

GOAT THAT WON FAME

**How a Railway Company
Obtained Its Trade-mark**

**NEWSBOY WHO BECAME A
BUSINESS MAGNATE**

The story of the adoption by a great American railway company of a billy-goat as a trade-mark for its line has recently been told. About thirty-five years ago Billy Kenney, a Minneapolis newsboy, bought a billy-goat to carry the Sunday newspapers from the newspaper office to the street corner where they were sold.

After a time the boy saved enough money to give up his newspapers and learn telegraphy. He sold his goat to a rancher living near Midvale, Montana, and finally obtained a post on the Great Northern Railroad. The years went by, and each year saw Billy Kenney rising higher and higher in the company's service, till at last he found himself at the head of the vast organisation.

One day business called him to Montana, and the time-table compelled him to break his journey for an hour or two at Midvale. The name aroused old memories, and he inquired for the rancher to whom many years ago he had sold his goat.

Hunting for an Old Friend

He was told that the rancher was dead, but that a district not far off was full of the goats he had raised. Following up the scent, he finally discovered the flock he was looking for; the leader was the very image of the goat who used to help him drag his little newspaper-cart in Minneapolis.

"There," he said to Mr. Hill, the chairman of the Great Northern Board of Directors, who was with him, "is a grandson of an old friend of mine."

"Splendid!" said Mr. Hill. "This solves a problem that has been worrying me. He shall be our trade-mark."

And now, on the sides of the 30,000 box-cars of the Great Northern Railroad of the United States, is painted in blue and white a figure of Billy Kenney's goat as the trade-mark of the line.

SAVING A KITTEN**Sheffield Man's Kind Action**

A Sheffield reader sends us what he calls a kindly incident which he witnessed in the industrial part of the city.

Somehow a little kitten had got into the River Don, and had drifted down until it had clambered out of the water on a wooden pile that was once part of an old bridge.

A crowd on the present bridge watched the little thing while two men waded to get to it, but found the water too deep. Then a man named Kitchen, partly stripped, went down a ladder from the wall of one of the works, made his way up the stream—for he could not reach the kitten direct—crossed by shallower water to the middle of the stream, and finally swam down and brought the kitten out on his shoulder, amid the cheers of the spectators.

THE UNLOCKED DOOR**What the Dog Knew**

A Godalming reader reports this story of the ways of a dog.

We had a Skye terrier, Fluffy, who every night accompanied my father when he went to lock up the house.

One night, thinking he had locked the study door, he called Fluffy to go upstairs as usual. Fluffy, however, would not come, but sat by the study door. Thinking something was wrong, my father went back, and found he had not locked the door. When he did so Fluffy at once followed upstairs.

CAMBERWELL BEAUTY IN LONDON

A Crouch End reader says that a Camberwell Beauty butterfly settled in his garden on the afternoon of March 12. It had probably escaped from some naturalist's vivarium.

**AM I MY BROTHER'S
KEEPER?**

**The Great Danger that
Faces Europe**

A NATION GOING BLIND

That we are all members one of another applies to nations as well as to individuals. This is emphasised by a warning from the League of Nations Sanitary Conference, which has been sitting in Poland.

There is an immediate danger to the whole of Europe, this warning says, from the possibility of cholera and typhus fever spreading from the famine districts of Russia. Unless greater efforts are made at once to check these diseases the peril will advance westward, in addition to impeding reconstruction and hampering trade.

There is another terrible epidemic claiming victims by the thousand in the south-east of Europe. This is trachoma, a disease of the eyes which in very many cases causes blindness. Among the Armenians weakness due to scarcity of food has allowed this plague to spread with appalling rapidity.

Out of 30,000 people lately examined, 27,000 were suffering from it. An American oculist says it is probable that the whole Arinenian nation of 7,000,000 may actually be blind within the next few years.

UNKNOWN BENEFACTOR**Good News for an Old Society**

It is often said unjustly that the only motive that induces rich people to give away large sums is the desire for notoriety.

What do cheap cynics who employ this taunt say to the unknown giver who put down £30,000 to help the Society of Arts to buy its house in London?

In two years' time the society will be celebrating its 170th birthday. It was formed in 1754, and met first at a coffee-house in Covent Garden. It has gone on ever since the day when Dr. Johnson attended its lectures and discussions, giving its members the opportunity to listen to men who have made discoveries and started new theories, and added to the world's knowledge.

Now it has purchased the building in which its meetings have been held for nearly 150 years, thanks to this gift from the member who preferred to keep his name a secret.

BLACKBIRD AND MIRROR**Are Birds Vain?**

A reader who lives near a plot of ground where a merry-go-round used at fairs is stored tells us of a blackbird's ways.

There are glass panels in the merry-go-round that reflect images as a looking-glass does.

A blackbird saw its likeness, and dashed against the glass, thinking it was another bird.

For several days he did this, till he discovered his mistake.

Now he comes regularly each morning and stays some time, nodding his head to and fro while he performs his toilet as if admiring himself. Can it be that he is vain?

PUPPIES REARED BY A CAT**A Great-Grandfather's Story**

A Birmingham reader sends us a quotation from a letter written by her great-grandfather to her father when her father was a boy, the date being 1886.

The four little puppies you would like to hear of were a very small sort, full of fun and life. They had lost their mother and were nursed by a cat.

The little rascals were disposed to be troublesome to their more than natural mother by sporting with her tail and biting her ears. Puss bore this with becoming dignity and patience, but frequently a proper pat on the side of the head with her paw made some of the little rogues wince a bit.

