

PREST. ROOSEVELT'S AFRICAN JOURNALS He and His Party Leave New York About March 15—Arive in East Africa Latter Part of April—Much of Hunting Will be Done in British Possessions—Arms Specially Made for Expedition—Will Reach Khartoum In April, 1910, When Mrs. Roosevelt Will Join Him—Tour of Europe, Lasting a Year Will be Made.

New York, Feb. 22.—Theodore Roosevelt, 56 years of age, having on March 15 with his retirement as twenty-sixth president of the United States, completed over 23 years of public service, has decided to take rest and recreation in a two-year's trip abroad, half of which will be spent in Africa under the leadership of a faunal naturalist and the other half in Europe visiting at the head of a scientific expedition outfitted by the Smithsonian Institution, of Washington he will, with his son, Kermit, and three American naturalists of note—Major Edgar A. Mearns, J. Loring Alden and Edmund Heller—make a collection of mammals, birds, reptiles, insects and botanical specimens of Central Africa, which will be deposited in the United States national museum at Washington.

DEPARTURE OF PARTY. The party leave New York City about the middle of March, going by the Mediterranean route to Gibraltar and Naples. At Naples, the members of the expedition will board a steamer for the German East African line for Kilmindin harbor, Mozambique, and Victoria Nyanza, at the East African port, which will be the base of supplies. At Khartoum, it is expected, the president and his son will be joined by Mrs. Roosevelt, who will accompany them on their trip to Europe. The members of the party will proceed direct to the United States from Egypt. Mr. Roosevelt probably will remain in continental Europe and Great Britain about one year, having accepted invitations to deliver the Romanes lecture at Oxford university, an address at the Sorbonne in Paris and a lecture before the students of the University of Berlin.

WILL GRATIFY A DESIRE. Long has it been the desire of Mr. Roosevelt to make a hunting tour into the heart of Africa. He has made numerous trips in search of big game in every part of the United States where such animals make their abode. For years he has been an ardent hunter and a writer of hunting stories, such as his books on the subject are "Hunting Trips of a Ranchman," written from his experiences while on a North Dakota ranch, when he spent years raising cattle, "Lunch Life Hunting," "The Wilderness Hunter," "The Deer Family," "Outdoor Pastimes of an American Hunter," in the latter volume he refers to the sport in these words: "From the days of Nimrod to our own there have been mighty hunters before the Lord, and most warlike and masterful races have taken kindly to the chase, as chief among those rough times which almost naturally to men with plenty of red blood in their veins. One might think Mr. Roosevelt desires to emulate the earlier among the great conquering kings of Egypt and Assyria, who he says, hunted the elephant and the wild bull, as well as the lions with which the country swarmed; and Tz'ath-Pileser the First, who as overlord of Phoenicia embarked on the Mediterranean and there killed a "sea monster," president of a "sea monster" which, Mr. Roosevelt declares, "has been paralleled by no sport-loving sovereign of modern times, save by that stout hunter, the German kaiser; although I believe, the present English king, like several members of his family, has slain both elephants and tigers before he came to the throne."

GREAT HUNTING GROUNDS. Speaking of the great hunting grounds of the world, Mr. Roosevelt says that there remain only three in the present century. South Africa is the true hunter's paradise, in his opinion. If the happy hunting grounds are to be found anywhere in this world, say he, they lay between the Orange and the Zambesi, and extend northward and there to the Nile countries and Somaliland. Nowhere else are there such multitudes of game, representing so many and such widely different kinds of animals of such size, such beauty, such infinite variety. "We should have to go back to the fauna of pleistocene to go its equal." It is to this section of the world that he is now bound.

CAREER SINCE GRADUATING. Having been in public life almost continually since he was graduated from Harvard university in 1880—serving the people in the capacity of assemblyman in New York state, civil service commissioner of the United States, president of the police board in New York city, assistant secretary of the navy of the United States, colonel of the First United States volunteer cavalry in the Spanish

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and British East Africa the president has consulted and, as a result, he has secured a store of information not to be obtained from books.

