

LURS OF LURISTAN NATIVES OF PERSIA

Ancient Province One of the Most Backward Regions.

Washington.—"News dispatches telling that Teheran troops have subdued the Lurs of Luristan open a vista of history which is almost as long and fully as alluring as the revelations of Tutankhamen's tomb," says a bulletin from the Washington headquarters of the National Geographic society.

"Persia itself is the only land of Old Testament times which retains its identity, name and nationality to this day, and the Lurs are believed to be the aborigines of this ancient country.

Persia Still Primitive.

"The laws of the Medes and Persians have become a synonym of immutability; Persia itself, almost roadless, primitive and isolated, is essentially unchanged. And the remote Luristan province, on its western border, corrugated by mountain ranges, is one of the most backward and unaltered regions of all Persia.

"Luristan nominally accepted Mohammedanism, but the Lurs pay scant attention to the Koran or to the prophet. Their religion embraces a philosophical belief in reincarnation and the practice of ancient heathen rites.

"The Elam of the Book of Esther included Luristan and the ruins of Susa, within the borders of the present province, yielded to excavators of recent years specimens of pottery bearing geometrical designs, reminders that some of our mathematics, especially our algebra, came from Persia.

Where Wine Came From.

"Some of our finest fruits and flowers, much of our jewelry, and the wine which no longer is ours, are Persian gifts to our civilization. A Persian legend attributes the discovery of wine to a queen's toothache.

"A shah had placed grapes in a jar to preserve them and they fermented, so the story runs. Thereupon his majesty marked the jars 'poison.' After sleepless nights with a throbbing molar, the queen determined to end her misery and swallowed a liberal portion of the 'poison.'

"She fell into a deep sleep, and when she awakened the pain had gone! Therefore, the native will tell you, the Persian word for wine to this day means 'sweet poison.'

Alexander's Last Campaign.

"A superstitious general might hesitate to invade Luristan. There Alexander the Great made his last campaign, offering up the enemy as human sacrifices to the spirit of his friend, Hephaestus. There, too, Antiochus IV attempted to loot the temples, was driven into the shameful retreat mentioned in Maccabees, and shortly after that experience he lost his reason.

"Aside from its gifts of peaches, oranges, spinach and polo to western peoples, Persia has for America two modern points of contact. An American body of experts is trying to put the country on a sounder economic basis, and oil bids fair to overshadow all other products of the ancient kingdom.

Herodotus Strikes Oil.

"Neither of these contacts is new, however, for as early as the reign of Shah Abbas, in the sixteenth century, Persia engaged British military men to train her army. And Herodotus made the first report on her oil when he wrote:

"Near Ardericca is a well which produces three different substances, for asphalt, salt and oil are drawn up from it in the following manner: It is raised by a balance beam, to which, instead of a bucket, half a wine skin is attached. Having dipped down with this, a man raises it and pours the contents into a reservoir. It is then poured from this into another and assumes the different forms; the asphalt and the salt immediately become solid, but the oil they collect and the Persians call it rhundance. It is black and emits a strong odor."

Roman Amphitheater in Heart of Philippopolis

Philippopolis, Bulgaria.—Archaeologists are stirred by the discovery of what is evidently a Roman amphitheater in the city square, Djumala.

The workmen were digging foundations recently for a new structure, when four meters below the surface of the square they came upon a flight of marble stairs of massive construction and surface worn smooth by the tread of many feet.

Officials summoned from the museum gave as their preliminary opinion that these marble steps, a little less than a meter wide, were the aisle of an amphitheater. The archaeologists of the ethnological museum at Sofia will make further inquiries and possibly continue the excavation.

New Method Used to Heal Severe Burns

London.—Disfigurement from injuries by burns is prevented by a new way of treating burns just tried at the London hospital.

The patient is left without dressings or bandages of any description, the places affected being simply washed with boracic acid, and smeared with zinc is applied.

Little medical attention is required afterward, the burns being allowed to heal on their own.

MOUNT MCKINLEY IS SINKING INTO EARTH

Alaska Residents Say Peak Drops Two Feet Annually.

McKinley Park, Alaska.—Tradition has it that Mount McKinley, the loftiest peak on the American continent, sinks about two feet a year from its official altitude of 20,300.

Residents of the region are convinced this happens. They point out there is an average of four earthquake shocks a year, and contend the mountain settles about six inches with each tremor.

By way of attempted confirmation, they refer to the Aleutian Islands. According to recent reports from scientific sources, no one can state the location or altitude of many of the small islands in the Aleutian archipelago. One day an island may appear well above water and the next day it may have vanished.

Numerous small islands, including Bogoslov, are reported to have disappeared without a trace. Bogoslov is recalled as the island which suddenly appeared while the crew of the coast guard cutter Bear looked on, in 1906.

For these topographical freaks the blame is placed on Mount Katmai and Pavloff volcanoes, which intermittently send out dense clouds of smoke and flame.

Cyanide Gas Is Used to Root Rats in Portland

Portland, Ore.—Cyanide gas is routing the enemy in Portland's campaign against rats.

