

## ALBRETTE FARMS ARE NOW COMMON IN EAST INDIA

Osprey Feathers Can Now be Had Without Cruelty to the Birds.

**FISHER-FOLK HAVE DOMESTICATED BIRDS**

Moult Four Times Each Year—Coveted Plumes Secured Without Pain.

Calcutta, June 19.—The controversy as to whether the beautiful dorsal plume of the smaller albatross, commonly known as the "osprey feather," can be placed on the world's markets without cruelty to the birds has just received a fresh impetus from an article published by a Karachi newspaper. In the old days large quantities of this beautiful plumage was exported from India and they largely accounted for the important position occupied by feathers in the list of Indian exports down to the middle nineteenth century.

The osprey feather, however, was obtained chiefly in Bengal and Madras by revolting cruelty which implied the massacre and slow extinction of one of the fairest of God's creatures.

In 1902 the new Indian Customs Act prohibited "the taking by sea or land out of British India of skins and feathers of all birds other than domestic except (a) feathers of ostriches, (b) skins and feathers exported bona fide as specimens illustrative of natural history. From that date the foreign trade in the albatross plume, although large, has been illicit and has been achieved solely by evading the customs officers.

Successfully Domesticated.

For long it has been known in India that successful efforts have been made, particularly in Sind, to domesticate the smaller albatross, and as long ago as 1914 an article contributed to several scientific journals in India and America—among them the Scientific American—described the progress made.

Fresh inquiries have again been made this year in Sind and it is claimed, on what is evidently official and scientific authority, that at least 100 albatross farms now exist in the Sind area alone. The farms are, generally speaking, of the migratory type, and hence the cruelties attendant on the transference of the birds from one place to another—cruelties due largely to the necessity of temporary blinding the birds to prevent them from harming themselves and one another—are eliminated. Where a supply of fish and water is permanent the farm remains permanent.

Well Housed and Treated.

"The 'farmers' are the fisher-folk of the inland waters of the province. The birds are well treated. They are described as being comfortably housed in well-ventilated structures, well looked after and well fed. Among 1,700 birds personally seen in the Pakar (a senior official in the India Civil Service) no case of blinding or ill treatment was discovered. The space allotted to each bird on the farm is 20 to 40 cubic feet. The cages are in the open and are accessible to air and light. The necessity of decoy birds has disappeared, now that breeding is in regular process.

With regard to the astonishing assertion that the smaller albatross moult no less than six times a year, the reports now summarized are unanimous in declaring this to be a positive fact. The two summer moults, however, only give a very light return of the famous plumage. As regards the pain once thought to be attendant on plucking, it is asserted on the authority of an officer, who is also a keen ornithologist, that the abstraction of the plumes at the right season and in the humane fashion now practiced occasions the bird no more inconvenience than is occasioned by the plucking of a hair from the human head.

### FACTS ABOUT MAN.

There are 627 muscles in a man's body.

A man's brain contains a half million cells.

A man's brain is twice as large as that of any animal.

A man is generally heaviest in his fortieth year.

A man's heart weighs about half a pound.

Man is the only animal whose nose turns downward.

Normal man's pulse beats about 70 to the minute, woman's 80 and infant's 120.

The average man paces 30 inches, 100 paces to the minute.

Man's voice is produced by the united action of 44 muscles.

Man's bones are in three shapes; long, in the arms and legs; flat, the shoulder blades, and short and irregular, in the wrist.

The cubic content of enlightened man's skull is 54 inches; of the gorilla, 38 inches.

### Good Comebacks.

"How do you feel?" I heard him say To the old shoes he's thrown away. And the old shoes said with a pout: "My goodness, I feel all worn out!" —Boston Record.

"How do you feel?" I heard him say To an old skirt she's thrown away. And back to her came the retort: "Oh, why did you cut me so short?"

## MARINE NEWS

Full Moon ..... June 20  
Last Quarter ..... June 28

	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.	Sun.
High Water, P. M.	4.37	5.14	5.46	6.18	6.50	7.22	7.54
Low Water, P. M.	11.46	11.58	12.10	12.22	12.34	12.46	12.58

### PORT OF ST. JOHN.

Arrived Saturday.  
S.S. Canadian Aviator from London.  
S.S. Governor Dingy from Boston with passengers and cargo.  
Left Saturday.  
S.S. Governor Dingy, Capt. Ingalls for Boston.

### Canadian Aviator In.

S.S. Canadian Aviator arrived Saturday night from London with a small cargo. She will load sugar for the United Kingdom.

### Again in Commission.

It is understood that the ocean-going tug Cruiser and steamer Rosanna B., both owned by the British firm, are about to be placed in commission again. The vessel has been laid up since early spring.

