Australian Dingo Only Wild Dog in Existence

The only true wild dog in existence todad is the Australian Dingo. This statement may be disputed by those who believe that other wild members of the canine family are just as much dog as the dingo—for instance, the wooly raccoon dog of China, the crab-eating dog, the bush dog and the small-eared dog of South America and even our western coyote. But all of these differ materially in body structure and habits embodied in our domesticated dog, while the dingo does not according to an authority in the Detroit News.

The dingo is essentially a product of Australia. Its origin has been traced back even beyond the aborigines of the Islands. In size it resembles a medium weight collie, standing about two feet high at the shoulders and measuring about five feet from the muzzle to the tip of the tail. The muzzle is pointed, the ears short and erect and the tail bushy.

In commenting on the dingo, William A. Haswell, professor of zoology at the University of Sidney, says: "The jaws of this animal are remarkable for their terrific power, which enables the animal to tear away completely the flesh gripped in its bite and so to kill its prey by mere shock.

"The color of the pack varies between the limits of light reddish-brown and black; the lower surface is always lighter, while the tip of the tail and the feet are frequently white.

"In many parts of Australia the aborigines catch dingo pups and train them to hunt. Aboriginal women often suckle the pups which acquire a great affection and loyalty to their foster mothers.

"In the wild state the dingo usually hunts alone or with its lifelong mate, though big game is often killed by pack attacks."

Romans Knew Shorthand; Was Used in Middle Ages

A system of shorthand or, rather rapid writing in abbreviated longhand, was known to the Romans. Tiro, first a slave and then "secretary" to Cicero, brought his system to a useful standard of proficiency, and it was used far into the Middle Ages.

The system of shorthand which was really the forerunner of modern styles, however, was that of Dr. Timothy Bright, a learned man of Elizabeth's day, whose book on the "arte of shorte, swifte and secrete writing" was published in 1588. Doctor Bright's system was followed by several others (including a method devised by Sheldon in 1650 the one in which Pepys kept his diary). Later systems brought radical changes, arbitrary marks for words giving place to the foundations of a proper shorthand alphabet. The phonetic principle came with the Nineteenth century, when Pitman and others introduced their systems.—Montreal Herald.

B. O. D. Sewage Treatment

B. o. d. in reference to sewage treatment refers to biochemical oxygen-demand. The bureau of agricultural engineering says that this is the quantity of oxygen required for biochemical oxidation in a given time at a given temperature; more fully, the amount of oxygen in parts per million or milligrams per liter required for stabilization of the organic matter in sewage by bacterial action—the amount of oxygen necessary to maintain aerobic conditions during decomposition of the organic matter in a polluted water. B. o. d. tests are the most important type of laboratory tests because they give actual results in determining the strength of sewage, the load to be carried by a river, the progress of natural purification, and the effect of successive steps in sewage treatment.

Stonehenge

Stonehenge is a megalithic structure on Salisbury plain, Wiltshire, England. It consisted originally of two concentric circles surrounding two enclosures of horseshoe shape, within which are five trilithons. Some of the stones have fallen, and some have been carried away, but the greater part remain. Its purpose is unknown, but in view of its orientation some investigators regard it as a temple of the sun, and carry back the date of its origin to the Seventeenth century B. C. There is strong evidence that it originated in the late Neolithic or early Bronze age.

First Prize Ring Rules

The first prize ring rules were drafted by John Broughton of England about 1762 and improved upon by the Earl of Queensberry, but the real drafter of later ones was a man by the name of Chambers. The original dimension of the ring was 24 feet square, although there were times when the champions demanded that they be larger. The State Commissions of America put a limit of from 21 to 22 feet inside the ropes in late years. Some rings are even smaller but permitted by the commissioners.

Auction Bridge

Auction bridge originated in India. The first record of it is found in a letter, published in the London Times January 16, 1903, outlining the game and referring to it as "the new game of auction bridge for three players." The Bath club made it a four-handed game and in 1907 the Portland club took it up. The first American code of laws of auction bridge was issued by the New York Whist club in 1910.

