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## FISH TO FEED THE WORLD IN PERU'S WATERS

NEW YORK, Mar. 11.—Peru's coastal waters are teeming with enough fish to feed the world and her islands are all veritable bird sanctuaries, according to Robert Cushman Murphy, curator of natural science of the Brooklyn Museum, just returned from six months' exploration in South America with 500 photographs and 10,000 feet of motion picture film. Mr. Murphy said that on one island he found "the most abundant seabird life on earth," as many as 1,000,000 feathered creatures of a single species.

The fisheries of Peru, he said, are unorganized and, although fish are plentiful, including such edible varieties as the bonito, anchoveta, pejerrey or smelt, the conchil (somewhat like a cod), the flounder and conchita (comparable to the American salmon). Peruvians literally "go hungry" because of their scarcity and high price inland due to the problems of icing and transportation.

A few miles off the coast, the returned explorer said, he let down a net and drew it out of the sea filled with four varieties of the most delicious edible crabs. These crustaceans, he said, would furnish the basis for a big canning industry both for home and foreign consumption, vast quantities of such seafood now being annually imported by the United States from Japan.

The "wonderful fish and bird life" of Peru, Mr. Murphy attributed to the Humboldt Current, a cold body of oceanic water which flows along 1,800 miles of the coast. He made many observations of this current, he said, following those of Alexander Agassiz and Dr. Robert F. Coker of the United States Fish Commission, pioneers in such work. Although Peru's proximity to the equator, he said, would cause one to suppose that it might have a temperature like that of Florida, its actual temperature was more like that of Boston. The result of the interesting correlation between the Humboldt Current and the abundance of fish and bird life, he said, he has covered in more than 500 pages of data. He also brought with him sixteen cases and crates, in many of which are specimens of curious marine and feathered creatures.

Mr. Murphy called attention to the guano or fertilizer deposits of Peru, which, he said, may be doubled by the conservation methods devised by Francisco Bullen, a Peruvian, who he described as "one of the most far-sighted and able economists in the world." In furtherance of Mr. Bullen's plans the explorer said, he advocated increasing the breeding area of the guano producing birds, at present confined to fifteen islands, the largest of which are the Chinchi and Lobos, and where deposits of fertilizer 100 feet in thickness have been found.

Mr. Murphy said that the cold winds from which, blowing over the arid land, preserved the fertilizing qualities of the bird lime. Mr. Murphy, whose work was aided by the Peruvian government, said the islands might be enlarged by dynamiting the cliffs into the sea. He also urged the stoppage of guano gathering during the "courtship" of the birds. The guano, he said, is dug by natives in the interior of the islands and carried in small railway cars to the coast where it is put aboard ships. Exportation of the fertilizer, he said, was being held upon account of high ocean freight rates.

The guano birds were enumerated by Mr. Murphy as the white-breasted cormorant, (commercially worth \$15 a pair in Lima); the pelican and two species of gannet. By actual computation of the nests of some of these birds per metre on one of the islands he estimated that more than 1,000,000 of that one species inhabited it. Mr. Murphy said the ancient Incas of Peru highly prized the guano birds and penalized with death anyone who killed one. Many of the motion picture films he brought back, he said, showed the life history of the seabirds as well as the native fisheries and the guano industry.

In the period from 1840 to 1908, Mr. Murphy said, many of the birds were killed off and it is only in recent years that efforts have been made to conserve this important resource of Peru. President Leguina, and other prominent men, he said, have encouraged foreign scientific men to visit Peru for the purpose of ascertaining the best conservation methods. A steam trawler and two launches were placed at Mr. Murphy's disposal upon his arrival at



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## CHINESE ACTORS TO MAKE 'MOVIE'

PEKING, Feb. 11.—(By Mail).—A strike by teachers of the various government schools in Peking has resulted in the Ministry of Education meeting their demands for prompt payment of salaries and in silver or good banknotes in place of the notes of a Chinese bank which recently have been accepted at only 50 percent of their face-value. The premier has announced that he will appropriate the whole amount of the Boxer indemnity relinquished by foreign powers as a reserve fund for

educational purposes. A further demand by the teachers for dismissal of Fu Yu-feng, vice minister of Education, was taken under advisement.

### EX-KAISER'S STABLES TO HOUSE LIBRARY

BERLIN, Feb. 18. (By Mail).—The city has leased the former royal stables opposite the palace as a public library. These stables figured prominently during the revolutionary street fighting in Berlin as a stronghold of the notorious marine guard and the Spartacan troops. The former Kaiser's horses, court equipage and harness have been disposed of by auction. THE USE OF these columns will make money for you.

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## ENGLISH PROMOTE FRENCH PIPE LINE

LONDON, Feb. 19. (By Mail).—The French government has sanctioned the construction of a double pipe line for oil between Havre and Paris, a distance of about 150 miles. It is stated by the American Chamber of Commerce in London, one of the main aims of the project is to be used for heavy fuel oils, and above it will be a smaller pipe line of four inches, for petroleum and motor spirit. It is anticipated that 4,500 tons of heavy, and 1,000 tons of light oils and spirit, can be pumped through these lines daily, thus materially lightening the difficulty of supplying Paris with coal by facilitating the use of heavy oils in its place. It is hoped to complete the lines in time for next winter.

## MEXICANS LOVE MUSIC

JUAREZ Mex., Mar. 8.—Music forms an important part in Mexican life. In gambling places, in saloons and in restaurants one can frequently hear orchestras playing operatic selections. The works of Italian, Spanish and Mexican composers are especially favored. Lecanavilla, Muzilla and Bizet being the favorites. The band of the Juarez garrison gives frequent concerts in the street in front of the "comandancia."

## BIG ORE PLANT

JUAREZ, Mex., Mar. 8.—Establishment of a reducing plant with a capacity of 2,000 tons daily is being contemplated at Fresnillo, Zacatecas, by a group of British and Mexican capitalists having \$5,000,000 at their disposal, according to information received here by Edward A. Dow, American consul.

## BISHOP OF LONDON FOR PROHIBITION

LONDON, Feb. 19. (By Mail).—The Bishop of London told a congregation at Southwark Cathedral that he was not at the moment advocating prohibition for this country but he could not help looking with somewhat envious eyes on the present condition of things in America. In view of present public opinion it would be a mistake, in his opinion, at this moment to aim at a similar measure in this country, but at least they could aim high. "Just think what London would be," he added, "if we could get control of the drink traffic; if we could make drunken homes sober. It would have an enormous effect upon the moral question, because more than half the immortality existing in London today is due to intemperance."

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