SCIENTIST TELLS HOW TO MAKE YOUR OWN JEWELS

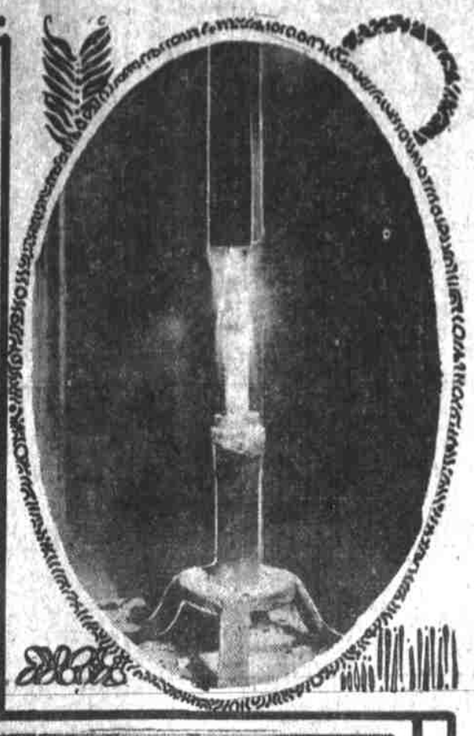
Louis Paris, Famous Parisian Savant, Has Succeeded in Manufacturing Artificial Sapphires Which Cannot Be Told From Natural Ones--Reveals Methods to French Academy of Science

By Leon Raymond.

PARIS, March 10.—Dealers in precious stones have been hard hit as a consequence of the announcement recently made by Louis Paris, one of France's most brilliant men of science, that he had been able to discover a method of making sapphires artificially. If possible the declaration has caused a greater stir in the jewelry trade than in the world of science.

There is no doubt of M. Paris's good faith in the matter. He is no second Lemoine with a secret receipt tucked away in a safety vault and an ever increasing string of debts trailing behind him. Paris has made his communication to the French Academy of Sciences, and strange as it may seem has disclosed the means he adopted to the public. So far as he is concerned he does not intend to profit directly to the extent of a single cent from his discovery. He has taken no patents out and does not intend to turn his discovery into a commercial reality. It is this very frankness, however, which has so upset the jewelry business. If the scientist had kept his secret locked in his breast or revealed it to but a few he might have been bought off, or his knowledge purchased by those in control of the precious stone business. It was just such a plan as that which was contemplated by Sir Julius Wernher in his dealings with Lemoine.

M. Paris has already produced a large number of sapphires—stones of splendid quality and of the rarest and most sought after colors, varying in weight from one eighth of a karat to five. The best experts of Paris and Berlin have been unable to detect the slightest difference between these stones and real gems of great value, so that when three of the manufactured stones of one, two and a half, and one and a quarter karats were laid beside three naturally produced sapphires of about the same weight, M. Meyer, one of the acknowledged experts of this city, had to admit that it was useless to try to select the real ones, for they were all real. This trial took place at the Pasteur institute in the presence of many of the leading lights of French science and commerce.



M. Paris, who made this discovery, although only 25 years old, has already, on three different occasions, made important communications to the Academy of Sciences, twice on the results obtained in the study of the poison of tuberculosis and now by the first real practical realization of the dreams of the thirteenth, fourteenth and fifteenth and sixteenth century philosophers and "sorcerers"—the manufacture of real jewels.

He lives in a cozy little apartment, rue de la Pitie, near the Jardin des Plantes. In personal appearance he is rather above the average height for a Frenchman with dark hair, small moustache and closely trimmed beard, while his eyes are those of a man of thoughtful disposition and deepest intelligence. In manner he is simple and cordial.

When asked about his discovery and how it came about, M. Paris laughingly said:

"It is a thing I started to work out while still in my teens. I was a student of chemistry. I have since graduated in that science, and now I have become interested in the poison of tuberculosis I am taking up that branch of the study of medicine and expect soon to receive my diploma. Well, to go back. The successive discoveries made in the production of rubies by artificial means interested me very intensely. You will remember it was as far back as the year 1824 when Ebelmen succeeded in making the first ruby. It was far too small to cut, but it was a real ruby in quality and created a great sensation at the time. A little later, I think it was in 1846 St. Claire Deville and Caron reproduced rubies in considerable quantities, but their results were not so satisfactory. The stones were only of the thickness of rose petals—far too thin to cut and therefore not practical.

