

WONDERFUL ALASKA

Immense Wealth That Was Bought For a Song.

BIG AS HALF DOZEN LARGE STATES

Much Ignorance of the Far off Territory—Most People Look Upon it as Boundless Fields of Ice—Country of Immense Resources, Splendid Climate and Luxurious Vegetation.

Fifty-four years ago, on March 30, 1867, was signed the treaty whereby the United States purchased Alaska from Russia for \$7,000,000. In the intervening half century, we have taken from the territory more than seventy times the seven millions of purchase money," says a bulletin from the Washington, D. C., headquarters of the National Geographic Society.

"Most Americans are in the habit of thinking of Alaska as of insignificant area, yet it is as large as Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Wisconsin and Missouri put together, with sizable bits from Kansas, Nebraska, and the two Dakotas added on.

"To most people, also, Alaska is visualized as a land of snow and ice, of glaciers and scant vegetation. In point of fact the Alaskan climate is fairly diversified, and along the coast there are slight extremes of cold and heat. In the interior there is less rainfall, and the long Arctic day produces a very dry and warm climate.

As Well Located as Norway and Sweden.

"Everywhere, except in the extreme north, the vegetation is luxuriant, its growth is rapid, and fruits, vegetables and grazing grasses flourish. Located no less advantageously than the Scandinavian Peninsula and with an area almost twice as great as that of Norway and Sweden combined, Alaska, nevertheless, has a white population of little more than 50,000 as against the eight million of Scandinavians.

"The three great sources of Alaska wealth are minerals, fisheries and furs. Up to the end of 1915 the mines of Alaska had produced more than \$300,000,000. In 1916 the fisheries produced nearly \$20,000,000 and the peltries more than half a million. There are great deposits of coal as yet untouched and of low grade ores more precious which await only the development of the Territory's own water power to make them available at tremendous profit.

Spruce Valuable in Airplane Making.

"Forests, too, are extensive and suited for the production of both timber and wood pulp. The heaviest growth lies along the coast, where two national reservations contain a combined area of about 21,000,000 acres with an existing stand of merchantable timber exceeding eighty billion feet, board measure. These forests comprise the northwest extremity of the great northern belt of conifers which spans our continent and Alaskan spruce has been found valuable for the construction of the wooden frames of airplanes, for which use it commanded during the war the remarkable price of nearly \$150 per thousand feet.

"In recent years Alaska has attracted attention as a producer of meat for exportation to the United States. This meat is derived from reindeer herds which graze on the mosses and grasses of the far northern part of the territory which at one time were considered worthless and unproductive. The Alaskan reindeer herds now contain more than 200,000 of the animals, all derived from the 1250 reindeer imported into Alaska by the Federal government 28 years ago. In this period besides, many thousands of the animals have been slaughtered for food. It is established that the portions of Alaska unsuited for other industries will maintain four to five million head of reindeer. In the Scandinavian countries their meat is highly prized. The reindeer meat from Alaska is beginning to appear regularly now in many of the meat shops of the United States.

Transportation Facilities Greatest Need.

"The development of the lumber industry, like that of all other enterprises in Alaska, is largely dependent upon the extension of communications, especially by rail; and the Federal Government now has under construction a railroad, which is designed to open up the country for both travel and industry. There are 457 miles of this road in operation. Only 83 miles remain to be constructed to give this road its total trackage of 540 miles.

"Alaska was not taken in to the Federal domain without much criticism. None of it, however, reached the height of invective with which eastern statesmen had condemned Oregon territory at an earlier period, though the later prophets of ill have been as deeply confounded as the others. The price paid seemed entirely out of proportion to the benefits as a means of demonstrating good will to Russia for her unswerving friendship during the Civil war found scanty argument in supporting the payment of what then appeared so huge a sum. None of them could foresee that in a single year—and that almost within a generation of the time of purchase—Alaska would yield nearly one thousand per cent. upon the purchase price then paid—for in 1916 the value of exports of minerals and merchandise from the territory amounted to \$68,618,656.

