

# Assails Memory of Robin Hood

## Railroad Threatens to Desecrate Sherwood Forest.

Washington.—Nottingham is reported indignant at the proposal to run a coal-carrying railroad line through Sherwood forest, home of Robin Hood, Little John and Maid Marian.

"The local protests arise not only from respect for a famous legend but because of the abiding beauty of the considerable portions of the forest which remain," says a bulletin from the Washington headquarters of the National Geographic society.

"The early Sherwood forest was bounded, roughly, by the towns of Nottingham, Chesterfield, Workson and Newark. It never was an unbroken woodland; it included pastures, heaths, and even barren tracts with here and there a densely wooded grove. Its original area—some 25 miles long by 10 miles wide—already is cut through by railroads, and inside these older limits today are towns and one cluster of beautiful estates known as the 'Dukeries.' Nottingham, on the southern border of the old forest limits, is a thriving city of nearly 300,000 people. It is famous for the strength of its ale and the beauty of its women; for the size of its extensive market place, the mystery of its caves, the annals of its rock-planted castle, and the festivities of its goose fair.

"While the castle rock stands, the inhabitants will tell you, their city will endure.

"At Papplewick is the very cave where Robin Hood and his merry band took shelter!

**Built by the First William.**  
"The original Nottingham castle was built by William the Conqueror. Its grimest memory is the hanging of 28 Welsh boys, whose bodies were suspended over the walls so the town might see, by order of King John. The boys had been placed there as hostages for the good behavior of their fathers. When the parents rebelled there was no recourse, in those times of direct action, but to execute their sons.

"To this day visitors are shown 'Mortimer's Hole,' a passage through which young King Edward III gained entrance and surprised his mother, Queen Isabella, in company with her lover, Roger Mortimer. The queen-mother's plea, 'Fair son, have pity on the gentle Mortimer,' you will recall, had no effect, and after a sojourn in the London tower the 'Gentle Mortimer' was tied to a horse's tail and dragged to the Tyburn gallows.

"Nottingham's history spans the centuries from the period when the Danes fought the Saxons for a foothold on the Trent, down through the meeting of parliaments there in the fourteenth century, the raising of the standard of Charles I in 1642, and the dismantling of the castle by Cromwell's troops two years later.

"Then the strife shifted from feudal to industrial struggle. For its prosperity today Nottingham thanks not kings, or generals, or armies, but Richard Arkwright for setting up there, in 1769, the first spinning frame, and John Heathcote who, 40 years later, opened a new era in lace manufacture by his machines for making bobbin net. Today Nottingham is famous for its hosiery and lace.

"Thoresby was the home of Lady Mary Montagu, witty correspondent and travel writer, who is credited with bringing back from Turkey a

method of inoculation against small-pox.

"But Thoresby's most famous story is that of the duchess of Kingston. After a secret marriage, at which the parson read the service by the light of a taper in the 'best man's' hat, and the birth of a child, Elizabeth Chudleigh and her first husband separated. She sought a reconciliation when it looked as if Lord Bristol was about to die and leave her long-neglected husband that title.

"After she had arranged a forged registry of her marriage Lord Bristol set her plans awry by recovering. In the meantime she had scandalized the county by various escapades—including her appearance in an extremely décolleté gown at a masked ball. Gossip associated her name with the duke of Kingston and she confirmed the rumors when she was installed as hostess of the merry entertainments at Kingston house. Like the illustrious Lady Hamilton she then began to dream of marriage, and she persuaded her husband to divorce her until he learned such a procedure would mean his assumption of his wife's heavy debts.

"Nothing daunted, Elizabeth brought a suit accusing her husband of falsely proclaiming his marriage to her, she was duly declared a 'spinster,' and London gasped when she married the duke of Kingston.

"Five years later her husband died,

## Blind Football Star Invents Improved Kite

New York.—Although he was blinded 12 years ago, Perry Hale, former Yale all-American football star, has invented a kite which he is demonstrating. Since the tragedy which darkened the world for him he has brought happiness to hundreds of children through the toys he has learned to fashion.

In 1910 and 1909 that Mr. Hale reached the goal of all football players when he was picked for the all-American football team. When he left Yale he started in his chosen profession of civil engineering.