"Feil and Godin obtained rubies by a different process, but with approximately the same result. It was all of 20 years ago that M. Fremy, a French chemist, and M. Verneuil, a noted surgeon and author of remarkable works on tuberculosis, produced rubies which, while not large enough to cut, could nevertheless be used in the jewelry trade as "cuttings" or "chips." Later small rubies were melted together to obtain larger ones with considerable success.

"My theory has been to crystallize oxide of aluminium (alumine) by the mineralizing influence of fleorhydrique acid. At our workshop at Boulogne-sur-Seine we have constructed a long row of heavy heat resisting boxes in which we enclose the "chalumeaux." A chalumeau is a metallic tube used for blowing on a flame which produces a very high temperature. The oxhydrique chalumeau flame can melt even platinum.

"I allow powdered oxide of aluminium to fall in small quantities upon this flame. As the alumine melts slowly in the flame it solidifies. On a little support it rises up little by little, and forms a sort of pear shape. When this pear is completed it breaks naturally in two in most cases, but if it does not do so when taken to the cutter, the small, thin end is scraped along the rough surface by a stone used for that purpose, and it immediately breaks in half and is ready for cutting. Now a sapphire and a ruby are produced in exactly the same manner to this extent. It is in the color that the difference lies. The introduction of the color demands precautionary attention, and I may say great skill. The adding of the cobalt, calx and magnesia must occur at exactly the right instant, or all is lost and the stones will either utterly lack transparency or will crumble into small pieces when cooled.

"You will see," continued M. Paris, "I have here a white sapphire of unusual brilliancy," showing a beautiful, radiant white stone of about two karats, that to the uninitiated resembles a most superb diamond. "No, it is not a diamond, it is a white sapphire," said M. Paris. "In nature they also exist and are not really so very rare. All that is needed to make a white sapphire is to omit from the process in which I have described the introducing of the colors, cobalt for the sapphire and a preparation of red for the ruby.

"I am now experimenting in my laboratory on the production of emeralds, and although I have obtained some fair results, yet I am not ready to begin work at the Pasteur institute before my colleagues, as the stones obtained still lack in transparency, and while possessing the emerald quality yet they are cloudy or poor emeralds, containing 'featherings' or cloud-like matter. I am continuing my experiments more as a pastime than as a serious work, for my chief interest is now concentrated on the study of tuberculosis."

M. Paris ended the interview by telling me of his resolve not to try to take advantage of his discovery of making rubies, sapphires or emeralds in a commercial way, and the fact that he made known his discovery of the full process of procedure to the Academy of Sciences proves him sincere. This decision, however, has not hindered a great falling off in the prices of all precious stones, except diamonds, in the last 10 days—and the jewelers all over the world who possess great quantities of sapphires and rubies are tremendously affected.

No. 1—Louis Paris, the French scientist. No. 2—Jewels while you wait. No. 3—Preparing the oxide of aluminum.

AMERICAN FUR INDUSTRY Will Be a Large Factor in Trade

(Copyright 1909 by Frederic J. Haskin.)

THOUGH the progress of civilization has decreased the number of fur bearing animals of America, sweeping them further back each year as the line of farm lands and grazing places advances, the trade is ever increasing, and the present value of the annual catch is from $15,000,000 to $20,000,000. This is not the only price that is annually paid for the luxury of furs. The demand for that commodity has set explorers toward new lands, has founded new nations, has precipitated wars and has caused the loss of lives enough to populate a good sized country. When men first came to the new world it was for gold and gems. Mexico and Peru offered these, but the country of the St. Lawrence did not. The Indians offered the newcomers furs for trinkets, and then began the greatest trade the world has known.

