

DECLINE IN WHALE FISHING INDUSTRY

Are Whales Becoming Scarce?—Regulation in Killing May Preserve Declining Industry

Whale fishing, like every other industry, has felt the far-reaching economic effects of the war. Glycerine, which is useful in the manufacture of explosives, is obtainable from the oil of the "humpback," "finback" and "sulphur bottom" whales. As Pacific whale oil averages 6 to 10 per cent. of glycerine content, with a maximum 14 per cent., a rise of 10c to 20c per gallon after the outbreak of war gave a very pronounced impetus to whale fishing in Pacific waters.

War Affected Prices The pursuit of whales for oil and bone has declined very seriously from the high-water mark reached in the middle of last century. While the "right" whale has become so scarce that the price of baleen or "whalebone" has risen from \$1,200 per ton in 1835 to about \$12,500 to-day, the price of oil, despite the upward trend caused by the war, has seriously declined from the level of former years.

There is a tendency to scout the idea that whales are becoming scarce but the fact that the whalers are going further and further afield demonstrates that the old grounds are becoming depleted. Although whaling is still a flourishing industry in certain quarters of the globe, these enormous profits spell the doom of the whales unless an international agreement can be arrived at to regulate the killing.

Economic Folly Of course, an increasing scarcity of whales may make the business unprofitable and, as in New England, the majority of the hunters may be driven from the field. Then the whales may get sufficient respite to enable them to re-establish themselves. But, leaving the conservation of natural resources to the blind play of economic forces is both dangerous and unsatisfactory. Not only may it lead to the utter destruction of an irreplaceable resource—as an animal species—but it builds up a huge industry in the boom days—when the principal as well as the interest is being greedily consumed—only to be followed by a wretched decline when large numbers of men lose their livelihood and expensive plants rot through lack of use.

CABINET COUNCILS

New British Affairs of State Are Strictly Guarded

In England Cabinet Councils are conducted in the strict privacy, although very occasionally important officials and other outsiders have attended a meeting for the purpose of giving information or advice on specific matters; while the remarkable step was taken of inviting Sir Robert Borden, as Prime Minister of Canada, to attend one of the meetings while he was in England. Otherwise the most stringent measures are adopted to secure the inviolability of Cabinet proceedings. Trusted janitors keep watch outside to guard against the possibility of eavesdropping, while the very blotting pads are destroyed after each meeting lest they should betray anything that has taken place.

Touching this matter of Cabinet secrets, by the way, Mrs. Lloyd-George remarked in a public speech that she, at least, could not disclose any since her husband never told them to her, but it is well known that other Cabinet Ministers have not always been equally discreet. In this connection it may be recalled that the famous Lady Holland once asked, at one of the Whig consultations at Holland House, why her husband should not be Foreign Secretary. "Why, ma'am," said Lord John Russell, bluntly, "they say you open all Holland's letters." Mr. Gladstone, on the other hand, was of opinion that a Minister need have no secrets from his wife, and how nobly Mrs. Gladstone justified his confidence is well known.

Another aid to the preservation of Cabinet secrets is the system of communication between the members which is adopted. This is effected by the circulation of special despatch boxes, and one of the most important possessions of each Minister is the "key" which unlocks all these boxes. In all memoirs of Ministers will be found constant reference to "sending round a box," groans at the arrival of "piles of boxes" from other departments, and so on. When a Minister wishes to circulate some memorandum among his colleagues for information or comment he does it in this way. Altogether the Cabinet is a very wonderful institution.

Rules for a Long Life A clergyman who is hale and hearty at 78 years of age, gives these rules which have governed his life: The use of plain food, with plenty of fresh fruit and pure water. Personal cleanliness by frequent baths from head to foot. Flannels next the skin the year round, graduating weight according to season. Open air exercise every day, rain or shine. Ventilation of sleeping room, summer and winter. Eight hours' sleep each day.