A FAUNAL NATURALIST. It was to Secy. Walcott, of the Smithsonian Institution, that Mr. Roosevelt first outlined the tentative plans for his African trip. In a letter to the secretary he made known his project of going, after his term of office expired, to Africa for the purpose of hunting and collecting in British and German East Africa, crossing Uganda and working down the Nile with side trips after animals and birds. He declared that he is "not in the least a game hunter," says "I like to do a certain amount of hunting, but my real and main interest is the interest of a faunal naturalist."

In his letter he expressed the opinion that this trip opened the best chance for the United States national museum to get a fine collection, not only of the big game beasts, but of the smaller mammals and birds of Africa, and ought not to be neglected.

OFFER TO SMITHSONIAN. The president offered to take with him several professional field naturalists and taxidermists who should prepare and send back the specimens he would collect to the national museum. The president felt that as an ex-president he should feel that that institution is the museum to which his collection should go. While he would pay the expenses of himself and his son, he felt that he had not the means that would enable him to pay for the naturalists and their kit and the curing and transport of the specimens for the museum. All he desired to keep would be a few personal trophies of little scientific value which for some reason he might like to keep. He said the actual hunting of big game he would want to do himself or have his son do.

Seeing the value of the president's proposition, Secy. Walcott immediately set to work selecting men to form the party. He decided that three men should form the Smithsonian Institution's portion of the party. The necessary funds for the Smithsonian's share of the expense were secured from a source which has not been revealed. It is stated that no part of these funds was derived from the Smithsonian appropriation or the income of the Smithsonian Institution. That it was advanced by some one interested in a once there is no doubt, and there have been reports that it was donated by Mr. Andrew Carnegie.

MAJ. E. A. MEARNS. In selecting the four men to accompany Mr. Roosevelt the best men in the scores of naturalists of the country were selected. It was decided that Maj. Edgar A. Mearns of the medical corps of the United States army, a retired officer who has had 25 years' experience as a doctor in the army should have charge of the Smithsonian portion of the party. His professional services as physician to the expedition undoubtedly will be of the greatest value, not to speak of his ability as a well known naturalist and collector of natural history specimens. As an ornithologist, Maj. Mearns probably is one of the highest authorities, having made a specialty of bird study for many years. The major was one of the founders of the American Ornithologists' union and has written widely on bird subjects. He is a member of the Linnaean So-

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ciety of National History of New York, of the National Geographical society, of the Society of Aviculturists, of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and a patron of the American museum of natural history of New York. He is 55 years of age.

J. LORING ALDEN. As a field naturalist, Mr. J. Loring Alden is probably the most efficient and experienced man in the party. He has made a specialty of the smaller mammals and it is said of him that, where other traps and baits fail, he can get the smaller wild creatures into captivity. His training comprises service in the biological survey of the United States department of agriculture and in the New York zoological gardens in Bronx Park, New York City, as well as on numerous collecting trips through British America, Mexico and the United States. He is about 28 years old, of ardent temperament, is a highly energetic, in August, September and October, 1898, he made the highest record for a traveling collector, having sent to the United States about 500 prepared specimens of small mammals in the three-months' journey from London; through Sweden, Germany, Switzerland and Belgium. His home is in Owego, N. Y.

EDMUND HELLER. Of the party the only one who has had previous experience in that section of Africa through which the expedition will journey is Mr. Edmund Heller. He was associated with Prof. Carl E. Akeloy and Mr. K. D. G. Elliot in the expedition of the Field Columbian museum of Chicago, which, in 1896, visited the same portions of Africa that the Roosevelt expedition will cover. Mr. Heller is a graduate of Stanford university of California and is a thoroughly trained naturalist, whose special work with this expedition will be the preparation and preservation of the specimens of large animals. Having gone over the ground once he is a valuable asset to the expedition. In order that he might accompany Mr. Roosevelt, Heller was relieved from his position as assistant curator of the museum of vertebrate zoology of the University of California was secured by the Smithsonian Institution. Mr. Heller has had large experience in animal collecting in Alaska, British Columbia, United States, Mexico, Central America and South America. In 1898 he made a collection trip of eleven months to the Galapagos Islands, starting from San Francisco. He is an enthusiastic collector as well as a natively equipped naturalist. Of numerous scientific papers on mammals, birds, reptiles and fishes he is the author. Mr. Heller's home is at Los Gatos, Cal.

