

DETECTIVE HAS CURIOUS RELICS

Collection of Souvenirs of Noted Crimes Most Complete in World.

Kansas City. In a waterfront saloon in Shanghai 18 years ago an angered Chinese coolie threw a knife at an American sailor. Merle A. Gill, 6000 Kensington street, now a nationally known criminologist, was the sailor marked for death.

He saw the lethal blade poised in the Chinaman's hand. He felt his time had come, for he seldom met men when they flash their long knives. But Gill was not intended to die at the hand of that Chinese assailant.

As the knife was drawn back for the throw, a supporter of Sailor Gill drew his service revolver and shot the coolie through the head. He dropped to the floor lifeless as his blade sped through the air and barely grazed Gill's head.

Starts a Collection.

Gill picked up the knife and carried it with him as he and his shipmate fled back to their ship. It started Gill on his hobby of collecting souvenirs of violent death and crime. In 15 years of police work, which has followed his retirement from the navy, he has acquired an extensive collection.

A room in Gill's residence just south of Swopo park has been set aside for his strange collection. It is a museum of unusual interest, especially for the student of criminology. From all parts of the country law enforcement officials and collectors of crime souvenirs come to Kansas City to see Gill's collection.

It has been exhibited at the convention of peace officers' associations in many states. Efforts now are being made to induce Mr. Gill to show his collection at the World's fair to be held in Chicago in 1933.

Plenty of Variety.

The nooses which have hung famous criminals, the revolvers carried by such notorious gunmen as Jesse James, Cole Younger, Henry Starr and Sam Carr, pictures of virtually every gang killing and nationally publicized crime, mementos of the careers of Billy the Kid and other early day bad men are included in his grim and fascinating collection.

The most important department in Gill's museum is a collection of handcuffs, leg irons, strait jackets and other devices for shackling prisoners. Gill claims that his collection is the most complete in the world.

Gill is the inventor of several different types of handcuffs used by police departments and sheriffs throughout the United States. For many years he was a manufacturer of police equipment.

Although he has made and patented various types of shackles, Gill has specialized in the manufacture of handcuffs. That specialization started him on collecting handcuffs. More than 100 pairs are included in his collection.

Has "Oregon Boot."

One of the treasures of the collection is half of an old wrought iron handcuff made in England in 1620, the year the Mayflower landed at Plymouth Rock. The other half of that ancient relic now is in the Guild hall museum in London.

Gill also owns a pair of heavy handcuffs used in the old Lincoln county jail in Texas when Billy the Kid was confined there in 1879. An old "Oregon boot," a peculiar type of leg iron, made in 1876, is another feature of his exhibit.

Leg irons used on the battleship Maine, an old handmade iron prison lock used on the Leverett street jail in Boston for more than 100 years, thumb screws, hand mills and types of shackles obsolete for generations are included in the collection.

Gill's grim collection represents the expenditure of thousands of dollars and more than a decade of travel and research. The monetary value is difficult to estimate, he explained, for many of the pieces could never be replaced.

For more than five years Gill was a special agent for the United States Department of Labor, investigating the activities of I. W. W.'s and Communists. He traveled widely throughout the country and made friends of peace officers in scores of cities. He holds police commissions in hundreds of counties throughout the Middle West. He is a member of the Peace Officers' association of Missouri, Kansas, and Oklahoma, and of the International Association for Identification.

A Simple Trick.

In his study of handcuffs and development of shackles from which escape is impossible, Gill has learned all the tricks of escape artists. With a small piece of wire, such as a stick pin or a paper clip, he is able to escape from virtually all types of shackles. He has demonstrated various methods of escape to thousands of police officers to show them how to forestall escape of clever prisoners.

"It is comparatively easy for a dexterous prisoner to escape from the type of handcuffs usually carried by policemen and sheriffs," he said. "Many peace officers have lost their lives because they do not know how to keep dangerous criminals shackled."

"A few months ago the chief of police of a Kansas town told me he had a pair of handcuffs from which no one could escape. I called his bet just to show him he had too much confidence in handcuffs."

"I permitted him to search me thoroughly for anything I might be carrying to pick the lock, and then he locked the cuffs on me with my hands behind my back. He left me alone in a cell for a few minutes and when he returned I handed him his unlocked cuffs."

Uses Well-Known Trick.

"I never told him how I escaped, but I merely utilized one of the simplest tricks used by criminals. Before I visited that chief of police I attached a small piece of bent wire to the loop of my foot with adhesive tape. Although he searched me thoroughly he never found it."

