

OMAHA LEADS AS PELT MARKET

Western Trappers Build Up Industry As Fur Prices Soar

Animals Shipped to Omaha Make This City One of Nation's Greatest Skin-Producing Centers, Ranking With Chicago, St. Louis and Minneapolis, Bringing Increased Wealth to Trappers Throughout West.

Did you know Omaha is one of the nation's greatest primary raw fur markets? If not, you're a stranger in your own country. Nebraska produces annually more than \$2,000,000 worth of furs, and Omaha is a shipping center for all the west. One Omaha concern markets the furs of wild animals shipped here by 50,000 trappers. Listen—Nebraska today is a more important fur-producing region than it was in the days of Lewis and Clark, John C. Fremont and John Jacob Astor. Nebraska trappers last year shipped to Omaha more than 1,000,000 muskrat skins alone. John H. Kearnes, a member of The Bee family, after careful research, has prepared the interesting special article below:

By JOHN H. KEARNES

Many well informed Omahans are of the opinion that the prestige of this section, as a fur market, faded with the passing of the French courier du bois, the frontier trapper of the Lewis and Clark period, and the romantic race of traders of which Manuel Lisa, founder of Bellevue, and Peter Sarpy were splendid types.

Yet Omaha today stands in the same relation as a fur market as it does as a live stock and grain market, sharing with St. Louis, Chicago, Minneapolis and Kansas City the distinction of being one of the great primary raw fur markets of the United States.

It is not a matter of common knowledge that the little wild folk of fur and claws are an important asset in Nebraska's wealth production, but the fact is that this state produces more than \$2,000,000 worth of furs annually, and is today a much more important fur-producing region than it was at the time of Lewis and Clark, John C. Fremont and John Jacob Astor.

Animal Population Growing.

A surprising feature is that the animals that bear the valuable furs of commerce are increasing in number in this state as civilization grows and density of population increases.

There is one firm in Omaha, that of Lotz Bros., which receives shipments of furs from more than 50,000 trappers, scattered over every state in the union, Canada and Alaska. During the season this concern sends out more than 1,500,000 circulars and market reports to trappers, many of them located in isolated wilds in remote Canada, Alaska and in the lonely valleys of the Rocky mountain region.

Nebraska looms large as a fur-producing state. Trappers within its boundaries last year marketed more than 1,000,000 muskrat skins. The price of the raw fur of these animals advanced during the current year 300 per cent, and choice skins sold at \$1 apiece. The best muskrat skins in the world come from the sand hill country around Valentine. In that section, too, and in the vicinity of Hyanis, are located the largest of

The remaining beaver colonies of the middle west.

