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DURING the past month the Museum has issued a new Guide Leaflet. This pertains to the extensive collections in the Peruvian Hall and is descriptive of the strange looking "mummy bundles" which come from Peru and their contents and the objects which have been found associated with them in the graves. The author is Mr. Charles W. Mead, of the Department of Ethnology, who has devoted several years to the study of Peruvian archaeology and has made many interesting discoveries. The importance of the mummy bundles and the contents of the graves of the ancient Peruvians is enhanced by the fact that the people had no written language and that these objects are almost the only data that we have for studying the manners and customs of the interesting people that the Spaniards found inhabiting the Pacific slopes of the central Andes at the time of the Conquest. The Leaflet, which is No. 24 of the Museum series, will be sent free, upon request, to any Member of the Museum. Others may obtain the pamphlet at the entrance to the building or from the Librarian on payment of 10 cents.

HABITAT GROUPS OF BIRDS.

WITH this number of the JOURNAL we present illustrations of two of the new bird groups which have been mounted in the Hall of North American Ornithology (Gallery floor, north wing). These are part of a series which is being prepared with funds provided by the North American Ornithology Fund representing the birds of the continent in their natural surroundings, or "habitats."

One of these groups represents a family of Ward's Great Blue Heron in the swamps of central Florida near the Indian River. This bird, once abundant, has been almost exterminated by plume hunters.

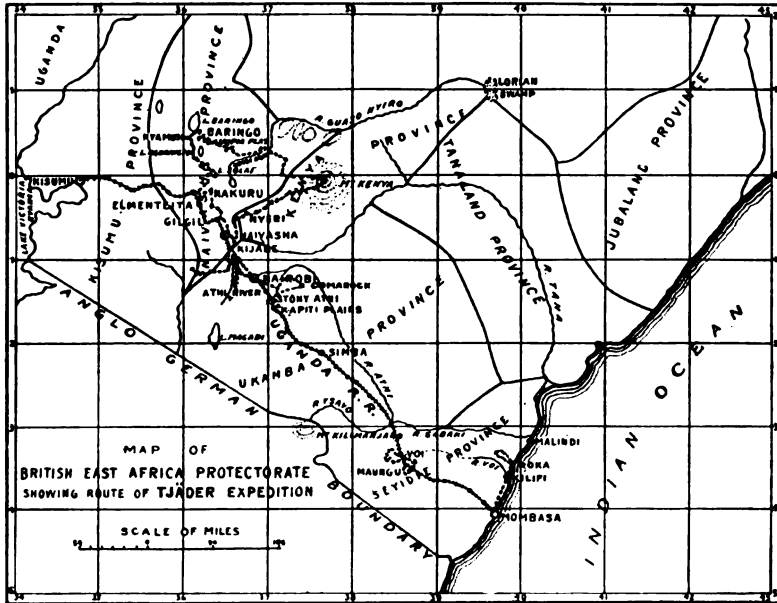
The other group illustrated in this number of the JOURNAL is that of the Prairie Hen and represents several couples during the mating season, when the male goes through his peculiar antics of "drumming"

THE RESULTS OF THE TJÄDER EXPEDITION.



THROUGH the Tjäder expedition to British East Africa, mention of which has been made from time to time in the pages of the JOURNAL and the narrative of which has become familiar to the Members through the lecture by Mr. Tjäder on February 28, the Museum has come into possession of a rich collection of zoölogical material comprising about 450 specimens among which are representatives of the principal types of the mammalian and bird fauna of that part of the continent.

Our Members will recall that this expedition left New York March 1, 1906, and proceeded to Mombasa on the east coast of Africa, where



MAP OF PART OF BRITISH EAST AFRICA
Dotted line and railroad show route of Tjäder Expedition

the Uganda railway was taken for the journey into the interior. Side trips were made from several points on the railway, and at the Athi river near Nairobi the party, consisting of Messrs. Tjäder and Lang and their assistants, began camping. Hunting was prosecuted for

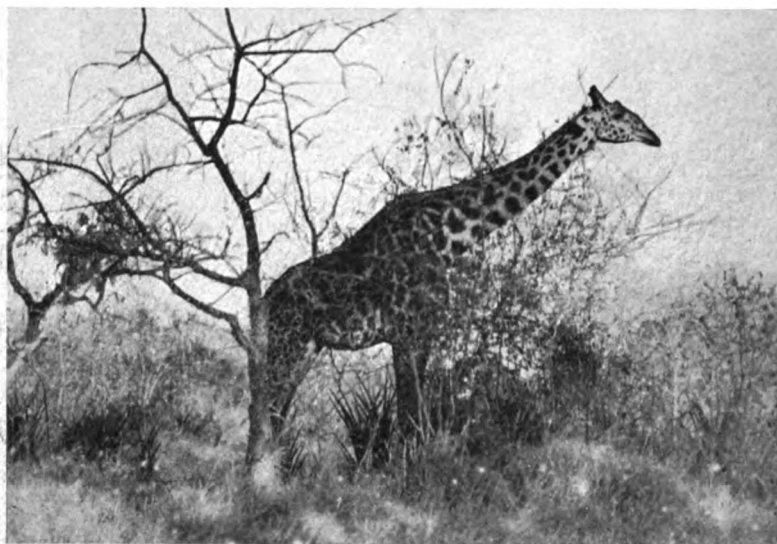


H. Lang, Photo.
PART OF TJÄDER EXPEDITION CROSSING A RIVER
Near Nyamusi (Baringo).



R. Tjäder, Photo.
ELEPHANT TAKEN NEAR NAKURU

The animal was 22 feet, 8 inches long, and his shoulder height was 10 feet, 4 inches. The tusks are 6 feet, 4 inches long and weigh 160 pounds.