New types of persons were brought into existence in the new world by the new trade. The coureur des bois and the trapper became novel and valuable factors in history making. They pierced forests, defied death and danger in scores of forms, and passed unscathed through hostile lands. Down pathways they blazed, the nation has since spread. Over the river crossings they made bridges have been flung. Through the mountain passes they found railways have been laid. Among the Indians whom they bought to friendliness, a progressive nation has set up a civilization.

During the first 10 months of last year there were exported from the United States furs and fur skins to the value of over $6,775,000. One half went to the United Kingdom and the next largest number to Germany. Our export fur trade has averaged $4,500,000 a year for the past 18 years. In the ten-month period referred to the United States imported undressed furs and fur skins to the value of $8,000,000. One tenth of these came from British America by way of London, Paris, Berlin and Vienna. London is the world's greatest fur market, the auction houses alone handling $5,000,000 worth of trade a year.

The report of the National Conservation commission, now in the hands of the president, argues for the protection of fur bearing animals, and shows that the national forest reservations could afford considerable shelter for these, to the advantage of the forests, as certain of these animals prey on noxious insects.

The great demand for cheap furs has thrown a great number of small pelts on the market. The passing of the buffalo and the great decrease in the beaver, the sea otter and the seal have been regarded as national calamities, and yet the amount of money spent each year for skunk, musk rat and fox is far greater than was ever commanded by these furs. The beaver, once abundant in three fourths of the country, is now practically extinct in half of its old area, and where 225,000 beaver skins were exported from North America in 1870, in 1890 there were only 82,000. The latest census on skins shows that about 8000 are now taken every year, and their value approximates $40,000. In the late 70s and early 80s the annual catch of sea otters in Alaskan waters was 2000 or 4000 a year, and the value was $200 each at least. Now the catch is less than 400 a year and the fishing is done in stormy water.

Musk rat fur has been known to the trade for three quarters of a century. Over 5,000,000 skins are taken annually in the United States, and the value totals considerably over $1,000,000. Millions are taken from the swamps of New Jersey and Delaware, and Canada does twice as big a business as these two states. The skins are not only used for linings for coats, but are used as imitations of marten and mink, and have the value of more lasting qualities than the real furs.

Skunks were unnoticed as fur bearing animals before 1851. In that year the Hudson Bay company offered about 1500 for sale, and for the next 20 years the annual sales amounted to 10,000 skins. Now the number approximates 1,500,000. Skunk farms have sprung up in the middle west, and are doing a profitable business. The grease under the skins of the skunks is utilized in soap manufacture, and the skins are deodorized in mahogany sawdust. Over 600,000 skins come from Michigan, Wisconsin and Ohio alone every year. This is one of the animals protected by Michigan's very good laws which provide a close season for marten, mink, raccoon, skunk and musk rat, and prohibit the taking of beaver until December 31, 1910.

The fox furs run the scale of prices from $1 for the gray $5 for the red, $15 for the crossed up through varying grades to the $250 to $750 for pure silver fox. Silver fox farming has become an industry in Maine and the Canadian maritime provinces. A wide area of the northern and western states is suited to fox farming, if the industry should become more popular. Blue foxes are being successfully bred on the government reservations on the Pribylov islands.

Great slaughter has invariably marked the introduction of a new fur on the market. Between the years 1871 and 1874 between 4,000,000 and 4,500,000 buffalo were killed. In 1787, the year after Pribylov discovered the breeding ground of seals on St. George and St. Paul islands, 500,000 seals were taken. In the first 20 years of American ownership 100,000 a year were taken, and the value of the pelts taken in Alaskan waters and Russian American from 1745 to 1850 was over $92,000,000.

The seal herd now numbers 180,000 and these, by terms of the Behring Sea arbitration of 1893, are protected by a close season which begins May 1 and ends June 31, every year, and is observed in both the northern Pacific and Behring sea. Even then many thousand young pups die annually of starvation, the mothers often being killed on their way to the feeding grounds, many miles away.

The islands that Pribylov discovered have been set aside since the purchase of Alaska as a place of revenue for the government and are under the department of commerce and labor. They are leased to sealing companies for long terms at a certain rental and an additional tax per skin, the number taken being limited. At first 100,000 skins a year were taken, but the decrease in numbers being so great, only about 24,000 are now taken.

