

# New Ruler Seated on Peacock Throne

## Persian Capital City of Kaleidoscopic Contrasts.

Washington. — Recent news dispatches from Persia announce the deposition of the Kajar dynasty, which has ruled the country for more than 150 years, and the ascension of a new shah to the famous peacock throne in Teheran.

"Despite Persia's traditional conservatism in governmental affairs Teheran, its capital, is a city of kaleidoscopic contrasts," says a bulletin from the Washington headquarters of the National Geographic society. "Visitors may enter through any of its twelve beautiful gates, whose glazed tiles glisten in the sunlight, and find spread before them a dingy collection of mud houses rubbing elbows with palatial residences enclosing flower-filled gardens. A lumbering camel, seemingly just stepped out of a priceless old Persian rug, may draw aside to allow the passage of a high-powered motor car bearing a wealthy Persian en route to his villa on the outskirts of the city.

**Linked With "Arabian Nights."**

"Teheran has not always been the capital of Persia. Rhages or Reil, its predecessor, the ruins of which, are nearby, was a bustling city of one and a half millions in the Middle ages. As the birthplace of Harun al-Rashid, Caliph of Baghdad, the fifth and most renowned of the Abbassides, its name is forever linked with 'Arabian Nights.'

This city, also called Rhagae, was destroyed by Jenghiz Khan and Timur. "Modern Teheran's position, 70 miles south of the Caspian sea, commanding the highways of the extensive upland plateau and the entrance to the Elburz passes, has made it the center of a considerable caravan trade, though it does not rank high as an industrial city. Its population is roughly estimated at 300,000 in winter, but in summer this number diminishes one-third. For, although the district lies in the approximate latitude of Cape Hatteras, and nine months of the year bring it cool nights and sunshiny days, the three months of summer are uncomfortably hot and dry.

"The palace of the deposed shah is located in the 'Ark,' or former citadel, in the middle of the city. Here is the Salaam court, containing the large Takht-i-Khaneh, or throne room, where the shah received his people at his New Year's reception, three months and more after the Western world ushered in a new year. This reception formerly was a brilliant affair; the royal band played all through the ceremony, the court poet was much in evidence with the shah's greetings for the new season, and the shah himself was seated in a jeweled chair on a beautiful marble throne, which, however, should not be confused with the priceless Peacock throne kept in the treasure vault.

"The office of the commandant of the imperial guards, the apartments of the grand vizier and the imperial archives are separated from the main palace by a shady rose garden, but one's interest naturally centers in the treasure vault wherein are kept the Persian crown jewels.

"Nadir Shah, who was also known as Kuli Khan, was shah of Persia from 1736 to 1747. Shortly after he was crowned he invaded India, laid waste the country and sacked Delhi. It was he who laid down his bare sword as a sign that the massacre might begin and refused to lift it again until thousands of the inhabitants had been murdered. And he it was who brought the peacock throne to Teheran where it has been since 1739.

"This gorgeous chair of state is incrustated with thousands of precious jewels; rubies, diamonds, emeralds and so many others that one is almost blinded by its coruscant splendor. Embazoned on the back is the large peacock from which the throne takes its name, with its tail spread out in a magnificence no living peacock ever

attained. Taken as one piece of 'furniture,' the peacock throne might easily be called the most expensive in the world, for it is valued at thirty millions of dollars!

**Where East Meets West.**

"Keeping it company is the sword of Timur, the Tartar, which doubtless accompanied him on his victorious march through Persia and Syria as far as the frontier of Egypt. In those bloodthirsty days when invasions and conquest were the lifelong ambitions of every great man. In the treasure vault also is a huge terrestrial globe of gold, weighing eighty pounds, set with 51,596 jewels, and nearby is the diamond known as the Dary-i-Nur or 'Sea of Light,' weighing 186 carats, which Nadir Shah did not overlook at Delhi.

"Teheran might well be called the meeting place of East and West, for in the southern portion of the city, tucked away behind the pale pink and blue plaster walls, may be found the majority of the natives with their bazaars and their own circles of life hardly untouched since the early years. In the northern part the Western influence is seen, felt and heard in the shape of well-graded streets, electric lights, movies, European shops, hotels, restaurants and even a tram-

way. The airplane has made its way to Teheran, the drill square north of the central square sharing honors as an aviation field and—a football grid iron!

"Persia is fast adopting modern ways. The new ruler, who is referred to in a dispatch from Teheran as 'King' Pahlavia Reza Khan, has released all political prisoners and issued a decree reducing the price of bread."

