

# THE ALAMANCE GLEANER.

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## CURE OF SLEEPING MALADY IN SIGHT

### Missionary From Congo Holds Out Hope.

New York.—After 12 years abroad with but one interruption, Dr. Arthur L. Piper, a medical missionary of the Congo mission, conference of the Methodist Episcopal church, has just returned for six months' furlough, accompanied by his wife and two daughters. Both daughters were born in the Congo. The family comes from the most remote mission station of the Methodist church at the village of Mwata-Yambo of the Paramount chief of the Luunda tribe, at Masumba, near Kapanga, Belgian Congo. All are victims of malaria contracted in the tropics.

Dr. Piper corroborated reports of cruelty in the Portuguese possessions of Angola. He explained the difficulties he had experienced in fighting malaria, sleeping sickness and leprosy among the Bantu natives.

Mwata-Yambo, where the Pipers have lived for 12 years, with but one brief furlough five years ago, is 1,200 miles from the coast. It is reached by a 2,000-mile rail journey from Cape Town to Elizabethville, the Congo capital, followed by another railway journey to the railroad of Bugama. From Bugama to Mwata-Yambo is a 21-day journey by caravan.

Are Only Whites. It is 500 miles from the northern Rhodesian border, and 100 miles from the border of Angola, 9 degrees south of the equator, and has an altitude of 3,000 feet. With the exception of two officials at the government post at Kupanga, five miles away, the Pipers are the only whites in a native population of 45,000.

The entire family were yellowed and listless from the malaria which attacks all white men in the Congo jungles. Taking five grains of quinine a day has been their custom for years and the children were fed quinine from the age of two weeks. Drainage of compounds, and mosquito-proof houses are powerless to protect them from this scourge, they said. Of the children, Ruth, born in 1915, was the first white baby born in that section of the Congo. On her birth she received the name of Mutuba and the gift of a bull calf from the local chief.

The baby, Margaret, born in 1920, is making her first trip to civilization. Dr. Piper said that sleeping sickness and leprosy were the scourge of the district, 4 per cent of the population being lepers. No attempt was made to segregate the lepers, he declared, and only sporadic efforts were made to relieve them.

Germ Now Known. "Although the germ of sleeping sickness is known," he said, "hitherto no great progress has been made in fighting the disease. The government tries to see that the natives do not live in the sleeping sickness belt along streams and rivers where the carrier, the tsetse fly, breeds. For the same reason attempts are made to keep the villages clean.

"The two drugs we have used have not been successful. They don't cure, but merely delay death. They are atoxyl, injected inter-muscularly, and tartar emetic, which is given intravenously.

Three cures are now in existence and give definite hope for the future. They are the German preparation known as Bayer 208, a Rockefeller institute preparation called trypanarumide, and a French specific. These are not yet in general use, but I hope to adopt them when I get back.

"Last year I made my first attempt to treat the lepers in the district. They are not segregated, as the disease is of a comparatively mild variety, and they constitute 4 per cent of the population. I gave them chaulmoogra oil, by mouth and injection, and the results were not satisfactory.

"The taste of the oil is disgusting and lingers on the tongue for hours, while injections are so painful that a man is incapacitated for days. A new treatment with sodium morrhuate is reported more satisfactory and I hope to try it out."

### Why Needles Disappear Explained by Detroit

The mysterious disappearance of millions of needles every year is partially explained by a Detroit man who just returned from his old family homestead upstate.

Among other things, he found an ancient pillow, about eight inches square, while exploring an attic filled with miscellaneous junk. With his wife, he ripped open the cushion and spread the sawdust filler on a newspaper. One by one they uncovered 112 needles as bright and shiny as the day they were bought. They estimated that the cushion was at least 150 years old, as it was brought to Michigan from New England shortly after the Revolutionary war. The cushion had not been in use for more than 20 years.—Detroit Free Press.

## Old Festival Rites in Honor of Ceres

The sacred rites with which the annual festival of Ceres was celebrated at Eleusis were called the Eleusinian mysteries.

Many traditions were afloat in ancient times, says Chambers, as to the origin of this festival. Of these, the most generally accepted was to the effect that Ceres, wandering about the earth in search of Proserpine, her lost daughter, arrived at Eleusis, where she rested on the famous "Sorrowful Stone" beside the well of Callichours. In return for some small act of kindness and in order to commemorate her visit she taught Proserpine the use of corn and other cereals on the plain of Rharian, near the city, and instituted the mystic rites peculiarly known as belonging to this goddess of agriculture.

