

# WHERE DO SEALS GO IN WINTER?

Ancient Mystery Remains Unsolved to This Day, Says a Writer.

## HERDS ARE NOW SMALLER

Formerly the Annual Kill Was 100,000, but the Law Now Bars Wholesale Slaughter—Killing Done by Natives.

Washington.—With the growing popularity of fur coats the interest in their origin is also developing, and many an owner of a handsome sealskin coat mused idly over its history before reaching her and the phases of its production. But very few are aware of a real mystery attached to the garment which is so important to the smart woman's wardrobe—for there is indeed a mystery surrounding the seal and in all the years these animals have been put to commercial use and have been under such close observation no one has ever been able to discover where they go in winter. No one yet has been able to make a record of their hiding place, according to Gas Logic, which gives something of the history of the seal.

"In Alaska, the seals begin to appear on the islands of St. Paul and St. George about the end of April or the first of May," reads the article, "and toward the latter part of August or in the first weeks of September, they disappear as strangely and mysteriously as they came. This is one of Nature's secrets which she has kept most successfully hid from scientists as well as the prying eyes of the merely curious and inquisitive.

### Seals Desert Islands.

"Even in the days, years ago, when the seals numbered five millions or more, apparently some signal unknown to man would be given and the next day the fog-wreathed rocks would be bare, the seals having deserted the islands. With their slipping off into Bering Sea, all trace of them was lost until their return the following spring. Then some morning they would suddenly reappear, disporting themselves in the water or on the shore.

"When the United States bought Alaska from Russia in 1867, outsiders without any rights or privileges were in the habit of going there to kill as many seals as possible. In order to prevent what might prove the extinction of the sealing industry the United States government in 1870 stopped this

indiscriminate killing and leased the islands of St. Paul and St. George to the Alaska Commercial company, giving the company the right to kill 100,000 seals a year for 20 years. The islands were later leased by the government to another commercial company and the killing was cut so that it could not exceed 60,000 seals a year. In 1891 this figure was still further reduced to 15,000 a year, and since that time it has varied from 15,000 to 21,000 annually. In 1913 the United States assumed entire control of the sealing industry and it has conducted it since that time.

"In 1919 about 30,000 seals were taken for commercial use. There are now approximately 400,000 seals in Alaska and the government has taken strict measures to prevent this number from being depleted. No one not authorized by the government is allowed on the two principal seal islands except at the time of the killing, when the Aleuts or natives are permitted to go there to attend to the actual killing of the animals and the salting of their skins. The seals selected are driven slowly inshore for a mile or more, every care being taken not to alarm the rest of the herd. The process is similar to that of ambushing a company of soldiers, cutting them off completely from the rest of the regiment and disposing of them before they are missed from the lines.

### Clubbed to Death.

"When the natives have arrived at the salting houses, near which they have driven the seals, they kill them by clubbing them on the head. After skinning them, the skins are heavily salted on the flesh side and put in piles

of six, being arranged in three pairs, the fleshy side of each skin against the fleshy side of another skin. Later they are rolled in packages of four and put into casks, then shipped to San Francisco, whence they are reshipped by rail to the Eastern fur centers.

"Seals weighing less than six pounds may not be killed, according to law. Experts say that the best skins come from those mammals between the ages of two and four years. For the first time this year some of the older seals—those from six to eight years—are to be killed as an experiment. The fur of these 'Wigs,' as the older ones are called, is coarser and not as long and soft as that of the 'pups' or youngsters. It takes from two to four skins for a coat, depending upon its size and style. Though it is not possible to set an exact price on the value of a seal-skin, it is now about \$70. Innumerable imitations of sealskins are sold, the best known being 'Hudson seal,' which is dressed and dyed muskrat. Then there are numbers of near-seal varieties, which have such names as French, Siberian or Baltic seal, etc. All of the near-seal furs are simply dressed and dyed rabbit."

## Twins Born Twenty Miles Apart Within Six Hours

Although they were born 20 miles apart and in different counties, Reuben and Ruth Walden are twins.

The stork visited the home of Mrs. Nancy Walden, wife of a farmer of Hill Top, Colo., and left a lusty boy. The attending physician placed Mrs. Walden in a motorcar and drove her to a Denver hospital, 20 miles distant, where a daughter was born to Mrs. Walden six hours later.

# NEW PLANE HAS WINGS LIKE BIRD

Inventor Perfects Model After Exhaustive Study of Wild Goose and the Eagle.

## U. S. EXPERTS APPROVE IT

Ninety-Six Miles an Hour With Eight Revolutions a Minute Claimed for New Machine—No Vacuum Required and Is Nonrigid.