## Rome Beggars at Home Among City's Rich Citizens

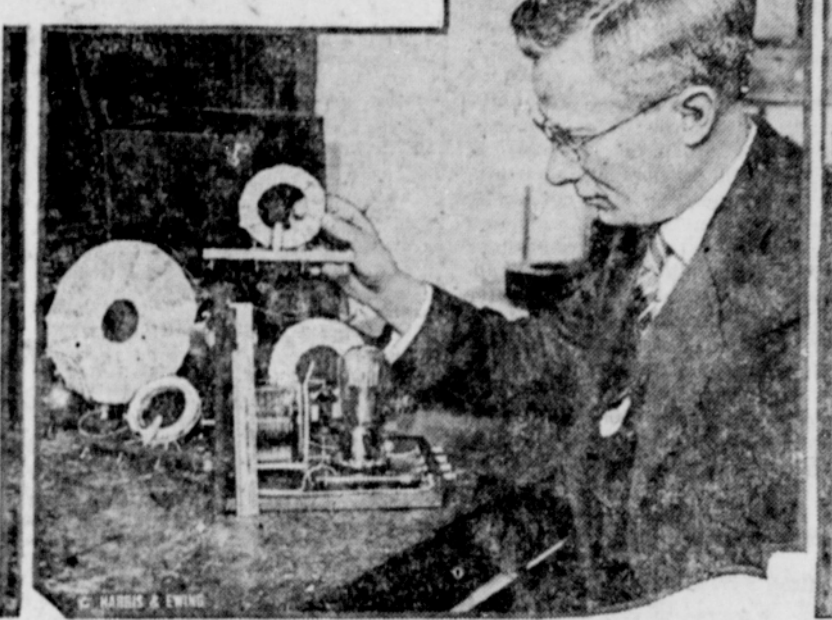
Rome.—The police have found that many of the sorriest and most pathetic appearing street beggars are some of the city's most opulent citizens behind the walls of their homes.

One of these aged mendicants was searched and his pockets shown to contain about \$30 as one day's receipts. Another beggar was found to be a proprietor of dwelling houses another an owner of a livery stable that boasted several horses and carriages, a third was a professional money lender at usurious rates, and a fourth was a frequenter of one of the capital's most expensive restaurants in the evenings.

Cesare Sanesi, pained and miserably dressed in tatters, died on the street of heart disease. His body was gathered up unceremoniously by scavengers and buried in the public cemetery for the destitute. It was later learned that Sanesi was a member of one of the most noble of Florentine families, and that he bore the authentic title of count.

## This Sending Station Is Portable

There have been many kinds of portable radio receiving sets, but it remains for A. W. Tupper (shown in photograph) and H. J. Wall of the light-house service of the United States Department of commerce to design and build a portable transmitting or broadcasting station.



## STONE MOUNTAIN IS MORE THAN IT SEEMS ON SURFACE

### Georgia's Famous Peak Outcropping of Granite Range.

Atlanta, Ga.—"How come Stone Mountain!"

This question has puzzled geologists ever since there have been any geologists to puzzle about Stone Mountain.

Many explanations have been offered for the existence of the now famous granite monadnock, which rises suddenly out of a fertile country around it. The one most favored is that sometime along fifty to seventy-five million years ago, there was an upheaval in this land, at which time Stone Mountain and the Appalachian mountains and other eastern wonders were thrust up.

But Stone Mountain, on which is being carved the Confederate memorial, is not all just out there in wide-open DeKalb county. That's only where it shows itself.

It extends under most of the remainder of Georgia and some parts o-

South Carolina, Tennessee, Alabama and Florida.

At the place where Stone Mountain seems to meet ordinary earth it begins a sloping descent into the underneath of Georgia. At Macon, about 100 miles southwest of Stone Mountain, the granite bedrock is reached at about 400 feet. Dr. S. W. McCaille, Georgia state geologist, says that when the granite is struck a person might as well stop, because a drill would go "on to China."

Stone Mountain will not last forever, declare geologists. There is a devastating force which is diminishing, rapidly as such things go, the size of the mountain. This force is called exfoliation.

One Hundred Times Present Size.

When the mountain came into being it covered probably 100 times its present size, as evidenced by the numerous outcrops of the same rock extending over a belt several miles in width. At this rate of shrinkage, geologists compute that in another 50,000,000 years there will not be any Stone Mountain.

At present Stone Mountain rises 680 feet above the ground and includes 563 acres of exposed granite mass. In this mass there are 7,543,750,950 cubic feet. There are about 12 cubic feet of granite to the ton, making the mass weigh in the neighborhood of 628,645,911 tons.

Since about 1865 Stone Mountain granite has been used extensively in building as well as paving.

## Coconut Milk Advised for Babies of Samoa

Pago Pago.—Young coconuts for young Samoans is the advice of the United States government to South sea mothers unable to secure milk for their babies.

The use of coconuts for babies is still an experiment, but so far is considered successful. Each child is given the meat of four very young coconuts daily, together with all the coconut milk he can drink.

