

DEER PLENTIFUL AS SEASON NEARS

State Wide Open Season Policy In Massachusetts.

MANY HUNTERS EXPECTED.

Animals About as Approachable as Cows in a Pasture—Sportsmen's Carnival Expected—Hunters Must Secure Licenses and Report to Game Warden Every Time a Deer is Killed.

Springfield, Mass.—The state wide open season for deer in the week beginning Nov. 17 will be a notable hunters' carnival. Deer have been rigidly protected in Massachusetts, and the first open season, three years ago, was restricted to the five western counties. In spite of three open seasons deer are now more numerous in the hill towns than at the time of the revolutionary war, in which period they were unprotected. Farmers' complaints of the depredations of deer were deftly turned to advantage by hunters as an argument for a state wide open season, which will be given a trial this fall.

The greater part of the 10,000 or more deer in the state are in the five western counties, but in the open season, when the woods and hills resound with the report of firearms, the frightened animals flee eastward in droves. This year the flight of the deer, unless it be over the borders of another state, will not avail, and it is expected that the slaughter will be much greater than last year, when about 1,000 deer were killed.

The law requires that all hunters shall be licensed and that a report shall be made to the fish and game commission of every deer killed. The penalty is so severe that the provisions are generally observed.

Notwithstanding that deer in parts of Massachusetts are almost as approachable as cows in a pasture, and in many towns by the exercise of a little patience can be prevailed upon to eat from one's hand, the open season affords a fascination for thousands of hunters. In Springfield alone last year more than one thousand hunters' licenses were issued. This year a small army of hunters from Boston and other cities in the eastern part of the state will participate, not to mention New York and Philadelphia hunters, a majority of whom are stock brokers. Game wardens are of the opinion that there will be a hunter for nearly every deer, and that when the 1914 legislature convenes the surplus deer population will be the least of its troubles.

The principal restrictions of the open season are that no hunter shall kill more than one deer, that the meat shall not be resold, that there shall be no resort either to traps or salt licks and that no weapon other than a shotgun shall be used. To minimize the danger which attends the presence of so many hunters in the woods a special statute has been passed which prohibits hunting for birds or quadrupeds with rifles, pistols or revolvers during the open season for deer. In former years a large number of deer hunters have used rifles, and if detected would insist that they were bird or rabbit hunting and that the deer was killed accidentally. The new law eliminates this excuse.

Candor compels the statement that deer hunters are guilty in too many instances of unseemly depredations, and the utter disregard of the rights of others by a comparatively few hunters has led to the posting of thousands of acres of land by indignant farmers.

Some idea of the increase in the number of deer in Massachusetts may be gained from the damages which the state has been called upon to pay to farmers. As it is unlawful to kill deer except under great provocation, the state has found it necessary to compensate farmers for damage to orchards, gardens and growing crops. In 1903 the state paid \$237 to settle deer damage claims. In 1908 the amount had risen to \$4,370. Last year Massachusetts farmers collected \$16,000 for the depredations of deer.

FRIENDS PLANT CROPS.

Two Hundred Horses Plow 230 Acres For Sick Couple.

Larned, Kan.—Because Mr. and Mrs. Roy Connard had been sick for several weeks and could not plant fall crops forty of their neighbors went to their farm home near here and plowed 130 acres of wheat land and cut 100 acres of sod. About 200 horses were used in the work, which was completed in a day.

Every detail of cultivating the ground and planting the crop was carried out like clockwork, the workers being divided into companies with captains.

Run Over by Blind Steer.

Nashville, Tenn.—"Uncle Billy" Hunter, mate on the steamboat Henry Harley and one of the oldest men in active service on the Cumberland river, met with a serious accident.

Some cattle were being loaded at Cedar Bluff, and there was a blind steer in the lot. Not knowing that the steer was blind, Mr. Hunter stood in front of the gate to the cattle pen when it was opened, and the blind animal ran over and trampled on him, bruising and injuring him badly.

ECCENTRICITY OF GENIUS.

In the Days That Are Gone It May Have Been Due to Eye Strain.

It seems that at last genius is discovered not to be allied to insanity, but that rather all its eccentricities are due to eye strain.

Brain specialists, for instance, are asserting that if Carlyle had had properly adjusted glasses and good electric light to work by instead of a skylight over his desk, and that illumined by a London fog much of the time, he would not have been such a grumbler and dyspeptic. In fact, eye strain was the cause of all his eccentricities.

All geniuses, in fact, would have been optimistic, says science now. If they had only had bifocal glasses at the right time. The same abnormal eyesight is given as the cause of many tragic paintings. That famous artist, Turner, would never have painted the slave ship in a storm, but would rather have depicted the peaceful landscapes that so many artists paint when their eyes are properly fitted with glasses.

Wagner, too, if he had worn the correct spectacles and had had that decided tilt to one eye remedied, probably would never have written about Walkyrie and dragons, but would have written pleasant dances and even ragtime instead.

Darwin also was another victim of eye strain. Doubtless he would never have given to the world his theory of evolution which stirred society up if his eyes had been normal.

