

FOREST FIRE PERIL

Government Co-operating With States for Protection.

Made Possible by a Law Passed by Congress in 1911—Many States Have Already Taken Advantage of the Act.

Washington.—A co-operative fire agreement which has been entered into between the U. S. department of agriculture and the state of Michigan provides for an expenditure by the government of not to exceed \$5,000 a year toward meeting the expenses of forest fire protection in Michigan.

This form of co-operation between the government and the state is made possible by a law which congress passed in 1911, and which has already been taken advantage of by the states of Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Maryland, West Virginia, Kentucky, Wisconsin, Minnesota, South Dakota, Montana, Idaho, Washington and Oregon.

The law, besides providing for the purchase by the government of lands on the headwaters of navigable rivers for the purpose of creating national forests to protect these rivers, appropriated \$200,000 which the secretary of agriculture might expend to protect similar lands in state or private ownership from fire, in co-operation with the states. It was provided in the law that the federal expenditures in any state should not exceed the amount spent by the state itself in the co-operative work.

Provision for continuance of the work in the fiscal year which began July 1 has been made by an appropriation of \$100,000 for the year. The original appropriation of \$200,000 was available until expended, and with a supplementary \$75,000 has carried the work to the present time.

The secretary of agriculture requires as a preliminary to co-operating with any state, that the state authorities submit a definite plan showing in detail exactly what it is proposed to do. With these plans are proposed maps showing areas to which protection should be given.

These areas must be actually on the water sheds of navigable streams, and the plan of protection well conceived and thoroughly practical, with an organized system of administration by state officers.

The amount spent yearly in any one state by the government is limited to \$100,000. It is used solely for paying lookout watchmen or patrolmen. The state officials select these men, subject to the approval of the department of agriculture. The maps submitted to the government show where each of the men will be located, the approximate routes of patrol, and all features necessary to a clear understanding of the state's plan of fire control, including the location of lookout stations, telephone lines, headquarters of state fire wardens, and the like.

GETTING OIL FROM SHALE.

Getting oil from a stone is one of the most recent accomplishments of the mineral experts of the United States geological survey. While the survey men are cautious and conservative as to their findings, like all other government scientists, they have admitted enough to indicate that in the bituminous shales of Utah and Colorado there is a large reserve supply of oil that will soon become an important commercial factor to the nation.

The oil experts not only trapped over the entire district to get an idea of the extent and thickness of the shales, but they also set up a plant right on the ground to determine the amount of oil and other distillation products that should be obtained. Dr. David T. Day, the expert in charge of the petroleum investigations of the geological survey, has designed a portable still which was set up at various places accessible to the railroad, where an abundant supply of the best shale could be procured.

The basic principle of the operation was to heat the shale, thus vaporizing the volatile hydrocarbons and destructively distilling the other forms of organic matter in the shale.

The amount of oil obtained in the various tests ranged from ten gallons to the ton of shale to 61 gallons, the average for all the tests being 30 gallons. Some of the beds of shale mined were too thin to be profitably exploited under present commercial conditions and it was determined to disregard the run of oil from all shale less than three feet thick. The average from the thicker shale was 22 1/2 gallons of oil to the ton of shale. In regard to this the investigators say:

"As this average will compare favorably with the yield of the Scotch oil shale, it seems probable that the shale of Utah and Colorado may at the lowest estimate equal in value that of the well-known shale of Scotland, from which petroleum has been successfully manufactured for a long time. However, the full extent of the distribution of the shale and the amount of petroleum in it have not been adequately determined, and much additional work must be done before these facts can be fully and satisfactorily known."

The territory in which this oil shale is found is described as the Green river formation of the Uinta basin in northwestern Colorado and northeastern Utah.

SOLVING THE SMOKE EVIL.

The federal government does not like the idea of preaching to the public that smoke is unnecessary in burning coal, while it has federal buildings throughout the country that in some instances violate all the ordinances there are on the smoke problem. It believes that wherever and whenever possible, if it has something of value for the people, it ought to illustrate this itself by way of example.

The bureau of mines has for a number of years been investigating the proper burning of coal and has all the time been maintaining in smoky Pittsburgh an experiment station that has been operated without objectionable smoke. In these experiments the bureau's experts have found that different coals from different parts of the country require different types of furnace if the coal is to be burned economically and without smoke. By using an experimental furnace the experts have discovered a number of cardinal principles that they say ought to be put in operation in every municipality in the United States.

