

The incorporation in the United States during May of railroad, industrial and other companies having a capital stock of \$258,459,900 gives an idea of the wonderful commercial expansion of the country, says the New York World. Incidental testimony to the same effect is furnished by the speedy absorption by investors of the \$10,000,000 issue of preferred stock put out by a new dry goods combination. E. H. Harriman said to the newspaper men who asked him about the report that he was going abroad to dispose of \$150,000,000 of bonds, "I wouldn't have to go out of this house to do that in half an hour." This is truly a billion dollar era. Where the last generation figured in millions, the common world of the present-day business world is \$100,000,000. To what lengths is the multiplication of millions to go? Estimates of \$1,000,000 have dwindled by comparison to modest competencies. At the present rate of increase the "swollen fortunes" of to-day may to-morrow excite no public concern, being dwarfed by the greater hoards heaped up and reduced to negligible consequence in the light of the graver problems in the regulation of capital which may then be expected to demand attention.

Automobile recklessness is getting severely rebuked, as the result of several recent court proceedings indicate. The conviction and sentence of a New York chauffeur of manslaughter in the first degree, with a close call from a verdict of murder, was one impressive lesson. Civil suits are also showing what can be done in the way of holding offenders to accountability. A Dutchess county jury has just given judgment for \$20,000 damages to a lady who sued for injuries resulting from being run down by an auto. Perhaps the matter will be fought further and the amount reduced. But it is apparent that the present temper of the public is strong against those who fail to exercise proper precaution in operating the machines, says the Troy Times. The laws seem adequate to reach such cases, and the wise automobilist is the one who keeps within safe speed limits.

It is a significant conclusion and one worthy of thought reached by the American Medical association in its convention at Atlantic City that the college influence upon the public schools of the country is urging educational boards to increase studies so as to fit children for the higher institutions in preference to work suited to the pupils' mental abilities and physical requirements. It is to this influence is due the overcrowding of children's minds of which so much adverse criticism is now made. It is one distinctly detrimental to the individual child and to the nation at large. As comparatively few of the pupils of the public schools reach college, a forcing process which benefits the few only at the expense of the many, is a system of popular education which calls for medical revision as unfitting the majority for the needs of the ordinary and average business life.

Within a few days more than a hundred people have been drowned because they overcrowded the boats of some natural born fool rocked them. The treatment for people who don't know how to behave in a boat is to throw them overboard. Their fate would be charged up to the law of self protection.

German critics do not like American plays, but the managers produce the plays just the same because they cater to the people who buy tickets at the box office.

Let us explain that the New York woman who nearly sailed away carelessly leaving behind \$100,000 worth of real jewelry, had been married only a few days before.

Talk about civic loyalty. A Georgia man seeks a divorce from his wife just because she spoke disparagingly of the town. Bet the town is with him.

New York lady knocks her husband bally-west because he denied her statement that Portugal was in South America. What's the higher education good for, anyhow?

One of the advantages of having an account is that it reduces the chances of the early pocket-pickler.

A Philadelphia girl has had her heart sewed up. If the operation proves entirely successful, some sort of a surgical sewing machine will have to be invented without delay.

An Illinois boy is a king in one of the Fiji islands, but it is doubtful if he has ever been able to develop a taste for fricassee missonary.

Millions of eggs are going into cold storage to remain until they arrive at years of discretion.

Now that the wireless is to have "ginging sparks" there will literally be "music in the air."

In England necessity is the mother of many inventions in the line of taxes.

There is one brand-new profession—the teaching of aeroplane navigation.

Austria plans to tax beavers, childless couples and widows. Why widows?

ROOSEVELT BAGGING THE GNUS IN AFRICA

By GERALD A. RODERICK

NAIROBI, British East Africa—I guess everybody in the civilized world knows that ex-President Theodore Roosevelt of the United States is getting two American dollars for every word of "copy" he writes for a certain New York publication. Therefore the business of bagging the gnus in this lonely spot on the world's map has a double meaning.



ROOSEVELT IN HUNTING COSTUME

Spell it gnu or news—suit yourself—they are pronounced alike. The only difference is that you get one with a rifle of heavy bore and the other by means of mental ingenuity.

