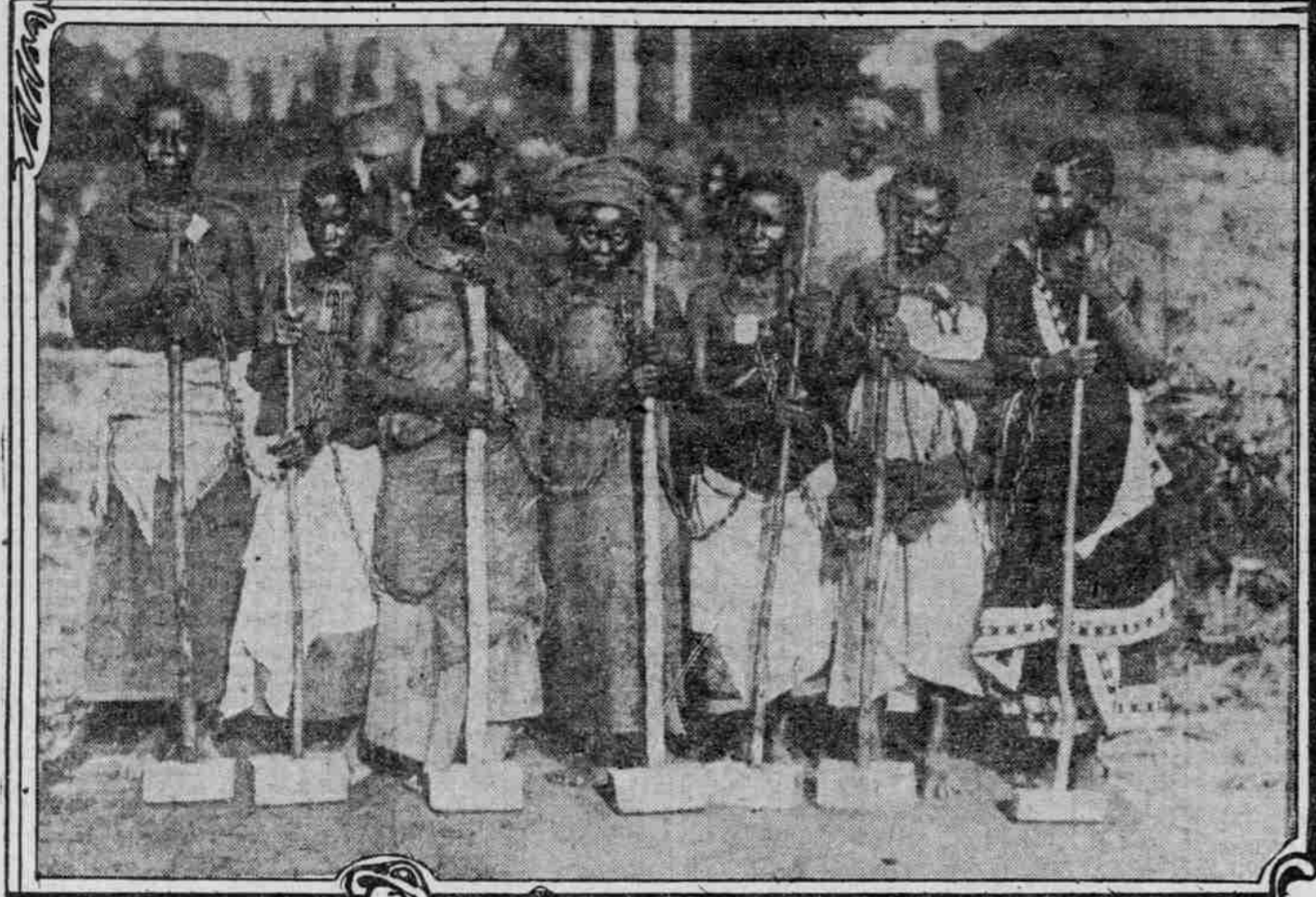


Germany's Best Colony in East Africa

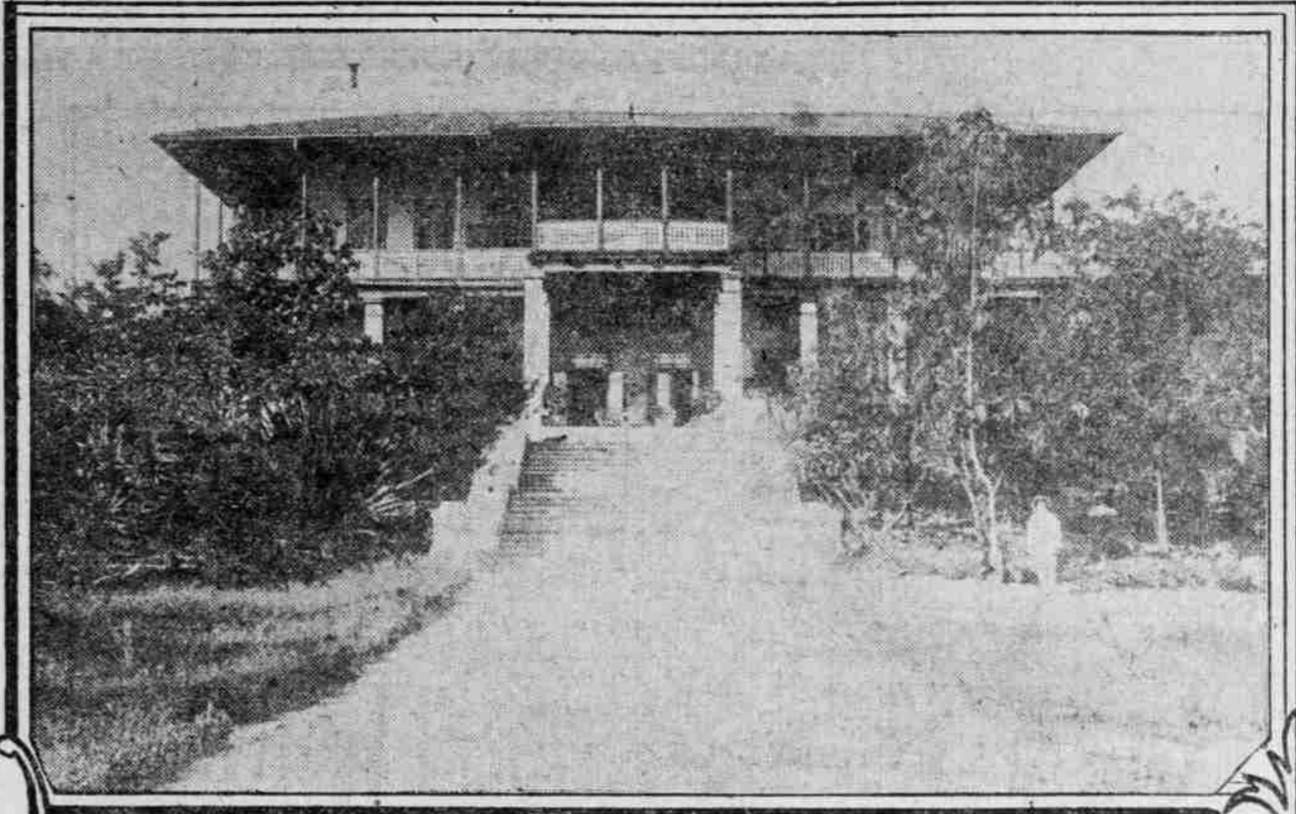
IT HAS TEN MILLION PEOPLE AND IS TWICE AS LARGE AS THE FATHERLAND



THE ROADS ARE WELL KEPT



THE KAISER HAS AN ARMY OF 2500 BLACKS



THE HOME OF THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL AT DAR-ES-SALAAM

GERMAN OFFICIALS AND THEIR FAMILIES

shipped inland via Bagamoya. Since the railroad from Dar es Salaam has been built the caravans have been bringing their ivory, rubber and other products to its western terminus, and they are now shipping from Dar es Salaam to Europe. This diversion of trade will probably increase, and when the railroad has been completed to Tabora almost all of the central trans-African exports and imports will come this way. Dar es Salaam, German East Africa.

ANCESTRY OF MISSION FURNITURE

The Modern Kind is English and Designed by William Morris.

THE coming of the Franciscan fathers to the shores of the Pacific in their propagation of the Christian faith accidentally gave rise to a new style in architecture—a style influenced almost entirely by utilitarian demands upon the ingenuity of the inexperienced builders. The tenacity of the austere brotherhood founded by St. Francis imposed upon its members vows of chastity, poverty and obedience, which easily explains the bareness of the original mission buildings. Anything pertaining to ease or luxury was not entertained; comfortable chairs and upholstered seats had no place in the habitations of the good friars, accustomed for years to deprivations and rigid abstinence.

Practically the only effort they put forth to depart from the severe plainness of whitewashed walls was in the interior decoration of some of the sanctuaries. There is but little doubt that it would have been better had even these attempts not been made for the buildings would have been more impressive—one might even say more artistic—had the interiors been left in their pristine simplicity. Masses generally lend themselves to beautiful arrangements, and the spontaneous expression of the builder in the necessity of meeting peculiar conditions may result in the production of a style new and dignified. In big things defects are not apparent. The harmonious arrangement of general lines usually gives an artistic result.