The first step in this direction was taken the other day when Representative M. D. Foster, chairman of the house committee on mines and mining, introduced a bill which provides that all wood, coal, oil, gas or other fuel to be purchased and used by any executive department or independent establishment at the seat of government or elsewhere shall be purchased in accordance with the recommendations of and under specifications prepared by the bureau of mines.

The bill also gives the bureau the right to investigate the furnaces now in use, the manner of handling, storing and using of coal and to recommend such changes as will result in the greatest economy to the government. It still further provides that all the coal used by the government shall be bought on what is known as the heating unit basis, the government using this method, buying heat rather than coal as coal.

WIRELESS TORPEDO.

Peculiar interest attaches at this time to the announcement that both the war and navy departments are watching closely a mechanical plaything that has been invented by John Hays Hammond, Jr. son of the famous mining engineer who made his millions in South Africa. Young Hammond several years ago took up a study of wireless telegraphy, and got along so well that his father, money being no object, established at Gloucester, Mass., what today is known as the Hammond radio research laboratory.

The result of this has been the invention by Hammond of a mechanism for operating a torpedo by "non-interferable radio impulses" from a land station. Hitherto it has been possible to operate a torpedo from shore at an eight-mile speed, but the control has always lacked the fundamental essential of immunity from interference by an enemy. In other words, a hostile battleship against which a land-operated torpedo might be directed could, with its own wireless radio impulses, interfere with and negative those of the land station.

Mr. Hammond's invention is credited with making such interference a boomerang for an enemy, for with his new device, in case interference is attempted, the radio forces impelling the projectile, instead of losing their efficiency, are strengthened and the torpedo is drawn toward its mark at an increased rate of speed. The war and navy departments are so much interested in Hammond's device that they are now co-operating with him in the work of his laboratory.

COINS OF FOREIGN LANDS.

Among the foreign coins and medals in the National Museum is a fine series from Great Britain and another from France, while Austria, Belgium, Italy, the Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Russia, Sweden, Switzerland, Porto Rico and the Philippines are represented. The coinage of Spain and the Spanish possessions is well shown, and from Africa and Asia there are many interesting specimens of ancient and modern money.

The coin collection of the United States is incomplete, but contains numerous particularly interesting specimens. Some of the recalled 2 and 3-cent copper pieces and the 5, 10 and 20-cent pieces of silver are included. Samples of the American coinage of the island possessions are also on exhibition. As a whole, though not complete so far as issues of coins are concerned, this collection is exceptionally interesting and valuable, including, as it does, examples from so many countries and localities.

and rattling gaily. He looked at the snake for a moment and then drew himself up as well as he could: "If you are going to strike, strike, drat ye," he said. "You will never find me better prepared."

Editor—So you think that the poet I print is bad? Critic—I do. Editor—Well, maybe it is. But you ought to see what I reject!—Somen ville Journal.

WARWICK CASTLE IS LEASED BY AMERICAN

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Abbey on the Thames, and after that took the Hertfordshire seat of Lord Lytton. When asked, a few weeks ago, what her ambition was, Mrs. Marsh replied, "Just to live quietly in the shadow of English history."

In the history of Warwick castle and its surrounding country there is a plenty of romance. As far back as the time of the Romans the town of Warwick was said to be their praesidium, but it remained for Ethelred, daughter of Alfred Great, to build the first fortress or castle. That was in A. D. 914. Then the castle was more of a fort than anything else. Even before this time there is record of several generations of earls of Warwick. The first earl after a kingship was established over all England was Earl Rohand, who was chiefly remembered as the father of Felice, or Phyllis, countess of Warwick. There is a well on the present estate named after this countess.

Various houses held the title and the estate, the present one, the house of Greville, coming into the title in 1759, although holding the property before that. They were preceded by the house of Rich, which was notorious for the intrigues of some of its members and the vices and virtues of others.

The present countess of Warwick, a talented woman, has leased out much of her once vast holdings of more than 23,000 acres to pay off debts. She astounded the world by taking up the cause of socialism and later by joining the militant suffragettes. She has always given liberally of her money.