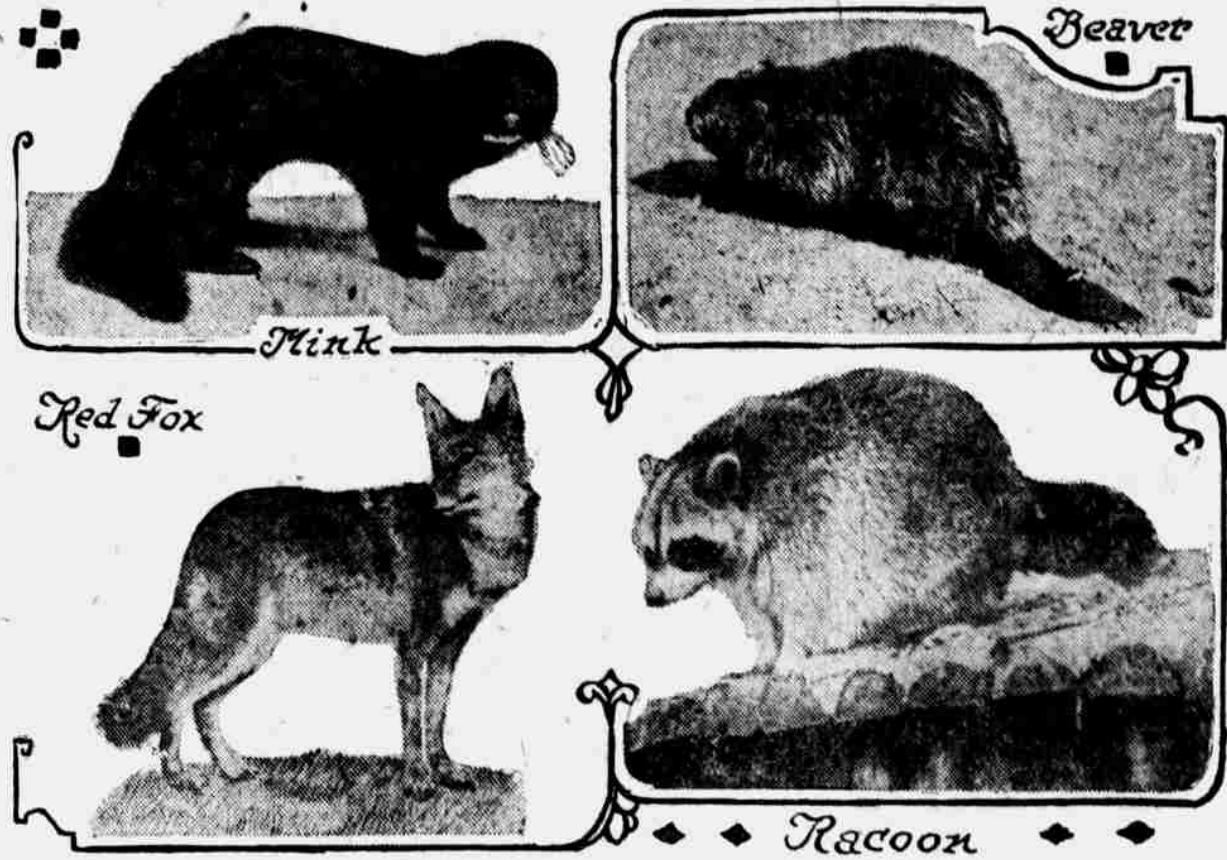
The eastern part of Nebraska and western Iowa produce the finest of skunk, civet cat and opossum skins. Fifteen years ago there were very few opossums in this state, but now they are very numerous in the counties of Otoe, Nemaha, Johnson and Richardson. Hundreds of the finest skins are being shipped to this market annually by Falls City trappers. In the same section red foxes and raccoons, which were not indigenous to the country two decades ago, are multiplying rapidly. Southwestern Iowa is already supplying large numbers of foxes.

There are plenty of coyotes in the eastern part of the state, but their skins are not valuable, being used only for the cheapest robes and coats, but the coyote skins sent in from the region north of Chadron, when tanned, dyed and worked up, sell as fox skins.

Trapping by School Boys.

Among the fur-bearing animals received at Omaha from shippers in this state are white weasel, badger, wild cat, lynx cat and lynx. These, of course, are rare, as are the otter, mink, which produce very valuable

Wild Animals of Nebraska Supply Fur Market of Nation With Choicest Pelts



Important Facts That Relate to Fur Industry

Pelts of muskrat, mink, raccoon and opossum are at their very best from February 1 to May 1. Nebraska laws permit the trapping of these animals from November 1 to February 15, only.

Hundreds of thousands of dollars would be added to the wealth of the state each year if the trapping season were extended to April 1, and there would be no detrimental effect on the future supply of animals.

An attempt to amend the laws of the state to permit trapping to extend to April 1, was killed by the ridicule of one member of the legislature who was ignorant of the great value of the industry to the state as a source of wealth.

Skunks should be protected after February 1 to November 1. Besides being fur producers, they have an economic value to farmers as destroyers of rats, mice, gophers and field squirrels, destructive vermin that cause great farm losses every year.

Furs, are numerous and on the increase in this state.

Most of the trapping is done by boys who work at it at odd times before and after school and on holidays and who average about \$100 per season for their catch.

In the western part of the state, however, there are trappers who make from \$1,000 to \$2,000 net in a season. In the lake regions of the sandhills are bodies of water which are populous with muskrats. The farmers who own lakes lease the trapping rights to hunters for comfortable sums each season.

from Alaska and northern Canada is erroneous, for Missouri produces the best coon and opossum, Nebraska the finest skunk, mink, civet cat and muskrat skins, while the region around Sheridan, Wyo., is noted for the "silver" beaver, one of the best fur-bearing animals in existence.

There also is a local market for skins of house cats, two grades being quoted, black and angora.

Buyers come to Omaha from all the large manufacturing centers of the United States for their raw material. For their inspection during the season as many as 100,000 muskrat skins, 50,000 opossum and 25,000 skunk skins are shown at one time.

Where Omaha Leads.

While St. Louis is popularly known as the largest raw fur market in the world, Omaha is far ahead of that city as a manufacturing center for furs. In fact, Omaha is one of the principal centers of the United States for the production of fur goods, and the half dozen or more furriers here turn out over \$500,000 manufactured product every year.

