

Wild Life Rides River Torrents

Common Danger Causes Animal Enemies to Fraternize During Escape

New Orleans.—Side by side with the rush to safety from the flooded area of hundreds of thousands of human beings there is being enacted in the Lower Mississippi valley another and perhaps more desperate struggle for life. State and federal governments and relief organizations are co-operating in efforts to care for the people whose homes on farms and in settlements are under water. But the wild animals and birds of that part of Louisiana west of the Mississippi, which includes the greatest game preserve in the country, for the most part have had to shift for themselves, says the New York Times.

Common danger has drawn together hunters and the hunted. Mutually hostile species have been observed floating downstream together on the same logs and rafts. The shiest of animals, the Louisiana muskrat, has looked to man for help. The Louisiana muskrat supplies 55 per cent of the fur used by the garment trade of the United States. Add to this "pillar of the fur trade" the otter, the mink, the beaver, the raccoon and even the humble possum that have Louisiana habitats. The result is that, in quantity production, the fur crop of Louisiana is almost twice that of Canada, nearly fifteen times that of Alaska and greater by hundreds of thousands of pelts than that of any other section of the country.

Extirpation of this trade would be a terrific economic loss for thousands of Louisiana trappers. There are signs, however, that when the floods subside the wild life of Louisiana will by no means be extinct.

This is the view of Stanley C. Arthur, director of the division of wild life of the Louisiana State Conservation commission, and few are able to discuss the birds and animals of the state more intelligently or sympathetically than he.

Sportsmen's Paradise. "As all sportsmen know," he said, "the lowlands and the virgin swamps of Louisiana teemed before the flood with deer, bear, wild turkey, quail, marsh hens, foxes, muskrats, beaver, opossum, mink, raccoons, squirrels, otters, weasels, and, to a lesser extent, such predatory animals as the cougar, the wildcat and the wolf. In the jungles of the northeastern parishes on the right bank of the Mississippi the late Theodore Roosevelt used to hunt bear and turkey, and I might mention other hunters whose names are household words in the world of genuine sport.

"When the flood crests swept down on our state few thought, naturally, of our wild creatures. Hundreds of thousands of our people had to be saved. That was the first duty; wild life had to await its turn. Now that the desolation is about complete we can begin to take stock as to what has happened to the wild inhabitants of our jungles and marshes. I am hopeful that a very large proportion of them have survived, and I'll tell you why.

"I am sure that we will find most of the Louisiana deer alive when the floods have passed. Large numbers of them are safe on the red hills of Mississippi, and the very fact that so many of them are in that state now gives us ample reason to hope that most of the other deer are still alive on high land in the flood zones.

"I also believe that we will find most of the bears alive. But they are not in Mississippi. Some of the cubs probably were drowned, but I think that the older ones had more than an even chance. We all know that the bear is no fool—he is one of our wisest animals—and it is more than likely when the flood waters have gone that we will find Brother Bear peacefully treading his way back to his old haunts in the Singer reserve and the other jungles in the northeastern parishes and in the basin of the Atchafalaya. Moreover, the mother bears are such wonderful mothers that I am hopeful that a lot of little fellows will be saved, too; if the cubs can be saved, trust the mother bears to do it."

Big Game Safe. Mr. Arthur is sure that foxes, like the bear and deer, are above water somewhere. As for the cougars, wolves, wildcats and other predatory animals, few tears would be shed over their loss. There appears to be a good chance, however, that a very considerable proportion of them have successfully evaded the deluge and that in the course of time they will be as numerous as ever in the jungle fastnesses of the game section of Louisiana.

"HUMAN CLOCK" BAFFLES BRITISH MEDICAL SOCIETY

Bill Jenney, Clock Winder, Develops Uncanny Ability to Tell Time at Any Hour.

London.—Just how far a human being can be transformed into a living clock has been demonstrated in London by members of the British Medical and Psychological association. They did everything in their power to dislodge what they called Jenney's "acute psycho-astral pose."

It is stated that about one person in 500,000 is generally found to have peculiar faculties for gauging the passage of time, which means, of course, the changing juxtaposition of the sun and the earth, and Jenney's faculties have been highly developed owing to his vocation. Jenney has found that, like a clock, his ability depends largely on his health. Some days he might be a minute fast; at other times it would be the reverse.

Muskrat casualties, Mr. Arthur believes, will be higher than other species of wild life in the state, with the possible exception of the rabbit. "I have just returned," he said, "from an inspection of the muskrat territory in the parishes of St. Bernard and Plaquemine. From these marshes came a majority of the muskrat pelts which meant more than \$5,000,000 annually to Louisiana trappers. I found that at least 50 per cent of these valuable little creatures have perished.

