

PATHOS IN RUIN

Once Magnificent Home of the Czars a Wreck.

What the Bolsheviks Have Not Destroyed They Have Marred—Scene of Neglect and Desertion.

The Winter palace, once a place of grandeur and the home of the czars, now stands abandoned, according to a recent visitor there. Petrograd in the old days was a city of palaces, and the Winter palace, largest of all, also was the finest. Three thousand could dance here at one time and 2,000 could be seated at a single sitting. On such occasions the palace was a scene of lavish display of gowns, jewels and uniforms. Today the gardens are in a state of neglect and desertion. The wrought iron fence which once surrounded them has been torn down. Grass was growing in the great courtyard. As one entered the palace doorway, he became aware of a penetrating dampness, an intensely disagreeable sensation. In the dining room, where Nicholas and his predecessors toasted and were toasted, six chairs around a wooden table seemed to await their occupants.

On one of the steps of the grand stairway the words, in French: "Vive la commune!" have been scrawled. At the bottom of the stairway stood two stuffed bison covered with dust. The walls, once decorated with many war pictures, held gruesome photographs. Last notes of condemned revolutionaries have been assembled and tacked up. In one corner was a limb of the tree from which Youdenich was hanged.

In the bridal chamber of Alexander II and Marie Alexandrovna, a Chinese lamp—in a thousand pieces—was strewn about the floor. A great clock was in fragments and a battered piano stood against the wall. A crystal chandelier, torn from the ceiling, lay in a twisted and shattered heap.

In Alexander II's death chamber was the bed where he died after the attempt on his life. In a corner of the room was the clock which, since the afternoon of March 1, 1881, has marked the fatal hour, 25 minutes of four, when Alexander died. It was his son, Alexander III, who stopped the hands so that those present might never forget the hour. A half-smoked cigarette, which Alexander II had thrown down on the way to review one of his regiments, was preserved in a glass case. And there were several little frocks of a daughter who had died in her youth. Alexander II kept these in his room and frequently would have them displayed before him.

The Nicholas II salon has been used for a motion picture location and was in extreme disorder. Nicholas II's study was under lock and seal and could not be viewed. Near the Nicholas II salon, in a dark corridor, was a full length portrait of Alexander II—the face marred with bayonet holes. Over the furniture some one had daubed lime. The Winter palace, once a palace of imperial magnificence, was a house of shame.

Ancient Physicians Knew Much.

A French physician finds that whatever Hippocrates may have known in his day, physicians a thousand years ago were practicing the healing art in many respects as their successors are doing today, and he has told the Paris Academy of Medicine about it. We flatter ourselves, for example, that our treatment of tuberculosis is strictly modern, but this physician shows that an Arab doctor named Avicenne, who was born in the Tenth century A. D. and lived to be one hundred years old, prescribed this treatment for consumption: Fresh air, rest of body and mind, milk and superfeeding. And we almost thought we had invented fresh air!

Hospitals in Air.

Giant airplanes equipped as flying hospitals, with white walled operating theaters and staffed with surgeons and anesthetists, in addition to pilots and mechanics, are to be supplied to the French colonial medical services for carrying out work in remote territories. These aerial hospitals will have triple specially allenced engines, and vibrations and oscillations will be reduced to a minimum, so that even most serious operations can be carried out while the patient is being borne through the clouds.

Must Part With Something.

"You must give up coffee."
"Never touch it, Doc."
"Give up smoking."
"I don't smoke."
"Then give up \$5 and we'll call it square."—Judge.

No Sympathy.

"Have you any sympathy for a lame duck?"
"None whatever," replied Senator Sorghum; "any man who has energy and pull enough to get elected to congress can easily get himself a better job."

On With the Dances.

"Do you dance?"
"No," replied Miss Cayenne. "I follow the present custom. I simply stand still in a low-neck dress and shiver in time with the music."—Washington Star.

Especially the Cost.

The coal industry is said to be over developed and coal prices seem to be in the same fix—Omaha World-Herald.

ODD COMPANY FOR QUAKER

Reactions to Voice of Man of Peace Said to Be Same as Those of General Hindenburg.

