

# Country Around the Amazon Offers Big Possibilities For Future Civilization

By JOHN MUIR, Explorer and

Famous Naturalist of the Sierras

HERE is a section of this American continent within which at some future day there will be developed a civilization richer, greater, more extensive than that evolved today in our Mississippi valley. It is not in the United States. It is far south of us. ITS WEALTH IS PRACTICALLY UNKNOWN except to the few scientists and the occasional traders who have explored its vast solitudes.

Humboldt has been there, Bonpland, Bates and Wallace, and as they described it years ago so it REMAINS TODAY, AWAITING DISCOVERY BY THE HUNGRY ONES OF THE EARTH.

It is a mighty river basin, twice as great as the basin of the Mississippi and pouring into the ocean a volume of water perhaps four times as great as any other river that we know. And when I say that you will easily guess that I am describing THE AMAZON.

There are steamboats on the river, but so there were before Bates left it. Man has done nothing as yet, comparatively speaking, with the river Amazon. In fact, you might say that he is SCARCELY IN EVIDENCE there at all.

BUT THE TIME WILL COME WHEN THIS WHOLE REGION WILL BE TRANSFORMED INTO ONE OF THE RICHEST GARDEN SPOTS OF THE EARTH, THE SEAT OF A CIVILIZATION GREATER AND MORE FARREACHING THAN THAT FOUND TODAY IN THE MISSISSIPPI VALLEY.

I don't mean to say that there are any evidences of such a growth, such a transformation of the Amazon country at present. It is simply there potentially. You have a river system on a gigantic scale. Bates quotes the natives of Para as naming the Amazon "the Mediterranean of South America."

It is a NETWORK OF STREAMS, EXTENDING ALMOST FROM OCEAN TO OCEAN and covering a still greater territory north and south of the main river. At Manaus there is a rise and fall of forty feet in the water level, dependent, of course, on the rainfall and the melting of snow on the river. Almost any width you choose to give it. I should say that the average width to Manaus is from two to three miles.

## NEW APPLE RATING IS NOW IN EFFECT

Considerable interest is being taken here and in surrounding apple growing districts in a new apple rating which has just been submitted to the government by a committee of horticulturists appointed by the American Pomological society. This rating, as well as a revised list of the commercial varieties of apples, has been accepted by the government and copies of the same have been sent broadcast over the country.

The new basis is decidedly favorable to apples from the Northwest and will do much to raise their commercial rating, as flavor will count 50 per cent as against 25 per cent before. In this way apples of fine eating qualities, such as the Jonathan, will be classed higher than the showy apples of inferior flavor. The new plan has already been accepted in British Columbia.

The list of commercial varieties will be cut down from 319 to 50, according to the committee's plan, and only the standard kinds will be retained. A new rule has also been suggested for packing by which the minimum size will be determined by the variety.

## Bitulithic Makes Good in Colfax

Bitulithic has proven so satisfactory that it will be used exclusively at Colfax, Wash. The Warren Construction Company has been granted the contract to pave Perkins avenue district, thus completing the whole of the paving in Colfax, which is now a bitulithic town in every sense of the word. The efforts of some property owners to bring in other paving and divide the business of the town has come to naught. The company which has paved all of Colfax's streets that have been paved to date, and which has proven so satisfactory, has been granted the exclusive right to the business of the town and no other paving is to be used there. This is not the result solely of action by the city council. Bitulithic paving has given such general satisfaction that there are few property owners who desire any other kind.

## Christian Science Services

Christian Science services are held in the Commercial Club rooms Sundays at 11 a.m. Subject, "Soul." Sunday school at same hour in Room 2, Davidson building. Wednesday meetings in same room 8 p.m. Reading room, open daily, 2 to 5 p.m.

## WOOD FOR SALE

1000 Cords, pine and fir, at head of Neal Creek road. Yarded out. Inquire on premises or PHONE 224-K

RALPH ROOT, 1013 State St.

