

INDIANS ON THE TRAIL

The Methods Used by the Red Men to Communicate.

SIGNS THAT SPEAK VOLUMES

Sticks and Stones Have a Language of Their Own and Serve to Indicate Direction, Departure, Intention, Warning, Claim or Demand.

As time has passed and civilization has changed Indian conditions, I was under the impression that our red brothers had forgotten the use of signs in their travels, but as I was loitering about the hills in Siskiyou county some time ago I came across a genuine Indian sign such as I had not seen for a dozen years before. It was a simple little sign in appearance, but it was full of meaning to those who could read it—a long stick with one end stuck in the ground, the other leaning and pointing up the road. The stick was elevated at an angle of only about ten degrees from the ground and was supported on a stone. It told some Indians that his friend had been along there and had gone ahead in the direction pointed out by the stick.

I marveled at it, but on investigation found that the Indians of California still use signs to convey intelligence to each other. I found that among the Coopahs, Cobuhlas, Pimas and Yumas the sign is as much in use as ever.

While traveling in San Bernardino county later on I came across a peculiar grouping of stones, and at once saw that some Indian had left a sign so that all other Indians might know that water was to be found in a certain direction. The stones were lying in a complete circle, and in the center was a long triangular stone with the sharp point indicating a specific direction. The sign was plain to one versed in such things, and in order to see if the same sign was universal, for I had seen it elsewhere, I followed the direction pointed out by the long stone and found a little spring.

This arrangement of stones I had often seen in a dozen different places in the middle west and as a variant which was also found in California, have seen a mound of stones similar to a miner's monument, with a pointed stone resting on top, pointing toward water. In many parts of the country, especially in the desert parts of California and Arizona, the question of water supply for travelers is one that requires serious consideration, and I have known men to pass within a few hundred yards of water without knowing it, because they could not read Indian signs. The sign was in plain view and was placed there because the Indians recognized the necessity of telling all who came along that they could find water. True, there was not a big board set up with "Water" painted on it, but to the initiated it was equally plain. There is not a trail in all the southwest that runs near a spring that does not have the sign openly displayed. I have even seen instances where the water was so far from the regular trail that special signs have been made to show where it is.

Sometimes, however, these circles may not mean water at all, and then it is necessary to understand the intricacies of the Indian mind to understand just what he is driving at. I remember once when I was hunting on the Republican River I came across a circle of buffalo skulls, which attracted my attention because of their peculiar arrangement. Sixteen skulls were set in a semicircle with their noses pointing down the river. In the center of the

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PURSUED OVER SEAS.



snapshot of "Baroness" F. Goebel, who is Daniel Webster Doughtery's young daughter, and who has been pursued over seas by the husband with whom she eloped. The Doughterys are expecting trouble, and have turned loose on their estate several mastiffs and great Danes to prevent Goebel from getting near the house.

circle was a skull on which were painted thirty-six red lines. Near the skulls were two small sticks placed upright in the ground, and at the top of each stick were tied two bundles of hair.

A Pawnee Indian was with me and told me that thirty-six Pawnees had camped there. They had made a raid against a camp of Comanches containing sixteen tents or lodges and had taken four scalps. They were now returning home down the river. To the ordinary observer this arrangement of skulls and sticks would have given no more impression than the idea that some one had been amusing himself by playing with these buffalo skulls. To the Indian the arrangement was a complete story.

Indians use signs for several specific purposes, the most prevalent being that of guidance, but they are also used for direction, departure, intention, condition, warning and claim or demand. I was hunting with a party of Utes in southwestern Colorado, and we had separated with the understanding that we were to meet again at a specified place and all go back to the village together. On reaching the appointed place one of the party was not there, but the rest started to the village, paying no attention to his non-appearance. I asked if they were not going to wait until he came back, but they said he had been there and had gone on to the village without waiting for us to come up. When I expressed surprise I was shown a long stick standing in the trail with a bunch of grass fastened to its top. The stick was leaning toward the village, and this told the story of the missing man as plainly as if he had written a letter about it. I found that a similar stick had been erected at the top of every hill between there and where the village could be seen. He took no chances of the sticks falling down and told the story over several times.

The same sign is used by the Indians of southern Alaska and also by the Winnebagos of Manitoba. The Sioux use a split stick with a short stick in the split, pointing in the direction taken.—San Francisco Chronicle.

THE HUMAN MACHINE
MAN'S BODY AND ITS WONDERS OF MECHANICAL DEVICES.

Many of the Inventions of the Day Are Infringements on the Clever and Ingenious Devices Registered in Nature's Patent Office.

So fearfully and wonderfully is the human body made that scientists are beginning to realize that many of the inventions of the day are infringements on nature's patent office. A good deal of trouble and worry in the past could have been avoided had inventors made a careful study of the devices employed in making these human bodies of ours the useful things they are. The principles of the block and pulley or the tackle could have been discovered ages before had the files of nature's patent office been ransacked, for there are several complete pulleys in the body, notably the one which moves the eyeball inward toward the nose.

Engineers made exhaustive tests and experiments before they discovered that a hollow shaft or rod of iron or steel is about twice as strong as a solid one. Yet nature had patented this device in our bones since the birth of Adam and Eve, and every important bone is practically constructed on this principle. The ball and socket of the hip bones were the forerunners of the modern ball bearings, and it was the first automatic oiling machine used in the world. The value of air pressure and a vacuum was unknown to man until the last century, but every one of us carries the secret in the air tight hip joint which nature had assigned to lessen the muscular effort to hold our legs upright in position.

Engineers have made wonderful progress in developing compound suction and circular pumps, but all of the principles contained in them are found in the heart, and this little pumping machine is still without a rival in the mechanical world.

