

Smithsonian Scientists Brave Dangers of African Jungles for National Zoo



WALTER P. CHRYSLER
Automobile Manufacturer
financing expedition
Queen



CHARLES D. WALCOTT
Secretary, Smithsonian
Institution, Washington, D. C.



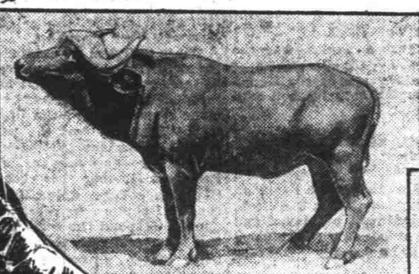
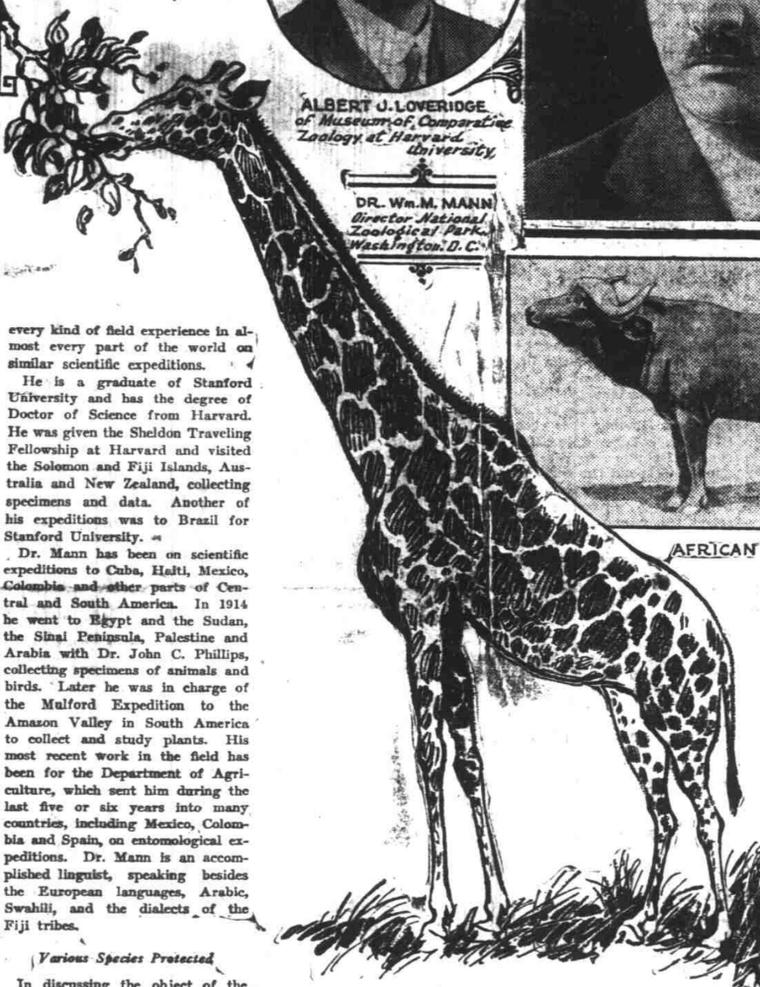
ALBERT J. LOVERIDGE
Director, Museum of Comparative
Zoology at Harvard
University



DR. Wm. M. MANN
Director, National
Zoological Park,
Washington, D. C.



CHARLES CHARLTON
Animal Photographer



AFRICAN BUFFALO



WARTHOG



HARTEBEEST

Animals Never Before Seen In America to be Brought Alive to Washington. Rare Birds and Reptiles Also Sought in Quest Which Penetrates the Heart of African Wilds.

UNDER the auspices of the Smithsonian Institution of Washington, preparations have been completed for the greatest expedition for the capture of wild animals known in the zoological history of this country. The Smithsonian expedition of 1909, headed by former President Theodore Roosevelt, was devoted to collecting specimens of wild animals for museum purposes. The object of the new quest is to collect only living animals, birds and reptiles for zoo exhibition and scientific purposes.

The Smithsonian-Chrysler Expedition, as this scientific adventure is known, is being financed by Walter P. Chrysler, prominent automobile manufacturer. It will be headed by Dr. William M. Mann, director of the National Zoological Park at Washington, who brought the urgent need of the Park for new specimens to Mr. Chrysler's attention, and induced him to provide the necessary funds.

