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## WHENCE COMES TURKISH TOBACCO

New York, Feb. 15.—Maybe you have wondered where all the Turkish tobacco in our numberless brands of Turkish cigarettes is coming from since the war closed the Turkish ports. Vice President W. O. O'Brien of the American Tobacco company, in answer to an inquiry, told all about it today, saying in part:

"The smoker of genuine Turkish cigarettes—1 mean cigarettes made by the larger manufacturers and in which nothing is used but pure Turkish tobacco—need fear no adulteration of their favorites until 1918, at least, because a 3 years' supply of Turkish tobacco is kept constantly on hand in the curing process. It is only in the last few months that the normal importation of Turkish tobacco has decreased and we hope and believe that before we begin to suffer a real shortage we will be able to replenish our stocks from growers who have cured the tobacco in Turkey under the direction of our experts, so it can be used immediately we get it over here.

"Contrary to the general belief, the war has not entirely cut off Turkish tobacco importations. It is true that the 20 to 25 million pounds annually imported to the United States from Turkey has dropped in the last year to a little over one million pounds and there seems no immediate prospect of getting more soon, but a little is coming in all the time through the ports of Greece.

"We hope this shortage will not mean a rise in the prices of pure Turkish cigarettes and personally, at this time, I do not believe it will mean an increased price, but no one knows what the situation will be later. The tobacco man hardest hit by the shortage is the little manufacturer who buys in small lots from the bigger fellows from time to time. Their supply was cut off very soon after the war began and, as they cannot afford to pay the price of what little Turkish tobacco is imported, they have either to boost their prices, substitute a cheap domestic tobacco, or go out of business. Many of them have failed and are failing every day just for this reason. Some of them are using cheaper tobaccos.

"There is nothing in the appearance of a cigarette tobacco that would show the layman that even 20 per cent of his so-called pure Turkish cigarette was a domestic substitute, but a regular smoker of Turkish cigarettes could tell at the first whiff if even so much as 2 per cent of his cigarette is domestic leaf."

### PECULIARITIES OF WAR.

**King's Servants Disappear**  
"Nothing more was ever heard of them. They charged into the forest and were lost to sight and sound. Not one of them ever came back."—Sir Ian Hamilton's report.

It is the talk of England, the greatest mystery of the war, the charge of the Fifth Norfolks, the King's own servants, at Anafarta. The story of

how these 260 "ardent souls" charged on through the village of Anafarta and completely vanished into the forest of death" beyond, is history that some day may take its place besides that of the immortal tale of Balaklava.

The "Lost Legion," it is called today but until the war is over the fate of the men who sent to battle from the King's Sandringham estates cannot be told. The King personally had instituted every possible inquiry. The American embassy in Constantinople has asked the Turkish government. The forest through which the "Lost Legion" swept on in Gallipoli has been searched time and time again.

There have been found no bodies no graves, no sign, except two small pocketbooks, the property of Captain William Beck, who commanded the Legion. Captain Beck is missing with all of his command.

Meantime scores of cottage homes in the royal Sandringham estates of West Norfolk are in mourning. Wives sweethearts mothers are wearing crepe, but despite all this there is ever the hope that some day the boys will come marching home.

"Perhaps they are prisoners of the Turks; perhaps they weren't killed at all, and perhaps" it's the hope against hope of the women of West Norfolk.

The "Lost Legion" received its baptism of fire before it set foot on Turkish soil. It arrived off Sulva Bay August 10th aboard the palatial Aquitania from England. Turkish machine guns and artillery ploughed the water about them as they were being transported to shore, where they landed safely and dug themselves in. Two days later the men were ordered to clear the Turks from Anafarta.

Colonel Beauchamp was at their head with Captain Beck. The attack developed rapidly. Enflamed by Turkish fire, many of them dropped wounded or dead, but the others swept on through the village and into oblivion.

News has filtered through via Switzerland that thirteen of those who charged through Anafarta are prisoners in Constantinople. But it has developed that these men fell wounded before the mysterious darkness of the forest was reached. Long before Gallipoli was evacuated the Mystery Forest was retaken by the Turks. This event sealed the puzzle tighter than ever.

Among those who charged with Captain, organizer of the Legion and for twenty years the King's estate agent, were the King's plumber, gardener, gamekeeper, woodman, golf foreman and scores of men in lesser positions. Like their fathers and their fathers' fathers they had been born royal servants.

Every Sunday in all the parish churches now prayers are said for the safe return of the missing ones. In every cottage is a recent message from the king:

"I heartily sympathize with you who are left in suspense but I am proud that the battalion fought so splendidly."

### FUNNY MONEY IN CHINA.

Getting or Making Change is a Sore Trial to a Foreigner.

A dollar of our money in Chinese cash weighs eighteen pounds.

