

FUR FLIES THE WORLD OVER TO SUPPLY DEMAND

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 3. — American fur growers favor American fur buyers to search the fur markets of the world to meet the demand for fur garments, although the United States is the world's greatest fur producer, says a bulletin from the Washington, D. C. headquarters of the National Geographic Society.

"Stand for half an hour on a busy corner of the shopping district of an American city, and literally watch the animals by by-animals that roam dreary Arctic wastes, African jungles, and all the wild places between. Then, picture the trappers and your imagination conjures a procession of Eskimo, swarthy Asiatic, brown African and Canadian adventurer. The romance of furs is one of the most thrilling chapters in all the annals of trade.

More than 100,000,000 foreign animal pelts imported

Wild squirrels and rabbits cavort about all the forests of the United States; muskrats infest the marshes of every State except Florida; for some reason the raccoon avoids only Montana; martens, minks, foxes, opossums and skunks range over a wide area of this country. Yet more than 100,000,000 pelts are imported annually to trim women's dresses, line men's gloves and make fur coats for both sexes.

China is America's largest source of furs, but only in the supply of dog and goat pelts does China excel other foreign countries. Karakul comes from the herds of Karakul lambs in India and Central Asia; most of our foreign mink pelts are from the traps of the Japanese. The United Kingdom leads the list of sources of squirrel, fox, and mole pelts; Germany supplies most of our foreign marten pelts; Peru, Chile and Bolivia, chinchilla pelts; Siberia, marine pelts; Australia, rabbit pelts; and for our additional supply of beaver and muskrat pelts, we look to Canada.

Hunan's Pelt Takes Leopard Spots

Early fur wearers were only genuine furs. Only the trapper and the wealthy could afford fur garments. Then the demand for cheap furs developed. Like actors in a commercial drama, dressers of cheap furs appeared in the fur world. Experts discovered that pelts of rabbits, dogs, alley cats, goats, ponies and many other animals could be made into exquisite pelts by the deft hands of trained fur workers. Australia had been offering a bounty for killing rab-

bites which had overrun the continent, but the new fur trade turned a liability into an asset.

More than a hundred million cheaper furs are used annually. With a little dye and expert workmanship, many pelts are made to imitate those of the aristocrats of the fur-bearing animal world. Rabbit furs dyed seal brown are known as Arctic seal, bay seal and northern seal, sealette and sealine. Dyed to imitate fox, they grace the counters of the fur store as Italian brown, red and black fox, or fox hair. A leopard may not be able to change its spots but leopard spots dyed on rabbit pelts make Italian, French and Russian leopard. These are but a few of more than fifty dyes by which rabbit pelts are known, when they leave the hands of the furriers.

Furs Vie With Gold in Exploration

Civilization is invading the domain of the fur-bearing animals in the United States, yet from \$45,000,000 to \$75,000,000 worth of furs were taken in 1927. The greatest wild fur producing area in the world lies within a 500-mile radius of St. Louis. In an attempt to increase the supply of genuine furs, fur farms or ranches have been established in the United States. Approximately ninety-nine per cent of the silver fox pelts sold on American markets are ranch bred. Prince Edward Island, north of Nova Scotia, where fox ranching began about 20 years ago is literally covered with fox ranches. Skunk, muskrat and rabbit ranches have also been established.

Furs have played an important part in exploration. Explorers often find the cabins of fur trappers marking the furthest outpost of civilization. St. Louis owes its founding to the early French fur trader who established a station on the site in 1764. Trappers and traders from the St. Louis station and those from Canadian stations opened up a large part of northern and western United States. Long before the forty-niners crossed the plains the Frenchman reached what is now the State of Utah when they learned that Canadian fur traders had already been in that region.

Russian trappers crossed the bleak expanse of Siberia to Kamchatka in quest of furs and then pushed on to Alaska. Furs and gold have vied in opening up Secretary Folly's or the Seven Million Dollar Ice Box, as Alaska was formerly called. But gold booms have come and gone. Fur trapping and trading have continued and today two little islands of the Pacific group in the Bearing Sea, worth \$800,000 worth of seal and blue fox furs to the St. Louis fur market annually. Blue foxes are also successfully ranches on many of the Alaskan islands.