An interesting story reaches us from a Quaker source about the discovery of a German professor of phonetics who is engaged in collecting and analyzing phonographic records of the voice of speakers of every country and language. During the war he not only got records from allies and war prisoners of nearly every country under the sun, but also carefully tabulated the voice reactions of the most famous of his own countrymen.

Recently he begged a well-known English Quaker, who was on a visit to Berlin in connection with international peace work, to allow a record of his voice to be made. This was Mr. C. Heath, the late secretary of the National Peace Council, and now secretary of the Friends' Council for International Service. He gave a brief address on the peace principles of Quakerism into the phonographic receiver, while the professor eagerly watched the machine's delicate indicator, which recorded all the lights and shades of the speaker's voice.

At the conclusion of the test the professor pronounced that the verdict of the machine was that the reactions to the Quaker's voice were exactly the same as those to General Hindenburg's. —Manchester (Eng.) Guardian.

INDIANA AS LITERARY STATE

Beginning of Its Eminent Place in Literature May Be Traced to Gen. Lew Wallace.

It may be surmised what made Indiana a literary state: "Ben Hur" and the fortune it built. Imaginative and book-minded youth of that commonwealth today—truly no more gifted, in all probability, than that of any other—looked upon Gen. Lew Wallace's monumental work and pronounced it good (as the world did) and also worrisome, and imaginative youth did not bury its talents in a napkin.

It forthwith began to write and brought forth fruit, some six-fold and some ten-fold—honoring the example of General Wallace and establishing what is now one of the most famed schools of literature in the world.

Headed by Booth Tarkington, Indiana continues to interpret the life of the great central American valley, aided by new colonies of writers all over the West who have followed Indiana's lead. They, for the most part, stem from Gen. Lew Wallace and his "Ben Hur," though they have traveled far from that ancient, romantic ideal. —St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

American Explorers Helped.

The British occupation of Palestine to the present time has proved of greater usefulness to American explorers than to those of the mandatory power. The work at Beisan is only a commencement of American researches in the Holy Land. The famous historical sites of Taanach and Megiddo have been allocated provisionally to two other American universities; while a third university, that of Harvard, has obtained a renewed concession for the site of Samaria, where, previous to the war, they had disclosed imposing Roman ruins of the period of Herod, and earlier remains down to that period in Jewish history when Ahab first established on that site the capital of Israel.

While British universities have been slow to respond to the great opportunity which now lies open, there is, at any rate, much satisfaction to be derived from the increasing activity on the part of American colleges. Harmony and enthusiasm prevail, and the friendly rivalry thus established is a healthy and helpful stimulus.

Contented Cows.

"Hawkins told me about following Corot in the fields when he was painting. One day when the master had made a particularly beautiful landscape, with cows browsing in the foreground, Hawkins objected to the fact that Corot had painted in a pond when there was really none in sight. 'My cows will be in my picture for a thousand years,' he answered, 'and I put in the pond to give them some water.' —From "Seven to Seventy," by Edward Simmons.

One for the Vicar.

A new vicar called on a young woman with musical ability and asked her how she spent her Sundays.
"I rest," said the young woman, "and during the rest of the week I practice. What do you do on Sundays?"
"Oh, I preach," replied the vicar, smiling.
"And during the rest of the week do you practice?" she asked.—London Tit-Bits.

Egypt Needs Foreign Capital.

The Egyptian government is preparing to offer valuable concessions to American or English capitalists who might wish to avail themselves of an abundance of raw material to establish industries in that country. It is said the government believes Egyptians incapable of developing their country industrially.

Not a Traveler.

"When's that new baby of yours coming over to call on us?" I said to the little boy next door.
"She doesn't call," he answered, solemnly; "she just stays put."—Chicago.

LAND YET TO BE EXPLORED

Brazil Has More Wholly Unknown Territory Than Has the Entire African Continent.

Just as the most remarkable development of the Nineteenth century took place in North America, so the most wonderful developments of the Twentieth century are destined to take place in Latin America, Samuel G. Inman writes in Current History. Here is room for the overcrowded populations of the world; here is power to produce the food and raw products for the world; here is a great market place for the manufactured goods of the world, and finally in these countries is found one of the most remarkable circles of intellectual leaders in all civilization.