On his thirty-fifth birthday an anniversary an explosion of chemicals with which he was experimenting, blinded him. He was sent to the hospital for the blind at Evergreen, Md., where he learned the toymaker's art.

but the earl of Bristol inconveniently died about the same time, embarrassing the duchess of Kingston with the added title of the countess of Bristol.

"The courts being faced with this dilemma, commanded the lady's arrest on a charge of bigamy. The countess attested that the registry of her first marriage was bogus, which was true; but witnesses turned up to swear that though the registry was false the marriage actually had occurred.

"Fair enough," pleaded Elizabeth in effect, "if the honorable court adjures I am a countess, I am. But as a countess I am immune from branding in the hand." The bewildered juror discharged the duchess-countess.

## SOUTH IS INTERESTED IN ACQUISITION OF MORE PARKS

### States in Dixie Land Follow Lead Set by Texas.

Washington.—Interest in state park systems has increased greatly in the South during the last year, according to observations made in a survey of state parks throughout the country, now under way for the national conference on state parks by its field secretary, Raymond H. Torrey.

The lead in state park acquisition and improvement for public recreation has been taken by Texas, which, within a little more than a year, has moved to a position up among the leading states in this respect. Fifty-one tracts containing 30,000 acres, have been donated for park purposes, and another gift of 25,000 acres in the Guadalupe mountains is expected.

Governor Brandon of Alabama appointed a committee to study a park plan so that he may recommend a law at the next session of the legislature. School lands are very extensive in Alabama and might be devoted to park purposes without prejudice to any income they bring the schools.

Governor Fugua of Louisiana favored a bill establishing a commission to solicit gifts in Texas, and such a measure will be introduced at the next session of the Louisiana legislature.

Governor Whitfield of Mississippi is studying a program with particular reference to transfer of school lands for the purpose.

Governor Walker of Georgia was interested in the Texas plan and a bill creating a forestry board and empowered to include recreational use of lands it might acquire by gift, transfer or purchase will be introduced in July.

In Florida, where the State Federation of Woman's Clubs has been

chiefly responsible for the acquisition of such state parks as now exist, there is a strong movement for a definite policy of increase in such facilities.

Tennessee is interested in the possibility of a national park in the "Great Smokies," on its eastern border, but is also planning state parks, an important unit of which would be Reelfoot lake.

North Carolina has lately added to its state parks a fine beach property of 400 acres near Beaufort, transferred to the state by the United States War department. Opportunities for the acquisition of a large number of these surplus military reservations, in the Atlantic coast and gulf states, which the War department desires to sell, are now open.

## STOCK SWINDLERS USE MAGNETISM

### Hit Upon New Methods to Keep Up With the Times.

New York.—The financial underworld which fringes Wall street steadily hits upon new methods to keep up with the times and ahead of the law. Its jargon is elastic, impromptu and bizarre.

For example, swindlers who fleece the public through sales of fake stocks work by telephone in what is called a boiler-room. Telephone salesmen are said to "hook the suckers." Dynamiters, so-called, "build up" the victims and hoodwink them into switching from standard securities, first held out as bait to attract investment, to worthless stocks which the conspirators are in business to unload.

Gone is the "gold brick," gone the bunco man who struck up acquaintance with prosperous visitors from the interior at metropolitan railway depots in the '90s. The get-rich-quick man of today has imagination. Avoiding the mails as much as possible, he strikes over the telephone and telegraph, often to bring down quarry as much as several states away.

These swindlers operate from offices that usually are obscure, sometimes merely desk room, so customers will find telephone calls hard to trace. In the larger plants there often is a battery of as many as eight telephones. This is the boiler-room, the term being derived from the practice of creating an atmosphere of bustling activity to impress inquisitive suckers who cannot be kept away.

The bustle is not wholly fictitious, the better business bureau investigators have found. Hour in, hour out, salesmen with good voices canvass by wire a list of names selected either from a secret "sucker's list" or the telephone directory.

They hook their man by offering to let him buy some active standard stock guaranteed to advance on a partial-payment plan. He can sell out at the rise and take a profit perhaps equal to as much as he has paid in. The money is duly received, but the stock is never bought.

An attorney in Toledo, Ohio, was reached by long-distance telephone from Philadelphia and New York. He placed \$515 on a curb stock here and won. He was persuaded to switch to a worthless mining stock and agreed to send \$2,500 more. Postal inspectors nabbed one of the swindlers at a telegraph office as he was waiting for the remittance. Later they caught two others.

