

THE INDIANS' BEST HUNTING GROUND TO BE A GAME PRESERVE - The Wichita Mountains Purchased by the Government



Where Herds of Bison Will, Once More, Stake Their Thirst.



Wichita Indians Live on the Preserve in Grass Tepees.



Gotebo, Chief of the Wichita Indians Who until Recently, Owned the Land.



King of the Buffalo Herd on the Wichita Mountain Preserve.



ING ABOUT doesn't hurt the hands. more effective than harsh or biting.

any way you please, of water—the way called "SURPRISE"

LEONARD BACK FROM THE WEST

in Glowing Terms of the Possibilities of Saskatoon Where He is Located

Leonard, who went West a year or two ago, has a real estate business. He has a route to affluence. He has a pen for a daily news. Mr. Leonard speaks modestly of his success and modestly of his route to affluence. He has a pen for a daily news. Mr. Leonard speaks modestly of his success and modestly of his route to affluence. He has a pen for a daily news. Mr. Leonard speaks modestly of his success and modestly of his route to affluence.

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PHILANTHROPY.

R. Curren, Windsor, Ont., free to any woman who suffers from weakness or painful menstruation.

ANNIVERSARY

WHITEHEAD, N. B.

ence of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph and Mrs. Joseph. The wedding was a very happy occasion. The bride was Miss Mary Whitehead, and the groom was Mr. Joseph Whitehead. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. Mr. Whitehead.

STORIA

infants and Children. You Have Always Bought of Par. H. Williams

N EARLY 60,000 acres in one natural game preserve! Such is the new enterprise which the national government is establishing in Oklahoma. As far back as tribal tradition runs, the Wichita Mountains region has been the favorite hunting ground of the Comanche and Kiowa Indians. Drawn thither by abundance of game and delightful climate. But now game, like the Indians, is largely a thing of the past.

It is proposed to reproduce in this splendid natural park all the best species of game animals and birds that once made the great West the hunter's paradise. Deer, antelope, bear, the otter and beaver, quail and doves, prairie chickens and wild turkeys will be given protection and encouraged to increase and multiply. Probably the most interesting feature of the undertaking will be an effort to have, in the course of years, large herds of buffalo again roaming the plains within the reservation—as they did before the pitiless warfare upon them was carried so nearly to the point of extermination.

When the plans now under way are carried out, Oklahoma will be able to boast, in this Wichita Mountain Game Preserve, one of the finest natural game parks in the country. Naturalists who have visited the region unite in saying that the preserve, without question, can be made one of the most successful in the States. The 57,120 acres of land set apart by the act of Congress for the purpose lies in the rugged embrace of mountains that attain an altitude of 3,700 feet above sea level. From these summits one may behold the marvelous expanses of plains, rolling westward to the Rocky Mountains and southward to the Rio Grande del Norte.

To the east, the country is broken by timbered ridges, many of them splendid watercourses, between which are fertile prairies and ever-increasing hills, that merge finally into the undulating prairie of the Ozarks in Arkansas and Missouri. From the north, as far as the Dominion of Canada and stretching southward to the Gulf of Mexico, the mighty path the Wichitas take in nutritious grasses, over which grazed in the earlier days the migratory herds of buffalo and deer. The climate is mild and dry, although snow winters, and the mountains in winter. In summer the peaks swim in a sea of purple haze. The average rainfall is about twenty-nine inches and the annual mean temperature close to 60 degrees. Scarcely does the temperature go below zero.

Three classes of land are found in the preserve, almost equal in quantity. The most useful is the timber land, covered with nutritious grasses and well adapted to the raising of herbivorous animals of all sorts. The mountainous portion rises abruptly from the level plain, through which the peaks, in prehistoric upheavals, were pushed upward as one thrusts his finger through a sheet of paper. There is no timber and little grass in the mountains. Composing the third division, the timber land supports a thin growth of pine oak, which has for years been swept by fires, spring and fall. A good production of timber could be brought about by intelligent management under the direction of the United States Bureau of Forestry, which will have charge of this portion of the reserve.