KERMIT ROOSEVELT. Kermit Roosevelt, the president's second son, a young man of 19 years, is to be the official photographer of the expedition. He is a student of the University of California and is a member of the photographic club of his father. He has spent considerable time in preparing himself for the work he is to undertake. During his summer vacation he made a study of the camera and photographic apparatus, and he has extra light weapon, carrying a 45.70 cartridge, with its most effective range at 5 yards. It is of 405 caliber, and is of 405 caliber. This is the weapon Mr. Roosevelt would use in his excursions for big game in western United States. The fourth rifle is a 400 gun for moderate sized game, carrying a smokeless powder cartridge with a very high power type and has been used by the president on some of his trips. The other members of the party also will be armed with similar guns and will be carried by the naturalists will be a 12-bore gun.

ALL GOOD SHOTS. There is not a member of the party who is not an excellent rifle shot and assurances have been given that not the least fear need be entertained for Mr. Roosevelt's safety while he is on his trip. It is pointed out that the party will be accompanied by native gunbearers who are experts with rifles and should any beast be missed by Mr. Roosevelt, which is improbable, it has been declared that animals will not travel far before it is brought down.

WANT TO GO ALONG. Hundreds and hundreds of applications have been received from people who wished to accompany him on the expedition. They offered their services gratis. These offers came from all kinds of people from coast to coast. None of them was granted by Mr. Roosevelt. Numerous announcements have appeared in the newspapers from time to time stating that some persons or others would accompany him on the expedition. A few named considerable newspaper advertising in this manner. The latest was a young prize-fighter who was traveling with a theatrical company.

A DOLLAR A WORD. One of the objects of Mr. Roosevelt in taking this trip is for the purpose of collecting material for writing several books regarding his experiences. During last summer he contracted with Charles Scribner's Sons, of New York, giving that firm all the rights for the serial and book form of his visit to Africa. It is said that the contract price agreed upon is \$1 per word, but this never has been verified. The president's story will be of great interest to the many people of this and other countries who admire his brilliant style. His contract with the Scribner firm will in no way interfere with a contract he made in October to become an associate editor of The Outlook magazine. For that publication he will write on other matters which he may become interested in while abroad. From time to time that magazine will print articles under his name.

SECOND YEAR ABROAD. Regarding the second year of Mr. Roosevelt's tour abroad little of his plans is known, in fact he has not decided upon them. Friends of the president, however, expect to see him return to the United States at the end of two years with added laurels and popularity. It is not known if the shooting of a collection of mammals that Mr. Roosevelt goes across the water, but he will also have an opportunity to do and say something that will bring him a great deal of fame before the entire world. After he has finished his hunting tour he will be joined by Mrs. Roosevelt at Khartoum and proceed to places of interest while on the way, and then proceeding to Europe. At Berlin he will deliver an address upon the one hundredth anniversary of the founding of the University of Berlin. It is reported that he will go to Berlin upon the special invitation of the German emperor and while there will be a guest of honor. From Berlin he will proceed to Germany where he will go to France and deliver an address at the Sorbonne, probably taking as his subject the life-work of the Marquis de Lafayette. It has not been decided how long Mr. Roosevelt intends to stay in Berlin and Paris. After his visit in France, Mr. Roosevelt will go to England, where a reception of great magnitude will be accorded to him. He has accepted an invitation to deliver the Romanes lecture at Oxford university and in all probability the honorary degree of D. C. L., which Oxford has bestowed on Emperor

it will be easy to reach quickly the remote parts of the country where the party can strike off into the jungle. All the specimens which are taken are at Nairobi before shipment to the national museum.

No definite arrangements have been made for the six months the party will spend in the territory about Nairobi except that about 100 specimens of mammals are to be made from there. The president's expedition will not visit Mount Kilimanjaro, on the border between British East Africa and German East Africa. The reason for this is that the national museum has been receiving a splendid collection of specimens from that locality from Dr. Abbott, of Philadelphia, who has been there for some time.

