

EDITORIAL NOTES.

So far as legislation can accomplish it all of Africa lying between Egypt and the Sahara on the north and the Zambesi and German Southwest Africa in the south, has been turned into an immense game preserve by the European Powers which have seized the continent. Representatives of Great Britain, France, Germany, Portugal, Italy, Spain and of the King of the Belgians, acting for the Congo State, signed a convention at London for the preservation of wild animals, birds and fish in Africa. Within a month after the certificates of ratification have reached London the convention comes into force and will last for fifteen years. The signatories comprise all claimants to any part of the protected area with their exception of the Republic of Liberia.

Among the commissioners were sportsmen, naturalists and explorers as well as diplomats. They prepared schedules of animals, the hunting or killing of some being prohibited, of others limited and of others permitted and encouraged. No one will be allowed to hunt in Central Africa without a license from the local government. Reserves are to be established as far as possible within which all hunting is prohibited and close seasons established for the protection of breeding. Dynamite and poison shall not be used, while restrictions are put on the employment of nets and pitfalls. Measures are to be taken to prevent the spread of cattle disease and other epidemics and for interfering with the destruction of specific animals.

The classification of animals is interesting. Those which must not be killed at all are partly useful, namely, the vulture, the owl, the secretary bird and the rhinoceros bird, and partly rare and likely to be exterminated, the giraffe, the gorilla and chimpanzee, the mountain zebra, the wild ass, the white-tailed gnu, the eland and the little Liberian hippopotamus. On the other hand harmful animals are marked out for destruction, and special efforts will be made to reduce their numbers. These are lions, leopards, hyenas, hunting dogs, Lycan pictus, otters, baboons and other harmful monkeys, crocodiles, poisonous snakes, pythons and large birds of prey which are not useful.

A distinction is made between the protected animals which may be hunted under restrictions. Of some, the young and the females, when accompanied by their young or otherwise recognizable, must not be killed. This picturesque list includes the elephant, the rhinoceros, the hippopotamus, the zebra, the buffalo, the antelope and gazelle, the ibex and the chevrotaim. Export duties will be imposed on their hides, tusks and horns. In regard to the elephant, especially, severe penalties will be imposed, and tusks weighing less than ten pounds shall be confiscated wherever found. For others the restriction is merely that the number to be killed shall be limited by the local authorities. Among these are fur monkeys and small monkeys, dugongs, manatees, small cats, various pigs, jackals, large tortoises, bustards, guinea fowl, and other game birds, whose feathers have commercial value like marabou and egret, and ostriches, for the preservation of whose eggs special measures are to be taken.

It will be seen that hardly a single inhabitant of the African jungle has escaped the watchful eye of the convention. The London Times, in commenting on the report, thinks nevertheless that the commissioners did not go far enough and that they should have prohibited all hunting for specified periods, a suggestion that seems even more impracticable than the prohibitions of the convention. The recommendations are almost purely academic for the chief destroyers of animal life in Africa are the natives in search of food or clothing, or of the means of satisfying the requirements of commerce. If they can be educated to abstain from wanton destruction of useful animals some part of the fauna peculiar to Africa may be saved from extinction. Meantime it is something to have secured a general international agreement as to what the civilized nations should do. It will act as a deterrent on European sportsmen who seek only to destroy, and may even reach the traders outside of Africa, whose short-sighted policy of immediate gain is a large factor in the threatened extinction of the most valuable and interesting of African animals.

HEARTS OF VEGETARIANS.

Examination of the hearts of the vegetarian and the meat eater shows that the number of beats to the former are fifty-eight to the minute, and of the latter seventy-two.

ENGLISH WOMEN.

The total number of women over 18 years old employed in the factories and workshops of the British Islands is about 500,000, of whom 11 per cent belong to trades unions.

On the Farm.

BREEDING, FEED AND CARE OF THE BACON HOG.

John M. Harris, of the firm of C. & T. Harris & Co., and chairman of the Clane, Eng. Pig Feeding Experiments Committee, has an interesting article in the last issue of the Journal of the British Dairy Farmers' Association on the profitable production of the lean hog bacon.

For some years past, says Mr. Harris, his firm have been trying to find the best breed of pig for the class of bacon in request. First it tried Tams, both pure and crossed with Berks. These, he said, carried a large quantity of lean, but took a long time to fatten, and were often coarse and hard of skin. The Berks pure were next tried, and were found good, but too much inclined to thickness in the shoulders, and in cross-bred ones there was a thinness in the belly, or streaky parts, a serious defect in a side of bacon. Then large white Yorks were tried. In these, says Mr. Harris, either pure or crossed with Berks, were found what the pig curers require. They feed well, mature quickly, are very prolific, not thick in shoulder or too thick in the back, are thin in the skin and yield a side which is thick in the belly, or streaky part.

