

THE HOLY LAND IS BIRDS' PARADISE

In the Deep Tropical Jordan Valley Birds of Brilliant Plumage Abound

Swarms of European birds visit Palestine in winter and many breed there. The cranes, as in Dante's fine

line, still pass the winter "trailing their long-drawn line across the sky," and in the spring the voice of the turtle is heard in the land.

The Holy Land is appropriately a stronghold of the pigeon family; turkeys, doves are found, the wood-pigeon comes in myriads in winter, and the common pigeon, the true dove of Scripture, is still abundant, both wild and tame, throughout the country. As a contrast to these, "every raven after his kind," the crow tribe of several

species, is in abundance, and birds of prey, from the great griffin vulture, the "eagle" of Scripture, to the sparrow-hawk, are a feature of the country.

In the deep tropical Jordan valley we find a sort of aviary of real tropical birds, which found there a refuge from the last glacial epoch—the lovely little sunbird, or "Jericho humming-bird," the land-feeding white-breasted kingfisher and a species of gregarious thrush.

On the coast is found the great Indian fishing owl, and among the rocks of Marsaba the monks have half-tamed the orange-winged blackbird, which is really a startling of African type, as much out of his latitude as the hyrax. One of the birds peculiar to Palestine, the pretty little pigmy Mobite sparrow, which lives in reed-beds is one of the rarest birds in the world.

Reptiles abound, and even the Nile crocodile, the Leviathan of the Bible, lingered long enough to give Tristram the chance of obtaining a specimen nearly twelve feet long, while in addition to the African cobra, we find the grass-snake among the harmless species, and the wicked little horned viper lies in wait, as in olden times, to bite the heels of the horses.

As for the fish, they are as abundant and as varied as the land animals. It is interesting to note that the Sea of Galilee is still packed with them, and that the commonest kinds are of an African family, an interesting illustration of the scientific interest which unites with the religious to make Palestine among the most interesting of all countries.

EXTREME COURTESY DISARMS ENEMIES

Chinese Statesman Would Rather Die Than Be Rude—Manners Are Simple

It is said that Hsu Shi Chang (authorities differ in the spelling), the most recent President of the Chinese republic, is so polite that his courtesy is a weapon; his enemies dread it because it completely disarms them. He would rather die than be rude.

Judging from descriptions of President Hsu Shi Chang (photographs of Chinese are never revealing), he is in no way unimpressive. He would comfortably fill a large chair, has a pleasant voice, and a number of teeth are conspicuous by their absence which a drooping mustache fails to conceal. His manners are very simple, his tastes literary, his recreation amateur photography. He should live long—if his countrymen will let him—and

Hsu Shi Chang is a protégé of Yuan Shi Kai, his predecessor, who fell under the spell of his friend's politeness and gave him an important job in Teintsin. "Never," said Yuan to Hsu, "will your teachers be punished for your misbehavior." The remark has reference to an ancient Chinese code of justice to which the new president subscribes. This code, which is as venerable as ancestor worship, provides that when a wrong is committed not only shall the wrongdoer pay the penalty but likewise his teacher, who was responsible for his upbringing, and his neighbors, on the ground that if their influence had been good the culprit would never have been led astray.

This would indicate that Hsu is something of a reactionary; but he presents a paradox, in that while clinging to certain ancient "ideals," he is at the same time progressive—believes in occidental medical practice, for instance, and other modern improvements. Another thing—and something that impressed Yuan, the new president, at an early age, declared his emancipation from the bothersome Chinese habit of memorizing things. The Chinese students have a way of committing to memory word for word the books they read for their degrees, with the result that all their examination papers are exactly alike. Hsu saw the disadvantage of this system as a gag to any expression of individuality, and revolted.

The President has a wife, who is said to have been beautiful. Before she was 15 she had read Herbert Spencer, John Stuart Mill and Thomas Carlyle. Possessing their united brains, President Hsu may measure up to his awful job; you can't tell.

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The just principle of reparation through works of art being established, its contrast between the Allies and the Germans should also have its weight. Let it be indeed not only ship for ship, but picture for picture, may, book for book, bibelot for bibelot, down through the whole long list of things made by man for his delight. Such things have their appointed homes in the vast fabric of society. In Germany they are in exile.

