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PHIL'S LION

BY LADD PLUMLEY

Phil's father has a farm in Ontario near the Grand Trunk railroad, and close to the railroad track Phil has a chicken run. He is an enterprising fellow, seventeen years of age, and it can be mentioned, is stocky, and solidly-built, and has developed his muscles so that he has taken several prizes for athletic work in his school. He sells his poultry and eggs in a town at a little distance, and is saving the money for a course at O. A. C. which he proposes to enter just as soon as he has finished his course in high-school.

The chicken-run is far from the farm house, so far, indeed, that one evening, when Phil was studying his lessons for the next day, the sounds of the squawking of his chickens came but faintly into the room. But when he opened the kitchen door, he heard plainly a great commotion at the chicken yard over toward the railroad track. He lighted a lantern, and telling his mother that a fox was likely making a killing, hastened across the meadows. He has lost not a few fowls by foxes, and with an attack of a fox in mind, he stealthily approached where the fowls were making a great outcry.

Holding the lantern before him, he threw open the gate of the yard and entered. "That isn't a fox!" he exclaimed, as a far larger animal than a fox slipped into the chicken house. And, at first, he thought the creature was a neighbor's bird dog, which sometimes chased his hens; but it seemed strange how a dog could have gained an entrance to the chicken house.

Phil swung his lantern so that the beams encircled the space before him, and as he did so his heart seemed to pound into his throat. It was not a dog which crouched on the ground within a few yards, gazing toward him with angry eyes, which glared red in the lantern light, meantime lashing its tail from side to side. To behold a lion in a chicken yard was enough to make any one fazed with fear, and there could be no question but that the brute directly in front of Phil was a lion. For several moments Phil's nerves were rigid with terror, and he found it impossible to change his position. Then his quick wit came to his rescue. He just as the lion was about to make a dash into the building, he threw it with all his strength, directing it into the lion's face, at the same moment leaping to one side, thus gaining the open door of the chicken house. Instantly he snatched up the lion, securing it inside with his hook, and the lion's head was fastened to the building as a stout structure, which was designed as a small cattle barn, and which has been changed into a snug place for fowls. As the winters are severe in Ontario, an extra siding of one-inch hemlock boards has been added. There was, therefore, little danger that the lion could break into the building, but for a few moments Phil gasped with the fright of his narrow escape, as he listened to the growls of the lion, which remained just outside the door. Except at a circus or zoo, lions, a cry would cause the lion to leave the building and make an attack on his father, Phil dared not risk a warning from the window. Silently he lowered himself from the ledge, then he dropped to the ground, landing lightly on his feet. Without waiting a second he slipped quietly but swiftly around the building, and gaining the door he quickly pushed it shut; and as quickly slipped the padlock through its ring. He had barely done this when his father called, "Phil, what's the matter?"

Fearful Ravages of Smallpox

Who, up to date, may be properly called the greatest individual benefactor of mankind? Surely, Jenner, who discovered vaccination as a preventative of smallpox. Of all the plagues that afflict mankind, smallpox has by far the worst record as a destroyer. Not much more than a century ago it was reckoned that one-fourth of the human race bore in blindness or disfigurement traces of attack by this fearful plague which at times wiped out whole communities.

The malady was so common that those who escaped it were considered lucky. It killed 500,000 people annually in Europe. Thus, when Lady Mary Wortley Montagu, British ambassador at St. Petersburg, wrote home describing a process of inoculation with smallpox virus as practiced in Russia for preventive purposes, her letter made a great sensation.

This, mind you, was not vaccination. It meant inoculation with the actual virus of the disease. Lady Mary had her own children treated in this way in 1722, after successful experiments on condemned criminals.

two children of Caroline, Princess of Wales, were inoculated, making the practice popular.

The treatment produced true smallpox, usually in a mild form, but sometimes fatal. It was taken up in this country, and Benjamin Franklin caused his little son, four years old, to be inoculated. The child died.

What finally caused the discovery to be abandoned was the treatment that the inoculated patient immediately became a source from which smallpox was spread by contagion, the total number of deaths being thus considerably increased.

Long before Jenner was born there was a belief current in England that a certain pustular disease of cattle, known as "cowpox," did, if accidentally contracted by a human being, render that person immune to smallpox. A Gloucestershire milkmaid told Jenner that she had no fear of smallpox because she had had cowpox. This set him to thinking.

His first experiments were performed on children, and he called his inoculation process vaccination because "vaccini" is the Latin word for cow. These proved successful.



Directing the Child's Powers of Observation.