Child welfare work in Samoa has been organized so that all villages in American Samoa are visited at least once every two weeks. In each village a committee of women has been appointed. Babies are taken to the weekly meetings of this committee. When a baby increases in weight the mother is praised publicly; when it loses, the mother is called to account.

## Tablet on Ingersoll's New York Home Unveiled



Unveiling a tablet to the memory of Robert G. Ingersoll at his former home in Gramercy square, New York city. Left to right: Former Senator Charles S. Thomas, Bainbridge Colby, Mrs. Eva Ingersoll Swasey, granddaughter of Ingersoll, and Dr. John Lovejoy Elliott.

## Increase Effort to Save Redwood Trees

### Nature Lovers Join to Buy California Forests

San Francisco.—Increasing effort, with prospect of success, is being made to preserve from extinction the world's tallest and most beautiful tree, the Sequoia sempervirens, or redwood.

Spread over the northern hemisphere of Europe and America when the earth was young, the tree was scoured from the globe by ancient ice sheets until there remained only a forested belt of a few hundred miles along the coast of northern California and a bit of southern Oregon. There in cathedral grandeur it raises its lofty spires 350 feet and more. Its name, sempervirens—ever living—arouses the imagination, for it is from 2,000 to 3,000 years old, only a thousand years younger than its cousin the Sequoia gigantea, of the Sierra Nevada mountains.

**League Buys Groves.**

Magnificent timber, resisting moisture and decay for centuries, though fallen, it was cut and shipped throughout the United States and abroad in such quantities as to endanger its exhaustion.

Aroused, the Save-the-Redwood league, composed of such nature lovers as Franklin K. Lane, Dr. John C. Merriam, William Kent and others, actuated by love of beauty, in recent years has raised money to buy some groves and induce the state of California and various organizations to preserve others.

Today, 15,515 acres have been freed from the woodsman's menacing ax. In addition, the league has initiated a program for a national redwood park of 20,000 acres of trees that were a half-thousand years old when the star appeared over Bethlehem.

The lumbermen have sympathized with the spirit of conservation, and, moved greatly by considerations of financial advantage, began reforestation so extensive as to promise complete replacement of trees cut down. Merchantable redwood timber in the forests estimated at 50,000,000,000 board measure, will be reproduced by planting at the rate of 550,-

000,000,000 feet board measure yearly, assuming the present rate of cutting and reproduction. Lumbermen figure from this that the second growth of redwood will be ready for cutting in 100 years at the same time that the virgin timber has disappeared.

### Trees Aid Reforestation Plan.

The tree itself is a great factor in its perpetuation, for sprouts spring from its stumps so profusely and persistently that M. B. Pratt, state forester, says:

"If planting by the lumber companies is continued on the present scale, I consider that adequate means will have been taken to reforest the cut-over lands, particularly since these lands are reforesting more or less by themselves by means of stump sprouts."

The redwood belongs to the pine family or cone-bearing group. In the fall of the year the cones are gathered from the ground and taken to the nurseries of the lumber companies at Scotia, Fort Bragg and Caspar, Cal. Seeds removed from the cones become trees of six or seven inches in one or two years. Trees

thus grown in 1925 numbered 3,250,000.

In the winter of two years ago a start of replanting was made when 800 acres were reforested. Last winter 3,000 acres were planted, and the program for the present winter embraces 6,000 acres. When the total reaches 10,000 acres yearly, this with natural reproduction, it is hoped, will preserve the redwood for posterity.

## Less Rain Noted on Northern Pacific Coast

Tacoma, Wash.—Old residents of that part of Washington and Oregon lying between the Cascade mountains and the Pacific ocean long have been declaring that cutting the dense timber that once covered the region is gradually changing the climate.

"It doesn't rain like it used to," the old-timers remark, recalling the days when they referred to one another as "webb-footers" and "moss backs."

And now comes L. C. Cover, government weather observer here, with figures that partly corroborate the old settlers.

His figures show there has been a steady decline in rainfall here during five-year periods since 1895. The average annual rainfall from 1895 to 1900 was 45.99 inches. From 1920 to 1925 it had fallen to 33.96.

A generation ago the average rainfall in this district was 45 inches a year, but the present average, based on all available figures of the past, has dropped to 40.72.

## King Tut Married When but a Child

### Expert Thinks He Became Husband at Age of Five.

New York.—That King Tutankhamen, who died in Egypt some 3,000 years ago, was only fifteen years old when his body was laid in his tomb in the Valley of the Kings, has been definitely ascertained by Egyptologists.

The age of the dead pharaoh had been the basis for much speculation among those who uncovered the tomb near Luxor. Howard Carter, who was the chief assistant to the late earl of Carnarvon in the work of excavating the tomb, had believed the youth was eighteen years old when he passed

away, while others placed his age higher.

