

American Capital Rushes Toward Legendary Et Dorado of Early Days

DUTCH SURINAM IS MARKED OUT

Sir Walter Raleigh's Sixteenth Century Search Still Pursued

American capital is rushing toward the legendary Et Dorado which the Spanish gallants and Sir Walter Raleigh sought in the sixteenth century in South America and has a far better chance of reaping fortunes than did the adventurers of the 1500's. The geographical Et Dorado was in what is now the Dutch colony of Surinam, on the north coast of South America, and to that less romantic land American capital rushes now to mine gold and bauxite and to develop large areas for the growth of sugar cane and sea island cotton.

Surinam, sometimes called Dutch Guiana, has a romantic history. The Dutch have been praised for their sagacity for centuries because they bought Manhattan Island from the Indians for about \$24, but it is a little remembered historical fact that they turned around in 1667 and traded off Manhattan Island for Surinam, then a somewhat more obscure colony than it is today. Its area is 84,000 square miles of tropical jungle and its population is hardly more than 100,000, of whom only a few hundred are white.

In the days when the Dutch made their great mistakes in dealing in real estate—somewhat under pressure by England, it must be admitted—Surinam was known as a golden land of dreams, where even the Indians were said to wear armor of solid gold when they went to battle. For centuries a moderately large amount of gold has been mined every year in Surinam, but the work has been carried on by individuals and not by any large groups of capital. Now the Dutch there talk of the possibility of a "Klondike" in the tropical jungles to which gold seekers shall rush from the ends of the earth, and of this possibility a traveler, John W. Vandercook, writes in the March issue of the World's Work magazine under the title "A Klondike in the Tropics."

Looking for the Mother Lode. "Promoters are dreaming now of finding some mother lode back in the impenetrable jungle," writes Mr. Vandercook, "and recently a geologist spent six months in the interior hunting for that mother lode which is expected will be the 'mountain of gold' of the legend. It has been suggested that this legendary lode, if found, might be reached by airplanes from Paramaribo; it is assumed that the 'mountain' is about three hundred miles away, in the Tumucumaque Mountains, on the border between Surinam and Brazil.

"The authorities and the few white residents of Surinam are of two minds in their opinions of this visionary project for the exploring or the proving of the legend which has beset this Et Dorado for centuries. The Compagnie des Mines d'Or de la Guyane Hollandaise has sought Surinam's gold for years, but with ever-lessening ardor, and the possibility of the arrival of new capital is considered with mingled emotions in Surinam. The residents are quietly but enormously excited, but, being cautious Hollanders, they are equally alarmed by the thought that Surinam might be the tramping ground of another 'gold rush,' one of those vast adventures which destroys as it creates.

"A rush to a tropical Klondike would be filled with suffering and death; the trackless jungles are full of miasmas and disease, and let the imagination picture the scenes that might be enacted around the treacherous sand bars on the jungle rivers when hordes of men, far from the restraints of law, battled for the right to pan the gravel washed down from the mountains.

"Gold is one feature of the wealth of Surinam. But Et Dorado is being sought in another way by a group of American business men headed by S. W. Lockhart, of New York. They have organized a company in New York and in Surinam to exploit a 2,000,000-acre concession for the cultivation of Sea Island cotton, one of the rarest crops in the textile industry. The concern formed in America is known as the American Dutch-Guianan Cotton Corporation, and the same group has incorporated under the laws of Surinam as the Surinaamse Katoen Landbouw en Handel Maatschappij—in plain English, the Surinam Cotton Growing and Trading Company.

Sea Island Cotton. "Sea Island cotton has been described as the 'cotton that silk shirts are made of.' It is a long-staple, beautiful plant that has for many years been considered the best product of the finest cotton plantations. In former years the southeastern United States held a practically monopoly on its production; but the boll weevil changed all that. American fields yielded 117,559 bales of Sea Is-

land cotton in 1916 and none in 1924, though the demand has steadily increased. "The Surinam venture is an attempt to come to the rescue. Extensive experiments conducted by the American concern in cooperation with the Dutch government have brought out certain truths. "Two crops of the staple can be reaped each twelvemonth; the number of cotton bolls per plant at each reaping are from five to six times greater than the best yield ever achieved in the United States; and, what is still more to the point, the boll weevil is not indigenous to Surinam, and, even if it does appear, it can be exterminated immediately and cheaply by the simple expedient of flooding the cotton fields.

