

MAKES LONG VOYAGE

OWNER RUNS 670 MILES IN FIFTY-FOOT LAUNCH.

Goes from Ketchikan, Alaska, to Tacoma, Wash.—Captain Had Not Been Over Route for Eight Years and Carried No Charts.

Tacoma, Wash.—Without charts of any kind, over a course parts of which he had not traveled in years and in a dense Puget Sound fog, E. Fors, a former Tacoma, finished a voyage from Ketchikan, Alaska, to Tacoma in the Teddy, a 50-foot launch. The distance, 670 miles, was covered in ten days, winds and thick weather having caused delay.

The Teddy ran only five hours the first day out, the sea being too rough for comfort. Both the Gulf of Georgia and Dixon's entrance were found rather tumultuous for a 50-footer. She carried, besides Capt. Fors, Peter Osjund, the engineer; Mrs. Will Fors, the owner's daughter-in-law, and three other passengers, Mr. and Mrs. Newell and child, of Colby.

At Seymour Narrows a 12-mile current was encountered. By taking advantage of an eddy the Teddy got through after an all day pull. In a little cove the men went ashore and in 15 minutes killed two large buck deer, which furnished venison until their arrival at Tacoma.

Arriving at the Sound, Capt. Fors found thick weather. By instinct alone he made his way without mishap to Colby, where he landed the Newell family, and then ran into the narrow entrance of Gig Harbor to leave his daughter-in-law, who had relatives residing there. He had not navigated these waters in eight years and his feat is considered remarkable. He states that on the entire cruise he never made a mistake of more than half a point in his calculations. He had charts of no part of the route, copies not being obtainable in Ketchikan when he left there.

The Teddy is fitted with a 20-horse power four cycle engine. It consumed 250 gallons of gasoline on the cruise. Capt. Fors is proud of the performance of the launch and of her engines. They have seen hard service and at one time the engine ran three years without repairs of any kind. There were no accidents on the cruise except the striking of a timber when running in the fog one day. This tore loose the Teddy's shoe, but did no serious injury.

The reason for Capt. Fors' voyage was to have repairs made to the launch. She was damaged somewhat last summer in a collision with the steamer Delhi, which backed onto her in the night. This necessitated rebuilding her cabin. She has a large cook galley and accommodations for half a dozen passengers. She is lying near the Eleventh street bridge.

For three years Capt. Fors used his launch to carry the United States mails on one of the most lonely of Uncle Sam's far flung postal routes. His route extended from Ketchikan around Prince of Wales island and a number of smaller bodies of land to Wrangell, a distance of 325 miles. The round trip of 650 miles, with a dozen stops on the way, was made in a week. Most of the stations were canneries and Indian villages.

Last summer and two previous summers the Teddy was used by Prof. O. M. Leland of Cornell university and a party of his students on the boundary survey. This work is not yet finished, and the distinguished professor will likely charter the launch for another season.

Mr. Fors lived in Tacoma seven or eight years ago, operating launches and having other business on the water front.

SALTON SEA JUST A POND.

It Will Dry Up, Director Newell Says, But Not for Years.

Washington.—That the Salton sea is but an accumulation of waste water in the bottom of a depression 200 or more feet below sea level is the statement of F. H. Newell, director of the reclamation service. Relatively to a real sea, Mr. Newell adds, it is a mere puddle or duck pond in a vast extent of arid desert which at one time was the floor for a large body of fresh water.

"It is not a new thing," says he, "but a revival in historic times of what has probably occurred frequently in geological history."

He says that the wonderful results attributed to the sea in increasing rainfall in the southwestern states and territories is a case of placing the cart before the horse.

Mr. Newell describes vividly the break in the dike of the Colorado river, the knife-like cutting of the new channel, the organized attack on the water and the final successful closing of the break during the year.

"The sea may now evaporate at from five to seven or more feet annually," he says, "but for many years it probably will be a mark of interest to the traveler, and the inhabitants of the Imperial valley must live, as do the people of Holland, with an eye to protection against this enemy of their homes."

Will on Card Is Binding.

Wilkesbarre, Pa.—The court has admitted to probate a will written on a card by John Bean, just before he was operated on for appendicitis. Bean died under the operation. The court held that the card was authoritative and therefore legal.

