

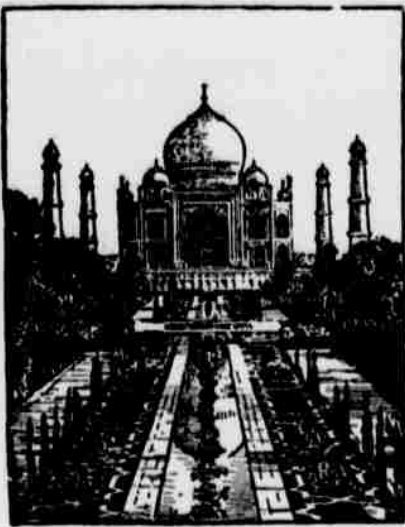
Beautiful Buildings of the World

"LEARN ONE THING EVERY DAY"

No. 1. TAJ MAHAL

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At the top of the precipice overlooking the River Jumna in India stands the most poetic mausoleum in the world. The Taj Mahal, "a dream in marble," designed by Titians and finished by jewelers, is the tomb built by Shah Jahan, the Mogul emperor, for his wife Mumtaz Mahal, whom he called Taj-Bibi. She was the loveliest beauty of the Indies, and Shah Jahan loved her so passionately that he thought of no other woman while she lived and was lost in grief after her death. He vowed that her tomb should be the most beautiful building on earth.



The Taj is of snow-white marble outside and a jeweled mansion within. It was planned by a Persian, Ustad Isa, who designed in the Persian rather than the Indian style of architecture. Twenty thousand men worked twenty-two years to finish it. In the center of a great square paved with white marble and having a slender tower of the same stone at each corner rises the memorial of Taj-Bibi, not merely a masterpiece of architecture, but also a perfect interpretation of womanly nature. The spirit of Mumtaz Mahal seems to have been carved into the marble.

The mosaic work of the interior is the finest to be found in any eastern country. Precious stones are used unsparingly—jasper and agate, car-

nellian and chalcedony. Marble lace-work of wonderful lightness screens the windows and doorways. In the center are the tombs of Mumtaz Mahal and Shah Jahan; but their bodies, according to Indian custom, lie in a vault beneath the building. Shah Jahan had begun a tomb for himself on the opposite side of the river, which he never finished because Aurangzeb, his son, rebelled against him and took away the empire. He was therefore buried by the side of his beloved wife.

Shah Jahan was a cold and haughty man; but he ruled India well, and his pride was softened in later life by the death of his wife. It is said that during his reign he brought India peace and prosperity by putting all his rivals to death. Besides the Taj Mahal, two other famous buildings, the Pearl Mosque at Agra and the great mosque of Delhi, which was built by Shah Jahan, have made his reign one of the most memorable in Indian history. The emperor's treasury must have been practically unlimited; for the peacock throne made during his reign was estimated by Tavernier to be worth sixty million dollars. The festival at his coronation alone is said to have cost eight millions.

There is a legend that when he had finished the Taj Mahal, Shah Jahan ordered the architect to be thrown over the cliff into the River Jumna, for fear he might plan another building as beautiful as the Taj.

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No. 2. THE ALHAMBRA

THE people about Granada have always held that the Palace of Alhambra was built under a magic spell. To their minds human workmanship and the power of wealth are too feeble for the erection of a structure so enduring and magnificent. Indeed, great architects can hardly conceive the skill that balanced those halls and gardens and towers against the other with perfect symmetry, or the patience that worked out each interlaced design without error in either the art or the chiseling.

Pains and expense were not spared in the construction, and it is no wonder that the Spaniards should have thought the work supernatural. Slim pillars of rarest white marble give grace to every court of the palace. The carvings and designs are everywhere gilded, and where these are painted between the gilding blue, red and yellow, the purest colors are used. The blue is ultramarine, made from a precious stone, the lapis lazuli of the Egyptians, which never fades.