### To Lead Lathes.

The Halifax term schooner Charles has left Yarmouth for up the bay, going to Herring Cove, Albert county, N. B., to load lathes for Philadelphia.

## ABILITY OF GERMANY TO PAY MENACE

In Order to Get Cash She Must Undermine Trade of Great Britain.

### DIFFERENT METHOD OF COLLECTING BEST

Should Have Been Required to Pay in Raw Materials Needed by Other Nations.

London, June 19.—Reginald McKenna, former Chancellor of the Exchequer and chairman of the London Joint City and Midland Bank, made an address on "International Debts" here tonight.

Before the war, he said, the United States was probably the principal debtor nation. She was now a great manufacturing nation, but the fact that in the past she incurred heavy external obligations was no reason to the rule that borrowing countries were primarily exporters of food and raw materials. As she developed her manufacturing, she reduced her borrowing abroad until before the war she had probably ceased to borrow on balance. Debts between nations, created by war, bore no resemblance to the earlier obligations that had been incurred between nations. These had not arisen out of normal trade relations, and had not been accompanied by any development of productive power of the debtor.

### Must Export Goods.

Discussing the debt, Mr. McKenna said that although Germany had to pay her foreign creditors \$160,000,000 a year as a minimum, and \$400,000,000 a year as a maximum, she could only pay by the sale of goods abroad or by rendering service to foreigners through shipping, banking and insurance. If she paid by visible exports, she must sell abroad to the value of nearly \$300,000,000 and take for internal consumption only \$60,000,000, which was hardly conceivable in view of the need to import raw materials.

To enable Germany to meet her final liability of close to \$400,000,000 exports must amount to not less than \$1,200,000,000. German foreign trade could not be expanded to such a point, and so large an exportable surplus could not be maintained unless wages were kept extremely low by comparison with competing countries.

There would have to be a rigid cutting down of the standard of living among the working classes. Would German working classes consent? The answer must be that they would.

Before the war Germany was Britain's greatest competitor. Cost in Germany would be below British. The effect on German shipping was obvious. Ships would be built and manning on the German basis of cost, but freights and passengers would be on the international level. An export duty of 26 per cent would, in fact, constitute a bonus of a preference of 28 per cent in favor of German shipping. The same thing would be true of banking and insurance.

If Germany could get her trade going, he went on, it is probable that by the third year her industry would be running with such energy and volume as would enable her to meet the demands on her. The whole interest of the German Government would be centred on paying.

"For the industrial magnate it meant cheap labor and larger output. His rate of profit might be reduced, but the huge volume of production would give him a big return. The burden of the debt would be borne mainly by German workmen, whose real wages would never be allowed to rise.

### Would Meet Demands.

"The conclusion to which I am driven," said Mr. McKenna, "is that if Germany is able to meet her obligations, she will be doing so gravely impairing our own international trade."

According to his view there was a way to make Germany pay and to contribute to the prosperity of this country. Nothing stood in the way of Germany being required to send to this and other countries, each according to its requirements, such articles as coal, timber and potash. German labor would have been drawn

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### TIME TABLE

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Leaves Black's Harbor Wednesday, Tuesday of high water for St. Andrews, calling at Lord's Cove, Richardson, Back Bay and L'Etoile.

Leaves St. Andrews Thursday, calling at St. George, L'Etoile, or Back Bay and Black's Harbor.

Leaves Black's Harbor Friday for Dipper Harbor, calling at Beaver Harbor.

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### THE CARELESS SMOKER.

(Apologies to Kipling.)

A fool there was and his pipe he lit (Even as you and I)

On a forest trail where the leaves were lit

To become ablaze from the smallest bit

Of spark—and the fool he furnished

The day was windy and dry.

The forest was burned to its very roots

Even beneath the ground.

With the flowers, the birds and the poor dumb brutes,

Old heavy oaks, and the tender shoots

And the German hares were kept for such galoots

Allowed to wander around.

The lumber jack has now passed on,

His pay day comes no more,

And the crows and owls have the camp at dawn

Where the cook's tin pan woke the men of brown;

But the mill is silent, the trees are gone,

The soil and the forest floor.

A deadly sight are those hills of rocks

Which once were beds of green;

No hope for the human, no food for the flocks,

The floods must be held by expensive locks

And the harbor is silted to the docks.

The ships no more are seen.

But the fool smokes on in the forest still,

Leaves camp-fires burning, too,

While the patient public pays the bills

And the nation's wealth is destroyed

If the law doesn't get him, Old Satan will

When his smoking days are through!

—Harris A. Heynolds.

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