

Timmins Stamp Club Column

Postal Zoo—The Rhinoceros

This grotesque monster with the projecting horn upon his snout is a strange survival from prehistoric times, and still fairly common in both Asia and Africa. The great white rhinoceros is the largest of all living land mammals, with the single exception of the elephant; but whereas the elephant is one of the most intelligent animals in the world, the rhinoceros is one of the most stupid.



The remarkable horn which is the rhino's most conspicuous feature is not really a horn at all, but is made up of a compact mass of modified hairs, fused solidly together and ending in a sharp and dangerous point. In spite of his savage and formidable appearance, however, the rhino is a strict vegetarian and feeds almost exclusively on the leaves and twigs of low trees. A morose and un sociable beast, he is often found sleeping in the middle of a plain with no other company than a few tick birds perched upon his ungainly back.

The rhino has very poor eyesight, but his senses of smell and hearing are acute, and his uncontrollable curiosity is always getting him—and other people—into trouble. Again and again rhinos deliberately trot up to a travelling caravan and get themselves shot down by high-powered rifles. And it is said that the same truculent aggressiveness has even caused them to charge the headlights of a moving locomotive, with disastrous results to both parties!

The Polar Bear

It would be hard to imagine a cooler sight for the summer months than the polar bear standing on an ice floe, who is shown on the Norwegian postage stamp above. He is completely covered from head to foot with a shaggy coat of creamy white fur, and only the tip of his nose shows up black against the arctic snow. When stalking his prey, "Nannook," as the Eskimos call him, is said to carefully cover up this tell-tale feature with one paw!



The polar bear often attains a length of 9 feet, weighs 1600 pounds, and has the distinction of being the largest member of the entire bear family, with the exception of the grizzly and Alaskan brown bear of North America. Thanks to his thick coat he is perfectly adapted to life on the frozen ice-floes of the Far North, and close-set bristles on the soles of his feet enable him to travel with considerable speed over the ice without slipping.

In spite of his awe-inspiring nickname of "The Tiger of the North" the polar bear is not a particularly blood-thirsty animal and is successfully hunted by the Eskimos with the help of only dogs and spears. His diet consists mostly of fish and seals and he is fully as much at home in the water as out of it. Often polar bears travel great distances on floating ice-pans, and sailors have reported sighting them swimming strongly a hundred miles from the nearest land!

The Salmon

In striking contrast to Newfoundland's other great commercial fish, the lowly cod, the salmon is famous not only for his delicious meat, but also for his beauty, strength and courage. Occasionally he reaches a length of 4 or 5 feet and may weigh as much as 60 or 70 pounds. The sight of one of these great silvery fish leaping a ten-foot waterfall on his way up the river to spawn is not soon forgotten, and anglers rate the salmon as one of the very finest of game fish. It is even

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said that in Scotland as much as \$10,000 has been paid for the rent of a three-mile strip along a salmon stream during the fishing season!

The life cycle of the salmon is one of absorbing interest and the wide variety of names by which he is known in the different stages of growth shows how carefully he has been studied by fishermen. The female salmon scoops out a hollow nest in the gravelly bottom of a river and deposits her eggs in it, while the male salmon drives off intruders with short, fierce charges. The eggs are hatched at the end of the winter and the young salmon fry "alevins" are only about an inch long after six weeks. For two years they remain in the river shallows, are scarcely distinguishable from small trout, and are known as "parr" or "samlets."



In the second spring after its birth, however, the samlet undergoes a wonderful change. Its dull coloring is replaced by a brilliant coat of silver known to anglers as the "sea-jacket," and the "smolts," as they are now called, migrate in shoals to the sea. During their first winter in the ocean they are known as grilse, and it is usually several years before some mysterious instinct causes them to return to the rivers of their birth to spawn. In the annual run of the adult fish up the rivers, the great canning factories of the Pacific Coast catch hundreds of thousands of tons of fresh and perfect salmon. After spawning, however, the salmon always becomes thin, scrawny and discoloured, and is known as a "kelt." Often the fish die during this stage, but some of them manage to make their way to the sea, where they regain their former strength and start again on the strange round of their life cycle.