GIRAFFE SEVENTEEN FEET TALL

H. Lang, Photo.

Obtained near Maungu. Photograph made after the animal had been shot, but before it fell.



RHINOCEROS, 10 FEET 8 INCHES LONG, 5 FEET HIGH

H. Lang, Photo.

Secured in the Valley of Solai, north of Nakuru

about four and a half months over a route which is indicated on the accompanying outline map of British East Africa.

A magnificent old bull Giraffe which stood with his head seventeen feet above the ground when alive, was secured only an hour's march from Maungu station on the line of the Uganda railroad. Another and smaller one shot near Comarock, Athi plains, 200 miles from Maungu, is interesting as showing the local range of the animal. A fine bull Rhinoceros was obtained in the Solai Valley, north of Nakuru and an unusually large Elephant, which goes as a trophy to Mr. Samuel Thorne, through whose generosity the expedition was made possible. The series of larger animals is completed by a cow Buffalo. The Buffalo are rather scarce, and they are so well protected that only the scientific collector can procure permission to shoot any. It is fortunate that the complete skeletons of the animals intended for mounting have been obtained and that the hides were taken off entire and not in several sections according to the usual practice. The weight of such hides is surprising, twelve to sixteen porters being needed to carry the fresh skin of an animal like the big Giraffe or the Rhinoceros, which weighed between 800 and 900 pounds. Some portions of the skin were two inches thick and it was necessary to pare as much as possible from the inside to prevent deterioration and permit subsequent manipulation for mounting. When ready for shipment the Giraffe skin weighed 120 pounds and that of the Rhinoceros 85 pounds.

Eight Zebras from different parts of the region and fifteen different species of Antelope are in the collection. The Antelope are particularly interesting and include excellent specimens of the Eland, the White-bearded Gnu, the Oryx, two kinds of Hartbeest, the Waterbuck, Reedbuck and Bushbuck, and several of the tiniest forms, such as *Cephalophus*, *Neotragus* and *Nanotragus*, of which the last is but eighteen inches long when full grown. The Waterbuck will make a particularly effective group, on account of the naturally proud aspect of the animals in life.

Mention should be made too of the specimens of Warthog, Spotted Hyæna, Jackal, Aard Wolf and Cerval Cat, while the Colobus Monkey noted for its beautiful fur, and other species of the quadrumana are represented by several specimens each. Taken together the trophies of this expedition supply exceptionally fine material of species which have hitherto been wholly lacking in the Museum collections.

Much interesting ethnological material was brought back by Mr. Tjäder. It consists of charms, ornaments, weapons, cooking utensils and other articles from several tribes. Long battle spears, ugly arrows bearing rows of jagged points and slender clubs with egg-shaped stone heads are among the things that show how the tribesmen contend with their enemies or attack wild animals.

The photographs illustrating this brief note were taken by Mr. Herbert Lang, the museum taxidermist who accompanied the expedition, and are used through the courtesy of Mr. Tjäder.

MUSEUM NEWS NOTES.



MEMBERS, and especially those having children, when visiting the Museum should be sure to avail themselves of the services of the instructor, Mrs. Agnes L. Roesler, who has recently been appointed by the Museum for the purpose of assisting Members and their guests.

On coming to the Museum, Members may call for Mrs. Roesler, and she will accompany them through the exhibition halls and into the laboratories, where they may see how the artificial flowers, glass models, ethnological and other groups, fossil animals and other specimens are prepared for exhibition. The children of Members may be left with the instructor, who will be pleased to spend an hour or two with them in the exhibition halls, entirely at the convenience of their parents.

AMONG prominent foreign men of science who have been at the Museum during the past few months may be mentioned, Canon ARMOUR, of Worcester, England, Dr. T. TSCHERNYSCHEW, Director of the Imperial Geological Survey of Russia, Dr. E. TIETZE, Director of the Imperial Geological Survey of Austria, Prof. A. C. HADDON of Cambridge University, England, Prof. A. OSANN, Freiburg, Dr. T. IKI, of the Imperial Geological Survey of Japan, Prof. BRUNO WEIGAND, Strassburg, Prof. T. W. E. DAVID, University of Sydney, New South Wales, Dr. A. PLAGEMANN, of Hamburg, Profs. HUGO ERDMANN, E. PHILLIPPI, G. W. VON ZAHN and Dr. HECKMANN, of Berlin, Germany, Dr. H. SJÖGREN, Royal Natural History Museum, Stockholm, Dr. V. HACKMANN and Dr. W. WAHL, of Helsingfors, Dr. V. SABITINI, Rome, Italy, Mr. C. RAMALINGA REDDY, St. Johns College, Cambridge,