LOBSTERS AT \$500 A MEAL.

Porto Rican Journal Has High Idea of Morgan's Taste.

Baltimore, Md.—Now that Porto Rico is a part of the United States, it behooves the Porto Ricans to take heightened interest in that most curious of North American products—the multi-millionaire. And they are doing so, judging from an item which appeared in a newspaper of San Juan about J. Pierpont Morgan, which may or may not be known to readers of more northerly latitudes. Here it is:

"The lobsters destined for the exalted palate of Mr. Morgan are caught expressly for him, and for nobody else; they do not belong to that vulgar class of fish which everybody can acquire at the market by simply putting down the price asked. The American multi-millionaire has had built on the shores of the ocean a little hut, painted red. In this hut a lobster fisher lives all the year round. His job is an easy one, because Mr. Morgan's craving for the delicious crustaceans comes upon him very seldom—not more than three or four times a year.

"The lobster fisherman above mentioned draws a salary of \$2,000 yearly. Supposing that the American potentate eats lobsters four times a year, the cost of his lobsters comes to \$500 a catch.

"Thus the greatest of millionaires has introduced once again the gastronomic customs of the ancient Romans. The Romans liked lampreys, just as Mr. Morgan likes lobsters. In order to feed the lampreys properly and be enabled to eat them in season they kept them in tanks at enormous expense. Some historians go so far as to say that the said Romans, in order that their fish might have a succulent taste, were in the habit of giving them live slaves to eat.

"But the American multi-millionaire has not as yet thought of treating his lobsters to a meal composed of redskins."

MAY LOSE THEIR HOMES.

People Who Settled on Mineral Lands Must Give Way to Uncle Sam.

Washington.—Thousands of homesteaders in North Dakota and other public land states are in danger of losing their homesteads and all improvements upon them, by the withdrawal of the lignite coal lands by the government, and their classification as mineral lands. Timothy J. Butler of the legal department of the government land office, in an address to the conservation conference here recently, declared that the land department has now fully 5,000 cases before it in which homesteaders are unable to complete final proof and receive patents to their homesteads, because their farms have been classified as coal lands.

Congressman Thomas R. Marshall of North Dakota has put a bill into the house to correct the situation, and give relief to these settlers, and it is believed this measure, if it passes, will save to Dakota, Montana, Wyoming and New Mexico settlers their farms, although it will acknowledge the government's ownership of the coal which may underlie their property.

The lignite coal fields have been withdrawn from entry as public agricultural lands as a result of the investigations made by the experts of the geological survey. In many of the most fertile agricultural sections of North Dakota, the experts found evidences of rich deposits of lignite, and the lands were immediately classified as coal lands.

DISCOVERS PALEOLITHIC STONE.

Find Near Wadsworth, O., Declared to Be Important to Geologists.

Akron, O.—The discovery of what is asserted to be a paleolithic stone near Wadsworth has led Prof. G. Frederick Wright, geologist and president of the State Archeological society, to declare that Medina county was the home of paleolithic man. Prof. Wright took the stone with him to Baltimore and will return to Wadsworth next spring, he says, with government geologists to continue his researches.

Prof. Wright and Prof. Bronson of Oberlin college declared that the finding of the paleolith at Wadsworth is one of the most important discoveries made in America in fixing the age of human life on the American continent. They said also that the best specimen of a Kame or Escher terrace they had ever examined is in the neighborhood of the Mennonite church on the Seville road west of Wadsworth.

It is Prof. Wright's belief that a one time the site of Wadsworth was covered with a large glacier which was a mile high and extended to Millersburg. The paleolithic stone found near Wadsworth is an elliptical-shaped flint stone weighing about a half or three quarters of a pound and is a fine specimen of one of the instruments used by man in the glacial period.

Planet Out Beyond Neptune?

Cambridge, Mass.—The possibility of a planet outside of Neptune, which since its discovery in 1847, has been considered the outermost body of the solar system, is indicated as the result of calculations at the Harvard observatory of certain irregularities in the orbit of Neptune. The officials of the observatory do not contend that they have discovered the presence of such a body, but say that such a planet would cause perturbations such as have been found.

