

Scene at Opening of Short Session of Congress



General view of the opening of the short session of congress, showing the chaplain of the house, Rev. James Shera Montgomery, delivering the invocation.

New Kite Interests the Aero Experts



Shown to the public for the first time, after more than 200 trial "flights," this huge passenger-carrying kite is being studied by aero experts at Los Angeles. Invented by George A. Argabrite, who has flown kites since childhood, it has been tested and so far has carried 180 pounds aloft. The photo shows Mrs. Argabrite in the kite.

Scene of Christmas Celebration



In a secluded little dell, high up on the slopes of the California Sierras, stands the General Grant tree, patriarch of the great grove of sequoias of General Grant National park. Around the base of this tree will gather at high noon on Christmas day men and women from far and near to observe the second annual "Nation's Christmas Tree" celebration. The General Grant tree is more than four thousand years old, towers 264 feet in the air, measures 106 feet around the base and its greatest diameter is 40 feet.

New Apple Wins the Wilder Medal

Prof. C. P. Close, United States pomologist and chairman of the Wilder Medal commission, holding the Starking apple, evolution child of the famous Stark Delicious apple. The Starking apple won the Wilder medal at the recent annual meeting of the National Fruit Growers' association at Grand Rapids, Mich. It originated on a single limb of a tree in New Jersey.



TOLD IN A FEW LINES

The large-mouth black bass is a fish cannibal. The oxygen in water causes iron and steel to rust. The champion insect eater of the world is the title given to the zebra spider. By means of ultra-violet electric rays, bathers in a new pool planned in Germany will receive coats of tan, although they bathe at night. Carthage was once known as the "wealthiest city in the world." Frederick the Great used the French language and customs in his court. In an African gold mine, 7,500 feet deep, the temperature is 90 degrees. There were 102 persons in all in the Mayflower, 41 men and their families. All substances, even gases, are attracted by a sufficiently powerful magnetic pole.

WAS TOO OLD FOR DREAMS

By H. M. EGBERT

"A W. COME off, Bill! I'm too old for them dreams!" said Dick Sittlingwell to his fellow drummer in the train. "No, but honest! I mean it! Why, Dick, you must be making your cool four thousand, and if your firm went bust you could get just as good a job anywhere. And forty-five if you're a day. Ain't you never had a girl, Dick?"

Dick Sittlingwell moved in his seat uneasily. "Cut it out, I tell you," he answered reproachfully. "Hello! Bourne End! Here's where I get off. So long, old man! See you next week as usual."

Dick Sittlingwell had had plenty of girls when he was a young man, but somehow all his romances had come to an untimely end. And it was only within the last two years that a new romance, sweeter than any, and more strange, had come into his life. He never spoke about Miss Elsie Van Nugent. It had never entered his mind that he could speak to her without profaning her. That was his sanctuary, his holy of holies. And marriage with her was something of which he had never dreamed.

Their acquaintance had begun by an accident. Dick, telling up the bill at Bourne End on a hot summer day with his sample case in his hand, had seen the old maid standing at the gate of her garden. He looked up at the big house in the village, and taking her for the housekeeper, said: "Might I ask you for a glass of water, ma'am?"

"I'll get you one," stammered Miss Van Nugent, and ran away, or rather hurried away, returning with a glass as clear and cold as if it had come from some Olympian spring. Dick quaffed it at a draft.

"Much obliged, ma'am," he said, and raised his hat and went away. He did not imagine what a romance that was to Elsie Van Nugent. Afterward, upon succeeding journeys, it often happened that he saw Miss Elsie at the gate. Then he would nod pleasantly and pass a remark. By degrees their intimacy increased. Dick Sittlingwell would often stay as long as five minutes, talking and looking wistfully at the big house in the cool grounds. He learned Miss Elsie's name at the hotel. She owned the place, and was the daughter of the late squire. She was an old maid—and they said, maliciously, that she was forty.