MOSCOW (AP) — During the last four years 2,200 Jewish families have been established on farms. Another 1,000 families will be sent to colonize White Russia, 2,000 to Ukraine, 1,000 to Crimea and 1,000 to Siberia.

Truck and Bus Transportation



More than 5000 Firestone tires are rolling on Pickwick stages. H. D. Tomkins, manager of bus and truck tire department of the system Firestone organization, explains to C. F. Wren, president of Pickwick, why gun-dipping with other Firestone features brings such remarkable mileage records.

"Tires built to stand the gaff under the most grueling kind of service have contributed in substantial measure to the tremendous development that has taken place in recent years in motor truck and motor bus transportation," says H. D. Tomkins, general sales manager of the Western Firestone Tire & Rubber company.

The highly developed system of highway transportation, with 3,120,000 motor trucks, and 92,000 motor busses in operation, would have been impossible but for the dependability and economy achieved in truck and bus tires.

"No other single factor plays a more important part in determining the efficient and economical operation of trucks and busses than tires, and for this reason they are selected by operators with the greatest care.

"The reports from thousands of users of Firestone tires among truck and bus owners clearly show the remarkable advance that has been made in tire construction. There are countless instances reported to us by wholesale dealers, where Firestone heavy duty tires have delivered from 70,000 to 50,000 miles on vehicles engaged in the very hardest kind of service. My attention was directed recently to a Firestone tire on one of the busses of the Pickwick Stages system which had gone 16,500 miles, and still had a lot of mileage left.

"When Harvey S. Firestone sponsored the 'ship by truck' movement some years ago, he made one of the most important contributions to progress and society at large in the history of American transportation. This movement, vigorously supported under the immediate direction of Mr. Firestone, has been a dominant factor in a great industrial development.

"One of the greatest achievements of Firestone engineers has been in the heavy duty field. Here, where stamina counts most, remarkable durability has been developed along with the most flexible construction for truck and bus tires. In Firestone heavy duty truck tires there are 6 to 10 piles of cord fabric, depending upon size. Only the most thorough insulation of the many thousands of cords, strands and fibers in the tire can minimize the effects of the great heat and friction generated by a thick carcass. Firestone dips the cords in a rubber solution which saturates and insulates every fiber of those cords with rubber. This is the only known method which carries the rubber to the innermost

WIDOW'S ABILITY AT BRIDGE AIDS IN LIFE'S CRISIS

CHICAGO (P) — Mrs. M. K. Alexander learned to play bridge for fun, when she was thrown on her own resources by the death of her husband, she taught it for a livelihood until she could fit herself for a profession. She now is assistant manager of an insurance agency and vice president of the Chicago Auction Bridge club.

"Some of my pupils were the wealthiest and brightest women in Chicago," said Mrs. Alexander, "but they spent two years with me without learning the game. Why? They didn't stay at it continuously. Paris of the summers they were in the mountains or abroad, and in the winters they went south.

"The pupils of limited means were the best."

EUROPE DOUBTS IF MINORITIES ARE EASILY PACIFIED

PARIS (P) — The indignity of the treaty of Versailles is a source of greater and greater worry in European capitals.

The treaty left 20,000,000 persons of minority nationalities under foreign flags.

The recent election of autonomists by big majorities to the French chamber of deputies from Alsace is said by close political observers to be a sign of what exists among peoples of other redeemed territories but which comes to the surface with less facility than in France.

Jugoslavia is pointed to as the country which, after France, is having the greatest trouble in bringing about harmony between the old and the new populations of the country.

The reasons are much the same in the two countries. The Croats, like a considerable element of the Alsatian population, aspired to freedom from imperial domination. They promoted the union of different branches of the Slav family as an arm against the Austria-Hungary, but they did not put into their hands the new Jugoslavia government, the enthusiasm with which they greeted their deliverance. The

explanation most frequently given is that if, under Austrian rule, the Croats were held with a rather heavy hand, they did have their own parliament and their own government. These they were obliged to give up when they joined their cousins, the Serbs, and they chafed under what they considered to be a great centralization of the affairs of the kingdom at Belgrade.