TO STOP SLAUGHTER

CONTENTS OF NATION'S GAME BAG TO BE COUNTED.

Members of Audubon Society and Sportsmen Plan to Place a Check on Those Who Hunt for the Market.

New York.—To measure the contents of Uncle Sam's game bag during the new year is the object of a concerted effort in which sportsmen from every section of the country are joining the National Association of Audubon Societies in this city. It is proposed to obtain detailed records of each day's shoot from every sportsman in states where the Audubon and sporting interests will urge the crying need of legislation to this effect. Unless the annual inroads upon the rapidly decreasing game of America are thus determined, the leaders of the new movement declare shooting as a healthy recreation will soon be killed in almost every region of the continent.

"That the health, crops and woods, as well as the sport of many extensive localities are today seriously menaced by the extinction of game birds, will be demonstrated by the latest results of the scientific investigations of government authorities at Washington. Water fowl and shore birds will be shown in their natural capacity of destroying the anopheles mosquito as well as many other recognized distributors of deadly germs.

Gulls and many other varieties of sea and inland water birds will be proven by ornithological experts to be wholesale destroyers of grasshoppers and a multitude of the insects which cause an annual crop and forest loss of nearly \$1,000,000,000, or more than the entire national debt. The case of Salt Lake City, whose people have erected a monument to the gulls that saved all their crops from destruction by an insect plague, will also be cited.

In every one of the 44 state legislatures which are beginning to convene for the new year special efforts to obtain legal provision for this game census are being planned among organized sportsmen and Audubon workers. Where a hunter's license law is in force the addition of a law to enforce the recording of all game birds and animals shot will be urged. It is proposed, in order to protect the true sportsman and to detect market hunters, to punish failure by proceeding against perjury. Special blanks for the purpose are being prepared as an attachment to all hunters' license cards.

When the purpose and necessity of this widespread checking up of the nation's game bag is realized by the people at large, the labor of compiling the records of the individual prowess of millions of hunters will be begun. In this gigantic task the officers of the National Association of Audubon Societies have been promised the hearty assistance of the director of the national conservation commission, a coordinate branch of which their organization has become by the special invitation of the authorities at Washington.

This conservation movement they will forward as one of their principal activities for the new year, together with their regular work of education, bird care on reservations and legislative campaigning for general bird protection.

"The conservation of the dying races of the game birds and animals of this continent is an object for which we are finding every true sportsman ready and eager to co-operate with us," said William Dutcher, president of the National Association of Audubon Societies. "The proposed census is the only sure way of determining the extent of the existing commercial bird butchery and the means to check it.

"Though we shall, of course, have to fight the organized and financially powerful market hunters at every step, I feel sure the support of the sportsmen will help us greatly and that we may rely on the aid of every patriotic American as well. The whole public debt of this nation has just been reported as \$997,349,751. With a known annual loss of many millions more than this due to the growing inroads of the insects which our game birds destroy, I do not think Americans can ignore this subject much longer."

FOX CLIMBS A TREE.

Agile Animal Then Chooses Its Form of Death.

York, Pa.—The Red Lion Hunt club had a new experience when a big gray fox which had been liberated, when barred pressed by more than 100 dogs, climbed 20 feet into a tree.

As the animal saw the hunters coming, however, it leaped from a branch into the middle of the pack of hounds, and, after a brief but fierce fight, was torn to pieces. Apparently it deliberately chose this method of death rather than be ignominiously shot.

The fox was crossing a field on the farm of D. C. Katreider, and was in full sight of a number of the hunters when it went up the tree. Until they came up and recovered its torn body they were inclined to think that the hounds had switched onto the trail of a cat, as this is the first instance recorded in this locality of a fox perching such a feat.

New Champion on Sausage.

Altoona, Pa.—David Cassidy is the champion sausage-maker of Pennsylvania. He has succeeded in producing a sausage that measures 57 feet 6 inches in length, which is double the best previous record known.

ESTATE IS SOUGHT BY COUNT.

Noble Agent of Nine Russian Heirs Searches for Fortune in America.