"It is to Seward's foresight and persistence that the United States owes this opulent outpost. The final diplomatic action which consummated the bargain was as precipitous, almost, as that which gave to us later the title to the Panama Canal Zone—

for the treaty was drafted, signed and submitted to the senate within but little more than twelve hours. And the preliminary negotiations, including the time occupied by the then Russian Minister from Washington to St. Petersburg and return, was not as many months. By its terms we took over an area equal to nearly one-fifth of the whole of the continental United States of today; an area which lay fallow for a full generation after it came into our hands and whose progress in the last twenty years has been from rugged primitiveness to bustling modernism in every locality where even slight energy has been expended. What the next fifty years of American rule in Alaska may produce is limited only by the imagination which the progress of the last half century may call up."

SWEET MAMA CLUB

Broken up by P. O. Inspectors in Atlanta.

Organization of the "International Society of Sweet Mamas," designed as a sort of auxiliary to a similar society of "Sweet Daddies," was nipped in the bud in Atlanta, Friday when United States postal inspectors arrested a young man who gave the name of W. H. Little, his occupation as district manager of the Michelin Tire company, and his business address as 324 Marietta street, says the Atlanta Journal of Tuesday.

The news of Mr. Little's arrest may bring deep sorrow to twenty-five Atlanta girls who are reported to have been "prospects" for the "International Society of Sweet Mamas." Likewise, there may be any number of young Atlanta men, already admitted to membership in the "Sweet Daddies," who will view Mr. Little's arrest with alarm.

Mr. Little's arrest and the subsequent investigation postal inspectors are conducting to see whether or not he intended to use the mails to defraud, all came about because one of the girls decided she'd let Uncle Sam investigate before she became a "Sweet Mama."

Accordingly, she called on the government authorities and exhibited a circular letter she received through the mails. The letter was multigraphed and was headed "International Society of Sweet Mamas." This was the way it began:

Escape From Boredom

"Do you become rather bored sometimes with the ordinary, commonplace routine of the average daily life? A very rich and kindly old gentleman out Peachtree way died last month and left \$2,000 in his will to found and develop an organization as listed above and to be composed of 25 of the most attractive young ladies of the city with a corresponding number of young men, providing 25 can be found who fulfill the exacting requirements laid down by the eccentric old gentleman whose kindness and whimsical fancy made this interesting organization possible."

"It is no flattery," continued the letter, "to say you should feel highly complimented in being chosen one of the 25 young ladies as it was extremely difficult to locate this number who could come up to the old gentleman's specification as to beauty, personality, etc. Nevertheless, 25 have been selected and you are one of them. The letter then referred to an attached sheet which was enclosed, setting forth the requirements for "Sweet Daddies."

"I can truthfully say," added the letter, "this organization should prove a wonderful source of romantic adventure to you, for no "Sweet Daddies" will be admitted except those who are wealthy, of high social position and capable of making life extremely interesting for the "Sweet Mamas."

FRENCH PAPERS PLEASED

Like the Reply of Secretary Hughes to Germans.

Newspapers of Paris, France devoted much space yesterday to the correspondence between Charles E. Hughes, American secretary of state, and Dr. Walter Simons, German foreign minister, relative to responsibility for the war and reparations. Most of them expressed great satisfaction with the reply of the American secretary, the only writer not taking this view being "Pertinax" political editor of the Echo de Paris, who found Secretary Hughes' remark regarding new German proposals to the allies not to be "very opportune."

"Dr. Simons' memorandum," he continued, "simply repeats the old German tactics, which consist in avoiding the general problem and dwelling upon methods of payment."

"Germany has been given a lesson," declared the Figaro, "which she must perforce understand."

L'Homme Libre said America's reply was peremptory and decisive. America's word brings us great consolation in the most difficult hour of our history."

The reply of the United States to Germany on the reparations question has given the greatest satisfaction to French official circles, where it is regarded as finally closing the door to all escape by Germany from meeting her liabilities under the treaty of Versailles.

Premier Briand is expected to make an allusion in a speech in the senate this afternoon to this and other matters of interest to the United States.

From His Heart.—A young woman of rather serious turn endeavored to involve her professor in theological discussion.