De Quincey suffered from bad eyes. Surely he would never have taken opium if he had had glasses. But then, on the other hand, the world would have missed his opium dreams. And, after all is considered, scientists conclude society could better dispense with spectacles than with geniuses.—London Tit-Bits.

COOK WITHOUT FIRE.

New Zealand Maoris Prepare Their Food in Nature's Kitchens.

The Maoris of northern New Zealand enjoy cooked food to a far greater extent than other natives, but they never bother with fire. They build their huts on the edge of some "friendly" geyser, where they may cook in nature's kitchen. The methods of this primitive people living in so strange a neighborhood are described by Max Herz in "New Zealand."

On a spot which superstition would associate with death and the devil the huts of about 200 Maoris lie scattered—the remnant of the once warlike tribe of Tuhourangi. It is lucky that these simple folk need no kitchen, for nature has built for them the best of all cooking appliances and saved them endless trouble with the stove, gas company or coal merchant.

A pond of boiling water lies in the middle of the settlement. In this the Maori woman puts her water kettle to boil or hangs the wide meshed flax bag filled with potatoes and waits until they are cooked. True, the potatoes cooked in their skins taste a little of sulphur, but that is the right flavor for a Maori palate—the haut gout for the brown gourmet.

For the cooking of meats the fumeroles, or holes through which steam escapes from the ground, are used. A box with a wooden grating for a bottom is placed on the ground over the hole. In this the Maori woman places the meat, well covered with tin or iron pots. An old sugar bag is then spread over the box, and the crude apparatus is left until the imprisoned steam has completely cooked the joint.

A Famous Lampeen.

It is handed down in tradition that the caustic comment "he never says a foolish thing nor ever does a wise one" was written in Whitehall on the chamber door of King Charles II. The wit who created the lampeen seems never to have felt it quite prudent to establish his authorship, but there is excellent reason to accord it to John Wilnot, earl of Rochester. The text of the inscription is:

Here lies our sovereign lord the king,
Whose word no man relies on,
He never says a foolish thing
Nor ever does a wise one.

—New York Sun.

Bradshaw and the Months.

Although the provision "D. V." has never figured on railway time tables, a close examination of Bradshaw reveals a trace of strong religious feeling. On the cover the months are referred to by their numerals—"1st mo." for January, "2d mo." for February, and so on. Bradshaw as a Quaker objected to taking the names of the months from heathen emperors and deities, and this prejudice has been perpetuated since the first issue of the time table in 1841.—London Answers.

Fatal Mistake.

Some years ago in a mining town a man was found dead in his hotel room hanged to a bedpost by his suspenders. The jury of miners brought in the following verdict at the coroner's inquest: "Deceased came to his death by coming home full and mistaking himself for his pants."—Argonaut.

The Fireside Diplomat.

"I don't want to be nagging at you," Mrs. Marryat began, "but it's the little things that bother me most."
"Ah!" interrupted her husband sweetly. "I suppose you're going to tell me you haven't a decent pair of shoes."—Philadelphia Press.

Flora of the Balkans.

The Balkans, in some respects the most repulsive region of Europe, is florally one of the grandest. In Bulgaria especially it is possible to wander literally through miles of roses.

U. S. ARMY NEEDS MANY AVIATORS

Training Necessary to Develop the Service.

MUST FOSTER OWN SYSTEM

Head of Signal Corps Appeals For Strengthening of That Branch of Service—Civilians Cannot Be Depended on to Develop the Science For Military Uses.

Washington.—From the office of Brigadier General George S. Scriven, U. S. A., chief signal officer of the army, a statement has been issued on aviation in the course of which it is stated that the flying situation in the United States, viewed strictly from a military standpoint, is in a critical condition. The statement is in a way an appeal to congress. The vulnerability of the Panama canal to aerial attack is pointed out, and the prophecy is made that aerial navigation is on the point of assuming enormous proportions.

"In regard to aviation it may be noted," the statement reads, "that throughout the country the number of civilians who have heretofore undertaken to fly heavier than air machines for their own pleasure, for sport or for money making is fast diminishing and that it is doubtful whether in the event of war a score of men capable of making flights useful to an army could be obtained from civil life. But aviation, which may be considered a sport by the people of the country at large, is to the army a vital necessity. The time for serious effort in this new military science is at hand.

"The situation is critical, and the army must, for its own protection, train a sufficient number of its officers



CAPTAIN CHANDLER, ONE OF BEST KNOWN ARMY AVIATORS.

in the handling of its aeroplanes and in reconnaissance work. The army must look to itself and to the men of the organized militia to supply a reasonable number of officers for military aviation in case of necessity. This necessity may arise at any moment. It is not a question so much of supplying aviators for a great war as it is for supplying these military scouts to accompany expeditionary forces or any military movement that may be undertaken, and also to provide a reasonable number for the defense from aerial attack of such vulnerable positions as Corregidor island in the Philippines, and the Panama canal.