It was only in their attempts to embellish their structures with decorations and display of craftsmanship that the builders of the missions failed in producing praiseworthy results. The padres knew little or nothing of drawing, less of color effects. They originated nothing new in these interior decorations because of their limited knowledge of the arts and lack of skill. Naturally their minds reverted to the designs of the marvelous interiors of the Spanish cathedrals—Burgos, the beautiful or the majestic Seville. Hazy memories of these glories guided by unskilled fingers in attempts to reproduce what had once been fashioned by master hands, so that these decorative effects have all the crudeness of the products of primitive minds, and often occasion a smile of derision.

In art, as in everything else, however, the underlying motive must be considered, and since the Franciscan monks earnestly endeavored to beautify the nave of their churches as best they could with the limited materials at hand, although they failed artistically, their efforts are worthy of consideration and respect. The somewhat ornately carved timbers of the Santa Fe mission church illustrate the spirit of reverence sentiment that actuated the natives to bestow an infinite amount of care upon the carving and to paint elaborately each beam.

Portable furniture of those early days was simple in the extreme, indeed hardly worth mentioning as such. A slab of a tree trunk, sawed and smoothed, with three rough branches for feet, was the seat of the Franciscan monks—tables and settees were of like rudeness. It is a far cry from that to our modern oak or mahogany easy chair, which seems entirely foreign in both form and comfort.

As to the which we designate "mission furniture," whose simple, comfortable artistic lines make it peculiarly suited to California use, the popular acceptance of it as a descendant of the San Diego or San Fernando craftsmanship is entirely erroneous. Modern mission furniture, notwithstanding our pardonable desire to claim it as our own, is an English product—a style due to William Morris, that prophet of the style of the future, that master craftsman that we owe much, indeed, of our present beautiful simplicity of decoration, effective employment of color masses, and harmonious unity of design which is gradually obtaining in all civilized countries and relegating to the background the ornate gilt and pretentious monstrosities of a generation ago.

Morris' artistic soul rebelled against the degeneration that prevailed in furniture "fashionable" in the "twentieth century"—carved, turned, polished and twisted—finished in ebony, gilt or enamel and upholstered in plush, and he set about striving to awaken the world to the beauties of genuine, honest handicraft. The creation of furniture along simple lines suggested itself to the directors of various "mission schools" throughout England as a channel through which the dexterity they were striving to encourage in their wards might express itself. With the first exhibition of this mission school furniture in England its popularity was assured and it was straightway imported into the United States, where it met with equal favor because of its novelty—perhaps, too, because it was English. At any rate it was soon in great vogue and its manufacture was taken up by craftsmen in this country, first at Washington, D. C., and afterwards in various other places. Improvements were made as the need arose until the handmade objects now produced under the name of "mission furniture" bear little resemblance to their first English cousins. But with the origination of the style the Franciscan monks of the eighteenth century had nothing whatever to do.

Aside from those purely primitive articles of use fashioned by the Mission fathers, objects quite similar to those made in every mining camp today, one finds that the neophytes built many quaint and curious pieces of furniture which, if they sometimes failed in being delicate or perfect in workmanship, nevertheless had a certain character and charm. In the baptistry of the Plaza Church in Los Angeles is a bench heartily represents probably one of the earliest efforts in cabinet work among the natives. It is crudely joined, clumsily put together, yet has good lines, and was built substantially enough to last for ages. The scalloped board across the back is an odd example of the primitive desire to ornament an otherwise plain piece of furniture, and, while it is both unnecessary and undesirable, the humble artisan's mistaken idea of beautifying his handiwork is pathetic.

In many of the missions are to be found similar articles. The lecterns, confessionals, altars, doors and pulpits were often the work of the natives, produced for the most part in imitation of those brought from Spain or Mexico, or from prints and drawings in the possession of the Franciscans. They rarely attempted anything new or independent in style.

Besides this class of furniture there were the imported pieces, sent to the missions of Alta Cal., from Spanish ports, and which are still treasured as fine, interesting mementoes of the early days. The shapes of these are distinctly Moorish in character for the most part, al-

BY FRANK G. CARPENTER.
STAND with me under the cocoanut trees on the shores of this beautiful harbor and take a look at the chief city of the Kaiser's colonial empire. Germany has five times as much territory on this continent as in Europe, and German East Africa is the best of the whole. It is twice as large as Germany itself and Dar es Salaam is its capital. The town is by far the most beautiful of all those I have yet visited on the shores of the Indian Ocean. It is as bright as a new pin and it has every sign of prosperity and trade. There are great warehouses along the wharves, a German man-of-war lies in the harbor, and a huge drydock, sufficiently large to hold any ship of this part of the world, is on the edge of the shore. There are craft of many kinds in the bay and one of the largest steamers of the German East Africa line has just come in on its way down the coast.

