

BUFFALO SUNDAY MORNING NEWS: AUGUST 10, 1913.

19.

HOW BUFFALO QUENCHES THE THIRST OF MAN AND BEAST

The Drinking Fountain is Fast Becoming a Prominent Form of Public Memorial for Those Who Have Taken a Keen Interest in Animals—Buffalo Fountains Are Fine Examples of Architectural Beauty, Adorning Many of Our Principal Streets and Parkways.

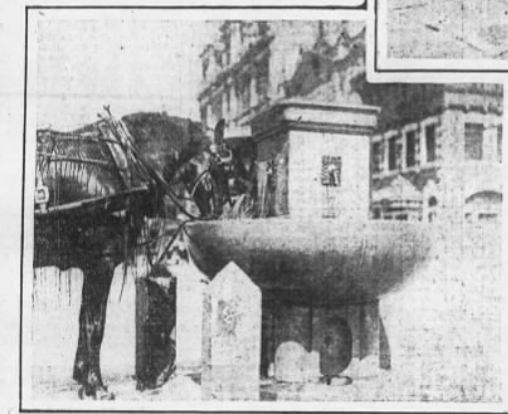
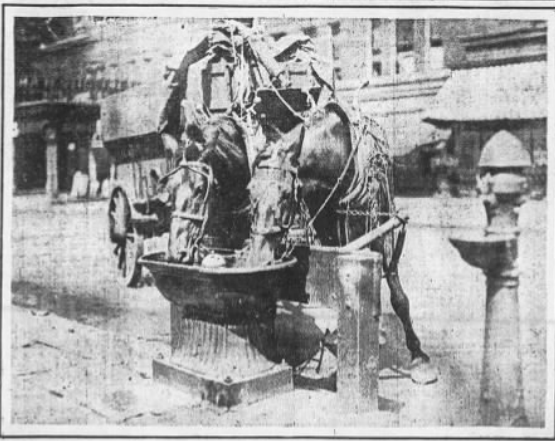
ONE OF THE 130 PUBLIC FOUNTAINS ERECTED BY THE CITY

ONE OF DELAWARE PARKS MOST BEAUTIFUL WATERING PLACES, THE McMILLAN FOUNTAIN.

IT WAS during a pitiless hot afternoon of last week, as hot as the asphalt pavement in North street, that every impression of the horses' shoes and the wagon tires, that a team of dark bars, drawing a heavily loaded dray, came pasting and splashing at every step along the street from Delaware avenue and heading south for the great alone drinking fountain placed abstractly in the shade of the giant elm trees that line the curb at the junction of Linwood avenue and North street. Their driver, red faced and dusty, with a sprig of wilted straw tucked down in the band of his battered felt hat, was trudging manfully at the side of his hard laboring, sweating beast. He knew from years of experience what

was down the street, but now with beams for their work, and the heat feeling far less oppressive. That is a common sight on the city streets during a hot spell.

Water, one of God's best gifts to man, as free as the air and the sunlight to all, is almost unobtainable for the wearying man and beast who are laboring away from home and need to rest. In Buffalo, thanks to several public-spirited citizens, the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals and the willingness of the bureau of water, not at all an unknown article as it is in many of the big cities of the country, Buffalo can boast of no less than 130 watering fountains and troughs for the use of her horse. And to the matter of sanitary drinking foun-



drinking fountain is no longer the beast of burden alone. The best type are now so equipped that the largest and smallest animals may alike find them sources of comfort and refreshment.

In order to supply horses with water at points where there are no fountains, as well as safeguard them from unsanitary ones, a number of prominent S. F. C. A. societies have established watering stations at several points in the city and suburbs, where they can readily be secured by the drivers. The total number of horses watered at these improved watering stations during the summer months is enormous. The Women's Equine League, S. F. C. A. of Philadelphia, alone, watered more than 70,000 horses and 18,000 small animals during 1911.

The multiplication of horse drinking fountains and temporary watering stations throughout the various cities is evidence of the growth of the humane idea. It has brought Team Owners' associations and societies for the prevention of cruelty to animals in close co-operation and has done



THE DOTY FOUNTAIN ON NORTH STREET, ONE OF THE MOST FREQUENTLY USED FOUNTAINS IN THE CITY.

It meant to the patient animals to pull through the flowing day when the mercury stood high in the 90's and the pavement was soft under foot. Gladly he spoke to the faithful animals who were putting forth the best that was in them, while the horning men bent down reluctantly on the white streets.

At last, with a few final cracks and groans of the wheels, they arrived before the wide grate fountain. In an instant the driver had unlatched the check reins and two soft white muzzles were buried in the cool gurgling waters while four big, placid brown eyes looked gratefully at their master who was kindly exchanged catching in his cupped hands a fine stream of water as it jetted from a pipe underneath to gratify his own craving thirst. After they had drunk their fill, the two white muzzles were raised reluctantly, dripping with big drops of water and the check reins were again slipped in place. A few kind words and they were ready to go on. Again the harness stretched, the wheels creaked and they were on their

ways for the use of human beings, the city is equipped with 60 of them, all of which are kept in first-class condition by a man from the bureau of water, whose only duty it is to make the rounds and see to it that they are maintained in all respects.

