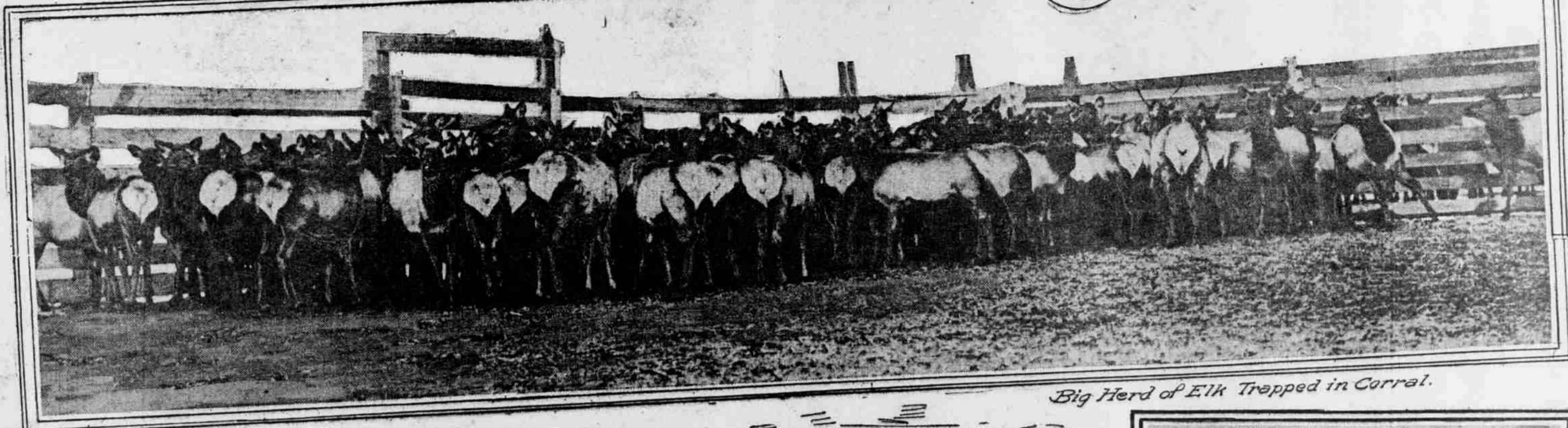


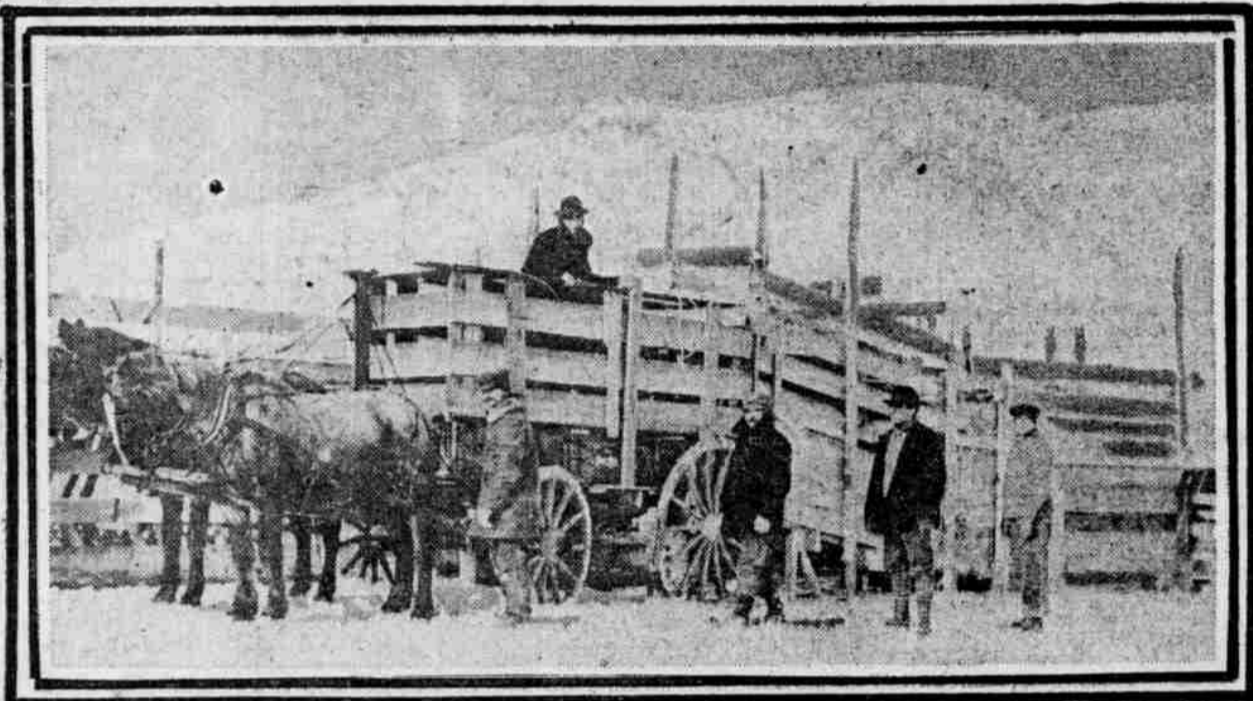


Catching Elk for Portland's 2000

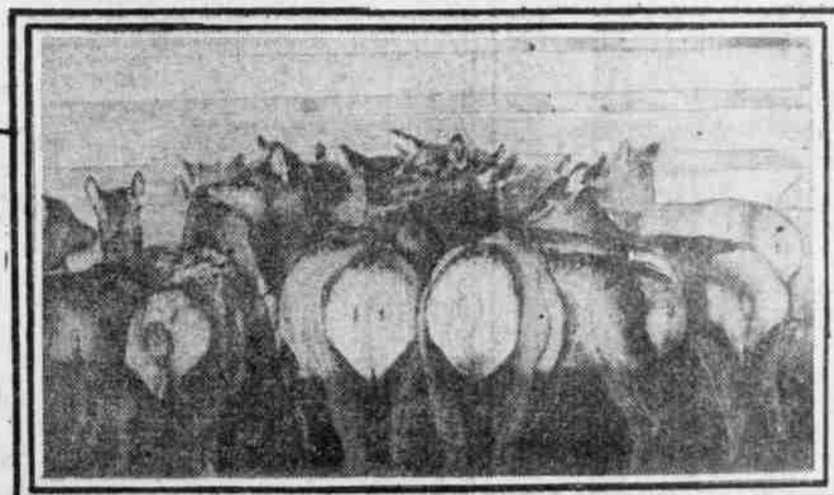
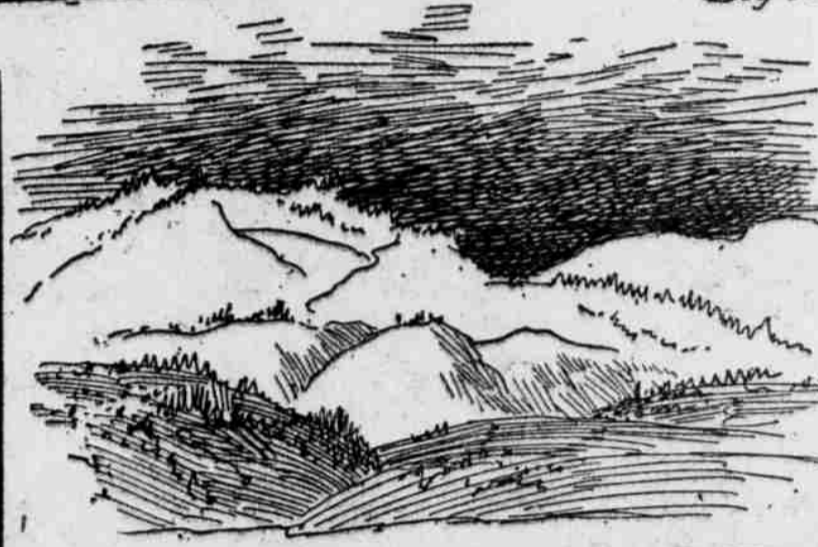
UNIQUE METHODS EMPLOYED BY PROFESSIONAL ANIMAL CATCHER TO ROUND UP HERD OF BEAUTIFUL ANIMALS IN WILDS OF YELLOWSTONE PARK.



Big Herd of Elk Trapped in Corral.



Loading Pair of Elk on Wagon for Shipment to Portland.



Close View of Trapped Elk.

In the pens and paddocks at Washington Park zoo, where the beasts of all climes, from the frigid North to the tropical South, mingle as one family, six big wild elk are now to be seen frisking about apparently very nervous and frightened at the signs of civilization about them.

