population is a citizen or otherwise.

The amount of table gambling in El Paso is six times greater than the dry goods business, wholesale and retail. Moreover, it is conducted on a cash basis, and none of it is promissory notes or trade.

In the gambling houses of the city proper are 400 employees who operate the games, and these do not include porters and other attendants. The average salary of the operators of tables and machines is \$5 a day, making a daily expenditure for salaries of \$2,000, or almost a million yearly.

Such an occurrence, however, does not often happen. The business has been phenomenal from the start, and few games close each year from lack of funds. The strongest houses carry \$5,000 to \$20,000 in cash, on hand, as well as commensurate deposits in the banks.

The most dangerous man to gambling houses is the plunger from the cow country or the mining camp. With a year's pay, or perhaps the proceeds of a lucky strike, all in gold in a belt or pouch, he comes to town for his periodical "good time." He plays heavily, and if luck is with him soon makes a "killing."

The games are guarded by the authorities, and none can be run on other than what they decide to be a legitimate basis. It is a time honored and accepted institution.

It was a raw and gusty day for Greece, and the wood-nymphs shivered miserably. But they laughed in derision when clothing was suggested.

The UNFORTUNATE GOLFER. A golfer whose eyes were oblique. Tried to make a swift drive with a club.

To cure Headache in ten minutes use Kumfort Headache Powders, 10 cents.