The principles of the safety valve for steam engines are not so new as they seem. Our human bodies carry with them the first automatic safety valves ever designed. There are upward of 2,500,000 of them. We call them by the common name of sweat glands. Each such little gland has a safety valve which lets off heat from the body when it gets beyond a safe temperature. We cannot stand a rise of more than 8 to 10 degrees of temperature and live. If therefore the 2,500,000 safety valves were closed for twenty-four hours, death would supervene.

Adam's apple was the first storage system ever built, and it works with automatic regularity through health and sickness. It is a most important organ of the body, although for centuries it was considered a superfluous attachment. It regulates the flow of blood between the heart and the brain. When it ceases to operate, somebody dies of apoplexy or a rush of blood to the brain. When the heart sends up too much blood to the head, the Adam's apple steps in to check the flow and store it up for future emergencies. If the heart is temporarily weakened or put out of good running order, the blood stored in this cistern is given up and sent to the brain. The perfect working of this little device is apparent when we consider how comparatively few die of rush of blood to the brain or from a deficiency of supply.

The eye has a score of small inventions worthy of recording, the ear nearly as many more and the vital organs an equal number. There is the liver with its quarantine station. Let any poisons enter our systems with food and they are immediately held up at this quarantine station and destroyed by a secret process. It is only when poisons enter in large quantities that the station cannot handle them.

But the stomach co-operates with the liver and intercepts some of the poisons. There are small machines there which manufacture minute quantities of hydrochloric acid from the salts eaten. This acid is made in exact proportion to the amount of food consumed and suffices to destroy the microbes which we swallow. But there is even a third quarantine station located in the mouth. Millions of microbes are destroyed in the mouth daily by the juices elaborated there for this very purpose. If it was not for these three quarantine stations, working continually night and day, we should be killed off by microbes within an hour after eating a meal.

In the ear there is a little device which might have been the original of our modern compressed air inventions. The delicate drum of the ear must have an equal pressure from the outside and inside to receive and transmit the sound vibrations. To make this possible the eustachian tube was devised. Its function is to regulate the air pressure inside the ear. Let it fail to work, and one becomes stone deaf.

In the bones of the head there are many little channels hollowed out which are called the semicircular canals. These canals are filled with fluid lymph. For centuries no one could understand their meaning. Some physicians considered them of no use. This tendency to belittle organs in the human body whose functions could not be explained has characterized more than one generation of savants. Now these peculiar semicircular canals are known to be wonderful little devices to assist us in keeping our balance. They act a good deal as the ballast does on a ship, or, more properly speaking, like the fluid in a spirit level. The brain keeps an eye on this spirit level and is made conscious of the body's relative position. The fluid flows back and forth in the canals, and when we get it at a dangerous angle the brain knows it.—New York Tribune.

A popular instrument in Madagascar is the bamboo guitar, made of a bamboo cane six feet long. The cavity serves as the sounding board. Strings are cut out between the joints and are stretched by bridges.

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Amusements

THEATRICAL CALENDAR.

NEW PHILLIPS.

Week of Sept. 30—Vaudeville.

GENNETT.

Oct. 3—"Uncle Tom's Cabin." Oct. 4—"Singin' Skule Begiment." Oct. 5—"The Banker's Child." Week of Oct. 7—Reed-Stuart Stock Co. Soon—"The Isle of Spice."

"Uncle Tom's Cabin."

At the Gennett tonight "Uncle Tom's Cabin" will appear. The cast numbers sixty people, at the head of which is the inimitable Frank Lee, prince of black-face character actors and minstrel men. The balance of the company has been selected with special care, and it is said to be unsurpassed since the days of Newton Gohold, Stockwell and Eva Miller. Many bright specialties enliven the scenes.

Vaudeville at the Phillips.

Saturday there will be the usual special matinee for children at the New Phillips, in vaudeville, and the



MANLEY AND STERLING,
At the New Phillips This Week in a
Clever Playette.



bill now running is one that will please them greatly. It is lively from start to finish is both refined and entertaining.

"Singin' Skule" Friday Night.

Closer acquaintance with the "Singin' Skule Begiment," which comes to the Gennett under the auspices of the Ladies' Aid society of the Christian church Friday night, Oct. 4, shows it to be every bit as funny as it has been claimed to be. An exchange, speaking of the entertainment says: As a laugh provoker, the "Singin' Skule Begiment" has few equals and it does not consist, as many might think, entirely of singing but the "Begiment" is presumably the closing exercises of an old fashioned country singin' skule, the audience being the "congregation" of friends and relatives of the "skollars" who are about to be finished. All are

clad in quaint costumes of almost every decade from the present back to the dark ages and it is easy to recognize all of the familiar characters of every little country village of fifty years ago—the "cut up"—the bashful girl, the over grown fiddler, with his home made instrument who persists in playing every time it is announced that something extraordinary is about to occur, the daughter of the wealthiest man in town—the village literary light—the spinster—the twins—the dunce of the skule, and others represented by leading local people. Mrs. Willard assumes the part of "Mistus Jeremire Robbins" and Mr. Willard the part of "Jeremire," the teacher. There is a laugh at the start, a laugh at the finish and prolonged laugh all the way through. The ladies in charge think from the talk that is going the rounds that the theatre will have to be enlarged in order to accommodate the crowd that will assemble to witness the antics of the "Robbins Singin' Skule."

OSTEOPATHY.

DR. TOWNSEND, North 9th and A. Lady assistant. Phone 1396.

DRESSMAKING AND TAILORING.

Miss Sallie Colglazier, formerly of the New York Store, Louisville, Ky., head lady of the fitting dept., is opening up a dressmaking establishment at her residence, 104 Randolph street; desires first-class work, satisfaction guaranteed.

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MEYERS' BAKERY, Bread, Pies and cakes, 107 Richmond ave. Phone 1633

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