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We doubt if there is any person in Canada who is not interested in Furs, and who does not admire their beauty, softness and warmth; but how many have ever thought of the great number of hairs required to cover a skin to produce this warmth and softness?

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to the 64 persons who are nearest correct in their estimate of the actual number of hairs on that one square inch of black bear skin.

This contest is entirely free to every one who complies with the conditions, and we might frankly state that the sole object of this contest is to familiarize as many people in Canada as possible with the wonderful bargains they can secure in stylish guaranteed Furs and Fur garments, through Hallam's system of dealing direct "From Trapper to Wearer."

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on the back cover of which are full particulars of this Zoological contest.

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Trapping as I Found it

P. W. Parkinson
In October Rod and Gun

There are, no doubt, a great many people who have had more and varied experience, in this historic, romantic, enjoyable (and I might add, profitable) calling, than myself.

I am not posing as an old-timer, one very good reason being that I have not lived long enough, even if I had devoted my entire time to the art. But, perhaps, I have learned some things about it that a few of the beginners have missed at any rate, and thereby may be of some service to them.

Too many people, it seems to me, are clipping into this occupation in a half-hearted way. To be sure, if all these "half-dozen-trap" trappers were to sail full-blast into the game the inevitable result would be the extermination of the fur-bearers, while the number of hungry trappers would have a noticeable increase, which would be far from the desired consummation of affairs.

Oh, no! Far better that they remain as they are, but, if there were fewer of the "half-dozen" men, while those who were following the game, followed it strong, it might, perhaps, bring it up to the standard it enjoyed in the old days.

However, this is neither here nor there. The "half-dozen" men (and boys) are with us, and it is up to all of us to make the best of matters and enjoy the sport while it lasts. And sport it certainly is!

The mink, it seems to me, enjoys the distinction of being the most widely discussed of all the fur-bearers, among the amateurs at least. Now, mind you, I am not going to get up and declare he is not worthy of his fame but I do think he is slightly over-estimated.

No doubt the very fact of his popularity among trappers, especially in the farming sections (due to the good price his pelt brings) has had a great deal to do with his education. This, together with his natural caution and shrewdness has made him a hard animal to convince that it is a pleasure to get his toes pinched.

I have trapped them in localities where they have had but slight acquaintance with man and his ways, however, and have found them quite easy to take. Even in the thickly populated sections they will take bait readily, which is a tremendous advantage to the trapper.

Perhaps a word on the question of bait would not come in amiss just here. When conditions are favorable, blind trapping is certainly the best method, but there are times when bait is a help, if not an absolute necessity in making a capture.

When making a set with bait, most beginners make the mistake of making it too conspicuous and giving it an unnatural appearance. Strict avoidance of all things unnatural in the general surroundings and, of course, the set itself are the first steps toward making a good set.

This is sometimes far from being an easy matter, to be sure, but it always pays to take pains with your work, as one good set is worth a score of poor ones.

Mink are always on the lookout for dead or stranded fish; therefore a fish pushed under a root or in a hole in the bank is not apt to arouse their suspicion, providing the fish has not been handled excessively and has been placed in the hole with the aid of a stick, so as to leave as little human odor as possible in the vicinity of the set. Then if your trap be well concealed under a few inches of water, in what should be the only, or at least the most likely point of access, you have a very good set. When possible the trap is better staked out in the water, or attached to that ingenious contrivance, the "sliding-pole" (which answers the same purpose, only more thoroughly) as the water is a mink's first refuge when caught. The weight of a number one and a half is sure to pull him down.

Opinion seems to be divided as to which is the harder animal to trap, the fox or the wolf.

I am inclined to think the benefit of the doubt ought to be given the wolf. This honor is not altogether earned by a superior degree of intelligence, I argue,

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