

Glimpse of an Empire Abolished by the Peace Treaty



Bedouins eating in their camp near Bagdad, one of the greatest cities in all the old Turkish empire. The Bedouins are wandering clans who seldom stay more than one year in the same locality. Their half Gypsy life will not be much changed by British or allied rule in Mesopotamia. Mesopotamia's farm lands now produce food enough for less than a million people. With modern irrigation methods in the Tigris and Euphrates valleys the region could feed twenty million people.

MOSQUITOES

Pest Which Causes Suffering and Annoyance

Mosquitoes are man's inveterate tormentors and foes. At the seaside, on the undrained prairies of the West and Northwest, in the far North, by woodland pool and mountain meadow these bloodthirsty brigands in countless myriads waylay the individual on business or pleasure bent.

Swamps, ponds and marshes, however, are not the only places which breed mosquitoes. A little rain water in an old tin can or undrained roof gutter, if neglected, will supply mosquitoes for a town or city neighborhood, spreading discomfort, causing insomnia and tempting to profanity.

If mosquitoes were merely a bothersome plague, there would be ample justification for unrelenting warfare against them, but when it is considered that several species scattered over the United States disseminate malaria, rendering many regions of great fertility almost uninhabitable, and that one kind of mosquito found in the South will convey yellow fever, no argument for fighting them is necessary.

Dancing, Saturday Night Program for Haitians in Their Little Villages

Dancing to the music of a drum, saxophone and flute is the chief source of amusement for Haitians in their little villages on Saturday night, according to an article by William Almon Wolff in Collier's Weekly. Beginning at sundown every Saturday night, he writes, one will come to a wine shop, if one follows the sound of the drum. The drummer sits outside. His unceasing drumming marks the rhythm of the music; what melody there is, is borne by a flute, and almost always there is a saxophone. The music is the same at every dance. It is in common time; a single cadence is repeated, over and over again.

Dancing in Haiti resembles the saturnalia among the Australian aborigines, Mr. Wolff writes. The dancers are frank and unashamed, and one gets little or no feeling of a personal note between the two one sees dancing; rather they are staging a spectacle.

PITH AND POINT

To find work, go to work and look for it.
Before taking certain steps consult a dancing master.
A wise barber asks the young man if he wishes a haircut.
A small boy's idea of a board of health is six meals a day.
However, the early boom doesn't always catch the nomination.
Never place your clock at the head of the stairs; it might run down.

Tobacco Far North.

Tobacco growing at 55 degrees north latitude would seem an impossibility in America, but in the Odense district of Denmark, which lies between 55 and 56 degrees, the cultivation of tobacco has been taken up by many farmers since the war.

Lowly Angle Worm an Aid in Fertilizing the Soil, an Authority Declares

That the despised angle worm, which for ages has been the choice food of the robin, the terror of "Little Miss Muffets" and the joy of fishermen, has all this time been working for the benefit of mankind without any particular credit is an interesting fact brought to light.

According to Prof. Frank Smith of the University of Illinois, who is an authority in this country on angle worms, most of the real grounds for complaint against the angle worm is due to an introduced species which is common in the northern tier of states. There are few infected areas, some of which have their origin traced back to accidental importation by the transportation of trees from northern Illinois. These worms are of large size and have the habit of pulling leaves and small twigs into the mouths of their burrows, and together with the earth brought up by them, they form the little mounds which make the surface of a lawn quite rough, and hence they make mowing more difficult.

Professor Smith states that apart from the roughness of the surface of a lawn, the results of their work is doubtless beneficial. An earth worm makes its burrow from one to three feet in depth, these burrows providing means for conveying surface water to deeper layers, and also for aerating these layers. In this work they have been important agents in making the soil fertile through the years.

LOVE IN A COTTAGE

They may talk of love in a cottage,
And lovers of trellised vine—
Of nature bewitchingly simple,
And milkmaids half divine;
They may talk of the pleasure of sleeping
In the shade of a spreading tree,
And walk in the fields of morning,
By the side of a footstep tree!

But give me a sly flirtation
By the light of a chandelier—
With music to play in the pauses,
And nobody very near;
Or a seat on a silken sofa,
With a glass of pure old wine,
And mamma too blind to discover
The small white hand in mine.

Your love in a cottage is hungry,
Your vine is a nest of flies—
Your milkmaid shocks the graces,
And simplicity talks of peas!
You lie down to your shady slumber
And wake with a bug in your ear,
And your damsel that walks in the morning
Is shod like a mountaineer.

True love is at home on a carpet,
And mightily likes his ease—
And true love has an eye for a dinner,
And starves beneath shady trees.
His wing is the fan of a lady,
His foot's an invisible thing,
And his arrow is tipped with a jewel
And shot from a silver string.
—M. P. WILLIS.

Swallows Feed Almost Entirely Upon Insects

If you want to free the neighborhood of mosquitoes, encourage swallows to make themselves at home, says a report of the American Forestry association. These birds feed almost entirely upon obnoxious insects and they will do much toward protecting orchards and other trees from insect pests. No better investment can be made, therefore, than some houses set out for martins or other swallows. Of the blue swallows the purple martin is the largest, the male being entirely blue above and below, while the female is blue above with a gray breast. Swallows are highly migratory, most of them spending the winter in South America.

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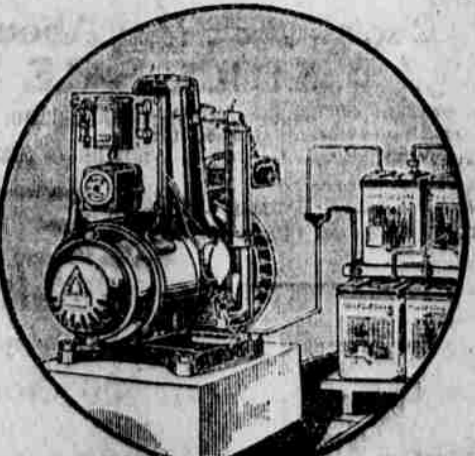
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