The altitude of the Nairobi district varies from 5,000 feet above the sea to further west the country reaches 7,000 feet above sea level. Taking the country as a whole, the climate is distinctly favorable to health. The days under the equatorial sun are hot, but cool nights empty store for the heat of the day. The rainy season in that section of Africa occurs from the end of January till the end of April. Another rainy season, but about double, occurs about October or November. From May to February is considered as the best season for the shooting of big game.

AT VICTORIA NYANZA. In October the expedition will pack its outfit at Nairobi and continue its journey inland over the Uganda railway to Port Florence, on Lake Toria Nyanza. At this place a short stop will be made and probably a trip will be made to Mount Elgon, 75 miles north from there. Mount Elgon is over 14,000 feet in height. When the party first returns to Port Florence it will board a steamer of the railway service which plies about the lake and proceed to Entebbe, 150 miles away. It is expected that Entebbe will be reached in December. At that point a small caravan will be made up from animals and native which Mr. Cunningham has specially engaged for the trip across Uganda to the Nile. The first stop after leaving Entebbe will be at Mengo. Then by short stages it will proceed until reaching Kibara on Lake Albert Nyanza. The journey across Uganda is expected to take no more than a month and the expedition should strike the White Nile about the first of the year 1910.

ARMS AND AMMUNITION. Of the greatest importance is the battery of guns which Mr. Roosevelt will carry along with him. Since it became known that he intended to make a hunting expedition into Africa many of his friends have presented him with guns. But he did not select any of these to take with him on his trip. Instead, he had made specially for him by one of the best American gun manufacturers, four different types of rifles, each having a special use. The first of these is a powerful rifle of 405 caliber, carrying a 300-grain bullet, and is intended for the very largest type of African game such as the rhinoceros, hippopotamus and elephant. Smokeless powder is used and its power can be measured by the fact that the bullet at the time of impact has an energy of 2,500-foot pounds. The second rifle is known as the new 30 United States government rimless cartridge type, carrying a 220-grain bullet and is fitted to kill very large game at a range of from 500 to 1,000 yards. This rifle is an extra light weapon, carrying a 45.70 cartridge, with its most effective range at 5 yards. It is of 405 caliber. This is the weapon Mr. Roosevelt would use in his excursions for big game in western United States. The fourth rifle is a 400 gun for moderate sized game, carrying a smokeless powder cartridge with a very high power type and has been used by the president on some of his trips. The other members of the party also will be armed with similar guns and will be carried by the naturalists will be a 12-bore gun.

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SIX BEST SELLING BOOKS. RECORD FOR JANUARY. According to the foregoing lists, the six books which have sold best in the order of demand during the month are:

- 1. The Trail of the Lonesome Pine. Fox. \$1.50
2. Peter Smith. \$1.50
3. Lewis Rand, Johnston. \$1.50
4. The Man from Brodney's. Cutoch. \$1.50
5. The Red City. Mitchell. \$1.50
6. Out-of-Doors in the Holy Land. Scribner. \$1.50

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William, will be conferred on Mr. Roosevelt.

WILL LECTURE IN GERMAN. The versatility of Mr. Roosevelt will be shown by the fact that he will speak German in his address before the students of the University of Berlin. French in his lectures at the Sorbonne, and English in delivering the Romanes lecture at Oxford. It is expected that this feature of his visit to the capitals of the three leading nations of Europe will attract a great deal of attention. Holland, being the home of his ancestors in Europe, it is considered not improbable that he will go there for a short visit, which he undoubtedly will speak in the tongue of his forefathers. Mr. Roosevelt's versatility in language is quite well known in this country, but it will receive still higher commendation when he makes his addresses abroad in the languages of the country he visits.

One point of particular interest in London which, no doubt, Mr. and Mrs. Roosevelt will visit, is St. George's church where they were married in 1885. It is likely that they will be in London on the twenty-fourth anniversary of the wedding.

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