Quail and doves are commonly seen in the preserve, and occasionally band-tailed pigeons, prairie chickens and wild turkeys are found. Ducks and certain shore birds visit the preserve during the migration period. At present, quail constitute the most abundant and by far the most important game. The birds are unusually hardy, stand cold weather and are in great demand for stocking State or private preserves in Northern and Eastern States. One of the most interesting features in connection with the establishment of the new preserve is the plan to install a herd of buffalo there in an effort to prevent the extinction of the plains by placing him in what once was his natural habitat and the greatest protection. This plan originated with A. C. Cooper, game warden at Fort Sill, who is an enthusiastic member of the League of American Sportsmen. He took the matter up with the officers of that organization, with the result that a resolution was introduced at the annual meeting of the league in 1908 at St. Paul, Minn., in favor of the establishment of the preserve, and was adopted by the league. Congressman John F. Lacey, of Iowa, introduced the bill for the establishment of the preserve, which was passed without amendment, and became a law January 24, 1905.

The buffalo feature was given a further impetus by the organization in New York last winter of the American Bison Society, with William T. Hornaday, director of the New York Zoological Park, at its head. He offered to give to the government for the new herd the eight buffalo from the Zoological Society's collection. On behalf of the New York society, J. Alden Loring was sent to Oklahoma to inspect the reserve with regard to its availability for a buffalo park, and made a favorable report. During his visit to Oklahoma, Mr. Loring also visited the ranch owned by Major Gordon W. Lillie (Pawnee Bill). In Pawnee county, and Miller Brothers' "101 Ranch," and was impressed by the liberal contributions for the new herd from the herds of buffalo now maintained on those two ranches. The society's gift of its buffalo herd was conditioned on the government's fencing in a suitable range on the Wichita reserve, where the herd could be maintained without the expense of constant feeding.

Mr. Loring went over the reserve in connection with E. F. Morrissey, supervisor of the forest reserve, and selected an area of about twelve square miles of good grazing grounds provided with permanent water and shelter from storms. Immediately upon the presentation of his report, the Department of Agriculture and Madison Grant secured the insertion in the Agricultural Appropriation bill of an item appropriating \$15,000 with which to erect the fence.

As the Agricultural Appropriation bill is now a law, the fund is available, and Secretary Wilson has advertised for bids for the erection of the fence, which will be built of iron, and strong enough to withstand the attacks of the sturdiest of buffalo bulls. Mr. Cooper, the father of the preserve, figures that it will require about fifty-four miles of fence, ten feet high, with meshes to hold back the small as well as the large animals. The absolute impossibility of confining buffalo with an ordinary fence has been demonstrated at that "101 Ranch," where the herd has frequently broken through everything that could be put in their way, wandering over the ranch at will until they were "rounded up" by cowboys and again placed in more or less permanent restraint. Just when the buffalo will be installed in the preserve is still a question. The officials of the New York society had hoped to transfer their herd in October or November of this year, but, of course, the winter is desirable to transfer them to a different climate in midwinter; nor would it be possible to move the buffalo just previous to calving time in the spring, owing to the danger of costly accidents. One thing which will interfere most seriously with their transfer this fall is the danger of Texas fever. Infection, of course, is not to be feared, but the fact that the buffalo now die when exposed to fever is a serious matter. The fact that the buffalo now die when exposed to fever is a serious matter. The fact that the buffalo now die when exposed to fever is a serious matter.

brought in from the East and placed in the reserve at this time, all of them would die of Texas fever within a few months. His idea is that the reserve should be fenced and left for the best part of a year before the buffalo are put in. In that time the eggs of the ticks deposited in the unfenced preserve would hatch, and the young ticks die for lack of sustenance, which must be drawn from the blood of cattle. It is known that buffalo, like domestic cattle, which are taken from the North to fever-infested areas become inoculated, and in most instances die from the disease. Cattle raised in localities where fever is always present become immune after one or two generations. It is conjectured that in the days when vast herds of buffalo moved back and forth between Texas and the north, they were immune from Texas fever, or they would have died in untold numbers. Domestic cattle from the South lose their immunity when taken to northern latitudes, and the fact that buffalo now die when exposed to fever indicates that they have almost lost their primitive immunity. It is expected to make the Wichita Reserve buffalo herd easily the largest in the country. In addition to the Pawnee Bill and Miller Brothers, which are expected eventually to include all of the buffalo now on their ranches, contributions have been received from the herd of Bill's herd in Nebraska, the Tutone Basin herd of 1896 and the Goodnight herd, now maintained in the Texas Panhandle.