H. S. Speer, commander-in-chief of the land and sea forces in the rat campaign, has driven the pests from their chief breeding places, the incinerator dumps and the fills in Dunway park and Alameda.

William C. Halber, superintendent of garbage disposal, has reported that there was not a rat left in the dump or fills, where four years ago the city expended at one time \$360 on poison without effect.

"We must still be on our guard here," says Mr. Speer, "because occasionally a rat jumps from a garbage truck. Householders must learn to keep covers on their garbage cans. And the residents of South Portland must learn not to throw refuse in the gullies.

"We have splendid co-operation from Capt. Jacob Speier, the harbor master, and from the dock commission. We have worked together to make our terminals rat-proof. An evidence of our effective effort came in our finding sacks of flour in terminal No. 1 untouched by rats after the fourth night in the same location.

"We are responding to a good many requests from residences. We applied the cyanide gas, from the tank which I carry on my back, to one of five rat holes on a lawn and found the gas put out from the four other holes. The owner of the home reported the next week that there had been no further sign of rats on the lawn."

Girl Recovers Following Operation on Her Heart

Baltimore, Md.—An operation on the human heart apparently successful in every way, and in which the organ was actually bared by the surgeon's knife, was described at the meeting of the American Surgical Association here recently by Dr. Elliott C. Cutler of Harvard Medical school, who performed it. He told of having inserted his finger in an orifice in the heart to cure a valvular disease and that the patient is still living, eleven months later, and improved.

Dr. Cutler said that the patient was a fourteen-year-old girl. One of the orifices of her heart was so small that it was impossible for the organ to function. The child was threatened with death because of this situation.

The sick in which the heart is inclosed was opened. The organ itself was exposed. While it beat, the delicate operation of opening the orifice was performed. The sack was closed and the patient slowly recovered.

Woman Keeps Record on Top-of-the-World Weather

Seattle, Wash.—Daily weather observations in the land of the midnight sun, as the United States' farthest north weather station at Point Barrow, Alaska, are made by a woman.

Four or five times a year she sends a report to the outside world by dog team, coast guard cutter or trading schooner.

The forecaster and recorder is Mrs. Mollie Ward Greist, wife of the surgeon in charge of the Presbyterian hospital at Point Barrow. She has been the government's top-of-the-world weather observer since 1920.

Bears 11 Tailless Pups

Silverton, Ore.—Patsy, a spaniel at the Hague kennels, has given birth to 11 bobbed-tailed pups. She is herself of the clipped-tail variety. If dogs are to be tailless, why bother with tails in the beginning? Not a one of the 11 pups was born with a tail. So far interviews with dog fanciers have not revealed a similar case in dog history.

Goes Blind Through Study

York, Pa.—Hard study to fit him for entrance examination at the West Point military academy caused Frederick Flinchbaugh, Jr., to become blind. The young man, who is an infantryman, will recover his sight after a long rest, surgeons predicted.

FORESTS AIDED PRIMITIVE MAN

Dependence on Wood Products of Hawaiian Is Told by Forestry Chief.

New York.—The important role played by forest products in the daily life of the primitive native is described by Charles S. Judd, superintendent of forestry of the territory of Hawaii, who tells of the skill they employ in converting plant growths into useful articles with the aid only of patience, fire, stone and muscle. Even before Captain Cook landed there the Hawaiians were making their means of transportation, their weapons of defense, and objects for their bodily comfort, pleasure and religious observances out of wood.

The outstanding feat of the primitive Hawaiian was the manufacture of the outrigger canoe, which was built so substantially and so seaworthy that voyages of thousands of miles across the open sea were made in it with comparative safety," says Superintendent Judd. "Materials from at least thirteen different trees and plants were necessary to construct the dugout canoe completely. The body was usually hollowed from the stem of the koa, largest and most suitable tree for this purpose, although less durable and satisfactory dugouts were fashioned from the ohia ha, breadfruit and kukui. The smallness of the available logs was offset by building up the gunwale, or rim, of the canoes with the soft yellow wood of the ahakea, and this wood and that of the alea were carved into pieces that adorned the bow and stern of every oldtime canoe to prevent the sea from pouring in.

Wood Hard as Metal. "The primitive Hawaiian was forced to exercise his ingenuity in the invention of the outrigger because the small size of the logs made the canoes unstable. The outrigger consisted of a piece of corky wellwood, smaller than the canoe in both dimensions, but shaped so as to cut the water, and was fastened parallel to the body of the canoe by two carved pieces of curved hau wood. In the absence of a breeze the canoe was propelled by paddles made of koa, kaula, and ahakea. When a coat of black paint, made from the bark of the kukui and from the root of burned kukui nuts, had been smeared on with kukui nut oil, the result was a strong, safe and navigable craft exhibiting all the fine elements of finished workmanship."