Mr. Harris also refers in his article to experiments carried on in feeding for bacon. In these experiments barley meal, corn meal, barley meal and bran mixed in proportion of two to one, corn meal and bran mixed in the same proportion, corn meal and pea meal in the proportion of three to one, corn meal and bean meal in the same proportion, and a ration made of barley meal, a gallon of separated milk and three pounds of potatoes were all tried. In the barley and corn meal experiments, in some cases, a gallon of separated milk was added to the meal. Now for the results. It was found that barley meal gave a greater weekly increase than corn meal, either when used alone or used in conjunction with other foods. The addition of milk to either corn or barley meal added considerably to the weekly gain. When the hogs were killed it

AN OPEN LETTER

TO ALL SUFFERERS FROM ANAEMIA AND KINDRED TROUBLES.

Mr. Wm. Wilson, of Sarnia, Tells How He Regained Health After an Illness of Over Two Years.

Mr. William Wilson, who is well known to the citizens of Sarnia, Ont., writes: "It affords me much pleasure to be able to add my testimony to the great benefit that I have derived from your famous Dr. Williams' Pink Pills. It is now a little more than two years since I became afflicted with anaemia. During that time I have received almost continuous treatment from medical men of the highest rank in their profession, yet apparently deriving no benefit. Indeed I continued to grow worse until I became unable to walk. I came to the conclusion that I was deriving no benefit from the treatment and decided to give it up. It then was the question, what shall I try? Having read the testimony of so many who had suffered in a similar manner and who had received great benefit from your Dr. Williams' Pink Pills, I decided to give them a fair trial.

"It is now about three months since I commenced to take your pills and to-day I feel almost completely restored. Two weeks after I began to take the pills I felt a decided improvement. Three months ago when I began to take your pills my flesh looked like wax, and my face, feet and legs were badly swollen. These conditions have all disappeared and to-day my color is natural and my blood vessels full of good rich blood. It will afford me pleasure to recommend Dr. Williams' Pink Pills to any one suffering from anaemia or kindred ailments."

Dr. Williams' Pink Pills are praised amongst the highest in the land, as a strengthening and tonic medicine, whether for men, women or children. They are not like other medicines, nor can they be imitated, as is sometimes dishonestly pretended by dealers who offer substitutes. See that the package bears the full name, Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People, and in case of doubt send direct to Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Brockville, Ont., who will supply the pills post paid at 50c per box or \$2.50 for six boxes. These pills cure all disorders which arise from impoverished blood, such as muscular weakness, loss of appetite, shortness of breath, pains in the back, nervous headache, early decay, all forms of female weakness, hysteria, paralysis, locomotor ataxia, rheumatism and sciatia.

was found that those fed on corn meal alone showed the least loss in dressing, less than 23 per cent. On corn meal mixed with separated milk the loss was a fraction over 23 per cent. Those fed on barley meal alone showed a loss of a little over 25 1-2 per cent, and those fed on barley meal mixed with bran almost 28 per cent.

In the matter of quality it was found that the best bacon was produced from hogs fed on barley meal and bran; barley meal and separated milk came next, barley meal third, barley meal, milk and potatoes fourth, corn meal and bean meal sixth, corn meal and separated milk seventh, corn meal alone eighth and corn meal and pea meal ninth. Excess of fat was, the report proceeds, the general failing in corn fed hogs, but this was less pronounced in pigs which had been fed on a mixture of corn with either separated milk, bran, bean meal or pea meal. All things considered, barley forms, says Mr. Harris, a rather more valuable staple food for pigs intended for lean bacon than does corn, although as the price of the former is considerably in excess of that of the latter corn may be more economical especially if used in conjunction with a considerable proportion of foods rich in albumenoids, such as separated milk. Milk is, he says, by far the most valuable addition that can be made to either barley or corn meal, for it is unique in its power of accelerating the weekly increase. As compared with other supplementary foods it improves the quality of the meat more than any other, with the exception of bran. With corn meal it is more potent for good than with barley meal. The addition of potatoes, three or four pounds to a pig per day, to a diet of barley meal and milk greatly improves the ration.

The conclusions arrived at by Mr. Harris are that bacon hogs should be bred from large white Yorks or from those crossed with pure Berks; that pigs should be fattened in dry, warm, well-ventilated buildings placed if possible in a sheltered, sunny position for fattening; the meal should be soaked in cold water; barely meal should be the staple food, supplemented as far as possible with fresh separated skim or buttermilk at the rate of one gallon per pig per day, together with three or four pounds of boiled potatoes.

