

## TWO WOMEN WHO RUN BIG FARM IN AFRICA; IT PAYS

Story of Five Years on a South African Tract—Began with Small Capital and Developed Place—What Farming Life There Offers as a Profession for Women.

(New York Post.)

"We, my partner and I, are, so far as I know, the only women farmers in Rhodesia. An English woman, who until some five years ago was the head mistress in a large public school and is now on her way home after a trip through the United States, was the speaker.

"My friend had lived in Africa for several years when the recent war broke out. Her services as a nurse injured her health, and she was advised to return to England. She had been there only a few months when physicians advised her to return to Africa and live in the open air as much as possible. We had been friends from our childhood, and as I had decided on giving up teaching, I went with her to Africa.

"We travelled about in the colonies for a time, and finally decided to have a home of our own. We bought land which was entirely unimproved, and have done all that has been done in the way of making a farm of it. Of course, the first step was building a home. In Rhodesia the farm houses are very different from what they are in other sections of the globe. Ours, which are somewhat better than those on the majority of farms in Rhodesia, are built of wattle and daub.

"To the untitled English ear, wattle and daub means nothing, and I suppose Americans are equally ignorant. Any one who has travelled in Africa will tell you that the framework of such huts is made of stems of small trees, daubed with a thick coat of mud. The mud is baked by the sun, and becomes almost as hard as cement. The roofs are formed of thick grass mats. When the wattle and the daubing are well done, and the mats are closely woven and thick enough, such huts make the best sort of houses for the tropics.

Keeping Out the Ants.

"The interior, both the floor and the walls, are of baked mud. What always strikes a stranger in South Africa, is seeing people daub a hut after it has been painted. Close observers ask every purpose. The reply to both questions is, 'White ants.' So far as we know out there, even painted huts are infested with the little white ants from wood. In our own farm house, which is composed of a group of nearly a dozen huts, every article of furniture is painted green. The effect is really charming, for we have huge enclosures on the floor and pictures enough on the walls to relieve the monotony of the dull gray of the baked mud.

"Do we have any trouble with servants in Africa? It is not quite so much of a problem out there as here, but we have it. We can get plenty of natives, but in order to keep them awake it is necessary to have whites work with them. The only man on our farm—I mean white man, for the natives are 'boys'—is a white man, an old youth, who came to us from the

## SMOKING AN ILLUSION

A physician who had been an inveterate smoker has discovered—or at least he has the evidence of his senses which incline him to the belief that he has discovered—that tobacco is tasteless and scentless, and that the pleasure of smoking is both an optical and a physical illusion. He has a physician's aversion, on ethical grounds, to the use of his name, and beside he is reluctant to give as his conclusion that which he learns only from his own evidence to the contrary which he may not have accumulated.

"What he says about tobacco refers to tobacco when used by a smoker. All smokers agree that the tobacco or the smoke has flavor and sweet odor if it is good. They say also that there are different kinds of tobacco. This physician points out that there must be some mistake here, as frequently there will be a violent dispute between veteran smokers as to the grade and character of a particular cigar or a given brand of tobacco. To one it will be the essence of purity and a delight, and to the other cabbage and quite as obnoxious.

The kinds of tobacco that the rough workers, users of clay pipes, smoke almost exclusively may be worse than brown paper to one who might be said to have a more cultivated taste. The doctor raises a question about the cultivated taste and wonders if it is not pure assumption.

"Why is it," he inquired, "that an inveterate pipe smoker will break a cigar up and smoke it in his pipe in preference to smoking the cigar as it is? That kind of a smoker will tell you that he gets nothing out of the cigar. The cigar has lost its flavor for him. The railroad track laborer smokes a heavy juicy plug and would find gagging if they tried it. The track laborer drinks it in after his evening meal, when he has the spirit to contemplate it as it were the breath of heaven. No doubt it has all the fragrance to him that a 50c cigar has to the smoker who smokes 50c cigars.

"I have known men who had the 50c cigar habit—no one particular brand, but a number of brands graded at that price. Now, to these men a perfectly good cigar was tolerable, and the two for a quarter, which are the best that most of us can afford to buy, except on state occasions, were simply not tobacco at all, but simply some head-smelling weed.

"Take your own case, the case of the run of men who smoke two for a

## WHEN A WOMAN FITS GOV'N

Saves More Than Half Price of Dress by Doing Her Own Dressmaking—How to do it.

