

BOYHOOD DREAM NOW A REALITY

Private Zoo Now Owned by Man Who Once Wanted Menagerie

By ROY J. GIBBONS NEA Service Writer HOLLAND, Mich., Oct. 15—Many a barefooted small boy has felt that he would be the happiest youngster on earth if only he had a circus all his own.

George F. Getz felt that way when he was a lad of 6 on a Pennsylvania farm. Circuses came to town seldom, and when they did come Getz often didn't have enough money to go to them. But he vowed that some day he would own one—or at least own a lot of wild animals.

And now, at 69, a multimillionaire, Getz has made his boyhood dream come true.

Owns His Own Zoo He has established his own private zoo on his beautiful "Lakeside Farm" near Bere, and has filled it with all the strange animals he wanted to have when he was a youngster.

And he keeps the place open to the public. He even holds big barbecues to give an added treat to the people who come to see his collection.

He's doing it all to satisfy the yearning that tormented him when he was a kid.

The zoo consists of some 75 animals. These range in size and kind all the way from a pair of 24-foot python snakes up to an elephant. Scattered in between are a menagerie of tigers, a lion, varieties of monkeys, jaguars, the smallest pony in the world and what not.

Getz loves his animals. They remind him of poor kids. He was poor himself once and knows the value of a little kindness.

And he loves people. That's why he has his informal parties at which he has fed as many as 20,000 guests.

"I'm getting too old to go to other people's celebrations. I want them to come to mine instead," he says.

He doesn't say much more because he isn't much of a hand at talking.

He laughs most of the time because his dream has come true.

UP WITH THE KING!



Here's a slice of real democracy—out of a monarchy. The gentleman being juggled is none other than King Boris of Bulgaria, bachelor ruler of the Balkans. His transportation is provided by senior cadets of the military school at Sofia, jubilant over receiving their army commissions from the king.

cause his dream has come true.

When he was a lad of 6 he went to work on a farm near Mechanicsburg, Pa. He had to work hard.

He recalls when he first saw a circus poster, depicting some of the jungle denizens.

There was a picture of tigers and an elephant on a crossroad sign board.

"What are those?" Getz asked. "I'll get some like that to play with," he said when they told him.

But wages for a six-year-old 50 years ago were not sufficient even for the purchase of the dog that Getz craved, to say nothing of a grown tiger or elephant.

Then came the turn of fate. Getz rose. Today he is one of the country's most influential coal mine operators.

He has the menagerie coveted during his boyhood and is sharing his happiness with the world.

With his two sons he lives between his farm here and Chicago.

driving back and forth as fancy dictates.

Gave Steeds Away Some time ago he despatched a commission to Arabia when the notion seized him to have a herd of pure-blood Arabian horses.

When the animals arrived Getz gave them all away to friends.

Why? Because his friends admired them so much.

"I wanted them to have some fun, too," he says.

His zoo and farm are constantly open to the public.

The rich man's money is buying back his lost childhood.

Farm Pointers

Western raspberry rust is not serious enough in Oregon to justify grubbing the bushes up, as viewed by Dr. R. M. Zeller plant pathologist of the experiment station. No adequate control measures are known. In its worst form the rust devitalizes the plants but not so seriously as to stunt the plants unaided by other causes such as poor soil and degeneration diseases. Infection of new canes near the ground is the most serious phase of the disease in Oregon plantings. It causes cankers which eat into the cane causing brittleness. Such canes are hard to trellis and not infrequently break off in removal of the old canes.

The preparation of bees for winter in Oregon is best made during October, says the bee specialist of the department of entomology. Bees to pass the winter successfully have ample stores on hand and the hives are given some form of winter protection. Details regarding the wintering of bees are given in Extension Bulletin 266.

House ferns attacked by scale insects are repelled in Oregon by frequent applications of a spray of common laundry soap, says the entomologist for the experiment station. One quarter pound soap

is used to the gallon of water. It is best to wash the solution from the plants about two hours after application.

Weevils in beans and peas are controlled by fumigating the seed with carbon bisulfide. Materials not held over for seed are put in shallow pans in the oven and held there for an hour at a temperature below that of boiling water. If the weevils are not killed in the fall or early spring by fumigation or heat they fly to the bean and peas in the field and lay their eggs on the green pods the following season.

The floorboards of a jewelry shop in Birmingham, England, when reduced to ashes, yielded enough precious metal dust to pay for the cost of new flooring.

Home is where the coal short-age is going to be before long.

The Garden

IMITATING NATURE'S PLANTING SYSTEM

Fall planting of annual flower seeds is adopting the natural methods of plant reproduction. They mature their seeds, they are scattered about the plant on the soil without any more covering than is washed over them by the rains. They germinate, some in the field and a percentage waiting until the following spring, it being a trick of nature to preserve the plants that not all seeds germinate at once.

