

DEER FOR MARKETS

REPORT ON POSSIBLE PROFIT IN RAISING ANIMAL

When State Game Laws Are Amended Production of Venison May Be Widely Adopted on Vacant Lands.

Washington.—It is quite probable that some day, not far distant, deer meat will become as common and as cheap in our market as mutton.

Such is the belief of D. E. Lantz of the United States biological survey, who, in an exhaustive report issued by the department of agriculture, discusses the economic possibilities of raising deer and elk from a purely business proposition of profit.

Mr. Lantz even suggests that legislation be enacted which will make this possible, and in his report upon the matter he tells how it is possible to domesticate deer for the market.

To the average American the report of Mr. Lantz will come as a surprise, for in nearly every section of the country deer are protected as zealously as the robin.

Aside from stating that the public would profit by being able to buy the nutritious meat, Mr. Lantz adds that 250,000,000 acres of land in this country, which at present is worthless, could be utilized as deer reservations.

According to the report, the chief obstacle to profitable propagation of deer in this country is the restrictive character of state laws governing the killing, sale and transportation of game.

Many state legislatures have already modified the game laws, and in this way, as a result, the deer and elk industry has been started in a few states with considerable success.

Arkansas, Minnesota, Missouri and North Carolina have so modified their game laws that deer can be raised for the market under certain restrictions.

Many other states only permit deer to be sold to owners of reservations.

Mr. Lantz states that safeguards against the destruction of wild deer in place of domesticated deer are not difficult to enforce, and suggests a system of licensing private parks and of tagging deer or carcases sold or shipped, so that they might be easily identified.

The report states that the best species of deer to raise for the markets is the Virginia deer, for it can be raised under any condition of food and climate.

The department of agriculture gives as its reason for advocating the domestication of deer for the markets the growing scarcity of game mammals in this country and the threatened extinction of some of them over various sections makes the preservation and development of the deer industry necessary.

That the industry is well under way in several states is best illustrated by reports received by the department of agriculture from owners of reservations.

One of great interest is the following, written by C. H. Roseberry of Stella, Mo. In his letter Mr. Roseberry states:

"My experience in breeding the common or Virginia deer covers a period of 17 years, beginning in March, 1891, when as a boy of 15, I built a small enclosure of one and one-half acres to confine a single doe that was captured as a fawn in the neighboring forest."

"A buck and other does were secured from year to year, until in 1900, by purchase and rural increase, my herd numbered 25 head of all ages."

"From 1891 to 1901 I lost every year from disease an average of 20 per cent."

"For the last seven years my herd has averaged 70 per cent increase, all of which I have sold at satisfactory prices. I began selling at \$20 per pair of fawns at four months of age and \$30 per pair of adults. I sell exclusively for pets and for propagating purposes, although a few surplus bucks have been sold for venison, averaging me 15 cents per pound gross weight."

"If we except the goat, I know of no domestic animal common to the farm that requires so little feed and attention as the deer."

EQUINE SPECTACLES OF VALUE. Young Horses Sometimes Provided with Glasses.

New York.—Although it may seem almost ludicrous to think of horses wearing spectacles, it is nevertheless a fact that horses do sometimes wear them.

The business of one well-known firm of opticians in this country consists largely in the manufacture of horse spectacles.

The object of the spectacles is to promote high stepping. They are made of stiff leather, entirely enclosing the eyes of the horse, and the glasses used are deep concave and large in size.

The ground seems to the horse to be raised, and he steps high, thinking he is going up hill or has to step over some obstacle.

This system of spectacle wearing is generally adopted while the horse is young, and its effect on his step and action is said to be remarkable. It has been discovered that the cause of a horse's shying is as a rule short sight, and it is now suggested that the sight of all horses should be tested like that of children.

It is maintained by those who have made a study of the subject that by a little artificial assistance many valuable horses which have become practically unfit for their work, can be restored to usefulness.

MONUMENT TO VAGABOND.

Kentucky Citizens Recognize Hero in Once-Despised Man.

Lexington, Ky.—A monument was unveiled with appropriate ceremonies here the other day to a vagabond who died 51 years ago.