Twenty years ago the output of this city in fur goods did not exceed \$5,000 annually. Now single garments are made which sell at retail here for from \$600 to \$1,000 apiece, these garments being made of sealskin or moleskin.

Garments of this character, made in Omaha, and shipped to New York for retail trade, have been known to have been sold to Omaha persons for \$200 and \$500 more than the asking price here.

Before Germany entered into its campaign of military conquest of the world, it had a monopoly on the production of fanned and treated furs, especially of the cheaper kinds. Lepiscic was the great center of production, and that city shipped its product

to manufacturers and furriers the world over.

The prestige of the city as a producing center was maintained by the system of farming out the work of converting furs into manufacturers' material to families skilled in the hand treatment required. This labor was cheap and conditions were such that no other country could compete with the Teuton fur specialists.

Now Germany is eliminated and American manufacturers have devised machines and erected modern factories where furs are shaped up for furriers' use under ideal conditions, by well-paid labor at prices that would compete with Germany.

G. E. Shukert, who has been in the fur manufacturing business in Omaha for 33 years, and who was a large importer of German furs in peace times, on Wednesday of the past week, sold to a lady who was having a fur scarf made over 24 Siberian squirrel tails, the last items of German importation he had left of a heavy stock he had on hand, and which was purchased before the war.

Fur Demand Growing.

The demand for furs is greater now than it has ever been in the world's history and the prices commanded by choice skins, in the raw and manufactured stage, are sometimes fabulous. In the quartermaster's depot, in this city, are 5,000 buffalo skin coats, which had been purchased in the early days for the protection of soldiers stationed in the lonely frontier posts to prevent the uprising of hostile Indians. These coats, sold on the market would bring large sums.

Uncle Sam, however, is keeping them year after year, and it may be that in a generous moment he may send them to France to protect men holding the western line against the Huns when the severe winter weather sets in.

Why Men Have Boils On Their Necks

In an article on boils and carbuncles, the Journal of the American Medical Association says the greatest preventive is scrupulous cleanliness, especially of those parts of the body that are most liable to infection, for every boil is an infection.

The reason that men so often have boils and carbuncles on the back of the neck or in the hair of the lower part of the back of the head is that they neglect having their hair cut and shampooed. And the irritation of the edge of a collar, especially if this be not absolutely clean, furnishes a means of entrance to the staphylococci that cause the pustules. Scratching with dirty nails makes matters worse.

A crop of boils arises from infection transmitted from some focus of infection in the nose, nasal sinuses, tonsils, teeth and gums.

Carbuncles are multiple boils with several openings. They are very dangerous, because likely to infect the blood and also the deeper parts of the body, such as the bones.

A history of repeated boils and carbuncles indicates a focus somewhere, and this must be sought out and eradicated. As for treatment, the surrounding skin must be kept carefully clean with a mild antiseptic wash. At the beginning the boil can often be aborted by opening it with a toothpick dipped in pure carbolic acid. When it has opened a wet alkaline poultice is applied until the swelling has gone down. No squeezing is allowed. One-third of a yeast cake dissolved in a glass of water twice a day is recommended as internal treatment. Vaccines sometimes work wonders; sometimes they fail.

Many Women Volunteers Serving in German Army

Amsterdam, May 23.—More than 30,000 women volunteers are now engaged in work directly connected with the German army in the field, according to an official telegram.

Swimming Speed of Fish.

The speed at which fish can swim is summarized by the Scientific American from recent studies as follows: "A Belgian authority, G. Dent, while studying fishways, concluded that salmon could swim at a speed of 3.15 meters a second for at least 10 meters. A Canadian, O. P. Naylor, from investigations in the Fraser river, expressed the opinion that the limiting velocity of a steady stream up which a sockeye salmon could swim a very short distance was between six and seven miles an hour. Finally, H. von Bayer of the United States Bureau of Fisheries declared that the velocity of the current in fishways should not exceed 10 feet a second. These various figures, arrived at independently, are substantially in agreement. From his own studies on fishways in Massachusetts, Emerson Stringham found that a common species of alewife could swim for at least a few feet through water flowing at about 10 feet a second, about the limit for fishways."