When, however, the mummy was taken from its golden human-shaped coffin and the wrappings about it were removed until the golden-sheathed body came into view, the experts, after an examination, established the age.

### Wears Crown of Gold.

On the head of Tutankhamen was a tall crown of gold. The hands were clasped across the breast. On the side of the body were strapped two gold-hilted swords and two knives, the handles of which also were gold. On the breast golden stars were placed to mark the heart and lungs.

Tutankhamen inherited the throne of Khun-Aten through his marriage to that king's third daughter, Ankh-nepes-Aten, afterward Ankh-nepes-amen, two years after her royal father had passed away. This was during the reign of the pharaoh, Saa-Nekht, his brother-in-law. Saa-Nekht is variously estimated to have reigned from eight to sixteen years after this event before his death and the succession of Tutankhamen. The latter is estimated to have reigned from two to nine years. The former figure is Howard Carter's and the latter Sir Flinders Petrie's. Sir Flinders is a noted Egyptologist.

### Five When Married.

Thus, if Tutankhamen were fifteen years old at the time of his death he would have been only five years old when he married on the basis of the lower figure, while the larger figure would seem to be wide of the mark. Five years of age for marriage apparently is out of line with the customs of the royal houses of Egypt, for few, if any of the pharaohs, married before the age of twelve. They did not become of age until sixteen years old.

On the female side it was different, some of the princesses marrying when only one year old in order to acquire rights of royalty for the husband. In Egypt royal descent passed through the daughters.

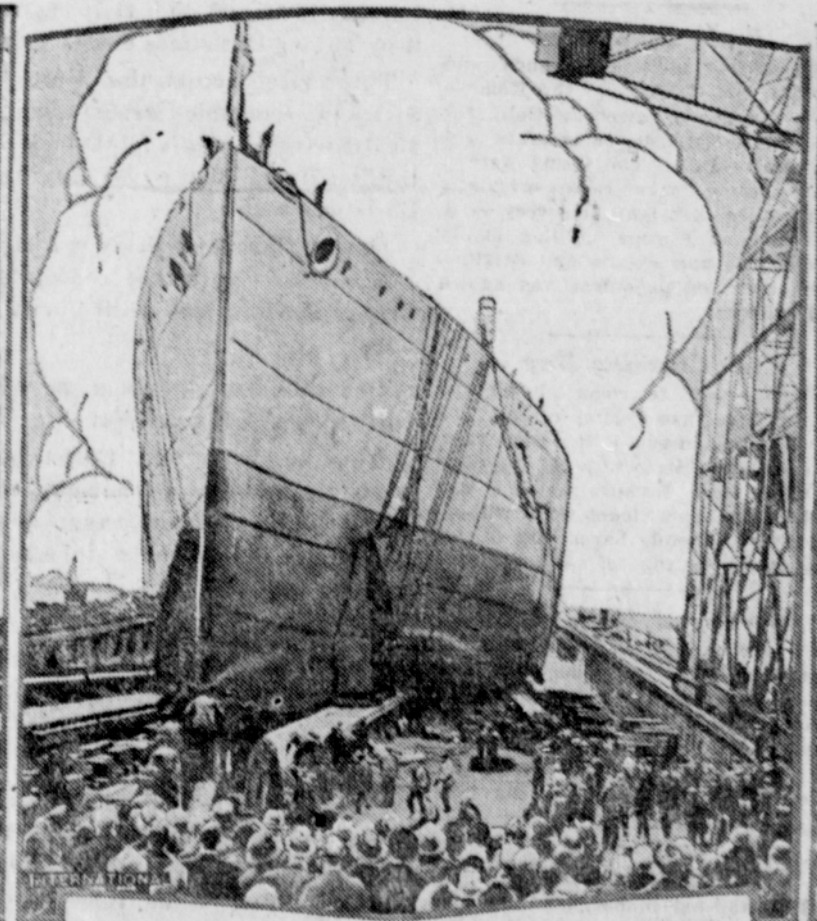
The finding of the high gold crown on the head of Tutankhamen is a discovery unique in archeology, as also was the discovery of the swords at his side and parts of the royal regalia, for despoilers and thieves usually ransacked royal tombs so thoroughly that generally the mummy was stripped to its wrappings.

## Melons Used for Water in Jerusalem



Jerusalem's 65,000 citizens are suffering seriously from an insufficient water supply. The facilities for distributing water are inadequate, due to the rapid growth of the city. The daily ration for each family has been cut down to five gallons. The people are buying quantities of melons as a substitute for drinking water. Above is a melon seller in the streets.

## New Sea Fighter for the British



Above is pictured the newest of British ships, H. M. S. Nelson, being launched at Newcastle. Dame Caroline Bridgeman, wife of the first lord of the British admiralty, was sponsor for this, the first battleship to be launched from a private shipyard since the war.