"By stepping through my shackled arms and getting the handcuffs in front of me, I was able to remove my shoe and sock, obtain the piece of wire and unfasten the lock. When one knows just how to do it the unfastening of almost any handcuff with a small piece of wire can be done quickly and easily."

Gill can talk for hours of interesting experiences he has had as federal agent, detective, and policeman. He is a fingerprint expert as well as an authority on locks and shackles and he has aided many police departments in capturing criminals by the fingerprint method.

Proud of Collection.

Gill is particularly proud of his unusual collection, and he shows it willingly to visitors who are interested. He knows the history of each object in his museum. Each piece has a long and fascinating story. Thrills and shudders are wrapped around many of those gruesome relics.

There is one piece in his collection which has real beauty, however. It is a .38 caliber Colt's automatic pistol of polished blue steel, which was made especially for him, primarily for exhibition purposes. It has a matched mother-of-pearl handle studded with amethysts and emeralds and all the metal surfaces are covered with elaborate hand engraving. Gill avows it would be almost a pleasure to be shot by such a beautiful gun.

Game Is on "Starvation Ration" of Funds, Claim

Washington.—An average of only a half a cent an acre is being spent annually in America to provide hunting and fishing—in spite of the startling fact that hunters and anglers have increased 400 per cent in the past decade, that they are spending \$650,000,000 a year to take game and fish, and that their sports bring more money into many states than does any other single industry." Seth Gordon, president of the American Game association, writes in the current issue of American Game Magazine.

Mr. Gordon declares that the best financed state is spending only five cents an acre yearly, while the poorest financed state is devoting to fish and game only one-seventieth of a cent an acre.

"All the annual expenditure in this field, both state and federal, amounts to just \$12,000,000, a starvation ration on which the wild life of this country, especially as to game birds, fish and waterfowl, has failed to hold its own against industries operated along sounder business lines."

He claims that unless five times this amount can be obtained in some manner game will surely lose out in the struggle, and with it sports which give healthful recreation to a large percentage of the people and directly or indirectly benefit every person in the country.

Man Divorced 14th Time Tells How to Win Wife

El Paso, Texas.—Bruce Steele, El Paso plumber, was confident that, despite the fact that he has been divorced 14 times, he not only can win another wife quickly, but he can "win her for keeps" if he wants to.

"Women who love me keep on loving me," declared the plumber after Fannie K. Steele had been granted her third divorce from him on grounds that he "went around with other women, including some of his former wives."

Mrs. Steele told the judge that the first time she married the handsome plumber she divorced him because he "ran around" with a previous wife. Then, she said, he remarried the previous wife, divorced her, remarried Fanny, divorced her and then remarried her again.

Fanny was not the only "repeater" among the 11 women he has married, Steele disclosed. Another wife divorced him once, he said, then remarried him and later divorced him again.

"It isn't because they quit loving me, though," said Steele. "The only reason they get divorced is jealousy."

"Women are easy for me to win, because of a way I have with them. The secret is to find their weakness, then play up to it."

Parachute Jumping Pays His Tuition

Hopkinsville, Ky.—Parachute jumping on Sundays and holidays to thrill crowds has earned enough money for Hugh Thomason, sixteen, to pay his way through school.

He says he has nearly saved enough for a course at the University of Southern California. He is said to be the youngest professional parachute jumper in the country.

DANCE

GIVEN BY THIRD WARD POLITICAL CLUB

TO BE HELD AT

TOMAKA'S HALL

Roland Ave.

SATURDAY EVENING

JUNE 20

DANCING 9 to ?

Blue Jacket Orchestra

TICKETS LADIES 35c -- GENTS 50c

LEGAL NOTICE

STATE OF NEW YORK, COUNTY OF ERIE, COUNTY COURT, ERIE COUNTY.

COUNTY OF ERIE, Plaintiff, vs. Albert Whittington, et al, Defendants.

In pursuance and by virtue of a judgment of foreclosure and sale duly granted by this Court and entered in the Erie County Clerk's Office on the 12th day of May, 1931, I, the undersigned, Referee, duly appointed in this action for such purpose, will expose for sale and sell at Public Auction to the highest bidder, therefore, in the westerly vestibule of the Erie County Hall, in the City of Buffalo, Erie County, New York, on the

2nd DAY OF JULY, 1931

at 10.30 o'clock in the forenoon (Daylight Saving Time) of that day, the real estate and premises directed in and by said judgment to be sold and in said judgment described as follows:

ALL THAT TRACT OR PARCEL OF LAND situate in the Town of Hamburg, Village of Baseldell, County of Erie and State of New York, being part of Lot Number two (2), of the Buffalo Creek Reservation and further distinguished as Subdivision Lot Number seven hundred eighty (780), as shown on map filed in the Erie County Clerk's Office under cover number 383.

