

## The Audabon Club

By CLAUDINE SISON

All along the Long Island shores it was known that there was a state law to protect the domestic birds and the sea gulls from destruction, but only here and there was it feared or enforced. The residents of the villages respected the law to some extent, but when strangers broke it they had nothing to say. It was the stranger who left money among them, and they looked at that more than at the life of the birds. Even if he shot and sent away to the taxidermist in the city a score of the beautiful white gulls skimming along the surf, what great harm was there in it? There were gulls in plenty. No one could eat them. They just flew about in an idle, useless way.

And so, when their children came home one day and told fishermen, clambers and oystermen that the "Little Schoolma'am," as they called her, had formed an Audabon club and was going to save the birds, there was much shaking of heads and some grumbling. She had been hired to teach a summer school in the village on great South Bay—not to meddle with what they had come to consider their vested rights. Sometimes there were half a dozen sportsmen there from once from New York and Brooklyn, and they had been known to come from Boston, and they spent their money freely and made no objection to anything. An Audabon club would anger them and keep them away. Suppose there was a state law about it? There were a hundred other state laws that were not obeyed.

The little schoolma'am had not only formed an Audabon club, but she was going to prosecute all cases. Not only that, but all her pupils were to be



Shot and Secured Five Gulls.

come spies or witnesses. It was a cheeky piece of business, and she must be talked to. It would have been cheeky in a man, but she was only a young woman, not over twenty years old. When the committee had gone down to Brooklyn to engage her they had frankly said to each other that they feared she would not "boss" the school, though they would give her a trial.

And Miss Nina Anderson was talked to. Five big weather-beaten men made it plain to her that she would deprive the village of a great portion of its summer income by carrying out her plan. She listened quietly till they had finished, and then made reply. The club had been organized. Its members would watch, prosecute and witness. The hunters might shoot rabbits and squirrels, but they must let the birds alone. The five took their departure, to spread the news that an enemy was in their midst, and to promise their children the licking of their lives if they made any reports. The sportsmen were welcomed and told to keep on shooting.

When that they called the season opened, the little schoolma'am found she had but one pupil she could depend on to aid her. It was white-haired, squint-eyed Johnny, twelve years old. He didn't care a cent for the birds, but he did for the teacher. He had fallen in love with her the first day. He knew that loyalty to her meant lickings at home, but loyalty and lickings meant being a hero. And so Johnny kept his eyes open, and one Saturday morning he appeared at the schoolma'am's boarding house to say: "Follow down on the point shootin' gulls! He's just a poppin' them for keeps!"

"And have you been down there?" was asked.

"Yes, ma'am. Stood right near him while he shot two gulls."

"Did you tell him we had an Audabon club?"

"Yes; but he went at it and shot another gull! He don't care a hang for our club!"

"Is he a stranger?"

"For sure. Great big fellow with an ugly mug on him. Maybe he's broke jail somewhere. You get a warrant and I'll be a witness. Don't let him bluff you. He's just going to shoot and shoot till the ain't a gull left!"

The little schoolma'am put on her hat and went with Johnny to the justice of the peace. He groaned as he saw them approaching. He knew the law, and must issue a warrant and impose the penalty, but his neighbors would look at him askance for doing his sworn duty. Johnny told his story, and Miss Nina demanded a warrant. As it was being made out, the gun of the sportsman was heard firing on the gulls. The constable wanted to delay serving the warrant. He also feared his neighbors. He was talked to in a way to put springs under his heels. He had always supposed little women were timid, hesitating creatures, and he was saying "Go!" to himself as he started off with the warrant.

Johnny followed on. He had never seen a man arrested, and the opportunity had come. Besides, that constable wasn't going to be given a chance to go off fishing, leaving the gully to make his escape from the United States. The gull-shooter was to be taken red-handed, and if he didn't go to the electric chair it wouldn't be the boy's fault. He intended to swear hard enough.

