

THOMPSON TELLS AFRICAN PERILS TO T. ROOSEVELT

Richmond Man, S. A. Thompson, Gains Newspaper Notoriety by Recent Conversation With President.

HAD EXPERIENCES IN WILDEST VENEZUELA

Chief Executive Is Informed That Articles to Combat Savage Insects Are as Necessary as Rifles.

S. A. Thompson of North Eleventh street, was "played up" as the subject of a feature article in the Sunday edition of the Indianapolis Star. Thompson's newspaper notoriety has followed his conference with President Roosevelt relative to the dangers of an African hunt. Thompson, who several years ago, made an extensive tour through the heart of Venezuela and other South American countries fears for the safety of the president, if he attempt to carry out his plan. The climatic conditions the president is expected to encounter will be practically the same as those experienced by the Thompson man. The chief executive is said to be deeply interested in what Thompson had to say.

Must Fight Insects.

Articles with which to combat the insects are needed as badly as heavy rifles with which to shoot game, according to Mr. Thompson, when a tropical hunt is undertaken. Speaking upon the subject of insects, he has the following to say:

"The first thing to be considered is the mosquitoes, of which there are many different varieties. Waterton, an explorer who wrote of conditions in Guiana, said there were twelve varieties of mosquitoes and that each variety was on duty two hours of the day so that by the difference in the noise made by them he could approximate the hour of the day or night without reference to a time piece. There is one kind the bite of which can not be felt, and another that stabs like a knife. Some of these mosquitoes carry germs of malaria and yellow fever. In starting into a forest if you can not take with a mosquito net and food, take the net—for without it one would soon need food. Without regard to the germ that may be carried by the mosquito, the irritation of its sting will produce a feverish condition.

Ants Are Dangerous.

"However, it is with the ants that the traveler in South America has to deal very largely and no doubt the same is true in Africa. There are many varieties, but four of which are worthy of special notice. These are the white, red, black and parasol ants. The white ants are destructive to paper and wood and no furniture, no wooden trunks or packing cases, no records, maps or books are safe from them unless encased in metal. The red ants are very much the size of the local variety and are known to the Spaniards as fuegocitos (little fires) for the reason that while they do not bite or sting, they deposit a drop of acid on the skin that burns to an almost unbearable degree.

Fear of Black Ants.

"Of the black ants there is greater fear than of any animal or reptile there. It has both powerful jaws and a sting, and it is a common saying in South America that to be stung by one is certain death in twenty-four hours. This is no doubt true of the Venezuelans, but experienced travelers from outside that country, familiar with methods of treatment, can combat the effects successfully.

One of the most wonderful things in nature is the parasol ant which derives its name from its leaf cutting habit. These ants organize their communities much on the order of human society, and they have seven divisions of duty, ranging from nurses to soldiers. They build nests fifty feet in diameter and construct roads sixteen roads extending three-fourths of a mile into the forest, over which they march in ranks six inches wide, the workers in the center, with a single line of soldiers on the outside and a row of others beyond these.

GOLDEN EAGLES HAVE CELEBRATION

Machine Organization Recognizes Growth of Twenty-Two Years.

Atlantic City, N. J., Jan. 18.—Twenty-two years of growth and progress were celebrated today by the Ocean Castle, Knights of the Golden Eagle, assisted by knights from many other castles in New Jersey and Pennsylvania.

Value of the Shilling in 1600. We know that in Shakespeare's day, say A. D. 1600, sixpence a day was a fortune for any workingman, about the equivalent of £10 per annum. A century earlier, before the access to America was open to English explorers, one of the Ardens of Warwickshire left an annuity of 40 shillings per annum to a younger son, probably the poet's great-granduncle. Then if sixpence a day would now be the equivalent of 20 shillings a week then 40 shillings per annum would equate to £120 of present values.—London Notes and Queries.

RICHMOND GETS POLO FRANCHISE

At Meeting Held in Anderson, This City Admitted to the State Polo League.

LINEUP OF LOCAL OUTFIT.

ALL PLAYERS WILL BE NATIVES OF THIS CITY, WHILE FOUR RICHMOND MEN GO TO THE OTHER TEAMS.

At last after many vain efforts, Richmond has succeeded in getting into the Indiana Polo league and will be the fifth member of the organization. This decision was reached yesterday at a meeting at Anderson by the promoters of the sport representing Anderson, Marion, Elwood, New Castle, also Clem Gaar of this city. Hamilton, Ohio and Lafayette had representatives in attendance begging for admittance but their requests were deferred for a few days. The game will start in this city next week sometime, but just when has not been determined, this remaining to be settled at a meeting to be held this week, when a new schedule will be drafted.

The Local Lineup.

Richmond will be represented by the talent of last year's semi-professional team and members of the city league teams of this season. Just who will be in the lineup will be left to the directors. All the teams will be of semi professional talent this season, the directors deciding that it was too early to import stars. Richmond players will be on other teams of the circuit. Mr. Gaar had to agree to the demands of the other promoters and relinquished claims on Nolan of the Grays and Williams of last year's semi professional team to New Castle; also on Louis Quigley and Harry Parry of last year's team. Both of these players will be in the Marion lineup.

First Division Team.

On the face of it, this looks rather bad for the locals. However those who have attended the city league games believe there is sufficient talent left to make Richmond a first division club.

The question of referees, etc., has been left to the management of each city. Williams will officiate in this city and each club will have its home referee. It is believed before the season is over that regular officials will be employed. A "home umpire" diet is a poor one for a mere infant, like the Indiana polo league, to thrive on.

ARE READY FOR BOUT

Strangler Lewis and Manogoff the Turk, Will Clash at Coliseum This Evening.

THE MATCH IS FOR BLOOD

The opening of the wrestling game for the year 1909 with a match between "Strangler Lewis" of St. Paul and "Big Bob" the Turk, at the Coliseum this evening promises to be largely attended. Probably the cause of this universal interest in the match is that both the contestants have announced that the "go" would be rough. It is admitted that both men are rough and will use no parlor tactics in the match. It would be a disappointment to the crowd if such a parlor match was put on.

Each contestant intends to do his best, for it means to the winner that he can wrestle in this city at least one more time. Both men are in the city and are predicting victory to their friends and supporters. Lewis is a stranger in this city but the followers of the wrestling sport are acquainted with him from press accounts of his exhibitions in other cities. The Turk needs no introduction to the local public.

TRIBUTE FOR THE GREAT AMERICAN SONG BIRD, POE

(Continued From Page One.)

chitectural integrity of its buildings. For a time Poe shared a room on West Lawn with Miles George, also of Richmond. There was a schoolboy fisticuff, handshake in acknowledgement of satisfaction, and Poe went to West Range, set up his household goods and adorned the walls with cartoons in crayon and the ceiling with a charcoal copy of a plate in Byron's poems. According to the memory of men, No. 13 in the block then known as "rowdy row," has been accepted as the room he occupied. It has become a shrine. Over its door is a bronze tablet which reads:

EDGAR ALLAN POE,
MDCCXXVI.
Densus parva magis poetae.

"Occasionally," remarked the observing girl, "you meet a man who thinks it clever to pose as a person with a past."

"Yes," answered Miss Cayenne, "but as a rule that sort of man isn't old enough to have any past worth mentioning."—Exchange.

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