

## The History of Coffee

The fragrant cup of coffee which makes us civil every morning and renews us so often during the day links many nations in a long and romantic history. Just when it first appeared as a beverage no one can say exactly. But that it was an Arabian discovery seems very likely in view of the fact that coffee grew wild in that part of the world before the ninth century after Christ, and fanciful Arabian nights tales have been handed down about the first brew.

The most popular legend concerns Kaldi, an Arabian goatherd, whose dull life on the hillside made him a gloomy Joe indeed. But he picked and ate some of the berries his goats were fond of nibbling, because he noticed that after eating these berries, the goats became gay creatures. Kaldi himself became a new man. Thereafter coffee berries were indispensable to his diet, and so carefree and lively did he become that he often joined his goats in a merry dance.

A monk, to whom Kaldi confided his experiences, prepared a drink from the beans and served it to the members of his order. They found the beverage sustained their energy and helped them to pray and meditate longer, so they adopted the drink and cultivated the plant.

Gradually the popularity of the beverage spread to Turkey, where, in 1554, the first public coffee house was established. It was introduced to the Venetians in 1615, the French

in 1644, the English and Viennese in 1650, and it was brought to North America in 1668. But promptly the power of the beverage to stimulate clear thinking and plain talking converted the popular coffee houses into discussion clubs. And political debate that exploded into dissension, direct action and resistance made coffee houses the targets of tyrants like Charles II of England, who termed them seminaries of sedition.

But, according to Disraeli, London and Paris coffee houses of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries held the mirror to "the manners, the morals and the politics of a people."

Here in colonial United States, too, the coffee house became the meeting house of the town fathers, and after a time changed from purely social centers to focal points of merchant trade and political discussion. Daniel Webster called Boston's Green Dragon Coffee House "the headquarters of the American Revolution."

The Dutch took the coffee plant to South America back around 1718, with a result that every sixth grader knows. Today's coffee plantations in Pan-America produce three-fourths of the world's coffee. And because we are the world's greatest coffee drinkers, of course we're the biggest customers for the Pan-American yield. All previous invoices were topped in 1945, when the United States imported 20,279,690 bags of coffee, each containing 132 pounds!

many and varied duties of that office in a prompt, efficient and courteous manner. If nominated and elected I shall continue those efforts and will give sincere and

conscientious service to the many boards and commissions of which the secretary of state is a member. Married and the father of two daughters Farrell is a member of

the Oregon Bar association and was a member of the legislature and was elected speaker of the house of representatives during the 1941 session.



Not that we need to be reminded to whom we owe our love and loyalty, but be Mother aged or young, Sunday is a special time to pay her homage—to show her a little of the love and appreciation we are so prone to let her take for granted the other 364 days.

**Sunday, May 12 is Mother's Day. It is a privilege to remember her.**

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### SEEKS NOMINATION

Robert S. Farrell Jr. will seek re-nomination to the office of Secretary of State in the primary election on May 17. Now serving his first term in that important position Farrell is a native of Oregon,

a member of a distinguished pioneer family and a lifelong republican.

In commenting on his candidacy for re-election Farrell said: "During my term as secretary of state I have endeavored to conduct the

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