Dar Es Salaam.
Turning to the city itself, one walks through wide streets shaded by trees and bordered with flowers. There are great government buildings of old-fashioned German architecture, which have been erected within the past few years, away down here in the tropics. The government house is far superior to anything in British East Africa, and the great white postoffice with its tiled floors makes one feel as though he were in Europe rather than in the wilds of the black continent. There are a fine library, a club, a half dozen modern churches and a first-class hotel, which is known as the Kaiserhof. There are many stone villas, the residence of the officials, and there are some fairly good business blocks. The buildings are all new, clean and artistic. Most of them were built by the German government, after plans by German architects, and the result is one of the prettiest and most artistic little towns of the world. Indeed, I know of no place which compares with this except some of the cities in Java, and they are by no means so fine.

The Germans have laid out the town so that it seems to be a part of a botanical garden, and not far from the equator and its vegetation is surpassingly beautiful. The buildings rise out of cocoanut palms and the fan-like leaves of other trees, and the woods welcome us as we walk through the streets. There are many acacias and trees loaded with flowers of all kinds. The roads are well kept, and they move along taking up the whole width of the road and mounding the ground firm with wooden stumps, which they raise and let fall in unison.

Where the Natives Live.
The native section of Dar es Salaam is back from the harbor. Neither Hindus nor Africans are allowed to have houses in the European settlement, and their huts are built in the woods at the rear. The town has altogether about 25,000 people. The most of them are natives of the different tribes which live along the coast. A large number who have come in as porters and servants from back in the interior. Many are Swahilis, noted as the brightest of the East African negroes; and there are also a large number of East Indians who have monopolized the retail trade.

These people all dress in cottons, and they are more clad than those I saw in British East Africa, Uganda or around Lake Victoria. Some of the native women are fine looking, but they all mutilate their ears, and many scar their bodies so that the flesh stands up in great welts. The women comb their hair in such a way that they seem to wear hoods. They shave partings at intervals of about one inch all around the head, plowing furrows, as it were, over their scalps. Many wear enormous ear plugs, which distend the lobes of the ear so that a silver dollar can be easily slipped in and out through them, and a few have nose rings. Their clothes are of bright-colored prints made in India and shipped here from Bombay.

The Kaiser's Black Soldiers.
Among the most striking of the natives are the soldiers. The Kaiser has an army of 2500 blacks, to keep his millions of East African subjects in order, and so far they have done very well. These negroes have been selected for their size, and they remind one of the famed guard of Frederick the Great, none of whom was under six feet. They are big-framed and broad-shouldered, and their faces seem to me the personification of ugliness and brutality. They are dressed in khaki, with khaki caps with aprons at the back to protect the neck, and their uniforms are much like those of the German army, save that they are barefooted. These soldiers are armed with the best of modern guns, and they know how to use them. During my stay here I have seen them at drill. They go through all the evolutions

common to the German army, including the famous "goose step" and other military gymnastics. I am told they are proud of their profession, and that they are loyal to the Germans, even when warring against their own people.

During my stay I have visited the barracks. The natives are allowed to have their wives with them. They cook for their husbands, and their presence keeps the soldiers in a good humor. This same custom of allowing the women to go with the army is common in British East Africa and Uganda, save that there the native soldiers and police live in huts of mud and that they are paid for their services.

A Talk With the Governor-General.
I met the Governor-General shortly after I landed here. He is the supreme ruler of the 10,000,000 people who inhabit this great German colony, and he has entire control of German East Africa. He has a great building devoted to his office and a beautiful villa in a great park some distance away. My first talk with him was at the government house, and I met him later in the evening at his home and had a chat with him.

The Governor of German East Africa is Baron von Rechenberg. He was educated at the University of Berlin and after graduation was made Consul-General at Zanzibar. Later on he held a diplomatic position in Russia and was then sent here to be the ruler of this colony.

Baron von Rechenberg excels as a linguist. He speaks seven languages fluently and he has mastered some of the native tongues here. He can talk with his subjects in Swahili and he understands the African native about as well as any man in this part of the world. He spends a great deal of his time traveling over the colony. He has just returned from a long safari about the slopes of Mount Kilimanjaro, he knows the coast lands thoroughly and he has made many trips into the interior. Our conversation was held in English, and it covered a variety of subjects.