The countess once received an offer from an American woman to join with her in helping rich American "climbers" enter English society and she became quite irate. In the course of her lecture tours the countess has visited America.

HEAD OF A WOMAN'S BANKERS' ASSOCIATION

There are few fields of endeavor nowadays where women have not made successful ventures. Not so many years ago it was thought that only men could manage a banking business with any degree of success, but now all that is changed and the women have come to the fore in the financial circles of business just as strongly, almost, as the men.



Miss Lester Corbitt, of Austin, who was elected president of the Texas Women's Bankers' association at the recent convention of that organization at Fort Worth, is one of the ablest as well as the most popular business women in the state.

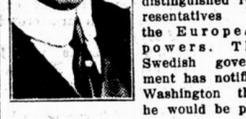
One can scarcely imagine a more interesting business, or a more refined one for a woman, than the banking business. A good many banks throughout the country are employing women on their staffs, recognizing the fact that they are quite as keen as the men when it comes to keeping accounts straight and displaying good judgment regarding the investing of moneys. Only occasionally we hear of a Hetty Green, but if the

truth were known, there are a good many more women of her type and caliber in this country. Perhaps they are not so wealthy, but they possess the same quality of business instinct.

Miss Lester Corbitt, of Austin, who was elected president of the Texas Women's Bankers' association at the recent convention of that organization at Fort Worth, is one of the ablest as well as the most popular business women in the state. Miss Corbitt is connected with the Austin National bank, holding the position of note teller. After leaving the University of Texas, Miss Corbitt taught school for a while. She then turned to banking as a more congenial and profitable occupation, entering the employ of the Austin National bank as general utility clerk. Through her business ability and by close application and study of banking methods, she rapidly worked her way up until she now holds one of the most responsible bank positions of any woman in the state. In addition to her official duties, Miss Corbitt acts as the adviser and business representative of a number of wealthy women of Austin, who place more confidence in her opinions on business matters than in those of the average business man.

MORRIS NAMED ENVOY TO COURT OF SWEDEN

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As foreign representative of the American Peace Society he was brought into contact with many distinguished representatives of the European powers. The Swedish government has notified Washington that he would be persona grata at that court.

Mr. Morris spent several months in Italy last year as the United States' commissioner general and was successful in bringing about the participating of the Italian government in the

NEW CHIEF OF NAVAL BUREAU OF SUPPLIES

Pay Inspector Samuel McGowan of the navy the other day assumed the duties of chief of the naval bureau of supplies and accounts with the title of paymaster general and the rank and pay of a rear admiral. He relieved Pay Director Thomas J. Crowe, who resigned the office after a successful administration of four years. In accepting Director Crowe's resignation, Secretary Daniels wrote him: "I am pleased to state to you that you have ably filled the office of chief of this important bu-



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reau, not only during ordinary times, but especially during the past few months when conditions were such as to call for resource and ability, as well as energy in performance of duty in the important post of paymaster general."

Paymaster General McGowan is forty-three years old, and perhaps is the youngest officer of the pay corps to reach the head of the corps. He was recommended for the office by the commander-in-chief of the Atlantic fleet, of which he was the fleet paymaster until April last, when he was made a member of a board to take up the question of navy yard accounting systems, a matter that the navy department and the naval committees in congress consider of great importance.

Pay Inspector McGowan was born in Laurens, S. C., September 1, 1870, and entered the navy service as an assistant paymaster March 15, 1894, for \$108, and twenty-four pages of "Vera, or the Nihilists" were bought for \$257.—Denver News.

Transparency. "Your husband has been a deacon in the church for a long time, has he not?" "Yes, for several years, but people are beginning to see through him." "You don't mean to tell me that he is a hypocrite!" "No, I mean to tell you that he is wearing a Palm Beach suit."

SOME NEW SALAD DRESSINGS

When One Tires of Plain French Dressing There Are Other Sauces to Delight the Palate.

You no doubt have tasted these different dressings and wondered how in the world they were made. No doubt, too, you tire of the plain French dressing even though glad to come back to it when the others have been used too frequently. Mayonnaise dressing and French dressing, too, form the foundation of many fancy dressings. A very clever housekeeper is one who is always introducing something new and delicious and one who always has on hand the necessary things to work with, but who is not extravagant, for she knows just where to save. That is, by the by, the only way to save intelligently.