Mr. George Lawrence of New York had come up to the South Bay for a fortnight's recreation. He knew the rules of the three or four clubs he belonged to, but he never paid much attention to state law. No one had said he mustn't shoot birds. He had a sister who had taken up taxidermy as a fad, and he had promised to bring her specimens.

He had shot and secured five gulls when the constable reached him. The officer had lost his enthusiasm, but Johnny had not. He had gained more. He ran on ahead, and seizing the shooter by the arm he called out:

"The schoolma'am and I arrest you for shootin' gulls, and if you stir hand or foot blood will flow!"

It took some time to explain things to the guilty party, but when it was all clear to him he willingly went along with the officer. The justice put the case for two o'clock in the afternoon, and it was not until that hour that Miss Nina saw the prisoner. She had meanwhile been hardening her heart. She had a mental picture of "a big fellow with an ugly mug on him," and she would show him no mercy. She got a surprise when she came into court. The prisoner was not a great, big man, he was not ugly. In fact, he looked like a gentleman. He was also in a serene instead of a desperate mood. She had scarcely looked at him when she began to feel sorry over the situation.

But it was Johnny who got the greatest surprise. He would get a licking anyhow, and he determined to earn an old whopper. He was going on the stand to swear that he believed the prisoner guilty of at least two murders and several highway robberies, and that he expected nothing but a bloody resistance when he helped to arrest him, but he was cut out. When called to plead, Mr. Lawrence not only answered "guilty," but asked to be fined the full limit. He said he was ashamed of himself for what he had done; that he had been heedless; that it was right to preserve the birds, and that he wanted to join the Audabons and present the club with the sum of fifty dollars to aid it in enforcing the law.

The little schoolma'am blushed and blushed and kept her eyes on the floor.

Johnny wriggled and wriggled and wriggled and said to himself in a loud voice: "Oh, what's de use!"

The justice hummed and hawed and stammered and finally observed that the example was a most worthy one, and that he would let the defendant off as easy as possible under the law. Mr. Lawrence was fined and paid over the cash. Some folks looked to him to get right out of town, but he didn't go. He had a duty to perform. It was to hunt up Miss Nina Anderson and reiterate all that he had said in open court, and then go on and add to it. He did become a member of her club, and he did hand over that fifty, and he did make it known that he should have an eye on any one else who was tempted to break the bird law.

And of course that opened the door for Cupid to come in, and he didn't linger outside. Mr. Lawrence had come for a fortnight. He stayed a month, and then went home to be back in a week and stay longer. He fished and shot and visited the school. He hunted up and down the shore for law-breakers and visited the little schoolma'am's boarding house to report all well. Things had gone on this way for a long time when the teacher found Johnny with tears in his eyes and asked the cause.

"What I want to know," he replied as more tears came—"what I want to know is where do I come in!"

Alas, he was left out in the cold!

**Liverpool's Costly Docks.**  
 Liverpool's docks, which are to be further extended at a cost of over \$15,000,000, were begun in 1709, when the town constructed the first wet dock in the world. Down to 1813 the docks were confined to the Liverpool side of the Mersey, but in that year Birkenhead's dock scheme was begun. Liverpool owes its very origin to its suitability for a port, having been founded when the siting of the Dee robbed Chester of its position as chief port for north Ireland. After Strongbow's partial conquest of the island under Henry II, a fresh port was needed, and the foundations of what is now Liverpool were laid.

**Frequently.**  
 "Do you ever talk to yourself?"  
 "No, but my wife does."  
 "Talks to herself, eh?"  
 "No, to myself."

# NATIONAL GOVERNMENT NEWS NOTES OF GENERAL INTEREST

## ENGINEERS WILL BUILD.

Canal Builders Will Also Erect Fortifications at Panama.

Washington—The construction of the fortifications along the Panama canal is to be done by the same engineering organization which is building the canal itself. Such a decision has been reached by President Taft, Major General Leonard Wood, chief of staff of the army, and other officials interested. In commenting on the decision, General Wood said it was desired to avoid duplicate organizations of engineers in the same territory.

