

ROOSEVELT BAGGING

The GNUS in AFRICA

By GERALD A. RODERICK

NAIROBI, British, East Africa.—I guess everybody in the civilized world knows that ex-President Theodore Roosevelt is getting two American dollars for every word of "copy" he writes for a certain New York publication. Therefore the business of bagging the gnus in this lonely spot on the world's map has a double meaning.

Spell it gnus or news—suit yourself—they are pronounced alike. The only difference is that you get one with a rifle of heavy bore and the other by means of mental ingenuity.

Mr. Roosevelt, I have discovered, makes his own news. And he sells his own news. Hence his declaration that "because there are no journalists with this expedition all apparently authentic reports are barren



ROOSEVELT IN HUNTING COSTUME

falsehoods or are obtained by means of bribing ignorant servants and it stands to reason that for the sake of a bribe one of evil intentions is not above inventing falsehoods for the purpose of obtaining the bribes."

Be that as it may, early in the month of August Mr. Roosevelt will impart some of his news to a select gathering of East Africans at a banquet. You can't keep reporters from a banquet, consequently at the time of writing there is no reason to suppose that the world will not get the former American executive's remarks in full.

Mr. Roosevelt will tell his hunting experiences, his views on world politics and lots of other things which will astonish his staid British hosts and will set them to thinking.

The world at large is getting little Roosevelt "stuff," as the editors call it. The reason for it is said to be the hunter's desire to pursue the life of a nimrod undisturbed by eager newspaper men. They are on his trail every day, but they keep out of sight.

Entering the port of Mombasa, Theodore Roosevelt and his big stick made an instantaneous hit. He was strenuous. Britishers are slow of movement and thought; they are deliberate. Not so with the American hero. He thought quickly, spoke quickly and said things which made the inhabitants stand up and shout.

He talked about the great country which the British had built and almost civilized in Africa. He made other points which tickled his hosts and he was solid with them from the minute he put foot on the gang-plank of the steamer which brought him from Naples, Italy. He told his East African friends that he wanted to be treated like a regulation American citizen, not like a former president of the United States. This, the British seemed to think, was a first class invitation to treat him like a king, which they did.

With his entourage riding in the passenger compartments of a primitive Uganda railway coach, Mr. Roosevelt gave a real strenuous exhibition by daring Acting Governor Jackson to ride with him on the cowcatcher. He said there was more breeze on the front of the train anyway. Mr. Jackson and Mr. Roosevelt then stopped the outfit and took positions of vantage ahead of the fireman and engineer.

This tickled the Britishers. Nobody had ever thought of riding on the front of an engine before in East Africa. They had always done the most commonplace thing by seating themselves on the "cushions." So, because he was different from their kind, they liked the American from the start.

The ride that day lasted 50 miles, when the engine, being a union engine, refused to work over eight hours and gave out. The next day the ride was repeated and to-day half the British East African highbrows ride on the front of the engine when they want to make an impression.

Once on Sir George MacMillan's ranch the real sport of the expedition commenced.

MacMillan's ranch is a notorious hangout for man-eating lions. They roar around the ranch at night and tear up things generally. Colorado mountain lions were easily beneath the hunting prowess of Mr. Roosevelt and he proved that African lions are also-rans alongside of the American brand by depleting the kingdom of Leo by six in two days, thereby setting a new record for hunters in this section of Africa.

A big, hungry hippopotamus chased Mr. Roosevelt one day. Formulating his plans as he sped along through the jungle, the ex-president led the enraged animal to the open and set two steel bullets crashing between his eyes when the hippo was only 100 feet away. Kermit had a similar experience with a rhinoceros and, displaying the family traits of his father, stood his ground and succeeded in dispatching Mr. Rhino



in the make-up of the semi-savage blacks.

Eighty-four souls comprised the small army which Mr. Roosevelt took with him from Mombasa. Bwana Tumbo dressed his aides up in American made loose shirts and khaki trousers. Of their own choice were queer little skull caps decorated with feathers and tassels.

Wall tents, the same as those used by American army officers, provided the ex-president's sleeping quarters and his patriotism was fully shown by the fact that the American stars and stripes floated from the flag pole before Roosevelt's tent. The colors were dipped at sunrise and sunset in accordance with the United States army custom.

The Roosevelt camp presented a unique scene. Situated in the center was Mr. Roosevelt's adobe, which also housed Kermit. Before it floated the American flag and grouped around it along miniature "streets" were the "pup tents" of the porters, gunbearers, bush beaters, cooks and other servants.

Kermit Roosevelt's personal servant, Juma by name, became as devoted to his young master as though the latter were of regal heritage. He followed him everywhere and was at his side during the rhinoceros incident in which Kermit's life was perilled.

