

accepted the offer, signed the treaty, and pelagic sealing stopped in 1912. Since then the herd has increased from 127,000 in 1912 to over 700,000 in 1924, and the government is now able to kill 25,000 to 40,000 surplus young males every year worth from one to two million dollars annually. This shows how rapidly a once dwindling resource can be restored under proper international agreement.

"In the southern Pacific and the Antarctic are remnants of more than a score of fur-seal herds which have long been commercially extinct, but which can be restored to vast commercial importance as has the Alaska fur-seal herd,"

WOMAN BOTANIST CLIMBS HIGH BRAZILIAN PEAKS

Penetrating a desert to see a waterfall as great as Niagara, climbing the highest peaks in eastern Brazil, botanizing over ground where no collector has been since the time of Napoleon, were features of the scientific explorations of Mrs. Agnes Chase, botanist of the U.S. National Herbarium, just returned from seven months in the wilds of the South American republic.

"Many people have the idea that Brazil is a country of unbroken jungle," said Mrs. Chase. "As a matter of fact, most of the eastern plateau that makes up the great eastern 'shoulder' of South America on the map is too high and dry for forests, and is either grassland or what we would call in this country 'high scrub' or chaparral. Since I was looking especially for species of grasses, it was into this region that I went.

"I went first into the upland country back of Pernambuco. This is a poor, barren land, semi-desert, and rapidly being turned into complete desert by heavy over-grazing. There is no transportation here except on donkey-back, and the large numbers of animals required to do a little work are simply eating the country bare. It was in this region that I saw the great Paulo Alfonso falls, a cataract as great as Niagara, in the midst of a barren desert. Near these falls I picked up some shells, which I am told are a new species of snail.

"Then I went southward, into the more temperate province of Minas Geraes. This is a more fertile, better settled region, with rolling hills like Nebraska; only the grass is long and high instead of short as on our prairies. It was down in this southern country also that I did my mountain climbing. I ascended the two highest peaks in Brazil east of the Andes, both of them nearly ten thousand feet in elevation. One of them was pretty easy, but the other was a really difficult climb.

"In this richer region, collecting of course was much better. I got the larger number of specimens here. My entire collection amounts to something like 2,000 specimens, including some 500 grasses. We haven't examined them all yet, but there will probably be several new species; and there are many that I found growing abundantly that were known before from only a single specimen."

The North Pole does not remain in the same place, but may move as much as 60 feet in a few months. It usually remains, however, within a square 60 feet on a side.
