

AL LANGUAGES.
Charles Kellogg Claims to be Able to Converse with Creatures of Lower World.
 Cambridge (Mass.) Cor. New York World.

Charles Kellogg, of California, who is not a nature-faker is one of the most remarkable human beings of all time, arrived at the Hotel Bellevue this week from Paris and is awaiting an interview with professors from Harvard's department of science, confident that he will convince them of his ability to converse with animals.

Mr. Kellogg has just returned from Europe, where he gave demonstrations of his unique power before professors of the University of Paris and Berlin.

According to Mr. Kellogg he has accomplished in reality during a life spent in the wilds of the Sierra what the genius of Kipling makes Mowgli accomplish during childhood passed in the tropical jungle. But, unlike the child of Kipling's brain Kellogg has for friends only the animals of the temperate American West. He knows not the language of the tropical monkey, though he has often talked "bear" with the grizzlies of the Sierra Nevadas. Crickets, squirrels, lizards and rattlesnakes are some of the other animals whose language Mr. Kellogg speaks fluently.

"The scientists of Harvard have for years been recognized as the court of last appeal in matters of this kind," said Mr. Kellogg to-day. "Though I have convinced the savants of Europe of the truth of my contentions, I shall not rest content until the professors of this great university have likewise acknowledged powers. Since Prof. Hugo Muensterberg revealed to the world the miserable tricks by which the so-called medium Mme. Palladini imposed upon both play and scientific Europe for 20 years, the intelligent public has been inclined to await the verdict of Harvard before accepting any conception which wanders far from the beaten paths.

"But, after all, the idea of man communing with animals is not nearly so absurd as it would at first appear. Scientifically considered, it is not even radical. How does a child learn to talk? It hears certain sounds and sees that they have certain meanings. The fact that human organs have been making that particular sound for centuries is proof enough that his own vocal organs are naturally suited for producing it. Therefore, having the proper instrument, he has merely to experiment a bit upon its keyboard in order to speak the words his senses have recorded.

"No reasonable man can deny that the higher animals have a means of communication. I myself think it probable that all forms of life, however primitive possess this faculty, though, of course, proof of the belief is not entirely practicable. Wherever animals associate freely they communicate with each other, though animals of the same species have a more nearly perfect understanding than those of different species.

"It was by years of constant observing and associating of sounds with actions that I mastered the 15 animal languages I am familiar with. I began on domestic chickens and gradually extended my study to include such wild animals and reptiles as the bear, the lizard and the rattlesnake.

"For those who are accustomed to think only of human language I will probably seem a most extraordinary number to master in a lifetime, but it must be remembered that the further down the scale of civilization one goes the less need is there for words to express ideas, for the very simple reason that there are fewer ideas to express. There are, according to Webster, something like 400,000 words in the English language; Shakespeare is said to have used 15,000, and the estimated active vocabulary of the average man is under 2,000. The semi-savage inhabitants of Terra del Fuego have less than 500, and the squallor-dulled peasants of Eastern Russia have less than 300 words to their vocabularies. It will be observed that the further down the scale of human development one goes the less highly developed he will find the language. And the same holds true of the other animals.

"Using a system of hieroglyphics modeled upon the modern Chinese system, I have compiled a dictionary of the language of the ordinary brown or hearth cricket which has, the most highly developed language of any of the animals I am familiar with, though I have reason to suspect the monkeys are superior to that respect. From my dictionary I find there are 27 elemental words

or sounds and 85 other words made up of various combinations of the original 27, a cumulative system not unlike that of the Germans. The number of words or sounds in other animal languages I am familiar with varies from 12 to 95.

"Strangely enough, the dog, which we are accustomed to regard as of a rather high order of intelligence is markedly deficient in the matter of language, both the grizzly bear and the rattlesnake being vastly his superior. In the vocabulary of the ordinary watchdog there are but 17 sounds. I knew one dog, an exceptionally intelligent collie, who regularly used 21 sounds in ordinary conversation. The additional four were inventions of my own, which I was able to teach him only after many months of constant labor.

"This lack of linguistic development on the part of dogs proceeds, I believe, not from any lack of intelligence, but rather from lack of means of expression. To a far greater extent than any other animal of my acquaintance, dogs depend upon their intuition, a faculty which is developed in them to a remarkable degree. They seem almost to read each other's mind without any exchange of signals whatsoever.