**A MOUNTAIN
CRACKING**

**Valley Threatened with
Extinction**

**STRANGE RESULT OF THE
DROUGHT**

An alarming statement has been made to the inhabitants of a valley in Monmouthshire.

In it is a reservoir which for some time past has been affected by mysterious movements of the soil. Now it has been discovered that the mountain sides are cracking. They threaten to fall into the Cwmillery Valley and block it up.

The cracks were caused, it seems probable, by the drought. Rain water poured into them and saturated the soil, so that it ceased to be solid and began to slip downwards.

It does not appear that anything can be done to prevent the movement that is taking place, a movement on a small scale resembling those that have changed the face of the earth in times past.

Weather and water have been the chief agents in the formation of the world as we know it, and they are at work still.

**BRAVE ISLANDERS IN
LONDON****Grace Darling's Successors
Come to Town**

The fisherfolk of Holy Island, off Northumberland, who, as the C.N. told at the time, launched their lifeboat with great difficulty on a wild January night and rescued the crew of a trawler, were invited to London to receive medals for their bravery and to be thanked by a Cabinet Minister.

What they did certainly deserved praise. It was snowing and blowing hard when the flare which told of the trawler's peril was seen by the people of the village from which Grace Darling came. They had a great tradition to keep up, so out they turned, women as well as men, and struggled to the beach. It took the efforts of sixty of them to get the lifeboat into the water. Women waded out waist-deep, and pushed with all their might. At last the lifeboat was afloat.

Now the men in her had a long pull to the rocks on which the trawler had run aground. It was not until after midnight that they managed to get near enough to take off the nine men whose lives were in danger.

No finer deed has ever been done by the lifeboatmen of any land.

**DISCOVERING NATURE'S
SECRETS****Students Explore a Cave in a
Cliff**

High up on the face of the cliff that walls in the gorge of the River Avon at Bristol is a cave. Sheer down the cliff goes to the water, a drop of 250 feet.

What was the nature of the cave? The question was discussed by students of Bristol University, and a party was made up to explore it. Several young men and a girl volunteered to make the descent, tied to a rope.

They were lowered over the top of the cliff and searched the cave thoroughly. They found stalactite formations, a grotto, and a coral pool. Then they were pulled up, and were not sorry to be on solid ground again after hanging dizzily in mid air.

They took the risk because they were anxious to add to their knowledge.

That is how our knowledge of Nature is increased. It is a good sign that students should wish to do their share in discovering Nature's secrets. It shows that they are taking their work seriously and that they fully appreciate the value of knowledge.

CRUSOE'S ISLAND**A RECENT VISIT TO IT**

**Goats and Pigs and Ponies
Running Wild**

HAPPY LAND OF 50 PEOPLE

There is a lonely spot in the Pacific which the Chilean Government is proposing to turn into a health resort. Juan Fernandez lies like a vivid green jewel in the heart of an opal sea, 420 miles west of Valparaiso. Fair and lovely it rises, 13 miles long and four miles broad, with its peaks 3000 feet above the quivering Southern Sea.

It beckons still with all the lure of an enchanted land, for it was here that in 1704 the original of Crusoe, Alexander Selkirk, a buccaneer, was marooned by his own request after he had quarrelled with his skipper. He lived on the island for four years and four months, when he was finally rescued by Captain Woodes Rogers, who described him as a man dressed in goat-skins, and wilder in appearance than the goats themselves.

Selkirk actually did have a man Friday—an Indian whom he found in the woods and rescued from death. But he was drowned while fishing.

Robinson Crusoe's Flagstaff

Recent visitors to Juan Fernandez saw Crusoe's Cave, which is lined with shelves and has a cupboard still intact. Near the cave is a spur of rock, on which some years ago a Chilean surveying party discovered the remains of an old flagstaff deeply embedded in the earth. This was probably the one that the castaway had erected on his look-out point in the hope of attracting the attention of some passing ship.

It was at this point on the hill road called Selkirk's Look-out, where, in a gap in the trap-rock, a magnificent view may be had of the whole island and of the sea north and south, that a tablet was erected to the memory of Alexander Selkirk by a party landing from one of our own warships. He lived to be master's mate of H.M.S. Weymouth, and died in 1721.

The vegetation of the island is reported to be wonderful. The native growth is a kind of beautiful tree fern, while the valleys are covered with wild quinces, pears, peaches, and grapes, which Crusoe himself, or other early settlers, probably planted.

An Earthly Paradise

There are plenty of goats, pigs, and ponies running wild, and the surrounding sea swarms with fish, principally a species of cod, delicious to eat. Quantities of seals sun themselves on the rocks near by.

This earthly Paradise has only some fifty inhabitants, most of whom are of German origin. The project of turning it into a health resort will be Chile's third attempt to invade its loneliness.

At one time it was used as a penal settlement, and as ships were scarce in those days it is to be feared that warders and prisoners were left frequently without food or supplies. Then, about 50 years ago, the Chilean Government formed a scheme for colonising the island, but it was a failure.

Will it be a success as a health resort, or will it remain nothing more than an enchanted Isle of Dreams?

Pronunciations in this Paper

Cassini	Kahs-see-nec
Finistere	Fin-is-tair
Kea	Kay-ah
Mnemosyne	Ne-mos-e-ne
Sévigne	Say-veen-yav
Tanganyika	Tahn-gahn-ye-kah
Trachoma	Trak-o-mah