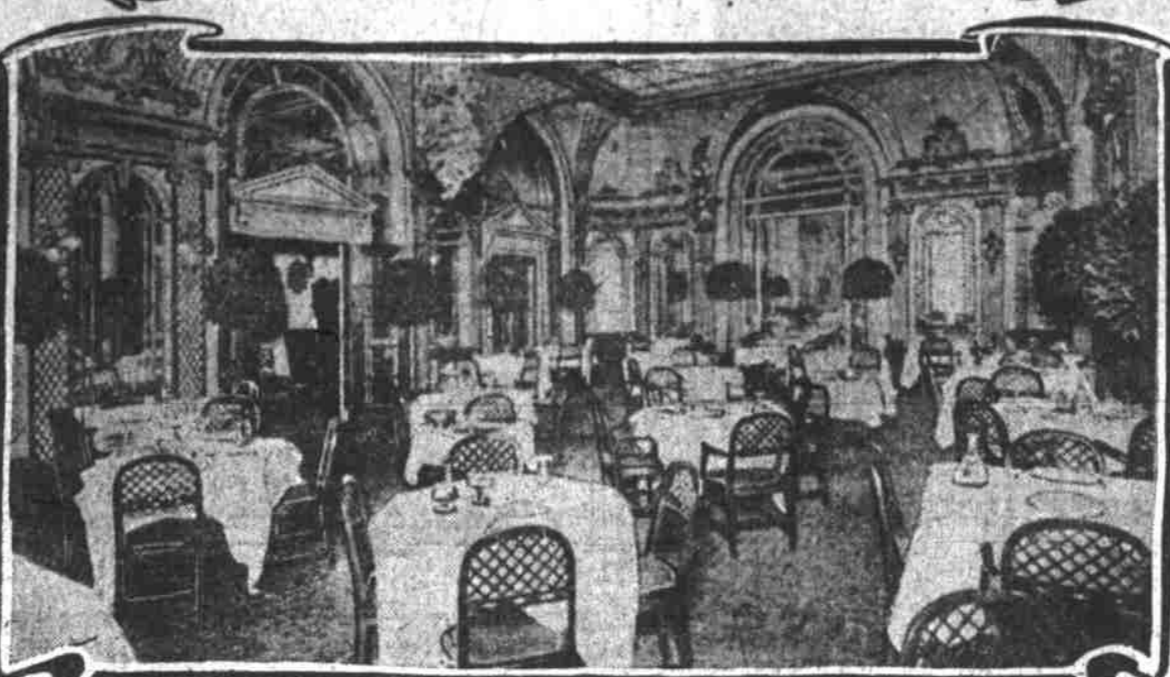


PORTLAND, OREGON, SUNDAY MORNING, SEPTEMBER 20, 1903

WILL THE HOTEL BANISH THE CITY HOME?

Unparalleled Growth of Luxurious Hostelries Makes America Unique Among Nations



Public Restaurants on a Magnificent Scale



THE western multi-billionaire had completed arrangements to move East.

"But I am undecided as to where we ought to live, dear," he said, over his breakfast one day. His wife, a pleasant little woman in brown, viewed the change with some concern.

"It's terribly expensive to build," she said; "and now that you are going to settle down—well, you see, we wish to enjoy all the luxuries."

"Yes," he replied, munching a choice bit of cured ham. "I'm giving up work and I'm going to live easy. And we're going to be real swell. We've made quite a little pile out here in the wilderness, and now we're going to settle down and live as we should, like a king and queen—eh, little one?"

So they journeyed East—and lived in a hotel. This was not remarkable; the number of hotel residents in America, from New York to New Mexico, from Maine to California, is increasing every year. The hotel habit is one of the most wonderful products of recent years. America is becoming a nation of hotels.

