

LEE KEEDICK, Presents

# Edmund Heller

Famous Explorer, Hunter and Naturalist

Member of the Roosevelt Expedition to the  
big game country of equatorial East Africa



LECTURE SUBJECT

Exclusive Management of LEE KEEDICK, 437 Fifth Avenue, New York

# Through Africa with Colonel Roosevelt

**E**DMUND HELLER, who gained lasting fame by accompanying Colonel Roosevelt on his remarkable hunting expedition to the heart of equatorial East Africa, has long held a foremost position as a hunter, explorer and naturalist, his adventurous career having also taken him to the remotest parts of Alaska, Mexico, Peru, and Central Asia. While serving with the Roosevelt expedition in the capacity of naturalist and photographer, he shared the perils of the hunting field with the great American statesman and sportsman.

Mr. Heller's splendid work for the expedition received unstinted praise from Colonel Roosevelt in his famous hunting book, "African Game Trails," in which he said: "Edmund Heller was the man for any task. No work at any hour of the day or night ever came amiss to him. As we sat around the camp fire at night, each man had some tale to tell. Heller told of hunting and collecting in Alaska and the Rockies; and always our talk came back to strange experiences with birds and beasts, both great and small, to the ways of great game."

## JOINS THE EXPEDITION

The expedition, which Mr. Heller joined in March, 1909, was sent out by the Smithsonian Institution, under the leadership of Colonel Roosevelt, with the object of collecting birds, mammals, reptiles and plants, but especially big game, for the National Museum at Washington. Members of the party included Colonel Roosevelt's son, Kermit, and two naturalists, in addition to Mr. Heller, J. Alden Loring and Surgeon Lieut. Col. Edgar A. Mearns, U. S. A., retired. A large number of native porters and other attendants were employed, and on the march, headed by the American flag, the expedition resembled a small army.

## WORK AS A NATURALIST

Before joining the expedition Mr. Heller had been employed as an expert in faunal natural history and the classification of collections at the Field Museum,

Chicago, and later at the University of California. In addition to his wide experience in field work, in many lines, as a hunter of big game animals, he had made a thorough study of their classification at the British Museum, the Paris Museum, the Leyden Museum and the Congo Museum at Brussels. During the expedition his special



Monster giraffe shot by Colonel Roosevelt

duty was to accompany Colonel Roosevelt while hunting and to photograph and skin the animals that he killed. Besides performing the scientific work, he measured, labeled



Colonel Roosevelt and natives besides the body of a lion covered with spears

and packed about five thousand specimens of mammals, birds, plants and insects, which were forwarded to Washington. He also named the numerous new species discovered by the expedition. Subsequently Colonel Roosevelt and Mr. Heller, in collaboration, made a valuable contribution to literature, "Life Histories of Afri-

can Game Animals," published by Charles Scribner's Sons in 1914.

## ROOSEVELT'S STRIKING PERSONALITY

Being intimately associated with Colonel Roosevelt, Mr. Heller, while in Africa, had exceptional opportunities to observe his unvarying coolness and bravery in facing the greatest dangers, his passion for natural history and his unaffected democracy and good fellowship during the long trek through the wilds.

For the greater part of a year the expedition traversed hundreds of miles through the big game country bordering the equator, the haunt of lions, elephants, leopards, giraffes, rhinoceroses and other mighty and terrible lords of the wilderness, cunning, wary and grim, while almost every day brought a succession of thrilling adventures and hairbreadth escapes.

## FIGHTS WITH BIG GAME

Whenever hunting was in process Mr. Heller was constantly on hand with his camera, ready to record the various incidents of the chase. He thus obtained some wonderful photographs of Colonel Roosevelt stalking lions, elephants and other big game, and in some instances shooting at comparatively short range while meeting the charge of an infuriated animal. During the expedition 512 big game animals and birds were killed by Colonel Roosevelt and his son, including 17 lions, 11 elephants, 20 rhinoceroses, 3 leopards, 7 cheetahs, 8 hippopotamuses, 10 giraffes, 10 buffaloes, 21 gazelles and 8 waterbucks.

Of Mr. Heller's coolness in an emergency and indifference to danger Colonel Roosevelt wrote: "It is ticklish work to follow a wounded lioness in the tall grass, and we walked carefully, every sense on the alert. We passed Heller, who had been with the beaters. He spoke to us with an amused smile. His only weapon was a pair of field glasses, but he always took things as they came, with entire coolness, and to be close to a wounded lioness when she charged merely interested him."

## A REMARKABLE LECTURE

A keen observer and gifted with the ability to tell a story that grips the attention of all hearers, Mr. Heller has embodied a graphic account of this famous expedition in a fascinating lecture entitled, "Through Africa with Colonel Roosevelt." By means of a splendid collection of stereopticon views, reproduced from actual photographs and colored with rare skill, he shows the life of the wild at close range, with all its terrors and charms. This lecture has delighted many large audiences.

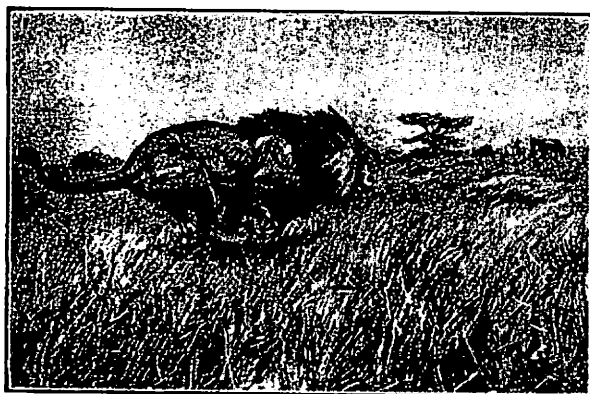
### WONDERFUL AFRICAN VIEWS

In addition to a series of remarkable pictures, illustrative of the excitement and perils of big game hunting, Mr. Heller shows the expedition on the march through jungles, swamps and forests, across deserts and grassy plains, with glimpses of great rivers and vast lakes, the home of the hippopotamus and crocodile. The novel features of mountain climbing in the tropics are also depicted, with views of snow caps and glaciers far above the sweltering climate of the lower altitudes. Specimens of the native races encountered by the expedition are also shown by Mr. Heller; some of them apelike, naked savages who dwell in the woods and prey on creatures not much wilder or lower than themselves.



Masai warrior with ball on spear, indicating peaceful intentions

### THE CHARM OF THE WILD



Lion charging Colonel Roosevelt

Colonel Roosevelt has said: "There is delight in the hardy life of the open, in long rides, rifle in hand, in the thrill of the fight with dangerous game. Apart from this, yet mingled with it, is the strong attraction of silent places; vast forests, radiant with bright flowers and birds, odorous with sweet and heavy scents; trackless plains and deserts; lakes like seas; mountain peaks whose snows are dazzling under the equatorial sun; mighty rivers rushing out of the heart of the continent through the sadness of endless marshes."

With such impressive scenes as these as a background, and the heroic figure of Colonel Roosevelt constantly in view, Mr. Heller relates a story which in point of sheer human interest has seldom been equaled on the lecture platform. While it abounds in the

picturesque, the adventurous and thrilling, it also serves to throw new light upon a famous personality whom Americans honor and admire. For these reasons his lecture makes a stirring appeal to every audience.