THIS CURIOUS WORLD

By William Ferguson

LIONS, like man, mature in approximately one-fourth of their life span. They live well in captivity, some having lived under man's care for 25 years. Captive lions, although not well muscled like those living in the wild state, develop more beautiful manes.

NEXT: How fox hunting delayed the building of the railways in England.

CHRONICLES of GINGER FARM

By Gwendoline P. Clarke

We have a very lively increase in the family—in fact there are two hundred and fifty of them, all of them babies and as cute as can be. It is fun to watch our new family—the only trouble is, to watch takes time. But then "what is life, if full of care, we have no time to stand and stare"—whether it be at chickens or sunsets. Both are lovely. And do you know, you can almost watch chickens grow in intelligence as well as in size. Or perhaps I should say — observe their instinct develop — because chickens never have very much intelligence at any time.

* * *

For instance, the first day we had the chicks, I could cough, sneeze, bang away at the stove or do anything at all and the chickens took no notice whatsoever. The second day, when I shook the fire down, the little things stood absolutely still, as much as to say—"What's going to happen to us now?" The third day they were used to stove noises but when I sneezed, rather violently, and twice in succession, they made one wild scramble to the far corners of the pen. And they didn't come out until they were sure that the noise they had heard had no relation to Mt. Vesuvius in eruption.

* * *

Then I got some new drinking fountains — different from the one already in the pen. Several of the more venturesome chicks crowded around the fountains, got very close to the saucers, and then backed away. That would happen time and again. Then one, with more courage than the rest, gave one quick peck at the water and then backed away quicker than ever. He shook his head and really looked quite surprised. "Why that is only water in that queer looking thing", he apparently thought to himself, "I think I'll try it again!" So he came back, and his return gave the others courage. Pretty soon all the chickens were scrambling over each other to get to the water. After awhile, having fed their fill and quenched their thirst, they are ready for an after dinner nap. Some dose off standing up but finally sink to the floor, others would settle themselves comfortably before going to sleep and appeared more like dopey or half dead chickens — until a few of their wide-awake brothers and sisters would run over the top of their sleeping bodies without so much as saying "By your leave". Up jump the sleeping chickens, now very much alive and awake, shake themselves, run a few steps, and then settle down again, to sleep until once more disturbed.

* * *

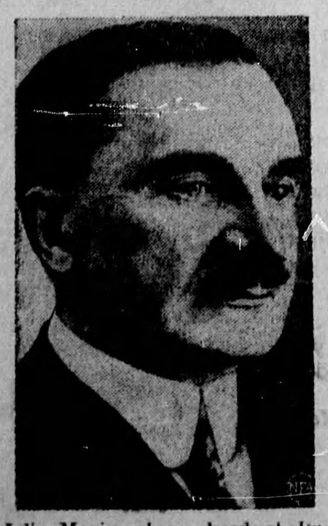
In the meantime I finished my Red Cross Collecting, which in this district, was unavoidably delayed. I found the response very gratifying, far more than in any previous year. It is not necessary now to tell people what the Red Cross is doing. In fact, some people, after giving generously, say that they wish it were possible for them to give twice as much.

* * *

Yesterday we had a very unhappy experience. We had to destroy our dog. We were especially grieved because he belongs to our soldier son, and they were the greatest of chums. But Rusty had recently taken up with bad company and the two dogs went on the rampage and badly mauled a neighbour's geese. Naturally, no matter what Rusty meant to us, we could not keep a dog that gave trouble, and would probably give more, to any of our neighbours. We had already done what we could. To cure the wander-lust, except in winter, Rusty was tied up as much as possible and was always in at night. But what kind of a life is that for a dog?

So we did what we thought was the only fair thing towards our neighbours—got rid of the dog. But if you have ever loved a dog—and incidentally, its owner—then you will probably know how badly we feel about losing Rusty, who, except for that one had trait that he developed, had the best disposition of any dog ever owned.