## Was He?

Woman (suing for damages)—My eyes have been so bad that I have been attending an oculist ever since the accident.

# Finger Print Data on 7,000,000 Men

## Army Can Locate Any Regular in 20 Minutes.

Washington.—Finger-print identification has been developed by the army to the point of efficiency where its application at times vies with the thrills of detective fiction.

Any unidentified man who has served in the regular army can be located in from ten to twenty minutes, and his full record laid bare. In that short time a searcher finds him among the more than 7,000,000 men who have been in the army since 1906, when the finger-print system was introduced. He may have been one of the 50,328 Smiths, the 40,161 Johnsons, 28,902 Browns, or one of the 27,638 named Williams. All the army needs is his finger print to find his record.

Walter S. Kaye, in charge of the bureau, says the indexing has been worked out so efficiently that even a new clerk, one never before having had knowledge of the system, can begin work as a searcher with little preliminary instruction.

The science of finger-print reading is based on the study of the curious, circling network of all but invisible lines on the ball of the thumb and each finger. Examination of millions of specimens shows that the normal formation is the whorl, or the scroll which winds these lines from the outer edge in a gradually reducing circle to their inner termination at the core of the network. A majority of human beings are marked with this scroll, but there are others whose finger-print lines run in flattened figures or in complications of figures far removed from the simple, easily-read whorls. The first step in identification has to do with determining the broad general division in which the prints under examination are to be sought.

There are but four main groups or classifications of prints, arches, loops, whorls and composites. Each type has its gradational cases. The whorls have 1,024 values or combinations and the loops, arches and composites have each their respective values to simplify segregation for filing and to make them easily located when identifications are sought. The evaluation of prints thus made has overcome all difficulty of dealing with large collections of finger markings, such as are in the army files.

Finger prints, since their adoption in 1906, have exposed frauds, protected innocent men from injustice, kept undesirable of the criminal type out of the service, protected the govern-

## Red Swears by Emblems: Hammer, Sickle and Cork

Paris.—"I will only consent to be sworn on the symbols of my religion," declared Raffin Dugens, former Communist deputy, when he appeared before the parliamentary committee, which is investigating election campaign funds.

Chairman Mistral said he was afraid he could not oblige the witness with the necessary symbols, but M. Dugens said he was prepared for that. From a portfolio he drew forth a hammer and sickle, the point of the blade guarded by a cork, crossed them on the table, raised his hand and declared in a loud voice:

"I swear, on this emblem of the union of the workers of the city and of the fields, to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth." The members of the committee held their sides in laughter.

Dugens, who was recently expelled from the Communist party, first came to public notice as one of the Kienthal pilgrims during the war, going to that Swiss village to meet representatives of the German Socialists. He now is accused by his political opponents of having accepted a check for 5,000 francs toward his expenses in the last elections from an advertising agent.

He readily admitted the fact to the committee, declaring:

"To fight Mistral's gang I would have accepted money from the devil."

## SAFES FOR CHURCHES



So many of the offering boxes in Catholic churches in Chicago have been robbed recently that many churches are now using a specially devised burglar-proof offering safe, having three-inch walls and an arrangement of chutes through which coins drop from slots in the top.

# French World War Total Is 8,501,045

## Compilation of Man Power Raised by Republic.

Paris.—The army committee of the last chamber of deputies undertook, in response to a resolution by the chamber to prepare a statement showing the losses in dead and wounded suffered in the great war of all the belligerent nations. The army committee of the present chamber has continued this work.

The first installment of the report, covering the French military effort, has been compiled and appears in a document written by Deputy Louis Marin. As a preliminary to the loss tabulations, it presents a picture of the entire French mobilization effort and the enormous French contribution to allied victory.

Lucien Chassaing has given in an article in Le Journal a highly interesting summary of the findings. He says:

"In 1914 France had under the colors the classes of 1914, 1913 and 1912, representing 902,905 men—817,000 Europeans, 53,705 native Africans and 52,200 native colonials.

**8,501,045 Men Mobilized.**  
"During the war there were enlisted in the military service (outside the regular classes) 702,500 Europeans, 240,051 Africans and 223,089 colonials. Including the 34 classes subject to service, the total of men mobilized reached 8,501,045.

