

oust 12 Kings IN EIGHT YEARS

Overthrow of George of Greece, Latest Ruler to Lose His Crown.

London.—The sudden exile of George II of Greece marks the passing of the twelfth crown in Europe in eight years. One has only to call the roll, beginning with King Nicholas of Montenegro, who fled to Italy on January, 19, 1916, to realize how obsolete has become that phrase, "the divine right of kings."

Only a year ago the 28th of September George II ascended to the throne of Greece after his father had been forced to abdicate for the second time. But even in that brief period of the former crown prince and his beautiful queen, Elisabeth, the daughter of Queen Marie of Rumania, have learned how hard it is to please any of the people very much of the time. On November 12 of this year the military Republican faction in Greece asked the king to take two months vacation, George failed to leave as quickly as desired and he later found it impossible to go and remained a prisoner in the palace.

Ever since 1832 Greece has had a turbulent time with her various kings, but the disease with which she is afflicted now seems to be a general European ailment.

Had Dream of Balkan Empire. The abdication of Nicholas of Montenegro was in another way symbolic of the general situation in Europe. It represented the thwarting of his ambitions for a greater empire, in his case with Serbia in the Balkans, just as the motor car rush of the Kaiser for Holland on the midnight of November 9, 1918, symbolized the wrecking of his dreams of world empire.

In August, 1910, Nicholas became sufficiently bold to take the title of king. Before then he had been archduke. He had been very popular and had taught his people to fight the Turk and how to work. For himself he learned how to play American poker, and this did not help the Montenegrin treasury to any extent.

After his overthrow he set up a court at Neuilly, near Paris, where he amused himself for some time and tried vainly to get back his crown. Nicholas had six beautiful daughters. Helena became queen of Italy. Another was the mother of Alexander of Serbia and another a Russian grand duchess. He died at Antibes, France, on March 1, 1921, after many vain attempts to recover his throne.

The story of the tragic ending of the czar of Russia's vacillating reign has been told so often and has in it so much of romance, adventure and intrigue that it is familiar to all. Nicholas II had reigned twenty years when the World War broke out. The revolution came in March, 1917.

Death of Russia's Czar. The czar and his family then went into exile in Siberia. On his way from the capital he mentions in his diary: "Sentries and whole regiments passed—were silent and did not even salute. My spirit is heavy." Their failure to salute was an omen of the end, for the czar had forever lost his hold upon the people and from that time his wanderings did not cease. When he returned to Russia he was held by the Bolsheviks.

With his wife and children Nicholas II was killed on the night of July 16, 1918, at Ekaterinburg. The Soviet government finally issued an official report of the arrest and slaying of the Romanoff family. Of the twelve monarchs who have lost their thrones the end of Czar Nicholas II is undoubtedly the most tragic of all.

Chronologically King Ferdinand of Bulgaria was the third ruler to lose his crown. During the World War he had managed to hold on to it with one hand and keep his sword in the other. In 1918, however, this became increasingly difficult. Ferdinand had to devote both hands to his sword, and while doing so the Bulgarian regal bonnet slipped away.

Czar Ferdinand had held iron sway while it lasted. In September, 1918, he started hastily off for Coburg, taking enough of the family fortune to keep him in good spirits for the rest of his life. Prince Boris succeeded Ferdinand. Only a month later his abdication was reported, but Boris III is still on the Bulgarian throne.

With the defeat of the central powers in 1918 there was a grand exit of emperors, kings, thrones, crowns and scepters. The Kaiser and Emperor Karl of Austria bowed themselves off the stage at about the same time. King Friedrich August, king of Saxony, who had been ruling since October, 1904, was ousted from grace. On November 16, 1918, King Ludwig III renounced the throne of Bavaria. It required another couple of weeks for the venerable William II, king of Wurtemberg, to follow suit, but he did so on November 30. He insisted upon retaining the title of Duke of Wurtemberg, and lived at Beckenhansen castle, in the Black Forest, most of the time after that until his death on October 2, 1921.

