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ARISTOCRATS SEEK JOBS

Britain's Landed Gentry Fast Disappearing Under Heavy Taxation Burden

By DeWITT MacKENZIE
AP Foreign Affairs Analyst

The disappearance of England's landed aristocracy through heavy taxation continues apace, and this economic revolution is no respecter of persons.

Among the latest victims is King George's own nephew, the young Earl of Harewood, son of Princess Mary (the princess royal) and the sixth Earl of Harewood, who died in 1947. The present 26-year-old Earl inherited an estate valued at \$2,196,480 and this has been taxed \$728,072.

It's the earl's hard luck that much of his inheritance consisted of an ancestral estate of 24,000 acres on which live hundreds of tenant farmers. In order to raise the cash to meet his taxes he must sell much of his property, which has been in the family for generations. More than incidentally this presumably deprives him of a large revenue.

The earl's predicament is that experienced by so many others of this class of society. In the case where property changes hands three or four times quickly, the estate may be virtually wiped out.

This of course means that the day of the crimson-coated squire

riding to hounds with a "tally-ho" across his rolling acres is just about ended. Thus Britain is losing one of its most cherished traditions.

The red coats are being hung away, and the owners are trudging to jobs in office or shop, even as you and I.

It's an ironic twist of fate that only as far back as 1922, when the present earl's father married the princess royal, the Harewood fortune was huge. Not to put too fine a point on the matter, it had to be in order to support the king's daughter in the manner to which she was accustomed.

The Viscount Harewood, who succeeded his father in the earldom in 1929, was hand-picked as suitor of the young princess. He was 40 years old, of impeccable reputation, a grenadier guardsman, a thrice wounded veteran of the World War, and with considerable experience in diplomacy. And, as I recall it, he inherited a vast fortune from an uncle, apart from the family estate.

What a wedding that was. I was stationed in London at that time with the A. P., and it was my good fortune to attend the ceremony in Westminster Abbey. The American public devoured the story and reporters poured a torrent of words across the Atlantic. For weeks before the wedding the press on both sides of the ocean was full of details about the forthcoming event.

One assumes from the size of the estate left to the present earl of Harewood that his father spent a fortune in maintaining his position, the elder since was reputed to have had much more than he handed on to his heir. That of course is understandable, for the expenses of royalty are heavy.

However, the current holder of the title isn't doing so badly. It's tough to lose so much of his ancestral estate, but if my mathematics are right he still had close to the equivalent of a million and a half dollars in property. A feller can squeeze along on that for a while.

He's more fortunate than a good many others. A lot of the



BORED—Posing with the trophy at a Chicago dog show, DeMarco's Painted Arrow closes his eyes and yawns. He was chosen the best American-bred male Boxer, but obviously is used to little things like that.

Grand Jury Action In Maragon Case Not Disclosed

WASHINGTON, Dec. 21. — (AP)—A federal grand jury's decision on whether to indict dapper John Maragon, who once had easy access to the White House, was locked in secrecy today until early next month.

The jury reached a verdict late yesterday after questioning 11 witnesses and examining charges that Maragon lied to Senate investigators. But what the panel decided won't be announced until it hands down all its decisions, probably Jan. 3.

Maragon is a one-time shoe shine boy who came to know many government officials well enough to call them by their first names. One of his friends is Maj. Gen. Harry Vaughan, President Truman's military aide.

Maragon's name popped into the headlines last summer when a Senate committee looked into the activities of so-called "five percenters"—men who for a fee, often five per cent, helped others get government contracts.

There is nothing illegal about that. But it developed that Maragon's behind-closed-doors testimony to the committee conflicted with the public testimony other witnesses gave later.

Maragon, for example, swore he never was paid anything by anyone for doing business with the government. Other witnesses testified under oath that he had been paid for such services.

Committee members then said there was a "clear cut case of perjury" against Maragon. They asked the Justice department to look into it.

The matter reached the grand landed aristocracy are so close to broke that they are making their livings in all sorts of jobs, many involving manual labor. They are the shadows of a fast disappearing class.

Births at Mercy Hospital

NELSON—To Mr. and Mrs. Wayne E. Nelson, Idevid Park, Dec. 16, a son, Gregory Wayne, weight nine pounds twelve ounces.

MATHIS—To Mr. and Mrs. Edward Mathis, route 1, Roseburg, Dec. 16, a daughter, Jackie Marie, weight six pounds one-half ounce.

Modern turkeys mature in seven months although a couple of generations ago nine months were required.

Jury yesterday, and the panel questioned several witnesses who had appeared earlier at the capitol. They told newsmen they had, for the most part, repeated testimony they gave the committee.

Conviction on a perjury charge carries with it a possible penalty of two to 10 years in jail on each count of an indictment.

When Maragon went before the Senate committee at a public session he refused to answer most questions on the ground that he might tend to incriminate himself. He was not called before the grand jury.

Public Hearing On Angling Rules To Be Held On Jan. 13

Charles A. Lockwood, Oregon state game director, calls attention to the fact that the annual public hearing concerning angling regulations for 1950 will be held in the Portland office of the Oregon State Game commission at 10:00 a.m. January 13. The public is invited to attend this hearing, and anyone having suggestions to make concerning the new angling regulations will be heard at that time. Representatives of organizations and individuals will be heard. Those organizations not able to send a representative and individuals not able to attend should send in their recommenda-

tions by mail before that date. After the public hearing the Game commission will set tentative regulations for the coming year. These will be announced, and after a two-week interval, the commission will reconvene, make any changes deemed necessary, and set the final angling regulations for the year 1950.

In the United States, 87 per cent of the farmers have automobiles and 36.1 per cent have trucks.

5 YEARS FOR BURGLAR
PENDLETON, Dec. 21 —(AP)—Ward Lewis Mitchell, 46, Ft. Smith, Ark., was sentenced here to five years in the state penitentiary for burglary. He was caught early this fall prowling the home of Police Chief Charles Lemons. The chief's son next door called police after repeated barking by his dog. California produces about 200,000 tons of raisins annually.

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The matter reached the grand

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