How we would like to give great gifts to our children! There is nothing we would not endure to insure for them success, or fame, or wealth. But here is a gift we may give, if we will make the proper effort, that will insure enduring sources of enjoyment. It helps us to forget sorrows, losses, disappointments, and provides us with unending entertainment and diversion.

Many people will tell you that the habit of observation is a gift inborn, which is, to a certain extent, true. But it can be cultivated, just as cheerfulness, truthfulness, or any of the other desirable virtues.

If an individual possesses a love of nature and the habit of observation, he has within himself a source of enjoyment wherever he may go, in whatever circumstances he may be placed.

The baby at an early age, can be taught to observe without taxing his brain to any great extent. He can be shown the flowers, the birds, the trees, and gradually he can be directed to observe the fields, the woods, and passing objects of interest. Soon he will begin to notice for himself, and his outings will be of more delight to him and his mother.

Mother will not find directing the child's powers of observation arduous, or tedious. It is most interesting to watch the development of his mind, and notice how his habit of observation will increase from day to day. He will first be attracted by the largest objects, horses, cows, and people coming in for the first attention, then smaller animals.

The wise mother in cultivating her child's powers of observation will endeavor to train him to see the bright, and pleasant things first.

If some mother hesitates to begin to teach her child to observe, because she lacks the habit of observing closely herself, let me urge her to begin to cultivate this habit for herself. Practice it daily, everywhere you go—when with your child, or alone. Your efforts will reap a rich reward, for your interest and joy in life will be immeasurably increased.

Homely Wrinkles.
Children should not be given tastes of "grown-up" food. Their plain, wholesome food will taste insipid and unsatisfying after the highly seasoned dishes.

Losen windows that are hard to move by pouring a little melted lard between the frames and on the sash and roller. Rubbing, which will prevent tender feet from becoming unpleasantly chafed during the day.

Even if your feet give you no trouble they should be as carefully attended as the hands, for only as long as your feet feel healthy and comfortable can you maintain beauty of carriage and grace.

Strong, Healthy Feet.
If we realized how much beauty of form depended on the health and beauty of the feet, perhaps there would be fewer cases of feet partly crippled by broken arches and other avoidable ailments.

Sometimes an ailment of the foot is not noticed because there is no pain until the trouble reaches an advanced stage, and also, too, perhaps, because of the fact that women have accustomed themselves to the pain of wearing tight, uncomfortable but fashionable shoes, and are inclined to let slip any irritation of the foot.

However, no woman can have a graceful carriage unless she is supported by feet that are strong and in perfect, healthy condition. Shoes too tight or too loose make for all sorts of irritations, and the tiredness of the feet that comes to the busy housewife who stands most of the day is not a small temporary matter, but requires immediate attention and

The Threshing Floor in the Sky.
A very old method of threshing grain, though not the oldest of all, is to drive a number of cattle round a circular space of ground that has been lined with straw. The oxen, as it is still the custom in Spain and countries farther east. One can read of it in the Bible and in Greek and Roman literature, but thousands of years before those days, even at a time when races like the Teutons, Celts and Greeks and Romans had not yet separated and gone far apart, the threshing floor was probably known. As a matter of fact, it was one of the customs that helped men to begin to think.

When they looked up at the northern sky at night and saw the constellation that we call the Dipper circling ceaselessly about the North Star, it reminded them of the oxen going continually round about the threshing floor. The Latin word for the oxen that tramped the grain is *triones*, and this explains why the Romans called the seven stars of the Dipper septentriones, which means "the seven threshing oxen," not "the seven ploughing oxen," as is wrongly stated in some books. Sometimes, it is true, they call the Dipper the Countryman's Plough, but that is doubtless because the primitive plough has only one handle, which suggests the stars that bear the handle of the Dipper.

Sometimes a yoke of oxen is attached to a threshing drag made of boards with sharp stones hammered into the under side, which is still to be seen in Palestine and Egypt. This drag the Romans called *tribulum*, from which we have the Christian word "tribulation."

Other times the oxen were attached to a rough wagon with board wheels. For this reason the Dipper is often called the Wain, not because it resembles one but because it circles round and round like a threshing wain. Moreover, it may be that the names Great Bear and Lesser Bear, in Latin *Ursa Major* and *Ursa Minor*, have their origin in the fact that a bear in captivity spends most of its time walking round the stake to which it is tied.

Phil leaped to his father's side. "A lion!" he gasped. "Paddocked in the chicken house! Listen!"

The lion had already turned its attention to the hens, and although some escaped through the runway, which was near the door, the lion had caught one of the others. And during the following ten minutes the lion devoured several more of the hens.

