

OUR COUNTRY AND BRAZIL

Another U. S. Which is About as Big as We Are.

THEY AIM TO EXPAND

Area, People and Natural Resources of Brazil—Immigration Welcomed Attractive Regions With Some Very Serious But—The Coffee Harvest.

We are not the only United States in the world. The United States of Brazil is as big as we are, with half of Alaska thrown in. She occupies almost one-half of the whole continent of South America.

As for resources, Brazil is described by the Review of Reviews as unlimited in her natural products possessing the largest river system and the vastest forests in the world producing, moreover, three-fourths of the world's coffee supply and the greater part of its rubber.

On the other hand Brazil's population is little more than 16,000,000, an average of five persons to the square mile. This population is made up of Europeans, aborigines and negroes.

Where these have met a triple fusion long since set in. There is a small minority of pure Portuguese descent, Portuguese, by the way, is the language of the country.

Not only is immigration welcome but finding that her envious neighbors were robbing her of her colonies Brazil has retaliated by imposing a substantial tax upon all persons leaving the country; a measure as effective as it is radical.

Not satisfied with her great size Brazil is constantly absorbing more territory. Expansion is the constant aim; expansion toward the river Plate, whereby Uruguay for a time lost her independence and never regained all the territory that should be hers; expansion at the expense of Paraguay and Peru, and more recently Bolivia, which has surrendered for a price her rich territory of Acre; expansion toward the northwest and in Guiana, where a recent award has deprived France of a large coveted area and added it to this insatiable republic.

Brazil is not a lowland country, quite three-fourths of her territory having an altitude of more than 500 feet.

Politically the country is divided into twenty-one States, but as unequally that three of these embrace almost all the lowlands and are larger than the whole area of the remaining eighteen. These eighteen, however, contain 96 per cent of the population, so that the first three States, with a territory larger than that of China, have a population smaller than that of Connecticut.

The fertility and resources of this latter region are great, but the reader may wish to set upon them here is an extract from a report made by a former United States Consul regarding the valley of the Amazon:

"There is a false impression existing that rubber trees, ebony, rosewood and all the rest are found in great groves or clusters. Our pine or oak forests. The fact is that these trees are solitary. When two of them are only a quarter of a mile apart (and remember that the quarter mile is not open space, but thickly matted, almost impenetrable, swamp forest) they are considered close together; if they are a mile apart they are not considered to be very far distant from each other."

The richest mineral deposits are found in the State of Minas Geraes, which has been famous for centuries for its gold and diamond mines. There are at present six large gold mines in operation, all under foreign capital, and others are rapidly being opened; yet rich as is this field, it has apparently never appealed to the American investor, and is passing almost entirely into the hands of the English.

The two States of Rio de Janeiro and Sao Paulo may be described as one vast coffee estate. Coffee forms half, in value, of the total exports of Brazil. It is three times the value of our tobacco exports and sixfold that of our iron and steel. It surpasses the entire tea output of China, India and Ceylon.

Rio is destined to be supplanted as the capital of the country. The Brazilian Congress has chosen a beautiful plateau in the central State of Goias as a site for the new capital, which in time will be connected by rail with all the States, some of which at present are almost inaccessible.

Russia Was Afraid of Him.

Lord Radstock is notable as one of the few members of the peerage who not only take an interest in religious work, but preached frequently, both in London and the provinces. Lord Radstock actually founded in Russia the sect known as the Passobitaki, which may be best described as synonymous with Bible Christians. So great was the effect produced in Russia by this single-hearted Englishman of rank that the head of the Holy Synod became alarmed, and Lord Radstock, on leaving that country, was forbidden to return.

When a man persists in making undeserved compliments upon you, he usually has an axe to grind; say he borrow something from him at once, or you may find yourself the loser.

THE JAPAN OF EUROPE.

What King Charles of Roumania Has Done for His Country.

Roumania may well be proud to be called the Japan of Europe. She has achieved in the midst of incessant jealousy and opposition much that the free empire of the Far East has accomplished.

