

A QUICK GET AWAY

A Midnight Escape from the Fur Country. Julian Bishop Tells the Details of Trapping and Big Game Hunting in the North.

Probably one of the most important things in successful trapping is the skill in which the trapper makes his sets. Of course there are various and different ways to set traps, and invariably each trapper works under the opinion that his particular ideas on this subject are the best as yet offered to mankind, so it might be of interest to give a brief description of the standard and time-worn ways of setting and baiting traps for the various fur-bearing animals.

1. The red fox of the north is by far the hardest of all animals to inveigle into a steel trap, and the trapper in matching his wits and cunning against the red fox seems to be at a distinct disadvantage. In the first place their sense of smell is so acute that they have a healthy suspicion of any kind of bait. Probably the best method of catching foxes is to poison them; but even this is unsatisfactory, because it is often impossible to find the fox after he has taken the poison. Another way of taking them is by what is known as the water set. In this method you hang your bait on a stick over a shallow rift about two or three feet from the shore of a stream or lake, and put your trap, usually a No. 2 Newhouse, just under the surface of the water. You then place a small piece of moss or flat stone on the pan of the trap, so that this is just projecting out of the water. As water does away with all human scent from the hands, the fox does not become suspicious of this scent, and in his attempt to reach the bait will naturally step on the moss or flat stone on the trap pan, and consequently become caught. Land sets for fox require so much time and attention that we did not attempt any.

THE MINK HOUSE

2. Mink, are accustomed to travel up and down river banks and lake shores, and especially where a brook empties into a lake or a stream. For them we used the regular No. 1 Jump trap. We built a small house of sticks and stones in a diagonal shape, put our bait—usually meat or fish—in the back end of the house, and our trap immediately under the entrance. We then covered the house with balsam or spruce boughs to prevent the snow from falling directly on our trap. Sometimes we would use a prepared scent, sprinkling this on the ground near a trap, but as a rule we just depended on the straight set. Care must be exercised in making these little trap houses so that they will more or less conform to the general character of the land and not to look artificial. This effect is easily brought about by using plenty of old boughs and brush.

3. Fisher, or as it is commonly called up north, black cat, we trapped in much the same way as mink. But as a fisher is an inhabitant of the high lands,

we set our traps along ridges, building a house somewhat larger than those we did for mink, and baiting them whenever possible with hedgehog.

4. Martin and sable, whose habits are very similar to the fisher, were trapped in the same way.

FOOLING THE BUSY BEAVER

5. A description of the habits and life of a beaver would fill a good sized book; the same can be said of the ways and means of trapping this most destructive animal. He is an untiring worker, lives and seems to enjoy a family life most exemplary, and yet probably ruins more timber land by building his useless dams than any other animal. As a rule they work together at night time, there being anywhere from two to twenty in a family. In summer their chief occupation is in building large dams across streams, and in felling green birch trees and small alder bushes to construct these dams. They also work on their house, as a rule built in the water, conical in shape, made of small sticks, oftentimes as high as 12 or 15 feet, all the various entrances being under the water. I have seen millions of feet of fine timber land totally destroyed by their damming up a small stream and causing the water to back up and flow over this big timberland. In the early fall they cut their supply of wood for the winter, usually poplar, birch or alder branches, which they carry near their house. When the ice comes these branches gradually become sour by being in the water, and it is then that the beaver will leave their house in search of fresh food. In trapping beaver it is not necessary to use bait such as meat or fish. The best winter set, and one with which we had the most success, was constructed as follows: We cut a number of green poplar branches, nailed them to a dry cedar stake, which we drove well down into the mud at the bottom of a pond, say in two or three feet of water. We then placed two or three No. 4 traps in and around these protruding branches on the lake bottom, so that the beaver must necessarily step into the traps while feeding on the branches. Another method is by breaking a hole in one of their dams and there placing a trap fastened to a large stone. At night they will invariably come out to repair the damage done to the dam, and consequently stop the flow of water through the hole, and it is then when they will come in very close contact with the trappers cunning. This is an exceptionally good set for late fall or spring when the water is not frozen. Beaver also have their well defined runways up and down river banks, and we often found it to be a good practice to put a trap near one of these, just under the water so that the beaver will step in the trap when coming up to

(Continued on page eleven)

N. L. CARPENTER & CO

Main Office,
17 William Street,
New York City.

Members N. Y. Stock and Cotton
Exchanges.

BRANCH OFFICE AT THE CAROLINA
Pinehurst, N. C.

Private wire to New York—give up
business Solicited.

Pine Top Lodge and Kennels
Pine Bluff, North Carolina
on main line of Seaboard Railway
seven miles from Pinehurst
Fine Quail Shooting
Comfortable accommodations for Sportsmen and their Wives
All Modern Conveniences
Headquarters of
MIDWINTER CANOEING CLUB
C. & L. P. Blow

JACKSON SPRINGS HOTEL
ALWAYS OPEN
Quail abundant.
Special Teas and Dinners.
Geo. R. Ross, Prop'r. Jackson Springs, N. C.

Grass Seed
of Known Quality
TESTED FOR PURITY AND
GERMINATION

In considering the purchase of grass seed, we ask the opportunity of talking or corresponding with those interested in securing the best results.

Stump & Walter Co

30 & 32 Barclay Street New York

**NORFOLK SOUTHERN
RAILROAD**

SHORT LINE FROM

Central North Carolina
to Eastern North Carolina
Seashore Resorts
Norfolk, Va. and East

Through Sleeping Car Daily from
Raleigh 9.20 P. M. for Norfolk, connect-
ing at Norfolk with Rail and Steamer
Lines for Eastern and Northern Points.
Only North Carolina Line entering
Norfolk Terminal Station—No Ferry.

TRAINS LEAVE PINEHURST

8.28 A. M. Daily, except Sunday, for
Jackson Springs, Star, Ashe-
boro, Charlotte, Raleigh.
7.23 P. M. Daily, except Sunday, for
Jackson Springs.
10.30 A. M. Daily, except Sunday, for
Jackson Springs, Asheboro
intermediate stations.
9.05 A. M. and 6.30 P. M. Daily, except
Sunday, for Carthage.
Frequent Schedules between Pinehurst
and Aberdeen.
J. F. DALTON, G. P. A., Norfolk, Va.
B. W. BRANNON, T. A., Pinehurst, N. C.

IMPORTED HOSIERY

For Golf, Tennis and Sport Wear
IN ATTRACTIVE DESIGNS FOR
MEN AND WOMEN



No. 10 Finest Scotch Wool Tennis Socks in white, gray, green, black, heather and white, with colored clocks, a pair 1.50
No. 15 Men's Finest Scotch Wool Golf Hose, in green, gray, brown and heather (without feet \$3), a pair 3.50
No. 20 Women's Scotch Wool Stockings, in white, white with colored clocks, Oxford green and heather, a pair 3.00
Complete line Golf, Tennis and Sport equipment.
Mail Orders given prompt attention.
Stewart Sporting Sales Co.
425 FIFTH AVE., at 38th St., N. Y.

Pinehurst Jewelry Shop

At The Carolina



Jewelry Novelties & Silverware

Repairing and Engraving

Mr. Arthur G. Lockwood

Designs and Constructs Modern Golf Courses
at Reasonable Prices

Full Particulars on Application
MEDFORD, MASS. Tel. 164-M

Pinehurst Farms

Dairy and Market Garden

Supplying the Entire Village in their
Respective Departments.

Village Guests are Cordially Invited
to Visit These Modern Plants.

Address Correspondence to

PINEHURST GENERAL OFFICE