It is good for the fur bearing animal and for the fur trader that fashion decrees changes in the styles of furs. This year there may be a demand for fox fur and every available piece is placed on the market, while every hunter and trapper is put on his mettle to get more because every trader is offering top prices. The fad may last two or three seasons, and meanwhile the other fur bearing animals are practically unmolested and are allowed to increase. Then some woman of fashion may some day order a set of mink or seal or otter, and then, like a weathercock, the world swings around again, the fox furs lie neglected in cold storage and hunter, trapper and factor are sent hotfoot after the latest craze.

The history of American fur trade is the history of a great part of the nation. The Dutch traded for furs on the Hudson in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. The great Hudson Bay company with its significant motto, "Skin for skin," came into existence in Canada in 1670 by royal charter from Charles II. Two French coureurs des bois laid the plan before him, having traveled from Quebec by way of Boston to England, and having suffered great hardships and captivity at the hands of the Dutch while on the way. The influence of that company is one of the most potent of any kind that the North American continent has known. Long after the independence of the United States the power of the company held sway over the Indian trapper as far south as the Ohio valley, and was a powerful influence in holding allies in the war of 1812, so strong was the brotherhood of the trapper with the institution that gave him livelihood.

St. Louis as far back as 1763 was the heart of the fur trade of the west, and held that place for a century, despite the growth of Astoria on the Pacific slope and the line of posts built across the continent by John Jacob Astor to facilitate his trade with occident and orient. When the territory of Louisiana was purchased, no one knew what to do with the vast, unknown, untried land. The riches of its mountains had not even been dreamed of, and there were not enough farmer folk to send across the river to people the other side. So only the fur traffic in the great, unknown woods offered itself as a compensation. The Chouteaus of St. Louis were the great promoters of fur trading in its best days. They headed one of the big westward working companies. Trappers were sent to the Pacific coast, and so great were the dangers and privations suffered in those days, that 40 out of every 100 men sent out perished on the trip.

The largest fur market in the western hemisphere is Edmonton, the capital of Alberta, the farthermost north point to be reached by continental railway in North America. To this point are brought furs from far inland. Half-breed traders and trappers press into the far frozen north to get the pelts from Indians who never come to the factors' house and who rarely see the trader, leaving cached for him the skins that he has secured through great danger and privation. Year in and year out these trappers never leave their woods, and lead a storybook life as they pierce, winter by winter, into the land of the Crees, the Chippewas, Ojibways, Shoshones and Chinooks and even into the land of the Eskimo. The Indian hunter can stand the strain of the loneliness and the stillness of the woods but white men often become insane from the solitude—another price that civilization pays for its furs.

MAKING A GARDEN OF EDEN FOR GAME

Continued From the First Page of This Section

than 25 men appealed to Dr. Hornaday himself for instructions as to the best way to get their guns into action; and do and say all he could, at least a couple of them did reach the ground and took their toll of victims.

Most fortunately for their magnanimous campaign, neither Mr. Phillips nor Mr. Hornaday was a Canadian. As men whose motives were unimpeachable, they were above all the suspicions which commonly attach self interest to many enterprises wholly disinterested. Their hands were strengthened by editorial articles which, during their campaign, appeared in British publications.

After more than a year of education of the public and of infinite tact in handling the rivalries that had fastened on the movement, like so many poison ivies, they brought it to the stage where Premier McBride of British Columbia was convinced of the general desire that a reserve should be established. He referred the entire subject to A. Bryan Williams, the provincial game warden, who last year made two laborious tours through the East Kootenay region, from Fernie to the White river country.

On November 15 the executive order was issued, defining the boundaries of an area to remain closed to all hunting for 10 years. The southern quarter of the Phillips-Hornaday territory was later excluded, but an important elk and deer region in the northwest was added from the White river country. All of the best goat and sheep ground, and, incidentally, the finest mountain scenery, is reserved. Its southern line is 63 miles north of the American line, and its eastern boundary, the Elk river, is 15 miles from the western boundary of Alberta, on the summit of the continental divide.