Juma's gaudy turban, khaki half-hose and American-made calfskin shoes, which were a present from Kermit, marked him as a man to be envied among his fellows. The ex-president said that whenever he needed Kermit for any matter whatsoever, it was only necessary to scan the horizon for Juma's gay headpiece.

During his hunting, travels and speaking Bwana Tumbo never lost sight of his writing. He is writing a chapter here and there, whenever he has the time or inclination to devote a few hours to the book of travels which he has half completed.

Mr. R. D. Cuninghame, Mr. Roosevelt's hunter, is typical of the African sportsman and is declared to know more about game in this section of the world than any other game expert.

No more unique sight was ever presented to the casual observer than that which met my eye when I alighted from a Uganda railway coach at Kapiti Plains, where Mr. Roosevelt and his army were grouped. The station is on Sir Alfred Pease's ranch or estate, as it is known here.

"The Plains" consists of hardly more than the signboard which tells its name. Mr. Roosevelt's "army" was drawn up about him, the ex-president was conversing with Hunter Cuninghame and the former executive's gunbearer, Abdallah bin Said, was awaiting orders from his chief. Of the army Abdallah is most devoted to his master and the frequent lashings which the heads of the expedition are often compelled to administer to quell impending mutiny are never necessary with this character. He is a unique type of African and because of his good qualities he commands better pay than the rest of his fellows.

The man who aided Mr. Roosevelt in getting his expedition ready cautioned him against asking any of his servants to do duties for which any of the others were hired.

The labor union instinct is second nature with the attaché of the African hunting expedition. Let a gun bearer try to do the work of a porter or bush beater and there is war in camp at once. Neither may the game carriers beat the game into sight. Perhaps this system is for the best after all for the reason that every man specializes and therefore is able to do his own allotted work to a better advantage.

It is said here that Mr. Roosevelt's entire expedition will cost between \$15,000 and \$20,000, which to an American hunter may seem an enormous price. But hunting wild game in Africa is a heavy undertaking and in order to go through with such a task that amount of money is actually necessary. But the party is getting results and that is what they figure is the proper viewpoint.

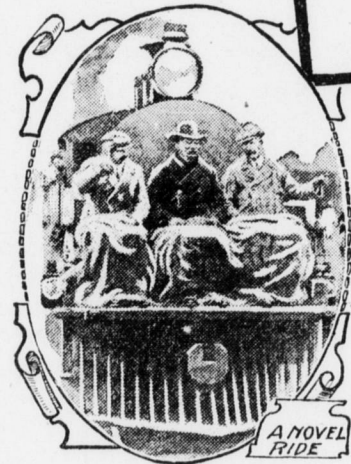
Having arrived in the Stoik district Kermit and his father had plenty of game upon which to exhibit their prowess. The younger Roosevelt immediately set about establishing a hunting record by bagging the biggest lion which, up to that time, had found its way to the taxidermist of the party. In the Stoik district Mr. Roosevelt shot many buffaloes, their skins being preserved for the Smithsonian institution.



KERMIT AND SERVANT



ALL ABOARD FOR THE HUNTING GROUNDS



A NOVEL RIDE

at 40 yards. The beast was charging him in dangerous fashion.

Not long ago Mr. Roosevelt captured two baby antelopes and sent them to his daughter, Mrs. Nicholas Longworth, who by this time doubtless has received them. More than 1,500 specimens had been captured by the Roosevelt party up to the time of this writing.

ing and before the expedition weighs anchor for other shores probably 1,000 more will have reached the taxidermists.

Lions, wildebeests, antelopes, giraffes, hippopotami, rhinoceri, tigers, monkeys and dozens of other varieties are among the trophies of the chase.

To Kermit Roosevelt the expedition has been a source of wonderment and pleasure. Everything was new to him. He had read about the mysteriousness of darkest Africa but had never been given an opportunity to even peer into the confines of a real lion hunting camp.

At the present writing both Kermit and his father are in the best of health, both wearing a swarthy tan which is darker than the jungle stained khaki suits in which most of the hunting is done.

A short time ago Mr. Roosevelt visited the American mission near here and he expressed pleasure at the work which the organization is doing for the African savage. The morning of the day he visited the mission he spent in hunting Culubra, monkeys and succeeded in shooting several, which were added to the list of specimens.

Officials here have expressed the belief that Mr. Roosevelt's bagging of game is justifiable in view of the fact that his specimens are being secured for the purpose of stocking up the Smithsonian institution at Washington.

Perhaps the biggest test of Rooseveltian strenuousness came when the party crossed the desert west of this city. In this instance they were compelled to go for more than a week without procuring water. All the liquid refreshment they had was carried with them in great water skins, suitable for this purpose.

Bwana Tumbo, which is an African expression of reverence, was the nickname which Mr. Roosevelt's native servants soon attached to him, and when I met the ex-president at Kapiti Plains station, where he was obliged to stop during his travels, he seemed pleased to be reminded of the fact that he had struck a responsive chord

Pennsylvania Happenings

Harrisburg.—Gov. Stuart announced the appointment of William M. Hargest as assistant deputy attorney general.