SOUTH CAROLINA NEWS

—Rev. John Kershaw, D. D., 74, of 25 years rector of St. Michael's Episcopal church in Charleston, died at his home in Charleston Wednesday.

—The Cotton Accege Committee, of Memphis, Tennessee, is offering one hundred dollars for the best single word, accurately descriptive of the tenant farmer, merchant, banker or landlord who, hoping to profit at the expense of others, but selfishly blind to his own best interests, plants cotton in defiance of warnings and the south-wide appeal of his neighbors to reduce the acreage. The desired word must be entirely new, coined out of other words and clearly expressive of the idea described. Competent and impartial judges are to make the award after careful consideration of all the words submitted.

HERE MENTION

Senator E. N. Cato, Republican member of the Tennessee state senate has been arrested on the charge of accepting a bribe of \$300 to prevent the passage of a sales tax in the Tennessee senate, and has been released on a bond of \$500. Colonel Isaac Meekins, of Elizabeth City, N. C., has been appointed general counsel of the alien property custodians department. Mrs. Neel Goodman Rolander, was convicted of mayhem in Atlanta Wednesday on account of throwing acid into the face of Mrs. Gladys Presnel, a ticket seller in a local moving picture show. Mrs. Rolander claims that Mrs. Presnel alienated the affections of her husband. It is not expected that the trial of the 45 defendants who are accused of conspiracy to rob the American express company will be concluded at Macon, Ga., before tomorrow. Former Emperor Charles of Austro-Hungary is back in Switzerland after his recent unsuccessful hunt for re-instatement as king of Hungary. Plasterers and cement finishers of Jacksonville, Fla., have announced their willingness to consent to a reduction in their wages from \$1 to \$7 1-2 cents a hour.

RADICAL KICKED OUT

Mexico Does Not Want Any American Bolsheviks.

Linn A. E. Gale, an American radical, who was arrested in Mexico City, Friday night has been deported from Mexico by the way of Vera Cruz. There is a general impression in this city, however, that he has been taken to Laredo to be turned over to the United States authorities.

Government officials announced on Saturday he would be turned over to American agents, but later declared he would go to Vera Cruz where he would take a steamer for an unnamed port, probably Havana.

MAD PUP BITES NINE.

Dog Entered Church and Attacked Worshipers.

Nine persons, including one woman, three men and five small boys, went to Columbia on the early train Tuesday morning for the Pasteur treatment. These were bitten last Sunday by a puppy which developed rabies.

At a Baptist church near Patrick, S. C., Easter Sunday during the afternoon service, a small puppy which had followed some one to church, went around among the congregation, biting the feet of a number of the small barefooted boys. No one paid any attention to it until it made quite a noise. Then it was put out by two men, who were also bitten by the animal.

The dog acted so strangely that it was killed and its head sent to the state board of health in Columbia for examination. On examination it was found that the dog was afflicted with rabies, and the people here notified at once.

SOLDIER BONUS APPROVED

Michigan Voters Will Give Money to Ex-servicemen.

Michigan voters appointed a soldiers' bonus and gave Republican cand-

OYSTERS

Spanish Mackerel

FRIDAY AND SATURDAY OF THIS WEEK WE WILL HAVE CHOICE FRESH OYSTERS, FRESH FISH—SPANISH MACKEREL. PHONE YOUR ORDERS. CASH ON DELIVERY.

SANITARY MARKET

LEWIS G. FERGUSON, Mgr.

SAVE

YOUR MONEY AND PATIENCE BY HAVING YOUR CAR WORK DONE AT THE

Peoples Garage

We Specialize on **BUICK, HUDSON, STUDEBAKER AND ANDERSON CARS.**

You will find us at **LIPE'S OLD STAND**—across the street from the City Market.

Reasonable Charges, Prompt Service and Work Guaranteed.

B. J. DEVOS, Manager.

didates for minor state offices the usual heavy majority in Tuesday's election, reports from approximately one-fourth of the precincts of the state indicated early Wednesday. The Republican vote and that favoring the bonus was about three to one in the 700 precincts reporting.

The traction problem was again before Detroit voters. A service-at-cost proposal, put forward by the privately owned system, received but 40 per cent of the vote in 300 of the 573 precincts, while a proposal by the city council that the municipal traction system be enlarged by purchase of eight lines now operated by private owners, received 65 per cent of the vote reported. Both issues required 50 per cent to carry.