"With J. C. Durham, one of our special deputy wardens, I covered much of the muskrat country south of New Orleans—a country which is today little more than a great lake. "In our four days' inspection of the muskrat area Mr. Durham and I saw thousands of muskrats in the floodwaters. Everything that floated—a log, a piece of plank, anything that was buoyant—was carrying its load of refugee rats. On the roofs of buildings, on the limbs of trees that still were above water were other refugees, and sometimes they were sharing their haven with raccoons and rabbits, and, now and then, even snakes.

"It is quite possible that some of the muskrats migrated to the lowlands of the Bayou Biloxi marshlands, but they were a very small proportion of the vast number to whom the lowlands of St. Bernard and Plaquemine was home. The great majority of the survivors are still clinging to the rafts, the logs and whatever else there is that floats on the flood waters that crashed down upon the trapping grounds through the man-made crevasse south of New Orleans.

Lost Shyness. "When the dynamite charges that cracked the Caernarvon levee were set off there was no animal, big or little, more shy than the muskrat. But with the flood it seems the customary fear of mankind largely disappeared. As Durham and I paddled our canoe through the flood waters of St. Bernard and Plaquemine some of the rats—the big strong ones, who still had a lot of pep and dash left in them—would dive and swim away. Others, however, weakened by the long struggle for life in the water, headed straight for our boat. They would climb up on the paddles, cling to the side of the canoe, and wait for us to take them in our hands and drop them in the bottom of the canoe.

"Once safe on board the muskrat began to make his toilet. When his toilet was complete, the little fellow would lie back and snooze away for an hour or more. Later on, when we sighted a raft, we would set him adrift and off he went to board the craft the trappers have launched throughout the flood zone as a haven for him in his hour of distress. All this may sound a bit fantastic, but it so happens it is the truth.

"These rafts are proving a partial solution of the problem created by the flood. If we save 50 per cent of the animals the raft will have to be credited with a very large part in the achievement. Of course, we are going to lose practically all the baby and the very young rats, but we are going to save a lot of the old fellows and their mates. On many of these rafts the nest-making activities of many of the females indicate that it won't be long before there will be a lot of baby rats on board.

"Nevertheless, the fraternization of wild life in moments of grave peril is always a wonderful thing. In my tours of the St. Bernard and Plaquemine desolations I have seen snakes, raccoons, mink and rats all on the

"Noah's Ark" of Gassed Veterans



Here is the "Noah's Ark," as it is called by its owners, H. Petersou and G. Wood, both of Sausalito, Calif. It has a tag from every state in the Union, as well as lots of funny quips marked on it. The owners are World War vets, gassed in the Argonne. Told they had not long to live, they decided to see the world. So far they have been up and down the coast and across the United States five times, and their health has improved so that they no longer feel the ill effects of the Argonne gas.

London Dietitians Plan Perfect "Square Meal"

London.—The perfect square meal was on display here at the Nursing and Midwifery exhibition, Central Hall, Westminster, and attracted such crowds that queues formed to get a glimpse of it. All three vitamins—A, B and C—are included in the perfect menu, which included cold chicken and egg sauce, new potatoes, salad, corn-flower mold, fruit salad with cream, whole-wheat bread and butter and lemonade. By adding or subtracting vitamins the "perfect square" may be made just the thing to alter fat or thin persons.

same log, each holding on for dear life and all past enmities entirely forgotten.

"The vast flocks of ducks to whom the marshlands of Louisiana were picnic grounds are safe but not their young. As our boat sailed through the flood zone, I often noted broods of baby ducks. The mother duck was as a rule swimming just ahead of them, sometimes pretending to have a broken wing in order to distract our attention from her little family. On top of one floating hen house, the sight that met our eyes was two big rabbits and a half dozen full-grown rats. They were brothers in distress, and it seemed they knew it.

Not So Friendly. "On some of the muskrat rafts not only rabbits but also mink and sometimes snakes found a refuge. Here I am afraid the fraternity spirit did not last, for minks are noted for their love of muskrat chops and the snake is quite fond of rabbit meat, as you perhaps know.

"I have not been in the northeastern zone yet, but when we do get there I am quite certain we will find that the same fraternity in the face of the flood perished on the hills and other elevations, where we believe the deer, bear, wolves, cougars and foxes assembled and sought safety along with the wildcats, turkeys and the raccoons and opossums. "It is a pitiable sight to watch the antics of some of the rats trying to save themselves. We frequently find the mice, as the baby muskrats are called, clinging to the tips of cattails protruding from the water. Often four or five mice will be clinging to a bunch of cattails, while the mother muskrat frantically swims around in the water, occasionally diving down and bringing up shreds of grass for her young. Sometimes the mother will turn over on her back next to the cattails, so that her young can feed from her breast.