The total area thus converted into an absolute game preserve is about 450 square miles. It includes about three fourths of the Goat Mountain Park originally proposed by Messrs. Phillips and Hornaday, with the elk and deer breeding grounds added in the northwest.

No more reliable resume of the value of this newly made Eden can be given than the words of Dr. Hornaday when he says:

"It is reasonably certain that in the whole of the grand mountain regions of southern British Columbia there can be found no equal area which is at once so finely equipped with picturesque mountain and valley scenery and so richly stocked with grand game. It is undoubtedly the center of abundance of the White mountain goat, the number of which is estimated by competent sportsmen and guides at about 1000 head.

"Of mountain sheep there is also an abundant stock, a conservative estimate placing the total at not fewer than 200 head.

"Grizzly bears are numerous in the higher ranges, and it is safe to estimate the total number at from 40 to 50 individuals. Elk are yet scarce, and so are mule deer, both species having been shot out almost to the point of extermination before the existing elk-protection law was enacted.

"It is now quite certain that from this time all the large game species of the protected area will steadily and rapidly increase. Besides providing for the preservation of the picturesque goat and the lordly sheep—both of them species that are easily exterminated unless protected—the overflow of wild life from the new reservoir will perpetually stock the surrounding territory.

"The scenery of this magnificent reserve is of such splendor as to promise fair rivalry with our own Yellowstone, lacking in geysers though the Kootenay district is. Where, until last autumn, its magnificent vistas echoed murderous gunshots, the near future will see it visited by a reformed species of man, his merciless destructiveness eliminated, and the denizens of the wild growing to know him as friend instead of ruthless foe.

Like the pages of some beautifully illustrated natural history of geology, zoology and botany combined are the mountain sides. Nature is busily at work in her own workshop, remodeling her peaks and altering her valleys, filtering her limpid streams and cherishing her nurseries and young forests of spruce, balsam, juniper, larch and aspen. The "slide-ways" are sources of ceaseless wonder; and no two mountain sides are alike. As one stands on the top of Bird mountain, for example, the cyclorama that stretches around for miles is enough to inspire any man with the longing to see that noble country preserved forever from the ax as well as the gun.

They are the only enemies of that incomparable wild, for in these mountains there is neither coal nor precious metals to tempt man to scar the impressive slopes with prospect hole and mine. The only dump in that region is the dump put there by the hand of nature.

High up on the northern side of Roth mountain a glistening glacier beckons to the venturesome climber who loves Alpine dangers. On the lofty divide above Lake Josephine—glowing like liquid sapphire on the bosom of that swelling height—the visitor seems to stand upon the very roof of the world.

These are the scenes of beauty, with the greater animals of the continent as their inhabitants, which two Americans have been chivalrous enough to preserve to the people of British Columbia, and, too, to the people of the United States.

But if man can, for a moment, wrench his selfish eye away from contemplation of his own interests and put himself in the place of the rest of that creation over which dominion has been given to his habitual tyranny, this is the time when he can feel some vicarious pleasure and pride in the happiness of the primal Eden he has restored to the beasts, now so helpless before his all conquering mind.

Much Work With Little Shouting.

From the New York Globe.

Seldom, perhaps never, has this government possessed a secretary of state who in an equal space of time has accomplished as much with as little personal ado about it as has the retiring secretary. For this reason, because there has been little of "tumult and the shouting" which so frequently attend the high emprise in politics, whether it be national or international, it is likely that Secretary Root's work will be appreciated much less by his contemporaries than by their successors of, say, half a generation hence.