Bavarian Monarch Flees. Emperor Karl of Austria went to Switzerland and made two unsuccessful attempts to regain his throne. These royalist revolutions resulted in the allies exiling him to Funchal, where he died in 1922.

Ludwig III of Bavaria took the throne in 1913 when his father, Ludwig II, died on the November day in which he renounced his throne in

wife, Marie Theresa, who was princess royal of Hungary and Bohemia, died suddenly. This double calamity greatly affected Ludwig. He died with other royal members of his household in the Austrian Tyrol. He died at Sarvar castle in Hungary in October, 1921.

The exit of King Friedrich August of Saxony was less dignified than the abdication of Ludwig. The Saxon monarch was forcibly deposed on Armistice day, 1918; with two grand dukes. The grand duke of Oldenburg, whose house dated back to 1088, and the grand duke of Mecklenburg-Schwerin, who had been on his throne since 1901, were both deprived of their thrones with Friedrich August.

Death of Constantine. With a new government and an attempt at independence King Fuad I took charge of Egyptian affairs early in 1922. Under his reign visitors in Egypt suffered more outrages than had occurred in many years. Independence had been proclaimed and a constitution adopted, but the country was more troubled than before. Finally, in November, 1922, the various parties united to oust the king Fuad I, who had been on his throne since 1917, and a provisional government was formed. The king was deposed and was justified in his selection, for he was asked to abdicate.

A development which aroused much more interest was the dramatic abdication of Mahomet VI, sultan of Turkey, on November 17, 1922. In April, 1922, the sultan appealed to the Moslem world to ignore the divorcing of the sultanate and call it a mere change of government. But this did not stop the growth of the Angora party or the weakening of Mahomet's influence. Early on the morning of November 17, 1922, the sultan fled from his palace in Constantinople and placed himself under British care. He took passage to Malta on the British battleship Malaya and has been living in seclusion at San Remo.

The late King Constantine lost his crown twice since 1916. He ascended to the throne in March, 1913, but the spring of 1917 brought much trouble to the Greek king, who was closely tied up with the cause of his brother-in-law, the Kaiser. On June 11 he was deposed by the allies and fled to Switzerland. A plebiscite was held in Greece in December, 1920, to determine whether Constantine should come back. He was recalled.

When Constantine returned to Athens from his exile he was given a tremendous ovation, and a great wave of popularity and patriotism followed. Reverses of the army in Asia Minor and his final defeat turned the tide against the king. He abdicated the second time on September 27, 1922, and he died the following January at Palermo, Sicily.

Foreign Born Population Center Now in Indiana. Washington.—The center of foreign born population of the country is located in Allen county, Indiana, 10.9 miles east of New Haven, having taken a southward trend after two decades of southward movement. In determining the foreign born center, the census bureau found it had moved 18.9 miles in the ten years from 1910 to 1920. Its movement was 11.5 miles eastward and 15 miles southward.

The change in direction of the movement of this center from east to west is due principally to the increase in foreign born white population in the state of California," says the bureau. "The total increase in the foreign born white population in the United States was 367,293 and the increase in the states of Texas, California and Arizona was 310,222, or 89 per cent of the total increase."

Hen Charged With Theft of Gem Freed by Judge. Boston.—A hen cannot steal and Lady Camille is beyond the clutches of the law. It was ruled in the Chelsea district court by Judge Blossom. So the blue Orpington hen which plucked a diamond from a ring on the finger of George A. Hennessey and was arrested for larceny was restored to her coop at a chicken show here.

Hennessey had no redress against John Strom, owner of Lady Camille, the court said, as Strom had not committed larceny. Unless Strom relents and extracts the jewel or sells the bird to Hennessey, the latter must do without his diamond.

Chicken Scratch Costs Child Eye. Sandusky, O.—Mena Amosch, three, had her left eye removed by a specialist here as the result of a scratch made near the eye by a small chicken with which she was playing. Poisoning developed and the operation was resorted to in an effort to save the child's life.