Likewise, two men from the bureau of water are continually making the rounds of the city with buckets or cans and keep sanitary the horse watering troughs. Frequently these become locked with sediment or small bits of wood that the street-cleaners have been using to seal about on the surface as a pond. In the fall of the year the withered leaves are the cause of the trouble often resulting in the fountains overflowing into the street and stopping up the drainage system. It is when the overflow pipe becomes clogged with some foreign element that the real trouble begins. But even with all this expense and constant trouble to the department of water the horse fountains are considered by the use of the best paying investment in the way of humanity the city possesses.

It is interesting to see through what stages the horse-drawing fountain developed. The National Humane Review contains some interesting data on the subject. In part it says:

"The fountain was early utilized both as a source of water supply and as an object for decorating public squares and private places. The first one of which record and name remain is that the Table fountain in Babylon, built 1800 B. C. The cities of Corinth and Rome were rich in beautiful fountains. The latter place at one time had more than 100 of them, on which many of the poorest classes depended for their water supply. The prominent place that water holds in both the Christian and pagan religions has also led to the erection of many beautiful fountains throughout Europe."

"While, undoubtedly, some of the early fountains were used for watering horses it was not until a national generation was recognized that the most useful, that fountains were erected to any extent for this exclu-

sive purpose. The demand for the prevention of suffering among animals has now become practically world wide. Wherever societies for the prevention of cruelty to animals are well established, efforts have been made to increase the available number of watering places. Modern thought, particularly in the United States, is causing more and more the building of watering fountains along all public and sanitary lines. This has caused the health of the animals being them and the appearance of the street is improved on which they are placed."

"The change in the form and structure of the horse-drawing fountains in many cities and villages is worthy of consideration. Many places, aside from the country districts, have done away with the old wooden trough, often a long affair, into which the water trickled from a single pipe leading from a nearby spring or water main. There was neither regulation of the supply nor outlet for the surplus, except as it found its way over the top and fell into the mud hole formed at the base."

"One thought gradually supplanted another and the change of the water in the bowl prevents, to some extent, the accumulation of filth or disease germs. A number of different patterns have been taken out which provide clean water, however, is not sufficient to strictly protect the horse from disease. The troughs must be thoroughly cleaned at intervals. In most places this provision is almost wholly neglected. As the demand has increased for sanitary fountains there has also been a parallel one for artistic structures."

"There is always for less objection from property owners to the erection of a fountain that is pleasing to the eye than one without aesthetic value. Its beauty attracts and leads individual sales to help in supplying horse drinking facilities. These fountains are being superseded by granite, marble or bronze, often simple in form yet a valuable addition to the appearance of the city in which erected."

"Much credit for the movement in behalf of artistic fountains belongs to Hermon Lee Frazier (1843-1891), a writer and veterinary specialist, who organized the Humane Alliance in 1868. On his death, a large portion of his estate went to the Humane Alliance, to erect animal drinking fountains at various cities of the country. The League fountains are of Maine granite entirely polished and trimmed with bronze. The Humane Alliance requires that each city securing one must place it at a point of heavy traffic and where it can be reached from all sides. The site must also keep it in repair and furnish an ample and continuous water supply. Over 130 of these fountains have been erected in 44 different states, besides one in Mexico City. The requests for these beautiful fountains are so numerous that Mr. Harrison Gray Fiske, president of the League, informs the Review that a sufficient number of applications have been received, many of which have been approved, to insure the establishment of our output for years to come."

"The horse-drawing fountain is fast becoming a prominent form of public memorial for those who have taken a keen interest in animals. The Brough memorial, Milwaukee, and the more recently erected Latham fountain, Oakland, California, are examples of this type."

"Another feature of the modern fountain which must not be overlooked is the basin for cats and dogs. The

much to exhibit the public to animal protection. There are thousands of places in busy business districts where fountains are sorely needed. There are hundreds of fountains that are unsanitary and unsightly. In the erection of these already in existence, those interested in animal welfare have an important work to perform."

"Speaking of the smaller bowls at the bases of the large fountains for the use of dogs, cats, and birds is a story interesting to see them patting up and drink gratefully during the hot weather such as we have been having during the past few weeks. At the Doty fountain in North street on the side of which is attached a dog basin, it is said that the power that places me to learn to play them. All of the dogs and cats for several blocks around have learned to come there to strike these times. During the heat times of the day when there is a fall in the traffic one will see the little animals come across the lawn to drink from the small pool visible in the sidewalk level and placed there for their special benefit."

"Consultation with several of the leading horsemen and veterinary doctors of the city as to the possibility

of the animals contracting glanders from the drinking fountains has afforded the information that the way that department of water keeps the Buffalo fountains there is little or no possibility of anything of that kind occurring. They are as one in declaring that due to the frequency with which the men who make the rounds scrub them out and the thoroughness with which they do the work there is practically no danger of their being a glander epidemic. All of the Buffalo fountains have been in use now for several years past and there have been no complaints. On the other hand the department has every reason to be congratulated on the success with which they have maintained so public an affair without disastrous results. Further, the veterinary men claim that the horse drinking fountains undoubtedly fill a decided necessity in animal life."

"Continued to get them in all over the city; they will help to keep our horses and dogs in a better condition of health, and one public spirited citizen is speaking of the public fountain for horses. 'All that has to be done is to keep them sanitary. As long as that is done there will be no trouble.'"

Buffalo, NY Fountains 1913-08-10

Clipped By:



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