

## CARE AND TREATMENT OF DOMESTIC ANIMALS

There is a legend to the effect that on the night before Christmas the dumb animals of man are given the power of speech. This is because some of these lowly animals were in the stables when on the first Christmas Eve our Lord was born in a manger. So for the sake of this belief let us give a kind thought to our domestic animals this month. Ever since animals have been captured and domesticated to help man, they have been subjected to other forms of torment even worse than what they encountered from their former enemies when they were wild. In their domesticated state they have no way of defending themselves against the cruelties of man. Man may be either a friend or an enemy of animals.

It is to man's best interest to take good care of his animals, as they represent a value either in service performed for him, or in actual sales value if he sells animals.

There is another good reason for treating animals properly, which every good citizen should keep in mind. This is the feeling which teaches man to be kind to other men and to animals. This feeling is something more effective than laws made by man.

The abuse of animals is not confined to any particular people, nationality, or country. There are guilty people in all countries. It is our duty individually and collectively to lessen the cruelties to our own animals first by taking proper care of them and thereby obtaining greater benefit from them.

The animal that is most subject to abuse, from the very nature of its use, is the horse. Carabaos and cattle on the whole are treated with more consideration. People who raise hogs would get much better results if they would provide hogs and their other animals with dry, cool and sanitary quarters and give them appropriate feed.

Dogs are not maltreated but they are often homeless and starved. It would be a credit to any community to get rid of these dogs completely as they are neither useful nor ornamental and sometimes are a menace. If dogs are killed the killing should be done without undue suf-

## ✓ OUR MINOR FOREST PRODUCTS

### PALMS OF ECONOMIC IMPORTANCE

Our forests can be considered as storehouses of Mother Nature. Almost everything that we use in daily life can come from them—from the gogo bark to wash our hair with, to the "kaong" that helps you relish your afternoon refreshments at a Japanese ice-cream parlor.

The latter comes from a valuable palm known as "kaong" or cabo negro. This palm grows in low and medium altitudes in the forests and some are found in cultivation. Among the products of kaong may be mentioned kaong sweatmeat from young fruits; sugar and vinegar from sap obtained from young flowers, "lulug" a flossy fiber obtained from the lowest parts of the petioles, for kindling fires; brushes, doormats, broom sticks, ropes, flooring and carrying stick from the stiff trunk, delicious salads and pickles from the bud, and thatching materials from the leaves. The most important product of cabo negro, or kaong, however, is its black fiber used for roofing materials and rain capes. Properly laid thatch roofs of the fiber last for a long time.

Another palm of high economic value is the buri. The fibro-vascular bundles of the petioles furnish the buntal fiber for the famous Lukban and buntal hats and for other woven articles. The leaves of the plant are woven into bags and mats. They also furnish the raffia which is woven into bags, hats, mats, and many fancy articles. Sugar, vinegar and buri wine are fermented from the sap which flows out when the tree is tapped. The young fruits are used in the preparation of sweetmeats, and starch is extracted from the pith. It is an interesting palm in that it flowers only once, producing the largest inflorescence of any plant.

A palm which is beginning to attract attention due to its suitability in the manufacture of fishing rods is anahaw known as "Palm brava."  
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fering to the dog.

When your animals are sick or you want special advice as their case, consult a veterinarian. Remember these animals can plead only with eyes and not with their tongues.

## JOE AND THE . . .

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"Are you now ready to go with us to the home of our master?" asked the speaker.

"Please don't take me there," begged Pepe. "I promise to be good. I shall never disobey my mother again. I'll make her happy and . . ."

Pepe could not go on. Fear of the man beside the tree and pity for his mother whom he thought he would never see again made him cry like a baby.

"Of course, our master is merciful sometimes," said the captor. "If you promise to be a good boy always, he will let you go. If you break your promise, he will never pardon you again."

"I shall always be good," Pepe promised.

Thereupon the two captors untied his hands and let him go. Pepe ran towards his home as fast as his legs could carry him. As soon as he was out of sight, the two captors took off their masks.

"Splendid work, Joe!" exclaimed one.

"And very effective, Rod," added the other.

"What shall we do with our master, the King?" laughed Rod as he pointed to the tall lifeless figure beside the tree.

Joe looked at the figure. At daytime, it would not frighten anyone but in the shadow under the tree that night, it was frightful enough to nine-year old Pepe who, at first, was taken by surprise by his two masked captors.

Then without saying anything, Joe pulled the black cloth that covered the figure. After the cloth was removed, what remained of the King of the Eli

## OUR MINOR FOREST . . .

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Anglers claim that due to its strength and resiliency fishing rods made of palma brava are superior to any now in the market. Other articles that can be made from the leaves of this palm are fans, and thatching materials. The wood is used for such articles as arrow shafts, spear handles polo clubs, and walking sticks. It has great possibilities for fancy interior finishing. The seedlings of this palm are valued as ornamental plants.

Other forest products simi-

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River was a big banana stem with a coconut at its upper end as head and two pieces of wood at the sides as arms.

After they had destroyed the framework, the two boys went home. They were happy because their plan came out a success.

One night, a week later, Joe and his mother again went to the house of Pepe. They found the latter busy with his crayola. He was coloring a picture in *The Young Citizen* when they came.

"Pepe, suppose we go out and play," Joe suggested.

"No," was Pepe's quick reply. "I have found out that there is more fun at home than in any other place outside."

"You're right, Pepe," Joe agreed.

"Pepe has been very good this week," said the mother as Joe and his mother were leaving. "He has not disobeyed me. Neither has he gone out to play at night as he used to do."

"Very effective," Joe muttered as he lay down to sleep that night.

## OUR INSECT FRIENDS . . .

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is queer and fish-like in appearance. It leaps to the ground and begins looking for a crack into which it may crawl. When it finds one, it plunges in. And for the next seventeen years it remains in this solitary cell. Underground the baby cicada lives on the sap of roots. Finally a day arrives which is some three months less than seventeen years. The baby cicada together with other grubs start digging a tunnel nearly an inch across and a foot long.

Once out, they are in a great hurry. They begin crawling as rapidly as possible. Finding the best place available, they dig in their claws, attach themselves quite securely, and become very still. They hunch their backs, and split their skins down the middle. A strange and different form begins to wriggle inside, and gradually there emerges the glorious, winged cicada in its final form.

Taking it all in all, we may say the cicada is probably the most remarkable individual in all the insect world.

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lar to palms which are important sources of materials for household industries are pandan and bamban. Among the articles that can be made of these may be mentioned book bags, grocery bags, novelties, lunch baskets, wall pockets, slippers, telescope cases, hats, mats and bamban fish traps.

In our imagination the forests may seem far, far from us, but in actual living we can say they are in the midst of us. Why?