But says the Fortnightly Review, the progress of Roumania, if less great, is perhaps more meritorious even than that of Japan. To a small State, hampered at every turn by Turkish, Italian and European greed or ignorance, the opportunities of progress were much less facile than in the Island empire of Japan.

But on May 23, 1906, King Charles I. of a free Roumania celebrated his forty years of reign and



King Charles I. of Roumania.

He saw what was once a Turkish vassal State standing proudly erect among the European nations. Where once was chaos and corruption to day is an orderly State, bound in friendly alliance with great Powers, and, more important still, an example to the world of peaceful internal development and of a tranquil but persistent foreign policy.

Habits of the London Gutter. London's gutter man is the poster. He is the Ishmael of our gutters, says the Gutter Magazine. A very jolly Ishmael, it is true, who is more than content to acknowledge the line of demarcation between himself and the true cosmos. He, nevertheless, in a modified, twentieth century way, he is still the old man whose hand is against every man, and every man's against his.

He is probably the last remnant of the world's old race of wanderers, the last suggestion of the primitive man left to the cities. He is to us town dwellers what the gipsy is to the countryside. His descent seems to spring from the same roving stock, and he is regarded from a safe distance, with the same contempt by those who don't know him.

His habits and his impulses still favor strongly of the days when tribe warred against tribe and every man's arm was for himself and his clan. And although his pitch is below the curb, his caravan a barrow, and his beast of burden a Russian pony, a donkey or himself, he is as free and exclusive as any other lusty scion of the people who live under the skies.

Ishmael he is, and Ishmael he chooses to remain. And the chances are ten to one that whoever goes a fishing for information among the barrows will come back with an empty creel or a fine show of fishermen's tales. For your creel knows both how to keep silence and how to use his tongue picturesquely in defense of his jealously guarded traditions and the internal economies of his existence.

Regarding Night Air.

There is a great deal of nonsense talked about the dangers of the night air. As a matter of fact, what air can we breathe at night but night air? and the choice is between the pure night air from without and the foul air from within. Most people prefer the latter an unaccountable choice. What will they say if it is proved to be true that fully one-half of all the diseases we suffer from are occasioned by people sleeping with their windows shut? An open window most nights in the year can never hurt any one. In great cities night air is often the best and purest to be had in the twenty-four hours. We could better understand shutting the windows in town during the day than during the night for the sake of the sick. The absence of smoke, the quiet, all tend to make night the best time for airing the patient. One of the highest medical authorities on consumption and climate has told us that the air of London is never so good as after ten o'clock at night. Always air your room, then, from the outside air if possible. Windows are made to open, doors are made to shut—a truth which seems difficult of apprehension. Every room must be aired from without, every passage from within.

Smallest Current Coin.

The natives of the Malay peninsula have the smallest current coin in the world. It is a sort of wafer, made from the resinous juice of a tree, and is worth about one-twentieth thousandth of a cent. The smallest metal coin in circulation at the present day is the Portuguese three reis piece, worth six one-hundredths of a cent.

Never seek advice from a man who pretends to know everything.

WOMAN IN PROPER SPHERE.

Queen Margherita Condemns the Emancipation of Her Sex.

The Dowager Queen Margherita of Italy has been expressing her disapproval of "race suicide" with no frankness than President Roosevelt. Less often is a royal interview more than a collection of perfunctory phrases, polite, but insignificant. Yet Queen Margherita has been saying:

A childless family is incomplete. There is a poetry and a pathos about childhood which appeal to every right-hearted woman. Most women, though they may not be able to put this idea into words, feel it. They have the maternal instinct. Hence the remoteness of race suicide.

Women show their intellectuality by rearing healthy and great children, just as much as they do by writing books or painting pictures. The wife who deliberately refuses to bring children into the world must have something wrong with her moral makeup.

I am very pleased to know that there is a movement in the United States in favor of large families, and that President Roosevelt has put himself upon record as favoring them. European women have begun to feel the light to the sisters of the United States.

