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## ALIENS ALLOWED TO VOTE

### Law Grants This Right Before Naturalization.

### HIS POSITION ABOARD

Nine States Extend to Newly Arrived Immigrants the Right to Vote Immediately Upon Their Declaration of Intention to Become American Citizens.

There is probably not more than one man in a hundred—outside of political circles—who knows that there are nine States in the Federal Union where an alien, just landed in this country, may in all sincerity and truth say:

"Hold me valise until I cast me vote."

In other words, there are nine States that extend to the newly arrived foreigner the privilege to exercise the suffrage immediately upon his declaration of intention to become an American citizen, whether uttered in good faith or not. These States are Arkansas, Indiana, Kansas, Michigan, Missouri, Nebraska, Texas, Oregon and Wisconsin.

A number of States have adopted lax laws governing the right of suffrage for aliens. The Federal Government is not so considerate of the foreigner to reside in this country and qualify for citizenship. Except as to the right to acquire public lands the political status of an alien under the Federal laws is unchanged by his declaration of an intention to become a citizen.

One who has made the declaration is really in the position of having no look to for protection in case of need. His citizenship is in an inchoate state. It has not, however, been acquired, and the person who has made the declaration is still an alien, but as he has formally declared his intention to throw off his former allegiance and take on allegiance to the United States, the foreign government of which he was a citizen cannot be expected to extend its protection to him. Whether or not he is entitled to the protection of this government, if he goes abroad for a temporary sojourn, was formerly a question of doubt.

A year or so ago President Roosevelt created a commission to investigate and report upon the subject of naturalization in the United States. Among the recommendations made by that body was the following:

"That the declaration of intention be abolished and there be substituted in its place a petition to be filed with the court before which the application for naturalization shall be heard at least ninety days before the hearing."

The object of this proposed law was to prevent what is regarded by a good many people as an abuse of the ballot in the States named above. Congress refused to strike from the statutes the provision requiring the declaration of intention. Why? Perhaps some of the practical politicians could explain. The Naturalization Commission, composed of able and conscientious officials, considered and rejected in its report all the arguments for an against the declaration of intention, and came to this conclusion:

"It is the commission's opinion that the arguments against it are conclusive, and it is recommended that it be abolished and additional safeguards concentrated upon the final naturalization proceedings."

Congress, compromised by inserting in Section 6 of the new naturalization act these words:

"That no person shall be naturalized nor shall any certificate of naturalization be issued by any court within thirty days preceding the holding of any general election within its territorial jurisdiction."

When Congress passed the law it undoubtedly had in mind frauds against the ballot. By failing to strike out the requirement as to the declaration of intention it left a loophole for violations of the spirit of the law in the States that deal so gently with an alien declarant. On this subject the Bureau of Naturalization says:

"The obvious intention of the proviso that no person should be naturalized nor any certificate of naturalization be issued by any court within thirty days preceding the holding of a general election was to prevent fraudulent voting. It was not taken into consideration when the act was passed that a number of States permitted alien declarants to exercise the right of suffrage equally with citizens of the United States, and hence the exact terms of the proviso applied only to naturalization, which is the usual prerequisite to voting. In other words, the terms of the present act are not such as to enable the Government to maintain a prosecution for accepting declarations of intentions within thirty days of a general election where such declarations are made for the purpose of acquiring the right to vote within thirty days after being made."

Under the new law, the declaration of intention will be in force and effect for a period of seven years. It is provided however, that no alien who has made a declaration under prior laws shall be required to take out a new declaration, so that he is in the position of having a permanent right to vote in the States which grant such a declarant the privilege of the ballot.

## STATE OF WHICH ROOMS CHINA

Has Adopted to Permit Its Appearance.

If Mrs. Roosevelt's plan is followed by successive mistresses of the White House, that historic old home will have among its interesting exhibits a display of the presidential china as complete as it is possible to make at this late day. One thing is assured and that is that the wily second-hand dealer will hereafter have opportunity to bid for the ware which has served at a banquet board of the nation. The quaint old cabinets that are placed in the grand corridor which forms the pathway for guests at the large functions at the White House contain a collection of all the china used in the hands of private collectors. This assortment which is, after all, but the flotsam and jetsam of the ware that has been used by the successive denizens of the White House, is being classified and catalogued and put in a condition to be readily studied by those who make old china their hobby.

