

## TRIP FOR SCIENCE AND NOT PLEASURE

Principal Object of President Roosevelt's Trip to Africa.

### RARE SPECIMENS SOUGHT

HIS COMPANIONS WILL BE EXPERTS—NATIONAL MUSEUM TO RECEIVE BENEFIT OF GATHERING OF MATERIAL.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 5.—President Roosevelt has chosen these three men to go to Africa with him as companions and as collectors of material for the advancement of scientific knowledge and for the enrichment of collections of National Museum at Washington.

Edgar Alexander Mearns, major and surgeon, United States army; author and an authority on zoology and botany.

Edmund Heller, zoologist; formerly with the Field Columbian museum in Chicago, and a member of Carl E. Akeley's exploring and shooting trip into Africa in 1906.

J. Alden Loring, Oswego, N. Y.; an authority on the smaller mammals and an expert collector.

It has been decided that these three men with the president and his son Kermit shall form the African party. They are to be accompanied of course by the necessary guides and caravan men.

It is known to be Mr. Roosevelt's desire that the expedition shall not be looked upon as one with sport as the leadin object. A limited number of specimens of mammals and birds will be killed for the uses of the National museum. Other killing will be confined to what is necessary for food in camp.

#### Foreign Offers Not Accepted.

Statements to the effect that the game preserves in Africa are under the control of certain foreign governments were to be opened to the president and his companions with permission to shoot at will, have been published. No advantage will be taken of these offers, Mr. Roosevelt having made up his mind to decline to do any shooting except in places where the hunting is open to all. The attitude of the president on this matter is made known by one of his friends, who said that Mr. Roosevelt told him that a person taking advantage of permission to shoot on government reservations in Africa would be exactly in the position of an Englishman or a Frenchman who came to America and was given permission by the government of the United States to shoot at will in Yellowstone park. The president went on to say that if such permission were given by the American government it would rightly arouse resentment.

Mr. Roosevelt shares with other sportsmen the belief that wild animals on reservations should be protected to the utmost and that in no circumstances should permission be given to kill them, except possibly when predatory animals become too numerous for the safety of the deer and other defenseless creatures. Permission for one person to shoot on a reservation the president's theory is, would lead eventually to permission to others and in the end the game reservation would not be a reservation at all in the proper sense.

#### Two Specimens of Each Sought.

It is Mr. Roosevelt's hope to obtain for the National Museum at Washington two adult specimens, one of each sex, of the animals with which he is likely to meet on the dark continent. For the ordinary needs of a museum the president thinks that these will be sufficient, but whether they are sufficient or not, two of each kind of the beasts of the field and forests are all that he is of a mind to kill no matter how plentiful the game may be.

An effort will be made to get specimens of the African birds and of the smaller mammals. Mr. Roosevelt is an ornithologist himself, but he is not as familiar with this branch of science as is Major Edgar A. Mearns, who has made a specialty of bird study for many years. The major was one of the founders of the American Ornithologists' union and he has written widely on bird subjects.

#### May Find New Bird Species.

It is possible that the National museum will come into possession of some at present unknown bird species as the result of Mr. Roosevelt's African shooting. In the wilds of Africa today is a hawk preying on smaller mammals in utter ignorance of the fact that the name it bears is that of a late merchant prince of Chicago, Marshall Field. When Dr. Daniel G. Elliott went into Africa for the Field museum ten or twelve years ago he discovered a new species of hawk and named it for the Chicago man who had endowed the museum. Now bird species that may be discovered on the expedition will be "determined" by Major Mearns, but it is probable that their naming will be left to the home scientists.

J. Alden Loring has made a specialty of the smaller mammals. It is said of him that when other traps and baits fail he can devise a trap and select bait that will lure any of the smaller wild creatures into captivity. Mr. Loring, although the youngest man of the party, has had wide experience in field work. He did notably excellent work for science in the Alaskan fields.

Mr. Roosevelt holds that he is especially happy in securing the companionship of the scientists who are to go with his party. Edmund Heller went into Africa with Carl E. Akeley.

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Real bargains in the underwear department at Red Tag prices.

Men's heavy fleece (Wright's Health) 89c each.

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#### LEADERS IN CONFERENCE

THE SHORTAGE AT PRESENT IS \$50,000,000 AND WILL REACH \$100,000,000 BY JUNE 30 NEXT, IT IS CLAIMED.

Washington, Dec. 5.—A renewal of special taxation is considered essential by republican leaders in congress to meet deficits and constantly growing expenditures, and an internal revenue duty may be again imposed on many, if not all, articles so taxed during the Spanish-American war.

A deficit that aggregates \$50,000,000 and by June 30 will total \$100,000,000, has brought Representative Tawney chairman of the house appropriations committee and others charged with

the Field Museum taxidermist who lifted taxidermy from the plane of the trades and put it upon that of the arts. Mr. Heller has knowledge of the animals of that section of Africa into which the party will go which is second perhaps to that of no man in the country. With the knowledge of preservative methods which all the members of the party have, the Washington scientists believe the specimens which are obtained will be brought to this country in the best possible condition.

It is the known wish of the president that the trip shall be made with the privacy that marks or should mark any other expedition. Mr. Roosevelt desires an outing and a chance to do a moderate amount of shooting, with a first view of getting results that will be of benefit to science. It is needless to say that no newspaper correspondents will accompany the party.



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#### EASTERN STAR ELECTS.

Mrs. Frank Medearis is Chosen W. M.

At the annual meeting of Loyal Chapter, Order of Eastern Star last evening, the following officers were elected: Mrs. Frank Medearis, W. M.; A. W. Hempelman, W. P.; Mrs. George Gause, A. M.; Mrs. George Fox, Con'; Mrs. W. N. Johnson, A. C.; Mrs. Belle Horton-Sec'y; Mrs. Allie Minck, Treas.

#### MAY IRWIN ILL.

St. Louis, Dec. 5.—May Irwin, who has been appearing at the Olympic Theatre, is ill at the Southern Hotel, and Pat Short, the Olympic manager, has just announced that there will be no performance in this city.



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