

**MOUNTAIN LIONS
KILLED BY HUNTER**

**Government Ranger Gets Thrill
When He Meets Them, But
Shoots Them All**

For most of the seasoned government hunters the life from day to day is not particularly exciting, but adventure with catlike tread is often approaching just around the corner. Shortly before Christmas, hunter William Krepps, of the Biological Survey of the United States Department of Agriculture, working on the Rio Grande National Forest, turned a corner which brought him face to face with adventure four times compounded. He had a coyote poison laid to the northwest of Del Norte, Colo., on the divide between La Garita and Old Woman Creek. In the course of riding this poison line to check up on the results of his campaign he came across the carcass of a freshly killed five-point buck.

To continue the story in the words of Stanley P. Young, junior biologist, who reported the incident to the Biological Survey, "he noted lion tracks and that the killing of this deer had been done by a mountain lion. Having wonderful tracking conditions, because of the snow, he immediately struck out on horseback and followed the trail. Within a short distance he jumped four mountain lions and killed the whole outfit with his rifle."

In speaking of his experience, Hunter Krepps said: "The time was exciting for a few seconds, but I managed to kill the pack." Mr. Young expressed the belief that the hunter was telling the truth regarding the exciting moment, and added that this was the best single-handed kill of mountain lions in a short course of time ever made in that district.

While wild game is rapidly being destroyed in this country, a lot of the bachelor's escaped capture through the Leap Year hunting season.

The warwhoops of the Indians are no longer heard, but the school yells are nearly as terrifying to the old ladies.

**INSECT PESTS AND
REPORTS ON CROPS**

**Monthly Survey by Bureau Is
Aid in Compiling In-
formation**

One means by which the Bureau of Entomology of the United States Department of Agriculture keeps its many workers informed as to insect pest conditions all over the country is by issuing a monthly survey based on detailed reports from the several states and from the Dominion of Canada, which has a similar service. The co-operation of the entomologists in the various states in supplying data on the general and unusual insect conditions in each region is now so well organized that the survey is in a position to report at any time on the entomological situation prevailing in any part of the United States and Canada. This co-operative agreement with Canada is especially useful in the case of pests which may be just over the border, against which preventive steps may be taken.

In recognition of the survey's position it has been requested to participate in the meetings of the Crop Estimate Board, to serve that board in an advisory capacity on the status of insect pests affecting the crops upon which this board issues estimates.

The survey has been in existence nearly four years. One of its functions has been the preparation of an index of common names applied to insects in this country.

**STUDYING CONTROL
OF PECAN INSECTS**

**Bureau of Entomology Seeking
Methods to Exterminate
This Pest**

Studies of various insect pests affecting nut trees have been carried on by the Bureau of Entomology of the United States Department of Agriculture with in the past year. Among these are included the larger and lesser chestnut weevils, the hazelnut weevil, the hickory twig-girdler,

the pecan nut case-bearer, and pecan weevil.

Among pecan insects, the pecan nut case-bearer has received special attention. Knowledge of its life history has been amplified. Many experiments with arsenical sprays have been carried out in pecan groves to determine their value when applied at different times and at different dosages. The control of the insect is considerably complicated on account of the sensitiveness of the pecan to arsenical sprays. Other materials, such as oil emulsions, have been tested for possible use on trees while still dormant. Not very satisfactory results have been obtained.

The pecan weevil, which is quite injurious locally, has been the subject of careful study both from the biologic and control standpoints. Preliminary results indicate that the beetle can be killed by arsenicals while on the trees during August and September. The larvae, or grubs in the nuts, it has been found, will succumb to proper dosages of carbon disulphide. A goodly number of parasites of the insects attacking pecan trees and nuts have been studied from time to time as opportunity offered, and it is possible that some means may be found of encouraging them.

**FLOOD LOSSES ARE
ABOUT 30 MILLIONS**

**Annual Damage From This
Cause in United States
Reaches Big Total**

Unpreventable losses from the three great floods and a number of lesser ones which occurred during the year ending July 1, 1924, are estimated to aggregate \$29,519,522, according to the River and Flood Division of the Weather Bureau of the United States Department of Agriculture, while the reported value of property saved through the flood warning issued by the bureau was about \$12,000,000, an amount sufficient to maintain the entire Weather Bureau on its present basis for about five years.