Chief among the speakers were Gov. A. E. Willson and James H. Mulligan, former counsel to James M. Price of St. Louis. Judge James Lane Allen, the author, whose writings did much to bring to the public notice the worth of the man whom the people had looked upon as a worthless individual, known as "King" Solomon.

"King" Solomon lived in the time of Henry Clay, and it was said he would never sell his vote, although almost starved and so lazy to work. Upon one occasion he was sold by the sheriff as a vagabond, his services being bought by a negro woman.

When the cholera broke out here in 1833 and 500 of the 12,000 people of the town died in a short space of time, "King" Solomon worked night and day burying the dead.

Years later he went through a second cholera plague and again worked faithfully. People shunned him and he was jeered in the streets by the urchins. Just before he died, Gen. Price painted a picture of him, and from this time his fame as a hero began, and later writers began telling of his good qualities.

BUYS A DOG AT \$40 AN OUNCE. Eastern Woman is Purchaser of Canine That Weighs Only 25 Ounces.

New York.—Middle Atom, smallest of Griffon dogs, and which weighs 25 ounces, has been sold for a price generally understood among fanciers to have been \$40 an ounce.

She is the smallest \$1,000 worth of dog ever seen in this country and so far as is known, nothing so tiny of that breed has ever been seen in the world.

The record for littleness had been held until her advent by a Griffon weighing three pounds.

Middle Atom was purchased by Mrs. John T. Windrim, whose husband is a prominent architect in Philadelphia. The little creature was found in a village near Brussels.

Her parents were both prize winners in dog shows in Paris and Brussels. Her father, the Duc de Bruxelles, weighed two and one-half pounds, and her brother, Middle, tipped the scales at three.

Middle Atom is five inches long and four inches high. She has long hair. The color of her coat is red, with a darker tint on the back. The eyes are large and expressive and the face is inclined to roundness.

TO CIRCLE GLOBE IN AIRSHIP. Edison Predicts Flight Around World in Week Within Five Years.

Salt Lake City.—Within five years airships will be carrying passengers across the ocean in 18 hours, 200 miles an hour. Aerial flight will be commercialized in that time.

"The north pole can and will be reached in a 48-hour trip. The perfected helicopter will be able to encircle the globe in a week."

These statements were made here by Thomas A. Edison, the inventor, in the course of a talk on aerial navigation.

Neither the aeroplanes now owned by the Wright brothers nor any airship built along that principle, nor along the idea of the dirigible balloon will ever be of practical use or success commercially," he said.

"The successful machine must be automatic in operation. The human part of it must be reduced to mere mechanism, as in the case of the automobile and steam engine. Otherwise the dream of skimming the clouds must ever remain a dream."

GATES' FINGER BOWLS GOLD. He Pays \$6,000 for Fifteen, Then Watches Them Being Chased.

New York.—John W. Gates has bought \$6,000 worth of gold finger bowls at Tiffany's. There are 15 of them.

Mr. Gates took the design for them to the goldsmiths and there drew the "G" which he wished embossed on them. He is much interested in the progress of the bowls toward completion and goes to Tiffany's and watches them being chased.

The finger bowls complete the gold dinner service on which Mr. Gates' frugal meals will be served in his humble apartment in the Plaza hotel. He already possesses a gold soup tureen, gold vegetable dishes, a few dozen gold plates, and butter dishes; even gold knives and forks.

The color contrast between a gold knife and green peas is particularly attractive to the aesthetes. There is a utilitarian side to it, too, on the yet low ground each pea stands in bold relief and it is much easier to balance the rosy peas on a gold knife blade.

Blackbirds Attack Woman's Hat. Altoona, Pa.—Angered apparently by the wavy plumage of a bird which she wore on her hat, a dozen blackbirds attacked Miss Nettie Williams of Pittsburgh while she was walking in the street here with her friend. The birds pecked at the hat ornament, circling around the young woman's head and dashing away now and then with bright-colored feathers in their beaks.

The birds even flew in Miss Williams' face, lacerating her cheeks with their bills. Miss Williams finally tore the hat from her head and threw it on the ground. Even then her escort was obliged to use his coat in beating the birds off.