I am absolutely opposed to any extravagant theories of what is called the emancipation of women. In whatever condition of life a woman may be placed, her first duty is the positive one of not giving up her culture, with gentlemanly manners and a knowledge of the language, the people and their customs, are the sort of travelling men Americanfrs need not only for this country, but for all Spanish America.



Brigadier General John J. Pershing, who was rewarded by President Roosevelt for his achievement in storming a mountain fortress in Mexico, defeating a large band of Moros. He was jumped 842 points from Captain to Brigadier General making a record jump.

How to Drive a Horse.

The manner of driving or riding has a strong bearing on condition, and we can see every day thousands of examples to this effect on the streets anywhere. Says a writer in the Gutter Magazine: Given two horses having the same care, food, etc., both physically able and performing identical tasks, yet driven by two different men, one is always fat, composed, and tranquil, the other nervous, agitated, anxious, and in consequence thin and out of condition.

What is the reason? Nothing but the different handling. Lack of sympathy, of any horse sense or horsemanship, is in the driver of the latter. Why is the average livery stable or riding school horse, bag-eyed, anxious of countenance, almost always thin and worn? Not lack of food or overwork. Just mental worry and the nervous overstrain of trying to please a lot of thoughtless people, most of whom wholly lack horse sense and are proud of it.

Do what you will in the way of care, etc., the handling the horse receives has greatly to do with his physical welfare. Perfect condition is not a mere matter of so much food, so much water, a warm bed, a tight roof. It depends, as does everything else in life and in our relations with other men and all beasts, upon the little things, the unconsidered trifles—and lucky is he who has the interest, the patience, the intuition to investigate closely, to discern clearly, and to apply intelligently, countless ways, and in various associations.

Newspapers in Japan.

In Japan there were already in 1902 1,328 newspapers, dailies and others, the highest circulation reaching about a quarter of a million. Among the lower classes one paper is read by five or six persons.

A very few of the older people cannot read, but all the younger generation can. The most eager interest is taken, not only in stirring public events, but in administrative measures, such as the very recent nationalization of the railways.

Every newspaper posts its daily issue in the street and all day long groups of readers, too poor to buy a copy, replace each other to scan the news of the day. Discussion runs high among people who are far below the voter's level though every male over twenty-five years of age and paying a direct tax of 10 yen (\$5) is entitled to vote.

There are no fewer than 77 distinct dialects spoken in England.

EMPIUSA MUSCAE KILLS FLY.

White Halo Marks the Victim of Strange Death.

Not infrequently there may be seen a dead fly on the window pane surrounded by a curious white halo. The body of the fly is covered with a white microscopic growth, and both this and the surrounding halo are due to the growth of a curious and interesting fungus. At some stage or another of its development the fly became infected with the spores of the fungus. Either these spores floating about in the air settled on the insect, or else they were eaten by it along with its food. Then the hyaline or underground parts of the point, coxite, and ramified through the body of the fly, finally causing it to sicken and die. Then the fungus sprouted up through its body and appeared as a fringe of minute white filaments. These on becoming mature shot forth their spores, and thus formed the white circle which surrounds the fly. This fungus is a species of Empusa, and since it occurs on the house fly it has been called Empusa musca.

Travelling Men in Mexico.

Cheap travelling men who can pick up orders in a brisk and breezy fashion in the West and Southwest of our own country are not the men who may be expected to do business in Mexico, says Consul J. A. Le Roy of Durango. The professional "hunter" is quite apt to be of no use down here. Men of education and culture, with gentlemanly manners and a knowledge of the language, the people and their customs, are the sort of travelling men Americanfrs need not only for this country, but for all Spanish America.

Against Sunday Outings.

At an assembly of the English Baptist Union a resolution was passed protesting against the increasing profanation of Sunday. The Rev. D. Davies spoke with much vigor on the disturbances of the sacred day by motorists and golfers. The terror of Kent used to be the hop pickers from the slums of London, now the demoralizing invaders are the golfers from the West End, who are conveyed by special trains. The ranting about on Sundays after popular preachers was included in the indictment.

Portland Stone Quarries.