Prominent in the exhibit now on display are the quaint old fruit baskets of pierced ware and the large punch bowl bearing on its wide curving sides the great seal of the United States, which were used by President Lincoln on the occasion of his state dinner. Nearby stand the highly colored and elaborately decorated cake baskets of Grant's service and flanking these are the very modern cups and saucers of Limoges which were used in the McKinley regime. Novelties that at once catch the eye are the odd little almond dishes, which in color, shape and marking, are exact reproductions of the flags of the United States, Great Britain, Germany and France. Unfortunately, no mistress of the executive mansion has hitherto taken much interest in the ware and accordingly the greater collections are outside the White House walls. Col. William H. Crook, for forty years executive clerk at the White House, and himself a collector, is possibly the best authority on the subject of White House china.

According to Col. Crook, there is more of the George and Martha Washington china extant than that of all the earlier administration put together. The china used both at Mt. Vernon and the executive mansions at New York and Philadelphia is to be found in collections which have come to their possessors by right of descent. General and Martha Washington both specifying with great particularity the disposition of the household ware in their wills. Most of Mrs. Washington's china went first to her grandson, George Washington Parke Custis, by whom it was willed in turn to George Washington Custis Lee, the eldest son of Gen. Robert E. Lee. This special heritage had a varied history. The collection which embraced the famous "Van Brunt" and "Cincinnati" sets was taken from Arlington, the ancestral home of the Lees, during the civil war and stored with other Washington relics in the patent office.

Later it was brought forth and appropriately scheduled, was put on exhibition in the National museum, where it remained until the late President McKinley relinquished it to Miss Mary E. Lee in the summer of 1898.

In the early history of the republic Congress twice a year appointed a committee from its members to visit the White House and investigate its cupboards and closets and receive the steward's report. In this way it was hoped that the china would be kept intact, but not for a long time has the sober task been in the hands of the congressional solons. A nick or a crack has always been sufficient to delegate any piece to the storehouse where "it remained until the coming of a new administration when it was disposed of to the highest bidder. Even so recently as President Cleveland's time no special value was attached to the White House china and in this way the articles, which are now almost priceless, drifted from the hands of the proper custodians. Nowadays a rigid rule is in force that every piece of damaged ware must be turned over to the steward who in turn delivers it to the superintendent of buildings and grounds. Mrs. Roosevelt herself has taken the matter up and upon her determination it has been given out that no china shall be disposed during her regime.

### Splitting Rock With Air.

The expansive force of compressed air is employed in a very interesting way by a North Carolina granite company. On a sloping hillside, composed of granite which shows no bed planes, but splits readily in any direction when started, a three-inch bore is sunk about eight feet deep, and the bottom is enlarged by exploding half a stick of dynamite.

A small charge of powder is fired in this hole, which starts a horizontal crack, of cleavage. Charges increasing in size are exploded until the cleavage has extended over a radius of seventy-five or a hundred feet. Then a pipe is cemented into the bore, and air is forced in, under a pressure of from eighty to a hundred pounds.

The expansion of the air extends the cleavage until it comes out at the surface on the slope of the hill. A sheet of granite several acres in extent may thus be separated.

### Astronomers Long Lived.

Astronomers are the longest lived of any class, even excepting clergy. Thirteen of the great astronomers have been over ninety at their deaths and thirty-two over eighty.

## SIMPLE LIFE IN JAPAN

### College Professor and Wife Live on \$230 a Year.

### NO TABLE LINEN USED

This Even Keeps the Wife in Tobacco—A Learned Man's Home in Kioto—One Servant Possible on the Income Named—Some Japanese Domestic Economy.

A land where a college professor—educated in America—can support a wife and save money on a salary of \$400 a year may be said to have achieved the simple life.

The house in which the professor lived in Kioto is described by a writer in the Craftsman as a wooden structure twenty-four feet by twenty-five, on a plot of land thirty feet front and fifty feet deep. It was shut in by an artificially made bamboo fence five feet high. The fence was solid, so no prying eyes might see in.

Stepping down from the rickshaws we passed through the gate to the vestibule. There, leaving my shoes, and my friend and the maid their sandals, we entered the house in stocking feet.

The first room, a six mat one, was nine by twelve feet. It was divided by sliding screens from the one next the garden, a corner room twelve feet wide and at that time twenty-four feet long. Through the center of this large room were the iron grooves in the floor and overhead for the sliding screens that at night would divide it into two sleeping rooms, but as the day was warm and fair the screens had been lifted out and stacked away, leaving an unbroken space.

When formalities were over and we were pleasantly chatting in walking the husband and professor, just back from college.

The little wife drew out her tiny pipe and took her three puffs from it, while the professor smoked his native cigarette as we talked.

"I pay twenty yen (\$10) a month rent," said Dr. Maqui. "That is high rent for a professor, but we are near the college that I can walk back and forth, saving the cost of a rickshaw and of getting my lunch on my way. To build such a house as this would cost about \$300, and the land is valued at \$500."