RUBBER DUSTS TEA

ACREAGE OF FORMER INCREASING RAPIDLY IN CEYLON.

Ten Thousand Acres Being Planted to Trees Which Will Bear Five Years Hence—Auto Tires Influence Trade.

Washington.—The cultivation of Para rubber in Ceylon, which dates back to the experiments instituted in 1874 at the government botanic gardens at Higoragoda, has developed very rapidly within recent years.

The acreage is being rapidly increased, the estimate of planting for 1908 being 10,000 acres, while about 120 acres will come into bearing this year.

Although the experiments in growing rubber had been attended with success from the first, the industry was not seriously considered by planters until about ten years ago.

Even then the projects were small, and doubtless would have fallen appreciably, compelling planters to seek another crop as a source of profit.

The development of the automobile, with the consequent demand for rubber tires, so enhanced the price of rubber that the Ceylon planters turned to its cultivation with avidity.

The return for the year 1904 showed 25,000 acres planted with 600 acres in bearing; for 1905, 40,000 acres planted, with 1,000 in bearing; for 1906, 100,000 acres planted, with 2,000 in bearing; and for 1907, 150,000 acres, with 2,500 in bearing.

The figures named are approximate only, because on many estates tea and rubber are interplanted. Cacao also is interplanted with rubber.

The prospect is that if present prices of rubber are maintained, in many instances tea and cacao will be removed from the interplanted areas.

The interplanting of rubber with other plants has the effect of involving the same capital in more than one enterprise, and for that reason the amount of capital invested in rubber cultivation in Ceylon cannot be stated accurately.

A competent agricultural authority, taking into account the varying ages of the different plantings, estimates that the total of the amounts expended to date on rubber growing in Ceylon is close to \$9,000,000.

Likewise it is hard to estimate the working force engaged in the production of rubber, as many of the superintendents make tea the principal crop, but it is probable that rubber requires the attention and labor of 250 Europeans and between 75,000 and 100,000 Tamil coolies.

Recorded exports of Ceylon-grown rubber are: 1904, 35 tons, 1905, 75 tons; 1906, 150 tons; 1907, 297.2 tons; January 1 to May 11, 1908, 112.16 tons.

London is the chief market for Ceylon rubber, but exports to Antwerp and New York are growing.

With rubber selling at \$4 to \$6 cents per pound, the price most recently quoted, the planter finds a handsome profit in its production.

The estimated cost of growing and marketing a pound of Ceylon plantation rubber is between 25 and 30 cents. Labor, the principal factor in determining the cost, is very cheap, the day's wages of the Tamil coolie ranging between 25 and 35 rupee cents (\$0.48 and \$0.1165).

Ceylon planters view with equanimity the great increase in acreage, as they expect that the increased output will be provided for by the new uses to which rubber is constantly being put.

Comparing the cost of production in Ceylon with the cost of Brazil and the Congo, they maintain that the risks are greater for Brazilian and Congo rubber falling below the profitable margin and so leading to a decrease in rubber shipments, than of Ceylon's plantations going out of cultivation through a fall in the price.

SHRUB SAVES WOMAN'S LIFE. Bush on Edge of Gorge Prevents Fatal Auto Accident.

San Francisco.—The frail branches of a shrub that grew on the edge of a deep gorge saved Mrs. L. Freeman from death.

Mrs. Freeman, with her husband, was coming down White's hill, near San Anselmo in their automobile, when, half way down the hill, the machine got beyond Freeman's control.

Ahead of them was another auto, in which were three men.

The Freeman car dashed down the hill and into the other machine, the occupants of which were all unconscious of their danger until the crash came. After striking the car ahead the Freeman car careened off and ran into a telegraph pole and was smashed into small bits.

As the car struck, Mrs. Freeman was thrown with terrific force straight toward the gorge but was saved by the shrub. Unconscious, and seemingly gradually slipping to the sharp, jagged rocks in the deep gorge below, she lay slightly held by the brush, when her husband, bruised and injured, made his way to her and just in time lifted her up and carried her to the side of the road.