The festival which she inaugurated consisted of two parts—the greater and the lesser mysteries, the less important feast serving as but an introduction or prelude to the greater. The celebration began on the fifteenth day of Broedromion, but history finds no exact record of the proceedings. That they were most important in the mystic life of the time is evident from the prominence given to them.—R. H. Tingley, in Chicago Journal.

## Many and Various Are "Graveyards" of Books

When a book languishes unread, unlooked at and unasked for on the shelves of a library, one phase of its life has passed and it is destined soon to enter on a new one. But what is the next stage in its career? That, to the man in the street, is one of the mysteries of literature.

Most libraries have a sort of sanctuary for unwanted books—a chamber of the forgotten—where they are kept for a time and then disposed of. Sometimes they find their way to second-hand book barrows; sometimes they are repurposed to supply paper for other books with all the world before them.

Luckiest of all are those which the London library decides to discard. It was recently revealed that they are sent out to the Seychelles Islands, where one book is as good as another, and the date of a volume's publication has no influence on its chances of popularity.

Adventurous books, these, that go voyaging out to the Indian ocean. But there is a price to pay for adventure. Sooner or later the ants will get them, and when these voracious devourers of literature are done with them there will be nothing left for ordinary readers.—London Mail.

## Eyes of the Great

After consulting various records we find says the Washington Star, that although in the eyes of famous people all colors are represented, the majority appear to have had eyes either of blue, gray or blue-gray. Dante's eyes were brown, as were also those of Julius Caesar, Paganini, Goethe, Leo XIII, Beethoven, Raphael, and Sir Joshua Reynolds. Persons with gray eyes include Byron, Coleridge, Chatterton, Napoleon, Bismarck and Nansen, the explorer. Audubon, the duke of Wellington, Richard Coeur de Lion, Wolsey, Dickens, Ruskin, Moltke, the duke of Marlborough, Swift and Edison all had blue eyes. Many persons have eyes that are at times gray and at times blue, generally described as blue-gray. Famous persons having this type of eyes include Frederick the Great, J. Russell Lowell, Rossetti and George Washington. Most portraits of Shakespeare indicate that he had blue eyes.

Stopped in Time. The defendants were all certain that they had not been overspeeding.

"We may have been putting on speed when we got to the hill, but we could be down to 20 miles an hour within two car-lengths," said the first one.

"I'm sure," said the next man, "that we weren't doing more than 15 miles an hour, and at the crossroads we were down to ten."

The third merely put it: "We were practically at a standstill when the policeman came up."

"If I hear any more witnesses, I shall have the car backing into some one," said the justice of the peace, "I'd better stop the thing now. Ten dollars fine."

## "Bloody Sweat"

The skin of the hippopotamus, which in some places is two inches thick, contains a large quantity of oily substance which exudes from the pores. When the hippopotamus is excited or in pain this oily substance flows more freely and is tinged reddish in color. This is the "bloody sweat" for which the animal is famous. Some say that the color of the blood is caused by blood.

—Pittsburgh Courier.

## Repose, as a Fine Art, Found in Spanish Town

It is proof to be needed that Spain, geographically as well as historically, is a sort of bridge between Europe and Africa, the ancient Saracen town of Elche, near Alicante, supplies it.

It is an odd little town with its twisting, zigzagging streets, its medieval towers and buildings and its ravine where not a drop of water flows. In every doorway a man is seated making soles for sandals. Indeed the entire town appears to be dedicated to the manufacture of sandals which you see everywhere in piles and bales, overflowing the shops.

In the center of the town is a tiny, green square, as neat and trim as a sash, beneath ancient, over-arching trees. Nearby are two or three cafes, which serve as the club for the city notables; and the triple rows of wicker armchairs on the sidewalk are occupied by silent, grave men who neither drink nor talk. Here they remain, as motionless as statues, for hours at a time.

"I have never in my life seen so many people sitting down as there are in Spain," remarked an American woman who was in our party. "I should like to bring some of my fellow countrymen here to teach them the art of which they are abysmally ignorant—the art of repose."—Raymond Recouly in Le Figaro, Paris. (Translated for the Kansas City Star.)

