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Editor and Proprietor

EDITORIALS

THE FOREST PRIME EVIL

In a Pennsylvania forest there is a fire prevention sign which consists of a huge reproduction of a match, with the following words: "This is the forest prime evil."

That terse slogan speaks volumes. For destruction to our priceless forests is one of the most tragic phases of the fire problem. Anyone who has traveled in timber country has seen the wastelands, covered with black stumps, which fire leaves behind—the ruin where once were stately trees, busy communities of wild life, and beautiful recreation areas.

It will not be long now until the dangerous forest season is upon us. Good weather brings mounting hazards. Trees and underbrush dry to the point where they are virtually explosive. One touch of flame may be sufficient to cause a holocaust. And death and disaster follow.

The primary causes of forest fires are well known. Inexperienced and careless campers are among the worst offenders. Every man and woman who goes vacationing in the woods should keep this everlastingly in mind: Never leave a camp fire while a single spark remains alive. Douse it thoroughly with water or smother it with dirt.

Motorists are also responsible for ruinous forest fires. A cigarette butt cast from a fleeting car may supply the tiny flame that will spread until it has devastated thousands of acres of splendid woodland. Most of the states have laws designed to prevent this, but policemen and fire wardens can't be everywhere at once to see that the law is enforced. The public must cooperate.

Let's all work to save our forests this year. It takes centuries to replace great trees—and only seconds to destroy them. Don't forget that.

THE "TAX RACKET"

A recent survey, reported to be among the most accurate ever made, concerned the proportion of income paid in taxes by a typical working-man earning \$20 a week. The survey found that \$4 of this modest wage went to the tax collector.

That \$4 was not paid directly, of course—it is probable that the average worker doesn't know he is taxed at all. He isn't concerned with income tax blanks and the other myriad and involved tax reports required by government of those higher income brackets. His \$4 was paid

THE POCKETBOOK OF KNOWLEDGE

LOWER PRICE, BETTER PRODUCT.

THE AVERAGE COST OF AN ELECTRIC REFRIGERATOR WAS \$50 IN 1921. TODAY, IT IS \$152.

ONLY 3 FLAGS IN THE UNITED STATES ARE NEVER FURLED. TWO ON THE CAPITOL BUILDING IN WASHINGTON, D.C. AND THE FLAG AT THE GRAVE OF ABRAHAM LINCOLN IN SPRINGFIELD, ILL.

IT IS ESTIMATED THAT INDUSTRIAL USES NOW BEING PERFECTED MAY ADD AS MUCH AS 40 TO 60 CENTS TO THE VALUE OF A BUSHEL OF CORN.

TAKES WATER, A LITTLE OF THE FUEL, AND A LITTLE OF THE TIME.

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT JOBSHOLDERS NUMBER MORE THAN ALL WORKERS IN PRIVATE INDUSTRY AND ALL TRANSPORTATION—LAND, SEA, AND AIR—IN THE U.S.

THE CHIRIMOYA, TROPICAL FRUIT, HAS THE DELICIOUS TASTE OF BAKED CUSTARD!

Goldsberry Resumes Story of Journey Through Orient

Continued from last week

June 23rd we left early for Gifu. The scenery there was very interesting, the main crop being the mulberry leaves, food for the silk worm; most of the time we could see snow capped Mount Fuji.

We arrive at Gifu about 4:30, but when we inquired about the corner-ant fishing, were told it was a fisherman's holiday and we must wait till the following night. However it is such an unusual event that we waited, visiting the umbrella and Japanese lantern factories the next day.

We join with a Canadian dentist and his family and in a flat bottomed boat, squatting on cushions, with our shoes parked at one end of the boat, we start up the river where we

wait for the fishing boats. Each boat has from fifteen to twenty cormorants with strings tied tightly enough around their necks that they can swallow only the very smallest fish, one man handles the entire lot and at times must work like mad to keep them from becoming a tangled mess as they return to a different place on the boat from which they had dived to make their catch. The fish are attracted by a wood fire burning in a wire basket which is hanging on an arched wire at the bow of the boat.

It was my impression that the bird would dive and bring the fish up in his bill, but not so, he swallows his fish, as far as the string around his neck will permit and when he is made to "cough up," so to speak, he often has twelve to fifteen fish of 8 or 10 inches in length.

While waiting for the fishermen we were entertained with oriental music and fireworks and then we followed the fishermen down to the bridge about two miles where the cormorants are lined up along the boat side and given their feed, if the Sing cormorant isn't placed at the head of the line, he certainly puts up a fight for his rights.

We leave about midnight for Kamakuri but learn of a very fine hotel "The Miyasoshita", located high in the mountains with a wonderful view of Mt. Fuji so we disembarked at a small station and by bus take a short side trip to this famous hotel where we breakfasted and then walked around its beautiful gardens, with rustic bridges, waterfalls, an outdoor swimming pool; there is also a large indoor pool as well as four health baths built along the Turkish, Grecian, Roman and Japanese styles. In an art store near by were two roosters with the long tail feathers and believe it or not one of them had a tail 22 feet long.

We then continued our trip to Kamakuri where we see another large budda (this one is out of doors and like our Goddess of Liberty, there is a winding stairway inside and you can climb to the top and look out through holes in its huge eyes, which were made of gold; there were other places of interest among them the Tsurugacka Hachiman shrine but our train soon leaves for Tokyo where we go to the famous

Imperial hotel, this hotel designed by an American, is earthquake proof and has been thoroughly tested and remains unharmed. The foundation rests on large concrete pontoons, which float in literally a sea of mud, the theory being that ships were not harmed by earthquakes, why couldn't the same principle be applied here and it worked.

June 26th we leave for Nikko, a quaint little town nestling in the foot hills and as we jogged along in a car of about 1920 vintage over dirt roads we wondered if we were going to enjoy this part of our trip, however our fears were soon banished, we transferred to a street car and then to a famikular rail road, which took us most straight up for about two miles and then again transferred to a very decent auto bus which took us to Lake Chuzenji, a beautiful mountain lake with wonderful water falls; a very good meal at the hotel; a nice walk around the lake; a ride in the basket railroad to a high point on the mountain where we could see many miles out over the valley; then

back to town with a short stop at some of the finest, most interesting temples we had seen since leaving Peiping, China.

The carvings on these temples were very fine indeed, including birds, flowers and animals, including the three wise monkeys; along the lower part of the building was a strip about six inches wide representing water which is supposed to prevent destruction by fire, which happened many years ago. All the buildings had been recently decorated and the bright greens, reds, gold and yellow against background of black, made them very attractive.

To Be Continued.

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