"The number of officers in the active and supplementary services rose to 90,000.

"From the 1st to the 15th of August, 1914, the mobilization brought 288,000 men from the complementary lists into the active army. In the following ten months the effort continued, and 2,740,000 men were recruited from the old classes, dating back to 1887, and from the classes of 1914 to 1915.

"The picture of the contribution of these classes is a curious one, and proves the robustness of our race. The class of 1887 had 244,000 men living at the time of the original mobilization. Of these, 54,000 served actively during the war. The proportion increased very rapidly. The class of 1897 gave a contribution of 81 per cent. As for the younger men, they served in the proportion of 89 per cent.

"The writer of the report follows step by step the efforts at recuperation (the return of the incapacitated) and the figures pay a striking tribute to our sanitary service. For the years 1916, 1917 and 1918 the proportions of wounded cured and returned to service

was 79 per cent. This recuperation procured 650,000 men for the noncombatant arms.

**Volunteers Total 229,037.**

"Voluntary enlistments reached a total of 229,037, of which 2,480 were made by men more than forty-six years old. The foreign volunteers numbered 29,796, the Italians taking the lead with 7,125.

"Here is an important point. On December 1, 1918, the list of slackers contained only 42,227 names. As to the deserters, 74,936 were caught in the interior or abroad and 7,228 at the front.

"Either at the time when the classes were incorporated or in the course of hostilities, 1,029,881 men were discharged for physical disability.

"The natives mobilized consisted of 173,019 Algerians, 80,339 Tunisians, 40,398 Moroccans, 181,512 Senegalese, 41,355 Malgaches (natives of Madagascar), 48,922 Indo-Chinese and 3,500 Somalis. On November 1, 1918, 2,846,000 men were in the armies, 1,297,000 in the interior, 1,387,000 in factories or in reserve and 25,000 on leave. On the same date 2,619,000 men were on the fighting lines in northern France and 227,000 were in the army of the Orient.

"The distribution of the troops shows the broadening of the scope of the fighting. On May 1, 1915, the infantry comprised 1,520,000 combatants; in April, 1918, 1,036,000, and on October 1, 1918, only 851,000. The combatants in the artillery showed a movement in the opposite direction. In 1915 they numbered 395,000; in 1918, 601,000. As to the air fighters, they increased in the same period from 8,000 to 51,000, while the auto service was expanded from 18,000 to 91,000.

"The number of the noncombatants, by reason of our industrial necessities, increased steadily—from 101,000 in 1915 to 555,000 in 1918."

## INDIANS INCLINE TO BUREAU RULE

### Feel Their Status More Secure Under Uncle Sam.

Washington.—The little lad who has a weakness for war paint, feathers and Indian tales may take heart at the Indian bureau's announcement that there are still 345,000 of these primitive Americans in the land.

The attention of the Sixty-ninth congress will be called to the fact that, unless the nation's lawmakers make other provisions, the period of government wardship in the five civilized tribes will expire in 1931. There are about 17,000 Indians under federal supervision in the five civilized tribes, and elsewhere in the country the bureau of Indian affairs has 200,000 "restricted" Indians who are supervised.

The Indians themselves, Indian bureau officials say, are anxious to have the restriction extended, as they desire government guardianship to conserve their lands.

Under the June, 1924, law, all native-born Indians are now citizens of the United States. There are 190 tribes, many of them being small groups.

The number of Indian children in schools, the health appropriations by congress, Indian hospitals and the value of farm products raised by those citizens have materially increased in the last decade.

Farming and stock raising have developed appreciably among the Indians, and large sums of money are being spent by the government on irrigation projects on their lands, the Indians being the country's first irrigators. The Navajo Indians in particular are great sheep raisers, their women being noted weavers of blankets.

## Winding Course of River Forth



The windings of the River Forth from Stirling to the Firth of Forth, Scotland, as seen from an airplane.

## Only Woman Car Distributor



Appointment of Miss Lucy Wright to the important office of general car distributor by the Grand Trunk came as a big surprise to Michigan railroad men. It is believed she is the only woman in America occupying such a position. It is her duty to keep on the move the thousands of freight cars on Grand Trunk tracks, supplying the demands of shippers. Miss Wright was born on a farm near Durand, Mich., and at her father's death, when she was eleven years old, she took active charge of the family.