## Modern Ideals Make Cave Men Seem Tame

Another ideal of the fapper has been shattered. Her vision of the cave man is all wrong.

He did not catch them young and treat them rough, nor did he awoolage go with a big club and prove his devotion to his sweetly by dragging her around by her unbobbed tresses. A professor of Beloit college has been looking up the records of the gay Lotharios of sixty years back and cannot find a thing to show they were the tough bunch we had always supposed them to be.

The fact is they were a mollycoddle, nambypamby set of young fellows, who would have made a sorry showing with the present day maids. Instead of wielding clubs they found great thrill in stringing beads and begging the hands of their loved ones on their bended knees.

That Beloit professor has done the men of the present age a great service by showing up the cave man in his true character. The young men of today do not pack clubs and stone hammers and may not be rough enough to come up to specifications, but we cannot accuse them of putting in their time stringing beads. There is an opportunity now for some favorable comparisons. The girls will have to admit that the men have improved in the last sixty thousand years.

## To Aid Children

Knights of Youth, a new order whose purpose is the ethical training of school children, has been introduced in 12 public schools of New York city. Nearly 1,000 children are enrolled in the ranks of knighthood in one school. This order accords character as the knight's noblest quest, and it was formed to combat the increase in juvenile crime. It is sponsored by the National Child Welfare association.

## Spread of the Bob

Shingling is still the most popular style of hairdress in Paris, London, Vienna and Rome, according to answers to inquiries made recently.

## Lives Year With Savage Tribe in West Siberia

Leningrad.—Mme. R. P. Mitsova, a plucky collaborator of the Russian Academy of Sciences, after 12 months' residence with a new race of people discovered in the arctic wilds of western Siberia, has collected much interesting information about these strange people, who are organized into five clans and number only about 600.

The members of this race call themselves "Neshen," which means merely men or people. Their nearest neighbors are the Samoyeds.

These strange people are quite unlike the Samoyeds in that they have very dark hair and complexions and their language is wholly different, lacking entirely the "R" sound, which is very prominent in the speech of the Samoyeds.

Until 1923, no civilized person had been known to have set foot in the territory of this new race, according to B. N. Gorodkov. He has just published a report of an expedition sent to western Siberia by the Russian Academy of Sciences in the latter part of 1923, which found these aborigines on the River Pura.

## Bears Thirtieth Child

Madrid.—At the age of sixty-eight, Amillo Lorenzo, a resident of the town of Valladolid, has just given birth to her thirtieth child.

## WHY Limit to Airplane Speed Can Be Fixed

What will be the limit of man's speed through the air? According to Science and Invention, experts and engineers have tried to estimate this limit since the Wright brothers made their first successful flight in a power-driven airplane. One hundred miles an hour was once considered an amazing speed limit for airplanes. This, with many estimates that followed, has been surpassed by the rapid advance of aircraft and motor designs, until up to the present time it is difficult to estimate what the maximum speed of future airplanes will be.

There are, however, two conditions to be considered, namely, the mechanical limit and the physical limit. The latter has already shown itself in closed circuit speed trials when making turns, due to the fact that centrifugal force begins acting on the blood, forcing it away from the pilot's head and rendering him temporarily unconscious. While there are practically no physical defects noted in flying a straight course, outside of nerve strain, the mechanical limits are present. This is known as an airplane's speed range, which is the difference between the low landing speed and the highest level flying speed, the definite landing speed desired becoming the point of departure in the design.

At the annual international air races a landing speed not to exceed 75 miles an hour is fixed, so that safety is not sacrificed in the work of science to advance the world's speed records. As the airplane at present is the most effective weapon of war, due to its speed and maneuverability and with the leading countries of the world striving to attain constantly increasing speeds, it is safe to estimate velocities in excess of 400 miles an hour in the near future.

## Why Platinum Is High

The present position of platinum in the industrial and in the commercial world is a peculiar one. It has always been a rare metal, and our modern inventors have made it quite an essential, in perhaps minute quantities, in many lines of industry. The demand thus created has sent it to the top of precious metals—its recent price ranging at four or five times that of gold.

