

## Predecessors of "the Finest" Shown in Parade



New York policemen as they appeared in the annual Safety day parade on Fifth avenue. Left to right—Charles Brunna, as a watchman under Peter Stuyvesant, 1646; Louis L. Prochaska, as a bellman of 1693; Patrick J. Peterson, as a member of the constabulary of 1750; Frederick Tineo, as a constable of 1830, and James Rabbitt, as the first policeman, 1865.

## Native Priests War on Head-Hunting

### Help Discourage Savage Custom in Borneo.

Washington.—In discouraging the savage custom of head-hunting in Borneo, the Dutch and British rulers of the country now have the powerful co-operation of native priests or "medicine men," according to a late report, which states that at an assembly of thousands of the natives, or Dyaks, a terrible curse was pronounced by the head priest on all who revive tribal quarrels.

"The curious custom of head-hunting has been in existence in many of the islands of the East Indies for ages," says a bulletin from the Washington headquarters of the National Geographic society. "It is not confined to any one people, but is practiced by the Dyaks in Borneo, other Malays in the smaller islands, and by the Negroid Melanesians in New Guinea. Human heads are the most highly prized possessions of the head-hunters, and the women of the tribes help to perpetuate the custom by favoring the young men who collect the most grim trophies. Not only are the heads of enemies obtained in major warfare, but the young braves of one village will often attack a neighboring village merely for the purpose of obtaining heads. The heads are preserved and dried and hung over the owner's fireplace, the collections being handed down from father to son.

### Head-Hunters Become Farmers.

"Under British and Dutch rule many of the Dyaks of Borneo have become peaceable farmers. This is especially true along the coasts and near the navigable rivers. But from time to time the more savage natives of the interior revert to head-hunting, and they have found the semi-civilized agricultural natives a source for heads. It is to protect this farming people and to extend civilization more widely through the island that the aid of the 'medicine men' has been enlisted.

"The Dyaks live in 'long houses' each of which shelters many families and is in effect a village in itself. Some of the horizontal ridge-poles of these structures, raised 30 or 40 feet in the air, extend for several hundred feet. From the ridge-poles the thatched roof sweeps down at a steep angle to within six or eight feet of the ground. This is the floor level, the houses being constructed on a platform supported by piles. Outside the roof is an open veranda, an uncovered extension of the floor platform. Under the roof on one side of the center is an enclosed veranda extending the full length of the communal house. On the other side of the center the space is divided by partitions into rooms for the various families. In the enclosed

veranda, outside the rooms, are the individual fireplaces over which the treasured head racks are placed.

"The Dyak men are smaller than the average Westerner, well proportioned, and of a type adapted for activity, speed and endurance, which are valuable qualities in jungle inhabitants. The women affect a queer method of adornment, wrapping themselves in brass corsets made of numerous hoops of cane covered with brass rings. These metal garments cover their bodies from just below the armpits to the hips, and even below. Heavy necklaces and ear pendants are also worn, and the costume is completed by a length of cloth folded around to form a short skirt.

"Borneo is the second largest island in the world outside the Polar regions, having an area of about 290,000 square miles—approximately that of Texas and West Virginia combined. Of this area the Netherlands owns more than 200,000 square miles; the remainder is controlled by Great Britain under three jurisdictions, British North Borneo, Brunel (or Borneo), and Sarawak. The latter has a romantic history. For three generations it has been ruled by 'white rajahs,' members of a British family named Brooks, who are the hereditary rajahs.

One of World's Biggest Islands  
"Borneo is almost completely covered by a thick blanket of tropical verdure: valleys, hills and mountains

alike. The density of the tangled mass of vegetation is equaled, probably, only in parts of the valley of the Amazon. Enormous forest trees grow close together, their tops interlacing and shutting out the sunlight. Smaller trees push far up, fighting for a place in the sun, while vines wrap themselves about the trunks and ferns fill the remaining space. The observer from the ground sees little but somber greens and browns. The color, chiefly orchids and other parasitic plants, is far above, topping the sea of foliage.