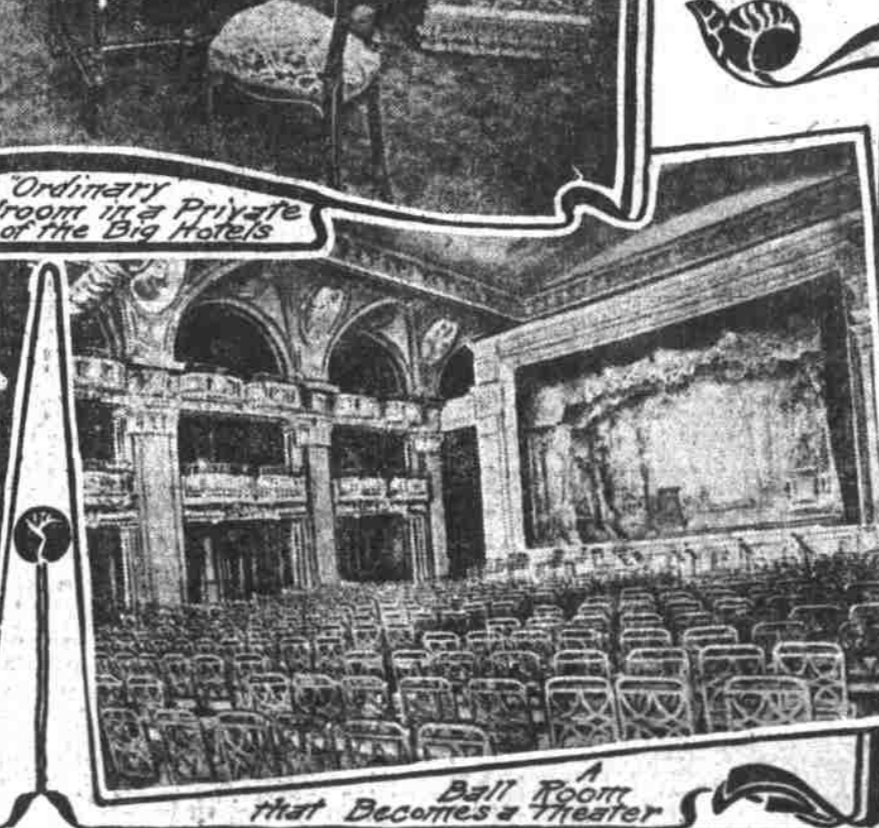
And is it remarkable that it should be so? Imagine the cost of having in your private residence such innovation: as you enjoy in the swell hotels! Pneumatic mailing tubes in every suite, automatic dish removers, aerial dining rooms, cold storage for the women's furs, electrically heated chafing dishes, dark rooms for the kodak fiends, long-distance telephones in every



An Ordinary Double Bedroom in a Private Suite of one of the Big Hotels



An Army of Chefs to Tackle Every Palate



A Ball Room that Becomes a Theater

suite, heated electric dumb-waiters, pneumatic tubes to the hotel kitchen, automatic thermostats to regulate the temperature to your comfort, open fireplaces for wood, silver-lined kitchen utensils, cold-air registers to cool the rooms in summer, perfumed water for bathing, filtered air freed of dust and microbes, gold dishes, and every want looked after as if by intuition!

Is it any wonder America is becoming a nation of hotels?

And inconveniences are obviated which are bound to turn up, even in such well-regulated homes as those of the Morgans, Rockefellers and Carnegies.

It is doubtful if Solomon's palace offered such a scene as that presented when 1000 electric bulbs, at a turn of a button, flash dazzlingly in the marvelous hall of Numidian marble in a well-known New York hotel; it is hardly possible that Louis XIV, in all his elegance, saw such splendors as the gobelin-hung chambers in another, where there is a \$10,000 bed. Even the Caesars, could they be resurrected, would undoubtedly gasp with astonishment at the sight of a hotel kitchen, fifty feet beneath a street, where seventy-five cooks, working in relays over stoves whose fires never are extinguished, prepare offerings to the great god Appetite.

The modern hotel marks the climax of human comfort and luxury. A month or so ago, at a meeting of the Gordon Hotels Company, in London, the Earl

of Bessborough became lachrymose when he viewed the hotel situation in England. The number of residents was falling off, hotels were losing money, and the increasing number tended to make competition so keen as to eliminate all profit. The consumption of wine and food had fallen off—within the last ten years the receipts for wine have decreased 50 per cent.

If England presents this face of the medal, America can show the other. Never in the history of the country has hotel trade experienced such a boom. Each year new hotels go up, and each year one finds people scrambling for accommodations. Hotels are no sooner opened than they are filled.

Comparing the best hotels of Europe with those of this country, one is struck by their inferiority. About ten or twelve hotels in London are recommended by guidebooks as "first class." It is asserted not one equals the best of the "second-class" hotels in New York. Of more than 450 large hotels in the American metropolis, about 100 are first class, judged by the highest European standards.

New York has often been called a city of hotels. The estimated hotel population exceeds 150,000. America, by Europeans, is often called a nation of hotels. How many homes live in these three-to-ten-million-dollar homes it would be difficult to estimate. But the number is increasing year by year, and New York may be regarded as a gauge of the hotel business.

From the Atlantic to the Pacific, and from the boundaries of Canada to the Gulf of Mexico, one will find hotels offering conveniences novel, indeed, in the history of the world. Take the leading caravansaries in the various large cities, and in them you will find the apotheosis of

smith shop, tinsmith shop, plumbing shop, upholstering shop, barber shops, a fire department, a police force, a private detective bureau, a grocery warehouse, a hothouse, steam laundry, printing office.