"And so the battle goes on. We are busy every minute and we expect to have enough rats to restore the muskrat fur industry to its pre-flood prestige in due course of time." Above the desolation of the waters hover great numbers of vultures, said Mr. Arthur. These unpleasant birds, however, appear to have been balked in their efforts to prey on the smaller animals and birds. An "aerial patrol" is functioning and holding the vultures in check.

Fight the Vultures. "Kingbirds and blackbirds," Mr. Arthur explained, "and other birds native to the country flutter above the mangrove trees, where once were their nests, but now covered with water. These angry kingbirds are proving terrible adversaries to the vultures. When the latter venture too close the "aerial patrols" fly at them and peck at their eyes, and always the vulture takes to flight."

"What of the otter, the beaver and the alligator?" Mr. Arthur was asked. "They can all swim," was the reply. "And the squirrels, the raccoons and the opossums?" "They can all climb and their home is the tops of trees," he answered. "It's a great problem, this wild life of Louisiana," concluded Mr. Arthur, "and we have got to solve it, and the first thing after the waters recede will be the strict enforcement of the laws for the protection of game life and the fur-bearing animals of the state. This will probably prove to be the darkest year in our history, but we will emerge from the gloom of it all in due course. Louisiana will assume her place at the head of the game and fur-producing states of the Union. Just now we are busy trying to save as much of it as we can. Come back four or five months from now and I will tell you how."

Looks Like Knock Princeton, N. J.—Next to Smith and Vassar Harvard is the favorite "woman's college" of some seniors at Princeton. Of 470 members of the class 22 so voted.

Prophecy Fulfilled

There are several lakes or streams in different parts of the world with which are connected strange stories. One is Lake Chrissie, four miles from Ermelo, in the eastern Transvaal. When the Dutch emigrants from the Cape first settled in the Transvaal an old Kaffir medicine man predicted that some day the lake would become dry, and then the Boers would lose their independence. This prophecy was fulfilled when the Boers were subdued by the British.

Actorless Age Expected

Frico Prampolini, an Italian futurist, says the time will come when there will be no actors in the theater. The future theater, he says, will present "abstract forces" and each production will be a "mechanical rite of the eternal transcendence of matter." Instead of a story enacted by human beings it will be an arrangement of architectural and scenic forces, with time and space the chief "dynamic elements."—Home correspondence of the Detroit Free Press.

What's the Answer?

Here is a new feature that will provide profitable entertainment for all of our readers. In each issue we will print a series of twenty questions covering such subjects as history, science, geography, literature, arithmetic, religion, sports, economics, famous sayings, natural history and other things. In this issue we start the series with the first twenty questions. Our next issue will carry the answer to these questions and another set of twenty, and so on over a period of several months. Try to answer these questions as they appear in each issue. To do so, to search for the answers that you do not know, will add materially to your store of valuable information. This new, "What's the Answer?" department is an educational feature of unusual value. Cut out the questions, keep them until the answers appear in the next issue and then see how near correct your own answers have been. Follow it from issue to issue and you will find it fascinating.

- Questions—No. 1**
- 1—Who discovered the Pacific ocean?
 - 2—What is the oldest town in the United States and when was it settled?
 - 3—What is the area of the earth's surface?
 - 4—What is the average person's range of visibility?
 - 5—How many times has St. Louis won the National league pennant?
 - 6—What is the meaning of the Renaissance as applied to art?
 - 7—What land is remarkable in that it has practically no drainage to the sea?
 - 8—What is the oldest Greek letter college fraternity?
 - 9—Who said, "I regret that I have but one life to give to my country"?
 - 10—What industry is considered the barometer for general trade in the United States?
 - 11—What is myopia?
 - 12—How old is the earth?
 - 13—When was negro slavery introduced into the United States?
 - 14—When was Yale college founded?
 - 15—Who was the first man to drive an automobile more than a mile in a minute?
 - 16—What American actor has won distinction as tragedian and comedian; as an interpreter of Shakespeare and of the modern drama, and is equally proficient on the stage and in moving pictures?
 - 17—Which of the continents has the most regular coast line?
 - 18—Who was the first lyric poet of France?
 - 19—Who said: "D—n the torpedoes! Go ahead!"?
 - 20—What is America's greatest undeveloped resource?