Fruits of Saving 1866 a young Breton named Mac went to Paris as assistant little-dry goods store. By 1872 he had saved up \$60,000 and opened a store which he called the "S-mari." That Breton store is a business worth \$60,000,000.

EGG TESTER

Experts Say You Cannot Improve This Variety

If you're going to set any hens this spring or put eggs in an incubator you ought to have an egg tester. Don't buy one. The Department of Agriculture experts admit they cannot improve on this home-made contrivance.



It consists simply of a pasteboard shoe box and an ordinary kerosene lamp. The box is provided with a hole at the top and one on the side, the latter being just a bit smaller than an egg. The lamp is lighted, put in the box and the eggs are held against the hole in the side.

After the eggs have been under the lamp, or in the incubator, 7 days a fertile egg will show a dark spot in the center with a lot of little veins running out in all directions from it. An infertile egg will be clear.

BAT FOR BUNTING

Big League Players May Soon Carry Their Own Bats

If the present tendency of specialization in baseball continues it will soon be customary for the average big league player to carry a bag of bats as varied in shape, size and purpose as a golf player. There are a dozen or more different kinds of bats now in use, though usually the great hitters use but one kind.

Now, however, there has been developed a bat made solely for bunting and the patent office recently issued a patent on the device.

The bat is of ordinary shape and



size, but it has two deep slots on either side extending from the butt end about one-third of the way toward the handle or grip end. Slips of a non-resilient material, such as cardboard are placed in these slots.

The result is that when the bat is struck with the side presenting the cardboard strips the force of the rebound is deadened and a slow bunt is made. When the other side of the bat is turned the effect is the same as with an ordinary bat.

Mud Guard For Shoes There are numerous devices for avoiding mud. One of the most unique is a mud guard for shoes. This guard only protects the heel of the shoe, but it is said to afford the most ample protection to the heel. It is a properly shaped piece of leather or rubberized



abric permanently attached to the shoe between the heel and the upper. It is so made that it juts out from the heel and keeps the mud from being plastered on the shoe. In fine weather the guard may be turned up and it is provided with a snap like a glove fastener to hold it in place when not in use.

The Evaporated Apple Industry

With the apple picking season close at hand and the large quantities of apples grown in Canada, a more timely bulletin than one on the Evaporated Apple Industry, written by Mr. C. S. McGilvray, Chief Travelling Inspector of Fruit and Vegetable Canning, and issued by the Department of Agriculture, Ottawa, could hardly be devised. It speaks of the old time methods when apples were cut into sections and hung up to dry, and then, with many illustrations and drawings, describes in full the progress that has been made in the process, the wholesomeness and nutritive value of the evaporated apple, the implements that can be used, and the structures that are advisable for manufacturing on a scale of different dimensions. The bulletin remarks that the industry is only in its infancy in Canada, but is of great value and importance and open to extensive development. It gives the results of many experiments and, in short, in plain and explicit language, explains very fully the operations that are necessary to bring the evaporated apple up to the highest standard of commercial excellence and nutritive value. The bulletin can be had free by addressing the Publications Branch, Department of Agriculture, Ottawa.

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Several Changes In The Admiralty

London, Aug. 6—(Delayed).—Official announcement was made at the admiralty to night, that Admiral Sir Cecil Burney, second sealdor, had been replaced by vice-Admiral Sir Rosslyn Wemyss. Alan Garrett Anderson, hitherto vice chairman of the wheat commission, succeeds Sir Eric Campbell Geddes, the new first lord of the

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admiralty, as controller of naval construction.

Alan Anderson, the new controller of the navy, who will be responsible for the admiralty's shipbuilding requirements, has a close knowledge of both shipping and railways. He was long associated with a company of shipping brokers, and is a director of the Midland Railway. He is a son of Dr. Elizabeth Garrett Anderson, a well-known physician and the first woman to be elected as mayor in England, being the chief magistrate of Aldeburgh.

The changes in the British admiralty are attracting much attention and are interpreted as the first step in a reorganization which it is supposed Sir Eric Campbell Geddes, first lord of the admiralty, was appointed to carry out.

