

IN THE HAREM of Old King Sisowath

are nearly two hundred lovely dancers brought to the King by their parents at the tender age of six. M. George Groslier, Director of Cambodian Arts, in a story full of the smooth and supple grace of these girl dancers, charmingly illustrated by himself, gives a fascinating picture of their jewel-encrusted lives, in the January

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\$11,000,000 PAID IN, ONLY \$16 REMAINS

Cooperative Society Troubles Involve Welfare of 90,000 Small Investors.

WASTE IS CHARGED

Promoter Spends \$20,000 to Further Own Candidacy for Governor.

SECURITIES ARE MISSING

Federal Subpoena Out for Wife of Chief Trustee and Who Holds Bonds.

Special Dispatch to THE NEW YORK HERALD
CHICAGO, Dec. 19.—Ninety thousand men and women—mechanics, clerks, widows, all of the great middle class—invested \$28,332,089 in the Cooperative Society of America within the last three years. Upward of \$11,000,000 was paid in, the remainder to be paid in installments averaging approximately \$1 a week.

The Central Trust Company, appointed receiver by Federal Judge Evans, filed a preliminary report yesterday in the United States District Court that the society, the original project, had free assets of only \$16 and in addition owed \$1,758,478 to the Great Western Securities Company, its fiscal agent.

Extravagance Uncovered.

The society's securities were transferred as by a "trust" and are held as collateral for the loan by the company. The Great Western Securities Company is owned by Mrs. Edith S. Parker, wife of Harrison Parker, chief trustee of the Cooperative Society, and by Charles C. Higgins, her kinsman.

All efforts on the part of the receivers to locate Mrs. Parker and Higgins have proven fruitless. Mrs. Parker has been reported in Canada and Higgins is reported in Europe. Both are sought as witnesses and, according to Federal authorities, are in danger of being prosecuted because of their hide and seek tactics since the inquiry began.

A Federal subpoena summoning Mrs. Parker has been issued by Frank L. Went, Master in Bankruptcy. The receivers are eager to question her regarding millions of dollars in bonds they wish to locate. Mrs. Parker's salary as

head of the Great Western Securities Company is \$95,000 a year.

The inquiry conducted by the receivers into the affairs of the cooperative society brought to light many instances of alleged criminal extravagance of the society's funds. Harrison Parker, chief trustee, it is alleged, spent \$20,000 of the society's money furthering his candidacy as a candidate for Governor of Illinois last year.

According to the receivers' report the Great Western Securities Company, fiscal agent for the Cooperative Society of America, has retained \$5,998,417 as commission for selling the society's certificates and has retained \$5,000,268 in payments not yet completed, as its contract with the society provides that it shall retain payments on all certificates until payments are finished.

Harrison Parker, N. A. Hawkenson and John C. Higgins, trustees of the society, have received \$2,631,278. That sum, with the borrowed \$1,758,478 totaling \$4,389,756, has been invested in the purchase of control of twelve concerns, some of which have paid any dividends since being purchased. Canneries, 170 chain stores, factories, an insurance company, a wholesale grocery, a bank and \$1,000,000 office building are included in the investments.

The Cooperative Society, according to the report, was an outgrowth of the National Society of Fruitvalers, an organization founded for the community development of a tract of land in Michigan. The Fruitvalers' Society was made into a trust under a trust agreement formed by Parker, November 20, 1917. Parker, N. A. Hawkenson and P. C. Slack were made trustees and were empowered to issue negotiable beneficial certificates totaling \$5,000,000, with a par value of \$50 each.

An involuntary petition in bankruptcy was filed against the society in August, 1918, and was dismissed in December of the same year. Just a month later the society entered into a contract with the Midwest Advertising Agency, owned by Mrs. Parker, for the sale of the Michigan land and the certificates. The Midwest company undertook to sell the Fruitvale certificates, and was to be paid \$20,000. Real estate installment contracts and the society's office furniture were assigned to the company.

The Cooperative Society of America came into being just a month later, when Mrs. Parker conveyed to Harrison Parker, N. A. Hawkenson and John C. Higgins a tract of land near Muskegon, Mich., and the trustees were authorized to issue 100,000 beneficial certificates, totaling \$10,000,000, with a face value of \$25 each. They were also authorized to issue \$300,000 in bonds of \$30 denomination, which might be purchased by "Fruitvalers."