The Codfish

Other countries may honour on their postage stamps the royal lion, the ferocious tiger, and the lordly elephant; Newfoundland pays postal tribute to the humble codfish! With his staring eyes and gaping mouth the cod is not a handsome fish, and he is so greedy and stupid that he will bite at a bare hook! Moreover, the codfish lacks even the virtue of courage and will suffer himself to be drawn up out of the deep without the slightest struggle. Yet in spite of all his failings, he is one of the most important food fishes in the world, and the 170,000 tons of dried salt cod that are brought back to Newfoundland every year by the fishing fleet are sold for from \$15,000,000 to \$2,000,000.



Cod are found principally in the North Atlantic and the Baltic Sea at depths of from 1 to 100 fathoms. At a marketable age they are usually about 3 feet long and from 5 to 25 pounds in weight, but specimens have been taken that were 5 feet long and weighed as much as 100 pounds. They fed upon fish, worms and mollusks, and will take most any bait. Constantly preyed upon by man and easy victims to large fish, they would have been exterminated long ago if it were not for their remarkable powers of reproduction. The average female cod spawns over 2,000,000 eggs, and as many as 10,000,000 have been counted in a single fish! Of course, only a small percentage of these are ever fertilized, or else the Grand Banks would be literally packed with starving cod.

Most of the annual codfish catch is split, dried and salted, and reaches the market in the form of "codfish flakes." Not even the smallest and most insignificant parts of the fish are wasted, however; the liver yields a valuable oil which is exceptionally rich in vitamins; canned cod roe is a wholesome protein food; the air bladders are made into isinglass which is used to clarify beer; and the rest of the fish is converted into glue and fertilizer.

In conclusion it might be interesting to note that codfish of a superior flavour have been developed in a freshwater reservoir in Wigtownshire, Scotland, by feeding them mussels. When their feeding hours come around, the cod are said to rise to the surface in hundreds and look expectantly for their keeper. Through long association with human beings they have become tame and familiar, and after a little coaxing will allow visitors to handle them playfully and scratch them on the back. This most astonishing of all fish stories is gravely related by no less an authority than the Encyclopedia Britannica!

Toronto Telegram:—It is said of the lamented Clarence Darrow that no accused man he defended was ever executed. However, Darrow never defended a prisoner in Russia.

Globe and Mail:—The unreliability of European news these days was well illustrated in a despatch on Tuesday saying that Hitler had refused the Duke of Windsor's personal plea for the release of his friend Baron Louis Rothschild, now a Nazi prisoner in Vienna. Yesterday came straight denial by the Duke's enquiry that any such request had been made.

Methods to Apply for Resuscitation

In Drowning Cases Artificial Respiration Should Not be Lightly Dropped.

(By J. W. S. McCullough, M.D., D.P.H.)

In a recent case of drowning in a swimming tank of one of our large cities a young boy, rescued from the tank in a very few minutes, was given artificial respiration for about half an hour and then pronounced dead. In the presence of presumably skilled instructors, surprise has been expressed that the boy was not taken from the water sooner and also that artificial respiration was abandoned in such short time.

In cases of drowning, respiration ceases early but in many cases the heart continues to beat, even if feebly for a considerable time. While there is heart beat, there is hope.

In addition to keeping the patient warm in such cases, the removal of tight clothing from neck, chest and waist, artificial respiration should be continually pursued for at least 4 hours. This may be done by relays of operators. There is nothing difficult about the process. Anyone of intelligence can carry on the Schafer method, which is briefly described as follows:—

1. Lay the patient on his stomach, one arm extended directly overhead, the other bent at the elbow and with face on one side, resting on the hand or forearm so that the nose and mouth are free for breathing. The face-down position clears and opens the air passages and any vomit or fluid readily runs away. Then again pressure brings about reduction in the size of the chest and so expelling air, can be applied

more safely and effectively from behind than from the front.

