

Finds Rich Pickings in Oysters



Charles London, chef of the Biltmore hotel in Los Angeles, is willing to give up his position and do nothing but open oysters. He seems to have a knack of locating pearls and during the past two years has taken enough pearls from oysters to build a nice home. Our photographs show, below, where pearls are most likely to be found, and, above, London exhibiting a pearl worth at least \$300.

Russ Province in New York

With Governor and Staff, Exiles Meet Weekly to Keep Up Hopes.

New York.—New York boasts foreign colonies from all the countries of the globe, but few New Yorkers know that within the confines of their great metropolis there exists an organized "province" of the Russia of the czars, firmly knit and efficiently directed by a governor general and a staff of provincial officers.

The province has no boundaries. Its headquarters shifts weekly from one East side meeting hall to another. Its exchequer is oftentimes barren, but the hearts of its citizens are rich in faith that some day they will again live on the soil of the Russia of their fathers.

Several hundred Russian men and women, driven out of their homeland by the Soviets and held together here by their patriotism, formed the provincial government. Many of the exiles had noble titles; others were officials of old Russia. Now many of them are day laborers and few are affluent.

Revive Memories of Old Days.

Each Tuesday night they meet in a rented hall and revive memories of their days in Moscow and Petrograd. There are Russian songs and Russian dancing, speeches, poems and anecdotes.

The governor general is in charge. His staff constitute a reception committee. Two generals laboriously draw up the curtains. Another former army officer is accompanist at the piano.

The scenes bring the audience back to the great opera house in Petrograd, to receptions in the homes of the upper classes. Then an elocutionist recites poems, describing the downfall of the old life, and a hush of bitterness and sadness falls over the listeners.

But the sad mood is dispelled when the lieutenant governor imitates two old Babushki in Constantinople describing the splendors of New York. Their roseate misconceptions of the New World make the hearers rock with laughter.

Then the "province" disbands and its members go back to the far from roseate reality of their lives in exile.

Boy Heads \$2,000,000 Firm.

New York.—His boy chums call him just plain "Luke," but wealthy art connoisseurs, bankers of several nations and business associates address him more respectfully, for to them he is Lucien J. Demotte, seventeen-year-old president of the House of Demotte, a \$2,000,000 art concern located in this city.

Young Demotte is a dark-haired, soft spoken, esthetic-looking son of France, with more the air of a student than of a successful man of affairs. Fate cut short his boyhood and shouldered him with a man's responsibilities.

Last summer, when life to this boy meant nothing more than pleasant days with a tutor in his ancestral home near Paris, his father, George Joseph Demotte, founder of the New York house of art, was accidentally shot and killed in a bear hunt in France. As is the French custom, the youth had been trained to tread his father's footsteps. He had been reared on art, in the old Demotte mansion on the banks of the Seine, in the midst of

ancient furniture and statuary his ancestors had accumulated from the medieval castles of France.

To Follow Father's Plans.

"My father always talked to me of art," says Lucien. "Then, too, I had access to his library on Gothic art. We often went on tours of France together, visiting old churches and hunting through remote places for sculptures, wood carvings and other antiques with which to build up our collection."

The death of the elder Demotte ended the care-free existence of his son. A month ago Lucien came to America. He was elected president of his father's corporation and given full authority to manage the business.

"It is my plan to conduct our affairs just as my father did," he said. "I shall return to France each year and bring to America those beautiful works of Gothic art which your collectors have always so greatly admired."

Africa Uses Locomotives to Exterminate Locusts

Ravaging thousands of acres of the South African veldt, blocking trains for many hours by their swarming numbers, the locust is the one formidable enemy which the Boer farmers and railway companies are now combating, according to a traveler who has just arrived in New York from Pretoria, Transvaal. He reports that no definite solution for the present plight has yet been found, but, on the contrary, the locust pestilence is expected to grow worse when the late rains come to facilitate the hatch-

Warns of Spurious Reserve Bank Notes

New York.—Two more spurious federal reserve bank notes have been found by the Treasury department. One, a five-dollar note, is drawn on the Federal Reserve bank of New York, and the other, of \$10, is against the Richmond (Va.) institution.

The New York counterfeit is described as "a fairly well executed photo-mechanical production, printed on two pieces of paper between which a few silk threads have been distributed. At first glance the note is deceptive, but it will not bear inspection. The lathe work is broken, the portrait is coarse and the back of the note, which is not so well executed as the face, is printed in a darker green than the genuine."