To go back to this clever housekeeper, she makes each week a bowl of mayonnaise dressing which she keeps on the ice ready for use, also a quantity of French dressing, which is bottled and also kept cool and ready for use. You can readily see how much time this saves, besides both of these dressings last for an indefinite time.

The popular roquetfort dressing is made in the following manner: To one-eighth of a pound of roquetfort cheese add two tablespoonsful of salt, the same amount of sugar and a dash or two of cayenne pepper. Mix these ingredients with a fork and slowly add one-half cupful of olive oil, continue stirring, and when this is smooth add two spoonfuls of vinegar.

Russian dressing is a little more complicated, but quite repays one for the work: The yolks of two eggs mixed with one full teaspoonful of dry mustard, the same amount of sugar and salt and a dash or two of cayenne pepper, and when this is thoroughly mixed add a cupful of olive oil and either lemon juice or vinegar to taste. Then to this add a chopped pimento or sweet pepper, two tablespoonfuls of chili sauce, the same amount of capers and chopped chives. In making, use onion salt or rub the bowl with a cut garlic before starting the dressing.

WASH THE CELERY STALKS

Precaution is Imperative Because of the Use of Poisonous Sprays By the Grower.

Since the United States department of agriculture has discovered that it is practically impossible to bring satisfactory celery to market unless the plants have been sprayed with Bordeaux mixture, or the salts of copper, declared injurious for use in food products, two warnings have been issued, one to the housewives, telling them to wash the celery before using it, and the other to the farmers, telling them that the danger in using this blight preventive was due to a faulty spraying apparatus. It should be spread at high pressure to make a fine mist instead of in a stream which settles on the leaves and runs down the stalks. In this way it settles in the roots and is not washed away by the rain, giving the celery a blue look.

First Aids for the Cook.

A quick way to clean currants when making cakes is to put the fruit into a colander with a sprinkling of flour and rub it around a few times with your hand. It is surprising how quickly the stalks are separated and come through the small holes.

There is often trouble in getting cream to whip up properly, but if a few drops of lemon juice are added it will soon become thick. Care must be taken not to add too much, as that would make it curdle.

To serve up cauliflower whole and unbroken, boil in a cloth, as it may then be lifted out of the saucepan without any detriment to its appearance. So Much Depends on the Oven. The richer the cake the more easily it is spoiled if the oven is too hot. As soon as the cake has risen and taken a rich brown color, the heat should be lessened to what cooks know as a "soaking heat," and the cake should be kept in this moderate heat until a pointed knife or a skewer stuck in the middle of the cake can be drawn out without uncooked paste sticking to it.

Chicken Soup With Rice.

Soak one-half cup of rice in cold water for several hours. Drain, add one quart of cold water, bring to the boiling point and let simmer until rice is soft; then rub through a sieve (not strainer). Add gradually three cupfuls of highly seasoned chicken stock, heat to the boiling point, and strain. Add one-half cupful of heavy cream and season with salt and pepper.

Raspberry and Currant Jelly.

To one and a half pints of currant juice allow half a pint of raspberry juice and two pounds of sugar. Proceed as in rule for currant jelly until the sugar is added. Then boil 20 minutes, instead of ten, as the raspberry juice requires more boiling than the currant. This jelly is more easily made and of finer flavor than when made of raspberries alone.

Crisp Cookies.

There are two things for the cook who desires crisp cookies to remember. One is that she must use no more flour than the recipe calls for, and the other is that she must keep the dough as cold as possible. A good point is to have all the ingredients cold and to put the dough, after it is mixed, in the refrigerator for half an hour.

Uses for Concentrated Lye.

The substance which adheres to agate bottles or basins, when food or fruit has been burned on them, can be removed by sprinkling thickly with concentrated lye, pouring over it boiling water. Let stand an hour, when the kettle can be cleaned by ordinary washing, without injury by scraping. When the kitchen drain becomes clogged, pour into it one can of concentrated lye, followed by several gallons of boiling water. It will clean the drain and prevent sewer gas from arising.—National Magazine.

BLAME THE CLIMATE SAVED THE BEAVER

Why They Gamble Down in Old Mexico.