A reduction of several millions of dollars in the total estimates for appropriations for the military establishments, including rivers and harbors expenditures, as compared with the estimates of last year, has been determined on by the War department. Major General Wood laid the final draft of the estimate before President Taft at Beverly last week. General Wood, said that the president had approved of the estimates, with a few changes, and that they were now ready for submission to congress through the secretary of the treasury. One feature of the estimates calls for the construction of permanent buildings in the Philippines for the use of the army, rather than temporary structures, such as have been the rule.

## SEEKS RATE CASE IDEAS.

Commissioner Prouty to Hear Criticism at Spokane.

Washington, D. C.—All parties having criticisms or suggestions to offer with reference to the tentative decision of the Interstate Commerce commission in the Spokane rate case and the Portland-Puget Sound backhaul case will have full opportunity to be heard before Commissioner Prouty.

Beginning September 13, Commissioner Prouty will conduct hearings open to shippers, railroad officials, commercial organizations and anyone else interested in these two big rate cases and hearings will be continued until all who desire have been heard pro and con. It may require a week or more to dispose of these hearings. Commissioner Prouty says it is his purpose to collect all new evidence, protests and complaints relative to these two decisions, so that when the commission takes up these cases next winter for final decision it will have a full and complete record before it and will understand the attitude of all interested parties.

## FLATHEAD LANDS OFFERED.

Government Will Give Opportunity to Take Left Over Claims.

Kalispell Mont.—Offices are being established by the reservation land locators and the holders of numbers first drawn have already put in their appearance here to be ready for the opening to special entry of the last of the Flathead Indian reservation lands. The earliest arrivals have been frequenting the land office and asking information, but their number is not large. Government officials do not expect a large proportion of those who have chances to appear. Of the first 3,000 names called in June, only about 10 per cent came, and not all of them accepted claims. Those familiar with the reservation persevere in their assertions that a great area of land as desirable as any that has been taken still remains to be had.

## Fire-Fighters Receive Aid.

Washington—Brave firefighters who risked death and suffered injuries in protecting life and property in the Northwest, and whose small wages from the fight stopped when they became incapacitated in line of duty, will receive funds for their immediate needs through the sympathy of employees in the forest service here, who, from directors to messengers, almost to a man, contributed to give temporary relief at least.

District Forester J. B. Greeley, at Missoula, Mont., replying to a message said:

"Can use \$150 in relief of injured rangers and temporary employes and in sending bodies of men killed to relatives."

Between \$150 and \$200 was telegraphed to Mr. Greeley.

## More Coal Briquettes.

Washington, D. C.—Coal briquetting is slowly increasing in the United States. The production in 1909, according to a compilation by E. W. Parker, of the geological survey, reached 139,661 short tons, valued at \$452,697. The output in 1908 was 90,358 tons, worth \$323,057 and in 1907 66,524 tons, worth \$258,426. The survey has an experimental briquetting plant at Pittsburg. The German press used turns out 2½ to 3 tons an hour.

## Test Eastern and Western Coal.

Washington—With a view to testing Western coal in comparison with the Eastern article, the armored cruisers Maryland and West Virginia, now at Mare Island, have been ordered to re-coal. One vessel will be provided with Western coal and the other with Eastern. Should the Western coal prove good, a mine for naval use will be sought.

## COTTON CROP COMES LATE.

Falling Off in Ginner's Reports is Not Regarded as Serious.

Washington—The number of bales of cotton ginned to September 1, from the growth of 1910 was 356,824 bales, round bales counted as half bales, according to the report of the census bureau just made public. The 1909 total was 388,242 bales, the 1908, 402,229 bales and the 1907, 200,282.