## Special Excursion

Attend the Big Ball Game at PARKDALE, SUNDAY, AUG. 18

HOOD RIVER HEIGHTS vs. PARKDALE

Train leaves Hood River at 8 a. m. Returning arrives at Hood River at 5:30 p. m. One fare and one-third for the round trip, from all stations to Parkdale. If you do not wish to attend the ball game, picnic in the grove at Parkdale.

## A LITERARY RIDDLE.

Who Was It Wrote the Tragedy of "Troilus and Cressida?"

Andrew Lang has just propounded a puzzle in circumstantial evidence. "Who," he asks, "wrote 'Troilus and Cressida?'" You may answer, as you answer Bacon, Andrew Lang comes back with the query, "Would Bacon have said that Aristotle lived before the Trojan war?" Bacon was too learned a man to make such a mistake, which would be as bad as placing Abraham Lincoln among the signers of the Declaration of Independence.

If you answer Shakespeare, Andrew Lang shoots another query at you: "The author makes Ulysses and Achilles quote 'an author' and discuss a pretty long and strange passage from that author, who was Plato. How could Shakespeare have read Plato?" For Shakespeare knew no Greek, and in his day Plato had not yet been translated into English.

It is quite conceivable that Shakespeare might imagine that Plato and Aristotle lived many centuries before Homer, but it is inconceivable that the erudite Bacon should fall into such an error.

Andrew Lang does not pretend to solve the riddle. He frankly says, "I give it up."—New York World.

## RISKY POSTAL SERVICE.

In Russia the Government Opens All Suspicious Packages.

Our own service of mails is well organized. There is little doubt in the mind of the average person that when he posts a letter it will reach its destination.

But in other lands he might well fear for its safety. In Russia, for instance, any letter or parcel that is regarded with suspicion is immediately opened and its contents noted. A clever machine guns it up again, so that the recipient does not know that it has been tampered with.

In Lapland the mails are carried in sledges drawn by reindeers. In the wilds of the Caucasus the postman holds a post of danger. He must be protected against brigands and against the weather, for he often has to climb mountains more than 12,000 feet high. Asiatic Russia, which is apt to be marshy, has the buffalo post, and, of course, the progress made is very slow. Buffaloes are more powerful than oxen, and they are also used in Siberia for carrying the mail.

Other postmen in foreign lands are the swimming postman of India and the sking letter carrier of the Andes. For the latter place the Argentine government specially imports Norwegians.—Exchange.

## Mexico's Smoking Mountain.

In 1897 I climbed two volcanoes in Mexico, Popocatepeti, or "the smoking mountain," about 17,800 feet, and Orizaba, the former the most famous because within view from Mexico City and thus a source of especial pride and admiration to the inhabitants, who have been loath to believe that any other of their mountains could be higher. Popo has a really splendid crater, about half a mile across and 1,000 feet deep. The walls are generally vertical, but in one or two places it is possible to descend. When workers are engaged in collecting sulphur machinery is used to hoist them up and down. From Popo's summit there is a glorious prospect, not alone of the immense crater, but of the beautiful "White Lady" (Itzacuinah) reclining a thousand feet below, of Orizaba on the far horizon and of the charming valley of Mexico.—Annie S. Peck in Christian Herald.

## Wellington's Integrity.

The Duke of Wellington was noted for his rigid integrity. Here is an instance which occurred in reference to his large estate. Some farm adjoining his lands was for sale, and his agent negotiated for him for the purchase. Having concluded the business, he went to the duke and told him he had made a capital bargain. "What do you mean?" asked the duke. "Why, your grace, I have got the farm for so much, and I know it to be worth at least so much more." "Are you quite sure of that?" "Quite sure, your grace, for I have carefully surveyed it." "Very well, then; pay the gentleman from me the balance between what you have already given and the real value of the estate."

## Strong Circumstantial Evidence.

A young wife was in tears a few mornings ago when her mother called. When asked what was the matter she replied that her husband was out late the night before and had been to a drinking party.