Beginning at the Rio Grande and stretching on down through Mexico, over Central America, beyond Panama, through Colombia and Venezuela, the Andean countries, Brazil, Chile, down through the abounding plains of Argentina to the Straits of Magellan, is the largest expanse of undeveloped fertile land in the whole world. There is more undiscovered territory in Brazil than there is in the whole continent of Africa. One state in that mighty republic equals the area of Great Britain, France, Germany, Austria and Switzerland. If Argentina were as densely populated as is the state of New York—and it is far more capable of caring for a dense population—it would have 225,000,000 instead of its present population of 9,000,000. Venezuela is not considered one of the largest republics, but it has three times more territory than Japan, while Japan has a population equal to that of all South America. Arguments might have been made in the old days against the dense population of some of these lands because they are tropical, but modern science has overcome the difficulties of the tropics for men. The island of Santo Domingo is said to be more capable of sustaining a dense population than any other similar-sized territory in the world. Now that the United States is severely restricting immigration, the overcrowded populations of the Orient and of Europe will very rapidly turn to the great fertile fields and friendly climates of these Latin-American countries.

GIVE WARNING OF STORMS

Tides Said to Show When Unusual Atmospheric Disturbances May Be Looked For.

It has been shown, in the opinion of certain scientists, that West Indian hurricanes and other great storms at sea frequently produce a remarkable effect upon the tides along neighboring coasts.

To Keep Relic of Warship.

The captain's cabin of H. M. S. Impregnable, one of the last of the old wooden warships, has, by a happy decision, not been broken up. Instead, it has been erected in the basement of a Westminster store and was opened as a wireless demonstration room by Admiral Sir E. Freemantle. The cabin, complete in every detail, is fitted with the original brass lamps, both oil and candle. Outside one of the portholes is a moving picture of what would be seen if the ship was anchored off Gibraltar at night. This moves up and down and represents the roll of the ship, while at the same time the swish of an artificial wave is heard. The Impregnable was built and launched at Pembroke in 1860, and about 1896 she served under Admiral Freemantle at Plymouth.—London Times.

Wiped Out the Gophers.

As a prize for the township killing the largest number of gophers, Linden township won purebred Holstein bull given by Cavalier county (North Dakota) in its 1922 gopher campaign, according to reports to the United States Department of Agriculture. The gophers were well cleaned up, saving the county 410,000 bushels of grain on a conservative estimate, and every farmer in Linden township has the privilege of breeding to the bull for a small fee charged to help defray the expense of keeping him. The prize promises to be of much benefit to the dairy industry of the township.

Require Much Grass Seed.

It is estimated that golf clubs will use 2,000,000 pounds of grass seed this year for seeding the 2,500 links in use and for planting the approximately 200 new courses. The old courses, comprising some 200,000 acres, use an average of 400 pounds a year, while the new require 6,000 pounds for the first sowing. Most of the seed used for fairways is blue grass and red top, while on the velvet putting grounds the bent variety finds favor. It is said that the output of golfers for grass seed is about \$1,000,000 a year.

Should Grow Timber.

The national lumber shipment in 1920 was about 2,070,000 carloads, and the average haul for each carload 485 miles. According to the best estimate of the forest service, United States Department of Agriculture, the freight bill on lumber for that year was \$25,000,000. A fraction of this sum, says the forest service, wisely invested each year in forest protection and rehabilitation would grow timber where it is needed, reduce the nation's freight bill, cheapen lumber, and release vast amounts of railroad equipment and labor for unavoidable transport. Coal and iron cannot be grown, but timber can be.

Invisible.

A peculiar machine is exhibited in America by Peter Davey of England. It's called the "oscilloscope." An electric sewing-machine is run at top speed. Light rays from the oscilloscope make the fast-flying needle seem perfectly motionless. Switch the light off and the needle is seen darting up and down.

Light Vibrations thus Deceive the Eye.