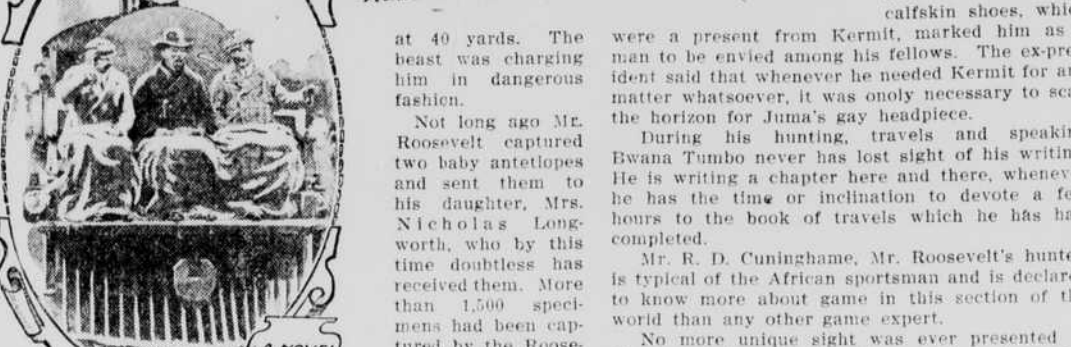
Mr. Roosevelt, I have discovered, makes his own news. And he sells his own news. Hence his declaration that "because there are no journalists with this expedition all apparently authentic reports are barren



KERMIT AND SERVANT



ALL ABOARD FOR THE HUNTING GROUNDS



A NOVEL RIDE

falsehoods or are obtained by means of bribing ignorant servants and it stands to reason that for the sake of a bribe one of evil intentions is not above inventing falsehoods for the purpose of obtaining the bribe.

Be that as it may, early in the month of August Mr. Roosevelt will impart some of his news to a select gathering of East Africans at a banquet. You can't keep reporters from a banquet, consequently at the time of writing there is no reason to suppose that the world will not get the former American executive's remarks in full.

Mr. Roosevelt will tell his hunting experiences, his views on world politics and lots of other things which will astonish his staid British hosts and will set them to thinking.

The world at large is getting little Roosevelt "stuff," as the editors call it. The reason for it is said to be the hunter's desire to pursue the life of a nimrod undisturbed by eager newspaper men. They are on his trail every day, but they keep out of sight.

Entering the port of Mombasa, Theodore Roosevelt and his big stick made an instantaneous hit. He was strenuous. Britishers are slow of movement and thought; they are deliberate. Not so with the American hero. He thought quickly, spoke quickly and said things which made the inhabitants stand up and shout.

He talked about the great country which the British had built and almost civilized in Africa. He made other points which tickled his hosts and he was solid with them from the minute he put foot on the gangplank of the steamer which brought him from Naples, Italy. He told his East African friends that he wanted to be treated like a regular American citizen, not like a former president of the United States. This, the British seemed to think, was a first class invitation to treat him like a king, which they did.

With his entourage riding in the passenger compartments of a primitive Uganda railway coach, Mr. Roosevelt gave a real strenuous exhibition by daring Acting Governor Jackson to ride with him on the cowcatcher. He said there was more breeze on the front of the train anyway. Mr. Jackson and Mr. Roosevelt then stopped the outfit and took positions of vantage ahead of the fireman and engineer.

This tickled the Britishers. Nobody had ever thought of riding on the front of an engine before in East Africa. They had always done the most commonplace thing by sitting themselves on the "couchees." So, because he was different from their kind, they liked the American from the start.

The ride that day lasted 50 miles, when the engine, being a union engine, refused to work over eight hours and gave out. The next day the ride was repeated and to-day half the British East African highbrows ride on the front of the engine when they want to make an impression.

Once on Sir George MacMillan's ranch the real sport of the expedition commenced. MacMillan's ranch is a notorious hangout for man-eating lions. They roar around the ranch at night and tear up things generally. Colorado mountain lions were easily beneath the hunting prowess of Mr. Roosevelt and he proved that African lions are also-rans alongside of the American brand by depleting the kingdom of Leo by six in two days, thereby setting a new record for hunters in this section of Africa.



A NOVEL RIDE

At 40 yards. The beast was charging him in dangerous fashion.

Not long ago Mr. Roosevelt captured two baby antelopes and sent them to his daughter, Mrs. Nicholas Longworth, who by this time doubtless has received them. More than 1,500 specimens had been captured by the Roosevelt party up to the time of this writing.

At the present writing both Kermit and his father are in the best of health, both wearing a swartly tan which is darker than the jungle stained khaki suits in which most of the hunting is done.