San Francisco.—A search for an estate that was worth \$5,000,000 in 1861 and may well have grown by this time to a value far greater than that—a search that has extended from St. Petersburg and Moscow to New York, is being carried on in this city by Count Gregori B. Kukil, owner of rich lands in the domain of the czar, director of a great St. Petersburg bank, and whose ancestors held supreme power over the vassals under their sway.

John Tchortjevsky was a Polish nobleman. In 1861 the Poles attempted to throw off the Russian yoke. Tchortjevsky espoused the cause of his countrymen with ardor and pledged his hand, his fortune and his honor to the freedom of his native land. He was discovered, and hurriedly converting his holdings into securities, fled to the United States with a fortune of \$5,000,000 in his possession.

From that day to this his whereabouts has been a mystery. It is supposed, however, he came to California and undertook to increase his already vast wealth in the mines.

Eight years ago advertisements began to appear in Russian papers telling of the death of the Polish refugee and asking his heirs to come forward. Fearful that their lands and goods would be confiscated and they themselves would die in Russian dungeons if they gave an inkling of their identity, the heirs kept discreetly silent.

The dawn of the new era in Russia has brought them from their obscurity, and now, through their agent, they are searching the world for the wealth. One of them is a general in the czar's army and two are colonels. All are men of high estate.

FARMING ON A SCALP.

Doctors Are Trying to Make Skin Grow on Aired Skull.

Deadwood, S. D.—The shiny pate of an ordinary bald-headed man, usually regarded as a skating rink for flies, would be a rocky road to Dublin compared to the head of Joseph Fallon. Joseph hasn't any skin on his skull, and his dome of thought resembles the polished upper stories of human structures that are found in surgeons' offices. Joseph is scalped as the result of a runaway.

For a month the Butte county physicians tried in vain to grow a scalp on Fallon's exposed skull. A bare spot the size of one's two hands has only become plainer and plainer as the days of the month passed by. And the skull surface became dry and began to shine. Then he was brought to St. Joseph's hospital here. It is said competent medical attention immediately after the accident would have prevented the ostrich egg appearance of Fallon's head. As Dr. Howe of the hospital said:

"It will take several months to get the space recovered with skin. Because of the size of the spot it will be necessary at each operation to get the skin to grow about the edges. If this grows it will gradually close in, making the patch smaller. This will take a great many operations and a great deal of time. Even then it is doubtful if we will be able to make the skin grow on bare bone."

ACROSS AFRICA IN AUTO.

Lieut. Graetz Makes Johannesburg After 3,700-Mile Trip.

London.—Lieut. Graetz, the German officer who is motoring across Africa from Dar-es-Salaam to Swakopmund, has arrived at Johannesburg after having covered 3,700 miles in eight months. He really started as far back as August, 1907, but was delayed a year from various causes.

Crossing Lake Tanganyika with his car was a difficult business, owing to the smallness of the steamer. Lieut. Graetz had to make a detour of 600 miles and cut a road through the bush in North Nyassaland, owing to the impossibility of bridging the river.

Fifteen days were spent in cutting the road, and when it was completed the car covered it in two days. Continuous delays were incurred through the shortage of petrol and the necessity of sending great distances for supplies.

The greatest friendliness and assistance were offered by the natives in the uncivilized districts. The lieutenant said that raw natives did everything possible to help him, but directly he approached civilization and mission stations the natives were "no good." They walked away when asked for help, and the closest watch had to be kept on the motorist's kit.

Woman Regains Her Sight.

Pittsburg, Pa.—Restoration of her sight is a gift referred by Mrs. Sara Mawhinney of Pacific avenue. Mrs. Mawhinney, who had been totally blind for eight years. Physicians had declared her case hopeless. Recently Mrs. Mawhinney called in two McKeesport physicians, who commended a method of treatment previously untried. Almost as suddenly as it left her Mrs. Mawhinney's sight returned.

Arizona First in Copper.

Phoenix, Ariz.—The board of trade, which has had an expert working for some time past on the copper output of Arizona for 1908, announces that the total output for the year will not fall below \$74,000,000 pounds finished copper. This makes Arizona again the world's leader in copper production. Horace J. Stevens places Michigan's output at 220,000,000 pounds and Montana's output is estimated at 244,000,000 pounds.