Accidents That Have Made Big Industries

A piece of cheese tossed by one workman at another during the luncheon hour missed its mark and dropped into the plating bath used in the production of copper disks from which wax phonograph records were stamped. Later the disks from that bath were found to be far superior to the others, and an investigation revealed that the casein in the cheese had done the trick. This disclosed a possible improvement worth thousands of dollars to the manufacturer. Telephone engineers discovered that an alloy of nickel and iron, when produced in the form of a narrow ribbon and wound around the copper core of a submarine cable, would increase the speed of the cable six times. The only trouble was that no one seemed able to find a flux that would weld the ends of the ribbon into a solid piece. One day a workman jokingly said: "Let's try salt." Picking up the shaker from his luncheon pail, he started to sprinkle the salt over the flux, when the cover fell off the shaker and the salt poured over the weld. This started a chemical action that united the edges, and the problem was solved. A scientist in France, while experimenting in his laboratory, inadvertently opened the wrong valve. Before he could rectify his mistake several drops of molten metal settled in a glass tube that was part of the apparatus. His elation knew no bounds, for here at last was the end of the long search for liquid oxygen. Again an accident created an industry and gave us an explosive far safer and mightier than dynamite.—Floyd W. Parsons in the Saturday Evening Post.

FROM FAR AND NEAR

The Apache Indians are the only tribe known to have used a stringed musical instrument. Smooth-bark trees seem to be less often struck by lightning than those with furrowed bark. A new beacon light, which is described as visible through mist and clouds and is easily distinguishable from street lamps, is now in wide use in Germany. Oil from the liver of the puffer fish is reported to be fifteen times as potent against rickets as cod-liver oil. A method of sheathing radium to prevent the rays from causing burns has been developed by Mme. Marie Curie. E. J. Thompson of Antrim, N. H., has been using the same automobile for 24 years and expects to keep on using it.

Bellanca Monoplane About to Hop Off



The Bellanca monoplane Columbia being towed from the hangar to the runway for the hopoff for Europe. Pilot Clarence D. Chamberlin and Charles A. Levine, his wealthy backer, made the flight to Germany, landing first at Eilsleben.

Planning for Control of Mississippi Floods



Early congressional action for the control of floods in the Mississippi valley is expected to result from the great flood conference in Chicago which was attended by thousands of prominent men in all walks of life. This photograph shows the conference in session in the Hotel Sherman.

Birthplace of Old Glory



Betsy Ross first conceived the design of the American flag in this house, her home in Philadelphia. The birthplace of Old Glory attracts many visitors, especially on Flag day, June 14.

WINS FIVE PRIZES



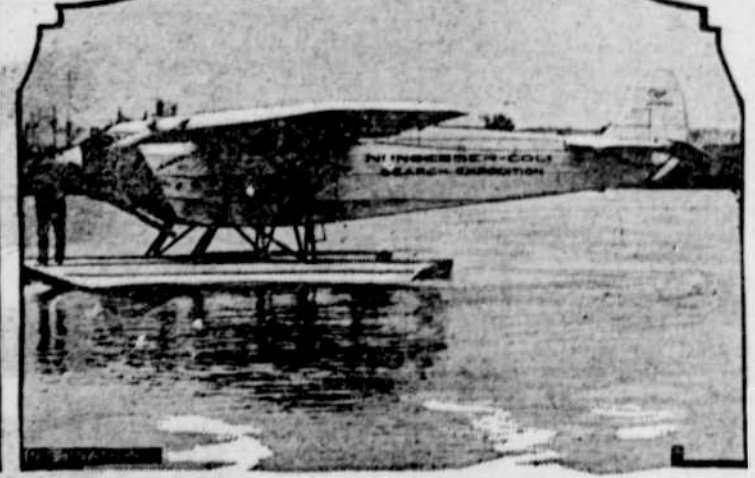
Midshipman Ferol Davis Overfelt of New Mexico, a member of the Naval academy graduating class, who has set a new record by taking five out of twelve prizes. They are the Thompson prize, a navigating sextant; class of 1817 sword; the Gardner L. Caskey memorial prize, a gold watch; class of 1924 gold watch; military Order of Foreign War's prize, a wrist watch, and the commendatory letter.

"GOOD-BY"



Mrs. Charles A. Levine, wife of Clarence D. Chamberlin's companion on flight from New York to Eilsleben, Germany, saying good-by to Chamberlin before the hopoff. She did not then know her husband was going.

Plane to Hunt for Lost Flyers



The plane "Jean de Arc," as she rested in the water at Little Ferry, N. J., taking off on a hunt for the missing French airmen, Nungesser and Goll. The plane is piloted by F. Sidney Cotton and Cy Caldwell.

Chooses Own Reward

A Dutch gypsy whose wife found a \$20,000 string of pearls in a residential street of Amsterdam recently, returned it to an insurance company and was asked to name his own reward. He chose a horse, a new wagon, and a new scissor-grinding machine.

Acid Test in Court

"With all my worldly goods I thus endow," gets its acid test in the divorce court settlements.—Boston Herald.