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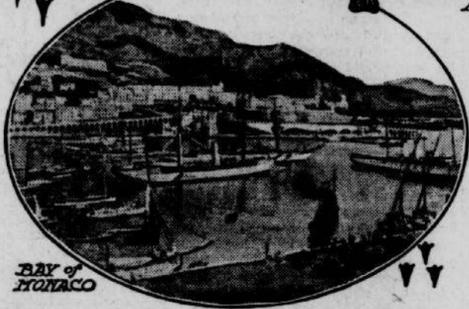
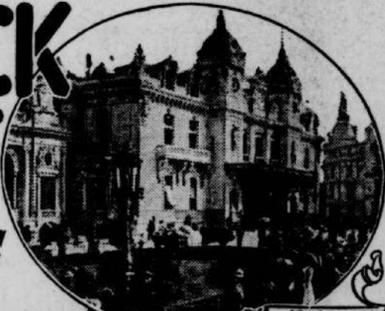
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HARD LUCK for MONTE CARLO



PRINCE of MONACO

MONTE CARLO has lost! The war in Europe has furnished entertainment and employment both for the great mass of people who formerly went to the principality of Monaco and played at the casino. Now Monaco has gone to war itself and the citizens of Monte Carlo are marching under the tricolor of France in the war against the Germans. There was nothing else for the Monte Carloans to do. Prosperity in Monte Carlo depends on crowds, and foreign crowds at that. When the crowds stay away Monte Carlo is in bad straits. She has no money for public improvements. She has no money to pay the salary of the chief ruler, the prince. She has no work for the people.

Monte Carlo is better known than the country in which it is situated. The country is Monaco on the Bay of Monaco. Take a map of Europe and run your fingers along the Mediterranean coast until you come to the boundary of Italy and France. Glance to the westward a short distance and you will find Monaco bay. It is an insignificant bay. When you talk about countries in America you think in terms of big nations like the United States or Brazil. In Europe there are several insignificant independent republics and principalities. Monaco is one of these and Monte Carlo is within Monaco. The casino is in Monte Carlo.

In 1858 Monaco was on the verge of ruin. The people were so poor that the principality was on the verge of surrendering its independence to France. Then Prince Charles thought of the scheme of running a great gambling house—a casino.

For a few years the casino did not pay expenses, but the government struggled along. Recently the ruler has turned out to be one of the wealthiest of men. His country has finely paved roads. His citizens can hear the best music. The finest operas in the world come there. Monaco is a delightful winter resort and is the Palm Beach of kings. Americans go there if they have lots of money. No one else need go there for long. Hotel bills are high and tips are always expected.

When the war in Europe broke out all the people of Monaco were looking for a big season at the casino. They were preparing for the usual winter rush, when half of Europe was at war. No one came to the casino to gamble. There was no revenue to pay the king or to support the police. When no one came to gamble, no one came to live at the fashionable hotels. When no one came to live at the hotels the importers who brought in food for the guests lost their jobs, the waiters and cooks lost their jobs, the cashiers lost their jobs. With none of the wealthy ones in town there could be no grand opera or theater. The ushers lost their jobs and more waiters and cooks lost their jobs. The guides lost their jobs and even the undertakers who made it a business to bring in the suicides from the bay lost their jobs.

There always was considerable salvage in suicides. Wealthy men often entered the casino and played. Then they played some more. Eventually they lost because the game is set against the player. When they lost they played harder in an attempt to win back their losses. They lost more. Finally they went out of the casino—broke! There are high rocks all around Monaco bay. When one climbs to the top of the high rocks and jumps off headlong he does not come back—alive. The next thing is a reward, and there is always good money in rewards when the victim is found floating in the bay. Then the undertaker has a job.

Once in a while a gambler, shrewder than the rest, breaks the bank at Monte Carlo, but that is rare. In poker they would say the cards are stacked against him, but at Monte Carlo they play roulette. The roulette wheel is so built that a man has only a minority chance of winning. If the wheel was made any other way there would be no profits to pay the prince's salary and to keep up the police and to contribute to the support of the theater and for public improvements, such as magnificent sea baths.