Should the herds thrive in the new preserve, it is also expected that the government will transfer the eighty-four head now in Yellowstone Park to Oklahoma, as the climate there is much better suited to their propagation than in the Yellowstone region. By order of Secretary Wilson, a systematic effort is now being made, under the direction of Forest Supervisor E. F. Morrissey, to rid the reserve of coyotes. "Lodger" wolves and other "varmints" which would be injurious to the game which it is desired to preserve. Two splendid sportsmen, who are to devote their entire time to the extermination of the wolves and to allow no one else to hunt in the reserve. Several large hunters have already been selected. They are Captain Philip Bury and J. W. Wells, of Catoosa.

The decision to go after the wolves on this plan was a great disappointment to some of the famous wolf chasers of southwestern Oklahoma, who expected to participate in grand hunts in the reserve this summer and fall. Among those who feel just a little disappointment at the turn things have taken is United States Marshal John Abernathy, of Oklahoma, who gained his present position as a result of the prowess he showed in wolf catching when President Roosevelt made his famous hunting trip to Oklahoma a year ago. Abernathy gained fame and a fat Federal job by reason of his ability to catch wolves alive with his bare hands, and admits that he would not object to keeping his hand in on his famous "stunt."

The plan of using paid hunters will be continued for the present, although final decision as to the methods to be used in exterminating the "varmints" will rest with the experts who have been sent out from Washington for that purpose. A. L. Merritt, of the Department of Agriculture, is expected to visit the Wichitas soon, and Vernon Bailey, who is now looking into a similar proposition in the Wyoming forest reserves, will go to Oklahoma as soon as his work is finished there. Oklahoma men who enjoy wolf chasing had much to do with the establishment of the park and are thoroughly familiar with the conditions there. Carson is one of the most enthusiastic sportsmen in the Territory, and has custom of planting each year a large tract of Kaffir corn which he does not harvest, leaving it for the quail to feed upon.

standing regarding the Secretary's order concerning the clearing of the preserve of wolves, Supervisor Morrissey has had considerable trouble lately with poachers on the reservation. All violations of the game laws are prosecuted severely. There will, in all probability, be a lively contest for the position of custodian of the new reserve when it is completed. The men who would like to have the place include, it is said, Forest Supervisor E. F. Morrissey, now in charge of the reserve; A. C. Cooper, game warden at Fort Sill; "Gus" Carson, an expert hunter and "Gus" Carson, the famous scout and trail blazer. Both Morrissey and Cooper have had much to do with the establishment of the park and are thoroughly familiar with the conditions there. Carson is one of the most enthusiastic sportsmen in the Territory, and has custom of planting each year a large tract of Kaffir corn which he does not harvest, leaving it for the quail to feed upon.

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WILD DUCKS IN MEXICO. An American who is residing temporarily on the west coast of Mexico writes home in an enthusiastic strain regarding the vast number of wild ducks that are to be found in those waters. It is not for the heat, the distance from towns and other inconveniences, that region would undoubtedly be widely known as a sportsman's paradise. Two species of native ducks—the pintail and the muscovy—are there in great numbers. In addition, for several months after the beginning of November swarms of migratory ducks are to be found. It is supposed that they come down the coast from California—a journey of some 2,000 miles. In these enormous flocks of late fall and winter visitors and other ducks, butternuts, teal, spoonbills, grebes and other varieties that are found further North. So extensive are the feeding grounds, and so nearly secure are the ducks from attacks of hunters, that it is believed many migratory birds remain in these sections to breed. In time these may become, virtually, natives, and will flourish greatly if they learn to avoid the assaults of alligators. Whatever the future may bring, it is thought that every year witnesses the arrival of more and more American ducks. Perhaps some that have tried the trip South in former seasons returned and spread the news throughout the North that they had discovered an ideal feeding place where the entire winter may be spent in luxurious comfort, without once being disturbed by the discharge of a gun. The writer of the letter states that upon some of the ponds he has seen ducks so numerous that the hunter could easily secure 600 or 800 shots a day. Such slaughter would be senseless, however, as game there will not keep longer than twelve hours. Notice is to be had. A large Muscovy duck weighs about six pounds, and when young furnishes a most enjoyable dish. This fowl lives and nests in the trees, building its nests in a hollow and leading the young to water as soon as they are able to navigate for themselves. About the size of a widgeon, the pile is thought by some to be a Mexican wood duck, but on the west coast, at any rate, they are never seen in the trees. The countless thousands of these water fowls find plenty to eat in the numerous lakes, ponds and lagoons along the coast, and pursue the tenor of their life unmolested. A modern broochholder has never been known to over many of these lakes. Indians who inhabit the coast country seem to regard the ducks as too small game. At any rate, they seldom hunt them, preferring to expend their ammunition upon deer and wild hogs. Present an Indian with a number of ducks and he will hang them over a fire until they are half cooked. Then he will probably keep them for several days. As an epicurean, he will, however, the ducks are a failure after being smoked and singed in the Indian fashion.