The enormous price has created an abnormal demand among persons fond of display. The United States now "consumes" more platinum than all the other countries of the world combined, and by far the greatest amount of the metal goes into jewelry. For this purpose the demand increased from 2,000 ounces in 1919 to 106,000 ounces in 1923, while the total world output in 1924 was only about 88,000 ounces.—Compressed Air Magazine.

## Why Termed "Dowager"

Strictly speaking, every widow in receipt of a dower is a dowager—"dower" implying property which was either brought by a bride to her husband and reverts on his death to her own use, or which has been legally settled by the husband to his widow's use. In practice, however, all widows so situated are not called dowagers, but only those whom it is necessary to distinguish from the "reigning" wife of the same name and, even then, the word is confined chiefly to ladies of high rank. Thus in a titled family we may hear of the duchess and the "dowager duchess," the latter, by the way, very often living in the "dowager house," a small establishment near the big mansion put aside for the use of the widow by the late lord.

## Why Rings Are Worn

The finger ring dates from ancient times. In the early periods when the art of writing was known to but very few it was the custom for men to wear rings on which some distinguishing sign or badge was engraved so that they could use them as seals for letters and other important documents. As a pledge of good faith, a promise and as a symbol of authority finger rings were in use before the Christian era.

## Found It Easy to Forgive

"You know the feeling, that flush of anger that comes over you when you're driving peacefully along a country road and suddenly hear a familiar sharp report," said the motorist. "You begin to curse and ask yourself why you didn't change that tire. Well, I was driving near the Oakland Hills Country and Golf club recently and all of a sudden 'Bang!' I got out to see which tire it was. They were all O. K. Then up comes a beknickered chap and starts apologizing for something. 'Sorry,' says he, 'sort of missed my aim and drove my pillow into your rear fender.' Sure enough there was a dent in the fender and the ball was a short distance away. I was only too glad to forgive him."—Detroit News.

## Varying Behavior of Animals on Shipboard

To be in charge of animals on a sea voyage is sometimes a perilous as well as an unpleasant task. For unlike human beings who, on the approach of sea-sickness, evince a dismal desire to die, dumb creatures often display a violent desire to live.

A rough night on a boat carries a cargo of cattle can provide many thrills, and, unhappily, a number of horrors.

It is fortunate, however, that while cattle are the most usual live stock carried by sea, they are also the most heroic of all creatures in a storm, showing a stoical determination to conquer the devastating powers of sickness.

Some animals do not feel the effects of a journey by sea in the same way as others, and while some are ill during the whole of the trip, others quickly become used to their new home, and flourish.

The worst sailor of all is said to be the tiger, while the only one that can be described as being really comfortable on board ship is the polar bear.

Horses are great sufferers at sea, as every cavalrman knows, and they frequently die from the effects of sea-sickness.

Birds, reptiles, monkeys and other small animals suffer in varying degrees, but, in comparison with the bigger creatures, they are much better sailors. Thousands of these little travelers are brought to our shores each year, and on an average the casualties are fairly small.

Sometimes, of course, scores of birds will die off in the early stages of a voyage, but that is not always actually caused by sea-sickness. More often it is a disease that is spread among them by one infected member of the batch; or it may be a complaint brought on by being confined in necessarily close quarters.

When once a disease is established in a cargo of birds, numbering hundreds or perhaps thousands, there is little hope of many being landed alive.

## Charlatans

"The maners of the charlatans are no more peculiar to Denver than to any place where helpless humanity offers harvests to the unscrupulous profiteers of affliction," says Alice Rohe, New York Journalist, telling of her fight back to health, in Hearst's International Cosmopolitan.

"Discouraged at my inability to work, I listened to the importunities of an acquaintance who wanted to bring a friend, a doctor, to see me. He told me there was nothing the matter with me, just a little bilious attack.

"But oh, when in a moment of weakness I told him I had come to Colorado for tuberculosis, how things changed! Immediately he informed me that I was dying and couldn't last the year out unless I took his magical serum treatment. With the warning from New York in my ears, I refused. I bulwarked myself behind the truthful plea of no money.

"But you're in a dangerous condition, you're dying," he insisted. "I can't let you die. You're a friend of X. If you get well from your almost hopeless state, it will be an advertisement for my method. Don't worry about the money."