Town in Alaska Free From Taxes. Iditarod, Alaska.—This town, in the heart of a gold placer district, finds it unnecessary this year to make a tax levy. The municipality has a reserve of \$3,500 in the treasury. Revenues from federal licenses will amount to more than the expenses of the town government. It is planned to build a municipal electric plant out of the surplus and to furnish the current free to residents.

Iditarod has a winter population of about twenty-two. In summer, during the mining season, several hundred are here.

News From the Settlement. Nothin' doin' since my last letter. The weather was so bad people couldn't get out of a rowd' Cain. We hear tell of a widow lady that came by parcel post. Queer things happen in these times. Yesterday a mule pulled an automobile out of the road and then kicked it to pieces.

Proverbs. No matter where you stir a blaze the world will come to warm its hands. "The snakes can't find a drunken fisherman to bite," says The Whitsett Courier, "and that's why there are so many live snakes now."

OLD CUSTOMS STILL IN USE

Certain Articles Must Be Presented to the King of England as in Ancient Days.

We (the people of England) pride ourselves that we are governed by a constitutional sovereign and that the old heresy of the divine right of kings to govern wrongly has been exploded and is not likely to be set up again. Yet occasionally we are reminded of an incident or custom which carries us back to the days of feudalism.

For instance, the feudal quit rent for a plot of land in Shropshire, granted to the city of London in 1211 by King John. It consists of a new batchet, a new billbook and two faggots. These articles must be presented to the king every year by the city corporation, and it is a fact that the two faggots are solemnly chopped in pieces by the city solicitor at the law courts in the presence of various high officials. The "chops," together with batchet and billbook, are handed to the king's remembrancer.

This ceremony is preceded by another of a similar character, for six horseshoes and sixty-one nails are handed to the king's representative. They represent the rent for the plot of ground now occupied by the law courts. This plot was occupied at one time by a farrer, whose duty it was to shoe the horses of the knights who fought in the tournaments held close at hand.

King George's feudal status is even more marked in the Channel Islands. When the sovereign visited Jersey some time ago the seigniors knelt before him.

They placed their hands between his and recited the oath of homage in Norman French, while the king reading from a card held by the queen, confirmed each seignior in his privilege. The holder of one fief was a woman who, for the land she held, presented the king with a pair of golden spurs.—London Tit Bits.

STEEL AND IRON CORROSION

Engineers Find No Appreciable Difference Between Metals When Used in Steam Boilers.

Iron and steel are almost equally resistant to the effects of corroding in sea-water. As far back as 1881 the engineer surveyors of Lloyd's investigated no less than 1,100 marine steel boilers in actual use and found it impossible to distinguish between them and the iron boilers, so far as liability to corrosion was concerned.

In 1901 37 of the leading American and British shipbuilders were asked for their opinion on the subject. Seven held steel to be more corrodfible than iron, eight held the opposite view, eight were uncertain, and fourteen could report no difference between the two metals. In 1921 a careful examination of 80 samples of pipes from hot-water systems in New York city revealed no appreciable difference between iron and steel. Last year an investigation of 21 samples of wrought iron that had seen much service showed that the mean depth of the pittings was 0.004 inches, whereas the pittings in 21 steel samples showed a mean depth of 0.0083.

Snakes Cannot Charm. The principal venomous snakes in this country are rattlesnakes, vipers, copperheads and moccasins. Venomous snakes have teeth on their upper palate not on the upper jaw. On each side of the upper jaw two hollow, backward-curving fangs have poison glands at their base, and pressure on the fangs causes an emission of the poison. The fangs are shed at regular intervals pushed out by incipient fangs.

Capt. Reginald Haselton, an expert on medieval manuscripts and a trainer of snakes on the side, says snakes possess no charming power. He believes, however, that the staring lidless eyes of snakes may auto-suggestively put a person into a sort of hypnotic trance.