"Where clearings have been made Borneo's soil is highly productive. Coffee, cotton, rice, sugar cane, tobacco and numerous fruits are among the cultivated crops, while forest and orchard products include rubber, gutta percha, spices, camphor, nuts and sago. Rich deposits of valuable metallic ores, minerals, petroleum and precious stones have hardly been scratched.

"Fewer than 2,000,000 inhabitants, including natives, immigrant Malays, Arabs, Chinese and Europeans, occupy Borneo's vast area."

### U. S. Shoe Sales Average Same as 25 Years Ago

Santa Barbara, Cal.—Americans are wearing no more shoes than they were wearing 25 years ago, regardless of extravagances in other directions, John G. McKeon of Philadelphia, president of the National Boot and Shoe Manufacturers' association, said in speaking before the annual convention of the California Shoe Retailers' association, in session here. "People were buying three pairs of shoes a year a quarter of a century ago and they are still buying three pairs a year," he asserted.

## U. S. Labor Best Paid in World

### Receives Twice as Much as British Cousin.

Washington.—American labor is today the best paid in the world, the National Industrial Conference board reported, following a survey of conditions prevailing both with respect to wages paid and the purchasing power of such wages. Philadelphia was chosen as the typical American industrial city for the purposes of comparison with leading cities in other countries.

Statisticians compiled a table of "real" earnings, and give each city an index number. Philadelphia is given an index number of 100 as par, the second most prosperous city proving to be Sydney, Australia, with 70 as its index number, and Ottawa, Canada, third, with 69 for its index number. The results were made public at the conference board headquarters, 247 Park avenue.

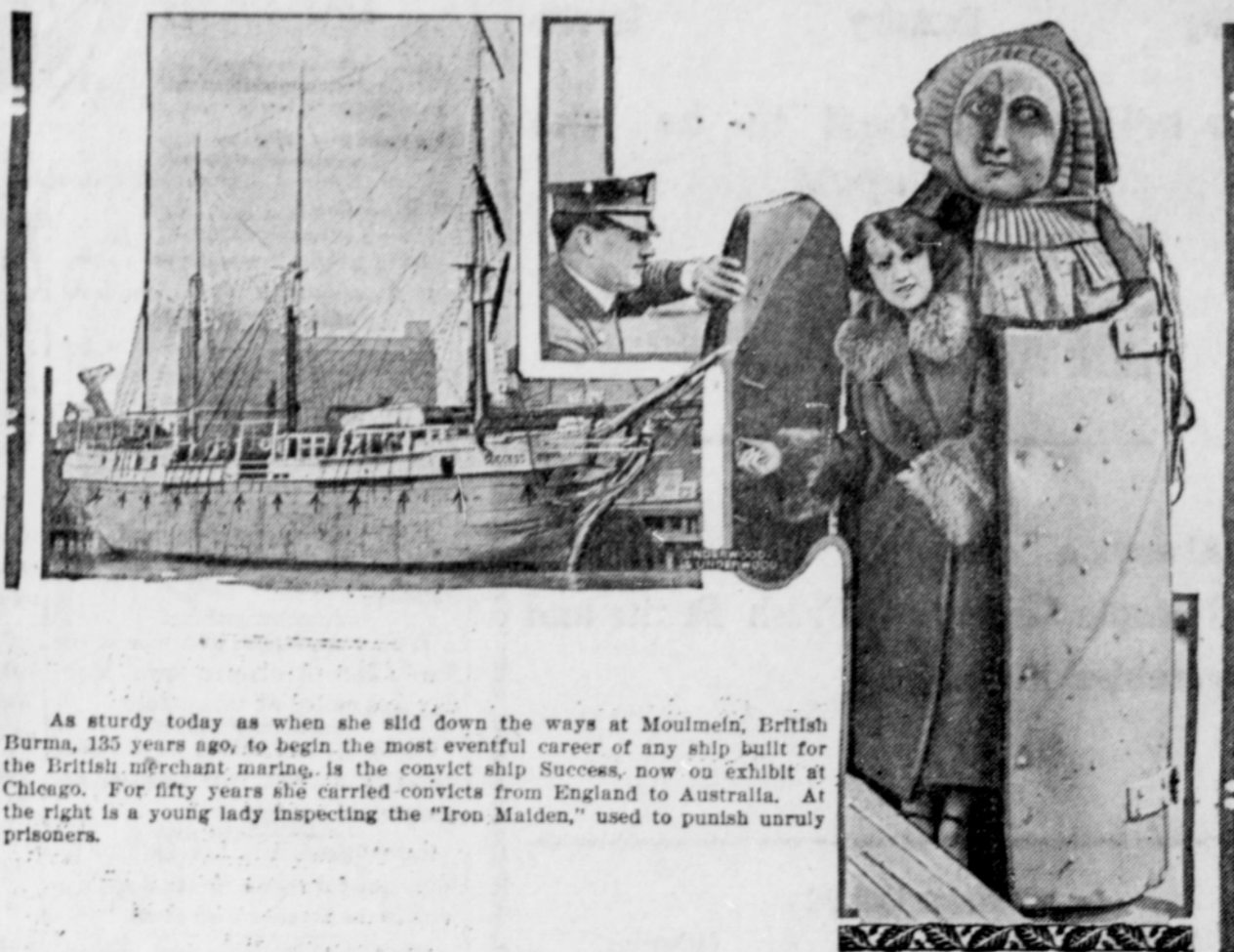
Figures accepted by the board were those prepared at the international labor office at Geneva. The results are graphically shown in a detailed chart. A supplementary study of the condition of industry proves that in the United States prosperity rules, as it does in wage-earning powers.