A short time ago Mr. Roosevelt visited the American mission near here and he expressed pleasure at the work which the organization is doing for the African savage. The morning of the day he visited the mission he spent in hunting Culubra, monkeys and succeeded in shooting several, which were added to the list of specimens.

Officials here have expressed the belief that Mr. Roosevelt's bagging of game is justifiable in view of the fact that his specimens are being secured for the purpose of stocking up the Smithsonian institution at Washington.

Perhaps the biggest test of Rooseveltian strenuousness came when the party crossed the desert west of this city. In this instance they were compelled to go for more than a week without procuring water. All the liquid refreshment they had was carried with them in great water skins, suitable for this purpose.

Bwana Tumbo, which is an African expression of reverence, was the nickname which Mr. Roosevelt's native servants soon attached to him, and when I met the ex-president at Kapiti Plains station, where he was obliged to stop during his travels, he seemed pleased to be reminded of the fact that he had struck a responsive chord

in the make-up of the semi-savage blacks. Eighty-four souls comprised the small army which Mr. Roosevelt took with him from Mombasa. Bwana Tumbo dressed his aides up in American made loose shirts and khaki trousers. Of their own choice were queer little skull caps decorated with feathers and tassels.

Wall tents, the same as those used by American army officers, provided the ex-president's sleeping quarters and his patriotism was fully shown by the fact that the American stars and stripes floated from the flag pole before Roosevelt's tent. The colors were dipped at sunrise and sunset in accordance with the United States army custom.

The Roosevelt camp presented a unique scene. Situated in the center was Mr. Roosevelt's adobe, which also housed Kermit. Before it floated the American flag and grouped around it along miniature "streets" were the "hut tents" of the porters, gunbearers, bush beaters, cooks and other servants.

Kermit Roosevelt's personal servant, Juma by name, became as devoted to his young master as though the latter were of regal heritage. He followed him everywhere and was at his side during the rhinoceros incident in which Kermit's life was periled.

Juma's gaudy turban, khaki half-boots and American-made calfskin shoes, which were a present from Kermit, marked him as a man to be envied among his fellows. The ex-president said that whenever he needed Kermit for any matter whatsoever, it was only necessary to scan the horizon for Juma's gay headpiece.

During his hunting, travels and speaking Bwana Tumbo never has lost sight of his writing. He is writing a chapter here and there, whenever he has the time or inclination to devote a few hours to the book of travels which he has half completed.

Mr. R. D. Cuninghame, Mr. Roosevelt's hunter, is typical of the African sportsman and is declared to know more about game in this section of the world than any other game expert.

No more unique sight was ever presented to the casual observer than that which met my eye when I alighted from a Uganda railway coach at Kapiti Plains, where Mr. Roosevelt and his army were grouped. The station is on Sir Alfred Pease's ranch or estate, as it is known here.

"The Plains" consists of hardly more than the signboard which tells its name. Mr. Roosevelt's "army" was drawn up about him, the ex-president was conversing with Hunter Cuninghame and the former executive's cumberbar, Abdallah bin Said was awaiting orders from his chief. Of the army Abdallah is most devoted to his master and the frequent lashings which the heads of the expedition are often compelled to administer to quell impending mutiny are never necessary with this character. He is a unique type of African and because of his good qualities he commands better pay than the rest of his fellows.

The man who aided Mr. Roosevelt in getting his expedition ready cautioned him against asking any of his servants to do duties for which any of the others were hired.

The labor union instinct is second nature with the attaché of the African hunting expedition. Let a gun bearer try to do the work of a porter or bush beater and there is war in camp at once. Neither may the game carriers beat the game into sight. Perhaps this system is for the best after all for the reason that every man specializes and therefore is able to do his own allotted work to a better advantage.

It is said here that Mr. Roosevelt's entire expedition will cost between \$15,000 and \$20,000, which to an American hunter may seem an enormous price. But hunting wild game in Africa is a heavy undertaking and in order to go through with such a task that amount of money is actually necessary. But the party is getting results and that is what they figure is the proper viewpoint.

Having arrived in the Stolk district Kermit and his father had plenty of game upon which to exhibit their prowess. The younger Roosevelt immediately set about establishing a hunting record by bagging the biggest lion which, up to that time, had found its way to the taxidermist of the party. In the Stolk district Mr. Roosevelt shot many buffaloes, their skins being preserved for the Smithsonian institution.