Elsie Van Nugent had never married because she had taken care of her father until his death, when she was thirty-seven. No opportunities came after that. Opportunities for marriage are few in New England among women whom birth has made superior to the rest of the community. And, besides, Elsie was already growing into a typical old maid. There were becoming angular and thin, there were gray streaks in her hair, and she knew quite well that whatever beauty she had ever possessed was already gone beyond recovery.

Her life had been utterly cramped. Her bookish learning had never been modified by contact with the world, for her father had always been a recluse, and, in his last days, a fretful invalid. When she met the drummer she thought him a typical man of the world. The acquaintance was a wonderful thing to her. She felt guilty in stealing down to the garden gate when Dick was coming that way—Thursdays he always appeared in Bourne End. She invented little excuses at first to account for her presence there. Wistfully she thought how she would like to ask him in. But she never dared. It was not only fear of what the neighbors would say, but fear of what he would think of her.

ACCUSED OF MURDER



Portrait of Erdman Olson, the young Wisconsin man who has been indicted for the murder of his sweetheart, Clara Olson, and for whom the police of several states are looking.

ENVOY FROM FRANCE



Paul Claudel, distinguished diplomat and author, now French ambassador to Japan, who has been appointed to succeed M. Berenger as ambassador to Washington.

SENATOR FROM MAINE



Arthur R. Gould, Republican, who was elected United States senator from Maine to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Senator Bert Fernald.

Never Backward

The wheels of nature are not made to roll backward; everything presses on toward eternity; from the birth of time an impetuous current has set in, which bears all the sons of men toward that interminable ocean.—Hall.

Gave Name to Market

Tattersall's market in London for the sale and exchange of horses was so called from Richard Tattersall, who established it. The name now is applied to any large horse market.

stood watching him through her tear-stained lashes. She looked less beautiful than ever at that moment, with her reddened eyelids and her disordered hair. "It's too bad, ma'am," said Dick. "Just heard the news and called to say how sorry I was."

"I suppose it's what they call life," answered Miss Elsie. "I hope, ma'am, you aren't planning to sell the place because of that?" "I certainly am. It's all that I have left now."

"Might I ask your price, ma'am?" inquired Dick. "Eight thousand dollars," answered Miss Elsie listlessly. "It ought to be more, but the house is very old, and that's what I'm advised to hold it for."

Dick thought hurriedly. He knew that would mean about three thousand cash and a mortgage. Dick was worth about three thousand; he could arrange the details. "I'll buy it," he announced. "You!" gasped Elsie. "Yes, ma'am. You see, I've had my eye on the place for a long time, in the hopes you might some day sell."

The words struck her like a blow between the eyes. So that was the secret of his interest. The vanity of her dreams! "I suppose you can have it, then," he heard her answer vaguely. "Everything in it as it stands, lock, stock and barrel?" asked Dick. "Why, I guess the furniture's not worth much," said Miss Elsie. "You'll have to see my brother, Mr. Van Nugent, at Staples. He has charge of the matter."

"But if he is willing, you are?" persisted Dick. "Yes," she replied. Dick withdrew. He wanted to hide the elation in his heart, that set it pounding frightfully as he reflected upon his maneuver. He clenched his fists as he thought of the lawyer. He had known Sharples well; the man was a convivial person at the hotel. "If ever I run across him, I'll break his head," he swore.

IV And Dick ran across him the following week in the most amusing way. He was sent out to a western city to cover a territory left vacant by the illness of a fellow drummer. The business done, Dick retired to his room in the hotel. A door opened softly, and Dick saw the head and shoulders of Sharples. In a minute he had leaped across the passage and entered, before the lawyer could draw the bolt. Sharples stared at Dick in terror. "What do you want?" he snarled. "You know," said Dick. Sharples realized that it was no time to make pretenses. "It's not your business," he swaggered, "but I'll give you five hundred to get out and keep your mouth shut."