RUMANIAN LEADER



Juliu Maniu, above, head of Rumania's Peasant Party and anti-Axis "underground" leader, is considered a likely candidate to head a new anti-Axis dictator Antonescu's regime be over thrown and Rumania accept Allied peace terms.

SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

April 16

SAUL'S EARLY PREACHING

Acts 9: 19b—30; 11: 19—26.

PRINTED TEXT—Acts 9: 19b—30; 11: 25, 26.

GOLDEN TEXT. — I am not ashamed of the gospel: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth. Romans 1: 16.

Memory Verse: I will sing unto Jehovah. Exodus 15: 1.

THE LESSON IN ITS SETTING

Time.—The conversion of the Apostle Paul probably took place in the year A.D. 36, while the beginning of his ministry in Antioch occurred about A.D. 43.

Place.—Antioch was a great city of Syria, on the left bank of the Orontes River, fifteen miles inland from the Mediterranean sea. Damascus, of course, was the capital of Syria, as Jerusalem was the great city of Palestine.

Saul's Early Ministry

"And he was certain days with the disciples that were at Damascus and straightway in the synagogues he proclaimed Jesus, that he is the Son of God. And all that heard him were amazed, and said, is that this he that in Jerusalem made havoc of them that called on his name? And he had come hither for this intent, that he might bring them bound before the chief priests."

What a great change had taken place in this man Saul! But a few days before this he was the most violent persecutor of anyone who believed this very thing which he was now preaching. Everyone knew that some tremendous power must have laid hold of him to bring about such a transformation.

"But Saul increased the more in strength and confounded the Jews that dwelt at Damascus, proving that this is the Christ." Saul became more energetic in his new labors. Saul knew the great truths of the Old Testament as probably few men of his generation knew them. No one was able to confound him.

The Plot Against Saul

"And when many days were fulfilled, the Jews took counsel together to kill him: but their plot became known to Saul. And they watched the gates also day and night that they might kill him: but his disciples took him by night, and let him down through the wall, lowering him in a basket."

What a difference between Saul's original intention to enter into Damascus in his burning hatred aganst the Christians with the picture we now have of him, hounded by these very Jews who would seek to murder him, and being helped out of the city by the disciples whom a few weeks ago he sought to destroy.

Saul In Jerusalem

"And when he was come to Jerusalem. He assayed to join himself to the disciples: and they were all afraid of him, not believing that he was a disciple." It must have been a bitter disappointment to Saul, coming fresh from the persecution of the Jews, to find himself repulsed by the Brethren. The disciples may have thought that he returned to his former faith and had some sinister motive in seeking to join them.

Barnabas Befriends Saul

"But Barnabas took him, and brought him to the apostles, and declared unto them how he had seen the Lord in the way, and that he had spoken to him, and how at Damascus he had preached boldly in the name of Jesus." While other leading Christians in the city of Jerusalem looked with suspicion upon Saul, Barnabas came forward and 'took the young disciple by the hand and gave him the weight of his influence'—the influence of wealth and character.

Saul Among The Brethren

"And he was with them going in and going out at Jerusalem. Preaching boldly in the name of the Lord: and he spoke and disputed against the Grecian Jews; but they were seeking to kill him." These Grecians were the Greek Jews at whose instigation Stephen had been put to death. Now Saul, who had consented unto that martyrdom, is exposed to a like persecution.

"And when the brethren knew it, they brought him down to Caesarea, and sent him forth to Tarsus." The word 'brethren' seems expressly used to imply that the disciples at Jerusalem recognized Saul as a brother.

"And he went forth to Tarsus to seek for Saul." Knowing the strength of his friend Saul, aware of his great ability, and realizing that the church at Antioch needed one of greater gifts than he himself possessed, Barnabas went off to look for Saul.

Saul's Ministry At Antioch

"And when he had found him, he brought him unto Antioch. And it came to pass, that even for a whole year they were gathered together with the church, and taught much people." Note the importance which the apostles gave to the proper instruction of these new converts. Is not this a perfect fulfillment of the Lord's great command to the apostles before His ascension, that, going into all the nations and baptizing believers, they were to teach them 'to observe all things, whatsoever I have commanded you.'