Makes you wonder about the forces and "things" around us that are invisible because our five senses are not sensitive to their vibrations. The sixth sense (psychic power) may be the ability to "feel" these vibrations.

Peanut Crop Worth While.

The value of the peanut crop in 1922 is estimated at \$29,222,000 by the United States Department of Agriculture. In 1921 the value was estimated at \$33,097,000 and in 1920 at \$44,354,000.

IS THERE WARMTH IN SMOKE?

Matter Over Which There Seems to Be Possibility for Considerable Difference of Opinion.

It sounds rather unreasonable and, anyway, we would rather be colder and see the sunshine. We refer to the fancied discovery by a suburban New Yorker that coal smoke makes the city warmer. He writes: "Several towns on the south side of Long Island have noticed a greater discrepancy in the weather this winter than ever before. Instead of varying three or four or five degrees from the New York city temperature, it is noted that there is a variation of ten or fifteen degrees. That is, it is warmer in New York by that much. Is it possible that the use of soft coal, with smoke hanging like a blanket over the city, has a tendency to make it less cold?"

It would take a long and precise series of experiments to prove this; and there would still be the possibility that the higher temperature might be due to other causes. We know that the city is hotter in the summer than the country, but that is due to the reflection from the pavements and superheated walls of buildings.

If the "smoke pall" keeps out the greater atmospheric frostiness, it would possibly be explained on the same lines that a smoke smudge protects peach and orange orchards from northern blasts in early spring.

Cities live under a more or less perpetual smudge. The "smudge pots" are always going; but if we could have our pure air from heaven strained of smoke and the sun-rays falling upon us instead of the soot, we should cheerfully accept zero instead of ten degrees above.

NO AVAILABLE WOOD SUPPLY

Investigation Shows That United States Cannot Rely on Foreign Importations of Lumber.

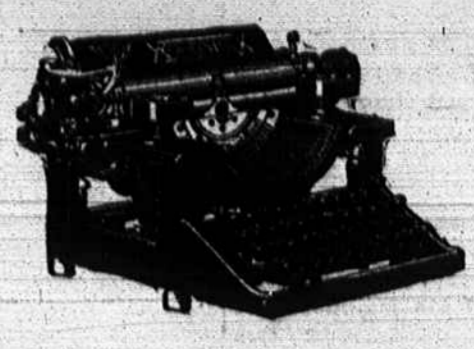
A unique and exhaustive compilation of the forest resources of the world has been completed by the Forest Service, United States Department of Agriculture. This reveals, among other things, that so far as our great structural and all-purpose woods—the soft woods—are concerned we must become self-sufficient or go without. If all the available Siberian timber were put at the undisputed call of the United States the yearly export would hardly supply one-fourth of our annual timber needs. There is an immense reservoir of hardwoods in the tropics which can be used for limited and special purposes and secured at mahogany prices. But the struggle for the world's supply of soft woods will become more and more intense, and those nations will fare best that prudently use their suitable waste lands for growing coniferous woods. This study shatters the dream of those who rely on importing the timber we need when our own is gone.

Standards of Measure.

For most of us the knowledge that a meter is 3.37 inches longer than a yard is quite sufficient. We must know as much as that, because the metric system of measure is so widely employed that one constantly finds it necessary to turn meters into feet or yards. But the refinements of modern science demand a far higher degree of accuracy in measurement than is perhaps ever dreamed of in the ordinary walks of life. The pains taken to obtain precise standards of measure are almost beyond belief of one who is not familiar with scientific methods. Every one knows that so-called "standard" bars, on which the exact length of the yard and the meter are marked, are in the possession of the governments of the United States, Great Britain, France and other countries, but every one does not know with what care these standards have been compared and with what patience they have been minutely measured again and again.—Washington Star.

Consolation.
Two sisters—apparently all in all to each other—had lived together for many years. Then when the one was ninety-eight, and the other ninety-six, the elder died. The relative who undertook the task of breaking the painful news to the survivor feared the shock would be fatal to her. But the old lady bore up wonderfully. "Ah, well," she replied, "now I suppose I shall be able to have my tea made as I like it."—Royal Magazine.

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