Life Savers Find Big Whale. Atlantic City, N. J.—Government life savers from Tatham station, near Seaside, who were called to go after what they believed to be a capized launch, found a dead whale, 60 feet long, floating toward shore. The big mammal had evidently been struck by some sea craft. Fishermen are trying to tow the big fish ashore and expect to make several hundred dollars from their find.

CORRUPTION IN RUSSIAN ARMY.

Services Even of Officers of Highest Rank Must Be Bought.

A delightful story, which would seem incredible if it were not related by Prince Meschtscheraki in his Grasshopper, comes across the ocean from Russia. A young Russian officer, it appears, wished to be transferred to another regiment and took his request in person to one of the lights of the Russian general staff.

That powerful officer shook his head and declared the matter very difficult to arrange—almost impossible. Then, his glance fell suddenly upon the shoes of the lieutenant. To the amazement of his visitor, the senior officer said that the lieutenant's shoes were not nearly good enough for an officer, and that he would strongly advise him to buy new shoes of a shoemaker whose address he gave.

Then, telling his visitor to return in eight days, he dismissed him. The latter was clever enough to realize that he could not return without the new shoes, so he hurried to the shoemaker.

On hearing who had sent him the shoemaker said that the lieutenant could have the shoes in five days for the sum of \$250. Much astonished, the officer went to a comrade for advice.

He was told to pay half of this sum at once and the rest when his shoes were finished. This the officer did, and wearing his new boots he duly kept his appointment with the general staff officer and learned to his joy that all his "grave difficulties" in the way of his transfer had been successfully removed.

DAY OF PLEASURE POSTPONED. Ducky Had Forgotten Old Saying About Counting Chickens.

A Richmond woman has in her employ a little ducky, MIE Cole. One day MIE became confidential and told his mistress he was "going to the cemetery next Sunday."

"But, MIE, that's a long walk. You know it is more than five miles."

"Oh, missus, I ain't goin' to walk. I'm goin' to ride."

"How is that, MIE?"

"I'm goin' in a kerridge 't my uncle's funeral."

All day Saturday MIE could talk of nothing but the approaching affair. Sunday his mistress excused him, and she expected that on Monday she would be regaled with a full account of the funeral.

But MIE turned up with a most melancholy face. In answer to her inquiry he said:

"I didn't go, missus. He ain't dead yet."

Out of Sight. A certain regiment was on the march to Gettysburg and the companies were ordered to move with a few minutes' interval between each and to keep each other in sight, the band and drums leading.

The band soon got a long way ahead, and on reaching a bend, halted for a few minutes' rest. Presently up galloped a mounted officer in hot haste and shouted for the band sergeant.

"What do you mean?" he said, "by getting out of sight of the leading company?"

"We were not out of sight, sir," answered the sergeant.

"What do you mean by telling me that?" exclaimed the officer, in a rage. "You were out of sight. I saw you myself."

Highwaymen Stole Wife. A Mexican named Escorra, from Placentia, complained to Sheriff Lacy late the other night that two hold-up men had robbed him of his wife, rig and some groceries.

He said he was driving between Orange and Olive when the two men, who were on bicycles, stopped him. They dragged him from his seat, one man rode off on a bicycle, leading the other wheel, and the second man took his seat in the rig and drove off with it and Escorra's wife.

Early in the morning the Mexican telephoned to the sheriff that he had found his horse and rig in the rwybed near Olive, and his wife in the same neighborhood.—Santa Ana Cor. Angeles Times.

Got in on the Ground Floor. O. Henry, in the American Magazine, says: "How properly to alleviate the troubles of the poor is one of the greatest troubles of the rich. But one thing agreed upon by all professional philanthropists is that you must never hand over any cash to your subject."

"But, as I said, the money-calphs are handicapped. They have the idea that earth has no sorrow that dough cannot heal."

"Young Howard Pitkins, the millionaire, got his money ornatologically. He was a shrewd judge of stocks and got in on the ground floor at the residence of his immediate ancestors."

Foiled. "Anyone can get a divorce these days."

"Not everyone."

"You don't know what you're talking about. You pick out your party and I'll bet any lawyer she'll consent will tell her she can get a divorce."

"How about me?"

"Why, you're single."

"I know it."

The Great Unsettled Question.