Dr. Mann's story was emphasized by the disappointment of the thousands of children, visitors to the park, who were not able to find a single giraffe there. Upon the return of Dr. Mann's party there will be several giraffes quartered in the park together with hundreds of specimens of the largest and smallest of African wild animal life, including fully one hundred specimens never before seen alive in this country.

Cooperating with the Smithsonian Institution are the Museum of Comparative Zoology at Harvard University, the Museum of Zoology of the University of Michigan, the Zoological Society of London, and the Pathe News, which will make a pictorial record of the activities of the expedition and its arduous life of living animals.

Tanganyika—Land of Wild Animals

Dr. Mann and his party of scientists and animal men are heading for Dar-es-Salaam, the seaport for the Tanganyika territory of British East Africa.

At Dar-es-Salaam, the Smithsonian-Chrysler Expedition will be met by hundreds of the best native animal hunters of the Wasilama tribe

—descendants of the full-blooded Africans who prospered and grew rich in the old African slave trade —Mogoros, Wakamis, Wagogos, and other tribes that know this vast territory of Tanganyika, its animals, and how to capture them.

Near Dar-es-Salaam, a permanent camp will be established not too remote from the railroad, where the model cages, already built by the National Zoo at Washington, will be set up and duplicated by the native carpenters and the automobiles and the army of porters made ready for the expedition, which will start for the interior of this wild country made famous by the early explorations of Livingstone and Sir Henry Stanley.

Many subsidiary expeditions will be sent out, each commanded by members of the Smithsonian-Chrysler Expedition, and manned with the necessary number of practical animal men from the Washington Zoo, and groups of the best hunting natives from the particular wildernesses to be penetrated.

By means of these parties, each part of the Tanganyika territory will be thoroughly combed for the particular kind of animals this expedition expects to bring back to the National Zoo.

Personnel of the Expedition

In addition to Dr. Mann and the National Zoological Park animal men and the native chiefs and their hunters this Smithsonian-Chrysler Expedition numbers among its members Albert J. Loveridge, of the Museum of Comparative Zoology of Harvard University, who for eight years was assistant game warden in the Tanganyika territory, and who personally knows the chiefs of the various tribes to be employed as hunters. Dr. Loveridge is already at Dar-es-Salaam, making the necessary advance preparations.

Stephen Haves, naturalist, artist and author, Charles Charlton, Pathe Moving Picture man, and other well known scientific men are also members of the expedition.

Dr. Mann, the director, is one of the best qualified individuals in the country for such an expedition. Not only is he a scientist of recognized standing, but he has had nearly

every kind of field experience in almost every part of the world on similar scientific expeditions.

He is a graduate of Stanford University and has the degree of Doctor of Science from Harvard. He was given the Sheldon Traveling Fellowship at Harvard and visited the Solomon and Fiji Islands, Australia and New Zealand, collecting specimens and data. Another of his expeditions was to Brazil for Stanford University.

Dr. Mann has been on scientific expeditions to Cuba, Haiti, Mexico, Colombia and other parts of Central and South America. In 1914 he went to Egypt and the Sudan, the Sinai Peninsula, Palestine and Arabia with Dr. John C. Phillips, collecting specimens of animals and birds. Later he was in charge of the Mulford Expedition to the Amazon Valley in South America to collect and study plants. His most recent work in the field has been for the Department of Agriculture, which sent him during the last five or six years into many countries, including Mexico, Colombia and Spain, on entomological expeditions. Dr. Mann is an accomplished linguist, speaking besides the European languages, Arabic, Swahili, and the dialects of the Fiji tribes.

Various Species Protected

In discussing the object of the Smithsonian-Chrysler Expedition, Dr. Mann said: "We intend to gather a representative collection of live African animals, birds, and reptiles for the National Zoological Park. The African fauna is meagerly represented in the Zoo, and Tanganyika has been selected as the most attractive region of all Africa for the securing of quantities of special species of the more important game animals.

"There are about forty species of protected game in Tanganyika Territory and of course a host of other animals that are not protected. Among the most desirable species to collect are the giraffe, no specimens of which have ever been exhibited in the National Zoo, the black two-horned rhinoceros (only one poor specimen of which has ever been in our collection) and the white rhinoceros. A quantity of antelope, including the sable antelope, the fringe-eared oryx, the topi, the hartebeest, the bushbuck, the kudu, various reedbucks, duikers, pygmy antelope, impalla, oribi, as well as other antelopes and gazelles. The zebra is common in that country, but there is at present no specimen of zebra in the National Zoo.