On the Isle of Portland, in the south of England, there are certain quarries of limestone which have been worked for many years. In former times producing building stone. In 1824 an Englishman named Joseph Asplin of Leeds patented a process for mixing and burning lime and clay. The product looked so much like the Portland limestone that he called it "Portland cement," from which the commonly known name given to nearly all kinds of hydraulic cement was derived.

Rubber Production.

Some idea of the enormous quantity of rubber used every year can be obtained from the following necessarily rough estimate of French statistics. They calculate that the present total annual production of rubber is not less than 57,000,000 pounds. Of this total about 55 per cent comes from South America and Africa, and considerably over 45 per cent of the finished product is consumed in the United States. Germany is the second largest user of rubber.

Opposes Child Labor Law.

Mrs. Elizabeth Jacobs, Secretary of the Industrial League of Washington, objects to the law passed in the District of Columbia forbidding children under fourteen to work. She cites the fact that Clay, Lincoln, Garfield and other great men had early thrust upon them the responsibility of life, and insists that children who are poor have nothing to do in hours when they are out of school are much more likely to get into mischief than those employed.

Education in Turkey.

Elementary education is enforced nominally in Turkey for boys from six to eleven years of age and for girls from six to ten. There are 36,230 schools of various kinds, which have about 1,331,200 pupils, or one out of every twenty-four of the population.

Australia's New Steel Plant.

Australia's first iron and steel plant is soon to be established in New South Wales. The plant is to be an extensive one and will be operated by an Australian firm, but the equipment, involving an expenditure of \$1,000,000, will be purchased in the Pittsburgh district.

Etiquette of Roman Doors.

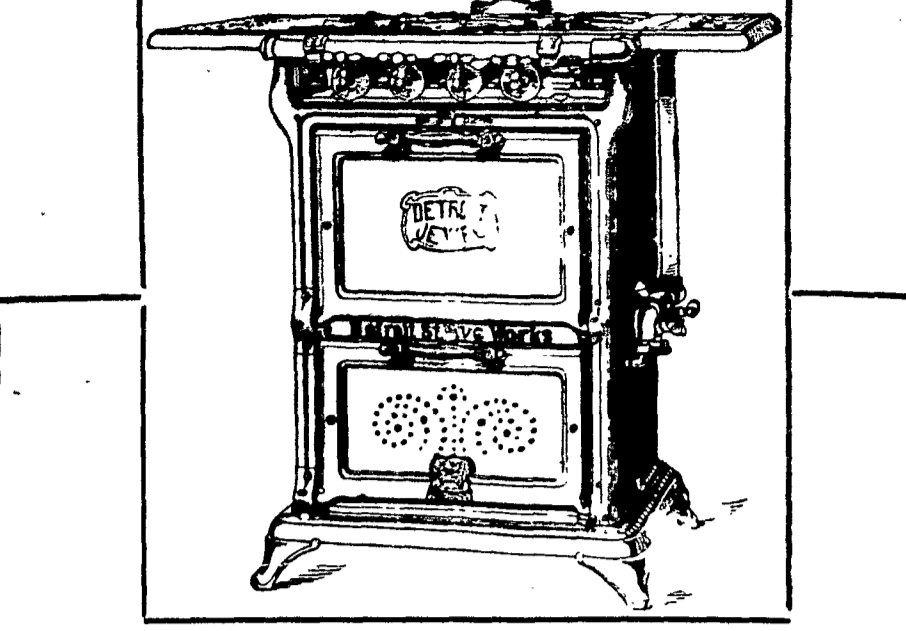
Greek and Roman doors always opened outward, and when a man was passing out of the house he knocked on the door so as not to open it in the face of the passerby.

A Horse Census.

A cavalry authority in Belgium estimates that there are more than 30,000,000 horses in the world. There are 22,000,000 in Russia, while Germany and Austria-Hungary each has more than the British Isles, where it is reckoned there are about 3,000,000.—New York Times.

Weddings in London.

The record of a year's weddings in London shows: Established Church, 58,888; Roman Catholic, 2,954; Nonconformist, 3,606; registrar's office, 14,058; Quakers, 14; Jews, 2,574.



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