"Our one servant does all the work, and we pay her thirty yen a year. To be sure, my wife gives her a kimono now and again, but they cost only a yen apiece. She lived with my wife's mother, and is trained so she can make up ripped garments and do all necessary sewing. When my wife has guests she prepares and serves the meal so well we need only buy sweets."

"Can she wash?" I asked.

"Our wash is so small she can easily do it," he replied. "With you it would be necessary to send your clothes to a laundry, as I do my foreign garments."

Then I remembered that in a Japanese household there are no tablecloths, napkins, sheets, pillow cases or curtains to be done up, for none of these are used. The meals are served on individual lacquer trays, and each person carries in his sleeves a paper napkin that is destroyed when soiled.

The bedding consisted of futones, heavy wadded coverings. One laid on the floor served as a bed and a second one furnished all the covering necessary.

Pillows were curved wooden blocks or hard rolls of rice husk, and over these each night was laid a sheet of fresh white paper. The Japanese take so many hot baths, two a day being the usual number, that their garments do not become soiled as do ours. When their kimonos are dirty they either wash them intact in tiny tubs before which they crouch or rip them up and wash the pieces.

Their drying process takes the place of our ironing, for they never use an iron. The ripped pieces, very wet, are spread smooth and flat on long boards.

These boards are then stood against the sides of the house in the sun and air. When dry the material is carefully pulled off and will be as stiff and smooth as if it had been starched and ironed.

"Do tell me what your other expenses are," I asked.

"Fuel," he answered, "costs about twenty-five yen a year, light ten yen, and ten yen I pay to the Government for my house tax."

"Then there is the item of clothes. Mine are expensive, for I must have both foreign and native, but my wife was so well provided at our marriage that she has bought nothing since. Last year I spent fifty yen on clothes."

"Our food costs us about a hundred yen. You know there is never any waste in a Japanese kitchen, and every morsel is eaten."

"Four hundred and sixty-five yen. Yes, that is close to what we spent last year, for my salary is 300 yen a year; and I paid off 200 yen of my debt."

The hardest wood is not ebony, but cocco. It grows in the West Indies, and is used for making flutes and similar instruments.

When first taken from the mine opals are so soft that pieces can be picked off with the fingers.

## COST OF EARTHQUAKES

Measures Adopted to Minimize Loss of Life and Property.

The annual loss of life in the world occasioned by earthquakes is, on the average, about 2,000. This number is fairly in accordance with the numbers lost during the past twelve months. On October 3, 1921, Japan lost 2,350 of her people, or double the number lost in her war with China. The wounded numbered 19,994. With a single earthquake in 1893 the loss of life in the same country approached 20,000. If we turn to the loss of property, after the earthquake of 1891, \$29,000,000 was required for the restoration of railways, roads, bridges and other public works. In addition to this 125,750 houses, together with factories, temples and other buildings had to be restored.

In 1897, after a disastrous earthquake in Assam, the chief commissioner of that country reported to the secretary of the government of India that their own resources had been exhausted, and, with the object of restoring various public works, a grant from the imperial revenues would be required to assist his administration. The total damage occasioned, much of which had to be met by shareholders in railways, tea factories and other industries, was roughly estimated at \$25,000,000. Speaking generally, a large earthquake in a populated country often results in damage to the extent of several millions.

If it is asked whether these expenditures can be reduced the answer is distinctly in the affirmative. One of the outcomes of modern seismology has been to devise instruments which measure earthquake motion, writes Professor Mitne in the London Daily Mail. From a knowledge of the actual nature of earthquake motion derived from the use of these instruments new rules and formulae for the use of engineers and builders have been established. In Japan and other countries these have been extensively applied in the construction of bridges, tall chimneys, walls, ordinary dwellings, embankments, reservoirs, etc. Inasmuch as the new types of structures have withstood violent earth shaking, while ordinary types in the neighborhood have failed it can be confidently stated that much has already been accomplished to minimize the loss of life and property.

As a side issue to this work it may be mentioned that the application of seismometry to the working of railways, particularly in Japan, has led to the localization of faults on lines and alterations in the balancing of locomotives. The result of the latter has been to decrease the consumption of fuel. Of late years instruments have been devised to record earthquakes' motion which cannot be felt, with the result that a person living in any one part of the world can record and obtain definite information about large earthquakes originating even as far off as his antipodes. These records of the unaided movements of earthquakes indicate the time, position, and what is of more importance, also the cause of certain cable interruptions. The practical importance of this latter information, especially to communities who may by cable failures be suddenly isolated from the rest of the world, is evident.

On at least one occasion the failure of cables connecting the Australian colonies with Europe was regarded as an operation of war, with the result that military and naval reserves were called out, and until it became known that the interruptions had been caused by a submarine disturbance off the coast of Java a certain anxiety prevailed. Observations now being carried out in England and other countries are indicating sub-oceanic districts which should be avoided by the cable engineer.