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It is proposed that Germany be made to pay in part for her destruction of cathedrals and other monuments by transferring to her conquerors paintings and sculptures to be selected from her own collections. From the beginning of the war this idea has been repeatedly advocated. As a matter of fact, the French, Belgian and Italian authorities have long contemplated drawing parts of their indemnities from German museums. They would be justified in morals in so doing, and if they needed any diplomatic warrant they have that ready to hand in the famous "terms" elaborated by the energetic Count von Roeder. According to his program, which was undoubtedly the official program of the Hun Empire, it will be remembered, the art treasures of France were to be given up when the Kaiser and his fellow-conquerors sat down for their dinner in Paris. The Louvre was to be emptied into the Kaiser Friedrich Museum. The symbols of the world's culture were to be impounded under the seal of Hunnish Kultur. That the triumph of the Allies alone prevented this wholesale theft is shown by what happened in Russia. One of the first things the Hun did there was to strip the Hermitage.

The Unworthy Hun.

It is said that since the signing of the armistice quantities of works of art stolen from Belgium have been returned to Brussels and other cities, with the lying explanation that they had only been removed for safe keeping. Belgian and French curators, we may be sure, have kept tally on all the treasures of which they have been robbed and will insist upon the restoration of every last object taken into Germany. But numberless paintings and other moveables have been destroyed, and architectural monuments of immeasurable value have gone beyond all possibility of recreation. Rheims and Ypres are but symbolical of an immense loss. In other words, the contents of the German museums, though they be valued at millions—and they rightly are—would pay only in part for what the enemy has ruined in the countries he has ravaged. The contents of those museums should be taken over by the Allies, sifted by well-instructed commission, and a due proportion distributed in Brussels, Paris and Rome, the transfer being made a legal part of the peace treaty. If "ship for ship," why not "picture for picture?"

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ART TREASURES STOLEN BY HUNS TO BE RETURNED

One of the Problems That Will Come Before the Allied Diplomats

VANDALS SHOULD PAY

Many Beautiful Things Were Destroyed by the Brutal Germans

When Napoleon carried off the Apollo Belvedere from the Vatican and had it set up in the Louvre he expected it to stay in Paris forever. He and his fellow-consuls, Cambaceres and Lebrun, took part in the ceremonies of installation. Their signatures were affixed to the statue in a tablet of bronze. Everything about the Napoleonic scheme of aesthetic loot was regarded as settled, permanent. He brought home literally thousands of works of art from his campaigns. But the Apollo went back to Rome as early as 1816. The reader who took pains to check up the wanderings of the paintings and sculptures in the galleries of Europe would be astonished to find how many of them once sojourned for a time in the huge museum by the Seine. He will realize, then, how just the allies were when they reckoned up accounts after Waterloo. They will be even juster, in all probability, when they reorganize the map of Europe, this winter; but where once they restored works of art to places from which they had been reft, they ought now to do some drastic moving of another kind. So says R. Cortissoy in the New York Tribune.

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WOMEN ASK NEW LAW FOR NAMELESS

Present Plan of Providing For Mother and Child Said to Be Inadequate

WOMEN ASK NEW

Chicago News: The Illinois woman's legislative congress, representing over 100,000 clubwomen of Illinois, met for the first day of their two day session at the Congress Hotel to declare what bills they will advocate at the session of the Illinois legislature which opens Jan. 5th, 1919. No other measure suggested at the morning's session created so much discussion as two rival bills in regard to children born out of wedlock. It is held by the women that the present law, created fifty years ago, providing for the filing of information against the father in the Criminal court and the fixing of the financial responsibility of the father at \$550 is unjust, because the money is insufficient and the child retains the stigma of illegitimacy.

New Bill to Aid Children.

Dr. Lucy Waite, for ten years physician at the Mary Thompson Hospital, represented by Olive Rabe, presented a bill which provides that after the charge against the father shall be filed in chancery, a jury shall determine the paternity of the child. After the decree is made neither party can be married to any other party while both are living, unless both are divorced. This gives the child the legal and social status of a legitimate child.

"Most cases of illegitimacy have in my experience been from young parents. There is a strong natural attraction between the two. When marriage is brought about they are generally happy," is Dr. Waite's contention. This point is contested by Jeanette Bates, whose bill is favored by the public welfare board.

much work if that bill were enforced," was Miss Bates' attitude.