MEET THE MAIN 'MARAUDER'

Professorial looking, but mighty tough on Japs, is Brig.-Gen. Frank Merrill, center, above, commander of "Merrill's Marauders," the U.S. infanty unit that is giving the enemy what for in the jungles of Burma. He's pictured with Lts. Elbert V., left, and Albert B. Higgins, twin brother of Adamsville, Tex.

RADIO REPORTER

By AL LEARY

Your columnist just back from a meeting of the Network affiliates in New York, at which he was the sole Canadian representative, and

Jack Burche

which was attended by representatives of 35 American stations, was amazed at the terrific arrangements being made by the American networks for the invasion of Europe when it occurs.

Eighty correspondents are ready to go in with the invasion wave, and you will probably be getting some of these "on the spot" battle broadcasts. Perhaps in this connection too few laurels have been handed to the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation for the magnificent coverage job they have given the Canadian Forces since the war started. At the present time Jack Kanawin, well-known to Canadian Radio listeners, is in England as head of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation's Overseas Service with a capable staff of engineers and announcers. Bob Bowman who headed the unit originally is now in Washington representing the press interests there.

* * *

Another thing we found out in New York is that the Radio networks are suffering more and more from the very acute manpower shortage. Not only are announcers and technical staff being called to the United States Army but more and more of the top rank stars. Dennis Day of the Jack Benny show, leaves shortly to become an Ensign in the United States Navy and Red Skelton has been classified 1A, and expects to be called to the army very shortly. With this situation some of the intense rivalry between networks and stations has had to go by the board for the duration, and they have been pooling their resources to keep radio top-notch.

* * *

This probably comes in the laugh of the week department but your commentator, in the audience for the second Maple Leaf-Canadian game at the Forum in Montreal, was sitting behind Foster Hewitt. This we imagine is the first NHL play-off game in which the Leafs have participated, that Foster has ever watched as a spectator. Having a train to catch back to Toronto we had to leave before the game was over and grabbing a taxi cab we asked the driver to turn on the radio as he took us to the station. He turned on the Hockey game, but the French version, so we still didn't know what the final score was until we ran into Wes McKnight in the club car later in the evening.

* * *

A new programme which will probably create a large day time audience, will be the programme with Jack Burche and the Three Sons. Better catch this one on your favourite Mutual station.

Dunkerque Fleet Asked To Stand By

Four years ago next May a call went out from the British admiralty to all yachtsmen, to all owners of launches, to all salt-water fishermen, to all proprietors of bumboats to stand by for service, says the New York Times. In response there was soon mustered the strangest fleet that ever sailed the English Channel, the ragtags and bobtails of a fleet, manned in part by men used to salt water and in part by men who hardly knew one end of a boat from the other and got seasick whenever the water was ruffled This flotilla passed over to Dunkerque. Some boats were lost and some men with them, but no boat was turned back while it could still float and move, and among them they brought to England thousands upon thousands of Englishmen and Frenchmen whom the Nazis had counted as good as dead. . . . .

Now the crews of the little craft are being asked to enroll again, for service up to a term of four weeks some time within the next six months. We can assume that the Admiralty wishes to use them to carry soldiers across the Channel. Last time they went empty eastward and came back loaded. This time we suspect they will go fully loaded to the coast of Europe. The tide that set so strongly away from France four years ago has turned. It will be flowing strongly eastward soon. The Allied tanks, guns and infantry will be passing through Dunkerque again—inward bound.