### Twice As Much As British.

The American wage earner, on the basis of what his pay will buy for him, is paid more than twice as well as his British colleague in London, nearly three times as well as the wage earner in Amsterdam, Holland; more than three times better than the worker in Berlin, and nearly five times as much as the industrial worker in Italy.

The cities, with their corresponding index numbers, are: Philadelphia, 100; Sydney, 70; Ottawa, 69; London, 45; Copenhagen, 41; Oslo (Christiania), 38; Amsterdam, 37; Stockholm, 36; Paris, 33; Berlin, 29; Prague, 29; Brussels, 28; Lodz, Poland, 27; Rome, 23; Vienna, 23; Warsaw, 23; Milan, 21

## Famous Old Prison Ship Exhibited at Chicago



As sturdy today as when she slid down the ways at Moulmein, British Burma, 135 years ago, to begin the most eventful career of any ship built for the British merchant marine, is the convict ship Success, now on exhibit at Chicago. For fifty years she carried convicts from England to Australia. At the right is a young lady inspecting the "Iron Maiden," used to punish unruly prisoners.

## Road Improvement Is Not a Luxury

### Government Gives Facts About Highways.

Washington.—Although the exact state of road improvement in the United States at the present time is not known, it is estimated by the Department of Agriculture that the total mileage of surfaced roads at the end of 1924 was between 450,000 and 475,000 miles.

Indications are that approximately 40,000 miles of surfaced roads of various types have been built during each year since 1921. Exact figures as to how this mileage has been divided by types or states are not available. A considerable part of the work, moreover, has consisted of resurfacing. It therefore cannot be assumed that the net mileage of surfaced roads has been increased during the last three years by the total amount of the new construction.

The last complete survey of the road improvement situation was made in 1921 when the total surfaced mileage was reckoned at 387,700 miles. New construction and resurfacing since 1921 have proceeded at a rate which is believed to justify the estimate that the net gain since then is well above 90,000 miles.