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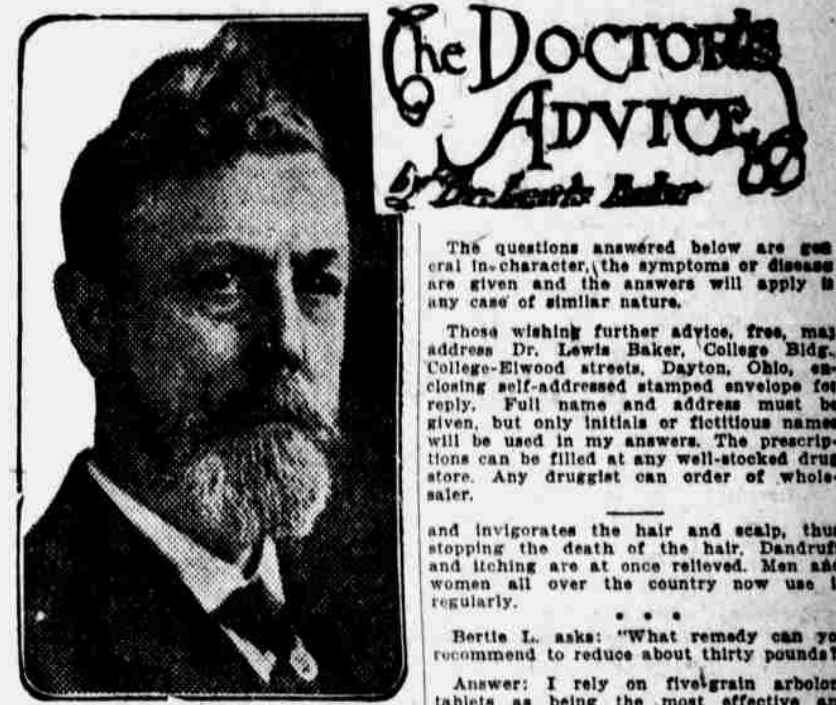
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The Doctor's Advice

The questions answered below are general in character, the symptoms or diseases are given and the answers will apply in any case of similar nature.

Those wishing further advice, free, may address Dr. Lewis Baker, College Bldg., College-Eliwood streets, Dayton, Ohio, enclosing self-addressed stamped envelope for reply. Full name and address must be given, but only initials or fictitious names will be used in my answers. The prescriptions can be filled at any well-stocked drug store. Any druggist can order of wholesaler.

and invigorates the hair and scalp, thus stopping the death of the hair. Dandruff and itching are at once relieved. Men and women all over the country now use it regularly.

Mrs. L. L. writes: "I am informed that I have kidney trouble and that it is fast approaching a serious stage. What would you prescribe?"

Answer: If your symptoms are the usual ones, such as puffiness under the eyes, swelling ankles; scant, copious or foul-smelling urine, accompanied by headaches, pains, depression, fever, chills, etc., I would advise the immediate use of balsam of capivi, a very fine remedy for such difficulties, and in sealed tubes with full directions for self-administration.

"Madam" writes: "I have rheumatic pains nearly all the time, but they are mostly aggravated when I take cold. What may I do? My joints seem to swell and my muscles are sore."

Answer: You will find greatest relief and permanent benefit from the following mixture: 2 drams of iodide of potassium, 4 drams sodium salicylate, ½ oz. wine of colchicum, 1 oz. comp. essence cardiol, 1 oz. comp. fluid balsam and 5 ozs. of syrup sarsaparilla comp. Mix and take a teaspoonful at meal time and again before going to bed. It has benefited most chronic sufferers.

Pimples writes: "Please tell me what to take to get rid of pimples, boils and bad blood. I know I need a constipation remedy."

Answer: It is probably neglect of constipation that has made your blood bad. Begin a thorough treatment of three-grain cathartic tablets (not sulphur tablets). Continue for several months.

K. A. asks: "My hair is too oily and my scalp itches with dandruff, and of late it is coming out too much. What is a good treatment?"

Answer: Obtain plain yellow myrrin from your druggist in 4-oz. jars and apply as per directions. This cleans, purifies, cools

NOTE: For many years Dr. Baker has been giving free advice and prescriptions to millions of people through the press columns, and doubtless has helped in relieving illness and distress more than any single individual in the world's history. Thousands have written him expressions of gratitude and confidence similar to the following:

Dr. Lewis Baker, Dear Sir:—I happened a few days ago to read The Pittsburgh Leader and there I noticed your column of questions and answers. I also noticed that you advised those that are suffering from constipation to use Sulphur tablets, and has tried. To my amazement it has made a new man out of me. I have been suffering from constipation for the last 4 years and have tried various remedies without avail. I am so grateful to you that I don't know how to thank you for it. Would be very glad to recommend it to anybody.

