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NEW DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FILM SHOWS U. S. FUR INDUSTRY

Mink, marten, muskrat, badger, otter, seal, fox, rabbit and raccoon--the leading sources of raised-in-America furs--are the stars in a Department of Agriculture motion picture just completed. This new film, in three reels, will have its world premier this month (May) at the International Fur and Hunting Exposition in Leipzig, Germany, after which it will be released in the United States.

The romance of furs--the adventuring, trapping, voyaging, tanning, dyeing and merchandising--together with a pictorial survey of the fur industry of the United States makes a film of varied interest.

Scenes in natural color showing human film stars in the latest models of American furs, including sables and seal, ermine, lynx, nutria and fox, provide a particularly attractive and happy ending for this educational film.

Some of the scenes were made in Hollywood, some in the Department's motion picture studio in Washington, but most of the film was made "on location." A crew from the Office of Motion Pictures, Extension Service, Department of Agriculture, traveled as far West as California to get scenes at the U. S. Biological Survey rabbit station where specialists experiment on various breeds and study diseases of rabbits; as far north as Saratoga, New York, for scenes on the Government's fur farm where experiments with fur-bearing

animals are carried on; as far south as the marshes at the mouth of the Mississippi and Sabine Rivers to make the muskrat pictures. They went to Minneapolis and Milwaukee and vicinity for the pictures of mink and silver and blue foxes; to Ohio for the raccoon farm scenes, to southern Louisiana for raccoon trapping and skinning scenes; to northern New York for the marten farming pictures. One has a glimpse of a fox fur farm in Wisconsin, the largest of its kind in the world, and of a 160,000 acre muskrat ranch in Louisiana. Together these give the spectator some idea of the size and extent of the fur industry of the United States.

From the film one learns that in the United States to-day native furs come chiefly from three sources: From lone trappers, mostly boys; from intensive fur farms; and from great preserves. One also learns that otter is the fur that wears best of all; that rabbit is the fur that masquerades most of all, and that a large percentage of all the fur used in the world (whatever its name) is just rabbit.

The film, planned to offer to visitors to the International Fur Exposition at Leipzig a brief but comprehensive visual idea of the fur industry of the United States, will perform the same service to the people of this country.

This new three-reel film, which takes about forty-five minutes to show, will be available to borrowers in the United States in the late summer or early fall. Applications should be made to the Office of Motion Pictures, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C. No rental is charged. Borrowers are required to pay transportation charges from Washington and return. If individuals and organizations wish to purchase prints the Department may authorize the purchase of prints of its films from a commercial manufacturer at contract prices, the result of competitive bidding. Many have availed themselves of this privilege.