

Puritan Heritage Gave Great Strength To U.S.

UNIVERSITY OF OREGON, Eugene, Ore. (Special)—America's middle-class Puritan heritage and Saxon racial strain have been sources of great national strength, Dean George Hebeke, of the graduate school said in the Phi Beta Kappa address delivered at the University of Oregon but an extreme and unthinking recognition of the traits and traditions growing out of this inheritance would in the end prove a weakness. He warned against the danger of such over-acculturation. America needs a more general recognition of the value of eager and active intellectual interplay, the development of the reflective life, and the growth of an art.

Dean Hebeke's address, the subject of which was "American Culture," followed the initiation of seven students and one faculty member into Alpha chapter of the national scholastic fraternity.

Saxon Origin. American ideals and preoccupations are of Saxon rather than of Mediterranean origin, the speaker began. Despite the heavy immigration from southern Europe, the bulk of those who came to America have been from "the north lands."

The central attribute of the Saxon race, and let me say that I am not indulging tonight in a discussion of the so-called Nordic doctrine, is its predilection for morality, practicality, and the expression of personality," said Dean Hebeke.

There are those, he continued, who claim our Puritan inheritance. But he was not sure the American people should be "lashed out of it." Character and conduct, the contribution of the Puritans, are the foundations of culture, even a liberal culture. He expressed himself as not in line with those who were of the movement which he termed neo-paganism, and he expressed doubt of the value to America of the attacks of

extremists attempting to "regenerate Puritanism."

American life has been shaped by the middle class, interested in material advancement and occupation. Dean Hebeke thought this was not amiss. Industry, thrift and order are real virtues. Because the American strain had its fountain head in "the north," this country stresses the value of the free person. Thus, the predilection for morality, practicality, personality.

Advantages Pointed Out. What part did the environment play in shaping the character and tradition of the American? Dean Hebeke said it first of all made us a pioneer folk and an out-door people. It was one of the valuable things of American life, the enjoyment derived from camp life, hikes, climbs, fishing and hunting excursions. Pioneer life developed a certain informal adventurousness. It made the American people critical of hamperings, social and political.

Economic opportunity was a valued thing. It gave the American people not only an economic outlet but it provided a spiritual factor; it gave them selfhood. The democratic tradition made difficult any organization of cultural life on the basis of segregated superlatives or exclusiveness.

What, then, did American life do to its shores? Dean Hebeke declared that American environment has surely not throttled, but rather enriched it. It modified, but did not defeat the elements in the cradle.

But the environment exposed primitive nature to certain inherent weaknesses. Dean Hebeke thought, first, there was not in America a sufficiently untrammelled, and, mildly free, lower class. The Cavalier, too, became an "inverted" type, the poor white, and this strain did not serve as a check on the Puritan strain.

Practical Nation. "Puritanism, without checks, has sometimes grown angular and arid. The middle class has been preoccupied in getting on in the world. Its utilitarianism takes the form, too often, of indifference to ideas. In the interest of conduct, the Puritan has indulged in hostility to intellectual play. A society of segregated Puritanism is in danger of launching warfare on ideas and even exhibiting contempt for them."

Dean Hebeke declared that America is in need of the reflective and not only for its own sake but to philosophy in the American destiny and point the way. It needs an art because art is the great illuminator, the great common teacher, and the entrancing presentation of good.

Portuguese Aviators Plan Flight Over North America

LISBON (AP)—Considerable progress is being made with plans for an air flight across Europe, northern Africa, Asia and America, which Commander Sacadura Cabral and Admiral Cunha are proposing to start in March. The two aviators have bought five airplanes in Holland for the flight. The proposed route is through Algiers, Malta, Cairo, Athens and Basrah; thereafter it follows the course mapped out for MacLaren, the English flyer, ending at St. Johns, Newfoundland. This represents a total distance of 15,649 miles. It is not proposed to cross the Atlantic.

The technical details of the flight will be arranged by Admiral Cunha, who will await the arrival of the first airplane at Shanghai and will accompany it to Vancouver.

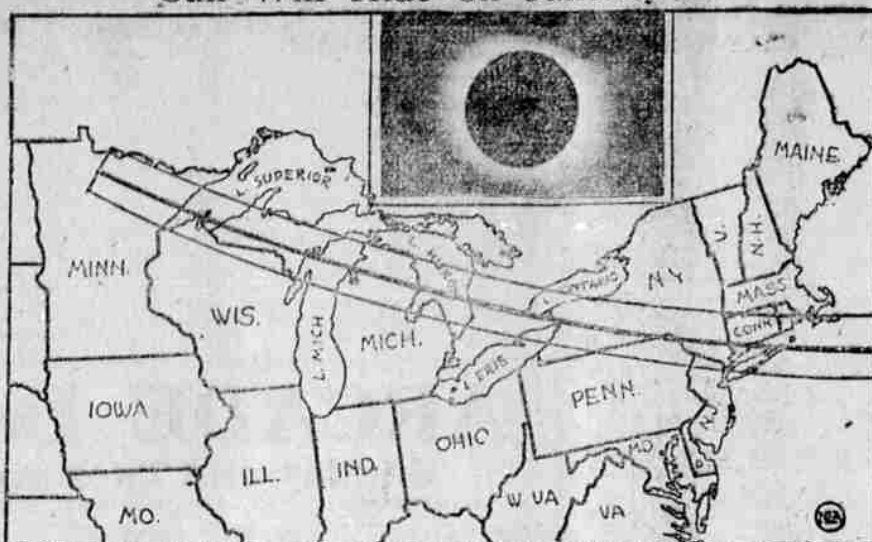
FOUR DIE UNDER TRAIN
STERLING, Colo. (AP)—Four young persons, two women and two men, who had attended a