Very truly yours, D. R. SPERBER, 121 Weber St., Pittsburgh, Pa.



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Toronto Then and Now

Editors Note—The following observation of Canadian conditions, by Tom Botterill, fiction distributor at Denver, Colorado, will aid us to avoid hysteria and self-pity. If the war lasts for any length of time conditions of this sort will confront us here. We must recognize the fact that we are at war. Be kind and sympathetic, but war is war and we must carry one thought above all others—that we must adjust ourselves to the new conditions and fight doubly hard. We must throw aside our personal ambitions and private sorrows and keep up an everlasting fight in spite of them.

"In May, 1915, I found the city of Toronto depressed and pessimistic. The people were saddened and confused; business was bewildered and demoralized.

A few weeks ago I visited Toronto again.

"On the train going over from Buffalo, I counted in a single dining car, at one time, eighteen men with legs shot off, some with one, some with both.

"The sight struck me dumb. Nothing I ever had seen had so affected me. The horror of war came close; its cruelty became vivid.

"I was almost afraid to go on to Toronto. If the city was so depressed in 1915, what must it be now?" I kept asking myself.

"When the train reached the Toronto station, those eighteen war cripples hobbled through its gates almost unnoticed. No one there seemed depressed at seeing them.

"And then I began to notice something else. I noticed that the men themselves were not depressed. They stumped along as cheerily as though nothing ever had happened to them. Not a gloomy face among them; not one made piteous by fear of the future.

"Within an hour I knew that I was in a changed Toronto. There was no depression. There was no pessimism. Confusion, bewilderment and demoralization had vanished.

"The stores were busy. The theaters were packed. A cousin in the silverware business told me his factory never had had so great a demand nor at such prices. The farther I searched the less I found of the old stagnation, the more of activity and high hope.

"I stayed some days and I came away with a new comprehension of the effect of this war.

"The people of Toronto are not less tender-hearted than they were in 1915; but less appreciative of the sacrifices men are making; not less anxious for peace or less prayerful that war may ever come again.

"But they have quit all idle dreaming. Shaken off all lethargy faced the situation squarely—and settled to work to see it through."

"They are past discussing the fact that it is 'a bad situation' and are

Creighton College Fraternity Furnishes Thirteen More Men to Help Fight Huns



COLLEGE fraternities, as well as business houses and industrial plants, have given more than their share of members for service in the army and navy. An instance of unrivaled loyalty to the colors is shown by the fact that every one of

now concerned only with "making the best of it."

"They give and give and give, and they work and work and work. But they do not moan. Time is too valuable for that. Cheerfulness is so much more helpful.

"They have decided it will be a long war. So they have arranged matters on that basis. They are pushing business not to enrich themselves, but to keep themselves occupied and keep their armies financed. They know that idleness and inactivity beget fear, and that stagnant commerce can pay but a feeble tax.

"The fighting man has found his work and is doing it. The business man has found his work and is doing it.

"But having found their work, they make no burden of it. Smiles and laughter are everywhere; stout pluck and a fixed determination written on every face. It is the greatest spirit—the finest spirit—I ever have seen.

"I thought you might like to know that. For surely that is the spirit we must have here, as our boys get farther in and the calls upon our courage multiply."

TOM BOTTERILL.

the 75 active members of Alpha chapter of the Phi Beta Pi medical fraternity of Creighton college have enlisted for military service.

The graduation of seven seniors of the Creighton Medical college, who are members of the Alpha Alpha chapter, adds that many more to the list of enlisted medical reserve men. Six other local members of the fraternal chapter—J. E. Mannion, S. Parker, E. T. Gangner, E. A. McCabe, J. P. Cogley and J. Ebert—are enrolled in the medical reserve corps, but by special permit of the War Department will finish their schooling.

The seven who will enter the military service of the United States immediately after finishing school include D. M. Nigro and R. F. Mullin, police surgeons; P. J. McCrann, G. R. Reith, A. J. Callaghan, R. L. Traynor and Emil Reichstadt.

Several of the embryo officers of the medical branch have had military training at their respective alma maters, and they look forward to their military careers. A recent call by the War Department, ordering an increased number of physicians in the medical branches of the army and navy has given the newly enlisted medical students high hopes of crossing the Atlantic within a short time.

D. M. Nigro, R. F. Mullin, P. J. McCrann, A. J. Callaghan and Emil Reichstadt will see service on warships. They are ordered to report to their respective enlistment headquarters on June 15, two weeks following final examination.

The naval reserve corps will claim