Monaco is one of the most fortunately situated countries in the whole world. Warm breezes from the Mediterranean come over from the south all through the winter. The high hills to the north cut out all the cruel winter blasts. Flowers grow there all the year around. The place is easily accessible by yacht and steamer or over country from Paris.

It is a country where the visitor is welcomed with open arms, for indeed it is the visitor who makes the prosperity of the country. The country is built for him. The citizens serve gladly for the money they get in exchange. When there is no war in Europe there is always plenty of entertainment for the visitors. There are sports of all kinds. Aviators, yachtsmen, oarsmen, runners, all athletes come to participate in the great games played there.

This winter there are still games played in Monaco, but the greatest athletes are with the colors. This winter there are still plays in the theaters, but the actors are fighting and the actresses are nurses. Visitors still come, but they are few. Some American tourists are there hoping for the war to end and afraid to go home or stay away. With conditions as they are Monaco declared for war. The people flew to arms in the hopes Germany would be beaten, so the business at Monte Carlo could thrive again.

Now that Monaco, the smallest principality in the world, has declared war on Germany, San Marino is shaking its fist at the kaiser. San Marino is a dot of 38 square miles in eastern Italy. Its quarrel with Germany is the result of the kaiser's protest that the San Marino wireless station was intercepting his messages.

San Marino, literally, is a mountain and three little villages. Its total population is 11,000. Jefferson City or Moberly would make a more populous nation. It has no railroad, the visitor having to ride four hours in a diligence from Rimini, an Adriatic resort city.

The founding of San Marino is somewhat of a myth. The local tradition is that Marinus, a Dalmatian stonecutter, fathered the nation in the fourth century. He was working on a gateway at Rimini. The nearest rock quarry was Mount Titano. As a reward for faithful work Marinus was given the mountain, where he established a refuge for Christians. Since that time San Marino has maintained its independence.

In the seventh or eighth century its monastery was turned into a fort. Many invaders marched by without attacking the republic. For one reason, it was difficult to attack, and for another, it had no wealth to attract the conqueror.

Once a pope attempted to collect taxes in the state. San Marino appealed to a judge in Rimini, who held that it was an independent nation and therefore no taxes could be collected. Italy has never tried to incorporate the republic in its realm.

True, today, Italy maintains the San Marinese gendarmerie and medical staff, but the republic turns in enough revenue to the kingdom's treasury to recompense it.

San Marino is proud of its claim as the oldest republic. All around its 33 miles of frontier one can see monuments marked "Italy" on one side and "The Republic of San Marino" on the other. But while it claims to be a republic, it is an oligarchy in fact. The government is a grand council of 60 elected for life in equal numbers from the landed proprietors and the bourgeois. The council elects its own members when vacancies occur. An inner council of 12 chosen from the 60 forms a kind of a senate. It has two presidents or captains regent, as they call them. They are elected every six months at a grand public gathering. The main reason for the frequency of those elections is that they are the principal amusement the citizens have.

There is only one level spot in San Marino. That is a plaza in front of the national palace. It is used as a parade ground for San Marino's citizen army of 950 men and 38 officers. San Marino's army is not a professional one. Its soldiers all make their living at some other occupation. Thus the commanding officer of the army is also librarian of the national library and a professor in Belluzzi college.

The people generally work in the quarries and do some hillside farming. As the expense of maintaining the government is small, taxes practically amount to nothing. San Marino has a diplomatic force of 11 consuls. Three are in Italy, one in England, one in France and one in neighboring countries. Their only pay is fees. San Marino once thought it would send a consul to the United States. Not that it needed one here, but it was a happy thought that the oldest republic should be represented in the largest republic. The captains regent of that date investigated the matter. They saw a way to

make the venture profitable by having the consul sell lottery tickets. When they learned that lotteries were not allowed in the United States the idea was abandoned.