"Lion!" exclaimed Phil's father, after he had listened to the confusion inside the chicken house and Phil had gasped out his excited tale. "It doesn't seem possible, but those growls in there are certainly not coming from any ordinary beast!"

"It is a lion and a mighty big lion!" gasped Phil. "And, father, it's like a circus animal, and probably escaped from a train on the railroad."

"I've been thinking that the lion had used to being shut up in a cage, so perhaps after it's eaten all of my poor hens it can't catch it won't try to break out. The building is pretty strong, anyhow."

"Run to the house and get my rifle," exclaimed Phil's father. "Tell your mother to use the phone and call out all the neighbors. We've got to watch here. If the brute broke out, there'd be every kind of peril, and if it got into our cattle barn it would do a lot of killing of our stock."

Phil raced to the farmhouse, and after giving his father's message to his mother, returned on the run with the rifle. And, very soon, gathered by the news of a lion in a chicken house, a number of the neighbors hastened to the building, and continued all night to guard the chicken house. But after his hearty chicken feast, it made no effort to break out.

Early next morning, a circus manager appeared at the farm, with several of his animal keepers.

"About dusk last night," explained the manager, "our circus train was stalled by a freight in the cut, right below this farm. One of our animal feeders is a carless fellow, and it is evident that after he let the lion's supper he did not properly secure the door of the cage, and the cage was on a flat car. Until we were more than fifty miles down the line we didn't know of the escape of the lion; then we stalled our train and began telephoning up the line. But,

at first, we could get no information of the lion's whereabouts. Finally came a message that it was here at this farm in a chicken house, and we engaged an auto, reaching this place as soon as possible.

"Napoleon, as he is named, is an ugly old brute," was on the manager's tongue when he saw the lion bring his cage. It's coming on an auto truck. I shall, of course, pay for all the damage Napoleon has done, and in addition, I shall give this pucky fellow here fifty dollars. There are mighty few men, let alone boys, who would have shown so much sense—and, yes, sand!"

The high Napoleon was said to be an ugly creature, he had greatly enjoyed his feast of chickens, and when the cage was trundled into the chicken yard, and the trainers had to be little difficult in urging the lion to come out of the building and enter his cage.

Phil was paid for the chickens the lion devoured, and in addition received the fifty dollars, which sum he added to his fund for a course in agricultural college. In telling the story, Phil calls the lion "my lion," and explains that for one night he considers that he actually owned a lion, by "right of capture," as he puts it.

(The End.)

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Willie Answered.
A doctor who was superintendent of the Sunday school in a small village asked one of the boys this question: "Willie, will you tell me what we must do in order to get to heaven?"

Said Willie: "You must die."

"Very true," replied the doctor, "but tell me what we must do before we die?"

"We must get sick," said Willie, "and send for you."

THE FUR INDUSTRY OF CANADA

ONE OF THE LARGEST FIELDS OF THE TRADE.

Artificial Breeding and Fur Rearing General Throughout Dominion.

Canada is now exporting to other countries, according to Dominion Government figures, \$14,000,000 worth of furs and skins in the course of a year, and a number are brought back into the country, purchased by Canadian dealers at foreign sales and resold to Canadians. The value of furs and skins exported during the fiscal year 1918-1919 was \$13,737,621. Of these, \$9,742,464 worth went to the United States; \$3,763,955 to Great Britain; and \$230,202 to other countries. Some extent of the values to which these exports have risen can be obtained from the fact that the value of the export of furs and skins in 1917 was but \$5,837,383. During the month of March, 1919, the value of these exports was \$2,080,704 as compared with \$1,420,168 for the corresponding month in 1918. It has been estimated that eighty per cent. of the silver foxes of the world come from Canada.

For nearly four centuries Canada has been one of the largest and most productive fields of the fur trade, and it is impossible to estimate the number of the value of the costly pelts taken from the traps of the Dominion in this period. Yet, until quite recently, the fur trade was hardly organized on a business basis, and beyond the trapping and taking of the furs, the various phases of the industry passed out of Canadian hands. Traders bought from the trappers, and then sent raw materials west to the large foreign markets.

Montreal to Become Important Market

There has gradually dawned a realization of the money lost in this way, however, and in future Canada will market her own furs and Montreal become one of the most important fur markets of the globe. For years London, St. Louis, and New York have been the selling centres to which Canadian furs have travelled, and St. Louis had the world's premier fur mart. The auction at Montreal will be conducted by a large company capitalized at \$5,000,000 and will be largely co-operative in nature. It is the intention to hold three auctions a year, the first about next March.