Norfolk, Va.—An airplane with wings that flap like a bird has been patented by Thomas J. Bird, formerly of Johnson City, Tenn., now a resident of Hampton, Va. It can get up from the water as well as it can from land. It is different from the rigid winged airplane, which receives its impetus from a rapidly revolving propeller. In several tests the machine has proven that it can fly, and it is claimed by the inventor and government experts that it will probably prove a much better flyer than the present-day airplane.

Mr. Bird says his machine in the "take off" and flight through the air does not create or require a vacuum, as does the present-day airplane. Mr. Bird, who is a marine engineer, several years ago took a course in aviation at San Diego, Cal., and became a regular licensed aviator. His idea was to do away with the present propeller and construct a machine with moveable wings or planes that would flap like any winged creature of the air.

### Studies Bird Flight.

To attain this end, he made exhaustive studies of and observed the flights of wild fowls, especially the wild goose and the eagle. His observations of the sustained flight of the wild goose convinced him that that fowl is one of the swiftest of all winged creatures.

He then built a machine that he flew successfully at Santa Monica, Cal.

The motive power necessary for the propulsion of the mechanism of

this flying machine is a gasoline engine or engines. The most essential mechanism is, first, the universal joint bearing boxes, which connect the wings of the flying machine to the body, and wherewith the wings are caused to swing, flapping like those of a bird in the air; and, second, the wing guiding disk that causes the wings to move downward and upward in an oblong circular movement similar to that of an oarsman rowing a boat. This eliminates all jerking motion in the wing.

It is the constant aim of mechanical engineers in the construction of gasoline engines in operation to hold down the speed revolutions to keep the heat produced by gas combustion and friction at a temperature that will prevent distortion of the engines. For the type of airplane now in use the propellers must revolve very rapidly, and consequently, the engines are speeded up very near the danger point, as where a speed of ninety-six miles an hour is maintained continuously for many hours, which speed is that of the wild goose with its wings and by muscular energy alone. In Mr. Bird's flying machine, with wings likened to those of a wild goose, to attain this speed the wings will be propelled eight revolutions per minute, whereas the propeller airplane will require 1,400 per minute.

The wings or planes in this invention are formed from overlapping slats, and are so constructed as to automatically close on the downward and forward thrust of the wings and open as the wings rise or recover, thereby permitting the air or water, as the case may be, to pass through without retarding the movement of the wings.

The inventor claims that no difficulty will be experienced in developing an engine revolution of 160 to 200 per minute, and a speed of 175 to 200 miles per hour.

The aviation department of the United States government has signified its encouragement of the device by offering aid in the building of a machine this coming summer at its chief construction base at Cleveland, O.

## TEETH PROVE DOCTOR FALSE

He Blamed Them for Neuritis, So Patient Calmly Removes the Set.

Winsted, Conn.—Charles S. Warner, a commercial salesman, loves a joke and likes to tell one.

Getting no relief from a doctor's treatment for neuritis he said he visited another doctor and received a thorough examination, after which the second doctor told him his ailment resulted from poor teeth and that he could not expect any relief until the teeth had been taken out.

Mr. Warner protested, but when the doctor insisted, he yielded and removed his false teeth and handed them to the surprised physician.

### Mate Gold and Silver Fowls.

London.—Experiments in the department of genetics, at Cambridge, of mating domestic fowls, one sex of gold and the other of silver-marked plumage, brought interesting results.

When a silver hen was mated with a golden cock, all the sons were silver and all the daughters were gold. A silver cock transmitted the silver factor both to sons and daughters.

## Children of Panama Send Stone for Roosevelt Grave



The school children of the canal zone have picked out and sent to this country a boulder, to be placed by the grave of Col. Theodore Roosevelt. The illustration shows, at the right, Helen and Harriet Hertz, twins, selecting the stone, and, left, the presentation of the boulder to Mrs. Roosevelt.

# KOREANS SLAIN BY JAP TROOPS

Missionaries Tell of the Atrocities Perpetrated in Chientao District of China.

## MANY VILLAGES DESTROYED

Charge Deliberate Intention of Wiping Out All Young Christians—Not Punished for Religion, Say Japs, but for Banditry and Rebellion.

Tokyo.—Details of alleged massacres of Koreans by Japanese troops, the burning of Korean villages and the destruction of native crops are given in statements received from Canadian missionaries in the Chientao district of China, supplementing previous reports on this subject heretofore received.

One of the missionaries, Dr. S. H. Martin of Newfoundland, physician, attached to the Canadian Presbyterian mission at Yongjung, who visited the village of Norabawie on October 31, two days after the Japanese went through that district, states:

"The facts recorded below apply to the whole district of Kando or Chientao, in the southern part of the provinces of Kirin, China. Japan, under the strongest protest from China, has sent over 15,000 men into this part of China with the seeming intention of wiping out of existence, if possible, the whole Christian community, especially all young men.