CATCHING A CONDOR. A representative of the Royal Zoological Gardens, of London, made known to the people of a district in Peru that he would pay the sum of \$100 for a live specimen of the condor bird. He was told over and over again that while a few had been shot by hunters, the big bird was so wary, fierce and strong that it would be impossible to lure one into a trap of any sort. Among those who discussed the matter were a peasant widow and her daughter. The widow was the owner of four goats. One of them died and the little girl dragged an old fish-net over the body and went away to weep over the loss. A condor sailing high in the air caught sight of the feast under the net and descended to secure it. The bird at once became entangled in the net, and though it made a struggle for two hours, help was finally obtained and it was delivered alive and in good condition to the agent. The hundred dollars that came to the widow's pocket was more money than she had ever had in her possession in all her life before. It took a strong man to even lift the bird, and it was calculated that one blow of his strong back would kill a boy ten years old. In its struggles with the net it splintered a stout post with blows of its wings.

MARKETS LIKE MENAGERIES.

THINK of walking into a game market and ordering a steak cut from an apparently living bear or moose that is standing in characteristic pose upon the floor. That is what is done daily at Fairbanks, Alaska, during part of each winter. Not alive, but frozen, however, are the animals that are subjected to the butcher's knife and axe. Fairbanks is near the Arctic Circle, and during the months from November to March, inclusive, has a temperature that averages 10 degrees below zero. At times the mercury falls to 75 degrees below. Moose, caribou and deer cannot be killed, under the law, between January 1 and October 31, but game slain in the open season may be offered for sale in the markets during January and February. In consequence, the hunting of big game that abounds in Alaska begins about the time that cold weather makes its appearance, when the animals are fat from their diet of summer vegetation. Game not needed by the hunters makes its way to the Fairbanks market in numbers. The animals are not skinned and cut up in the usual way, but are permitted to freeze and are stood up on the floor of the market. A stranger entering the place for the first time can well imagine himself in a menagerie instead of a commercial mart for the sale of meat. All about, in natural, characteristic attitudes the animals stand. In one corner may be a bear, which, although startlingly lifelike, has perhaps been dead and frozen stiff for several months. In another corner may stand a doe beside a towering moose or lordly caribou. It may be a slice of mountain sheep, a goat or some other animal of edible flesh, that the purchaser craves; if so, they can generally be found at hand. Just as a cigar store man places a wooden Indian on the pavement outside his shop as a sign of his business, the market dealers place in front of the building several animals representing the stock on hand. A person walking up the street may see a moose, a bear and a stag, apparently hobnobbing on the pavement in the most amiable way. Last winter the same bear was used as a sign for five months and, when finally cut up for sale, its frozen game may be kept in this way for months, and those who are misled to epicurean tastes, assert that they prefer meat that had been frozen long to any other. Flavor and quality are said to be unexcelled. Not only is large game treated in this way, but fish and birds as well, and always, it is said, with satisfac-

tion. So plentiful are ptarmigan, a species of the grouse family, that two or three hunters have been known, frequently, to bag a hundred birds in a day's trip. When kept for some months in nature's cold storage these birds constitute a great delicacy. The Fairbanks meat market, with game animals and birds standing about the floor in lifelike positions, is one of the show places of that section of Alaska. AN EXTRAORDINARY FOREST The most extraordinary forest in the world is one discovered by Dr. Welwitsch, which occupies a tableland some six miles broad, at a height of 800 or 400 feet above the sea, near the west coast of Africa. The trunks of the trees are four feet in diameter, and yet only attain a height of one foot, giving the tree the appearance of a round table. The trunks of the trees are four feet in diameter, and yet only attain a height of one foot, giving the tree the appearance of a round table. The trunks of the trees are four feet in diameter, and yet only attain a height of one foot, giving the tree the appearance of a round table. The trunks of the trees are four feet in diameter, and yet only attain a height of one foot, giving the tree the appearance of a round table.