

Danger In Race Mixture

Fast modern transportation, that has carried civilized peoples into the remote corners of the earth, is bringing about problems of race mixture such as have never existed before in the history of mankind. The potential dangers of European stock settling among primitive races were pointed out by Dr. Chas. B. Davenport of the Genetics Laboratory of the Carnegie Institution of Washington, at the International Congress of Anthropologists which met in Berlin recently.

It is not strange, Dr. Davenport declared, that statesmen, biologists and eugenists are asking what the consequences of such race crossing is likely to be. The question is raised whether it should be welcomed as tending to produce higher types or whether steps should be taken to prevent immigration to any country as a menace to its culture.

Each race that has persisted a long time in a distinct environment, the eugenics authority explained, has certain adaptations to that environment. In the mixture of races now taking place there are combinations of conditions which sometimes lead to disharmony from the conflict of developmental tendencies.

"Thus," he continued, "in America we have a union of races, characterized by large teeth in large jaws, with others having small teeth in small jaws. It has been suggested by orthodontists, specialists who correct irregular teeth, that a combination of an hereditary tendency to large teeth, combined with hereditary small jaws produces the crowding of teeth which has made orthodontia so important a

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PSYCHOLOGY

Mouth Tells More Than Eyes

Is your mouth the most expressive feature in your face? Evidence produced by experiments in the psychological laboratory at the Johns Hopkins University indicates that this may be true, and that the expressiveness of "soulful" or "dancing" eyes has been greatly overestimated by poets, novelists and lovers.

To test out the comparative expressiveness of the eyes and mouth, a number of photographs were taken of faces showing amusement, disgust, strain, pleasure, pain, and other states of feeling, says Dr. Knight Dunlap, in reporting the first of the experiments.

Copies of these pictures were cut in half, so that the lower part of the

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You Dance?

Paul Whiteman, rumor tells us,
Was trying to invent
A trying kind of music
With a very modern bent.

He listened to the bugs and frogs
Without the least success;
And when he studied Peethoven,
His gain was even less.

He read in Science Service
The fact someone affirms,
About the choral aptitude
Of common angle worms.

"I got it!" quoth Paul Whiteman;
And thus each night was found,
Out in the apple orchard,
His ear upon the ground.

Now human dancers gyrate
And do estatic squirms
To the hideous cacophony
Of syncopating worms.

—Richard Ashman.

Science News-Letter, September 24, 1927

SOCIOLOGY

Phi Beta Kappa Girls Marry

The theory that the dumb Dora is the most successful husband snatcher and that the female Phi Beta Kappa is necessarily an unloved blue stocking is an example of another fallacy gone smash on the rocks of scientific investigation.

Drs. J. S. Bolin and S. J. Holmes have examined the records of 2074 alumnae of the University of California graduated between the years of 1874 and 1910 to see whether the dumbest or the brightest totaled the greater number of matrimonial hits. They state that of these, 1160 were married and 914 were unmarried, this proportion being roughly the same as that known to obtain in several other colleges and universities.

Investigation of the scholarship records showed that contrary to general expectation the grades of the married ranged a shade higher, .008 of a point to be exact, than those of their still unmated sisters. The girls who made the honorary society Phi Beta Kappa, awarded to students of high scholarship, were divided about fifty-fifty among the ranks of the married and the single.

Science News-Letter, September 24, 1927

At a height of a mile and a half in the air the coolest time of the 24 hours is in the day, rather than at night.

Red Wolves On Rampage

The red wolf of Texas, despoiler extraordinary of sheep, goats and poultry, has caused so many thousands of dollars worth of damage during the past eight months, that government wolf experts are conducting a ruthless warfare against him.

Central Texas counties in particular are bending their efforts towards quick elimination of the pest. In Parker County alone, it is estimated that annually the red wolf destroys from \$25,000 to \$35,000 worth of animals. The Chamber of Commerce has found it necessary to put up dollar for dollar with the people in the rural districts, employing two government hunters, who, in the eight month period, managed to kill more than a hundred wolves.

Like his cousin, the notorious gray wolf of the western plains, expert killer of calves, which has been virtually stamped out in the west, the red wolf is primarily a lone despoiler. His habit is to venture forth at night, sweeping down upon farm and ranch, killing his prey and then hastening to his out-of-the-way retreat to sleep away his food debauch.

The Texas red wolf ranges in weight from 30 to 60 pounds, while the gray wolf, known in Texas as the lobo or timber wolf, ranges between 75 and 100 pounds. However, large

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CHEMISTRY

Germs Succumb to Perfume

Quotation from THE MYSTERY AND LURE OF PERFUME—C. J. S. Thompson—Lippincott.

Some years ago attention was called to a statement that cases of tuberculosis were much less common in the flower-growing districts of France than in other parts of the country. This was attributed to the antiseptic effects of the essential oils of the plants in general. It was also noted, that in the laboratories where the oils from the flowers were prepared, the majority of the workers remained remarkably free from diseases of the respiratory organs, which was also said to be due to the air being impregnated with the odors from the various essential oils.

The matter was then carefully investigated by Chamberland of the Institut Pasteur in Paris, and by Cadeac, Meunier, and Smetchensko. The results of their experiments were communicated to the French Biological Society by Charrin, who supported their conclusions. They may be summarized as follows: they found that the micro-organisms of

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