The woman who can make her own clothes saves far more than half the price of a gown for the dressmaker. In fact, she frequently exceeds the cost of the material. It is not only on the first cost that money is saved, for if a woman is capable of making over a dress she can frequently remodel a gown and save buying a new one. To insure success, in her sewing she should supply herself with every convenience. No man would think of attempting any kind of work, as poorly equipped as is a woman who is making dresses. It is a wonder that women do not make more dresses for themselves when they have all the tools of the trade at hand. Thread, thimbles, scissors and a sewing machine.

With the equipment that most women have it is almost an impossibility for the home dressmaker to fail. If she has no one to help her. She may be able to manage a waist by continued trying on, which requires infinite patience, and a great amount of time, but she can not hang a skirt on herself successfully. How often a woman will exclaim: "Oh, dear! If I could see this on some one else I could make it right."

With very little expense and a day or two of time, you can easily fit a form that will be an exact representation of your own, and you can fit your dresses to it without the trouble of trying them on yourself, with the advantage of being able to see them at a distance, for it is the good effect of a gown that is the aim of the dressmaker. A good dressmaker's form is necessary—not adjustable, but a regular stock form, one size smaller than your regular size. If you are a 36 bust size, buy a 36 form. This will allow for any peculiarities in your figure that will necessitate bringing out the form by padding.

Buy a good pattern of a princess slip and cut out of strong firm muslin which has been well shrunken before cutting, so it will not stretch. Have this fitted to yourself, being very careful that the neck and armholes are right, and be sure to mark the exact waist line. After the seams are stitched and pressed have the hem turned very carefully at the bottom. For the evenness of all your skirts will depend upon this hem. Have it on the form and adjust any necessary padding to make the slip fit in every particular around the hips and waist, as well as neck and shoulders.

FIREMEN IMPLICATED

IN THE ARSON TRUST

Chicago, Ill., Jan. 30.—Several Chicago city firemen today were implicated as members of the arson trust, by an informant who was interviewed at the state attorney's office. This is the first suggestion of collaboration between firemen and members of the trust.

With the smoke and which is the balm of Gilead to the smoker. It pleases his nostrils and his mouth and his throat, and gives him a sense of well-being because it seems sweet, fragrant and wholesome. These are the essential oils of the leaf that are burned up and from them in the process of distillation, he gets his illusion, primarily, and I believe he gets secondary illusions within himself when his sensory nerves become so abnormal that they react to impressions that come to them as smoke is drawn in or visually blown out.

## CONSTIPATION

Can Be Cured.

You cannot expect to be well if you allow your bowels to become clogged.

What is necessary is to have a free motion of them every day, and to keep them in this condition all the time if you wish to be strong and healthy. If you don't keep them open the system will become clogged up with poisonous matter and produce constipation, headache, dyspepsia, bad blood, etc.

Keep the bowels in good condition by using Burdock Blood Bitters; the remedy that has built up an unrivaled reputation, during the past thirty-six years, as a cure for all troubles arising from a constipated condition of the bowels.

Mrs. Thomas Calder, East Lower Ferry, Ga., writes: "I am writing you to let you know what Burdock Blood Bitters has done for me. I suffered very much from constipation and none of the medicines I took agreed with me. Now I am glad to say that there is nothing like B.B.B. Since taking it I have not been troubled."

Burdock Blood Bitters is manufactured by The T. Millburn Co., Limited, Toronto, Ont.

Every Woman

should have a

copy of this

book

at once

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## BRIGAND INFESTED PERSIA

The forty years that have gone since Nasr ed Deen's first visit to Europe must have brought a good deal of change in the realm of the Shah-in-shah. Of one thing we may be fairly assured, says the Montreal Gazette, that no modern ruler of Persia would date to begin his reign with the perpetration of such atrocities as Mr. Beatty-Kingsford attributes to Nasr ed Deen. In his youth he is said to have been subjected to much humiliation by a jealous father, who banished him to a remote province where, nominally governor, he was in reality a prisoner, constantly watched by spies, and in other ways the victim of the agents of paternal malice. For these servile ministers of his father's hatred Nasr ed Deen had to store a terrible retribution, when his day of power arrived. The initial act of his reign was a deed by which the chief functionaries of the province where he had endured such unworthy treatment were tortured and put to death. "The eyes of those unhappy people were," says Mr. Beatty-Kingsford, "torn from their sockets, conveyed to Tehran in a bushel measure, and poured out at the feet of the Shah, who, as I was assured, vindictively spurned them with his foot as they lay before him." In 1873 the Shah travelled as far as England. Mr. Beatty-Kingsford gives an animated account of the effect on the Persian monarch and his princely court of the mighty throngs that had been sent to meet and escort him to Dover.