"And so I fell, in a moment of terrorized illness and discouragement, just as no doubt countless other lonely sufferers have fallen. Then two months later an enormous bill arrived and automatically I stopped the treatments."

## The Skylark

The skylark is to me the most wonderful bird in the world, because there is no sense but just, rare beauty to his way of singing. Like some mad spirit, some blithe bird soul, he flies in ever widening circles towards the heavens, singing as he climbs higher and higher, until you swear his very throat would burst. Then when he is only a flashing speck away up almost out of sight, he dives like a graceful monoplane, trilling his pure joy, wild with life, mad with abandon in the ecstatic nonsense of his feat. Suddenly he checks his fantastic drop and then, as softly as a leaf floating downward in a gentle breeze, he glides to earth—and his song is ended.—Frazier Hunt, in Hearst's International Cosmopolitan.

## Monkeys as Pets

Monkeys are natives of warm climates and cannot endure a low temperature, therefore they should be provided with heated quarters, at least during cold weather. If the animal is to be confined continually the cage should not be less than four feet in each dimension. The cage should be entirely tight with only the front wired—thus preventing draughts, which are fatal to these animals. The following is prescribed as a diet: Vegetables, raw or cooked; boiled rice, ripe fruit—bananas, oranges, sweet apples; stale bread, occasionally a bit of well cooked chicken, fresh milk to which raw egg has been added; water should be provided at all times.—Washington Star.

## Find Beach Combing Industry Worth While

The statement that a beach comb at Liverpool has made £9 (\$45) in two days may amaze the uninitiated, but at many popular resorts and big ports there are men who make a bit simply from combing the beach.

Whatever is lost upon the sands and much that goes into the sea are eventually brought back by the tide at some time; but the beach comb must be quick, for the next wave may suck his find back to remain hidden for several tides or to be thrown up on another portion of the coast, the Manchester Guardian says.

All sorts of articles are found. Cigarette cases, rings, brooches, watches, purses and colng all go to make up the treasure trove of seaside beaches. At the ports much bulkier stuff is retrieved. Barrels of oil or beer, cases of copper or other metal, and piles of loose rope or canvas are among the crop, and these have usually a ready market.

It is a skilled business, too, this combing of the beaches, for not merely are a keen eye and quick grasp essential; to make the greatest profit a man must be familiar with the currents of the coast, and so be able to foretell which portion of the beach is likeliest to yield treasure at each season of the year.

## Makes Sad Picture of "Night Life" in Mexico

Mexico is no holy city. Secretly she gambles, secretly she indulges in all the vices; secretly her people poison themselves with alcohol and drugs, secretly they assassinate each other.

She is a hypocritical city. She practices every vice that the modern world has invented for its self-annihilation. She indulges in the dissipation of Paris and New York, but without the joy that gives them a pretense of rationality, or the craving for beauty and happiness that lends them a noble pathos. In Mexico vice is petty and affected—an alien parasite on the old colonial life.

We Mexicans are taciturn by nature. Rarely does joy excite us to song and laughter. We know nothing of the high spirits of the French. Were a person to sing at midnight in our streets he would scandalize every good citizen returning from the cinema, contented with having seen his own stupidity faithfully reflected on the screen from eight interminable reels of celluloid.

Our drunkenness also is sad. Wine rises to our heads in waves of blood. Then we kill—kill as naturally as other men laugh and dance.

Charettes, centers of wild merriment in the United States and Europe, among us become sad places where people dine expensively, drink economically, and dance hieratically.—Julio Jimenez, Rueda in the Excelsior, Mexico City.

## Handshake Guide to Loss

The handshake is a correct and infallible guide to true love. This is the contention of Dr. David V. Bush, a teacher of applied psychology. "Shake hands," he says, "before you start a courtship—not because you are to start something resembling a pugilistic bout, but because if the hands don't fit perfectly, don't start it." Doctor Bush says "the altar isn't even a milestone in the course of love; it's apt to be a grave if the game ends when the knot is tied." The exponent of applied psychology thinks trouble can be avoided by proper character analysis before the courtship advances too far.

## Giving Him a Lift

A canal boat skipper sat placidly on his rudder handle and smoked, while a horse towed him along the canal. A limping tramp halted him from the bank.

"Can you give me a lift to the next town, captain?" he asked. "My feet's raw with blisters."