"Which do you think affords greater pleasure, pursuit or possession?"

"I don't know," answered the man with a motor car. "Possession is a fine thing. But I have sometimes suspected that the police get more fun out of my machine than I do."

ENGLAND HAS SPARROW CLUB.

Its Mission Is to Rid the Country of the Pests.

In Essex, England, the Eisenham Sparrow club flourishes. It holds a meeting and dinner once a year, at which time the members give an account of their efforts toward keeping down the sparrow pest.

Its president, Walter Gibbey, describes its work as follows: "All the farmers and most of those who have gardens in the parish, which covers 1,830 acres, and some tenants of neighboring farms belong to the club, which was established 17 years ago. The rules are very simple. Each member undertakes to kill one sparrow for each acre of his holding between September 1 and May 1 and sends the heads to the local innkeeper, who keeps a record of them. If the member's tally falls short of the total he ought to send he is fined one penny for each head lacking, the money going to a fund which is spent in refreshments at the annual supper of the club held at the inn. The sum raised by fines, however, is, I am informed, practically nil.

"Two sparrows an acre were killed annually during the first two or three years of the club's existence, and the average number of heads now sent in is about 2,900 a year. In addition the members kill a large number of young sparrows during the breeding season, but of these no record is kept."—Forest and Stream.

FIRST STEP TOWARD SUFFRAGE. Advocate Says Women Must Convince Men That They Want It.

Miss F. L. Todd, the first woman inventor of an aeroplane, spoke hopefully, at a luncheon in New York the other day, of woman suffrage.

"We shall get the vote," she said, "as soon as we convince man that we want him to give it to us. Show man that we like the type of male who favors votes for women, and he will become that type, as he is now chivalrous because he thinks we like the chivalrous type."

"We women don't appreciate our power over man," said Miss Todd, "and yet things continually happen to reveal this power. Thus, while I was calling on a young matron recently, her little son came in, wet up to the knees."

"His mother snatched away his hat and bundle of books, and shook him."

"What do you mean," she said, "by coming home from school in this condition?"

"Ah," said the boy, "the girls don't think nothing of a fellow what's afraid to wade in the gutter."

Vegetable Ivory. If you have ever seen a nicely polished and finished bit of vegetable ivory, you know that, so far as appearance is concerned, it is almost exactly like the real ivory that we get from the elephant's tusk.

This vegetable ivory is the product of a tree that bears a fruit about the size of a man's head and weighing about 30 pounds. Each fruit contains 10 nuts, which are solid, hard and white. It is these nuts that furnish the substance called ivory.

So heavy is the fruit that the trunk of the tree, which is not quite a foot in diameter, is much bent from its naturally upright position, sometimes even lying along the ground. One wonders why nature did not give the tree a stouter trunk, so that it might bear up the burden of the fruit.

Decks Strawn with Dead Birds. Their decks strawn with dead song birds, the steamers Moses Taylor, Thomas Hartum, and Robert Fulton put in here the other day after a strange and perilous trip down from the upper lakes. The boats were one week late.

The crews of the boats report that for days they crept cautiously along through smoke from forest fires so thick that one could scarcely breathe. Thousands of birds of all descriptions fleeing before the flames took refuge on the boats, only to be overcome by the dense smoke. They were showered off the decks by the hundred.

Enough of them were left to substantiate the story when they came to port. —Ashtabula Cor. Columbus Dispatch.

He Peddled Them. F. Hopkins Smith was sketching a landscape in Maine when an aged man stepped up behind him and looked over his shoulder at the canvas.

"Humph!" said the stranger somewhat scornfully, "what do you paint them for—the market?"

"Yes," said Mr. Smith.

"You must paint a lot of 'em to get 3 livin'." I guess you have a harder way of gettin' a livin' than I have."

"What is your business?" asked Mr. Smith.

"Oh, I peddle pond lilies," said the man.

When Pet Cat Is Deserted. John Trefts says the meanest man in the world is the man who scraped the steam off the windows and put it back in the kettle when his wife made soup. I have found his soul mate.