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Sun Will Hide on January 24



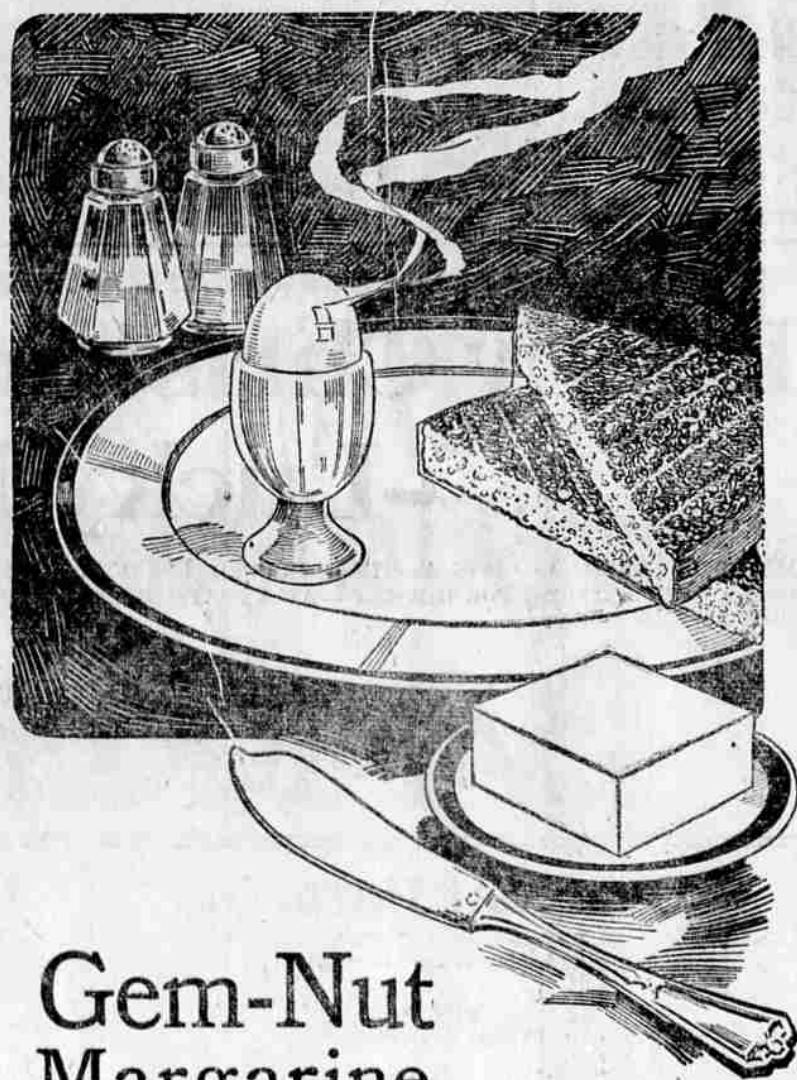
If the weather is fine on the morning of Saturday, January 24, dwellers along a hundred-mile wide strip from western Lake Superior to southern New England will have a chance to see a total eclipse of the sun. The moon's shadow will strike the earth in northern Minnesota just as the sun is rising and then rush southeastward at the terrific speed of 2,000 miles an hour. Map shows the territory over which the eclipse may be seen. Inset is a picture of a previous eclipse.

At the Elko club here, were taken to death under the wheels of a Thuringian train at midnight, while they were en route to Stirling. The accident occurred about two miles from here.

HOME WRECKED BY TREE
OREGON CITY, Ore.—A large tree, falling in the opposite direction to which it had been sighted, crashed into George Settemeyer's house near Cotton and

damaged the structure badly. Although Mrs. Settemeyer and her four children were inside, one small girl, who sustained a broken arm, was the only one hurt.

The five persons were dug out of the wreckage by workmen. The force of the falling tree was so great that large timbers in the building were reduced to splinters. One son had been lying on a lounge in the living room before



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11

the fall and just moved near the stove before the tree struck. The young boy was smothered in his arms, having been standing on and in the kitchen was driven into the ground its full length.

Munich to Have Sport Palace
MUNICH (AP)—One of the largest sporting palaces in Germany is to be built here on a tract formerly occupied by a munitions works. The place will have a seating capacity of 14,700 with room for 5,000 standees.

The proposed palace also will be used for conventions and political meetings, but sporting events will have preference of dates.

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