CHARLES ULRICH, Referee.

M. EDWIN MERWIN, Attorney for Plaintiff, Office and P. O. Address, 1032 White Building, Buffalo, N. Y.

May 21, 28 June 4 11 18 25

Erie County, New York, on the 17th DAY OF JULY, 1931

at 11 o'clock (Daylight Saving Time) in the forenoon of that day the real estate and mortgaged premises directed in and by said judgment to be sold in said judgment described as follows:

ALL THAT TRACT OR PARCEL OF LAND, situate in the City of Lackawanna, County of Erie and State of New York, which, on certain subdivision map of part of Lot 28, Township 10 and Range 8 of the Buffalo Creek Reservation so-called, made for Daniel E. Knowlton by R. N. Cundall, Engineer, and filed in Erie County Clerk's Office under Cover No. 951, is distinguished as subdivision lot number one hundred and six (106).

LEO J. HAGERTY, Referee.

JOHN J. SULLIVAN, Attorney for Plaintiff, Office and P. O. Address, 1000 D. S. Morgan Bldg., Buffalo, N. Y.

June 4 11 18 25 July 2 9 18

PRINTING

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"Dog days" need be no more dangerous for Buster, Prince or Sport than any other days, states the Chappel Kennel Foundation, Rockford, Illinois, in discussing the care of the dog in hot weather.

The dog faces summer weather under two handicaps unknown to man. He has his natural coat, and perspires from limited areas of his body, the tongue, nose and the pads of the feet. Aged dogs feel the effects of heat much more than young dogs, and sick dogs more than dogs in good condition. But much of the distress of dogs may be eliminated if their owners would give a little extra thought and attention to quarters, exercise and diet. Some of the best practices designed to reduce the strain on dogs in warm days and prevent overheating, prostration and other summer ailments have been summed up by Dr. Edwin Reginald Blamney.

The outdoor kennel should be sheltered from the midday sun as much as possible. A better way is to keep the dog quiet and in a cool place during the heat of the day. A tiled floor or cellar floor is excellent. The room should be darkened, and care taken to see that an abundance of air is provided. Quarters for sleeping should have large windows, and the bedding reduced to a minimum. The ideal dog bed for summer is a raised frame covered with canvas. This enables the air to circulate freely beneath the body, and the animal is much cooler than if he were sleeping on a solid bed.

Both dog and kennel should be washed occasionally. Use of a small amount of disinfectant will tend to keep away flies and other insect pests which cause so much trouble during the summer.

Exercise should be cut down to a minimum or entirely stopped. If the dog is to be walked or run, it should be done in the cool of the early morning or evening. If the dog is broken to go on the street, it should be taken out only long enough to attend to its needs.

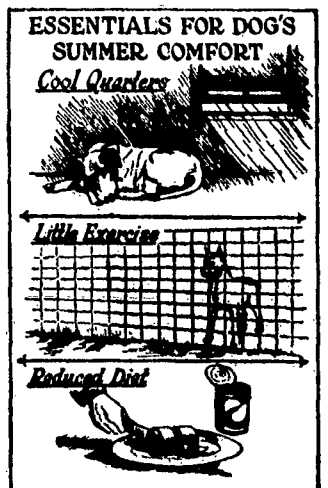
Food during the summer should be of the same well-balanced nature as

ESSENTIALS FOR DOG'S SUMMER COMFORT

Cool Quarters

Little Exercise

Reduced Diet



fed during the cooler months, but in somewhat smaller quantities. A dog's natural food is meat, whether it be the tiniest toy dog or the largest hound. Meat and protein are not "heating" to the blood, and a substantial portion of a prepared meat food in the evening and some biscuits in the morning will keep the dog well satisfied. Occasionally weevil will get into biscuits made of the finest ingredients. They are not harmful to the dog, but may be killed by putting the biscuits into the oven for a few minutes or immersing them in boiling water. The addition of fresh vegetables occasionally helps to maintain physical condition but starch in any form is to be avoided. Encourage the dog to drink plenty of water by adding a little salt to each meal. Attention to diet will help to do away with periodic eczema and other summer skin complaints.

In many so-called cases of overheating, worms may really be the cause of the trouble. These should be removed by an appropriate medicine under the guidance of a veterinarian. Contrary to popular belief, rabies actually is more prevalent in winter than in summer.