Local "Feria," When Every Gambler Lets Instincts Revel and Plays His Favorite Game—Quick Changes in a Day.

Gambling, which is as old as the pyramids and as young as Broadway, is one of the chief features of life in present-day Mexico, the New York Evening Telegram remarks.

And the philosophy of gambling among our southern neighbors beyond the Rio Grande is given by Henry Baerlein in his "Mexico, the Land of Uroast."

"And now we come to the philosophy of all this matter," writes Mr. Baerlein. One may argue that there is none, and that people gamble in the Mexican republic for the same reasons as they gamble elsewhere.

"But, according to a certain school, the Mexicans demand consideration that is quite peculiar. They are given, so 'tis said, to gambling on account of imperfections in their agricultural economy. Wide stretches of the land are always rushing from one extreme into the other, from extreme fertility to unproductiveness.

"In four and twenty hours the people pass from wealth to misery. Their wheat is all destroyed, their flocks are dying, and underneath the wheel of fortune they are helpless if it does not take another turn, which consummation is not to be brought about except by gambling.

"Mexico is vast, and on the one hand there are tracts of country which unroll a savage fruitfulness—such as the part of Coahuila where it is sufficient for the cotton to be planted once in ten years, and the district near to Irapuato where, a mile or more above the sea, one has throughout the year crop after crop of strawberries; and so the jungle, round a rubber clearing, where the tentacles of the vegetation try to choke all human effort, and if they are cut will grow again, and at the rate of half an inch a day.

"Then, on the other hand, we have the desert places where the summer's heat or ghastrly whirlwinds or the just goes dancing, but where cactus grows and nothing else.

"In either sort of territory you know what is to be expected; it will surely happen, but a great deal of the land is subject to the vacillations we have mentioned. And the causes are less difficult to find than to prevent.

"What a country! Portions of it change so little that we have the tale of a Chicago woman who came down to live in this eternal spring, and as the mercury of the barometer did not so much as tremble she was certain that the instrument was out of order, and she broke it!

"In those other regions that we have described a laborer would formerly have chosen one of three professions—brigandage, rebellion, gambling.

"Now the former has been more or less blotted out by the rurales, rebellion does not always offer the antique inducements, and the disappointed laborer falls back on gambling. He is not restricted to the lottery.

"There is said to be a time for all things, and in Mexico it is the local feria (the fair) when every gambler is supposed to let his instincts revel. He can start to play soon after sunrise, and if he should be unfortunate, can visit, now and then, the image in whose honor all the festival is being held.

"Monte, roulette and lotto are the chief games. It is curious to see a circle of adults, thought of the poorer classes, solemnly seated at their lotto cards and wait until the fish or bird is called.

"There is a demand for fighting cocks. . . . The cock fight in itself is unattractive, being but a matter of some seconds. As the one bird flies across the other he brings into play the fearful spur that has been fastened to his leg. A mass of feathers tumbles down and many pesos change their owner."

Peru the Source of Cocaine.

There is a shrub in high Peru which does not bring the blessing of the potato—I mean the coca tree, whence comes cocaine. The leaf is chewed by young and old. Some doctors say it is very bad for the people of Peru. The infantile death rate is high. And they say few old persons are to be found. Other doctors aver that the coca leaf is very good for the peasants. I am inclined to take a view between the two opinions. I met a man in Cuzco who was running a grocery store, and Professor Giesecke told me they had very good proofs in that town that he was a hundred and fifty years old. He sold me chocolate and also coca leaves. I chewed the leaves to try to cure an ulcer in my stomach, and they helped me more than all the medicines of civilization that I had tried.—National Magazine.

Ups and Downs.

"He proposed to her on one of the Alpine peaks and she threw him down." "Think of that!" "But he pulled himself together and asked her again." "What happened then?" "She took him up." "Well! Well!" "They've been married a year now and he's more cast-down than ever."

Chinese Maze of Canals.

The canal system in China is the most extensive in the world, with the exception of Holland. Wherever the lay of the land permits the Chinese have made a canal. Thus they are enabled to carry the products of their labor to market at a minimum expense.

The Bell. The telephone girl sure looks swell. But she's no belle, I hold; For I know well that any bell will ring as it is tolled.

BLAME THE CLIMATE SAVED THE BEAVER

Professor Lucas Says Silk Hat Prevented Extermination.