Seismometry is therefore not merely an academic study increasing our knowledge of the nature of the interior of the planet in which we live, but it is one of immediate practical importance to all who have financial interests in earthquake-shaken countries. Insurance companies may require an inspection of an electric installation before taking up risks against fire, but hitherto I am not aware that when insuring against earthquakes they demand any report upon construction. They defend themselves against the acts of God; yet policies are frequently not sufficiently comprehensive to guard against the acts of nature.

### Collars and Land.

In Brooklyn there lives an industrious manufacturer of men's and women's collars. This merchant began his business career by peddling notions along Gotham's Broadway, and that not so many years ago. For several years he has had a side-line in operating on options covering real estate in the neighborhood of the easterly terminus of the second bridge, and has been uniformly successful in his holdings. During the past twelve months Mr. Wide-awake's dealings in property transactions have yielded a net profit of upward of \$150,000. Asked if he now proposed retiring from the collar industry, this philosophic observer was vouchsafed: "No, for the reason that the land and building boom will not last for all time, whereas people will always wear collars."

### England's Apple Import.

England imports about 150,000 bushels of apples per week; they come from the United States and Canada. Those from Oregon bring the highest price.

## SALT FROM THE SKY

### Saltine Showers Fertilize Utah and Wyoming

### DEPOSIT LIKE SNOW

Western Wheatland and Cheyenne Reported With Snow of Salt Deposits Which Fall From the Heavens. The Phenomenon Occurs in Other Countries.

One of the earliest phenomena of Utah and Wyoming is an occasional rainfall of salt water. Recently there was reported to the Weather Bureau an instance of a rainfall of this kind throughout a belt of country extending from Ogden, Utah, to Evanston, Wyoming. "This shower of rain," so strongly impregnated with salt that the clothes of persons upon whom it fell were, when dried, thickly crusted with a white powder, which was nothing more than common sea salt. Umbrellas were white with it, and panes of glass in the windows were rendered for the time opaque, says the Philadelphia Record.

According to this report, the whole town of Evanston looked as if it had been whitewashed. When the sky cleared the roofs glistened in the sun as if with frozen snow. The Weather Bureau men estimated that in the town of Evanston an amount of salt equivalent to 25 tons had fallen.

The shower lasted about two hours, and during all this time the rain which fell was saline.

This phenomenon is far from being a new one. The wind was from the west, and all the rains that are impregnated with salt in that region come from that quarter. The cause is not hard to find: It is simply the Great Salt Lake of Utah, that vast body of intensely salt water, out of which, under favorable conditions, a considerable quantity of salt may be taken up into the atmosphere, to be precipitated later upon the surrounding country.

Evanston is about 15 miles from the nearest waters of Great Salt Lake, and it is regarded as a somewhat remarkable fact that so great a quantity of salt should have been borne so far.

There is, however, another community than that presided by the Great Salt Lake itself, for the preparation of the air with salt in Central Asia. There are salt deposits all through the vast region between the Rocky and Nevada Mountains, which are lying less than great salt lakes than up Great Salt Lake itself. In some places more salt is found than in other depressions. Salt water has literally turned to salt.

Compared with Moore Lake, Owen's Lake, the waters of Great Salt Lake seemed mild. Owen's Lake, in a sense, supplies showers of soda water instead of salt water, for its waters, in addition to being salt, are the most strongly impregnated with soda of any lacustrine basin in the United States. It is estimated that the quantity of soda deposited in the basin of Owen's Lake is not less than 150,000,000 tons.

So common is salt in some form in the closed basins of the West that the peaks and hills of salt, which line the slopes of Death Valley, are anything but rare. Here and there the salt is driven before the wind like drifting snow in a desert depression.

The United States is not the only country in which salt showers occur. In Persia, India, China, Japan, and from the Atlantic to the Pacific, far inland, perceptible quantities of sodium chloride have been found in the rain water. In England the land coatings of the salt have been found on the trees many miles inland after a heavy rain from the sea, and showers no less saline than those of Evanston have fallen in the neighborhood of the Capricorn Sea.

Intelligence of the Day. That a politician on what would be a great city would be more respected by criminals if accompanied by powerful and dangerous dogs is reasonable supposition, yet the mailed for little Belgium to put out this innovation in crime. Ghent, Mons, Bruges and Antwerp an innovation which has been to other parts of Europe.

As time went on, says a writer in the Century, and the number of the night crimes even in the quarters of Ghent, almost none. Canning, in fact, had arrived to outwit the soldiers, but these, big with shot, and the soldiers, who were not so big with shot, were not so big with shot.

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