Statisticians of the census bureau do not consider the falling off in the figures of the first ginning report to Eastern states as significant as they might appear. They attribute the decrease to the lateness of the crop rather than to any cause which in the end would affect its volume. Without having any other definite information, they expect a material improvement in the future reports.

The season has been unusually good in Texas, which fact accounts for the prospective larger crop there.

Purchases of Egyptian cotton by American manufacturers for the first half of the present year were only about half the amount taken during the corresponding period last year. The figures of the foreign trade of Egypt, just received from Consul D. R. Birch, of Alexandria, show that the cotton exported to the United States aggregated only \$3,945,012, as compared with \$7,208,732 for the first six months of 1909. The other important items of exports to this country all showed substantial increases.

## TALK EXCITES PANAMA.

Charge d'Affaires Replies to Anti-American Element.

Panama—In an interview Richard O. Marsh, charge d'affaires of the American legation at Panama, intimated that if the Panamanian government should ignore the wishes of Washington, the United States would be compelled to occupy or annex the Republic of Panama.

Mr. Marsh's statement was made as a consequence of the evident intention of the liberal party, which has a majority in the assembly, to elect as the next vice-president, to fill the unexpired term of the late President Obaldia, an anti-American citizen. The assembly was recently occupied with a very heated discussion of the matter.

Mr. Marsh made this statement:

"In view of all that the American government has done for Panama and its great interest present and future on the government should resolutely refuse to accede to the clear wishes of the American government, that government can only adopt such means as occupation and annexation."

The foregoing has stirred up something of a sensation.

Question May Be Reopened.

Washington—A substantial victory for Great Britain in perhaps the two most important points, a consolatory triumph for the United States in the other five points, with a prospect of another arbitration later at the instance of the United States government, is the way the decision of The Hague tribunal in the Newfoundland fishery case is viewed here.

The decision eliminated the right of the United States to share in the making and enforcement of "reasonable regulations" governing the fisheries in the disputed territory, and it is that qualification "reasonable" that may permit this government to reopen the question.

## State Census Bulletins Soon.

Washington—Census Director Durand announced that the census bureau will begin about January next the issuance from time to time of a series of bulletins, each giving certain population statistics for a single state and its subdivisions. The form of these bulletins, which will later be bound up to constitute regular census volumes, marks a very distinct departure from the method of publishing census statistics ten years ago. It is one step in the carrying out of Director Durand's aim to simplify and make more accessible the census data, so that they can readily used, not merely by expert students and statisticians, but by the average citizen.

## Navy Man's Talk Costly.

Washington—Because First Lieutenant William L. Burchfield, of the Marine Corps, flourished a revolver and used threatening language to Patrolman H. K. Kaha, and several others at Honolulu, has been disciplined by the Navy department. "You know where my dog is; if you don't bring my dog back I'll shoot you," is the threat Burchfield is said to have made in pointing his revolver at the policeman.

## Lakes-to-Gulf Plan Aided.

Washington—The initial step toward the co-operation with the state of Illinois in the lake-to-the-gulf waterway project has been taken. The War department has announced the appointment of a board of distinguished engineers to pass upon the proposed establishment of navigation from Lockport, Ill., to the mouth of the Illinois river.

## Order Given to Kill Talk.

Washington—Instructions promptly and quickly to repudiate the interview he is alleged to have given at Panama, were cable to Richard O. Marsh, the American charge d'affaires, by Acting Secretary of State Wilson.

Portland Bank Would Be Repository  
 Washington—The Security Savings & Trust company, of Portland, has applied for postal savings bank funds.

## HILL TO TAP COAST.

Road Will Be Pushed Through to Los Angeles, is Rumor.

Los Angeles—Well-informed railroad men believe that to all intents and purposes James J. Hill has, or is about to force a way through to this coast for his trains.

Hill has for some time controlled a line to Benson, Ariz., within 50 miles of this city. He is master of the Burlington, reaching with its main line to Denver, and the Colorado & Southern from Denver to Fort Worth.

