

# Crime Wave Spreads to Wild Animals

Zoology

The much-talked-of crime wave seems to have spread even to some of the wild animals of Yosemite National Park, and it has been necessary to provide a patrol wagon especially adapted to the peculiar need to take care of recalcitrant bears.

The patrol wagon is unique, consisting of a piece of corrugated pipe large enough to contain a bear, sealed at one end and equipped with a trap door at the other. It is mounted on pneumatic wheels to make the riding

## Adults Need Vitamin D

Physiology

That the present-day craving for sun-tan safeguards health as well as social standing has been further demonstrated by two Chicago scientists, Dr. Katharine Blunt and Miss Ruth Cowan, who are about to publish a book on the subject of ultraviolet light and vitamin D.

If adults are deprived seriously of these two factors, they run the risk of osteomalacia, a famine disease in which the bones lose calcium, soften, and change in shape. Bow legs, carious teeth and peculiar gait develop in these people. If they played golf, swam outdoors, or even walked to work the condition could be averted. But in these days of scientific wonders other methods of prevention and cure have been discovered, such as ultraviolet light therapy, cod-liver oil, and irradiated foods. It is this light which is so important, and a person can either irradiate himself or purchase irradiated food.

In certain sections of India, among the women of the better class, osteomalacia is common because they are kept indoors most of the time and are heavily veiled when they do go out. The ultraviolet light never reaches them. Women of the lower class who are out all day in the open air are entirely free from the disease.

Ultraviolet light is the key to the situation in the prevention or relief of this condition among adults, but it cannot accomplish prevention or relief entirely by itself, because other factors enter in. While vitamin D is important, a supply of calcium is also necessary for bones to grow properly and to remain strong and healthy throughout life. Sunshine and cod-liver oil are good sources of vitamin D and calcium is to be found in milk, primarily, and also in fresh fruits and vegetables.

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easy and attached to an automobile truck.

When word is received at headquarters that a bear is disturbing the peace anywhere in the park, the patrol is quickly sent to the scene of trouble. Since bears live solitary lives, each holding sway over certain areas, the disturber is likely to be the only bear in his particular neighborhood. The pipe bear trap on wheels is then detached and a piece of meat placed inside.

This guilty bear, smelling the meat, usually crowds into the pipe in search of it. The trap door slams shut and the bruin is a prisoner.

Bears so caught in the inhabited portion of Yosemite Valley are sentenced to banishment. They are marked

## Kennelly-Heaviside—Cont.

its supposed functions. I find, however, that the hypothesis of an electrically conducting stratum in the upper air was clearly enunciated in an article by Prof. A. E. Kennelly, of Harvard University, published in the *Electrical World and Engineer* of New York on March 15, 1902. The official date of Heaviside's disclosure of his hypothesis is December 19, 1902. About the same date H. Poincaré, A. Blondel, and C. E. Guillaume made similar hypotheses. If names are to be attached to this hypothetical layer it should be called, in equity, the "Kennelly-Heaviside" layer, a name which is beginning to be used in America.

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## Parrot Fever—Cont'd

break. A special study of the parrot fever epidemic in this country is now being made by Dr. Charles Armstrong, of the U. S. Hygienic Laboratory in cooperation with the health officers of the various states and cities where cases have been reported.

Dr. Armstrong was detailed to this special work as a result of a meeting of the staff of the U. S. Public Health Service, called especially to consider the present situation in regard to psittacosis.

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One Cincinnati court has been equipped with a microphone and loudspeaker, so that jurors may be sure to catch all that is said by the witnesses.

with a daub of paint for purposes of later identification, taken to the lower end of the park and released. If they "repeat" they are identified by the paint mark.

Yellowstone Park's "holdup bears" have developed a new branch of the desperado business. One of them recently robbed the United States mails. Park Naturalist Dorr Yeager tells of the occurrence, which befell one of his colleagues, Dick White:

"It seems that some time ago Dick stopped at the West Thumb road camp for lunch. The season being closed, and the regular mail delivery having ceased, Dick was obligingly carrying a bundle of mail with him for the members of the different road crews around the loop. He left the mail in the car and, after enjoying a good meal, returned to continue his journey to Lake.

"Imagine his surprise, however, to find the package of mail not in the car but between the paws of a black bear in a nearby tree. Bruin was examining the packet intently, sniffing and turning it over in an inquisitive manner."

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## Bibliography of the Writings of Edwin E. Slosson

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