PORTOLA'S DISCOVERY OF SAN FRANCISCO BAY

IN 1768, Don Jose de Calvez, visitador general of Spain, at the request of Don Carlos Francisco de Croix, viceroy of New Spain, organized in Lower California an expedition for the occupation and fortification of the ports of Monterey and San Diego. The expedition was divided into two water and two land divisions, and command given to Don Caspar de Portola, captain of dragoons of the regiment of Spain, who was appointed political and military governor of the Californias. The four divisions were to rendezvous at San Diego bay. Don Fernando Javier Rivera y Moncada captain of the Presidio of Loreto was appointed second in command and Don Pedro Fages, lieutenant of the Compania Franca of Catelonia, chief of the sea forces, and Gofe do las Armas of the expedition. Don Miguel Costanzo, ensign of royal engineers, was appointed cosmographer, and Don Pedro Prat, physician of the expedition. The sea expedition started first, the San Carlos sailing from La Paz, January 9, 1769, and the San Antonio, February 15. The first division of the land expedition started from Velicata March 24, under command of Rivera, and the second division under Portola, followed May 15. With the second land division was Junipero Serra, who had been appointed president of the missions to be established in Alta, Cal. Both ships arrived in San Diego bay in April, with many of the company sick with scurvy, of which some died. The first land division arrived May 14, and the second June 29.

Only July 14 Portola began the march from Monterey. The little expedition under Portola slowly worked its way up the valley skirting the ocean, always on the lookout for Monterey bay. It was following Vizcaino's description, and on October 31, 1869, from the summit of the Montara mountains Point Reyes was first seen, and what was later known as the Gulf of the Farallones—the great bight between Point San Pedro and Point Reyes. Recognizing this from the description of Vizcaino and the coast pilot of Carrera Bueno, they realized that they had passed the port of Monterey, and determined to explore the port of San Francisco as they termed the Gulf of the Farallones and Drakes bay. With this in view they descended the mountains and camped in the San Pedro valley which they called the Vallecito de la Punta de las Almijas del Angel de la Guarda (The Little Valley of the Mussels of the Angle of the Guard.) From here Portola dispatched scouts giving them three days to reach Point Reyes and return while the command remained in camp in San Pedro valley. The explorers returned on the night of November 3, with the information that they understood from the Indians that in a port near was a vessel which must be the much needed supply ship.

On the afternoon of the 4th the march was resumed, passing over the mountains on their right into the Canada de San Andres (what are now the Spring Valley Water's company's sheds). From the summit of these mountains they saw the bay of San Francisco.

The following extracts from the diary of Costanzo give a fair idea of the journey of the little pioneer expedition.

Wednesday, November 1, 1769—There were some who persuaded themselves that we had left the Port of Monterey behind, but did not wish to believe that we were at the Port of San Francisco. Our commandant ordered the explorers to examine the country to a certain distance, allowing them three days for such examination, hoping that during that time such information might be acquired as would relieve the incredulous from all doubt and perplexity.

From the inside of the beach of the southern shore of the bay, the Farallones bore west a quarter southwest, Point Reyes west 16 degrees northwest and some white cliffs further inland northwest a quarter west.

Thursday, November 2—Several soldiers asked permission to go a hunting, having seen many deer, some of them advanced a considerable distance from the camp, ascending the hills, and did not return until after nightfall. These soldiers said that to the north of the bay they had seen an immense arm of the sea or estero, which ran inland towards the southeast as far as the eye could reach; that they had seen some beautiful level spots adorned with variegated wooded growths, and that the quantity of smoke they observed all over the plains showed that the place was well populated by a rancheria of Indians.

This information more and more confirmed us in the opinion that we were at the Port of San Francisco, and that this was the estero mentioned by the pilot Cabrera Buenos, the mouth of which we had seen in descending to the bay between some cliffs with relation to which the said pilot uses the following language in his sea log:

"By the middle Barranca enters an estero of salt water without any obstructions whatever, on entering which friendly Indians were found and wood and water were easily obtained."

From this information we conjectured that the explorers could not have reached the opposite shore of the bay, nor were three days' time sufficient for them to go around the head of an estero of such great extent as that described by the hunters.

Friday, November 3—During the night the explorers returned to the camp discharging their firearms as they approached, which so much excited our curiosity and expectation that we met them on the road asking questions and receiving their answers.

The cause of their rejoicing was that they inferred from what they had learned by equivocal sign made by the Indians that at a distance of two days' journey from the place of which they had arrived there was a port in which a ship was anchored.

On this simple supposition there were some who believed that we were already at the port of Monterey, and had no doubt that the paquebot San Joseph was there awaiting our arrival.