German East Africa.
In talking of his colony, the Governor-General said:
"Few people appreciate the extent and possibilities of German East Africa. This country is about twice as big as France, and it is far bigger than any country in Europe, except Russia. It is as thickly populated as almost any part of Europe, and the land is so rich that without much work the people have enough and to spare. We have a large territory here which will raise cotton, sugar cane and coffee. During my recent visit to Mount Kilimanjaro, I visited one coffee plantation which had 100,000 trees. The farmers tell me that the plants grow rapidly, and that they yield fruit at an earlier age than in most other coffee regions. Two or three pounds to the young tree is already common on that plantation and some of the trees are yielding much more. As to sugar we are having successful experiments on the low lands near the coast, and we are planting some cotton which produces excellent crops. So far our experiments have been about the port of Sadani. We are using Egyptian seed and our yield compares favorably with that of Egypt. We are also setting out rubber trees, as well as plantations of vanilla and hemp."
"Do you think you will ever be able to produce enough cotton to affect our crop in the world's markets?" I asked.
"I doubt it," replied the Governor-General.

Questions of Labor.
I here asked the Governor-General as to the native labor supply, saying I understood the blacks made poor workmen. Said he:
"Our people are of many different tribes, and they are quite as different in character as the peoples of other continents. We have some who are industrious and some who are lazy. Some tribes are intelligent, and others are far down in the scale of barbarism. Some are good for one thing, and some for another. We have many Masai about Kilimanjaro. They are worth absolutely nothing as tillers of the soil, but they make excellent stockmen. For a long time they were cattle thieves and their chief business was robbing their neighbors. We have now put them on a reservation large enough to give them abundant pasture for their flocks and they are doing quite well. The Masai make fine herdsmen. They understand stock and we use them to take care of our cavalry horses."
"There is another tribe about Kilimanjaro that is almost purely agricultural," the Governor continued. "The people live in villages with little farms nearby, and every one cultivates the soil. Farther in the interior we have other tribes, some devoted to farming, and some to stock-rearing. We have others who make a business of transporting goods from place to place on their heads, and others who will do almost any kind of work. The best of these natives live on the plateau of the interior, and we are now building a railroad which will reach their country and enable them to be brought down to the coast. That part of the colony is thickly populated; and if we can get laborers from there, it will be of great advantage to our plantations along the Indian Ocean."

The New Railroad.
The conversation here turned to the railroad possibilities of German East Africa. This country already has one line which goes inland from the port of Tanga to the slopes of Mount Kilimanjaro, where there is a high and healthy country being settled by Germans.

There is another road building from Dar es Salaam westward toward Lake Tanganyika and this will probably also be connected by a road leading southward to Lake Nyassa. These roads will open up rich coffee and cattle lands, and will form a great trunk line, which will connect with the Cape to Cairo system at Lake Tanganyika.

Said the Governor-General:
"The line will first be built from here to Mpororo, a distance of 130 miles. It is now open as far as Kinyani, about 50 miles, and trains have been running over parts of it for some years. We need the extension of that road badly, and when it is completed it will be of incalculable good to the colony."
"But will the road pay, your excellency?" I asked.
"It might not do so at first," was the reply. "I think it would pay in years to come, and that even now it would be profitable for the government to push its construction. In the development of a great country like this we have to consider how to increase the wealth of the people and how to develop our resources. This road would bring in outside capital,

and it would make the people so much better off that we could levy more taxes. We need means of rapid communication with the most valuable of our provinces, which are lying in the interior, and we ought not to be compelled to send a large part of our exports and imports over the Uganda railway and the British steamers on Victoria Nyanza, and to pay toll to the English therefor. When we have railroad connection with Victoria Nyanza the trade of the southern half of that lake will come down here to Dar es Salaam, instead of going to Mombasa, as it does now."
Timber and Mines.
I here called the Governor-General's attention to a conversation which I had had with Mr. Well, a rich South African, who had been prospecting as to the timber resources of the northern part of this colony. Mr. Well told me that he was about to take up a concession of timber lands here which would keep his men busy cutting for the next 100 years. He said he intended to order sawmills and other lumber machinery from the United States and that a large part of his market would be the United States, where he expected to send a certain furniture wood which is much like black walnut. The Governor-General replied that Mr. Well had not received the concession as yet, and that there is no absolute surety that his plans will be carried out. He continued:
"As to our forests, they are of great extent, but so far they have not been exploited. Some of the wood is fine and they will ultimately have a fixed value in the markets of Europe. We have trees which correspond to oak; some which are like black walnut and others which are as soft as cedar. All of these woods are valuable, and there should be a market for them in Europe and also along this coast."