

WILD ANIMALS FROM AFRICA

Solution of the Food Problem May be Solved by Importing Dikdiks, Coo-doo, Trek Boks, Etc.

GENTLE HIPPOPOTAMUS

This Ungainly Beast Can be Led Like a Calf and Fed From a Bottle, It is Claimed.

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 25.—The introduction of the hippopotamus, the rhinoceros, the camel, the eland, the springbok, the trek bok, the dikdik, the coo-doo, the giraffe and other African animals into America as a solution of the problem of food supply was suggested by speakers before the house committee on agriculture.

Capt. Fritz Duquesne, a Boer; Dr. W. N. Erwin of the bureau of plant industry of the department of agriculture, and Major Burnham, who has spent years in Africa and accompanied ex-President Roosevelt on a part of his travels, argued in favor of the Broussard bill to import wild and domestic animals into the United States.

Such animals, according to the bill, must prove useful either as food, or as beasts of burden. All the witnesses declared that many of the animals in Africa could easily be raised in this country.

"The hippopotamus can be led and fed on a milk bottle," declared Captain Duquesne, who formerly served with the Boer army. "The zebra would in three or four generations become so tame that he would meander into your bedrooms. The zebra is very sturdy and strong, as you would know if you had ever been kicked by one."

"The mule is pretty good for that," interjected Representative Cocks of New York.

"Every desirable animal in Africa can be domesticated here," resumed the witness. "King Menelik domesticated the lion. I would not, however, recommend that here."

"There is no difficulty about the differing temperatures of Africa in America," continued Captain Duquesne. "In one place where Teddy passed through on his recent hunt the frost was this thick —" and the witness indicated the thickness.

"Whom do you mean by Teddy?" asked the committee.

"Mr. Roosevelt," replied the witness. "We call him Teddy there."

"The camel can go seven days without water," continued Duquesne. "He can carry 800 pounds pack and one man can drive a long string of them. The rhinoceros, which keeps streams free of water vegetation, could find food in the millions of acres that are suitable for him in the south. The eland, shunning farms and mankind, could live in the more desolate regions. The African buffalo could live on marshy ground and supply the best leather in the world."

Dr. Erwin said America could find a place for the more than 100 species of undomesticated animals in the world; that the hippopotamus, buffalo, camel and other animals were excellent food and valuable in many ways. Major Burnham described conditions along similar lines.

Smooth Graft Suspected.

OTTUMWA, March 25.—For the second time in a few months Ora Gowles was arrested in Clinton and will be brought back to this city to answer charges of wife desertion. The police believe that the man is working a smooth graft to get the state to pay his fare home after becoming stranded. The first time he was arrested his wife dismissed the charges after he had been brought back from Davenport.

Why Meat is High.

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 25.—Meat production is not keeping pace with the increase in population. Consumers have increased 12,000,000 while animals have decreased 5,000,000 during the past five years. These figures have just been made public by the committee investigating the high cost of living.

Miners Strike.

CINCINNATI, Ohio, March 25.—A strike of the coal miners of Ohio, Indiana and Pennsylvania will in all likelihood be called for April 1, following the failure of the miners and operators to come to an agreement.

Deaf Woman Hurt.

ANAMOSA, March 25.—Mrs. Burns, an aged lady, was struck by an engine and badly injured. Mrs. Burns is deaf and failed to hear the approach of the engine.

THE ERUPTION OF MT. ETNA

If the Belching Monster Continues in its Present Violent Form, it Will Prove a Great Catastrophe

THE LAVA IS FLOWING

Present Disturbance of the Mountain is Compared to the Eruption of Mt. Vesuvius in 1906.

CATANIA, March 25.—Mount Etna, whose eruptions in the past have wrought great destruction, is again in a violent state of activity. A pronounced movement within the crater, which began Wednesday evening, is steadily increasing in volume, and the gravest fears are entertained as to the results if the eruption continues in its present violent form.