"The wonder and awe of Mr. Oriental fellow-passengers as these sea-giants drew nearer simply repaid me," says Mr. Beatty-Kingsford, "for a sleepless night and many other inconveniences that I suffered while dancing attendance upon the Shah through a fortnight of exceptionally trying weather."

Nasr ed Deen learned some good lessons by his European tour. But when, in 1890, he fell by an assassin's dagger, he left to his son a monarchy which only firmness, force and financial sagacity could save from disintegration and aggression.

Changes were, indeed, in store for the Persian monarchy, which was no more foreseen than other events in the development of Asia, which have given food for thought to reflecting men everywhere. That, nevertheless, the conditions which prevail in Persia have, in some respects, undergone little improvement is made only too clear by an account of a journey in the Southern Provinces. In olden times, as we read in an ancient book, a traveller to a Persian city, or a caravan, was guarded by an angel. As a rule, a caravan was not allowed to pass through a road, no safer than they had been a millennium and a half before. Marco Polo and his companions were, in fact, escorted by brigands, and some of them did not escape. And now, after centuries, which have been centuries of progress in other parts of the world, the account of a journey in Southern Persia is anything but reassuring.

"From Isfahan south to the Gulf," says the special correspondent of The Times, "there is at present no road for the ordinary traveller. Both the Bakhtiari road to Mohammerah and the Shiraz route to Bushire are at the mercy of the brigands. The caravan men, who delight in looting and suffer no caravan to escape them." He was told, on reaching Isfahan, that if he went on to a Persian city, it was a question of whether he would be robbed by Bakhtiari or by Khashai. If, however, he would wait a few days he might be escorted safely to Shiraz by accompanying the new governor of Persia. This high official had just reached Isfahan with 500 men, two Swedish officers, and four Swedish guns. When he moved southward again, he would be guarded by a much larger force, including a squadron of Swedish gendarmes and a regiment, which was to be raised in Isfahan.

After waiting nine days, and still seeing no sign of movement on the part of the governor of Persia, the special correspondent resolved to proceed on his way, notwithstanding the gloomy prospect of those concerned in his fate. At nightfall he reached the first caravanserai and found it barricaded, a caravan bound for Khashai being inside. In a state of panic, he was not until some shots, happily wild, had been fired at his party, that his assurance that he was not a robber and meant no harm was accepted, and his party gained admittance. He then learned the cause of the panic. At a pass—four miles off—a band of robbers, 200 strong, was camped, and the caravan had waited more than three days hoping for their departure. At dawn a scout brought news that the road was clear, and the caravan was allowed to start. For two days they saw no enemy. By means of the telegraph of Khashai, the correspondent of the London Times learned that the governor of Persia was leaving Isfahan at once, and two days later, he arrived at Khashai. At the same time there was tidings of a revolt of the tribesmen bent on mischief, and therewith a warning not to move without escort. In seven days the Isfahan squadron, 300 strong, accompanied the caravan to the frontier of the province of Persia. It was through a trivial complaint of a minor functionary (the local governor) that the revolt was not disclosed for years. Khashai and its environs had been terrorized by a band of robbers commanded by one Ali Khan. The latter, it would appear, had the chief of the Isfahan road, induced his tool to bribe charges against them. Count Levenhaupt, who commanded the gendarmes, conducted the examination, and the result was the capture of Ali Khan (who has since his career of crime) and the dispersion of his desperadoes.

years the company held complete sway in the Arctic regions. Wonderful stories are told about the exploitation of the resources of the Labrador Indians, among other inhabitants of that far northern land, were the means by which valuable furs were brought down to the trading posts. Europe was the great purchasing center as well as the point of distribution.

Then certain Americans began to see commercial opportunities in Labrador, although part of the continent with the United States, seemed as far away as the Orient. Besides, the Hudson Bay Company was looked upon as being so truly entrenched that it took a good deal of courage to invade that company's territory and enter into competition.

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To those who are accustomed to think about Labrador as a barren country it will be a pleasant surprise to learn that there is considerable farming going on there today and the hay crop in season is not behind what is found on farms in a more southern latitude. In the principal trading settlements there is increasing interest in all that appertains to agriculture, and many products formerly brought entirely from outside now are raised in the country itself.

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