LEND-LEASE EXPERT

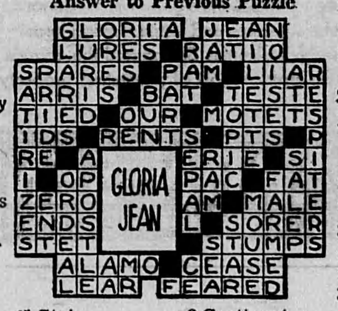
HORIZONTAL

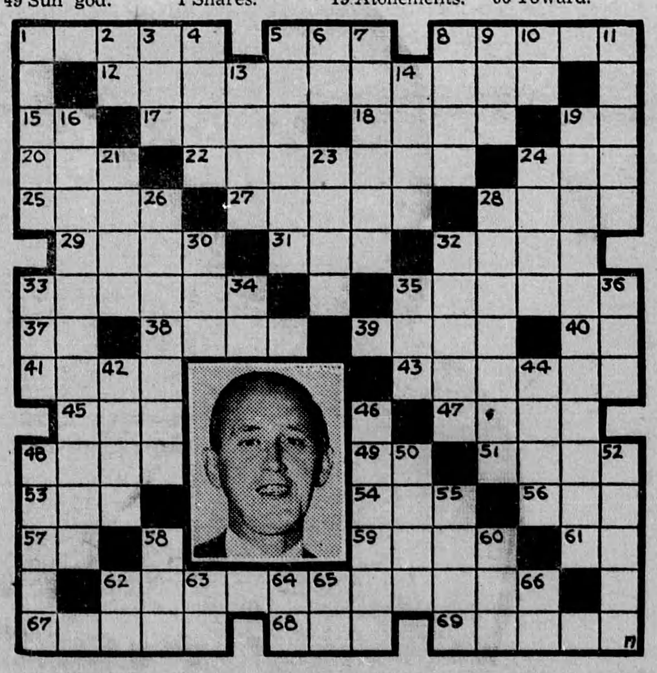
1 Dogma.
5 Weep.
8 Ditch (pl.).
12 Adjustment.
15 Paid publicity
17 Alone.
18 Ceremony.
19 Concerning.
20 Vim.
22 Row of houses
24 Through.
25 Pin-tail duck.
27 Assert.
28 Trust.
29 Ornithology (abbr.).
31 Female saint (abbr.).
32 Weight of British India.
33 All.
35 Banish from a country.
37 Exclamation.
38 Harness.
39 Dagger.
40 Sloth.
41 Stalk.
43 Impresses.
45 Narrow inlet.
47 Terminal.
48 Tribunals.
49 Sun god.
51 Stain.
53 Consumed.
54 Indian.
56 Compass point (abbr.).
57 Symbol for tellurium.
59 Donated.
61 Continent (abbr.).
62 Clear.
67 First name of 28 vertical.
68 Grease.
69 Cooking apparatus.

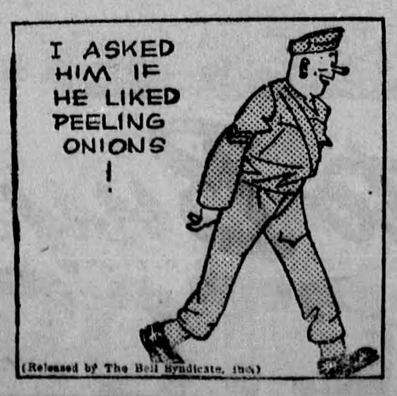
VERTICAL

1 Snares.
2 Continent (abbr.).
3 Bitter vetch.
4 Horse's gait.
5 Angry noises of a horse.
6 King of Bashan.
7 Scold.
8 Measure.
9 Number.
10 Near
11 Metric measure.
13 Beverages.
14 Small rodents.
16 Prove.
19 Atonements.
21 Saucy.
23 Grade.
24 Horseback game.
26 Riddles.
28 Lend-lease administrator pictured.
30 Wrath.
32 Earth.
33 Exclamations.
34 Each (abbr.).
35 Sag.
36 It is (poet.).
42 Ireland.
44 Back of neck.
46 Thrifty.
48 Group.
50 Essence (simp.).
52 Annoy.
55 Nights before.
58 Make a mistake.
60 Entomology (abbr.).
62 Transpose (abbr.).
63 Forever.
64 Thus.
65 Jumbled type.
66 Toward.

Answer to Previous Puzzle





POP—No Laughing Matter

By J. MILLAR WATT