KENYA and ITS PEOPLE



One of the Natives of Kenya.

(Prepared by the National Geographic Society, Washington, D. C.)

THE first link of the proposed British air service from Cairo to the Capt of Good Hope in Africa will soon be established with the beginning of an airplane line from Khartum in the Soudan to Kisumu in Kenya colony. Kisumu is on Lake Victoria, the "Lake Superior" of Africa. Kenya, which will thus be brought into much closer touch with England, is one of the most fascinating regions of Africa, geographically speaking. It presents a relatively new name to world maps, for before the World War it was known as British East Africa.

At the southeast corner of Kenya is Lake Victoria, second largest freshwater lake in the world. Along its shores dwell a people whose nudity is a symbol of their modesty, and whose men are as beautifully formed specimens of their sex as are the Marqueses women of the seas. Just across Kenya's southern border is Kilimanjaro, highest mountain in Africa, and near its center is Kenya peak, also volcanic, which o'ertops Mount Whitney by some 3,000 feet.

Cutting across the colony is the famous Rift valley, here from 20 to 40 miles wide, and generally several thousand feet below the plateau's general level. However, it is as a zoo and a luxuriant botanical garden that Kenya makes its chief appeal to the nature-loving visitor. Perhaps its most amazing single spectacle is the flamingo colony on the northern shores of Lake Hannington. The banks are dazzling white with the birds' guano, their nests are mounds of mud spread like mole hills on a flat plain.

The adult bird has a rose-pink neck and body, the beak is purple and scarlet, the wing feathers are crimson. For a mile or so before one reaches their haunt he can hear these birds: the splash and the swish of a million or so becomes tumultuous as he approaches. Hippopotami swim in the shallow waters of this bay; antelope and gnu infest its shores. Its port, Kisumu, is the terminus of the Uganda steamship line, which lands rubber, ivory and hides here for railway shipment to the coast.

Government of the Colony. A few years ago Great Britain had an uncomfortable racial problem on her hands in Kenya, but the matter has now apparently been smoothed over. The native population numbers about 3,000,000 and there are in addition whites of European origin, East Indians and Arabs. From the time when British influence made itself felt in East Africa, during the last quarter of the nineteenth century, until 1920, the then British East Africa was a protectorate, a form of government which the British empire generally makes use of when there is practically no white population other than the administrative officials. Under this system there was scarcely any popular phase to the government, affairs were administered for the most part as the officials thought best. A start toward popular institutions was made in 1909 when executive and legislative councils were established.

By 1919 the white population had grown to the point (nearly 10,000) felt to demand greater governmental participation. Provision was made for the white settlers to elect 11 members to the legislative council. Two were appointed to represent the East Indian population, and one to represent the Arabs. A sufficient number of official members was then appointed to give the government a majority. The final step of creating the newest British crown colony from the old protectorate was made July 23, 1920, when Kenya colony came into existence. The emigrants from India and their descendants, who outnumber the Europeans two to one, were dissatisfied with their small representation on the legislative council and demanded equal suffrage. There also existed in the background the question of what part if any the 3,000,000 black native residents of the colony should take

eventually in the management of affairs. The whites of Kenya and of the much more important Union of South Africa asserted that if Great Britain abandoned the principle that her people have the obligation to maintain her institutions among the less advanced peoples of her colonies, it would mean the death of the British empire and of the civilization which she has developed in Asia and Africa.

People of Many Races. The land which is now Kenya colony has had its mixture of races for a long time. Phoenicians, Arabs, Indians, even Chinese, skirted its coasts in very early times and traded with its natives. Later the Arabs came in numbers; and now there is a population of about 10,000 of them in addition to a large number of people of mixed Arab and black blood. The Indians began to go to this region before British influence began, and now number some 25,000. Of the blacks there are numerous tribes. The Sukus belong to the Nilotic race group. The Swahilis are the hybrid people formed by the union of Arabs with the Somalis and Gallas. There is also the Bantu-speaking population, many of whom dwell in the regions around Mount Kenya, which was for a time believed to lie in the fabled regions of the "Mountains of the Moon," as well as more of the Nilotic group, consisting of the Masai, the Nandi and others.