Saturday, November 4—We commenced our march in search of the port, traveling along the southern beach (of the bay) of San Francisco until taking the mountains in a northeast direction from the summit of which we beheld the magnificent estero which made a turn and ran to the southeast. Having this estero on our left and turning our backs to the bay we traveled to the southeast, stopping in a canada at sunset, having traveled two leagues.

Paw in Swallowtails.

When paw puts on his swallowtails
He starts in good an' ready
From half past four till six o'clock
He holds the job down steady.

First off, he goes and scrubs hisself
An' leaves most all the dirt on,
An' then he thinks he may catch cold,
An' puts a prickly shirt on.

An' then he shaves an' cuts his jaw
You outer hear him holler.
Ma glues him up with plaster quick
While paw gets on his collar.

He thinks the baby ate his studs
An' wants his sleeves made shorter,
He busts a dozen buttons off
An' swears more than he orter.

Ma sez, when on the judgment day
We get up spick and spandy
That paw had better lay his plans
To have a barrel handy.

'Cause if he tried to dress hisself
'Twould be the same old story;
Ma thinks the kind of words he sez
Would bust his chance for glory.

—McLandburgh Wilson in N. Y. Times.

A Possibility.

When war clouds shall be seen no more,
When suffragettes may vote at will,
When no dad needs to walk the floor
To keep his teething offspring still,
When men who toil are glad to know
That they earn more than they receive,
When gossips, flitting to and fro,
Say nothing we may not believe,
When no man shall attempt to take
Advantage of his fellow man,
When meat trusts shall, for mercy's sake,
Sell meat as cheaply as they can;
When publishers shall eagerly
Bid for the poet's latest songs,
When rulers everywhere shall be
Held blameless for their people's wrongs;
When these things all shall come to pass,
When men have safely learned to fly,
When no class hates another class
And it is ne'er too wet or dry—
Then grouchy men and wives may avoid
May learn that nagging day by day
Helps little when one longs to hold
The love that frets to get away.

—Chicago Record-Herald.

GENERAL NEAL DOW AND HIS ACCOMPLISHMENTS

"Grand Old Man" Led Battle for Prohibition--Stalwart Soldier *and* Reformer

By Lucia Faxon Additon.

THE world forces are working for "Righteousness that exalteth a nation," and observed yesterday the anniversary of the "Grand old man of prohibition."

At dawn of the 19th century a child grasped the white ribbon of his life in his feeble right hand, and with the left, slowly, from day to day unrolled the spotless scrawl of ninety three years and today from dawn to twilight across the century, is emblazoned the pure, clean life of the man the temperance forces everywhere, honor—Neal Dow—fittingly called the "Father of Prohibitory Reform." And today, as our minds again turn to the study of his great and good life, it is fitting that we pause to study some of the notable facts we find, for his was more than an ordinarily good life, a life of the purest patriotism, love of country and that realized not only the fatherhood of God as its keystone, but the brotherhood of man as its working activity. The poet said:

"Lives of great men oft remind us
We can make our lives sublime."

And only through the lessons of life can we get the full and deepest significance of the life he lived.

Man of Convictions.

Neal Dow was a man of strong convictions, inflexible when decision was necessary but always without animosity. Even in his advanced years his zeal was unabated.

Neal Dow was born of Quaker parents, March 20, 1804 and died October 2, 1897, after one week's illness. Like Washington he served his fellowmen without reward. As a citizen he was valued; his record as a student was good. He was fond of athletic sports. His first temperance speech was made when a mere boy to a fire engine company; the occasion being preparation for a big party at which liquor was to be served.

His First Victory.

Neal Dow spoke so convincingly, that the liquor was not served, so he won from the first. He had a great thirst for knowledge, and desired to go to college, but his parents opposed it. Neither was he allowed to enter the legal profession, as his inclination led him. His father expected him to follow his trade, that of a tanner. But his studies went right on, through the medium of books; course after course of reading was taken up. He became a fine linguist and accumulated one of the finest libraries in the country.

Interesting Library.