In describing the Richmond bill the Treasury department characterized it as "a very poorly executed zinc etching," which "should be readily detected."

ing of countless millions of locust eggs. For miles around the cereal crops and the savannahs, upon which the cattle fatten, are entirely blasted by these voracious insects, which cause most of their havoc at night when they settle on the ground to feed.

"The locust," continues this traveler, "has a peculiar preference for the veldt bordering the railway and so menacing has the infestation become that 'locust specials,' consisting of an engine and a poison-laden truck, patrol hundreds of miles of the road to kill off these traffic impeters. The truck carries a tank to which a pump, drawing its power from the engine, is attached. The tank is filled with an arsenic solution which is pumped through two sprays, one on either side of the receptacle, upon the swarming insects. The force of the spray shoots the poison for many yards, and so successful has the apparatus proved that it is being adopted on every line traversing South Africa."

"The locust, not content with foraging in the veldt, has already penetrated into the cities, where even the main streets are coated an inch deep with the buzzing, struggling green mass."

GRIFFIS IN PRISON

Lieut. Corliss H. Griffis in the German prison where he is confined for his attempt to kidnap Grover Cleveland

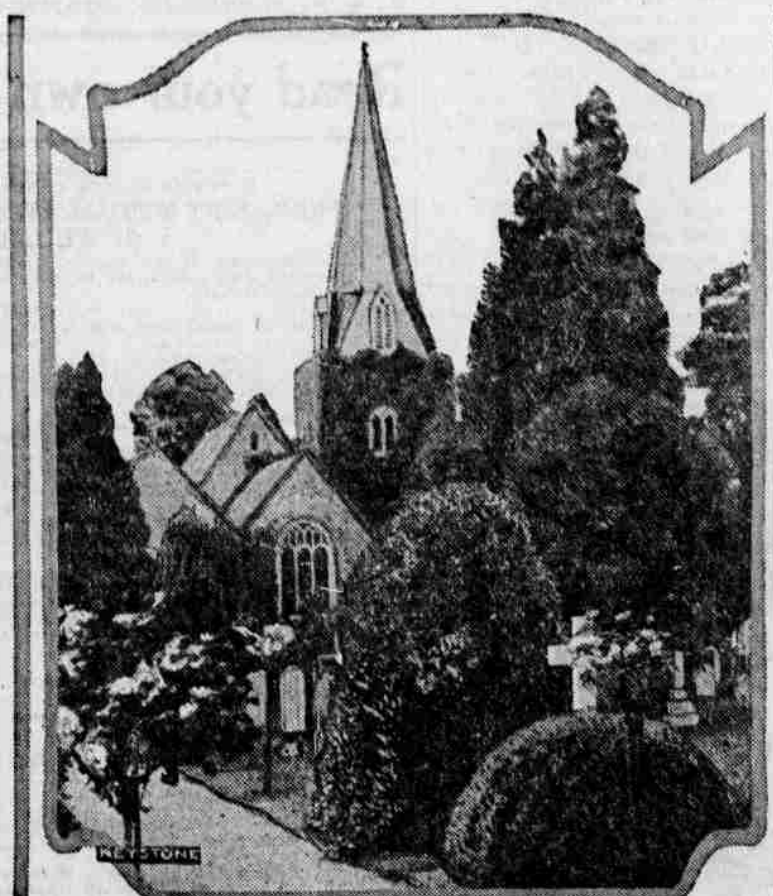


Bergdoll, the draft evader. Petitions for his release are being circulated in America.

Aged Chinese Used to Hatch Chickens

Peking.—When aged men and women in China become too feeble for active work they serve as human incubators, according to tourists. They wear loose burlap waistcoats, in which chickens' eggs are hatched.

Famous Church Falling Into Ruins



A view of the century old Stoke Poges church in England, around which a halo of fame has been cast by the fact that Gray wrote his "Elegy" here. The ancient structure is crumbling and a sum of \$30,000 is needed to repair and to purchase ten acres of ground necessary to preserve for all time its rural surroundings and peaceful charm.

Showing Them How to Log



Samuel T. Dana, left, director of the United States forest northwest experiment station, Amherst, Mass., and Chancellor Charles W. Flint, Syracuse university, were thus photographed showing them how to log in the Adirondacks. The two college men went about it like old-timers.

England to Have 52 Air Squadrons

Military Plans to Equal Strength of Other Nations.