"The Russian cigarette, which is so deservedly popular in California, is the exact opposite of the horrible mixture which masquerades in France under the name of cigarette. The Russian cigarette is equipped with a paper holder, thus giving a cool, satisfying smoke, and is composed of the most delicate blends of Turkish tobacco, carefully selected and painstakingly prepared by experts who spend their lives in learning just what will produce the perfect cigarette.

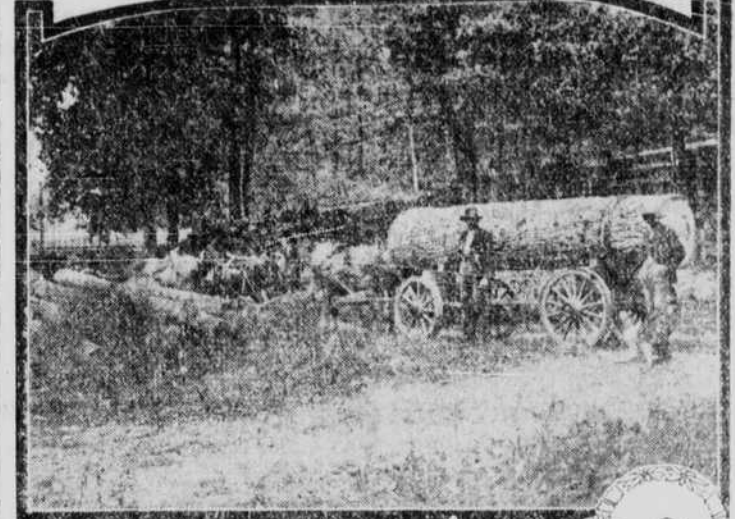
There are two things that smokers who travel extensively are agreed upon: That the worst cigarette ever forced upon an unsuspecting stranger is the French, and the best cigarette is the Russian.

One writer describes the French cigarette as follows: "The tobacco, which has been aptly described as consisting of scorched linen flavored with assatoetida and gae, is very coarsely cut, more so

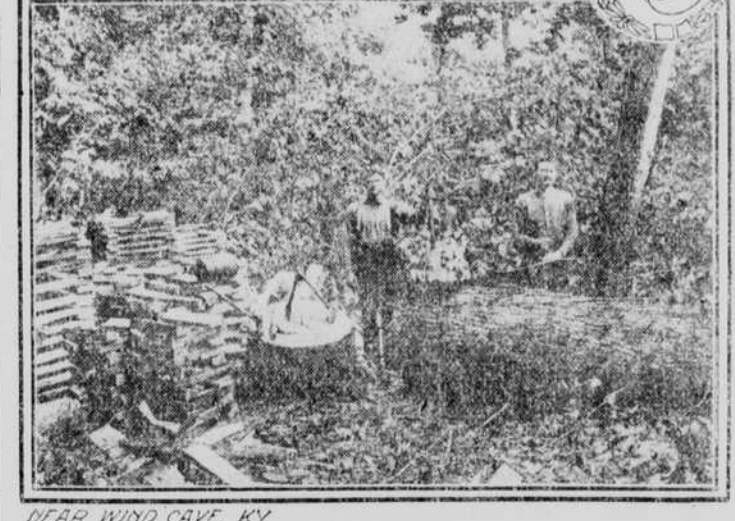
than for the pipe in England, and very dark. To reduce its strength it is steeped in water. The resultant cigarette is indescribably horrible; English smokers fail to recognize it as tobacco. Yet of those cigarettes, France smokes some three hundred billions a year; in any form but that of the cigarette it would be intolerable. An Englishman will face unmoved the armies of France or the howlings of her mobs, but from her

cigarettes he flies apace."

KENTUCKY'S PROGRESS IN FOREST PRESERVATION



LOGS BEING HAULED TO RAILROAD



NEAR WIND CAVE, KY

Kentucky, which is one of the chief hardwood producing states in the Union, and the first state in the production of yellow poplar, is making good progress in the movement for the preservation of its forests. In 1905 the legislature enacted the law providing for the state board of agriculture, forestry and immigration. During the following winter the board asked and received the co-operation of the United States Forest Service in a study of the forest conditions of the state. This work was begun two years ago and an examination of half the area of forest land in the state has been completed. The result of the first year's work, covering the 11 most eastern counties of the state is published in the Kentucky handbook, 1906-1907. The second report, now in the hands of the state board of agriculture, covers 48 counties. In the coal mining regions of the state, which this investigation is completed Kentucky will have an excellent inventory of its lumber resources.