His library was by all odds the most interesting room in the old Dow mansion, which has stood on Congress street, Portland, Maine, nigh on to 100 years. His collection of scrap books contain everything pertaining to his great work and history of the cause and in them can be found souvenirs, handbills, invitations, autograph letters from some of the world's greatest celebrities, photographs, hotel bills, programs, menu, newspaper clippings relating to himself, editorial communications which he answered through the columns of the papers; he was a director in a Portland bank, and was counted solid and reliable.

When the civil war broke out, and the call came for volunteers, he offered his services to the governor of Maine, raised a regiment and was ordered to the Gulf department. At Ship island he was promoted from colonel to brigadier general.

Served in Civil War.

General Dow was in charge of the forts below New Orleans, and at the battle of Port Hudson was wounded twice. His division commander, General Sherman complimented him upon the charge of his brigade.

A thrilling story is told of General Dow that led him out so distinctly as a reformer.

Story of Dow.

Here is the story:

There was a certain Portland citizen who occupied a government position and who was addicted to periodical intemperance. One evening his wife came to the young Neal Dow, who was even then a power in temperance circles, and told him that her husband was at a certain saloon, and that if he was absent from his duty on the morrow he would surely lose his position. Would Mr. Dow go after him and try to induce the rumseller not to sell him any more liquor? Mr. Dow found him in the saloon and said to the proprietor, "I wish you would sell no more liquor to Mr. B."

"Why Mr. Dow," said he, "I must supply my customers."

"But," was the reply, "this gentleman has a large family to support. If he goes to his office drunk tomorrow, he will lose his place. I wish you would sell him no more." The rumseller became angry at this and said that he, too, had a family to support, that he had a license to sell liquor, and he proposed to do it, and that when he wanted advice he would ask for it. "So you have a license to sell liquor?" said Mr. Dow, "and you support your family by impoverishing others. With God's help, I'll change all this." He went home fully determined to devote his life to suppressing the liquor traffic. "The Maine law," says he, "originated in that rumshop."

In 1851 Neal Dow was elected mayor of Portland by a larger majority than ever given to a mayoralty candidate, and for the sixth time appeared before the legislature with a prohibitory bill of his own, which passed the house by a vote of 86 to 40 and the senate by 18 to 10.

The Maine law was repealed in 1856 but Neal Dow rallied the people and it was reenacted in 1857 with increased restrictions and penalties. His great weapon of warfare was "printers' ink," sowing the state knee deep with temperance facts. Having himself an ideal home, he desired to promote home-keeping and he saw in the liquor evil he had arrayed himself against, one of the worst enemies of the home.

Wife of General Dow.

This sketch would be incomplete without mention of his life partner. In 1836 he married Maria Cornelia Maynard of Boston, who was the very best of helpmates to him. The intercourse of these kindred souls was as close as possible through 53 years. Mrs. Dow died in 1881; she was of a literary taste, charitable in thought and purse and entered heartily into all Neal Dow's plans for the protection of the American homes. Cornelia Dow, their daughter, espoused the cause of the father, and gave many years of her life in helping him on every possible occasion.

Noble Character.

Yes, a notable character was Neal Dow. Friend of widow and orphan, orator, battlescarred veteran, a righteous mayor, humaritarian, a disciple of Christ; all these, and a well rounded out span of 93 years, not a spot upon the escutcheon of his grand aggressive, noble life. He never once looked back or took his hand from the plow after he had struck the furrow. In youth swinging out the banner of freedom and justice, through storms of the bitterest opposition, he carried it forward.

Like Washington he served his country without pay. But I will not make that a boast for him, for I believe there is not a man of us but would do this. General Dow was as gentle as Lincoln, as persistent as Grant; as clean as Robert Lee; a praying laborer; a Quaker with a gun, and every inch a man. Upon the threshold of his political life he met the truth and espoused her cause. This is the foundation of his fame: "He wedded truth."

Glorious Neal Dow.
Thy monuments in Maine are empty jails,
Thy laurels, laws observed and unrepealed;
Thy medals, grateful hearts of men redeemed;
Thy friends, the friends of all the human race.
And nations shout they name across the deep.

May this noble example of an eventful life be to us an ever inspiring factor to lead us to higher, purer paths of doing and being.