

# EXPLORER SHOWS MOTION PICTURES OF WILD ANIMALS

*San Diego Union*

W. L. Finley Brings Delight  
To School Children, Adults  
With Lecture Here.

2-15-31

By WALLACE MOODY

As the closing educational feature of the Loba lectures, in collaboration with the San Diego city schools, William L. Finley, naturalist, author, explorer, gave his fascinating motion picture story, "Wild Animal Outposts," to the intense delight of hundreds of children, delight which was also shared by a large number of adults in the audience who voiced their emphatic approval of the Saturday morning lecture idea introduced by Mrs. Loba as a regular feature of the Loba lecture series. If a personal reflection may be permitted, the Finley pictures gave an hour or more of as keen enjoyment as has been our good fortune to experience.

There were five reels of unusual motion pictures, presenting phases of natural history usually encountered in text books only or as museum exhibits, pictures of wild life indigenous to the Alaskan coast and the islands of the Bering sea. As an example of motion photography these pictures, taken under varying favorable and unfavorable conditions, are unequalled.

Following a more or less leisurely course up the coast and into the Bering sea, Mr. and Mrs. Finley, with their fine equipment aboard a commodious yacht well supplied with auxiliary craft, were able to penetrate into little known territory and by the exercise of unwearied patience to fix the natural life about them on imperishable film. They were hunters with weapons charged to preserve life rather than to take it.

In Mr. Finley's own story there were good things from the standpoint of the naturalist following in quick succession; the Mt. McKinley country with its mountain sheep and caribou; Kodiak and Afognak, the haunts of the largest of all living carnivorous animals, the Alaskan brown bear; Kenai, the home of the moose, where an old bull charged the camera man; Akutan, the headquarters of the Bering sea whalers, where pictures of whales were taken from the mast-head; Unimak, with its myriads of sea-fowl crowding the rocks from tide line to pinnacle; Bogoslof, steaming hot from volcanic fires beneath and yet sheltering great colonies of murries and the most extensive rookeries of sea lions in the north, and the Pribilofs, the island outposts of the Bering sea, with their dramatic stories of blue foxes and fur seals.

## CUBS CAUSE LAUGHTER

Humor had its part in the Finley pictures. Two bear cubs, pets of the expedition, kept the children (and one adult), in a continuous uproar whenever they appeared on the screen. Other small animals, rescued from destruction and given a home on the yacht, contributed to the hilarity of the youngsters.

For the last 20 years, Mr. and Mrs. Finley have been engaged in exploration and research similar to their last expedition. Their work has taken them from Mexico to Alaska, along the coast and inland into wild mountainous country on foot and by pack animal. In that time they have made over 200,000 feet of motion pictures and over 20,000 still negatives, probably the greatest photographic record of American wild animal life ever made.

# PROTECT WILD LIFE, PLEA OF LECTURER

2-16-31

By FRANCES IMGRUND

William L. Finley, photographer of American wild life, made a plea for the protection of wild life in its natural state, Saturday morning at the Russ auditorium. This was the last of the junior lectures offered by the Loba lecture course, a course which could scarcely be duplicated in the advantages it presented to the plastic child.

In this last lecture Mr. Finley, whose ability as a speaker vied with his camera and adventure proclivities, gave, by word and moving picture, a fascinating account of his latest trip to Alaska. There, 2000 miles north of his home in Portland, Me., he cruised about in the waters of Alaska in his small yacht "Westward."

For four months he and his family and crew sailed in the big waters; using canoes and a rubber boat (blown up with a tire pump when needed) for rivers and lakes. Marvelous scenery, nature in all her abundance; in great snowcapped peaks, mighty forests reaching down to the rim of foaming rivers and peaceful lakes would have made material and beauty enough for one lecture, but Mr. Finley is a lover of animal life, so the scenery was used as a background to the wild life that seeks its protection.

One of the most interesting things shown was the salmon fishery; showing the streams alive with them; method of catching them, government regulation of their capture, and the acrobatic feats performed by the fish as they try to jump the cataracts on their way up stream to the spawning grounds.

The porcupine, the lumbering black bear, Alaskan brown bear, mountain sheep, moose, the wary caribou, hazards of climbing to an eagle's aerie, ground squirrel, the water ousel, king fisher, and the funny antics of two tame bear cubs, kept the attention of the children present every moment of the hour's talk.

The Pribilof islands, 12 miles long and six miles wide, in Bering sea, were of tremendous interest because of their great seal colonies, belonging to the United States government. Thousands of them massed on the beaches. Great soft, lumbering animals, the female very beautiful in her satiny coat.

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Saturday Morning, February 14 - 1931

## THE LOBA LECTURES

In collaboration with the San Diego city schools present

**WILLIAM L. FINLEY**

Famous photographer of wild animals

Subject: "WILD ANIMAL OUTPOSTS"

With thrilling moving pictures  
10:30 to 11:30

**RUSS AUDITORIUM**

LOUD SPEAKERS will be used, guaranteeing perfect hearing  
Seats on sale, Saturday morning, at Russ box office  
Children, 25 cents Adults, 50 cents