Though Kenya calls itself the newest of the British colonies, it is one of the oldest lands of the earth. Colonel Roosevelt, in speaking of his African hunting trip, said that the Masai often reminded him of the pictures of the soldiers of Thothmes and Haneses made by the ancient Egyptian sculptors, in that their faces were resolute and had clear-cut features. The same noted traveler said of this tribe that though the women were scrupulously clothed, "the husbands brothers very ostentatiously wear no clothing for purposes of decency."

Reports concerning this particular people have constantly made their appearance in the civilized world because they persistently pillaged neighboring tribes, having decided that they no longer cared to till their own fields, but would get their sustenance by taking the cattle and supplies of weaker tribes, and in this way have been responsible for the depopulation of large districts of British East Africa. Today, however, they are doing excellent work in cultivating the soil.

The greater portion of the Masai now live in the districts around Nairobi. They have perhaps the most definite religious beliefs of any of the East African tribes, praying to two gods, one black and benevolent and the other red and cruel, but they believe that when they die, they go out like a puff. Women Who Wear Tails. Though unclothed the Kavirondos are much bedecked, every circumference of the human form affords, from chest and stomach to ankle and wrist, its wire-wrapped. The women add one other decoration, a tail-like tuft suspended from the waistline in the rear. Sparse population of a region where the altitude offsets the equatorial heat and the fertility invites farming is due largely by raids on their neighbors. Many of them have settled down to tilling the soil. Another native tribe, the Andorabos, formerly lived largely upon flesh of the Colobus monkey. The skin has a market value because of its silky black and white hair and the tail with an immense bushy plume at the end. They, too, turned to the soil as the British imposed restrictions on monkey killing to save the animals from extinction. The Gallas, though they are now of little importance either politically or economically, take great pride in their past. They say that they once had a sacred book, like the Bible or the Koran, but a cow ate it, and not being certain about the particular animal, in their search they are still opening the stomach of every cow that dies.

Monk Parrakeets Live the Community Life

The monk parrakeets of southern South America join in bands that build in company a structure of sticks that forms a veritable apartment house in which each pair of birds lives in a separate cavity. These communal nests are used year after year and often grow steadily in bulk. Some are six or eight feet in diameter and contain enough sticks and twigs to fill a wagon. In early days in the Parapas these birds nested in the low trees that formed occasional groves on the plains. Man introduced Eucalyptus trees, which grow to a great height, and now the monk parrakeets build nests in the branches of trees often 60 or 80 feet from the ground. A species of duck known as the tree-winged teal, somewhat similar to the green-winged teal, pre-empted a chamber in this same communal structure, hence it with soft down, and hatches its own young amid the noisy chatter of its neighbors.—Scientific Monthly.

Riches Should Be Earned

No magic wand can instantly change trash into gold. Hard labor directed by intelligent thought only can turn natural riches into cold cash. Most men who without work become rich overnight have simply robbed their fellows of their savings.—Grit.

Protection For Youth

Twenty-four states require physical examination of children by a physician before granting them work permits.

Aviation Safety

The Aircraft Year Book says that there are six requisites for safe flying, and that all of these must be approximated before aviation can hope to enlist practical business interest. They are as follows: A machine, sound aerodynamically and structurally; a reliable engine of sufficient power; a competent, conservative pilot and navigator; air ports and emergency landing fields, sufficiently close together to

Now a General Term

Artesian well water comes from an artesian well which is made by boring into the earth until the water is reached, which, from internal pressure, flows spontaneously, like a fountain. This term has been used freely in the United States to apply to almost any deep bored well.