An Alternative Bill.

Her bill provides for determination of parentage through the juvenile court. The financial status of the parents shall determine the amount to be spent on the child. Its legal and social status is to be the same as that of a legitimate child.

GOING TO MARRY? SURE, MARINES SAY

These U. S. Fighters are Weary of Being Single, According to Reports

Quantico, Va., Dec. 31.—American maidens who have been worrying whether your marines would pop the question when they come home, stand "at ease."

A canvass of marine barracks here at Quantico, where 10,000 men have been waiting their chance at the Hun, made by a reporter for The Leatherneck, the camp paper, shows that 90 per cent of the single men intend marrying when they are discharged. How's that for good news?

"We're tired of being single. We want to marry and settle down," is the consensus of replies.

These marines, many of whom will be discharged when the President declares the national emergency no longer exists are fitting themselves for good jobs that will permit them to wed. Evening business classes are being held at the Y. M. C. A., and experts are explaining everything from bookkeeping and shorthand to soil cultivation and dairying.

Training the men have undergone admirably fits them for marriage. There isn't a marine in the service who doesn't claim to be able to wash his clothes whiter than any woman can ever get them. Every man can mend and press his own clothes. And as far as being "handy about the house," why, most of them can open a can of tomatoes with a toothpick and drive a nail with a feather duster.

CAPT. WM. ROBERTSON LANDED AT HALIFAX

Among the many passengers who arrived at Halifax on His Majesty's Steamship Carmania was Capt. Wm. Robertson, Chaplain of the 131st Battalion, with which he went overseas and has been in France for some time. He was shell shocked last April. Capt. Robertson was Rural Dean of the Brandon, Denary of the Anglican Church and was rector of the Church of England in Virden for a number of years. His wife resides at Suite 11, Lancaster Apartments, Winnipeg.

MAY SEND GERMAN TROOPS TO POSEN

Copenhagen, Dec. 31.—The situation in Posen is extremely critical, according to the Vorwarts, of Berlin. The German Government has been asked to send troops there and Herr Landsberg, Secretary of Publicity in the Ebert

Cabinet, has gone to Posen to negotiate with the Poles.

WESTPHALIA MINERS ATTACK HUN SOLDIERS

Geneva, Dec. 31. — Disorders have occurred in the Ruhr Valley coal fields, in Westphalia, Germany. Armed strikers attacked the soldiers guarding two coal mines and both properties were damaged. The strikers were finally compelled to resume work.

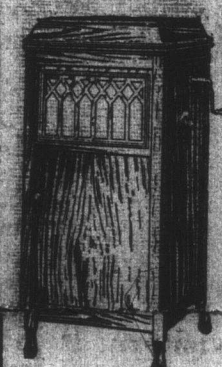
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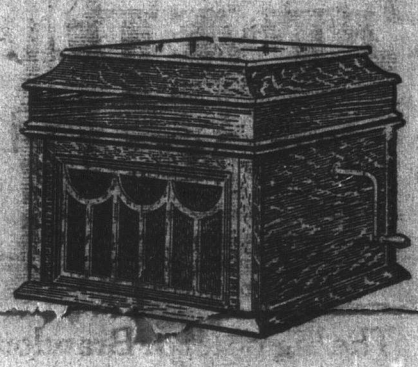
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Molasses, 5 lb tin 50c; 10 lb tin	.95c
Strawberry and Apple Jam, 4 lb tin	.80c
Raspberry and Apple Jam, 4 lb tin	.80c
Gooseberry Jam, 4 lb tin	.80c
Ontario Cream Cheese, per lb 35c; 10 lbs	\$3.20
Libby's Mince, per lb 30c; 3 lbs	.85c
Griffin's Seedless Raisins, per pkg 14c; 7 for	.95c
Sultana Raisins, per lb 20c; 5 lbs for	.95c
Cleaned Currants, per lb 35c; 3 lbs	\$1.00
Mixed Peel, ready cut, per lb box	.45c
Orange and Lemon Peel, per lb	.45c
Citron Peel, per lb	.55c
Sunlight Soap, 4 bars 25c; 16 bars for	.95c
Blue Ribbon Tea, 2 1/2 lb pkg each	\$1.45
Eddy's Red Bird Matches, 3 boxes for	.35c

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