Invention Came Too Late to Save the European Animal, but It Gave Respite to American Cousins.

The completion of a beaver group at the American Museum of Natural History is the occasion for the publication in the current number of the American Museum Journal of an article in which Director Frederic A. Lucas tells how the silk hat saved the whole beaver family from extermination. The invention of this style of headgear—it became popular in Paris about 1825—was too late to save the European beaver, but it gave a much needed respite to his American cousins, of which there are four or five geographical races or subspecies.

The connection may seem obscure to those who do not know that from the year 1100 up to the early part of the last century the standard material for men's hats was beaver fur. Even as late as 1854 the Hudson Bay company disposed of no fewer than 509,240 skins, although that number probably represented the accumulations of several years. The result of the change in fashion was that the price of beaver skins declined to a point at which trapping the beaver was no longer profitable, and for a time the animal was so little disturbed that it multiplied exceedingly. In 1869 skins were offered by the bale as low as 25 cents each.

But the furriers and trappers were not to suffer the beaver to live long in peace. Soon fashion decreed the wearing of beaver furs, and this demand has kept down the number of beavers ever since.

"If we Americans," says Doctor Lucas, "were not a wasteful, improvident, lawless nation, there would be little trouble in supplying all the beaver skins necessary, and there is small doubt that this will eventually be done. With proper restrictions the natural increase of a beaver colony would yield a stated number of skins annually, the chief care necessary being to plant trees to provide a food supply. How readily this could be done is shown by the history of the beaver in the state of New York, where they once abounded, and where in spite of persistent trapping, they seem not to have been wholly exterminated, although in 1894 Mr. Radford finds that not more than ten were left in the Adirondack region."

"In 1904 the state of New York appropriated \$500 for the reintroduction of beaver, and with this and subsequent appropriations and the aid of private contributions some 34 animals were turned loose. By 1908 there were about 150 animals in the Adirondacks, and since then they have not only increased, but spread to other localities, a few even being found in northern New Jersey, although these may have been quietly introduced."

Doctor Lucas punctures the popular fallacy that the beaver uses his tail as a trowel, or in the transportation of his building materials, as well as the less widely held belief that large numbers of the animals unite to cut down large trees. "Those who know the animal best," says the director, "look upon the canals constructed for the transportation of food supplies as the most remarkable of all his undertakings. Man, with the aid of steam and electricity, excavates the Suez and Panama canals, but the beaver, a creature weighing on an average 30 or 40 pounds, with no tools except teeth and paws, digs trenches 150 to 750 feet long and a yard wide and deep. Further than this, in cases where the ground slopes rapidly, the beaver will erect dam after dam, and dig canal after canal, until, by a succession of steeply levels, the needed food is obtained."

Enthusiasm. Enthusiasm is the thing that makes the world go round. The old Greeks who gave it a name knew that it was the god energy in the human machine. Without its driving power nothing worth doing has ever been done. It is man's dearest possession. Love, friendship, religion, altruism, devotion to career or hobby—all these, and most of the other good things in life, are forms of enthusiasm. A medicine for the most diverse ills, it alleviates both the pains of poverty and the boredom of riches. Apart from it joy cannot live. Therefore it should be husbanded with zeal and spent with wisdom.

To waste it is folly; to misuse it disaster. For it is safe to utilize this god energy only in its own proper sphere. Enthusiasm moves the human vessel. To let it move the rudder, too, is criminal negligence.—Robert H. Schaeffer, in Atlantic.

Importance of One Letter.

Bill—"What's that fellow so mad about?" "Jill—Why, you see he's from Uru guay, and he asked me if I knew where he was from." "And you did?" "Yes, but I made a mistake and said Uraguay."

Her Last Chance.

Miss Elderly—"They say that marriages are made in heaven." "Miss Young—Ah, then you have one chance more."

Not His Fault.

Man at Desk—"Why do you claim a trombone player is less of a bore than a pianist?" "Man in Chair—"He is because he doesn't get the chance. He doesn't find a trombone in every home he visits."—New York Globe.

World's Swiftest Dog.

The world's dog in the world, the Russian wolf-hound, has made record runs that show 24 yards to the second, while the gazelle has shown measured speed of more than 37 yards a second.