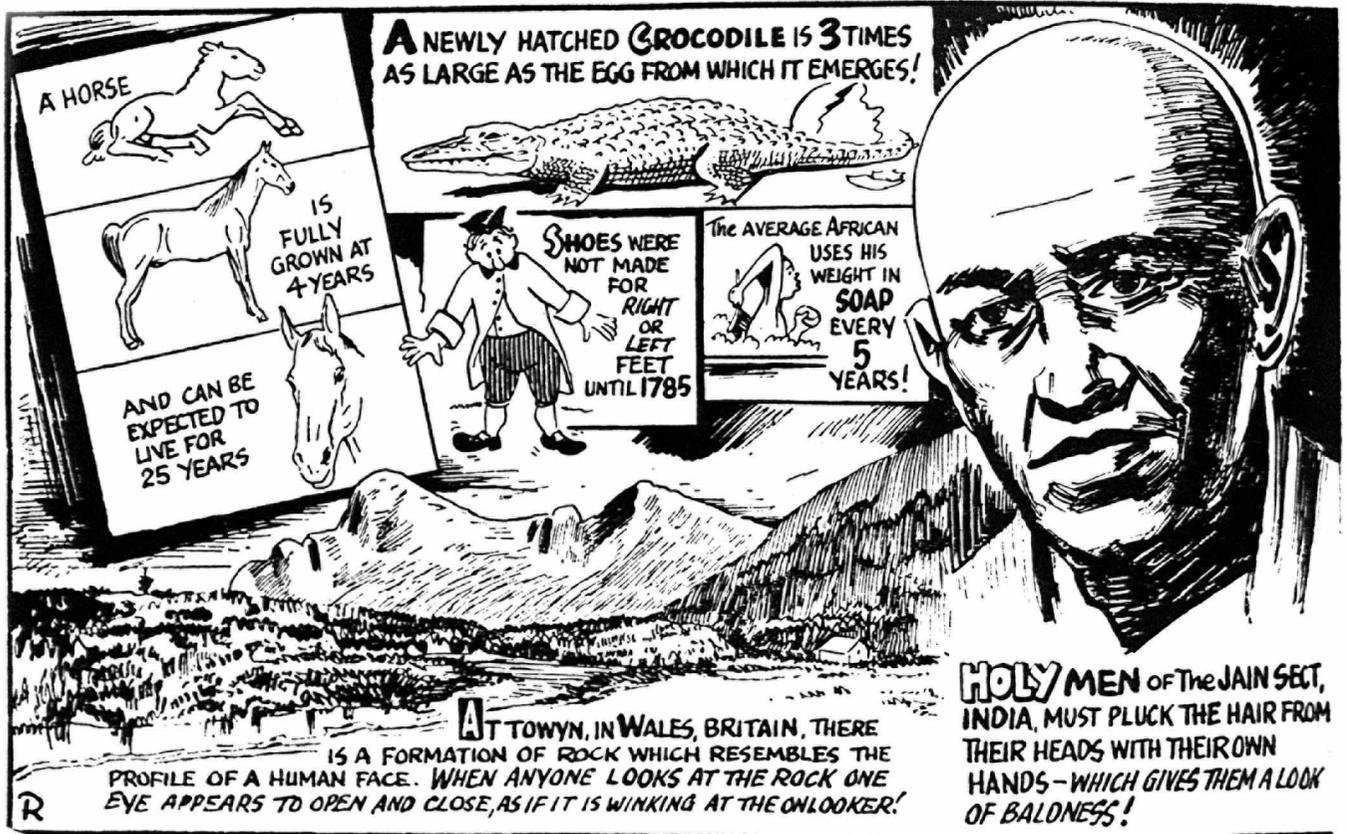


NOW YOU KNOW!



DESTROYING PESTS—continued from page 5.

The Austrian Government also had occasion to pay a reward before the war for the destruction of adders which were swarming throughout the land. They distributed a large sum in this fashion, but instead of decreasing the snakes seemed to propagate with alarming speed. It was later discovered that people were breeding the adders in order to collect the reward.

Nature sometimes comes to the rescue of a plague-ridden community, as was the case a little more than a hundred years ago when the Mormons were threatened with starvation by a huge cloud of locusts descending on their crops. The Mormons fought back with fire and poison but could not rid themselves of the cursed insects. There was nothing they could do except pray for a miracle. And sure enough it came.

Suddenly the air was filled with seagulls. No one in living memory had seen a seabird so many hundreds of miles inland, but there they were in their countless thousands, gobbling up the locusts with tremendous relish. The Mormons wept with joy, and when the gulls departed, having saved the crops, a statue depicting two gulls feeding on the insects, was erected to commemorate the occasion.

ABORIGINAL KING DIES

A king died at Wilcannia Hospital recently. He was Hero Black, aged about 73, who claimed to be and was acknowledged, as king of the aboriginal tribes in the area between Wilcannia and Menindee.

Over the years his tribe diminished by numbers and he was regarded as the last surviving member. The aborigines still in the district paid Hero Black respect and homage.

He is reported to have married three times and is survived by at least 20 children.

The funeral took place the following day, the burial being in the Wilcannia Cemetery.

A large crowd, mainly aboriginals, attended the funeral. Father Littler, of the Roman Catholic Church, conducted the graveside service.

The funeral differed in no way from a normal ceremony, except that most of the mourners assembled at the graveside instead of following the cortege.

During the Royal visit to Broken Hill, Hero Black, with his latest wife Gladys and four of his children, came from Wilcannia to see Queen Elizabeth and her husband.