NOVEL GOLD STRIKE

DYING MOOSE OPENS RICH VEIN IN ALASKA.

Animal's Struggles Dislodge Rock and Ore Containing Yellow Metal in Large Quantities Revealed to Hunters.

Bellingham, Wash.—That a big bull moose shot by Oscar T. Nelson, formerly of this city, should, in its dying convulsions, uncover a vein of gold which is estimated to be worth thousands of dollars, is the novel story which comes from Alaska. The truth of the story is vouched for by William C. Nelson, a brother to Oscar, who has investigated the complete details of the discovery of the gold vein through letters from the north.

As the story goes, Nelson, accompanied by Washburn and Johnson, two prospectors, was in the vicinity of Fairbanks creek when he crossed the trail of two moose, and upon close examination of the tracks found that one of the animals must be gigantic in stature, as his step when measured was found to be almost six feet in length.

The men immediately laid plans for the capture of the moose, bearing in mind that it must be the famous Anaconda bull moose, which was frequently seen on Fairbanks creek by miners, who had attempted to kill it many times.

Nelson stationed himself on a runaway, while Johnson and Washburn took a circuitous route with the intention of driving the animal within range of Nelson's rifle.

Johnson and Washburn soon jumped the big bull and he made straight for Nelson, who was lying behind a blind. The big fellow was not aware of the hunter's presence until within 150 yards of him, when the bull threw his nose into the air and, detecting Nelson by scent, started with a flying pace out of danger. Nelson fired when he saw the big animal rapidly galloping away, and with the first shot from the rifle the famous Anaconda moose toppled over.

When the hunters approached the dead beast they were startled at its size, as the antler spread was a trifle more than seven feet and the size of its head would do credit to a hippopotamus. The weight of the bull was estimated at 1,200 pounds, as it required three of the men to lift one of the front quarters, and two of them were able to carry one hind quarter but a short distance at a time.

When the moose was being cut into quarters Nelson discovered that the rock which had been exposed from under a layer of moss soon loose by the convulsions of the dying beast, bore gold in large quantities. The three hunters made a closer investigation of the ore with their magnifying glasses, and immediately staked out a number of claims. The next day they went to Fairbanks to file their claims and have the ore assayed. Nelson stated that the rock bore a large per cent. of gold, and when the Fairbanks populace learned the news a miniature rush was started in the direction of the new gold strike.

FARMER HAS PLENTY HELP.

His Family of Fourteen Children Has Solved Labor Problem.

Shartsville, Pa.—Along the foothills of the Blue mountains in Upper Bern resides Reilly Stoudt on one of the best farms in the township, and to him the idea of securing sufficient farm help has never been a hard problem to solve. He never wonders who will help him thrash the grain; he needs not to invite his neighbors when he butchers a dozen hogs, nor has he any occasion in the good old summer time to hire help to make hay or haul grain.

Reilly Stoudt is the father of one of the largest families in Berks county to-day, and the youngest of them, Joseph, Emerson and Isaac, do their share of the farm work. Joseph milks the cows before and after school hours; Emerson attends to the wood chest behind the kitchen stove, and sees that it is always full, while Isaac puts the hay into the racks above each cow every evening.

There are no backsliders in the family of 14 children. They all have their work to do, summer and winter, and they are a healthy and happy set. There is no dull moment on Reilly's farm. They all know that there is a time to work and a time for "capers."

SEEK HENS' DARK SECRET.

Man Would Know Why They Won't Lay When Eggs Are High.

New York.—George Reynolds, manager of a poultry farm at Westhampton Beach, L. I., hopes to win a Nobel award if he succeeds in finding out why hens refuse to lay when eggs are 60 cents a dozen. He is about to undertake experiments that may solve the problem, and if he finds the answer he will tell it to the world.

The first step is to build a hospital for the chickens. That he is now doing, and the building is well under way. It will have wards and private rooms, just like a hospital for persons. There will be an operating room and a sterilizing device for instruments where surgery is necessary. All forms of disease to which chickens are heir will be treated in the hospital. Reynolds considers the investigation into the reason why hens will not lay when their product is most desired to be the most interesting part of his experiment.

FREER BIBLE TABLETS.

Michigan University Professor Says They Belong in New Testament.