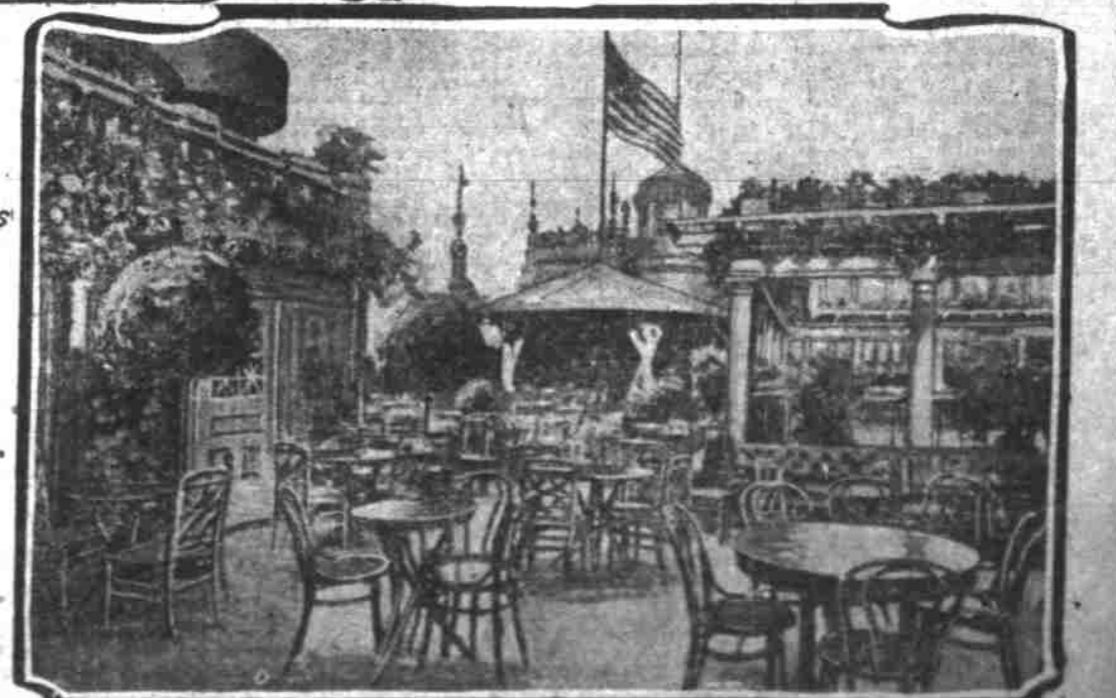
In the wine cellar are a half million dollars' worth of aged and aging wines; each year is spent \$50,000 for linen, \$57,000 for butter, \$12,000 for eggs, \$42,000 for fruit, \$80,000 for vegetables, \$113,000 for poultry, \$200,000 for meat and \$30,000 for flowers.

And the cost of the hotels! Corporations are behind them. In them are sunk many kings' ransoms. In New York city, the metropolis of hotelries, there are invested in the Plaza Hotel \$12,500,000; in the Belmont, \$9,000,000; in the Ansonia houses, \$4,000,000; in the Gotham and St. Regis, \$9,000,000; in the Knickerbocker, \$7,000,000; the Astor, \$6,000,000; the Breslin, \$3,000,000; the Seville, \$1,000,000, and the Mar-seille, \$1,000,000.

Within one year forty hotels were put up in Manhattan, at a cost of \$20,375,000; the following year the number increased to ninety, with an investment twice as large, exceeding \$40,000,000.

Talk of a booming business! And when it comes to elegance—the thought almost awes one. How European palaces are

Foot Gardens that Invite in Summer



American wealth, luxury, comfort and what not. The modern hotel is a town—nay, a city, a manufacturing industry, a theater, a restaurant—in itself. In one leading New York hotel are 750 bathrooms. Almost any time one can find housed there 1500 guests and nearly as many servants, while daily as many as 20,000 persons can be served in the dining hall.

There are in the hotel telephone and telegraph offices, a machine shop, an electric light plant, an ice plant, a blacksmith shop, silver-ransacked for treasures, how the world's precious collections in art are scrutinized, how rare tapestries, musty with legends and historic associations, are secured at fabulous prices for bedrooms, how the Orient undergoes a fine-tooth comb treatment in the search for carpets and tapestries and the heirlooms of Europe are sorted for the rarest specimens—all in a stay as wonderful, nay, more wonderful, than the building of the palaces overnight in the Arabian (CONTINUED ON INSIDE PAGE)