From Catania, a correspondent motored in the direction of the mountains. Passing the village of Mascali, twelve miles in a direct line from the crater, a thick curtain of smoke was encountered which entirely concealed Etna. At Nicolosi, ten miles from the crater, the entire populace was gathered in a square. Now and then the volcano was illuminated with flashes of light, appearing almost red. Higher up the rain of cinders became thicker and extended like a veil across the mountain. Deep roaring was heard.

The lava flow has already reached vineyards above the San Leo and Rinazze, seven miles from the crater, and has burned a large number of peasant houses. It came in several streams and united in one great mass about twenty feet high and fifteen hundred feet wide. Its velocity was estimated at three to four feet a minute. This mighty wall of lava was today not more than five miles from Bolpasso and Nicolosi.

The meteorological station on the mountain side has been destroyed and the village of Borello is in serious danger. The people, terror-stricken, are flying from their homes. Earth shocks reached fifty in number, but there is continuous vibration and trembling many miles around. Everywhere the villagers are carrying images in a procession, imploring mercy. Twelve new craters have been formed.

Help for the people in the devastated region is being organized here. A detachment of soldiers and a large number of engineers and doctors have gone forward. The prefect of Catania, returning from the scene last evening, said:

"I witnessed a spectacle of desolation and ruin which only those who saw the eruption of Vesuvius in 1906 can imagine. The present eruption can be compared to no other."

The authorities have issued orders that no one will be permitted to go beyond Bolpasso, and soldiers are stationed at various points to see that these orders are obeyed. The village of Borello was surrounded by lava. Inhabitants have fled. Prof. Ricco, director of the Mt. Etna observatory, said: "The eruption is very grave; I think it will become much more serious. The lava covered five miles in sixteen hours, and if my calculations are right the eruption of the volcano will not be short."

1,300 tourists, among whom Americans are conspicuous, are pouring into Catania to view the spectacle. The latest report from Nicolosi says the lava current is moving a hundred feet an hour and that it passed over Mt. San Leo. The earth shocks continue.

Thousands of people rendered homeless by the eruption are coming toward Catania today, the scene rivaling that of fifteen months ago, when this city became the refuge of many of Messina's earthquake sufferers. With characteristic religious zeal, the people first tried to check the flow of lava by holy images and relics. The eruption increased in violence today, six new craters opening in the side of the mountain. A stream of molten lava fifty feet deep and a half mile wide is now sweeping down on the southern slope of the mountain at the rate of 1,300 feet an hour. It has already covered nine miles of the slope and destroyed either in part or whole six important villages. Eighteen craters are pouring forth their columns of sulphureous vapor, stones and lava.

There have been no reports of death yet, but it is feared several have been cut off and perished. A number are missing. The extent of the destruction is so great that the government will probably make an appropriation for the sufferers.

TWELVE BURNED IN CHICAGO FIRE

Fish Furniture Store Destroyed and Some of the Force Were Caught Like Rats in a Trap

ONE GIRL JUMPED OUT

Eleven Found in the Ruins After the Building Had Been Entirely Consumed.

CHICAGO, March 25.—Twelve persons were burned to death at the fire today at the L. Fish & company furniture store at Ninth and Wabash avenue.

At 1:30 o'clock this afternoon Fire Chief Moran said that the total number of dead would not exceed the dozen, although there were rumors that 15 persons had lost their lives in the fire. At that hour the building was completely destroyed, nothing being left standing but the walls.

Eleven bodies have been recovered from the ruins. The twelfth death was that of Ethel Finklestein, who was killed by jumping from the sixth story window in an effort to escape the flames.

The dead: ETHEL FINKLESTEIN, VERONICA McGRATH, MRS. ANNA BURDEN, ROSE BRUDDT, GERTRUDE QUINN, LILLIAN SULLIVAN, MINOR BELL, HERBERT M. NICKEL, BURT SINCLAIR, WILLIAM GREEN, ETHEL ANDERSON, MARY WARGO.