Besides warmth of color and grace of form, the Moorish architects worked for durability. The aqueducts they built still bring an abundant supply of water from the mountains to fill those baths, fountains, and marble-bordered ponds for which the courts and gardens of Alhambra are famous. In spite of earthquakes the columns and arches have

nearly all held their place and their perfect form. The palace that Charles V built there in a vain effort to rival the Moorish masterpieces, and for which he made room by removing part of the Alhambra palace, stands today an uncompleted and roofless ruin; while the much older Alhambra is still clothed in a glory of bright, fresh color.

The Alhambra is not one building, but a collection of buildings on a high plateau. Long before the erection of the great palace the hill-top was surrounded by a wall with many towers for defense, and the Alcazaba, the first palace built on the Alhambra hill, was used as a residence by the early kings of Granada. Older than all, the "Vermillion Towers" stand on a neighboring hill, some distance outside the now ruined Alhambra wall.

The Palace of Alhambra is said to have been started by Mohammed; but the foundations were probably laid by Calif Al Hamar, who is also distinguished for having begun to pay a yearly tribute to the kings of Castile. The construction went on during several reigns and was completed by Yusuf with the building of the Gate of Justice in 1348. All the later kings of Granada lived in it until 1492, when the Moorish power fell before Ferdinand and Isabella, and Boabdil was banished forever from the home of his fathers.

THE NEWS OF NORTH BEND

NEED NEW SCHOOL

North Bend Building Filled and More Rooms Needed.

Supt. A. G. Raab of the North Bend public schools was in Marshfield yesterday on business. He reports that the North Bend school buildings are now overtaxed, the increase in attendance this year exceeding the capacity of the additional rooms. Two new teachers, Miss Golden and Mrs. Irish, started yesterday and there is another room that should be divided if they had a place in either building for it.

North Bend is now up against the problem of erecting a new school house to take care of future growth. Mr. Raab said that the old Central building is the center of population and if a new building is erected, it should be near it.

NORTH BEND NOTES.

Bert A. Wilson of Ontario is a guest at the Palace hotel.

Among the arrivals at the Hotel Oregon are C. A. Thomson and F. Nylander.

Tom Sawyer of the Lakeside Auto service was a visitor at Lakeside yesterday.

Mrs. L. F. Falkenstein will entertain the Presbyterian Ladies' Aid at her home Thursday afternoon.

In William Burmister, a brother of Dr. Burmister, the High School has another addition to its junior class.

The students of the North Bend High have regained possession of the old gymnasium which has been used by Perham & Gidley as a storehouse.

City Recorder A. H. Derbysaire will leave for Portland next Friday or Saturday to attend the Oregon Knights of Pythias Grand Lodge. He will remain in Portland for a week or ten days.

Ross Hagerty, of Chicago, has been at North Bend in search of a location in order that he may establish in business here. Mr. Hagerty is very well pleased with North Bend and Coos Bay.

Miss Marguerite Simpson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Simpson, underwent an operation in San Francisco last week and is reported getting along nicely. Mrs. Simpson took her daughter to consult specialists about her eyes, and it was found necessary to operate.

An interesting address was delivered to the students of the North Bend High School by H. M. Crooks, President of Albany College, at Albany, Oregon. The subject of President Crook's address was "Growth," and the professor, being a

TWO CHILDREN DEAD.

Teething Causes Death of Daughter of J. H. Peugh.

Annie Alice Peugh, the three-months' old daughter of J. H. Peugh, of Bay Park, died at Mercy Hospital of convulsions caused by teething. The funeral was held Sunday.

The infant daughter of Frank Demarest, of Cooson, died Saturday of infantile trouble and was buried Sunday. Both funerals were from the G. W. Dungan undertaking parlors.

A young man is eminently fitted to talk on this subject. In opening his address, Professor Crooks dwelt on the nations of antiquity, their means of progress, how they achieved distinction, and finally of their retrogression and the cause of their downfall. He then compared former ages to our own, pointing out the difference in custom and method. President Crooks possesses that remarkable style of address that fills the youth with that ambition which is one of the absolute requisites of success, and his talk is one that will be remembered by the students for a long while to come. He said in conclusion that in order to grow one must not be hampered by any of the retarding or objectionable features to the development of the young people today.

The Cleaning Question

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