North Carolina Is First In Number Of Manslaughters

North Carolina continues to lead the nation in manslaughter and aggravated assault and ranks fifth in the 48 states for murder and non-negligent manslaughter, according to a report of the division of investigation of the United States Department of Justice for the first quarter of this year.

The state has a rate of 102.8 offenses of aggravated assault per 100,000 inhabitants, the report indicates, which is 40.0 above the second place state, Virginia. In manslaughter it leads with 16 offenses per 100,000 inhabitants, against 3.5 for Missouri in second place. It is led by only Virginia, Tennessee, Alabama and Arkansas in murder and non-negligent manslaughter. The rate for this state for that offense is 5.1 per 100,000 population.

It is interesting to note from the report of the Department of Justice that, based upon population, the southern states as a whole lead all sections of the country in murder, manslaughter and aggravated assault.

Woman Slides Out Of Window After Stepping On Small Piece Of Soap

This best time Mrs. Beulah Hopkins of Gary, Ind., didn't slide out of her window.

Mrs. Hopkins was in the bathroom and frozen on the water. Suddenly, she thought, she had heard a scream. He ran into the room and her wife was gone.

She had fallen three stories onto a sand pile and suffered a wrenched back. At the hospital she explained that she stepped on a piece of soap and skidded out the window.

The emperor penguin of the Antarctic spends its life without touching land; it is content to spend its time on solid ice when not swimming in the open water for food.

State Must Pay More Under Code

Raleigh.—Operation of the codes in various industries will make a big difference in the prices of State requirements, pronounced by the division of purchase and contract and, especially in the case of instruction supplies for schools, is it going to cause trouble, according to purchasing officials.

Coal purchased under the code will cost probably twice as much as it did last year. Automobile tires, of which many are used in transporting public and other duty, will be increased probably as much. In fact, all supplies to be used by the state during the next year will probably be appreciably materially.

All of which is causing some officials some worry, since the allotments for such supplies for the schools has been barely enough during the past year. They are watching how another year's record goes, and through which the same changes which the addition of the codes are to prove. The Governor is authorized to increase salaries of teachers if the revenue proves sufficient fund. But it is pretty doubtful that a way will be found to pay the additional costs resulting from adoption of codes for school supplies.

The Electric Eel

The electrical house in the vicinity of Brazil and the Guianas is said to be able to give an electric shock equivalent to 300 volts. This it does by touching its victims with both its head and tail so as to give a complete circuit.

Havana's Oldest Structure

The Old Fort in Havana, known as La Fuerza, is the oldest structure in America. The walls show the effect of many bombardments. It was atop the fort that De Soto's wife watched the horizon daily for his return. She died during one of her long vigils. The Columbus cathedral is reputed to have once contained the remains of the historic navigator.

Beer Tax Income Increases, While Liquor's Drops

Washington.—The drinker's fancy lightly turns to thoughts of beer this spring—and hard stuff isn't going so well. That, at least, is the story told by the tax returns.

Income from beer set a post-repeal record in April—$14,306,000. Taxes from distilled spirits hit a record low—$6,834,000. But some thought the bootlegger might have had something to do with it.

March beer taxes were $13,175,000, February $9,316,000, January $10,226,000 and December, the first repeal month, $12,867,000.

Distilled spirits taxes were: March $8,742,000, February $7,708,000, January $9,651,000, and December $8,651,000. In December the tax rate was $1.10 a gallon. During January it went to $2.

Training for Bankers

The American Bankers Association has been active for many years training young men and women in order that they may be duly qualified for the business of banking. Standard courses are furnished with able and experienced teachers. This work is done under the direction of the American Institute of Banking Section of the association. Over two hundred chapters, or local banking schools, are in active operation throughout the country and thousands of the younger generation of bankers are being graduated each year. These students are taught not only banking practices and policies, but they are also well grounded in the highest ideals and standards of business ethics. A proposal is now under consideration to establish a central school, which will offer advanced or graduate work to a selective list taken from those who have completed the standard courses.—F. M. Law, President American Bankers Association.

John Howard Payne, author of "Home Sweet Home," was rejected in marriage by Mary Hayden because he had no home to offer her.

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