The most seriously injured are: Dr. Wm. McKinley, John Schmitt, Wm. Peterson, Isaac Fish.

The dead were caught like rats in a trap on the sixth floor and were burned to death before they had a chance to escape.

Saylor Murder Trial.

WATSEKA, Ill., March 25.—When the Saylor trial was resumed today, the attorney for the defense at once began a severe examination of the first witness in an effort to break down his testimony given yesterday. The attorney is trying to show that a conspiracy is on to convict the defendants. Before the court opened, Miss Golda Saylor went to the back and deposited \$5,000, a gift from her millionaire uncle. The money will be used to defend Mrs. Saylor.

Blew Out His Brains.

NEW ORLEANS, March 25.—Alfred Mitchell, aged fifty, a wealthy society leader, fatally wounded his wife, seriously wounded his daughter, Laura, aged fourteen, and six-year-old son, and then blew out his brains at an early hour this morning. Mitchell was a nephew of Frank T. Howard, one of New Orleans' wealthiest citizens. He had become angered at an affair intended as a joke.

King's Fate Today.

CINCINNATI, Ohio, March 25.—The National baseball commission is today to decide on the fate of Johnnie King. The officers refuse to discuss the chances of King for reinstatement.

Walker Weston.

CARROLLTON, Mo., March 25.—Edward Payson Weston reached here at 7:29 this morning. He felt refreshed after his night's rest.

KEPT A DIARY ON THE DESERT

Body of David Eldridge Found at Death Valley Where He Lost His Life Last Fall

WROTE UNTIL ALL IN

Left on Prospecting Trip With Companion Who Was Able to Stagger Back to Small Mining Camp.

SAN BARNADINO, Cal., March 25.—Prospectors arriving here from the desert report finding the body of David Eldridge, a nephew of the president of the National Sewing Machine Co., lost on the desert last fall. On the body was found a diary, written by the dead man and telling of his distress from day to day in search of food and water.

"All in. I can go no further," was the last note in the little book. This was evidently written shortly before he died.

Eldridge's disappearance attracted wide attention last fall. Three weeks after leaving on a prospecting trip, his one companion staggered into Green Water, a little mining camp. A search was made for Eldridge but he was not found.

He leaves a wife and daughter at Elgin, Ill.

FOR SANE FOURTH IN MISSOURI

Governor Hadley Takes Steps to Preserve Life and Limb of the Children.

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo., March 25.—For the protection of the lives and limbs of the host of young Missourians, Governor Hadley took active steps for the promotion of a quiet and sane Fourth of July celebration this year. He mailed letters to the police boards of St. Louis, Kansas City and St. Joseph, instructing them to see the dealers in explosives, cannon crackers, etc., and notify them to hold down their stock this year, inasmuch as the people will not be permitted to use them.

The governor expects this to do much to promote the safe observance of the day. If the explosives are not for sale then there can be no accidents to young Missourians who want to celebrate the birth of their country. When the time arrives the governor will request the boards to issue rigorous orders forbidding the use of explosives within the city limits.

Last year there were 14 deaths and 328 accidents on the Fourth of July. This is too high a total, the governor says, for the state to pay, and he proposes that this Fourth of July shall pass without a casualty if possible.

During the last seven years in the United States 1531 persons were killed, 991 contracted lockjaw, 115 lost eyesight, 518 were rendered partially blind, 498 lost legs, arm or hands, 1427 lost fingers, 39,696 were injured.

Roosevelt Rides Camel.

CAIRO, Egypt, March 25.—Starting at an early hour this morning, Col. Roosevelt and family journeyed today by camels to Memphis, twelve miles southwest of Cairo, where they inspected the tomb and temple of Bulls Ambassador Strauss and wife accompanied them.

GOMPERS BALKS AT PARTNERSHIP

Does Not Think Laboring Men Should In With Rockefeller on His Great Charity Plan

AN INCREASE OF TAXES

The Exemption of the Foundation Would Mean an Increase Upon the Taxes of all Others.