Handling the reins of the latter line to Hill was one of the biggest mistakes ever made by the late E. H. Harriman, because at Dallas the Colorado & Southern crosses the Rock Island, which operates over the Phelps-Dodge road, the El Paso Southwestern, to El Paso, whence trains come over the Southern Pacific. The Phelps-Dodge line continues, however, to Benson, and its owners have arranged to build to Phoenix.

These interests are at war with the Southern Pacific, and it is understood they have a track-right arrangement with the Santa Fe, which will be highly advantageous to the latter when the new link is built.

There is every reason to expect, authorities declare, from that connection Hill, through his Phelps-Dodge influence, will operate to this coast over the Santa Fe via the Parker cutoff.

## MAN EATS GRASS TO LIVE.

Alaskan Prospector Saved From Starvation on Yukon Island.

Seattle—A special dispatch from Fairbanks, Alaska, says that one of the deckhands of the steamer Monarch has an acute appreciation of what it means to be stranded on a desert isle.

On the last trip of the Monarch down the Tanana river, some one noticed that a flag was being waved from a little island in the river. Captain Blair stopped his boat and sent back to investigate. There he found an unfortunate man who had been wrecked on the island, lost all of his outfit and was reduced to the necessity of eating grass.

As the man had been three days without food, he was weak, but he accepted a job as a deckhand on the Monarch, where good meals revived him.

## PETRIFIED FISH ARE FOUND.

California Miners Discover Two Prehistoric Monsters of the Sea.

San Andreas, Cal.—Word was brought here from Railroad Flat that in the tunnel of the Bouvoir mine, near the Calaveras river, 15 miles East of Mokelumne Hill, two immense petrified fish were found a few days ago, one 37 feet long and the other 15.

The longest one was lengthwise of the tunnel and the miners had blasted into it some distance before they determined that it was. Then it was too late to preserve it, large portions having been blown to pieces. The other one was crosswise and the tunnel was put through it.

The fish were imbedded in cement gravel, and had no doubt been there many centuries, since gravel filled what must have been in the remote past an immense inland sea.

## CLARA MORRIS IN FLIGHT.

Aged Actress, Destitute, May Lose Her Home.

New York—Blind, feeble from illness, deserted by those whose friend she was when they were needy, Clara Morris, 20 years ago the idol of applauding audiences, will be turned from under her roof unless \$20,000 can be raised to lift the mortgage on her home on Riverdale avenue. Headed by a man who had never seen Clara Morris off the stage, a company known as the Clara Morris Holding company, has been organized to save her house for her and has raised \$15,000 towards lifting the mortgage of \$30,000 on the home of the once famous tragedienne. But unless the remaining \$15,000, together with an additional \$5,000 to meet interest, taxes and assessments for some years to come is secured, Clara Morris may be thrown on charity for support.

## Many Preachers to Quit.

Charles City, Ia.—When the Upper Iowa Methodist conference convenes in Charles City next week, it will find itself face to face with a decided shortage in the number of preachers necessary for the district, and 57 charges in the conference will have to be filled from a source not known at present. Fifty-seven men, the greater part of them in the prime of life, a number of them only a few years out of the university and seminary, will quit the ministry at this time and take up secular work.

## Expense Exceeds Salary.

Atlanta, Ga.—For the Democratic nomination for governor of Georgia, Hoke Smith, successful candidate in the recent primary election, paid \$17,596.10, according to an itemized account filed by him with the comptroller of the state. Of this amount friends contributed to his campaign fund \$7,097.47. Governor Joseph M. Brown spent \$3,950.75. The office of governor pays a salary of \$3,000 annually.

## Convicts to Be Whipped.

Austin, Texas—The last official act of the fourth special session of the Texas legislature was the signing by lieutenant-governor and speaker of the house of the law making radical changes in the conduct of the state penitentiary. Whipping in the cases of convicts in what is known as the third or incorrigible class, was restored.