"When I first began the study of the languages of wild animals I experienced great difficulty in approaching them. For a time a distance of a few of the more important sounds. Then gradually, as I became more familiar with the animal world in general the difficulty entirely disappeared. Now I am afraid of no animal, and I encounter very few that show the least timidity in my presence.

"When I come before the Harvard professors I shall permit them to bring forward any number of specimens of the animals I have mentioned and I shall prove to their entire satisfaction that a perfect understanding exists between me and the animals. If I do not I shall be perfectly willing to be branded a nature faker."

Although Mr. Kellogg admits that his ability to interpret the enunciations of animals is the result of long and arduous study, he insists that his ability to make himself understood, to imitate the sounds of these animals, is God-given. He says he can without the least difficulty reproduce any sound that comes from an animal's throat. He has a peculiarly constructed palate, no tonsils, and the cord connecting the teeth with the lower lip is entirely missing, but he has been assured by the most noted specialists that there is nothing abnormal about his throat and vocal cords. They are a loss to account for his strange gift.

Mr. Kellogg exhibits a letter signed by a French ornithologist of note in which the savant pays high tribute to his powers. Freely translated the letter reads in part as follows.

"The powers of this man are almost supernatural. When we of the Academy gave M. Kellogg an interview we were more than half prepared to find a paltry charlatan with a few cheap tricks which could easily be disposed of by a person of intelligence. Instead we found a man whom nature seems to have endowed with a sort of universal understanding.

"More than a dozen birds of various varieties were brought into his presence, and with each of these he exchanged sounds, the birds appearing to answer his intonations as if in perfect understanding of signals given."

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TOURISTS BAD EXAMPLES, IS MISSIONARY'S CLAIM.

Egyptian Converts Follow Americans' Lax Sunday Observance.

That American tourists set natives a bad example is the complaint of Miss Marian Paden, a returning missionary from Egypt and daughter of George M. Paden, a banker of Pittsburgh.

"We missionaries," she said, "would get along gloriously if it were not for the American tourists. They go sight-seeing on Sundays, and they are interested in nothing but having a good time—dressing, dining, wine and going about."

"Egypt is a Mohammedan country. Our converts are apt to think that what the visitors do is right, and follow their example."

"What Americans should really do while in that country is to try to uplift and educate the natives, and make them appreciate Christianity."

Miss Paden had charge of the small girls at the American Mission college while in Cairo. She also discussed religion with the women in the harems.

PENCIL WOOD SUPPLY SHORT

Department of Agriculture Starts Experiments in Substitutes.

The probability of the exhaustion of the supply of red cedar, which furnishes practically all the wood for the annual output of over \$25,000,000 pencils, within five years has led to several conferences by representatives of the department of agriculture and lead pencil manufacturers, for the purpose of finding a suitable substitute for this wood.

According to manufacturers, new wood must be procured which can be cut easily and is free from knots. In view of this fact the forest service is to co-operate with the manufacturers in a test of a number of national forest woods.

Among those to be tried are Rocky mountain red cedar, alligator juniper, western juniper, redwood, incense cedar, western cedar, Port Orford cedar and Alaska cypress. Wood specimens collected from the national forests will be sent to four leading manufacturers, who have agreed to make pencils of them. The manufacturers will keep a record of the tests and report to the forest service the results, as well as their judgment as to the fitness of the individual woods.

PEARSONS' MONEY ALL GONE

College Philanthropist Retires to Sanitarium at Ninety.

At the age of ninety years Dr. D. K. Pearsons of Chicago has sold his home and will betake himself to a sanitarium, where he will spend his remaining days as executor of his estate. He has promised to die penniless.

Dr. Pearsons has always lived simply and put his surplus earnings into real estate and various securities. He has given away \$6,000,000 to small colleges.

Several times he has supposed himself at the end of his financial rope, but fate would not give him satisfaction. A few years ago he found a lot of bank stock which he had supposed worthless, and it turned out to be worth \$500,000. There was a swamp he had owned for more than half a century which a predatory railway corporation insisted on securing at a compensation of many hundreds of thousands of dollars.

But he has now sold out everything and has given away or promised every dollar he has except just enough to keep him until the end of his days. Wherefore he is cheerful.

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