A month ago this happy family was part of the vast herds that roam the wilds of the Yellowstone National Park. They were then back in the snow and ice of the mountains where man or civilization are not known at this time of the year. Three weeks ago they ventured down to the lowlands near Gardiner, Mont., where feed was more plentiful, and they got into a trap set for them by a professional animal catcher.

Now they are in Portland's zoo, where they will spend the rest of their days as objects of curiosity and amusement for the crowds that throng the park during the Spring and Summer months.

These elk met the same fate at Gardiner that hundreds of others meet each year. They were trapped by J. H. Anderson, a mountaineer, who holds the record for animal catching. It is said of Mr. Anderson that he knows as much about elk habits as do the elk themselves and that he is able, by means of clever traps, to beat them at their own game.

He has stocked the zoological gardens of most of the cities of the country with elk within the last few years and is filling other orders as rapidly as cities can get permission from the Federal Government to catch the animals. In the Winters of 1912 and 1913 he captured and delivered for zoo purposes in various parts of the country a total of 398 head of the Yellowstone elk.

Animal catching with Mr. Anderson has come to be a routine business. He has gotten things down to such a fine point that he knows exactly when and how to proceed with his catching, and he generally can tell in advance what his success for a season is going to be. During the Summer months the Yellowstone elk, which number in the thousands, have plenty of range and are very seldom seen excepting at a distance or when a person comes upon a herd of them far back in the hills. They do not get into the lowlands as a rule excepting in a few parts of the park, where they are almost domesticated by reason of the tourist traffic. Gradually they work back into the hills during the Summer until Fall, when they are found generally in the highest places. As the Winter sets in the snow falls deepest in the higher altitudes and gradually the animals are forced down to lower country as the grass up above becomes covered. They forage in the lower country until the snow there becomes so deep that they have to go still lower.

In due course of time they get down

into the valleys and basins about Gardiner and other parts of the Yellowstone country where the snow is lightest and where there generally is considerable coarse grass and other feed. It is while they are down in this lower country that Mr. Anderson gets in his work with his traps and reaps his harvest of zoo elk.

Considerable distance from where he lives he has constructed a large corral or trap. It consists of a high fence around an inclosure 146 feet long by 120 feet in width. Within the inclosure are three small pens with sliding gates and a chute leading up to a platform where the elk, when captured, are loaded into wagons.

On one side of the corral is a large gate which slides open and shut on rollers attached to a beam extending completely over the gate opening. To one end of this is fastened a rope which extends along the ground a distance of 300 feet to a haystack. By pulling the string the gate will close.

When it is time for the elk to come down from the snowclad mountains in the middle of Winter Mr. Anderson places several stacks of hay within the large corral, places another large stack directly in front of the open gate, scatters hay between the stack and then scatters a continuous string of hay for several hundred yards from his corral back into the hills.

The elk find it hard at times to rustle enough to eat in the lowlands during certain times and when they come across the string of hay in the hills they follow it up, eating as they go. They finally end up in a bunch about the stack of hay in front of the gate. It generally is not long before a bunch of the old cows and the bucks begin to fight among themselves, and after this it is impossible for the younger ones to get anywhere near the stack of hay. Gradually these young elk get courage and sneak into the corral to the hay stacks there. The older ones being wiser will not venture into this pen, apparently suspecting a trap. The young ones are fearful at first and will crane their necks and try in every

way to reach the hay without stepping inside. Gradually, spurred on by an appetite, they go inside. The least little noise and the whole bunch stampedes to get out. Oftentimes the rush is so great that one or two of them are hurt. After the first fright they go back into the corral and begin eating again. Suddenly one of the number will hear something and again the whole bunch will go flying out.

After doing this a few times they get more courage and part of them will not run when some frivolous member of the party tries to start a scare. In this way the number gradually increases inside the corral. Mr. Anderson says he has seen as many as 80 in the corral at one time.

It probably would seem to the novice at the animal-catching business that while the animals are inside the corral feasting and are not participating in the occasional dashes to the outside, Mr. Anderson ought to pull the rope and close the gate. But Mr. Anderson says he is not even on hand to pull the rope at this time because he knows from experience that a better time is coming.

After the elk have fed for an hour or so they will leave to spend from one to two hours chewing their cuds. After

they return for more hay. It is when they return that Mr. Anderson, wrapped in his furs, is in hiding in the haystack near the corral ready to pull the rope to shut the gate.

Having had success in their first feed inside the corral the elk will coax with them many new ones that had not ventured in before. The second feed is about midnight and the animals are very much more quiet and restful than during the earlier hours of the day or evening. Gradually the corral fills up with elk as those on the outside see those inside enjoying the hay without any apparent danger.

