

Strange But True

By F. H. MacArthur

The first thing Mrs. Deswall discovered at her home in Brighton, England, on her return after 18 months in West Africa with her Army Captain husband, was a month-old letter from the war Department. It stated that the army could not permit her to join her husband in Africa.

Three weeks after Mrs. James Snow, 70, of Aberdeen, Miss., got the best news of her life—all was found on her barren 80-acre farm—she dropped dead.

A Connecticut farmer's hen started laying green eggs on St. Patrick's Day last year and has been laying green eggs ever since. Strange but true!

In August, 1953, the bodies of a young couple who had killed themselves, were discovered in a hotel room in Takamatsu, Japan. Police identified the dead as Chieko Oasawara, 25, and his girl friend Hiroshi Kuchima, 22. The grieving parents of the pair claimed the bodies and gave them decent burial. One week later Chieko and Hiroshi appeared at their homes, mystifying police over the identity of the hotel suicides.

The pint sized village of Boscroger, France, was a scene with Saturday shoppers on September 12, 1953, when a large truck with broken brakes came speeding towards the village down a hill. At that exact moment a flock of sheep strayed across the road and their matted bodies brought the truck to a stop. Seventy-one sheep were killed.

The gravestone in an old cemetery at Williamston, S. C. bears the etched outline of a horse's head which the superstitious residents believe has a supernatural origin. The engraving has posed a mystery for half a century as a careful examination reveals no trace of chisel or other tool marks.

The stone bears the date: Oct. 13, 1901, and stands over the grave of J. W. Huff. The events which led to Huff's death also are shrouded in mystery. One night he hitched his horse to a wagon and set out for a ride. He and the horse were bottom companions. Later Huff's mangled corpse was found beside the overturned carriage some distance from his home. The horse, people said, just disappeared. Shortly after Huff's funeral the etching of the animal was seen on the tombstone over his grave. Many persons insist that on moonless nights when the wind sobbs through the graveyard, they can hear the

neighing of a horse.

As R. R. Rankin of Wynberg, South Africa, was driving in Beywoda, South India, a dog ran out suddenly in front of his automobile and he was unable to bypass it. But on looking to the side and rear he saw neither dog nor corpse. Searching a bit more he found the dog suspended from the fixed starting handle of the ancient auto, saved by a thread—a piece of twine. It was around its neck in place of a collar. On being released the frightened animal ran off at a rapid pace.

A correspondent writing to this column wanted to know the name of the blind poet who walked the streets and chanted his poems to the music of his lyre 1000 years before Christ. I think the poet you had in mind was Homer who wrote the immortal "Iliad" and "Odyssey"; but I could be wrong and if I am, perhaps some of our scholars would be willing to supply the correct answer to your question.

Please do not tell other people about your troubles. Remember they are the most valuable elements in all great living. Wisely used they add dimensions and character. During times of crisis the good Lord takes a hand in solving our problems. It matters not that we have made mistakes and met discouragements, but only that we have faith to use those trials towards shaping a better life. It is said that Mr. Gladstone the British statesman, spent several minutes morning and night in meditation upon the 3rd verse in the 26th chapter of Isaiah: "Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed in Thee."

Perhaps this was the secret of Gladstone's calm, straight thinking during that turbulent period in England's history.

Like a tiny acorn, a small crisis may grow into a giant oak crisis. So we should stuff out our little troubles before they grow into giants which would devour us later.

If Paul and Gladstone and Sir Winston Churchill and many others could remain perfectly calm and think clearly when the crises came to them, why cannot each of us do the same. There is really no crisis that cannot be met by us in the victorious way in which those others have met theirs, but accept its challenge and become stronger and more fearless because of it.

Do you know that beasts can be hypnotized as well as humans? Dr. Francis Vaelgysel, a pioneer in the medical use of hypnosis and an explorer of note actually hypnotized a chimpanzee at the

Budapest zoo back in 1932.

Indeed, it is now an established fact that with patience and close application any animal above certain organic standard can be hypnotized.

Recently workers, digging a road bed in Southern Hungary, came upon an ancient burial ground. There's nothing new about finding old cemeteries, but this one contained the bones of many tiny skeletons—in fact all the skeletons were about the size of an 8-year-old child. The question that puzzled the researchers is: what was this race of dwarfs? To what country did they originally belong? And what happened to them?

Some day the correct answer to these questions may be answered. In the meantime, we must be content with the bare facts of the discovery.

YORK W. C. T. U.

The annual meeting of York W. C. T. U. was held March 26, at the home of Mrs. Lloyd Vessey. Mrs. Elmer Brown had charge of the devotional period which opened by singing the hymn, "O Master Let Me Walk With Thee."

The scripture lesson was taken from Psalm 146 and was read by Mrs. Cook. Mrs. Edison Hardy led in prayer. Other taking part were Mrs. Richard Vessey, Mrs. Frank Vessey, Mrs. Harry Lewis, Mrs. Sproule, Mrs. Leigh Vessey and Mrs. Lloyd Vessey. Devotional period closed by singing "Take My Life And Let It Be."