"Another commercial venture has lately been established in Surinam by Americans—the quarrying of bauxite deposits—a mineral in which the land of the colony appears to be singularly rich. Bauxite is the ore from which aluminum is derived, and, as many people know, the demand for it in recent years has grown rapidly.

New Bauxite Mines. "Many years ago prospectors sent out by American aluminum interests found the pinkish stone in Surinam and proved it to be bauxite of a particularly high grade, but not until 1922 did the American company—incorporated as the Surinaamse Bauxite Maatschappij—begin shipments of the crushed ore to the home mills in the United States. An incredible amount of labor preceded the first boatload. The regions in which the richest ore deposits have been found are, like every other location in Surinam, densely forested. Prospectors were sent out to ascertain if the ore caps—vast layers of bauxite that lie just below the surface of the earth—were thick enough and accessible enough to warrant mining. The work carried them across nearly impassable malarial swamps, up rapid-broken, un navigable streams, and over sun-scorched stretches of equatorial prairie.

"After the extent of the field had been determined, the American company built a town, populated it with eight hundred engineers and laborers, shipped a miniature railroad and mining and crushing machinery to the spot, and started work. At present banks of bauxite ore are being attacked at the rate of 100,000 English long tons per year—all of which is crushed to small lumps and lifted into steamers which tug convoys to the mines—more than a hundred miles up a deep, jungle-bordered river that drains one of the least populous and least known parts of Surinam."

per cent attendance of the troop. The Scout executive will accompany the party. (P. S. He will drive the truck.) The annual field meet which will be held at Corvallis on the 22nd of May will test every troop. Every Salem troop should make it a point to be present at Corvallis so that his troop may report 100 per cent attendance and it is only by doing this that your troop will make a good showing. The Corvallis troops are hot after the cup, and if the cup is to remain in Salem, the capital city scouts will have to strut their stuff. The program will be printed and distributed as soon as possible. However, it is now announced that there will be signalling, knotting, first aid, fire by friction, water boiling contests, wall scaling, etc. Your troop will do well by starting to work on some of these things at once.

Here's a slick game for an odd five minutes in any troop meeting. Let some patrol challenge another patrol to an "Eagle Eye" contest. Then draw a large chalk circle on the floor, blind fold all the scouts in both patrols and lead them all into the circle, thoroughly. Take one member of each patrol and send both of these scouts out of the room then have all remaining in the circle remove their blind folds. The scout who

first calls out the name of the missing one from the other patrol scores points for his patrol.

HEART-HOME PROBLEMS SEEN BY REAL WOMAN (Continued from page 1.) friends. He just spit in my face. Imagine a father doing such a thing to his own girl. I felt terrible and got so mad I told him he could just look for a housekeeper. Do you think I am doing a wise thing? I am getting to be a miserable wretch, this and pale. DESPERATE BLUE EYES. You must understand, D. B. E., that your mother's invalidism has put a strain upon your father which has made his temper short. However, this is not an excuse for his gross and uncalled for inconsideration. You are old enough to stand for yourself, and I think you should tell him that you do not intend to stand for such treatment. I think you should try if you can to stay at home and help your mother, but you should also demand the right to have your friends visit you and to go out occasionally. I think that when your father sees that he is likely to lose you, he will mend his ways.

Baker—Mother Lode Copper plans \$500,000 development program. Linn county has assessed valuation of \$30,013,000.

SCOUTS PLAN OVER NIGHT MOUNTAIN TRIP

(Continued from page 1.)

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Busy Readers.

