

DAUGHTER OF THE EARL OF DENHIGH TELLS EXPERIENCE AT HUNTING GAME IN AFRICA

"Can you find room for a couple of lions?" asked a rather apologetic visitor who arrived at our little hotel one evening, writes Lady Bettie Sherbrooke Walker in this article in the London Daily Mail.

"Oh, certainly," he replied. "You can have Number 4 and slip the lions into Number 22 and shut the door." (Number 22 contained a visitor who was slow about paying his bill.)

But the young soldier man said the lions and he could not part, and that they must share a room.

He went to his car and hauled out two cubs a few weeks old who spat and growled ferociously. They were about as big as half-grown St. Bernards. He kept them in his private bathroom and gave them four-hourly feeds day and night of milk from a baby's bottle. He had been shooting and had caught them when their parents had been killed.

Next morning he popped his luggage, his lions and his native servant in the back of his car and went on his way to Nairobi.

Big Game Haunts

Our place is on the edge of the big-game districts, and shooting expeditions outfit with us or stop a night on their way up from Nairobi to the wilds of the North-West Frontier. They start with cars and lorries piled with camp equipment, camping gear, and servants and everything smart and clean.

A month or two later they return dusty, dirty and travel-worn, but usually mightily pleased with themselves. Their faces are tanned to the color of a brick wall, the cars look much the worse for wear, and in place of the lorryload of provisions and petrol there is a load of skins and heads, with probably some evil-looking rhino and buffalo horns sticking out among them.

They call for the steward—half of them ordering "Long shandy and a hot bath" and the other half "Hot bath and long shandy."

Outfitting big game expeditions is quite an amusing business. There are the iron men who are content to travel rough—sleep hard and eat simply; they are supplied with one tent, a few natives and the bare necessities of life, all of which are fitted into one motor-lorry in which they go off into the blue to shoot lion, rhino and buffalo and many other kinds of game.

Then there are the people who want to remain out for some time and be fairly comfortable; they take a dozen retainers, several tents and plenty of equipment, all of which is piled on two or three motor-lorries and a couple of cars.

Luxury Trips

Besides these there are the expeditions who wish to be surrounded by luxury as well as by big game; they take a refrigerator and eat ices at dinner to the not-too-distant roar of a lion instead of the accustomed orchestra. The camp is lighted with electricity, and a radio operator keeps

them in touch with the big world outside. A cinema man records all the excitements of the trip, and if it is too hot they have electric fans, and if too cold electric stoves.

We are taking back with us some homing pigeons, and mean to lend some to the people who are going right out into the desert so that if they want anything they can send a message back by pigeon-post.

With one safari we outfitted there was a woman who was a very good target shot, but had never shot anything alive, not even a rabbit.

On the first afternoon in camp the white hunter who was in charge of the expedition took her out to look for some little buck for the pot to find out how well she could shoot. She had a small-bore Springfield rifle, and as they were stalking a buck and she was about to fire an old rhino lumbered along.

She swung her rifle round and got the rhino right through the heart, dropping him dead on the spot. It is not many people whose first shot in the field brings down such big game.

Taking Pictures

Another safari we sent out came from a far country to take cinema pictures of every animal in Africa, and were determined to miss nothing. They were going to exhibit the pictures to their admiring friends at home, to show the big risks they had taken and how skilfully, they had stalked their quarry.

Their plans were far-seeing and cautious, but their voices a trifle loud. They were heard discussing how on their way to Nyeri they had visited the world's famous zoo, and, to guard against possible failure in Africa, had taken a film of every African animal; "and we took jolly good care not to get any keepers or railings in the picture," one of them remarked.

On the whole big game hunters are as fine a lot of men as can be found in the world, especially the professional, "white hunter" who goes out with expeditions to show them the haunts of the game. Many a time he risks his life to save someone who has made a poor shot and is in danger from a wounded beast. The are as thorough and hardy as men can be, and have to keep their hands in all sorts of queer circumstances.