Roll call was responded to by 10 members and two visitors with a verse of Scripture.

Correspondence consisted of a letter regarding oratorical contest and scrap book contests for school children.

It was decided to hold a party in the hall for the children who wrote the Temperance Examinations. Mrs. Richard Vessey and Mrs. Leigh Vessey were appointed to take charge of the recreation. Mrs. Edison Hardy to take charge of getting the ice-cream, etc.

Will Likely Recommend Hydro Power Development Of Saint John River

OTTAWA, (CP)—A 10-year plan for a huge hydro power development in the Saint John River basin reaching through New Brunswick and Maine likely will be recommended next week to the Canadian and United States governments.

After a long study of the potentialities of the \$200,000,000 project, the international joint commission is expected to complete its report by Wednesday at a week-long meeting in Washington.

Informants here said the members of the commission—the Canada-U.S. body that regulates the use of boundary waters—are close to unanimity on proposals for a step-by-step exploitation of the river's power and the Washington meeting will settle minor points of difference.

The first recommended step on the Canadian side, it was learned, would be the construction of a dam and power plant at Beechwood, N.B., a few miles downstream from Perth and near the Maine border.

Cost \$45,000,000

This party of the project would cost eventually \$45,000,000 including transmission lines. It would have initially two units generating 45,000 horsepower apiece, and a third unit of the same horsepower could be added later.

The commission's report is expected to recommend other developments—undisclosed—over a 10-year period and also to outline still later power possibilities for the basin that runs north of the Quebec-New Brunswick border and well south of Maine in the U.S.

While the report will favor the long-run feasibility of development from an engineering and economic standpoint, it will not make proposals as to how the various steps should be financed.

N. B. Ponders Expense

On the Canadian side, this is the big problem. Hydro power is a provincial matter in Canada, but the Saint John development is regarded by the New Brunswick government as too large an obligation for its resources.

Quietly tipped off months ago to the trend of IJC thinking the federal and New Brunswick governments have been in consultation on the matter. One proposal was that the federal resources and agriculture departments—which would have an interest through such offshoots as soil conservation and irrigation—might lend funds.

Informants said the discussions are going on in a federal-New Brunswick committee but are still inconclusive.

EARLY HIGHWAY

Overland communication by rough roads between Montreal and Toronto, then called York, opened in 1817.

School Administration Short Course

HUNTER RIVER

The postponed short course at Hunter River will be held in the hall on Thursday, April 8th, beginning at 2:30 in the afternoon and 7:30 in the evening.

School trustees, school secretaries and parents interested in education are cordially invited.

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YORK EVENING AUXILIARY

The regular meeting of York Evening Auxiliary met on March 9, at the home of Mrs. Lloyd Vessey. The worship period was in charge of Mrs. Edison Hardy, the theme being "The Church in their house." Those taking part were Mrs. Lloyd Vessey, Mrs. Reuben Watts and Miss Frances Vessey. An interesting story from the Study Book "Where's the Sun," closed this part of the program. The roll call was responded to by 15 members and one visitor.

It was decided that each member pay \$1 quarterly fee as usual to help make up the allocation for 1954. There were six sick calls reported. Mrs. Allan Swan invited the members to her home for the next meeting. Meeting closed with the Mizpah Benediction.

RAINY LAKE

Rainy lake and Rainy river in northwestern Ontario were discovered by the Frenchman Jacques de Noyon in 1688.

Dorothy Dix's Column

make the first overtures to you and now they are waiting for a welcoming signal from you.

WELCOME NEEDED

Perhaps they think you're quite boorish to neglect inviting them to your home. Vague invitations are meaningless. A casual "Do drop in sometime" conveys no promise of a warm welcome. Instead, make a definite date for your new friends to call. If you happen to find yourself the center of a group after services next Sunday, ask the people in for tea that afternoon. If you prefer, write or phone, asking some folks in for an evening of bridge, canasta or—most popular of all at present—a word game. Make your hospitality simple—or seemingly so. Don't strive to make an impression by serving elaborate refreshments. Make the atmosphere cozy, cordial and comfortable. If you have musical talent in your family, center the evening around music. I do suggest, however, that you don't try to depend on TV for entertainment. Poiks can get that at home; when they visit they want companionship and good conversation. Get on the phone right now and extend that invitation.

DEAR MISS DIX: I have been married just a few months and am looking forward to the birth of my child in September. My husband, however, seems completely indifferent to the baby; in fact, I don't think he loves me anymore.

ANSWER: Your husband's attitude probably is due not to lack of love for you, but to his inability to comprehend the great miracle that's taking place in his family. Many men don't realize fully the fact of their fatherhood until the small son or daughter is actually in their arms. A child never means as much to the expectant father as to the mother. Just be patient until your husband's attitude changes—as it surely will.



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