"Birds to be sought will include varieties of parrots and parakeets, the giant ground hornbill, the fish eagle, the secretary bird (snake killer), and the brilliant plantain eaters, sun birds, and a selection of the various species of vultures. It is hoped that a large collection of the smaller brilliant colored finches and tailor-birds can be secured, including the paradise whiyah, whose body is scarcely larger than a canary, but whose tail is eight or ten inches long.

Rare Monkey Sought

"Among the monkeys the Colobus or Guereza, which exist in the colony and are protected by the game authorities, has never been exhibited in the Zoo, and it is expected

to collect specimens of this as well as the rarer Sykes monkey.

"In addition to these protected animals, the expedition will attempt to capture lions, new blood of which is badly needed in the Park; leopards, hunting dogs (seldom seen in captivity), various forms of wild hogs; the curious aardvark, aard wolves, hyenas, and numerous species of the cats including the rarer caracal, the hunting leopard, and the serval.

"Returning to antelope, the eland, the finest of African game animals, is represented in the Zoo only by an aged cow, remaining from a pair presented to the Park by the Duke of Bedford. This species of animal has been successfully propagated in England, and it is hoped to establish a breeding herd in the Park.

"Bats to be sought will include varieties of parrots and parakeets, the giant ground hornbill, the fish eagle, the secretary bird (snake killer), and the brilliant plantain eaters, sun birds, and a selection of the various species of vultures. It is hoped that a large collection of the smaller brilliant colored finches and tailor-birds can be secured, including the paradise whiyah, whose body is scarcely larger than a canary, but whose tail is eight or ten inches long.

"There is almost no limit as to what may be found. There is the curious

armor plated pangolin," the little potto lemur, various squirrels, the hyrax (the coney of the Bible), smaller than a rabbit, yet the closest relation to the elephant; flying mice, elephant shrews, many kinds of monkeys and the civet cat.

"Among the reptiles are half a dozen species of tortoises including the giant leopard tortoise, which grows to a weight of nearly one hundred pounds, giant pythons, spitting cobras, puff adders, black mambas, boomslangs, the monitor lizard (which ravages the nests of crocodiles and eats their eggs) and various common forms of chameleons.

To Make Box Traps

"Box traps will be made. A drive will be undertaken where hundreds of natives will herd young animals in a stockade. To collect the savage rhinoceros, it may be necessary to locate a mother with young. Wherever possible, we shall avoid killing, as this is distinctly a live animal expedition and not a big game hunting one. Such animals as it may be necessary to kill on a trip of this kind will be preserved. When the commoner game, especially antelopes, are shot, the meat will be used as food for the expedition and food for the carnivorous animals which have been captured.

In all cases the skins and skulls of these will be preserved as scientific specimens.

"The expedition must guard against malaria (jungle fever), amoebic dysentery, typhoid, the dreaded sleeping sickness, as well as the various sores and ulcers and the terrible flies which are so prevalent in the tropics. The lions and the leopards in some parts are so abundant that the Government office gives a reward for each one killed. There are a dozen reptiles whose bite is almost certain death. There are also scorpions six inches long, and centipedes up to a foot. Tsetse flies, ticks by the billions, and germ-carrying mosquitoes, abound.

"Our expedition will go in more for quality than quantity, and we hope to bring back the finest specimens possible of the species.

"As all members of the party are field naturalists, it is expected that great quantities of scientific material will be brought out, including, of course, many hitherto unknown species, especially among the smaller animals."

today for his fundamental researches and experiments in aviation, —experiments which pointed the way to modern world-wide flying. In the late eighties Professor Langley realized the educational advantages that would result from having a collection of living animals accessible to the student and as an incentive to study for the younger generation. He, therefore, created in the Smithsonian Institution a Department of Living Animals.

These animals were housed in small enclosures erected in the rear of the present Smithsonian building on The Mall. The collection grew rapidly in numbers both by donations and purchase. The care of these animals became such a burden upon the limited funds of the Institution, which depends upon a meager income of \$35,000 a year from private endowments, that Professor Langley appealed to Congress to take over the embryo zoo. It is curious that a few members of Congress opposed the plan on the ground that if the Federal Government was going into the "show business" in competition with "the greatest show on earth," it should make it a traveling show.

National Zoo to Have Finest Collection of Animals for Its 2,000,000 Yearly Visitors from Every State in the Union.