(Continued from page 1.)

assisted by the prison officials and some Salem business men. More than four hours were spent in the inspection, visitors leaving with enthusiastic predictions for the future. Repeat of the motor vehicle certificate of title law enacted at the 1925 session of the legislature will be sought at the general election in November (through an initiative measure filed in the offices of the secretary of state.

Friday, March 19

Questions of dirt fills in certain parts of the city came into state prominence Friday night at an informal meeting of the council. Particularly was consternation voiced by the mayor, councilmen, street commissioner and city engineer against "the promiscuous dumping of dirt" near the south end of the South High street bridge, on the west side. An injunction, it was intimated, would be sought to halt additional dumping as a slide had threatened to dam the Mill stream.

At a meeting of the Salem Council of organizations of the Marion county child health demonstration, 18 organizations in the city were represented and reports were made by a number of chairmen. Fred D. Thielsen, president of the council, presided. Progress in child health education was reported.

Eastern parties are looking to the Salem district for the flax waste that comes from the scutching plant, it was learned, with the thought that the by-product could be used in the manufacture of paper string. Following the revelation investigation has been started to determine the practicability of the penitentiary adding this process which would aid additionally in making the prison self-supporting.

plants by selective breeding and crossing. By planting seeds and selecting for further breeding the plants which tend toward the variation he desires, he has directed evolution, bringing back tendencies hidden in plants for generations. His first achievement was the development of the Burbank potato when he was 22 years old in Lunenburg, Mass. In 1875 he came to Santa Rosa, Cal., where his important results have been obtained.

Some Achievements. Among his greatest achievements is the spineless cactus, whereby he turned an obnoxious weed into a forage plant. He gave perennial growth to a species of rhubarb, increasing its stalk from pencil size to the thickness of a man's wrist. He thickened the skin of California plums, that they might better stand shipping. He developed the stoneless plum and many kinds of grapes, among them a white, seedless variety. These improvements have been of inestimable value to those who have taken advantage of them.

From the common yellow California poppy he made a flaming crimson flower. By crossing two white varieties he created a red variety. He originated the Shasta daisy. It was Henry Ford who convinced him of the wisdom of turning over his experimental gardens to science. Thomas A. Edison, inventor and likewise an intimate of Burbank, suggested the same course.

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VI. Assuring Them That the Holy Spirit Would Aid Them in Remembering and Understanding His Words—25, 26. This the Holy Spirit does by il-

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YOUNG INVENTOR MAY PASS WIZARD EDISON

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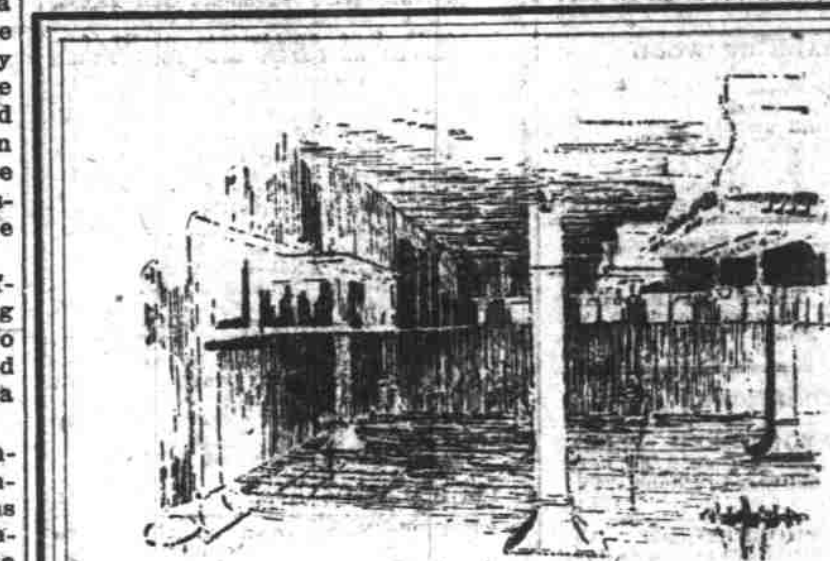
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