"What makes you think he had been to a drinking party?" asked the mother.

"He came home," sobbed the young wife, "wearing a phonograph horn for a hat."—Kansas City Star.

## More Careful Now.

The young wife had given her husband a dance. "You've improved wonderfully, Jack," she said as they sat down. "Don't you remember how you used to tear my dress?" "Yes," he replied, "I wasn't buying them then."—Boston Transcript.

## Barks.

The class in natural history being asked the difference between a dog and a tree, the head boy answered, "A tree is covered with bark, while a dog seems to be tired with it."

## Noisy Sleep.

Hub (angrily)—Here! What do you mean by waking me out of a sound sleep? Wife—Because the sound was too distressing.—Boston Transcript.

## CARLOAD OF SMALL TROUT ARE SECURED

Through the efforts of the local Commercial Club, approximately one million trout fry are being placed in the local streams this week. Fifty cans of the fry, each can containing 500 fish, were received the last of the week and Secretary Scott received a 'phone message from State Fish and Game Warden Finley Monday, offering to ship a carload of fry here from Bonneville yesterday, provided they were judiciously used. Secretary Scott at once spread the word and the fish are being distributed among the principal streams.

The first shipment of 50 cans was placed in the Lake Branch. Mr. Scott was assisted by C. H. Thomas, G. O. Westberg, L. D. Boyd and Julian P. Scott. These sportsmen made the distribution of the fry possible by donating their services. Albert Sutton and J. T. Nealeigh secured some to stock private ponds and J. T. McCully and E. R. Pooley secured 13 cans for use in Neal creek. A considerable number of other streams were stocked when the carload shipment arrived yesterday. This distribution was made through the Commercial Club.

Mr. Finley has informed the club that his department will send 40 pairs of pheasants to Hood River in about two weeks. These will be liberated in flocks of about 10 pairs each and it is preferred that they be liberated, if possible, in private game preserves, where they will be properly protected.

## 17-YEAR-OLD LINE FENCE DISPUTE IS SETTLED

After having been the subject of controversy for the past 17 years, the boundary line between the ranches of the late Peter Hinrichs and George W. Brown, Mary E. Galligan and Ida B. Mercer north of the Valley Christian church was settled by Circuit Judge Bradshaw last week. The decision was in favor of the defendants—Brown, Galligan and Mercer—and the judge found that the Hinrichs fence was over from 30 to 35 feet on the other people's land. Attorney W. H. Wilson of The Dalles represented the Hinrichs estate and George R. Wilbur of this city appeared for the defendants.

There are some very desirable office rooms for rent in the Heilbronner Building at from \$10 to \$15 a month. 21tf

The News tells it all.



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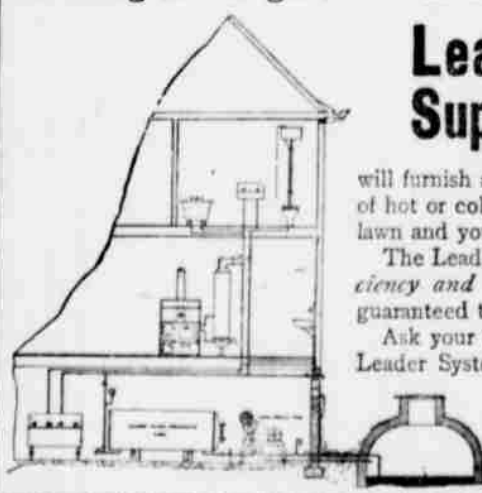
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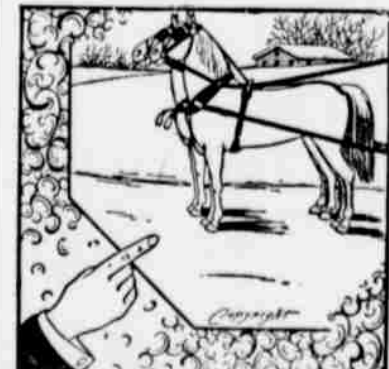
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