By planting in the fall we use the same method except that we facilitate germination by covering the seed carefully and plant it so late that there will be no chance for it to germinate and the plants be killed by the thaws and frozes.

Seeds of all hardy annuals can be treated in this manner with the result that we shall have sturdy plants earlier next spring than we have had before and from their sturdiness lively to bloom as early as those sown inside and transplanted.

It is a particularly good plan with three popular annuals which are difficult to transplant, poppies, annual larkspurs and centaureas or cornflowers. Often the plants will survive the winter even if they germinate in the fall. The seedlings should be thinned in the spring to give the individuals a chance to develop and we will have poppies and bachelor's buttons in bloom in late May and annual larkspurs following in early June.

California poppies with their handsome yellow and orange cups are best treated in this manner and the handsome calendulas or

pot marigolds, now a favorite for cutting, are equally successful from fall sowing. Sweet alyssum edges may as well be sown this fall as next spring. The handsome flowering tobacco or nicotianas come up from fall-sown seed. This seed will remain in the ground for years and plants will appear long after the original stock has disappeared. Do not hesitate to start the annual garden this fall. It will be that much spring work out of the way.

Londoners are complaining of a new nuisance: the littering of theater floors with peanut shells. The English learned the joys of eating peanuts from the Canadians during the World war.

The bulldog was so named because of its skill at fighting bulls in the sport of bull baiting.

Gold Mine Worked When Tide Is Out

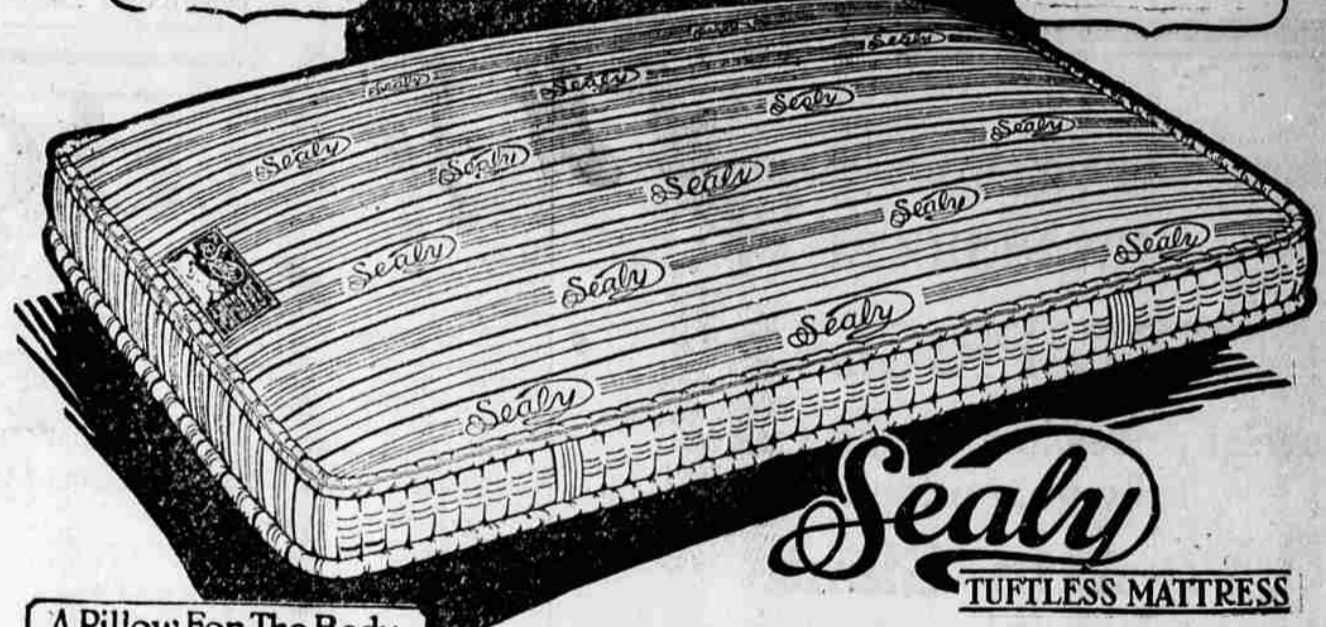
BANDON, Ore., Oct. 15 (AP)—This town, beside the Pacific Ocean, its business district built on piling over the tide flats, has become the scene of a novel gold quest.

Indications of gold quartz were found recently while drilling for piling. Search was immediately started for gold in commercial quantities next to the First National bank. The work has to be done when the tide is out as the "mine" is covered with water at high tide.

The bridal veil originated in the Orient where many women still go veiled and where a husband is not supposed to see his bride's face until after the ceremony.

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Chaplin, Jr. This is the first picture ever published of Charles Spencer Chaplin, Jr., first son of the famous movie comedian. His father has strenuously opposed allowing the child to be photographed.