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SIDE TALKS.

By Ruth Cameron.

THE ONE WHO KNOWS.

Sometimes I tell it all to someone and then have a good cry. I think my achey old heart would feel better. But (contrary creature that I am) I should hate anyone who knew.

And then she goes on to tell me the secret sorrow of her life. She should not have said, "contrary creature that I am," but rather "typically human creature that I am." For could anything be more, typically human than that reaction?

The Cosmic Urge.

First, the cosmic urge to tell someone, to pour out our hearts, to get relief in expression from the pressure of some secret grief or perplexity; and then the reaction of bitter regret that one has given away one's secrets. Of

course this regret ought to make us feel resentful against ourselves, but self-resentment is an unnatural emotion. Whenever we have cause to feel it, we are inclined to unconsciously seek some other object to attach it to. In this case the recipient of the information becomes the scapegoat and we find ourselves as my Letter Friend puts it, "hating the one who knows." Especially if the one who knows is someone we must meet again in the light of common day (probably our confidence was given at night, I imagine three quarters of all confidences are).

How She Lost Her Friend.

A friend of mine once told me of her irreparable loss of a friend. "I can't understand it," she said. "We used to be the closest friends you can imagine. We used to go to walk together for we both loved to walk and we used to talk and talk about everything. She was having a lot of trouble with her husband and she told me everything about it and I tried my best to help her and she said she hadn't ever told anyone the things she told me, and that it was such a relief, and then all at once she began to seem so different. Now she is hardly more than a casual friend. I never in the world told anyone the things she told me. I sometimes wonder if she thought I did. I simply can't understand it any other way."

Of course it's plain enough what happened. Unjust? Thoroughly. But one of the lessons we learn as we study in the school of life is that human relations are not regulated by justice.

Signor Mussolini on a Spirit of War

Rome.—In his Armistice Day speech at the Costanzi Theatre, Signor Mussolini, the Italian Prime Minister, said, the Locarno agreement was an important step for peace in Europe, but the Macedonian and Syrian events happened immediately afterwards.

Though he felt that Europe would enjoy a long period of peace, it would not be durable and eternal.

Amid great applause, he declared that if Italian frontiers were even questioned Italy would move immediately towards war. He urged the necessity of a powerful army, an efficient navy, and a superior air force—above all a virile spirit. "We are now creating the third Italy," he said. "It must be greater than the previous ones. We will create it with brain and brawn, if necessary, with blood."

—Exchange.

Murderer Trapped by a Monkey

TRUE STORIES OF BRAINY APES.

In Kipling's Jungle Books monkeys are supposed to be despised by all the rest of the jungle folk on account of their restlessness and lack of purpose. But the truth is that the monkey has the best brain of any animal, next to man, and that it can come far nearer to reasoning than even elephants or dogs, which are usually considered the most intelligent creatures.

For instance, Arthur, the new chimpanzee at the London Zoo, can use a key to open a padlock. It may be that Arthur has been taught this particular trick, but there are plenty of instances of monkeys teaching themselves. Dr. Kohler, who has written a book called "The Mentality of Apes," kept chimpanzees in a big open-air enclosure in Tenerife.

Deserved His Meal.

They were kept as nearly as possible under wild conditions and were not trained. The experiment was tried of hanging a banana high over their heads. At first all jumped wildly upwards, but the fruit was out of their reach. After a while Sultan, their leader, fetched a box, placed it below the banana, climbed on it and reached the dainty. Next day the banana was hung higher, and this time Sultan stacked three boxes, one on top of the other, and so formed a platform high enough to enable him to reach the fruit.

In another experiment a banana was placed on the ground outside the bars of the enclosure and beyond the monkey's reach. Then Sultan was provided with a joint of a fishing rod. With this he tried to reach the banana, but the stick was not long enough. A second joint was provided, and after a little experimenting he fitted one joint into the other, thus making a rod long enough to reach and secure the meal.

A dog does not seem to pay any attention to its reflection in a mirror, but a monkey is keenly interested. Finding that there is not another monkey at the back of the mirror, it soon realizes that the image in the glass is a reflection of itself, and craves the glass like a human being. A monkey will even recognize one of its kind in a coloured picture, and with evident pleasure. Given nuts too hard to crack with its teeth, a Capuchin monkey used a stone as a hammer and got the kernels.

In a Malay hut on a rubber estate near Taiping a man was robbed and murdered, his body being buried near by. Later, an Englishman walking past the hut was surprised by a monkey pulling at the leg of his trousers. He tried to drive it away, but it persisted and at last he followed it. The monkey led him to a mound of freshly-turned earth and began to scratch. The Englishman informed the police, who dug up the ground and found the body of the monkey's master. Suspicion fell on a man who, when taken to the police station, was singled out by the monkey and attacked with fury. In his terror he confessed to the murder.

An amazing story was told recently by Professor Sir Charles S. Sherrington. Professor Sir Charles S. Sherrington, he said, "had a reminder of mental kinship of primitive forebears in laboratory chimpanzees when I paid my daily visit to their room. One day after a visit, I turned back, pondering what the chimpanzees might do when I left them. I looked through the keyhole, and there the chimpanzees were."

Distressed After Meals?

Indigestion, no matter how slight, is a nuisance. It can ruin the good nature of the most genial of us.

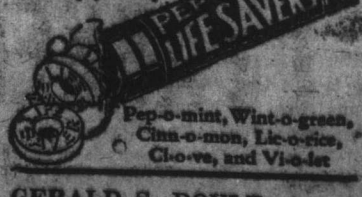
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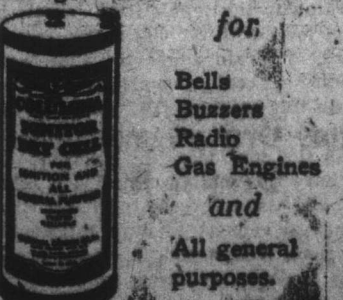
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