WASHINGTON, March 25.—"Mr. Rockefeller asks to take in all trades union members as partners; at least in sharing the expenses of administering his foundation," says Samuel Gompers, in the April issue of the American Federationist.

"In his act of incorporation," Mr. Gompers continues, "he petitions that the personal property and funds of the foundation be exempt from taxation. By the amount of that exemption the taxes on all other men's labor and property must be increased and the trades unionists of the country, as the leading organization of wealth creators, would carry a very considerable percentage of that additional burden."

"We balk at accepting a partnership under our government with Mr. Rockefeller until we feel sure that the civic relations in which we are already bound up with him, and which have made his headed-up millions possible, are approximately correct."

The report of Secretary Morrison of the American Federation of Labor for the five months ending March 1 indicated an increase of 6,000 in membership over the same period last year.

GORDON'S ARMY CREATES ALARM

Minister From Nicaragua Will Try and Keep the Marksmen From Sailing South.

NEW ORLEANS, March 25.—Louis Correa, minister from Nicaragua, who arrived here from Washington yesterday, declared he would personally appeal to Secretary Knox not to allow the force being recruited by Gen. Gordon to sail for Nicaragua.

"I am collecting the best marksmen I can," said Gordon. "I have enlisted 800 men and will get many more, as I have \$200,000 to spend."

Big Convention Assured.

OTTUMWA, March 25.—The Ottumwa Commercial association appointed eighteen business men as delegates from this city to go to the convention of the Des Moines River Improvement association in Farmington, March 29. Secretary W. T. Archer has received many favorable replies from other towns along this division and two hundred delegates are expected to be at the meeting.

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DOZEN RIOTERS ARE INDICTED

Cairo Grand Jury Has Picked Out Twelve Men Who Took Part in Recent Mob

SOME PROMINENT ONES

Cases Are Set for Trial May 9 and Public Sentiment is With the Accused Men.

CAIRO, Ill., March 25.—Twelve persons were indicted by the special grand jury of the Alexander Circuit court in connection with being in the mob which stormed the county jail the night of February 17 last. They are as follows:

Frank Gorman, bartender, member of the city council from the Fifth ward. James Davidge, county constable. C. O. Foster, former deputy circuit clerk. Lee Watson, cattle buyer. Samuel Wessinger, detective for Mobile and Ohio Railroad. W. H. Simpson, agent Upham-Agler Lumber company. James Casey, police officer under indictment in connection with a bribery charge and suspended pending his trial. J. B. Scott, blacksmith. George B. Walker, correspondent for the Associated Press. O. P. Hurd, wholesale lumber dealer. John Maloney, blacksmith.

The offense of which they are charged is not a felony, as they did not get so far as to break down the jail door. As a conviction is a fine not to exceed \$500 and a jail sentence not to exceed six months.

Popular feeling is with the men indicted and a fund will be raised for their defense.

The cases are set for trial May 9, the first day of the circuit court.

The grand jury adjourned until Monday, when it will again take up the work of investigation, and will endeavor to find further indictments.

The grand jury is also preparing a report covering a number of general recommendations, in which it is expected that it will reflect upon the police department for not correcting the lawlessness in Cairo.

The indictment charges that the persons named "did then and there unlawfully take part and participate in a mob, which was then and there a lawless combination, then thereafter being commanded by a civil officer, to-wit: The sheriff of said county of Alexander, to disperse, then and there unlawfully, willingly and intentionally failed to do so, contrary to the form of the statute," etc.

HUMANE SOCIETY PREVENTED FIGHT

Big Cocking Main at Quincy Was Called Off and Sports Were Disappointed.

QUINCY, March 25.—About two hundred sports, from Quincy, Macomb, Colchester, Bushnell, New Canton and La Grange received a terrible jolt last night when upon their arrival at Highland park they were told that the Quincy Humane Society had put the lid on and that the big cocking main they were expected to see was not going to be pulled off.