New York.—The new British military aeronautical program contemplates the building of fifty-two squadrons of airplanes within the next three to five years, thereby placing England on equal strength with the air forces of other nations of Europe, the Duke of Sutherland, undersecretary of the British air ministry, said recently at the Ritz Carlton hotel. This program he said, was apart from the air activities of the dominions and was under the head of home defense.

The duke said that Britain was not engaged in any aerial armament race, but simply establishing an air force commensurate with the country's needs and position. He was certain that there was a greater interest in the development of civil aviation, disclosing that an ambitious program had been worked out tending toward the opening of commercial routes from London to leading cities of continental Europe and to Cairo, Egypt. England regards flying as essential to commerce as shipping, he added.

Firms to Get Subsidy.

The duke said the government recently had consummated an arrangement whereby three of the leading commercial air companies, which had combined, would receive a government subsidy, totaling £1,000,000. This subsidy would be extended over a ten-year period when he believed the lines would be self-sustaining.

"The purpose of my visit," he said, "is to study, as undersecretary of state for air, the manner in which the United States has undertaken the development of flying by establishing personal contact with the government air service and the industry through the Aeronautical Chamber of Commerce. While I have yet, of course, to form my definite opinions, it would appear that the American aircraft industry had registered astounding achievements, unaided by subsidy, in developing aircraft performance to the end that most of the world records are now held by the United States."

"England looks upon flying as an economic contribution as essential to commerce as shipping. Aviation should not be regarded as a menace, to be curbed. Aviation ended England's insularity. England is now as much a part of continental Europe as France or Germany. England's effort is to develop commercial flying, and at the same time provide for its air defenses in proportion to the size and importance of the British Empire. The only thought of competition in the air which England entertains is commercial competition."

Interested in U. S. Mail Planes.

"England is especially interested in American aviation development in high speed, in carrying mails and express, and more recently, in developing airships. The American air mail experiment is unique and has attracted universal attention, particularly the experiments conducted in night

flying last summer. England's airship program undoubtedly will be influenced by American initiative. The construction of your navy airship was a great engineering feat and the acquisition of German airship assistance a business stroke which is likely to have far-reaching effect.

"With regard to civil aviation, I believe we are ahead of America, partly, no doubt, on account of the subsidies the British government pays to operating firms. Rightly or wrongly, we believe in this policy for the purpose of fostering the growth of civil aviation at the start."

Accompanied by Group Captain M. G. Christie, air attache at the British embassy, the duke went to Mitchell field where he inspected the planes. Lieutenant A. J. ("Al") Williams, U. S. N., holder of the world speed record, greeted the visitor in behalf of the American aviators.

Black Sea Is Once More Pirate Haven

Scene of Piratical Operations in Days of the Romans.

Washington, D. C.—History, the great repeater, is again functioning according to maxim, for the Black sea, on which a message reports a blood-and-thunder pirate attack recently took place, was the scene of piratical operations at various times from the days of the Romans through the Middle Ages and down to the Nineteenth century," says a bulletin of National Geographic society of Washington, D. C.

"Though the Black sea has few advantages for pirates, such as safe harbors and hidden recesses among small islands, in its waters was built, and from Constantinople at its outlet was operated, one of the most powerful pirate fleets known to history. When the great Sultan Suleiman the Magnificent wanted to acquire dominant power in the eastern basin of the Mediterranean, he sent for Khair-ed-din, the younger Barbarossa, who was the triumphant master of the western Mediterranean.

When Turkey Ruled the Seas.

"When the notorious old sea dog hove in sight with his Barbary fleet tricked out in all its flags and pennants, the greatest of the Ottoman emperors knew that this vigorous burly fighter, whose erstwhile red beard which had given him his name was now white, possessed just the qualities of leadership which he desired. In the Turkish dockyards at the mouth of the Black sea Khair-ed-din laid out his galleys and in the spring put out into the Mediterranean with 84 vessels to write the story of Turkish sea supremacy upon the map of Europe.

"The waters just beyond the mouth of the Black sea were a particularly favored haunt of pirates, because the numerous islands of the Aegean furnished a maze of straits and inlets in which they could escape from pursuit, just as the West Indies and the Windward islands of the Caribbean did for the buccaneers of the Seventeenth century in America, and through the Mediterranean lay most of the established trade routes of the world.

"But the Black sea itself, though it offered them few of the advantages they desired, was an excellent home base from which to operate and in which to store their ships. It has almost no harbors and its southern shores were skirted with mountains, with few ways of access to the interior. The buccaneers of the southern coast, however, used to pick up their boats when the winter season set in and take them on their shoulders into the mountains out of the way of harm.

Whence Its Name.