Detroit, Mich.—Prof. H. A. Sanders of Michigan university, who is deciphering the Bible tablets of Charles R. Freer's collection, discovered a year ago, stated he had made progress enough to know they should be inserted in the New Testament text, and where they came from. He said:

"On the basis of the excellence of the text, the ancient appearance of the parchment, the peculiar spelling, the character of writing—resembling a papyrus hand—and the evidence of transmission from a similar source of other parts of the manuscript, it seems probable that these 16 pages once formed a part of a parent manuscript, from which the most of the text of John, Luke and Mark in the manuscript of the gospel is copied. The parent manuscript cannot be of later date than the fourth century.

"The ancient home of the now famous Bible was discovered through a new interpretation of the subscription at the end of the gospel of Mark. In its third and final form the subscription read as follows: 'O, Holy Christ, be thou with thy servant Timothy and all his'.

"The reference is to St. Timothy, who was the martyred son of Memphus. 'All his' are the worshippers in the church which was in the monastery of a vine dresser, a short distance west of the pyramids. That monastery was destroyed between 1208 and 1441 A. D. and probably this Bible then was transferred to another."

Prof. Sanders says he has not the slightest question of the authenticity of the Freer manuscripts.

BELLS TOWN OF DONEGAL.

Lord Arran Negotiating with Tenants and Agreement Likely.

London.—Donegal, the historic capital of the Irish county of the same name, will shortly be sold outright by the earl of Arran to his tenants unless there should be a hitch in the negotiations now in progress. These form one of the most interesting chapters in the history of Irish land legislation, and the transaction itself—the sale of a whole town by the ground landlord—is rare, if not unique.

Lord Arran, in response to suggestions by his town tenants that they should be allowed to follow the example of his agricultural tenants, said he was prepared to sell his town property on 25 years' purchase cash, or, if any of the tenants wished to allow the whole or a portion of the purchase money to remain outstanding, they might do so at the rate of 1 1/4 per cent. per annum, the interest to be a first charge on the property.

After a meeting of the tenants an intimation was sent to the earl that a scheme of 20 years' purchase would be agreed to by them. Lord Arran stood out for his original proposal, and a large section of his tenantry thereupon expressed their agreement on condition that the earl conveyed the property to them free of all lawyers' fees and transfer expenses.

PET DOG GUIDES BRIDE.

Meads Church Committee to Welcome Pastor and Wife.

Trenton, N. J.—Bruce, a large pet bulldog, the other night headed a church delegation to meet Rev. John Wellington Hoag, pastor of the First Baptist church, on his return with his bride. The dog is the property of Mrs. Hoag, who sent him east at the time of the wedding recently, from her home in La Crosse, Wis.

With Bruce at its head the committee assembled on the platform of the Clinton street station of the Pennsylvania railroad. The churchmen had never seen the bride, and were only slightly acquainted with the bridegroom, as the clergyman came to his charge here only a few weeks ago. It was up to the dog to see that the committee received and welcomed the proper pair.

Bruce was right on the job, and, although the committee men had no way to inform him of their mission and his duties, they were started to see him board a train just as it was entering the station. They did not see the dog again until later, when he brought Mr. and Mrs. Hoag to them. Although a reception was given the pair by the entire congregation in the parsonage, Bruce refused to leave the side of his mistress all evening.

HID JEWELS IN SLIPPERS.

New York Woman Takes Elaborate Precautions Against Burglars.

New York.—After taking elaborate precautions to prevent burglars from finding her two valuable diamond rings in her parents' home in Brooklyn, Ethel Dray, through her own thoughtlessness, has lost the jewelry. One of the rings, Miss Dray told the police, is her engagement ring. She devised the plan of wrapping them in a handkerchief and hiding them in the toe of one of her high-heeled slippers before going to bed at night.

No burglars called on her, but she forgot to take the diamonds from their hiding place. And the slippers, she plaintively told the police, went to the shoemaker to be resoled.

On her complaint the police arrested Joseph Pintino on a charge of grand larceny. The prisoner has a cobbler's shop on Sixth avenue, and Miss Dray says she sent her shoes there for repair. The shoemaker denied all knowledge of the gems, which are valued at \$500.