### Charges Wholesale Murder.

"Village after village is daily being methodically burned and the young men shot, so that at present we have a ring of villages surrounding this city that have suffered from fire or wholesale murder or both. The facts below are absolutely accurate:

"At daybreak a complete cordon of Japanese infantry surrounded the main Christian village of Norabawie and, starting from the top of the valley, set fire to the immense stacks of unthreshed millet, barley and straw and then ordered the occupants of the houses outside. In each case as the father or son stepped forth he was shot on sight, and as he fell on his face, perhaps only half dead, great piles of burning straw were thrown on top of him.

"I was shown the blood marks on the ground caused by the bayonet thrusts inflicted on the men as they strove to rise from the flames, in spite of the fact that they had been shot three times at close range. The bodies were soon charred beyond recognition. The mothers, wives and even the children were forced spectators of this treatment of all the grown males of the village. Houses were fired and soon the whole country was full of smoke, which was plainly visible from this town. The Japanese soldiers then spread out and burned the houses of Christian believers in other villages all the way down the valley to the main road. Then they returned home to celebrate the emperor's birthday.

### Photographs of Murders.

"As we approached the nearby villages we found only women and children and some white-haired men. The women with young babies on their backs were walking up and down wailing. I photographed ruins of 19 buildings, among which were old men tearing their hair and crying, while mothers and daughters were recovering bodies or unburned treasures from the burning ruins. So many women were crying and I was so angry at what I had seen that I could not hold my camera steady enough to take a time exposure.

"We have names and accurate reports of 32 villages where murder and fire have been used. One village has had as many as 145 inhabitants killed. Houses have been burned with women and children in them. At Sonungtung 14 were stood up in front of a large grave, then shot and their bod-

worship, and, above all, their Savior, were their joy. They were not patriotic soldiers, and disapproved of the church taking part in politics."

Miss Emma M. Palethorpe of Ontario, a member of the Canadian Presbyterian mission at Yongjung, tells in her statement of the execution of five men from the village of Suchilgo, who, she says, were led by the Japanese soldiers to the top of a hill about three miles from Yongjung and there put to death.

"In the top of the hill," she declares, "there is quite a large hollow not visible from the road or village. The victims were made to sit at the bottom of this, where they were slashed at with swords. It is reported by an eye-witness that two swords were broken and then the awful work was finished with bayonets. Then the loose earth was pushed down from the sides of the hollow to cover the mutilated bodies."

In answering inquiries at the Japanese war office, Lieutenant Colonel Hata told a press correspondent that the number of Japanese troops employed in the Chientao affair was 5,000, not 15,000. Villages had been burned, he said, but only in cases where the majority of the inhabitants were known to be in league with the outlaws.

Referring to the charge that an organized attempt was made "to wipe out the whole Christian community," Colonel Hata said that it was possible that a majority of those who had been executed were Christians, but they were not punished for their religion but for banditry and rebellion. No charge was made against the missionaries.

Colonel Hata, while admitting that harsh measures had been adopted, said bad conditions had existed in that district for a long time owing to the unchecked activities of Chinese bandits, Korean outlaws and Russian Bolsheviks. He said he was confident that the Japanese soldiers had not been guilty of the barbarity with which they had been charged.

### Suitana Orders Dazzling Gown.

Paris.—Like a glittering golden beetle, holding itself gracefully to the lines of the figure and ending in a dazzling court train, an evening gown of remarkable design has just been made for Suitana Menelik of Egypt by Captain Molyneux, the English dress designer in Paris.

The dress, which is cut very low, front and back, hangs from the shoulders by gold cord and is made of shimmering sequins. The materials cost \$2,500.

## Statues of Suffrage Pioneers



Memorial statues of the three suffrage pioneers, Lucretia Mott, Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Susan B. Anthony, which the National Woman's party will present to the national capitol on the opening day of the Woman's party convention, February 15, Susan B. Anthony's 101st anniversary. They were photographed in one of the early stages of development from the block of marble in the studio of Adelaide Johnson in Carrara, Italy. A portrait of Mrs. Johnson is inserted.

## "Baby Congressman" Gets Pointers



"Uncle Joe" Cannon, the oldest member of the house of representatives in point of service, was snapped recently while visiting with Representative Clarence J. McLeod, the newly elected "baby congressman" from Michigan. "Uncle Joe" was battling on the floor of the house long before McLeod was born. McLeod was twenty-five years old last July 3.