Unpreventable flood losses are those occurring among growing and matured crops, as in the case of the

Canadian river flood in Oklahoma in the latter part of 1922. This flood was caused by two periods of phenomenally heavy rains lasting almost a month. Notwithstanding ample and timely warnings given by the Weather Bureau, the crop loss amounted to not less than \$15,000,000. A large proportion of the season's crops had not been harvested, and 600,000 acres of rich farm lands were overflowed. Oklahoma suffered from two other floods during the calendar year 1923, so that the Canadian and Arkansas river floods brought its total losses up to about \$30,000,000.

Another flood of very destructive character during the fiscal year was that in the Pittsburgh district of the Ohio river in March, 1924. In this flood rapidly melting snows and high temperatures played an important part. There were no crops endangered, and the timely and accurate flood warnings kept the losses down to about \$1,000,000, while the reported value of property saved through the warnings was \$10,000,000.

The third great flood of the year was the Potomac river flood, coincident with the Ohio river flood, under the same causative influences. This flood caused unavoidable damage to the extent of about \$6,000,000.

**LOWEST POINT IN
UTAH NOT IN LAKE**

No doubt many people, if asked to name the lowest point in Utah, would answer "Salt Lake," which is the remnant of the great prehistoric Lake Bonneville, a body of fresh water that covered a large area in Utah. The lowest point, however, is not Salt Lake but Beaverdam Creek, in Washington county, which is 2,000 feet above sea level, according to the Department of the Interior, Geological Survey. Utah has an approximate mean elevation of 6,100 feet, which is exceeded only by that of Colorado, 6,800 feet, and Wyoming, 6,700. The highest point whose elevation has been exactly determined is King's Peak, in Wasatch county, which is 13,498 feet above sea level.

**CHICAGO SCOUTS'
MANY ACTIVITIES**

**INCREASE IN PAST YEAR
Over 15,000 boys Enrolled In
439 Troops and Summer in
Camps For Many of
Them; Details**

Boy Scout activities in the Chicago district in 1924 were more extensive than in any previous year, according to the annual report just completed, and the outlook for even greater things in 1925 is considered highly promising. The report shows that 15,438 boys are enrolled, that 439 troops are operating under an equal number of scoutmasters, and that 3,178 men are acting as leaders in capacities of scoutmasters, assistant scoutmasters, troop committeemen, commissioners and council members. Assuming that each scout lived up to the injunctions to "do a good turn a day," the 15,438 scouts accomplished a minimum of 5,634,970 good turns in the twelve months.

Summer Camps
Two summer camps were operated by the Chicago Council—the Owaspice camp at Whitehall, Mich., and the Camp Chequagan in the Forest preserves. Three thousand four hundred and seventy-five boys "week-ended" at Camp Kivans at Palos Park, their expenses being met by Kiwanis clubs of Hyde Park and Englewood. Camp In Hout served 1,450 scouts, and the west side cabin, recently opened, took care of 387 boys. Two more week end cabins have just been completed.

With "every scout a swimmer" as a slogan, the boy scout council and the American Red Cross taught more than 1,000 scouts to swim. Many life-saving and first aid tests were passed at all of the camps. Leaders' training courses were run in each of the seven districts of the city, each average seventy-five men. Just now a course is in operation training 100 members of the Knights of Columbus for leadership in Catholic troops.

Good Turns Many
"It is practically impossible to list all the good turns done by the scouts in the course of 1924," says the report. "Civic good turns that seemed to have been much appreciated included getting out the vote for the presidential election. Scouts received signed pledges from 150,000 voters to register and cast their ballots. Ushers were provided for the big football games. Individual troops participated in the Defense Day exercises as ushers, buglers, color guards, etc. Scouts bought and delivered to the Lincoln Park Zoo an elephant which was named "Deed-a-Day." They helped receive and entertain the Prince of Wales, led a pilgrimage to Lincoln's monument in Lincoln Park on the anniversary of the emancipator's birth, and did many other things of a commendable character."

Plans are being rapidly formulated for a campaign to raise \$160,000 for 1925 Boy Scout work in Chicago. This campaign is to begin about the middle of February.