The manner in which the forestry problem has been approached indicates that the people of the state realize that the ultimate solution of the impending timber scarcity must, for the farmer, depend largely on how he handles his individual timber resources, and that there is no better way than for him to consider the wood lot as a bank account, using the interest which is constantly accruing, but leaving the capital undiminished. Much educational work, however, will be needed to secure this desirable end.

The second report of the Forest Service suggests a forest law. Among its most important features is a provision for the appointment of a state forester. The wisdom of this is evident since only by the appointment of a state forester can the work in co-operation with Forest Service be maintained and carried to a successful conclusion. Until such time, however, as the state of Kentucky is ready to assume the management of its own forest problems, the National Service is willing and anxious to co-operate in every way possible for the furtherance of forestry among private owners in Kentucky. In the co-operative investigations of forest resources now in progress, the government spent over \$4,000 to duplicate a similar amount appropriated by the state.

Kentucky has always been rich in forest resources, but like many other states has reached the point where the timber will hereafter be produced on a continually decreasing scale, and it is necessary to protect and use carefully the forests which remain. In 1859 Kentucky cut 734,000,000 board feet of hardwood lumber. In 1907 the cut was \$54,902,000 board feet, an increase of only 16 per cent. in the nine years. In the same period the cut of yellow poplar has fallen off over 20 per cent. During

the same time the prices of lumber at the mill have advanced on an average of 65 per cent., and the demand has increased accordingly.

The forest of the United States is threatened by many enemies, of which fire and reckless lumbering are the worst. Sheep grazing and wind come next. Cattle and horses do much less damage than sheep, and snow break is less costly than windfall. Land slides, floods, insects, and fungi are sometimes very harmful. In certain situations numbers of trees are killed by lightning, which has also been known to set the woods on fire, and the forest is attacked in many other ways. For example, birds and squirrels often prevent young growth by devouring great quantities of nuts and other seeds, while porcupines and mice frequently kill young trees by gnawing away their bark.

Most of these foes may be called natural enemies, for they would injure the forest to a greater or less extent if the action of man were altogether removed. While animals would take the place of domestic sheep and cattle to some degree, and fire, wind, and insects would still attack the forest, but many of the most serious dangers to the forest are of human origin. Such are destructive lumbering, and excessive taxation on forest lands, to which much bad lumbering is directly due. So high are these taxes in some states for in many cases they amount to 5 or even 6 per cent. yearly on the market value of the forests, that the owners cannot afford to pay them and hold their lands. Consequently they are forced to cut or sell their timber in haste and without regard to the future. When the timber is gone the owners refuse to pay taxes any longer, and the devastated lands revert to the state. Many thousand square miles of forest, have been ruined by reckless lumbering because heavy taxes forced the owners to realize quickly and once for all upon their forest land, instead of cutting it in a way to insure valuable future crops. For the same reason many countries are now poor that might otherwise have been flourishing and rich.

His Order.
"Does your husband belong to any clubs, Mrs. Dubbley?"
"None but the Knights of the Mystic Stairway."
"The Mystic Stairway? I never heard of that order."
"You're lucky. The members are pledged to assist the brother who needs help to reach home and to carry him upstairs, provided they are able to trust themselves on the stairs that go round and round, and after that to try to make his wife believe that he was seized with sudden illness, and that they administered an overdose of brandy or something of the kind for the purpose of reviving him."

It is no reason why it should not be widely planted, inasmuch as the seeds are already to be obtained from some seedmen. The huge radish will keep all winter in a cool cellar. It may be cooked like turnips and beets, or cut into little square strips and served like ordinary radishes.

As for the giant cabbage, it comes from China, and is quite as remarkable in its way as the radish. It attains a weight of 40 pounds, and possesses so fine a flavor that cabbage of the kinds to which we are accustomed must be regarded as poor things, relatively speaking. This remarkable vegetable from the Flowery Land has a much more delicate taste than ordinary cabbage, with less of the crude "cabbagy" intensity, which many folks find objectionable.—Technical World.

Corn the Greatest of American Crops.
Corn is our greatest crop, that of 1908 being valued at \$1,616,000,000.

Best and Worst Cigarette

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