In Chentefu, which is a small village where white people seldom go, I was going along with my guide when I saw a small peddler beside the street with some fine Peking pears. I bought six of them for 2 1/2 cents and in payment gave the street peddler a twenty cent piece. He turned it over and over and tested it with his thumb nail, which was surely made for the purpose. The peddler gave back the coin and said that he would not take it. The guide asked him why, and he explained that he had never seen any such money and that it might be bad. So I had to dig up some coppers.

In all his life the peddler had never seen a piece of silver money. There are thousands and thousands of people in China whose financial dealings never amount to enough to have it put into silver, who are born, grow old and pass to their reward without ever having seen a piece of silver.

All China is suspicious about money. Every time you put down a dime or a piece of silver the other person tests it before he will take it, ringing it on the counter or on the pavement. You can't give a merchant the right amount of change and walk off. He won't let you leave until he has tested every piece, and he always gives back one or two pieces. He wouldn't think very much of himself as a merchant if he didn't refuse some of your money.

If you buy something in one part of a store, get your change and walk to another counter and buy something else and give the change that was just been given you the second clerk on general principles will refuse part of it.

Before you buy anything your money has to have the once over. Sometimes it is maddening to have to wait while your money is tested. One day I rushed up to catch a train with just a minute to spare. One of my dollars was bad, and before change could be made the train had rumbled off into the silent night without me. But in a few minutes the silence was broken—broken beyond repair—by an impulsive young man 6,000 miles from home who put his whole soul into one mighty Missouri effort.—Homer Croy in Leslie's.

### LIFE OF A PEARL.

A Good Jewel Never Gets Sick Nor Dull, Says an Expert.

In his book, "The Magic of Jewels and Charms," George F. Kunz, the jewel expert, explodes the sick pearl fallacy. He says:

"For years a statement has been going through the press that pearls are liable to become diseased and die and that the famous necklace of pearls presented by President Thiers of France to his wife and bequeathed by Mme. Thiers to the French government had lost their luster and died, perhaps owing to the death of the owner. For there is an old belief that pearls, as well as opals and turquoises, lose some of their luster when the owner or wearer becomes ill and change to a dull and lifeless hue when the owner dies.

"An examination of the necklace by the writer showed that the pearls were in good condition, and to confirm his statement to this effect he had the director of the Louvre museum write him a letter. In this official communication the director not only states that the pearls had not sickened and died, but that they were in as 'healthy' a condition as they had ever been.

"The invariable experience of the writer has been that whenever pearls have been said to have suffered in this way the true explanation has been that they were old and poor at the time of their purchase and that this romance was started on its travels as an excuse to cover up the defect of such pearls and to arouse the belief that they had been remarkably beautiful and valuable when they were originally acquired."

### The Cart Before the Horse.

Mr. Harbord had a jewel of a servant called Johanna. One day he found his bedroom a foot deep in old and muddy tea leaves. Johanna explained, "The missus said I made such a dust when I swept the floor and that I must put tea leaves all over the carpet, so I emptied the old barrel standing by the kitchen door, and I put them on the floor like missus said, master, after I had swept the carpet."—London Telegraph.

### Buried Alive.

In the early history of Japan it was decidedly a dubious honor to be closely related to any person of note, for one of the laws at that time decreed that when a person of rank or importance died all immediate relatives must be buried alive in a perpendicular position around the personage's grave. Their heads were left above the earth, and thus they remained until welcome death came to free them.

### Quick Lunch Episode.

"You tip the waiter, and I don't." "Well?" "Yet he gave us both the same amount of clam chowder." "You are unobservant, my friend. He dipped yours from the top and mine from the bottom, where the ingredients are."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

### Honey.

Honey has been known from the earliest times. The Scriptures make mention of it, and pagan writers celebrated its virtues. It was called "the milk of the aged" and was thought to prolong life. Honey was also used in the embalming of the body after death.

### Milton Has Proud War Record

Horton, Buckinghamshire, Eng. rev. 2.—(By Mail)—This small English village where John Milton wrote L'Allegro Il Penseroso, a portion of Paradise Lost and other poems, has a proud war record. Practically every man eligible for the war duty out of Horton's 700 population is in khaki. Some of them have been killed. The women, children and old men are carrying on the village's chief occupation, market gardening as usual. Milton left Horton in 1638, a year after the death of his mother. Her body lies under the southern aisle of the Parish church. The spot is marked by a flat blue stone which distinctly bears the date April 1637."

### LAD TOO BIG FOR MARINES

Applicant, 6 Feet 5 Inches Tall, Weighs 257 Pounds

Pittsburg, Feb. 4.—Michael Tuholski, a steel mill puddler from Cleveland was rejected at the United States Marine Corps recruiting station in this city as "too big and husky" for the marine corps. He is 22 years old.

Tuholski measured six feet and five inches in his stocking feet and weighed 257 pounds without clothing. The medical examiner pronounced him a perfect physical specimen, but the maximum height for marines is 73 inches, and no giants or pygmies are wanted in the Marine Corps.

The giant, who says he is no white hope and has no desire to meet Jess Willard or Frank Moran, will resume puddling in the mills.



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