—Edmund D. Bigham, of Pamlico, Florence county, who was recently tried and convicted of murder in the first degree, has been lodged in the state penitentiary pending the hearing by the supreme court of his case. Bigham was charged with the murder of five members of his family, including his mother, brother, sister and two of the latter's adopted children. Bigham was tried directly on the count alleging murder of his brother, Smiley Bigham. He was convicted and sentenced to die in the electric chair on April 8, but his sentence was stayed pending the hearing by the higher court. It was stated that so many visitors wished to see Bigham in the Florence county jail that it became an annoyance and he was therefore brought here, after the Florence sheriff had conferred with Governor Cooper.

—The average meat consumption of the world is 39 pounds a head. The American and Australian eat about 180 pounds a head and the Englishman about 120 pounds.

Old Friends.—Judge: "Have you ever seen the prisoner at the bar before?" Witness: "Yes, your honor, that's where I met him."—Burr.

SCANDAL

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Mrs. Georgette McCelvey Mackorell has instituted divorce proceedings against her husband, Theodosius Mackorell and charges Mental Incompatibility.

This well known couple were recently married in the County Courthouse in the presence of a brilliant company.

Many of those who took part in the wedding ceremony have been called as witnesses either for the plaintiff or the husband who is defending the suit.

The case will be called in the County Courthouse,

Friday Evening, April 15th

Due to the fact that both parties to this suit are well known in this vicinity the trial will no doubt draw many spectators.

American Legion Benefit

Friday Evening, April 15th

Admission: 25 and 50 cts.

New Stetson Hats

The Best Dressed Men everywhere wear John B. Stetson Hats—because Stetson Hats are always CORRECT IN STYLE, and in addition to style the Stetson Hat has the Quality to back it up.

We are showing new lines of Stetson Hats in all the popular Spring shapes and shades—Mint, Seal, Pearl, Carbon, Black, and of course we have a complete line of the staple shapes in Stetsons.

CLAPP OXFORDS FOR MEN

You will be wanting them shortly—better select what you want now while we have your size—the style you want—the last desired. We have Clapp Oxfords for men in Conservative and English lasts and in Tans and Blacks.

Prices are somewhat less than a year ago—the price now is \$12.50 pair.

WHEN YOU ARE READY

To buy Shirts, Neckwear, Collars, Belts, Hosiery, Underwear, Handkerchiefs, etc., just save time—Come to **STROUP'S**—You will get quality goods here and you'll get them at the right prices.

J. M. STROUP

SHOES

SHOES

Spring and Summer Necessities

ICE CREAM GLASSES, FOOTED SHERBETS, GLASS PITCHERS, THERMOS BOTTLES,

And various Dishes that will be very useful in the warm weather season.

PYREX

Yes, we have a complete stock of this popular ware—Call and see it NOW.

TO BE SURE YOUR LAWN WILL NEED ATTENTION

See us for Lawn Mowers, Lawn Hose and other supplies and tools that you will find at this store. Buy Your Hardware Needs at the "RED W" Store. We are waiting to Serve you.

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BULL-DOG DRUMMOND

The Adventures of A Demobilized Officer Who Found Peace

by **CYRIL McNEILE "SAPPER"**

Illustrations by **Irwin Myers**



Story of a Man Who Sought and Found Danger

Unsurpassed by any of those enchanting tales that lift the reader out of a prosaic world into the realm of romantic, breath-taking adventure.

Bull-Dog Drummond, returned from the war, finds civilian life dull, flat and unprofitable. Fate flings him into a new scrap and before he finishes with it, he begins to think that the little affair of 1914-1918 was mere child's play. There's a girl, too—and indeed every element of a thoroughly satisfactory story. Love, mystery, humor and thrills that dovetail into chills, with no time to catch your breath between.

Here is an amazing hero and adventurer of whom you will probably hear more in succeeding volumes, as he is too good to be confined to the pages of a single novel. Be sure to make his acquaintance.

Will Soon Start Serially in these Columns