**URGE CARE OF MILK
IN COLD WEATHER**

**Bureau of Dairying Warns That
Conditions in Winter Are
Often Unsanitary**

In cold weather the bacterial count of milk may be low, while sanitary conditions may not be what they should be, says the Bureau of Dairying, United States Department of Agriculture. The mere presence of winter, say the experts, should not lead milk-plant operators to relax care in keeping everything strictly sanitary. Although the colder atmosphere makes it easier to keep bacteria under control, a low count does not mean so much as it does in summer.

Men who handle milk are cautioned to take particular care, even when laboratory tests shows satisfactory results, to see that milk does not leak through valves before it has been held long enough in the pasteurizer, as such leakage may thwart the purpose of pasteurization. Emphasis is laid on the work of the bottle and can washing machines to see that the sprays are not clogged, that worn and broken brushes are replaced, that alkali solutions are of proper strength, and that sufficient heat is being applied. The temperature of pasteurization is called the most important of all factors, and for this reason thermometers must always be kept in order.

DIRECTORIES, 1879-1925
New York city's first telephone directory, published in 1879, contained 252 names, all on one card of medium size. The latest directory which has just been published for Greater New York consists of two volumes with an aggregate of 2,032 pages. The names are listed in four columns on a page, the total number of names being approximately 200,000.

Many young men willing to start at the bottom, but a lot of them expect an elevator to do the lifting. American people should not get so excited probing into political corruption, that they forget to probe into the back yard garden this spring with a spade.

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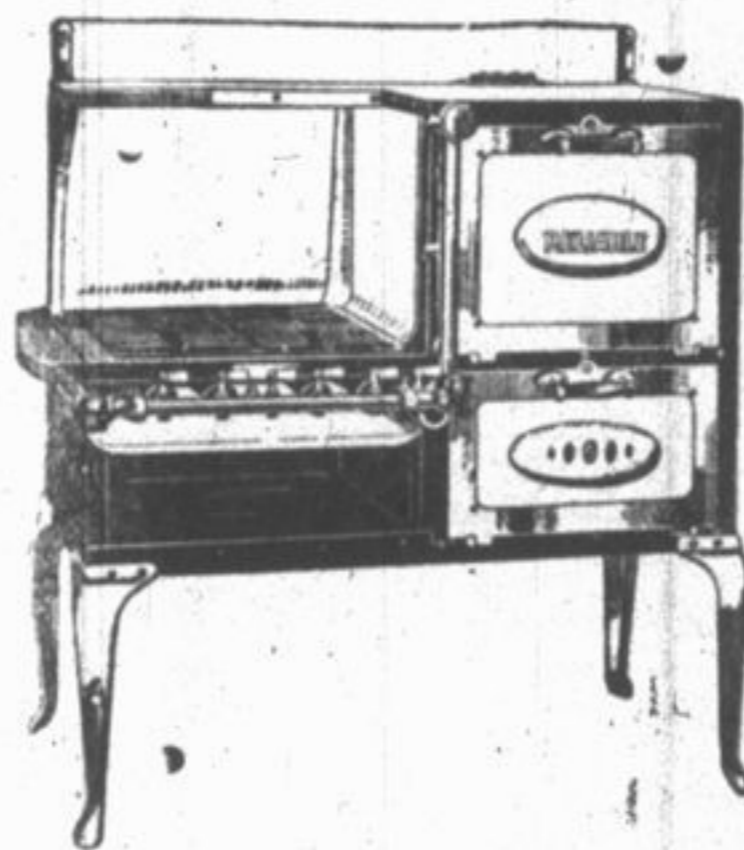
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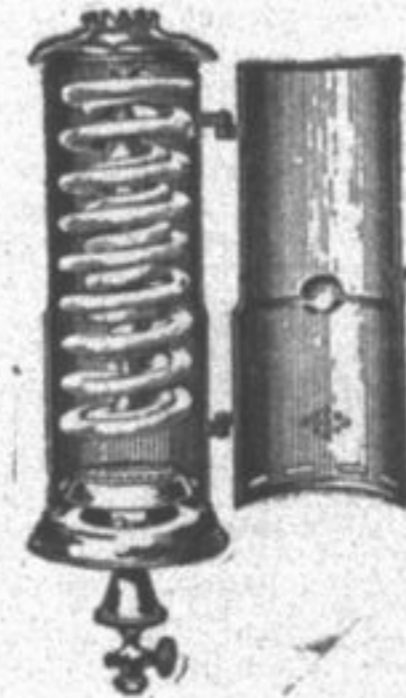
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