The charges made in the report are characterized as "lies" by Harrison Parker, who issued the following statement to-night:

"I have read the report of the attorneys for the receivers with a great deal of interest. It is full of misstatements, made not in the heat of cross examination but in cold type. If the Cooperative Society of America could be kept in the clutches of the bankruptcy courts in the district of Illinois the lawyers would get hundreds of thousands of dollars in fees."

"I wonder what the bankruptcy sharks think I am here for? I wonder if they think that after spending sixteen years of my life in building, after having established a successful business, I would turn it over to them to be destroyed without a real fight?"

Mr. Parker, prior to his connection with the society, was advertising manager of the Chicago Tribune and publisher of Mr. Hearst's Chicago Evening American. He resigned to enter the advertising agency business and subsequently devoted all his time to the Fruitvale project.

FINES SOUGHT TO CHECK EXCESS IN IMMIGRATION

Continued from First Page.

\$100 transportation to each immigrant. Thus, if the plans of the department are carried out, steamship companies which have been violating the law will have to stand a total loss of something more than a million dollars.

"We went into the matter carefully to-day," Secretary Davis told THE NEW YORK HERALD correspondent, "and are convinced that some steamship companies have been careless, to say the least, and have taken decided chances in bringing in some of the immigrants. Therefore we have decided to refer the matter to the Department of Justice through Solicitor Hiseley."

Mr. Husband said that while it is impossible at this time to get an absolutely accurate statement on the number of immigrants brought in above the quota he considers 3,000 to be a conservative estimate.

"All told there are 1,779 aliens in detention at Ellis Island and 2,150 reported to be on ships in the harbor. Some of these are quota cases and others are admissible upon examination. Ellis Island is so crowded now owing to the fact that half the immigrants have to be detained until we can pass on their status under the quota provision."

Most of the excess cases are those of Hungarians and Poles. This is due to carelessness of the steamship companies, which is caused by the keen competition at this time for stowage passengers. Sometimes a passenger line will take a

chance on a hundred immigrants rather than lose the business.

"In the case of the Hungarians aboard the Aquitania we announced on December 1 that the quota was complete. The Aquitania took the Hungarians aboard December 4, so there was no excuse. Even if they had received no explicit information between the 1st and 4th of the month their American agents know that the end of the Hungarian quota was in sight and they had no business taking on 2,500 immigrants."

A pathetic appeal to allow a dozen orphans now held at Ellis Island to land is contained in telegrams received to-day by the Department of Justice and Chairman Johnson of the House Immigration Committee.

The telegrams were turned over to immigration officials, but indications are the orphans will be deported, as the countries from whence they came have already exceeded their quotas.

The telegram containing the plight of the orphans was read by Chairman Johnson at a meeting to-day of the House committee, which had under consideration an amendment to the present immigration law restricting the number of immigrants to be permitted to enter this country in one year to 3 per cent of the number of that nationality here according to the 1910 census.

P. A. S. Franklin, president of the International Mercantile Marine, appeared before the committee and said that the steamship companies are ready and willing to cooperate at all times with the Federal authorities in carrying out the provisions of the immigration laws.

ARMY SALESWOMEN TO SHARE \$220,000 MELON

Volunteers All Will Be Paid After Some Win Suits.

Between 1,200 and 1,400 women who aided the city in the sale of army food-stuffs in 1919 will participate in the cutting of a melon representing the profits of the sale some time after Christmas. Just how soon the women will be paid for their services, although they were volunteers, was a question George Cowie, Assistant Corporation Counsel, could not answer yesterday, because the work of checking up the affidavits has not been completed.

Best estimates obtainable place the profits at \$600,000. Of this amount more than \$125,000 has been expended for charity by a committee appointed by Mayor Hylan and after all overhead had been paid the balance was \$311,000. From this \$300,000 has been paid to 340 women who had gone to court and established a legal claim for that amount for services. It was subsequent to this that the 1,200 or 1,400 volunteers decided they too should be paid and served such a demand upon the committee.

CARLTON BACK, OPTIMISTIC.

Newcomb Carlton, president of the Western Union Telegraph Company, who returned yesterday from a ten weeks' trip of observation in England, France, Belgium, Holland and Germany, said:

"I am not one of those who give their impressions of all Europe after so short a visit, but I am optimistic as to general conditions there. I noticed in the German shipyards that thousands of men were at work and more were wanted. At Hamburg, where they are completing the Blismarck, I learned that laborers are receiving what is equivalent to forty cents a day in American money. What impressed me most, however, was that everybody was at work."