"And yet the patience of the poor people was wonderful. When I was not actually giving away money they would sit silent for hours looking piteously at the tent to see if I showed no signs of coming out or beckoning to any of the worst cases to come forward. "The weather was bitterly cold in the mornings, and they sat in the cold wind shivering with their naked bodies till the sun warmed them. May I be preserved from seeing such scenes of misery again!"

SHYING HORSES.

Horses often have what is called the vice of shying—that is, of starting suddenly at the rustle of a leaf or a piece of paper or at the approach of any object to which they are not accustomed. Clearly this is the remnant of an instinct inherited from their wild progenitors in the steppes or prairies, where the sudden rustling of a leaf might indicate the presence of a wolf and where everything that was strange was therefore suspicious.

It is idle as well as cruel to beat a horse for shying. That only increases his alarm and may easily reduce him to the state of terror in which he loses his head entirely. Horses in that state seem to lose not only their heads, but their perceptive senses, and a horse in that condition may dash headlong against a stone wall. The habit of shying when once formed is difficult to cure, but it may almost always be prevented by such consistent kindness of treatment as to overpower the inherited instinct of instant flight from possible danger in which the habit originates.

CARE OF SHEEP.

There are two things that the sheep need as much as any animal on the farm. They need fresh air and they need exercise. The sheep shed should be so built that when it rains or snows so that the sheep cannot take their daily run in the field the windows or upper half doors can be opened to allow the fresh air to enter freely. If they have not been shorn they will not feel the cold, and only those who grow winter lambs shear in the fall. But whenever the weather is suitable they should have a run out in the field, not a yard bare of grass and filled with mud and manure, but in an open field. Even in a damp day they may be out for a short time, but not long enough to get their wool wet through. The uneasiness of sheep when in a pasture shows their need of exercise. They will not eat and lie down as a cow does, and some of the smaller breeds are almost as ready to jump on a wall for the fun of jumping as goats are.

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INDIA'S STARNING EOPLPE.

A Vivid Picture of the Suffering in the Famined Districts.

Every now and then in some newspaper or magazine, little known to the general public, one comes across passages which bring vividly before the mind the almost indescribable horrors of the Indian famine. Here are some passages from an article in the India Magazine written by A. Rogers and describing what he saw recently in an out-of-the-way part of India.

"Numbers of women, with children at their breasts vainly striving to draw a little nourishment, surrounded me with such cries as: 'Saheb, I have had no food for two days, and have no milk left for my child; Saheb, I have no food for myself; how can I produce nourishment for my starving child?' Children, with a blank look of stupefaction through actual hunger, sat sat naked on the ground, and helped each other in searching for and scraping up grass seed from the dry sand. I saw one boy, not 8 years old, who was the sole provider for himself and two younger ones. The ribs of all could be distinctly traced on their bodies, while their legs and arms were like dried-up pieces of stick. One blind man, terribly emaciated, was led to my tent every day by a stick held by a naked little girl of about 4 years of age. Another, a miserable old woman, with her gray hair floating in the wind, and with no clothing but a lion cloth of rags, with her bones almost protruding through her skin, came and stood before the tent in a dazed state, and could not understand what I said to her in her own language, but saw a small silver coin I pressed into her hand, and looking up into my eyes threw her arms round my neck, and with her head leaning on my chest sobbed aloud.

"I had to shut my tent doors down to prevent them really mobbing me in their despair, and, if I put my hand out to drop a coin into some-one's who seemed in a more pitiable state than others, fifty more hands were thrust through the opening, and I had to close every hand I put something into for fear the money should be snatched out of it by another starving wretch, as frequently happened.

"The weather was bitterly cold in the mornings, and they sat in the cold wind shivering with their naked bodies till the sun warmed them. May I be preserved from seeing such scenes of misery again!"

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CARRYING OUT THE BOYCOTT IDEA.

The union labor leader took the \$5 bill and examined it critically. Then he handed it back and shook his head. "I can't accept it, he said. Why not? You've earned it, protested the other. True, replied the labor man, but I cannot find a union label on it anywhere.

NOT THE ONLY CASE.

Biggs—Why, what causes your little boy to cry so? Diggs—I-t's the result of his absence of mind. Biggs—Absence of mind? How is that? Diggs—Well, you see he didn't mind what his mother told him, so I had to punish him.

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A Baton Bunco—Uncle Golswan—By gum, Mandy! Ef I wuz the manager o' this show I'd dock th' wages o' that chap thar thet's wavin' th' flute, fer, I swum! he hain't played a note on it th' hull afternoon.

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