It seems to have been conclusively established that the number of rattles on a rattlesnake's tail have nothing to do with the age of the snake. Detroit News.

Not Her Hubby. The woman had just lost her husband and had gone to a summer hotel to rest. She often dreamed of her husband and she would sometimes get up in the middle of the night to see if he wasn't walking about. Any little disturbance caused her to be frightened. One night mysterious raps were heard on the wall of the summer hotel.

"Great goodness," cried the frightened woman in room 13 "I wonder if that could be my departed husband?"

"No," growled the man in room 14, "it's the people on the other floor killing mosquitoes with their slippers."

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NORTHERN SHRIKE BIRD

"The birds," said Daddy, "are frightened of Mr. Northern Shrike who has black wings and a black tail with touches of white. He has a black spot behind the eye and his body is of a grayish black color."

"He is about the size of a robin, and I must tell you later about the one I saw the other day. I've been seeing a good many birds this fall—it seems as though many were late in getting away. Of course the Northern Shrike come down to us in the winter time, but many of the other birds who go 'way, 'way South have not as yet started."

"There is a kind of a sociability about the birds at this time that somehow is always especially to be noticed. At least I have noticed it. The other day, for example, I saw a lot of friendly cow birds having a regular afternoon chat in a field."

"I don't know when I've seen so many of them together. 'And I saw a group of lovely bluebirds high up in the air having a sociable time with each other, talking in their soft, beautiful voices, soon to start away for the winter."

"Mr. Northern Shrike has cousins named Loggerhead Shrikes. The Loggerheads wear white waistcoats and their black touches are blacker than those of the Northern Shrikes—for though I said the Northern Shrikes have black touches often it's a gray black and the Loggerheads don't care for gray."

The Loggerheads are a little smaller than the Northern Shrikes. They whistle in their harsh way and they build their nests in thickets of twigs and leaves. They lay about five or six or even seven eggs so that many little Loggerheads come along to do the cruel things their family has always delighted in doing."

"Shrikes, it is true, eat grasshoppers and small mice but they eat little birds, too. And they kill more than they can eat and leave their food hanging from their beaks so that often they are called butcher birds because their bodies look like butcher shops."

The Northern Shrikes have breasts which are barred. They have feet which are like the feet of other small birds and it is almost impossible for them to hold their prey in their grasp. So they bang it on thorns and tear the bits they want to eat from these hooks of thorns by pulling with their beaks.

"But they leave a great deal on the thorns which they do not want to eat, and that is the worst part of them. For they have eyes which are bigger than their stomachs as the saying is. They think they want more to eat than they really can eat."

"And, too, it shows such a horrid desire to want to eat little birds, even when they are sure they have enough to eat in the house as it is."

"But Mr. Northern Shrike was fooled the other day. He was looking out of his cruel eyes and seeing what there was about for him when suddenly he noticed there seemed to be no bird about at all."

"What had happened?" He couldn't understand. "And what do you suppose had happened?" "I can't possibly guess," said Nancy. "Neither can I," said Nick. "Tell us, please, Daddy," urged Nancy.

"A brave little robin had warned the other birds that the shrike was nearby. 'Yes, he had been brave and had risked his life going near to make sure so as to warn the other birds. 'And he had escaped, too!'"

"Oh, how mad Mr. Northern Shrike was! I wanted to have a good hunt today," he said to himself. "This weather is so bracing and makes me feel like marketing in my usual wild fashion."

"But Mr. Northern Shrike was not to do his marketing in the way he had planned. 'He was not going to find birds in the market, for the birds had all been warned I say and he grumbled to himself. 'Wretches aren't in the market today. Wretches, wretched, wretched!'"

"But the birds, as you may imagine, didn't think it was wretched at all. 'They were thankful they were safely away from Northern Shrike, and now that they had started moving, they thought it would be a good time to continue their journey south—to be gone all winter.'"

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