2. "Kneel, straddling the patient's thighs, with your knees placed at such a distance from the hip bones as will allow you to assume a comfortable position. Place the palms of the hands resting on the ribs, the little finger just touching the lowest rib, with the thumb and fingers in a natural position, and the tips of the fingers just out of sight."

3. "With arms held straight, swing forward slowly so that the weight of your body is gradually brought to bear upon the patient. The shoulder should be directly over the heel of your hand at the end of the forward swing. Do not bend your elbows. This operation should take about two seconds." This drives air out of the lungs. In natural breathing inspiration is active, expiration passive. In this method of artificial respiration, the process is reversed.

4. "Now swing backward so as completely to remove the pressure." When the pressure is removed, the elasticity of the chest causes it to spring back to its normal position with an inrush of air.

5. "After two seconds swing forward again. Thus repeat deliberately 12 to 15 times a minute the double movement of the compression and release, giving a complete respiration in 4 or 5 seconds."

6. "Continue artificial respiration without interruption until natural breathing is restored, if necessary for 4 hours or longer, until a doctor declares the patient dead. Keep the patient warm. Do not give any liquids by mouth until the patient is fully conscious."

Toronto Telegram:—It seems possible that the dove of peace may finally be forced to take refuge in Ireland—and wouldn't that be funny?

Stresses Necessity of Clean Promotion

Future of Mining Industry Rests Largely on Fair Practices.

(From Globe and Mail)

If the speculatively inclined public failed to learn a lesson during the market slump last week, we are afraid it will be useless to issue warnings of further pitfalls that lie in the way of the speculator. In a senseless stampede, good securities were thrown overboard and the greatest loss fell, as usual, upon the small investor or speculator, who, in his anxiety for quick fortune, extended himself beyond a safe margin of financial ability.

Europe and its rumours and alarms is not the only direction from which disturbing factors may be expected and, as a matter of fact, those emanating from sources nearer home, sometimes among the more-or-less prominent leaders, are more to be feared in the long run.

The general support of the Canadian public in mine development has created and built up a coterie of financiers who in some cases have callously jeopardized the good name of the industry. They well know that nothing succeeds like success and, trading upon fortunate developments financed by the public, have now and then added proof to the fact that get-rich-quick greed is by no means confined to the "mooch." There are "moches" high and "mooches" low.

A case in point is a stock much in the public eye at the moment, representing a property that has passed through some very distressing episodes and in which the public, following astutely spread advice, bought heavily

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in earlier days, only to be later shaken out. While in the case we have in mind we have not the slightest doubt that an important producing mine is being developed, that merely adds to the suspicion with which mine promotion is viewed. It is refreshing to reflect that in this particular case a "once bitten, twice shy," public is not falling over itself to load up. That may be a sign of belated awakening.

The point we wish to force home is that the cleanliness of promotion is the most important factor in sustaining public interest in mine development and that without such support in generous degree the finest mineral showings that lie outdoors will prove of little value to Canada. And it is upon the so-called leaders, started up the ladder of success by the faith and liberality of the public, aided by a press lavish in support, that the future of Canada therefore depends in greatest degree.

The aim of this department of The Globe and Mail is to present physical facts upon which a fair judgment of the merits of a project may be judged

with as much assurance as is possible where the words of others must be largely taken. It is obvious, however, that it cannot take upon itself expressions of opinion regarding personnel, and it is in that phase of mine promotion that the closest scrutiny is necessary on the part of those who are the real backbone of the industry and who in the past have sometimes been the football and sport of men who have forgotten they are but creatures of a kindly Providence.

Toronto Telegram:—Constant trouble in the fur industry suggests that workers catch some of the wildness from the pelts.



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