"The early Greek navigators dubbed it Axenus, meaning unfriendly to

U. S. Navy Captain Bars Baby Elephant

Port Said, Egypt.—The American cruiser Concord put into port here recently. The vessel was greeted with salutes from the British and Egyptian authorities. The crew's nine played an exhibition baseball game before 10,000 native spectators.

Visitors were permitted on board the cruiser. Advantage of this was taken by many of the natives, who brought with them various gifts, among them a baby elephant. The captain, however, politely declined to accept the animal, explaining that the alien quota of the vessel was full.

Jail German Druggist Who Won't Accept Marks

Berlin.—Six months in jail and a fine of 10,000,000,000 marks was the sentence imposed on a Frankfurt druggist for refusal to take paper marks in exchange for petroleum. He told the court he had to pay for the oil in some sort of stable money and consequently did not know how he could replenish his stock if he sold for paper marks.

Under the laws of the republic paper marks are legal tender and the judge had the druggist hustled off to jail immediately, explaining that such treatment of the dealer would have good effect on other merchants and afford the public protection.

Peaches Grow in Winter

Goldendale, Wash.—Juicy peaches picked from a tree in the garden orchard on his farm in the Carp lake district of the foothills of the Simcoe mountains, about seven miles northwest of Goldendale, were displayed here recently by Charlie Neal, pioneer homesteader of the Klickitat valley. Mr. Neal said he expects to have mid-winter fruit fresh off the tree soon.

Imports Arouse Britons

London.—British hop growers are working together to prevent the importation of hops. It is said that 900,000 hundredweight of foreign hops came into the country during the last three years, and if this amount had been grown locally it would have given employment to 46,000 men at 45 shillings a week.

Black Sea Is Once More Pirate Haven

strangers, but when small Grecian cities began to spring up on its shores the sobriquet was changed to Euxinus, meaning friendly to strangers, and under that name, the Euxine, it has figured in history and mythology for centuries.

"The waters of the Black sea are unique among oceans and seas of the earth; indeed, the Euxine may almost be said to be sinister. Its depths are lifeless, and higher forms of life do not exist below 600 feet. It has a strong surface current toward the Bosphorus, and an undercurrent flowing from the Aegean and the Sea of Marmora, to the east. The latter is heavy and saline. Though the Dnieper, Dniester, Bug, Don, and Danube rivers, from Europe, and the Kuban, Tchoruk, Sakaria, Yeslir Irma, and Kizil Kinnak from Asia have been pouring their fresh waters into it, that mighty undercurrent is responsible for the nearly 2 per cent of salt found in the waters of the Black sea. At great depths the salinity reaches 2.25 per cent.

A Biological Surmise.

"One biologist believes that when, during geologic ages, the union of the Black sea with the Aegean took place, the great rush of salt water through the Bosphorus into the Black sea killed the fauna in its waters, and produced the sulphuretted hydrogen which exists in great quantities below the 100-fathom line. The waters that stand in the great depression of the floor, most of which lies between 6,000 and 7,000 feet below the surface, may be said to be stagnant.

"This immense body of water, 185,000 square miles in area, has several other peculiarities. It has a cold layer of water down between 25 and 50 fathoms, caused by the sinking of the heavy, cold surface upon the denser saltier water beneath. Such a condition confines most of the circulation of the waters to the upper portion of the sea and leaves the greater depths undisturbed, at a more or less uniform temperature, and free from any circulation of oxygen upon which fish and other marine life would depend."

Hurt by Mob; Given \$1

Fort Scott, Kan.—The jury in the case of Theodore Schierman against the city of Liberty, Kan., brought in a verdict in Federal court here giving Schierman judgment for \$1. The plaintiff, formerly mayor of Liberty, had asked \$30,000 damages for alleged injuries received at the hands of a mob a year ago.

Smoker Given Divorce

Kalamazoo, Mich.—The court granted Lowell Musselman a divorce after his wife had testified that she would not permit him to smoke in the house.

17,182 Deaths From Diabetes in Year

Washington.—Deaths from diabetes showed a considerable increase last year, it was shown by census bureau statistics. There were 17,182 deaths from diabetes in 1922, compared with 14,933 in 1921 and 14,062 in 1920, in the registration area, comprising 85 per cent of the country's population.

The death rate was 18.4 per 100,000 population last year, compared with 16.8 in 1921 and 16.8 in 1920 and 16.1 in 1920. New Hampshire had the highest rate, with 31.1 per 100,000 population, and Mississippi the lowest, with 7.3.