Hi Slocum says it is no sign of unemployment to see a crown present at a murder trial here, as this city was always strong on Court House bench warmers.

Simile: As straight as the run in a stocking.

Sin is a waste of time and a bother to all concerned.

We have yet to find a pleasure in life that costs less than a day dream.

Because they are happy to lie, honeymooning couples never make use of the old postcard legend. "Wish you were here."

MUST LEARN BACKGAMMON TO BE STYLISH

New York—America has a new remedy for boredom this Winter.

In addition, it is calculated to help a girl catch a beau, to keep husbands in nights and to prevent children from leaving home. More than that, it is the smartest thing you can serve guests at a party. It's name is backgammon.

Good old stand-by game for the Elite back in the gay 90's backgammon has gone modernly 1930, is smartly democratic and threatens the country with a vogue this Winter more widespread and contagious even than miniature golf.

Society Sponsored Game

Society folks on the Riviera and the Lido last Winter are responsible for the renaissance of this game. Somehow it seems to answer the modern need for thrill. It combines the chance of throwing dice with the skill of play, which challenges even the most blasé. More than that, while two people play the game—or four in some types of backgammon—as many as four others can look on in the capacity of kibitzers; and we all know how much more Americans enjoy telling folks how to do things than actually doing them, themselves.

This Summer backgammon added zest to Long Island weekends and this Autumn clubs, hotels and homes are adopting backgammon as one of their chief stocks in trade. Suburban commuters are foregoing their rummy and going in for backgammon while riding to work and home again. Dragging out a backgammon board when a new young man calls is now considered not only a fine way to get a slant on his I. Q., but also to rate him socially. Giving a backgammon party is quite the smartest thing a hostess can do.

Accessories Are Many

All good department and sports parties. Some stores have rigged paraphernalia for backgammon parties. Some stores have rigged up separate little backgammon shops where you not only can purchase boards, men and dice, but such new party accessories as backgammon sets of linen or crepe paper clothes and napkins for serving refreshments when the game is done. Backgammon china and beverage sets and modernistic smoking things with backgammon figures on them also attest the vogue.

If you would be very, very chic and take to the new game with flair, you can purchase a backgammon table with ebony legs and the gammon table laid tops designed for the game. Even newer and more modernistic backgammon tables are made with automatic legs—when you shut one you shut all—and tops of gorgeous Chinese red or bright jade green glazed leather tops, with cork inlay for the markets. Most of these are convertible, by lifting out the backgammon board and turning it over, into a bridge table, if you do happen to have a few old-fashioned guests.

Sets at All Prices

There are sets of backgammon men and dice that come as high as \$250. These are set in colored stones. Others come in ebony and white, respecting the classic color for the old fashioned game that is over 100 years of age. No matter what color your men and dice happen to be, you casually refer to them as "black" and "white" for this same conventional reason.

This revival of an old-time game and adapting it to modern use is quite in line with other contemporary trends. Smart new costumes for women have quite a Naughty Ninety note in many of their styles. A new-old elegance is reviving home-hospitality. The old-time waltz thrills now where the quick one-step leaves us cold. Backgammon rightly takes its place as a classic that bears a renaissance. It appears to be about to ride the crest of popularity into becoming the great indoor American sport this Winter.

"A Los Angeles man has been ordered to pay \$11,783 for a kiss." The joke of it is he has already had it.

Hi Slocum wonders what the men found to swear at before the days of golf and flat tires.

Dr. Einstein looks upon the radio as a great promoter of peace. Well, it isn't adapted to quarreling.

One writer asks: "Why not a monument to fool drivers?" It would fool 'em. They'd hit something else.

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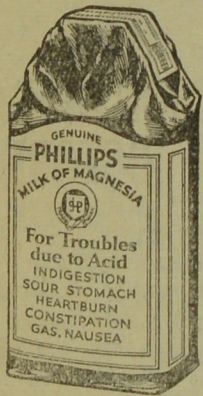
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