York.—Nevin Freed was arrested on the charge of "cornering" eggs at the Central market house. Freed has employed attorneys and will test the legality of the anti-cornering ordinance.

Harrisburg.—So far 25 counties have made returns of the personal property tax. The entire tax is turned into the state treasury and then, if the counties are free from road building debt, three-fourths of the tax is sent back to the counties.

Harrisburg.—Reports from all parts of the state show there have been during the past week numerous thunderstorms which have without doubt saved some of the crops which were drying up in the ground. However, the rains in no section have been sufficient to make the farmers rest easily.

Harrisburg.—The first week in August the board of fish commissioners will decide whether four streams in different parts of the state are trout streams. Section 28 of the new fish laws provides that whenever there is a dispute as to whether a stream contains trout the commission shall investigate and its decision shall be final.

Pittsburg.—The supreme court has granted a stay in the first capitol conspiracy case against ex-Auditor General William P. Snyder of Spring City and ex-Superintendent of Public Grounds and Buildings James M. Shumaker of Johnstown, until it shall have passed upon a rule to show cause why an appeal should not be allowed, upon which argument will be heard here.

Harrisburg.—The new law regulating the width of aisles in moving picture theaters and all playhouses and places of amusement also prescribes what fire escapes shall be erected on amusement houses which contain galleries or are two or more stories high. The chief factory inspector has just had the specifications made for standard fire escapes and the blueprints to accompany them have just been completed.

Philadelphia.—About 3,000 motemen and conductors employed by the Interstate Railways Co. on traction lines in eastern Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Delaware were told that after August 1 there would be a resumption of the 18½ cents an hour wage rate from which a reduction of 1½ cents was made a year ago. The company's officials had promised an increase as soon as business would warrant. No demand was made by the workmen.

Harrisburg.—A sample of the Standard Oil Co.'s new "petrol butter" or "lard" Oil Co.'s new "petrol butter" rests upon the desk of State Dairy and Food Commissioner James Foust, and is receiving weighty attention. The sample looks about as much like butter as common vaseline. What is true of the looks is true of the taste. Foust, having served notice through the press upon the Standard Oil Co. that he will stand for no monkey business in connection with the new product, is now considering his future course. The sample before him, he says, came from New England, where the product is sold widely as a substitute for lard. It consists, says Foust, of 80 per cent vaseline, 2 per cent salt and 10 per cent cornstarch. Under the state law passed last winter, the petrol butter can be sold in Pennsylvania under the plain label of "imitation lard" or "lard substitute."

Harrisburg.—A new tree rust has made its appearance in Pennsylvania and in fact in parts of the whole country. It affects the pine trees and is brought into this country from Germany on pine trees imported from that country. Labor is cheaper in Germany than here and seedlings by the thousand are brought here from that country. Many of the pine tree seedlings are affected by the rust and this, it has been found, has been spreading to the pine trees of this country. The spores look like real iron rust and do not have the appearance of an ordinary dead or brown needle. "There is no known remedy for the rust," said State Zoologist Surface. "It is very important, however, that private growers or nurserymen burn the entire consignment when they find the rust on any of the imported trees." A peculiar thing about the new rust is that the spores alternate in living on the pine trees and the currants of gooseberry plants.

Pittsburg.—Another trio of babies, the second set of triplets to arrive in Pittsburg in less than two weeks, came to the home of Mr. and Mrs. Tony Bagensky. The babies are boys and weigh about two pounds each.

Connellsville.—That better times are in store for the coke region is evident from the substantial increase in production. From the present outlook it is a matter of but a few weeks until every oven in the region will be working. At present the region is handicapped by a scarcity of men.

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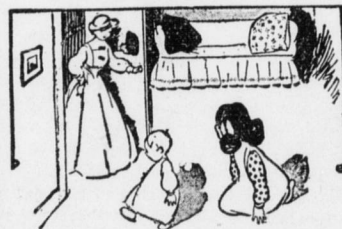
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A NEW "FEAT."



"Mummy! Mummy! look, here's baby walking on his hind legs."

New England English.

Complaint was made to a local man by one of his employes that boys who were swimming in a pond were causing quite a nuisance. The owner of the property gave the man the privilege of putting up a sign, as he had asked permission to do it. The notice reads as follows: "No Lolling or Swimming on These Grounds—Order by _____, if Caught Law Will be Forced."—Berkshire Courier.

Laymen Combat White Plague.

According to recent figures published by the National Association for the Study and Prevention of Tuberculosis, nearly 50 per cent. of those enlisted in the active campaign against consumption are laymen, and the percentage of laymen has tripled in the last four years.

One trouble with the habitually crooked man is that he never knows which way he is turning.

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