

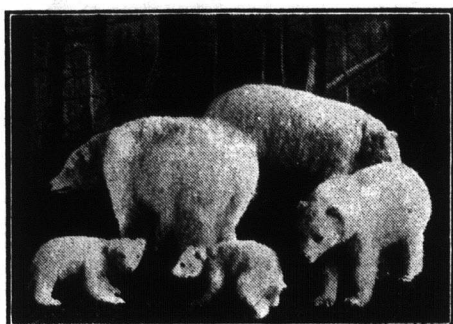
Dame Nature may still have some Unknown Animals in Far Corners of the Earth

By Francis Dickie

FROM time to time in the last twenty-five years the average man and woman not directly interested in things zoological, still heard with surprise of the discovery of an entirely new species of animal. Sometimes the discovery was made after white men had heard for years from natives descriptions of the queer beast. To instance only a few of the new kinds of animals may be mentioned the Okapi, the mouse deer and forest hog found in West Africa.

The world still contains so much unexplored territory that it seems a reasonable thing, in the light of the above and other discoveries, to hope that yet further new species of animals may be brought to light by subsequent exploration.

Certainly in Africa some very startling monsters have been reported seen by white men of undoubted integrity, monsters that as yet remain unclassified. One of these is the water elephant of the Congo. It was first heard of through J. D. Hamlyn, the celebrated procurer of wild animals alive for menageries. According to him this beast as described by the natives was smaller than an ordinary land one, but much fiercer. The natives were in such fear of it they would not venture into the territory where it dwelt. Mr. J. Lepage, in the autumn of 1919, had an opportunity of observing through his glasses in the Belgian Congo what is now thought by scientists to be a sur-

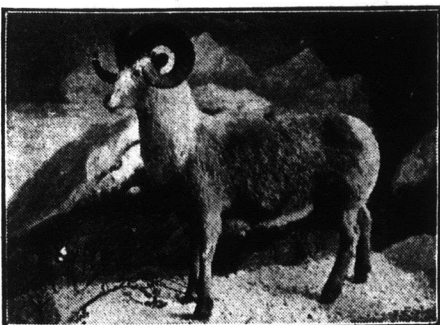


Type group of new species of bear found in British Columbia.

vival of the prehistoric days. It was about 24 feet long, with a huge scaly hump between the shoulders, a long straight horn at the tip of an exceedingly elongated snout, and had also a pair of long tusks.

But the finds of new animals has not been confined to Africa. In North America two new kinds of animals were recently brought to light; one of them particularly interesting.

The first was the Ursus Kermodei, a strange white bear, hitherto unknown to science. Only a very few of these exist, and as far as has yet been learned they are confined to a very small territory in the wilderness reaches of the Province of British Columbia,



Type specimen of new sub-species of mountain sheep found in Yukon territory.

Canada. The discovery was due to Professor W. T. Hornaday, the noted zoologist, coming upon a skin of a small bear in a furrier's, which he was told was that of a baby polar bear. His expert knowledge brought to light that the skin was not that of a baby polar bear, but was from an adult of an as yet unknown species. The work of locating where this skin came from was considerable, but it was finally traced to northern British Columbia. The research in this region was vigorously taken up by (Continued on Page 33)

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