In quarters where the existing admiralty methods are regarded as unsatisfactory the present step is denounced as a "procrustean half measure," and it is declared the change ought to have been so complete as to give the country a resolute and energetic admiralty permeated by an offensive spirit.

There is no implication of incapacity against Admiral Sir Cecil Burney whose services, as Admiral Jellicoe's second in command of the grand fleet are recognized and an official announcement states that he will be employed on special duty. It is assumed that as his record was made in active command, he may welcome the change.

One official statement contains the announcement that an opportunity is to be taken of the appointment of vice-Admiral Sir Rosslyn Wemyss, to rearrange the duties of the second sealdor of the admiralty, who will be relieved of detailed administrative work connected with the personnel of the fleet. This is interpreted as meaning that the second sealdor will not be trammelled by details, which subordinates can handle but will be associated more closely than was his predecessor with the preparation of war plans.

Another change in the admiralty is the removal of Sir William Graham Green from the permanent secretaryship at the admiralty to a secretaryship in the ministry of munitions, under Winston Spencer Churchill. Sir William's departure from the admiralty is regarded as of considerable importance as the post of permanent secretary, which he has held since 1911, always has been largely responsible for the continuity of admiralty tradition and policy. It is this continuity which is regarded by many as a most dangerous factor in that it hinders initiative and adaptability to current needs.

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Deadly Parallel In Dutch Papers

Amsterdam, Aug. 7.—Dutch news papers print in a parallel column with an account of the murder of the crew of the British steamship Belgian Prince, a Berlin telegram, giving the following extract from a pastoral letter read in all the Protestant churches of Berlin last Sunday.

"We will comport ourselves as Christians towards our enemies and conduct the war in the future, as in the past, with humanity and chivalry."

The pastoral letter was read at a service which Emperor William and the German Empress attended at the Cathedral. It exhorts the people to humanity and recognizes the hand of God in the protection of invasions which the Fatherland has enjoyed.

[The British steamship Belgian Prince was sunk July 31, by a German submarine. According to the survivors who reached a British port, the U-boat shelled the vessel and the German commander then ordered the crew to take to the boats and go alongside the submarine. The Germans, the survivors assert, removed the lifeboats and other clothing of all the members of the crew except eight, smashed the lifeboats with axes, and then re-entered the submarine and closed the hatches, leaving the men on deck. The submarine travelled on the surface for about two miles and then submerged. Thirty-eight of the crew were drowned. Three others were rescued by a patrol boat.

Amsterdam, Aug. 7.—The German submarine U-30, accompanied by two Dutch torpedo boats, to-day entered the waterway of the Netherlands, fishing town of Maasiluis, ten miles west of Rotterdam, according to a dispatch to the Handelsblad. It is understood that the U-30 merely is awaiting better weather.

Liberia the negro republic on the coast of Africa, about half the size of New Brunswick, has declared war on Germany. Since 1914 ago Liberia broods diplomatic relations. The declaration of war now gives opportunity to enter German merchant and other who have been accused of various activities.

War Until Germany Is Vanquished

Wellington, New Zealand, Aug. 8.—Amid the greatest enthusiasm, the New Zealand Parliament to-day passed a resolution in favor of "carrying on the war with Germany, until Germany has been vanquished."

THE DISPATCH

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Barns Burned, Cattle Killed

Frederick, N. B., Aug. 3.—York and Sunbury counties were visited by another violent electrical storm last night, which did great damage in the central portions of both counties. At Upper Sunbury, the barn of Asbury Dykeman was struck by lightning and entirely burned, with contents and George Dykeman, the son of the owner, aged 14 years, was struck by the lightning.

At Upper Sunbury, York county, Ernest Hay lost three horses and their contents by the same lightning. At Upper Sunbury, three head of cattle owned by a man named Hamer were killed in the barnyard by lightning. Frederick and the district immediately surrounding escaped any heavy damage, although visited by two storms during the night.