"The work performed by the signal corps in aviation during the past few years has been inconspicuous, but it has been very great. Something has been created from nothing since the summer of 1909, when Orville Wright succeeded in winning a bonus of \$5,000 offered by the signal corps for a flight of five miles out and five miles back from Fort Myer, Va. Much data has been compiled on the strength of materials, aerial forces, uses of radiotelegraphy as applied to aeronautics, but most of all the knowledge of engines for aeroplanes and the proper types of these machines have been carefully worked out and valuable results have been obtained through the efforts of officers of the signal corps and those associated with them. Everything is prepared now for rapid progress and practical results if the encouragement asked from congress is extended.

"The pilot of the aeroplane, for whom we all have the highest respect, is the fighting man of the machine. He is the man behind the gun, but from the nature of things he must be a young, venturesome officer, generally without the knowledge of administrative and technical matters, which can only come with years of experience and study, and then only to men of a certain type of mentality."

In conclusion, the signal corps officials give the opinion that the work of aeronautics in the United States army should be carried out along its present lines of development, and that the work should receive every reasonable aid and encouragement by congress.

SWARMING WITH INSECTS.

The Pests Are a Veritable Plague in Bolivia and Brazil.

Insect pests are a plague on the boundary of Bolivia and Brazil. "In the forests and on the smaller rivers," writes Commander Herbert A. Edwards, R. N. R., in the Geographical Journal, "life is made almost unbearable. Ants are met with everywhere; they swarm over one's person in hundreds, and most of them bite most savagely. There is one kind of red ant, which lives in trees hollowed out by themselves, whose bite is like a touch with a red hot iron. If a person inadvertently touches or leans up against one of these trees the ants swarm out upon him instantly, and his life for hours afterward is a long drawn out misery. Then there are the huge ants, called tuanderas, one and a half inches in length; they live in the forks of trees. Their bite is particularly painful, and causes the part affected to swell up as if poisoned. One of our soldiers was incapacitated for several days by a bite of a tuandera. Red ants; black ants which make broad, straight roads of their own and move about in battalions; grayish white ants, living in red colored mounds, six feet high; yellow ants—each and every one has its own particular way of making unwelcome the intruder into its habitat.

"Butterflies during bright sunshine settled on the surveyors and the instruments they were using in such numbers that survey work became an impossibility. Nor is this all. Wasps of many colors, but always with a sting; hornets, which give no mercy to man or beast; bees of all sizes, some of which swarm in one's shirt, eyes, hair, ears, mouth and nostrils seeking moisture. Every blade of grass has a tick of some sort, waiting opportunity to bury itself in some one's flesh.

"Spiders, horrid hairy creatures, with bodies six inches long, are sometimes met. One of our men was stung or bitten by one of these when out shooting; his foot where he was bitten became very inflamed and broke out into raw patches. He had to be left behind as we were on the march, and when we sent for him three weeks later he was still limping."

Song Names of the States.

The most beautiful place names in the world, according to Robert Louis Stevenson, are those of North America. "The names of the states and territories," he declares in "Across the Plains," "form themselves into a chorus of sweet and romantic vocables—Delaware, Ohio, Indiana, Florida, Dakota, Iowa, Wyoming, Minnesota and the Carolinas. There are few poems with a nobler music to the ear; a songful, tuneful land, and if a new Homer shall arise from the western continent his verse will be enriched, his pages sing spontaneously, with the names of states and cities that would strike the fancy in a business circular."

Solled Papers.

Large papers or leaves of books that have become solled from much handling can be put into perfect condition if the loose dirt is first rubbed off with a piece of bread. Then cover the spots with blotting paper made damp with oxalic acid in solution. Lastly pass a hot iron over the blotting paper until it dries.

To remove deep set crosses in papers or the leaves of a book put between two pieces of white blotting paper—or any unsized paper—slightly dampened, and press with a warm iron until the page is perfectly smooth.—New York Tribune.

The Lotus Eaters.

The race of people to whom the name "lotus eaters" was applied was a Lybian tribe, known to the Greeks as early as the time of Homer. Herodotus describes their country and says that a caravan route led from it to Egypt. The lotus still grows there in great abundance—a prickly shrub bearing a fruit of a sweet taste, compared by Herodotus to that of the date. It is still eaten by the natives, and a kind of wine is made from its juice.

Those Who Arrive.

A New York capitalist said at a dinner in Boston that neither the prudent man nor the daring man made a success of life.

"The prudent gets nowhere," he declared. "The daring go to smash. It is those who mingle the two qualities, it is the daringly prudent, who arrive. "In other words," concluded the capitalist, "the men who succeed are those who run risks at a very slow walk."—Washington Star.

Sugar is Dear in France.

People in France when they dine at restaurants frequently appropriate the sugar they don't happen to use. Sugar in France is dear, and what is served with the coffee belongs by right to the purchaser as much as the coffee itself. So why not take a lump or two home to little Jeanne or Pierre?

Broke the Charm.

"Well, you are a good little boy. Are you usually as quiet as this?"
"No fear, but mother's going to give me a clockwork engine and a hobby-horse if I don't say anything about your dreadful red nose."—London Opinion.

Literary Aids.

Knicker—What books have helped you most? Bocker—The ones I didn't read; they saved my time.—New York Sun.

The most beautiful of altars is the soul of an unhappy creature, consoled, thanking God.—Victor Hugo.

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