BISHOP GETS SALARY OF \$12,000 BOOSTED

700 Pounds More Granted English Cleric.

LONDON, Dec. 19.—The Bishop of St. Albans complains that his "official income" of \$12,500 a year is "entirely inadequate" to meet the necessary expenses of his office and the upkeep of his "official residence." So the diocese over which he presides has to eke out his inadequate official income by giving him an additional \$700 a year "to meet secretarial and office expenses and the cost of running a motor car." The candid Bishop declares the situation to be "scandalous."

"Has not the time come," asked the Bishop, addressing the Diocesan Conference, "when Bishops should cease to live in large houses and live in far smaller houses which would provide for entertaining in a simple way not more than two or three guests at a time? Should not his home be his home and not a sort of hotel?"

The Bishop of London once complained bitterly that he could not make both ends meet on £10,000 a year while he had to live in a "palace" with something like two score bedrooms and was expected to exercise hospitality on a somewhat commensurate scale. He said that if he could live in a moderate house he would be content with very much less than half the salary and certainly would not be any less efficient as a Bishop.

6,000 STAGS SHOT IN SCOTLAND.

LONDON, Dec. 19.—What has been one of the best deer stalking seasons on record in Scotland has concluded. It is estimated that 6,000 stags have been shot in the area north of the Grampians during the last two months.

Among the menards of the Glen were sixteen stags, each weighing over 280 pounds.

EMPLOYMENT EASIER, REPORTS AID BUREAU

Vocational Guidance Important in Agency's Work.

The employment situation is improving, said the Industrial Aid Bureau, 129 Worth street, yesterday in its weekly report. The bureau placed 344 persons last week, an increase of 22, and 64 per cent of the total number referred to positions. The week before the percentage was 54. The total applicants were 839, a decrease of 50 from the week before.

The bureau reported that it is having great success with vocational guidance, signing up the applicants and referring them to positions suitable to their ability.

WIFE IN COURT LEARNS HER HUSBAND IS DEAD

Rose Lech, 42, of 181 East Forty-third street, charged with having stabbed her husband, Joseph, with a potato knife, did not know of his death until she was arraigned yesterday in Yorkville court.

Lech died Sunday evening, and all Sunday night Mrs. Lech pleaded to be taken to his bedside, saying it would "make him feel better." Magistrate Tobias ordered her held without bail for examination on Thursday.

The police say the husband went out Saturday night with \$24 and returned Sunday penniless. A quarrel followed.

GIRL ENDS LIFE BY GAS; WORRIED FOR FAMILY

News From Constantinople Made Her Despondent.

Nessey Musa, 25, daughter of a former telegrapher in the Sultan's palace at Constantinople, killed herself with gas yesterday at 101 West Forty-eighth street, where she had lived for two years. The girl told her landlady her father had died after political changes had cost him his place, and she received frequent letters from a brother in Constantinople telling her of dire poverty and other trouble.

Mrs. Samuel Heonar, the landlady, said the girl worried constantly about her brother's welfare.

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Men's Imported Dressing Gowns \$97.50 to \$125

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Silk and Cloth House Coats (Imported and Domestic) \$6.50 to \$47.50

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After a busy day at the office, a strenuous golf game, or as an aftermath to any daily activity, these slippers are indispensable to the comfort seeking man.

MEN'S KIDSKIN OPERA SLIPPERS

Very Specially Priced \$5.00 Black, Tan, Wine

Kidskin Opera Slippers, \$6.00 Tan, Rust or Green

Tan Kid Cavalier Slippers, \$8.50 Brown Plush Cuff

HOLIDAY GIFTS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

Specializing exclusively in the production of the correct clothing and accessories of dress for young people, we present at this time many articles which at once suggest themselves as useful and appropriate holiday gifts for boys, girls, young ladies and young men.

Raccoon coats; evening dress clothes; evening dress jewelry; English neckwear; imported hosiery; college blankets and pillows; gloves and handkerchiefs for young men.

Fur trimmed and sheep lined coats; imported neckwear; cuff links; fur gloves; sweaters and leather coats for boys.

Imported knit sweaters; scarfs; fur trimmed coats; riding habits; crops; whips and stocks for girls and young ladies.

"Anniped" shoes with skates attached for boys, girls, young ladies and young men.

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Men's Section—Third Floor