# HAGUE TRIBUNAL SETTLES DISPUTE

## American Fishing Rights Off Newfoundland Defined.

United States Wins Five Out of Seven  
Disputed Points—Treaty of  
1818 Made Clear.

The Hague, Sept. 8.—In the gloomy little chamber of the permanent arbitration court, beneath large paintings of men whose names are associated with the cause of the world's peace, five judges, who since the first of June have considered the Newfoundland fisheries dispute between the United States and Great Britain, this afternoon pronounced the tribunal's historic verdict.

The decision gave neither principal a clear-cut award, but in the seven questions at issue supported the United States in five and Great Britain in two.

The court will be a memorable one because it settled finally the disputes arising from the British-American treaty of 1818, which have caused continued diplomatic controversies, and incidentally because of the six-day speech of Elihu Root, which lawyers here regard as having been the greatest presentation of a case at The Hague.

On one of the two questions decided in favor of Great Britain, the United States has raised certain questions of equity which will have to be submitted to a special commission for determination.

Englishmen are pleased with the award, because under it the three-mile limit is based on headlands, instead of following the sinuosities of the coast, and because their sovereignty is upheld by confirming Great Britain's right to make reasonable fisheries regulations without concurrence of the United States.

The award provides that existing disputed fishing regulations shall be submitted to a commission composed of one expert from each country and Dr. Paulus Shook, the fisheries adviser of the Netherlands. The award holds that by the treaty of 1818 permission is given to Americans to enter certain bays and harbors for shelter and repairs and to take on board wood and water.

## COOL TOWARDS ROOSEVELT

Socialist Mayor of Milwaukee Gives  
No Reception.

Milwaukee, Sept. 8.—The Germans had their day with ex-President Roosevelt today.

Beginning the day with a tiff with Milwaukee's Socialist mayor, Emil Seidel, who is a German, Colonel Roosevelt put in the scheduled hours of his visit here by roaming about the city at will, making his own program as he went.

He inspected the city's trade schools, attended two luncheons and a dinner, took an automobile ride to Whitefish bay, a summer resort on the lake shore, near Milwaukee, and addressed two huge audiences tonight. He went late to his car to start early in the morning for Freeport, Ill., where he is to speak tomorrow, and for Chicago, which he is to visit late in the day.

The Milwaukee Press club had the colonel in hand. In honor of the day the club got out the first and last edition of the Big Stick, a newspaper devoted exclusively to Colonel Roosevelt's affairs. In it there was a letter by Mayor Seidel, explaining why he would not serve as a member of the committee to welcome Colonel Roosevelt. He considered that something which the colonel had written about Socialism was unkind and said that the colonel could not expect him to welcome him.

Before he had his breakfast Colonel Roosevelt issued a reply, telling the people that he would prefer to have them read what he had written rather than what the mayor said about what he had written.

## West to Call Own Congress.

St Paul—That a meeting of the Western Conservation congress undoubtedly will be called soon was the statement of Judge Frank Short, of California, in the course of the session of the National Conservation congress here. The statement came after many unverified reports that sentiment favoring such a congress was being worked up by delegates from the Pacific slope. "It might be called immediately," Judge Short said, "were it not for the fear that members of this congress might look upon it as hostile."

## "Skin the Goat" Is Dead.

Dublin—James Fitzharris, better known by the name of "Skin the Goat," who drove the car containing the assassins of Lord Frederick Cavendish, chief secretary of Ireland, and T. P. Burke, the permanent under secretary, to the scene of the crime in Phoenix park May 6, 1882, died today in the workhouse. Fitzharris was released in 1903, after serving 20 years of a life sentence for his share in the tragedy.

## Morgan Harvard Donor.

Cambridge, Mass.—Harvard University library has come into possession of the magnificent Leferts' collection of the works of Alexander Pope, which consist of upward of 500 volumes of books and pamphlets. While the name of the donor is withheld, it is understood that it is J. P. Morgan.