"If I sign you on to the next town, will you agree to work your passage, my lad?"

"I will, captain," said the tramp, eagerly. "My feet—"

The skipper threw a rope ashore. "Then catch hold o' that rope," he said, "line up alongside the horse, and pull for all you're worth."—London Answers.

## Of Russian Origin

The balalaika is a Russian musical instrument. It originated with the peasantry. When Peter the Great heard it, he had it introduced into the court. From his day until the fall of the empire, a balalaika orchestra was maintained at court. The instrument, which is becoming popular in the United States, has a triangle-shaped box, the back being mandolin-shaped. The long neck is fitted with three strings. There are about 2,000 different sizes, producing various tones.

## BELIEF IN WITCHES BY NO MEANS GONE

### Still Strong in Parts of Rural England.

In remote corners of England to which the railroad does not run, and where visitors are few, the belief in witchcraft still lingers, in spite of parson and schoolmaster, says a writer in a London paper, who continues:

Walking down what is called a "green lane" only a few days ago I passed a little Elizabethan cottage, thatched and weather-boarded, and saw over the front door a hazel wand. Curiosity led me past the corner of the field on which the cottage stands, and there, sure enough, on the back door was another hazel wand.

On the plea of wishing to buy some of the gooseberries that were growing on the bushes, I entered into conversation with the old man who owns the cottage, and asked him frankly who was troubling him. I pointed to the hazel wand over the back door as though I took its efficacy for granted, and he told me that he had had some trouble with the local "Wise Woman." One of his pigs had sickened as a result, and to save himself from further trouble he had put up the wands, because no wise woman can pass beyond them.

In another village I know well a woman who earned a good bit of money by the sale of herb medicines, sent her daughter to service in Wales, and this daughter came back with one of the old-fashioned hats of the country that women used to wear. By the aid of the hat and a looking-glass, her mother thrives, for she has sharp features, and the costume strikes terror, or at least respect, into the hearts of the country folk.

A point to be remembered is that many of the "wise women" have a quite valuable knowledge of the virtues of certain herbs. I know of one who has repeatedly cured the worst symptoms of whooping cough by giving mothers of afflicted children a thin slice of garlic to wear between their foot and their sole. A great Harley street specialist told me only a few years ago that this cure has an undoubted efficacy.

Some of the village folk will not trust their children to the "wise women," but they are not so particular about their animals, and it is a fact that many simple disorders of cows, calves, pigs and dogs are cured by these unauthorized practitioners.

A country clergyman of long experience told the writer the other day that the belief in witchcraft is not to be eradicated, and that as long as plausible people advanced claims, these claims would be recognized.

## He Wasn't Interested

Lincoln Springfield, whose career of more than forty years in Fleet street has admirably fitted him to write his reminiscences thereof, relates a story of a reporter named Jewell, gifted with a brilliant descriptive pen, but sadly lacking in knowledge of the value of news:

"Down at Blackwall, at the Thames from works, H. M. S. Albion was to be launched one June afternoon; to be launched on the duchess of York (the present queen); and this occurred to me to be just the kind of function that Jewell would do prettily and gracefully.

"Sure enough, Jewell wrote a brilliant description of the scene—the nearest thing to a Turner sunset that you could get in manuscript. I was on the point of sending it up to the compositor, and was glowing with pleasure over my judgment in having selected Jewell for the job, when a messenger placed on my desk a report from the tape machine, announcing that 30 people had been drowned at the launching. As the ship took the water, the displacement had submerged a staging where masses of spectators were assembled. Several hundred of them were thrown into the water, and more than 30 of them could not be rescued.

"There had not, in Jewell's masterpiece of scenic effect, been a hint of any disaster, of anything at all untoward.

"I demanded an explanation from Jewell. Hadn't he seen anything of the catastrophe?"

"Well," replied the languid Jewell, "I did see some people bobbing about in the water, as I came away, but—"

## English Bibles in East

A great many English Bibles have found their way to the foreign depots of the Near East relief organization, frequently gifts of individuals in America. In many cases an American church member contributing an old clock or suit to the annual Bunde day campaign, has tucked a Bible or an English Testament into one of the pockets, forgetting that very few of the refugees are able to read even a single word of English. These Bibles are carefully sorted out and are distributed to the teachers or to students in English classes for use as textbooks.