### Good Roads Not a Luxury

In announcing these facts, the department draws attention to certain wrong ideas that are current about road improvement. Improved roads, it says, are not luxuries. For the movement of every vehicle over a road there is a certain cost, which is less if the road is improved than if it be left in a state of nature.

Logically, therefore, the only limit that should be placed on expenditure for road improvement is the amount that can be saved in vehicular operating costs. This amount, of course, depends upon the number of vehicles using the road.

It is pointed out that the country loses more, in increased cost of operating vehicles, by not improving roads than it costs to improve them. In other words, it pays for improved roads whether it has them or not, and it pays less by having them than by not having them.

Another common error, says the department, is that all roads should be hard-surfaced. Hard-surfacing with concrete, brick, asphalt, stone or wood blocks is an expensive process. When its cost is greater than the saving ac-

ruing from the improvement, hard-surfacing is not advisable. It is possible to make great improvements in roads without hard-surfacing them and these improvements are quite effective in reducing the cost of travel.

When vehicles using a road are comparatively few, an unsurfaced but graded and drained road can be made and maintained in satisfactory condition by dragging at very low cost. If the traffic is so great that an unsurfaced road cannot be maintained in continuous good condition, surfacing with stone, sand-clay or gravel, although more costly than simple grading, will generally be compensated by the greater saving in the cost of operating vehicles over it.

Similarly, when the traffic is greater than a gravel road will carry, a bituminous macadam surface can be economically applied. It is not necessary to use one of the hard-surfaced types until the traffic becomes very dense. When that point is reached, hard-surfacing is necessary and economical.

All roads should be improved, says the department, to the maximum de-

gree that the traffic on them justifies, but no road should be improved beyond its earning capacity. When this principle is observed the required annual expenditure for any type of road is within the yearly savings in the cost of operating the vehicles it has to carry. In other words, the return to the public in the form of economic transportation is the sole measure of the worth of road improvement. To say that all roads should be hard-surfaced, the department points out, is merely another way of urging expenditures in excess of income.

Still another common mistake is the idea that there is such a thing as a permanent road. This delusion, says the department, has been responsible for much disregard of road maintenance. None of the state highway departments, however, any longer harbors this error.

It is now thoroughly understood by these public agencies that all roads, regardless of type, gradually depreciate and wear out under the wheels of vehicles and the action of the weather. To keep a road in continuously good order it is necessary to start maintaining it the day its construction is completed.

### Supplant Cats

Knoxville, Tenn.—Pussies are being used in lieu of house cats in Knoxville. The lowly and ofttimes elusive creature of the forest has at last found a sphere of usefulness in the heart of a great city.

## CHILDREN BUILD AND RUN MODEL CITY IN MISSOURI

### Used to Teach Pupils Art of Government.

Springfield, Mo.—"Tiny Town," the school children's city here, is on exhibition.

This Lilliputian city, built, run and governed by the city manager—commission form of government, and by the school children themselves, is receiving the attention of educators, business men and all interested in youth. It is not a facsimile of a modern city, but just Tiny Town. It is unlike any other city in the country.

Here in Tiny Town the children of Springfield are learning the duties of citizenship, and when they complete their work and future studies they will be able to take an intelligent interest in politics and government. The city's schools have used this plan, in an educational way, to teach the boys and girls how to govern.

Hazel Willhert, fourteen years old and an orphan, is mayor of the pigmy city, and Gordon Cummings, fifteen, is

the city manager. They were elected recently in a regular "political" campaign with 18 nominees for the office of city manager, mayor and municipal judge. William Newberry wears the star of chief of police of Tiny Town, while Naomi Sherwood sits on the bench as municipal judge. Following the election Hazel and Gordon went to Washington, called upon President Coolidge and invited him to attend the opening of Tiny Town to the public. The President took the matter under consideration.