Shortly before 8 o'clock John Fowley, officer of the Humane Society, went out to Highland, having received information to the effect that quite a number of what are known as game chickens had been booked as a special attraction. Officer Fowley very politely told the management that if the main was held that the Humane Society would proceed to prosecute. The parties interested in the exhibition would be nothing doing in the pit. The officer said that in the opinion of the members of the Humane Society it was time that exhibitions of the nature of the one scheduled for last night should cease so far as Quincy is concerned. Those who are not averse to taking a flyer in chickens that rather fight than eat said that they were inclined to the belief that the point was well taken and that in future chickens would be barred from that particular locality.

Smothered to Death.

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River Forecast.

The river will remain nearly stationary, or fall slowly.

River Bulletin.

KEOKUK, March 25.—Flood Height Change Rain Stage. River, 24 hrs. Fall

Local Observations.

KEOKUK, March 25.—Bar. Ther. Wind. Weather. 24, 7 p. m., 39.61 72 NW Clear 25, 7 a. m., 39.16 50 NW Clear March 24.—Mean temperature, 72 degrees; maximum, 89; minimum, 65.

DOUBLE TRAGEDY AT FAIRFIELD

Bodies of Mr. and Mrs. McDonald Found Dead this Morning on Ground at Chautauqua Park

MURDER AND SUICIDE

Couple Were Married But Six Weeks ago and Cause of the Tragedy is Unknown.

FAIRFIELD, March 25.—The dead bodies of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Douglas McDonald were found in Chautauqua park at the edge of the city this morning, each one with a bullet wound in the head, the bodies lying near each other on the ground.

McDonald was a Chicago lawyer, who married the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Edward McDonald here six weeks ago, the wedding being quite a prominent society affair at the time.

Three weeks ago they came here for a visit and this morning the bodies were found in the park.

It is evident that McDonald had shot his bride and then committed suicide. Whether it was a suicide pact or not is not known at present, there being no known cause for the sensational incident.

DOLLAR PER DAY FOR THE VETERANS

Bill Reported Favorably for Pension for the Old Soldiers Who Were Incapacitated.

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 25.—One dollar a day for all old soldiers, incapacitated in the service, is provided in a bill reported favorably from the house committee on military affairs by Representative Sherwood (democrat) of Ohio. The bill has been before the committee six or seven years and comes before the house now as an amendment to the measure introduced by Townsend (republican) of Michigan, providing for the retirement of army officers at the age of seventy on one-half and one-third pay, dependent upon length of service. Representative Sherwood, himself a veteran of the civil war, retiring as brigadier general, was jubilant over the successful reporting of the bill.

"I have been trying to get the bill before the house for five years," said Sherwood. "Last year I got it out by one majority, but Speaker Cannon refused to recognize me or bring it up for consideration. This year I am going to bring it up or there will be hell to pay."

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THE WEATHER.

(Until 7 p. m. Saturday) For Keokuk and vicinity: Fair tonight and Saturday; continued warm. For Iowa and Missouri: Fair tonight and Saturday; continued warm.

For Illinois: Fair tonight and Saturday; slightly cooler extreme north-east portion tonight.

Weather Conditions.

The passage of the area of low pressure from the north of the lakes to New England, combined with a field of high pressure in the gulf, has caused warmer weather in the eastern and southern states, while the western field of high pressure has passed to the northern plateau region, and it is cooler in the Missouri and upper Mississippi valleys and the western lake region.

An area of low pressure has formed in Arizona, without precipitation, and the weather is generally fair over the entire country.

Conditions indicate fair, warm weather for this section tonight and Saturday.

River Bulletin.

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St. Paul ... 14 9.3 -0.6 ... La Crosse ... 12 7.4 x0.2 ... Davenport ... 15 8.0 ... Galland ... 8 5.3 -0.1 ... Keokuk ... 15 9.6 -0.1 ... St. Louis ... 30 21.7 x2.1 ... xRise, -Fall.

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The river will remain nearly stationary, or fall slowly.

FRED Z. GOSEWISCH, Observer.

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