The opening of a Canadian fur market is a natural development of artificial breeding and fur rearing. This industry is fairly general throughout Canada, and in Prince Edward Island the industry, which has been in operation for more than thirty years, has assumed very important proportions.

Lead Poisoning.
Chronic poisoning by lead or its salts is less common than it used to be, yet it still occurs with considerable frequency, and it doubtless will so long as lead is used for such purposes as cosmetics, paint, water pipes and the solder of canned goods. The chief source of lead poisoning is white lead, and both those who make it and those who use it are liable to be poisoned by it. But the poisoning may occur from other salts of lead, and from the metal itself. Water, especially soft water, by standing for some time in lead pipes, may dissolve enough of the lead to poison those who habitually drink it without taking the precaution to let it run for some time; and as hot water takes up lead more readily than cold, you should not draw hot water for the teakettle in order to save a minute in bringing it to a boil. Cooking vessels lined with enamel that has lead in its composition are dangerous; and so are preserved fruits that have been put up in tins with soldered rims.

The symptoms of lead poisoning are most evident are lead colic and lead paralysis. The colic is usually extremely severe. The first attack is apt to be sudden, though there may be nagging pains in the abdomen for a few days. The pain lasts for two or three days, and the attacks are very likely to return from time to time. Associated with the attacks of colic and preceding them, obstinate constipation is the rule. The pain is most marked about the central part of the abdomen, and is relieved somewhat by pressure; that distinguishes it from the pain of peritonitis.

Lead palsy is not so common as the colic, and many sufferers never have it; in any case, it is a late symptom. It is a paralysis of the muscles that extend the fingers and the hand, and from the position of the hand that it causes it is called wrist-drop. Other muscles may also be affected, but only rarely does this happen.

The least conspicuous but most frequent form of lead poisoning is the so-called cachexia. This is manifested by loss of appetite, indigestion, coated tongue, foul breath, a peculiar blue line on the gums where they join the teeth, constipation, annoying cramp-like pains in the legs, pallor, loss of flesh, and a constant feeling of fatigue. Among the later consequences of untreated lead poisoning are gout, arteriosclerosis and Bright's disease.

The treatment is first of all to remove the cause, and then to build up the patient with tonics and good food, laxatives and frequent hot baths; iodide of potassium is often given to expedite the removal of lead from the system. Painters and workers in lead should observe the greatest care to wash their hands before eating, and should take a warm bath and change their clothes as soon as they are through their day's work.

Lead Poisoning.
An Explanation.
Exasperated Passenger (after long delay at wayside station): "Why don't you keep better time on this wretched line?"
Irish Guard (confidentially): "Well now, then, ma'am, I'll explain it all to ye. The train before is behind, and this train was behind before besides."

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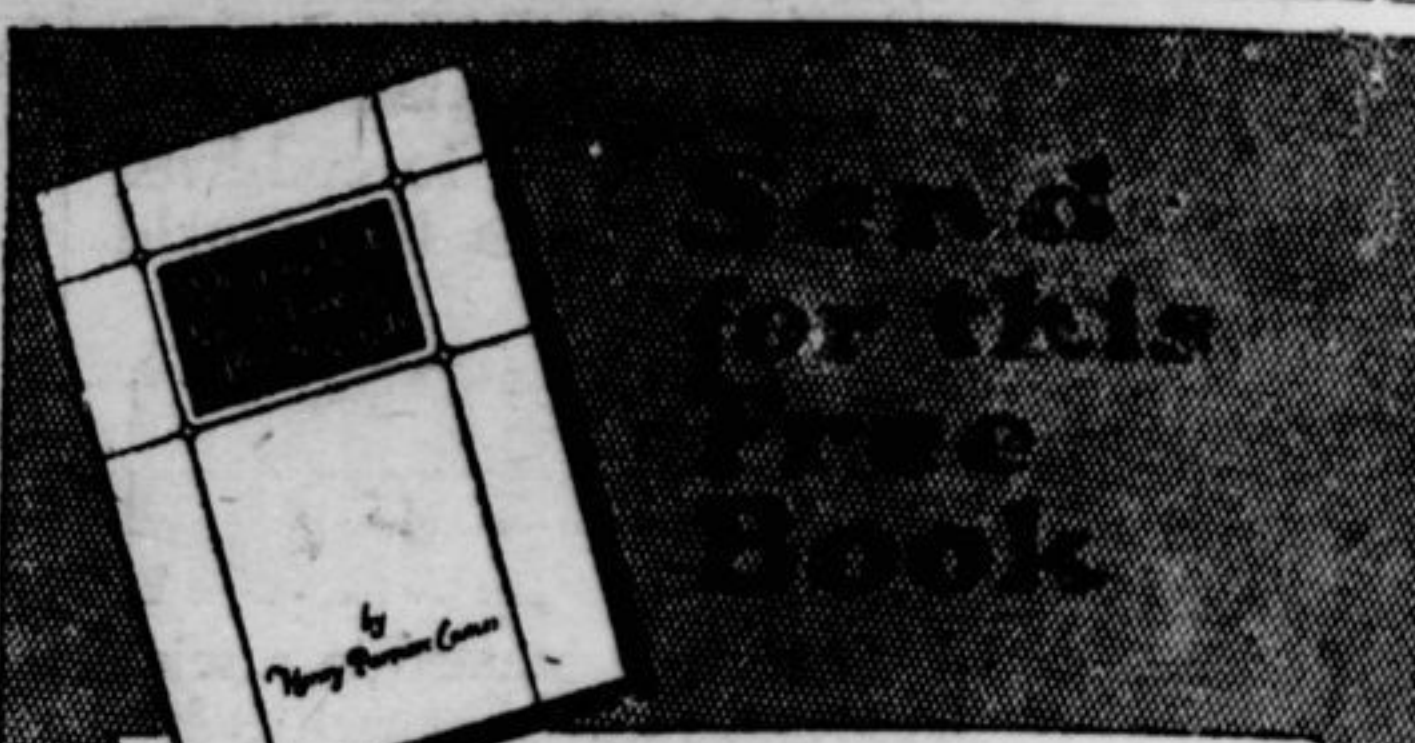
In England the consumption of margarine, which before the war was eight pounds a head a year, or about one-half the consumption of butter, is reported to be steadily increasing.