Linguistic and religious differences also entered into the problem in Jugoslavia, as they do in Alsace.

The Alsatians also, had their parliament and local government under the German empire. The loss of these local institutions, in the opinion of well informed people, had less influence on the development of autonomism, however, than the problems of religion and the schools.

Alsace was wrested from France while Catholicism was still the state religion. She was allowed to practice that religion without hindrance by Protestant Germany. France, however, had since the loss of the province abrogated the concordat with the Vatican and separated the church from the state.

French political leaders, headed by Poincare, then President of the Republic, found it expedient to reassure the Alsatians after the armistice respecting the practice of their religion. Poincare at Strasbourg made the formal promise that the customs and traditions of Alsace, religious and otherwise, would be respected by France.

This promise was kept until 1924 when Edouard Herriot, on taking power, declared that the laws of the country, including separation of church and state, must be applied to the whole country without exception.

BEAUTY SHOP FOR HOUSEHOLD PETS

WAPAKONETA, Ohio, (P) — There no longer is any excuse for bedraggled dogs in Wapakoneta, since Eaton Hamilton and Charles Fleming, Jr., both 13, opened a beauty parlor. The boys are the operators.

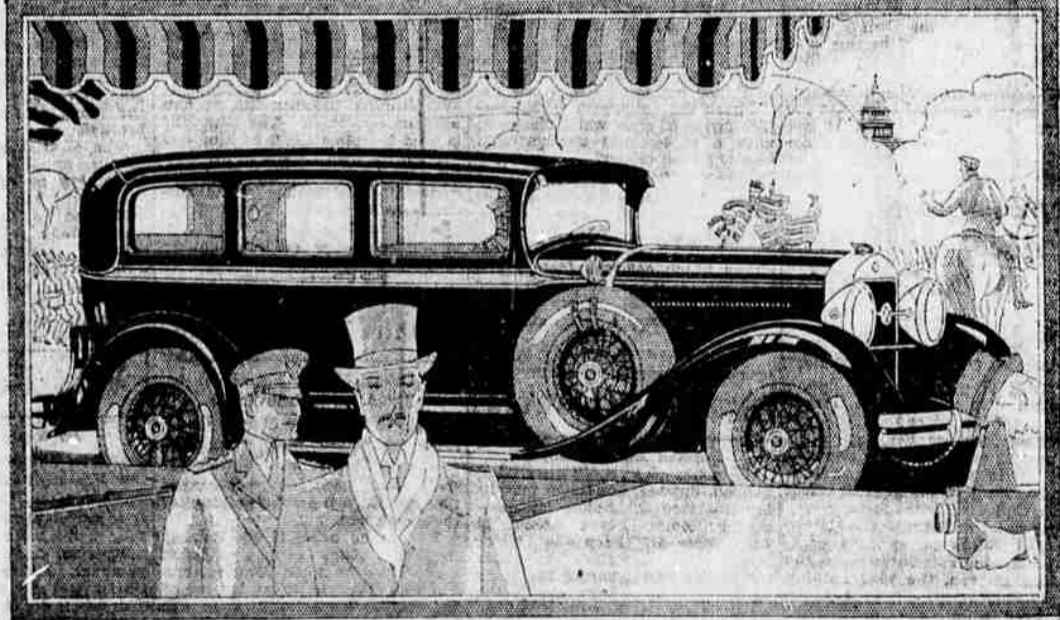
Their parlor is in the basement of young Hamilton's home, and has been equipped with appliances to remove dirt, burrs and curl and comb long and short hair.

The youthful proprietors distributed circulars throughout the town announcing they were prepared to wash black and tan dogs for 25 cents, white ones for 35, mixed colors for "two bits" and curly haired dogs for ten cents extra. They guaranteed to remove burrs, gum, or such other substances that mangle the beauty of their clients, and promise "kind treatment, no soap in the eyes, and face washed separately."

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