On a plot of ground, 250 feet by 1,000 feet, in Grant Beach park, is located this town that belongs to the tots of Springfield. There is a community center with its city hall, high school, library and chamber of commerce. The walks total 7,500 lineal feet.

The blocks are large, enclosing spacious commons that represent playgrounds, but which really are intended for working space, so that the repair and care of abutting properties may be carried on from the rear of each lot.

By day and by night faithful patrolmen guard Tiny Town, while a fire-fighting brigade is always on watch.

During the 14 days that Tiny Town is on exhibition, there will be afternoon and night programs and concerts featured by the high school orchestra and the boy scout band of 300 pieces, the latter said to be the largest of its kind in the world.

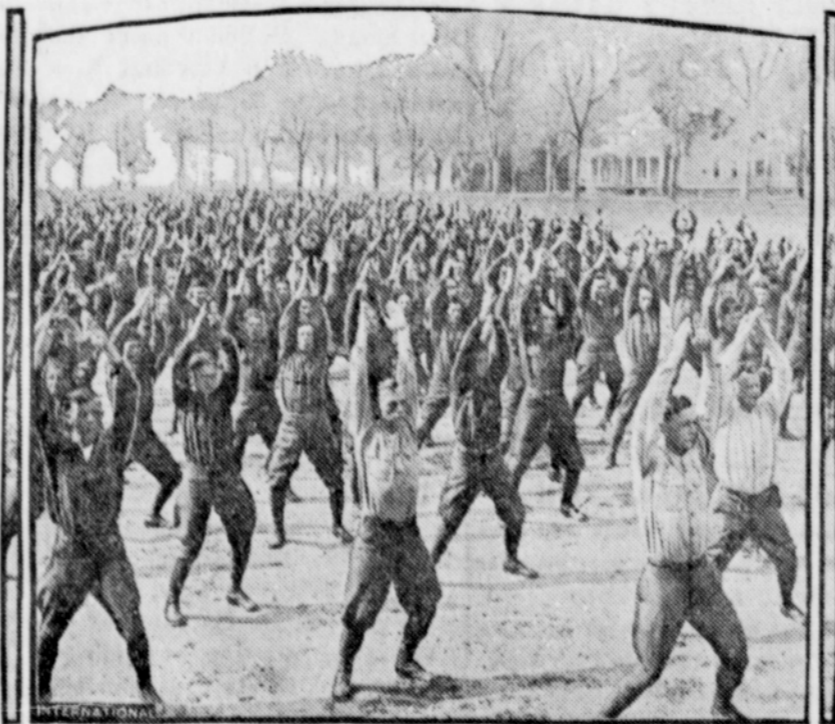
### Old Commissions for U. S. Federal Officers Found

Norfolk, Va.—Two commissions engraved on sheepskin parchment, the first signed by President John Adams and the second by President Thomas Jefferson, making Jonathan Cowdery a surgeon's mate and a full surgeon in the United States navy, have been uncovered by Dr. John C. Sleet of this city. Doctor Sleet will make an attempt to have the documents restored to their rightful owners. The first commission bears the date of 1800 and the second 1808.

### School Innovation

Detroit.—Use of a picture-story method of teaching reading has been tried with 10,000 children in the schools here. It is hoped that by this purposeful self-teaching children will make as much progress in five months as is ordinarily made in a year.

## Exercising the Army Recruits



Recruits in the regular army, enlisted at Fort Slocum, are here seen in one of their calisthenic drills.

### Eclipse Led to

### Discovery of New Gas

Middletown, Conn.—A new gas has been discovered by scientists as a result of the observations made during the recent total eclipse of the sun, according to Professor Frederick Slocum, head of the Van Vleck observatory at Wesleyan university.

Professor Slocum says that the only time the scientists can study the gases about the sun is when the sun is in total eclipse. In January their brief observations determined that there is a gas there whose presence they had not recognized before.

Professor Slocum said scientists are not prepared as yet to name the gas or to discuss its probable properties.