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MALTA: "THE ISLE OF HO"

KEY TO EASTERN OF BRITISH EMP

Ten Nations Have He Over Coveted Island Recorded Histor

Perhaps no other by-product world war save the renewed keen stars the imagination, not only as the British empire's home rule for Malta, but as the Malta island group of fancy history. Calypso, Homer's word motion-pictured the shipwrecked Odysseus employed her charms to stay on the island. Strabo ascribes there after his island, ground. Publius, the island, according to Acts, apostle founded a Christianity before he departed.

The date of Christ's birth, halfway point in Maltese. Since its recorded history nations have held away coveted islands, beginning Phoenicians, and running Greeks, Carthaginians, Goths, Arabs, Genoans, Spanish, French, until the present of the British.

It has been said that Maltese chronicle holds, in microcosm, the history of Europe, and that logical remains mark western civilization.

Saved the Western World

But Malta was an actor's library in historic drama; she became the saviour of world when the Knights of back the Turkish horde, famous siege of 1565.

The thrills of that heroic heroism displayed are of the 2,600 Maltese who of the knights, virtually all of characteristic of the knights that of the defenders of Elms. Wounded and deep few survivors of months went to a small chapel; fort, embraced each other the Eucharist, and prepared the Little company was all assistance, but fought fell with sword in hand. They would be exterminated by onslaughts were beaten back, was sent to swim across the night to inform the grand the danger. The messenger his "message to Garcia" swimming mostly under the the fort or die fighting. He mand he brought back. He obeyed—and died. But the tion wrought by their from another worked such havoc, aslanians that the news of to other divisions of the forces and turned the tide Maltese victory.

In command of the forces was Dragut, the cabin boy and galley slave miral of the Turkish navy mortally wounded before

Safety Locket of the E
Scientific Malta has a named a "safety stone set sea." Agriculturally it is an appellation of New Testament Malta, meaning "the isle of It dominates some 230,000 though it does not enter its area. Its area is only one that of Prince Edward Island has two and a half times its

In addition to the main Malta group consists of Gozo with Comisoletto, an islet, and rock. Its proximity to the Africa and Asia Minor exp Britain regards Malta the safety lock of her entire pre.

The dark hood, or falda Maltese women wear to the ascribed in popular legend desire to be "safety" from the infamies of invading sea characteristic feature of the is the terraced fields. A curiosity is the absence of because water is absorbed porous sandstone.

The present capital and seaport of Malta is Valletta, the grand master of the the time of the memorable was literally a "city built men for gentlemen."

It is the palace of the chieftains, knights, originally the Knight Order of St. John, who re Malta after the Turks had their stronghold at Rhodes, main island and Gozo contain relics, like those of a Stonehenge, of the Moors race that antedated the Phoenicians.

Half the business of life is ed with knowing how to use women, how to understand it to get on with them, how to facilities to the best account Bryce.

Farmers ask for "a fair no favor" in the opportunity the export market. The work of producer and packer in this is a business, and confidence is not shaken interference.