San Marino has some salt mines which it uses to pay the captains regent a salary. The regents have the salt monopoly during their term of office.

Two names are revered in the history of the republic. One is Napoleon, who sent an ambassador to San Marino and guaranteed them independence. Another is Garibaldi, who took refuge there after the

Austrian war and came near involving San Marino in a war with the dual monarchy.

Since San Marino's streets all run at some precipitous angle drainage and sewerage is no worry. Nature handles that. Few horses are owned in the republic and in many cases the family cows have to climb down stairways to get their daily pasturing.

Both Monaco and San Marino are part of the group of Italian republics and principalities which maintained their independence until the middle of last century. The other little nations were united as Italy, but Monaco and San Marino kept their independence. The little republics and principalities of northern Italy were noted for their thrift and industry.

J. C. L. de Sismondi says in "The Italian Republics":

"The 'naviglio grande' of Milan, which spreads the clear waters of the Ticino over the finest parts of Lombardy, was begun in 1179, resumed in 1257, and terminated a few years afterwards. Men who meditated, and who applied to the arts the fruits of their study," practiced, he says, that skillful agriculture of Lombardy and Tuscany which "became a model to other nations."

He says that the cities, "surrounded with thick walls, terraced and guarded by towers, were for the most part paved with broad flagstones; while the inhabitants of Paris could not stir out of their houses without plunging into the mud. Stone bridges of an elegant and bold architecture were thrown over rivers; aqueducts carried pure water to the fountains. The palace of the pedestals and signorie united strength with majesty. The most admirable of those of Florence, the Palazzo-Veccchio, was built in 1298. The Loggia in the same city, the church of Santa Croce, that of Santa Maria del Fiore, with its dome, so admired by Michael Angelo, were begun by the architect Arnolfo, scholar of Nicolas di Pisa, between the years 1284 and 1300.

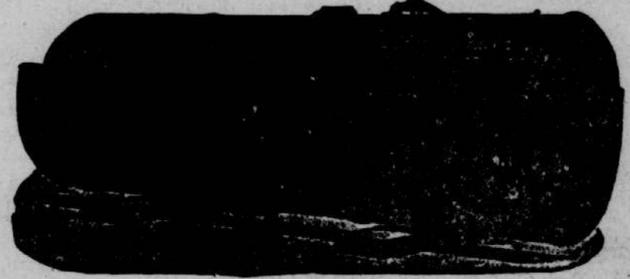
"The prodigies of the first born of the fine arts multiplied in Italy; a pure taste, boldness and grandeur, struck the eye in all public monuments, and finally reached even private dwellings; while the princes of France, England and Germany, in building their castles, seemed to think only of shelter and defense. Sculpture in marble and bronze soon followed the progress of architecture; in 1300, Andrea di Pisa, son of the architect Nicolas, cast the admirable bronze gates of the Baptistery at Florence; about the same time, Cimabue and Giotto revived the art of painting. Casella music, and Dante gave to Italy his 'Divina Commedia,' unequalled in succeeding generations. History was written honestly, with scrupulous research, and with graceful simplicity, by Giovanni Villani, and his school; the study of morals and philosophy began; and Italy, ennobled by freedom, enlightened nations, till then sunk in darkness.

"The Republic of Pisa was one of the first to make known to the world the riches and the power which a small state might acquire by the aid of commerce and liberty. Pisa had astonished the shores of the Mediterranean by the number of vessels and galleys that sailed under her flag, by the success she had given the crusaders; by the fear she had inspired at Constantinople, and by the conquest of Sardinia and the Balearic isles. Pisa was the first to introduce into Tuscany the arts that ennoble wealth; her dome, her baptistery, her leaning tower, and her Campo Santo, which the traveler's eye embraces at one glance, but does not weary of beholding, had been successively built from the year 1063 to the end of the twelfth century. These chefs-d'oeuvre had animated the genius of the Pisans; the great architects of the thirteenth century were, for the most part, pupils of Nicholas di Pisa."

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