She is the woman who kept a pet cat at her lakeshore home and left it hungry and forlorn on her doorstep while she traveled back to her house for a comfortable winter. Only the gun of the careless hunter is between the pet kitten and long bitter days of freezing and starvation. I believe that trees have souls and memories, but that sometimes women have them, too. —Buffalo Express.

NEW USE FOR WHEELBARROWS.

Mexican Indians Considered Them Serviceable Only as Stretchers.

Mrs. Zelta Nuttall, the archaeologist, was making some excavations in Mexico. The Indians were removing the earth some distance from the point of excavation in the customary manner; that is, on a piece of coarse cloth tied between two poles, stretcher fashion, carried by two Indians.

The method seemed rather laborious to Mrs. Nuttall, so she ordered several iron wheelbarrows from the city. When they arrived she turned them over to the foreman after explaining to him what they were for and how to use them.

Next day when she visited the work the Indians had discarded their primitive parihuelas and were using the bright new wheelbarrows. As each barrow was filled with earth it was picked up by two Indians, one using the handles and the other the wheel, and carried to the place where the earth was to be deposited.

All efforts to get the Indians to use the wheelbarrows properly failed, and they kept on carrying them until the work was finished.—Sunday Magazine.

INFANCY OF DIAMOND CUTTING. Art Is Now Believed to Date from the Fourteenth Century.

It is said that before the fourteenth century no one knew how to cut and polish diamonds. They were esteemed for their marvelous hardness, but not greatly admired for beauty.

There is a tradition that a gentleman jeweler in Flanders, Louis van Berghem, discovered the art of cutting diamond with diamond. But it is probable that he only made some notable advance in the art, since associations of diamond cutters had existed in France and Flanders from the fourteenth century. Louis van Berghem's most famous achievement was the cutting and polishing of a huge diamond belonging to Charles the Bold. Charles was so delighted with the result that he rewarded the artist liberally, and declared that the diamond would now serve him for a bedroom lamp. The jewel, which was found on Charles' body after the battle of Nancy, is still in existence, and celebrated under the name of the Nancy diamond.—You're Companion.

He Was Hungry. John J. Hayes, the Marathon hero, at a dinner in New York concluded a toast with a story.

"Truly," he said, "we must work. We must not rest on our laurels. As the president told us, it would be a pity to see an Olympic winner 29 years hence a tramp."

Yet such things have happened. A cousin of mine, the foreman of a Chicago iron mill, once employed a tramp who had been a Yale baseball champion. Their acquaintance began in a way that showed the tramp still to be sane and cheery.

"It was a cold autumn dawn, and the tramp had slept in front of a furnace on a warm stone."

"My cousin, being short of laborers, on his morning's tour of inspection spied the fellow and thought he would give him a job."

"My man," he said, "can you do anything with a shovel?"

"Well, I could fry a piece of ham on it."

Wise Owl. "In a hollow tree, during my vacation, I found two young owls," said a student. "I also found in the same nest two eggs. Puzzled that the mother owl should have abandoned her setting ere its completion, I laid the matter before my farmer host."

"The farmer told me that country people know well that the owl, after hatching half her brood, leaves the other eggs to be hatched by the new born birds. These young are warm blooded, they are helpless to leave the nest, and in nine cases out of ten they complete the hatch as well as the mother would have done."

"I'd consider this a superstition if I hadn't seen a proof of it. I wonder if nature books discuss the matter at all."

Political Rights of Spanish Women. Spanish women now enjoy greater political rights than those of the United States. The committee of the Spanish chamber has accepted an amendment to the municipal administration bill, giving women a vote in the election of the village mayors and rural councils.

It is limited to women who are heads of families. But it is an excellent entering wedge, and it gives the women of Spain a larger share of suffrage than women yet possess in 41 of the 46 states of the union. Even the countries that have been regarded as the most conservative are beginning to extend suffrage to women.

It Wouldn't Pay. A great smoker handed his cigar case to his right-hand neighbor.

"Thank you, but I don't smoke," said the man.

"He therefore handed it to the man on his left, who made the same reply.

"Whereupon his wife nudged him and said:

"Why don't you hand it to the captain?"

"No, thank you, he smokes."

Strenuous Treatment. "Here is a family affair on hand which I must handle without gloves."

"What is it?"