When the corral gets well filled Mr. Anderson quickly gives his rope a strong pull and the sliding gate clanks shut and the colony of elk go dashing about the corral wildly looking for a place to escape. These fortunate enough to be on the outside dash for the hills. Mr. Anderson then hurries over to his home and retires, leaving the animals to spend the night getting used to their cage.

The next morning he and his helpers are on hand bright and early and the task of getting the animals tamed is commenced. The men stand about and let the elk get used to seeing them. It

do not take long to accomplish this task and the rest of the work is comparatively easy. Mr. Anderson has his orders for elk of certain kinds and sex for certain cities arranged in order and he begins to pick out the animals soon after a catch. As they are selected they are driven off into the small pens in the corral and kept there until they are ready to ship.

Generally, before they are ready to start on their journey to civilization, they are fairly well domesticated. They will drink from a trough while a man is standing near-by and will eat while a man is around. When they are ready to be shipped they are driven from the small pens into a still smaller place with a chute at one end. They go into this chute and walk directly into a cage mounted upon a wagon. When they are dropped and they are ready to be hauled to the depot, which is a half mile from Mr. Anderson's catching place.

At the depot the wagon is backed up to a car and the animals are driven out. Mr. Anderson says they are very easy to handle if the persons handling them understand their business. It is necessary to stand very close to them and not to let them get where they can raise up onto their hind legs. If they get an opportunity they will rear up and dig their feet into a person, inflicting a painful wound. At times Mr. Anderson says he has been black and blue with bruises from feet to hips, due

to not standing close enough to the animals while transferring them from the wagons to the cars. Either get close to them or far away, is his advice. They will not fight in close quarters, he says.

Mr. Anderson says the success of the animal business depends very largely upon the condition of the animals when they are shipped and the treatment accorded them en route. They should not be run before being loaded and should not be overhated or hungry or tired. Mr. Anderson says he puts all his animals in a corral all night with plenty of hay and water before attempting to ship them. En route they should be side-tracked, watered and fed at least every 24 hours and should be given a rest of from six to 12 hours while the train is not in motion.

In 1912 and 1913 Mr. Anderson shipped 398 head of elk to various parts of the country. Among the shipments were 80 head to King County, Washington; 50 to Redding, Cal.; 50 to Yakima County, Washington; 80 to Arizona; 25 to Hot Springs, Wash.; 50 to Utah; 25 to Walla Walla, Wash.; 25 to Stephens County, Washington; 2 to Fort Worth, Tex., and 2 to South Dakota.

It is not the easiest thing in the world to get elk from the Yellowstone country. It is necessary to get permission from the Federal Government and that permission is granted to cities only when the animals are wanted for some good purpose and assurance is given that they will be properly cared for. When the permission is given it is merely necessary to notify Mr. Anderson and he will catch and deliver safely any kind or age elk desired.

The elk in the Portland zoo are to be mixed with elk which have been there for many years past. The different breeds will be mixed so as to improve

the entire herd, injecting new and fresh blood. In the Spring the Portland zoo will receive two more elk but not from the Yellowstone traps. They will be baby elk born to two of the females in the herd just received.

Man's Two Minds

EXPOUNDING a theory that man has two minds, or a double consciousness—objective and subjective—Mgr. Benson has compared the two activities to an upper and a lower room separated by a trapdoor. Dreams are due to the subjective consciousness working without check from the objective consciousness.

The man who usually claims to have an evenly balanced mind is the one who has to shut the trapdoor and remain in the upper room, and those who have closed the trapdoor and remain in the lower rooms are commonly found in lunatic asylums. The man of really even balance either remains between the two rooms or keeps the trapdoor well oiled.

Napoleon, in the lower room, conceived ideas for ruling Europe and in the upper room put his ideas into practice; Raphael created combinations of colors and then expressed them on canvas, and Beethoven in the lower room composed his sonatas and in the upper room reproduced the notes on paper.

The events of childhood are remarkably clear in the recollection of very old people, though present happenings are forgotten. This may be explained by the decay of the objective consciousness, and it is curious that as this decays the subjective consciousness becomes more acute.

The Milk Tree.

Travelers assert that in South America there is a most convenient milk producing tree which the natives take advantage of for the feeding of their children. By boring a hole in its trunk a clear, sweet stream of milk emerges which is both healthful and delicious.