Superintendent Judd states that some of the Hawaiian woods are so slow-growing, hard and heavy that they have almost the properties of metal. It was from such woods that the natives of the period of strenuous inter-island warfare fashioned their spears from the hard parts of the native (papaya), and from the albee they made an adze for cutting soft woods such as the willow and kukui. Before they made matches they rubbed a sharp clothes stick in a groove of the softer hau wood until a spark was produced which could be blown into a flame.

Make Cloth, Dyes and Perfume. "When the primitive Hawaiian became addicted to clothing he had to make his own garments out of the only material available—the inner bark of trees and shrubs," said Superintendent Judd. "The products of 20 different species of trees or plants were employed in the manufacture of bark cloth, or tapa. The most popular bark was obtained from mulberry trees, but the bark of several other trees, including the native raspberry, was also employed. The olona fiber was made into cords and threads for sewing the tapa together. The male blossom of the breadfruit was mixed with the fiber of the wauke in making a rare kind of tapa. The finished product, when made in the laborious manner that was necessary, was a plain white cloth bleached in the sun. "The plain cloth was sometimes ornamented with decorative designs imposed by various methods. The fibrous ends of the seed of the lala tree were used as brushes in applying the dyes obtained by the Hawaiians from various sources. The bark of the ohia ha, charcoal of the kolea, leaves of the albee, and the juice of the fleshy covering of the kukui nut furnished a black dye; a blue dye came from the leaves and bark of the olapa; for yellow the bark and roots of the yellow pulp of the fruit of the nana, or indigenous gardenia were used, and a red dye was obtained from the leaves of the kou and of the palam fern, and the bark of the noni. To correct the rather unpleasant odor of the raw tapa a perfume was made by putting the leaves or twigs of certain plants between its folds. Sandalwood and native ginger were sometimes used for this purpose, but the favorite odor was from the mokihana, obtained on the island of Kauai. Mokihana leaves have the permanent odor of anise. Priceless Feather Capes. "Feather products also furnished the necessary adjuncts for the now priceless feather capes which were worn by chiefs alone. The olona bark furnished the background into which the small feathers of forest birds were entwined. These birds were usually shared with bird lime supplied from the sap of the ulu, or breadfruit, the lobelia, and from the sticky fruit of the palala. "The forest also furnished the early Hawaiian with the materials for his dwelling and its furnishings. Sandal-

wood supplied him with house posts and the kolea and mountain apple with posts, rafters and beams, while the kalia tree furnished the thatch rods to which the grass roof was attached. The door was of breadfruit wood, and the interior was carpeted with mats of lauhala. Cooking utensils were fashioned from the forest woods, white out of the heavy black wood of the uluhui was made a club smeared with a sweet sticky substance which was pulled through the water to attract fish.

"For their religious observances the Hawaiians fashioned idols out of the soft wood of the halapepe, and the harder wood of the ohia at and ohia lehua, while the lama was used for the houses of the gods and for sacred enclosures. For their sports they made sled runners from breadfruit and mamani, they got fireworks by using papala wood in the form of lighted sticks thrown over the cliffs, and the kou and willow were made into surfboards.

"The kukui and the coconut might be described as the two most useful trees. The former has been known as the 'tree of light' for not only does its light, silvery-yellow foliage show it up conspicuously above its fellows in the forest, but from its nuts an oil was pressed for burning in stone lamps, and the 'roasted nuts themselves were strung on the midrib of the coconut palm leaf to serve as candles. The coconut tree supplied not only brooms and leaves for thatching, but nuts for food and drink, utensils and cord fiber and wood for posts, and hula drums. Because it always grew at the shore it was accessible for the many purposes for which it was found useful."

Buzzards Nearly Starve Now in Vera Cruz, Mex.

Vera Cruz, Mex.—Vera Cruz, once the pestilence spot of the Mexican gulf, with the buzzards constituting its only sanitary service, has in the few years since the American bombardment and occupation of the city in 1914 obliterated its unfavorable reputation of the past. Today it is among the cleanest and healthiest cities of the sub-tropics. Yellow fever and malaria have been reduced to a minimum and other tropical diseases are being combated successfully. The buzzards that once clustered about the city in great numbers are still to be seen, but they seek out a meager livelihood from the few scraps that gain their way to the streets. The open sewers that once ran through the center of the town have been disappeared and a modern sewage disposal system has been installed. During the De La Huerta occupation additional sanitary precautions were taken, and the federal occupational authorities are exhausting every means to render the city free from disease.

Ascribes Bird's Death to Grief Over Its Dead Mate

Oakland, Cal.—Orto Emerson, Hayward (Cal.) naturalist, who found two humming birds a few days old and raised them until full-grown, reports that one of them died of grief because it accidentally caused the death of the other. Emerson said the birds were inseparable. For hours they would play together and at night would roost close to each other. One day in their aerial swinging one knocked the other with force against a wall. The injured bird retired to a dark corner. The next morning it was dead. The bereaved bird seemed dazed all that day. His feathers drooped, his head hung. He neither flew nor ate. The next morning he, too, was dead. Such instances of birds' affection are not unusual, according to Emerson.

Complexion of Hostess Is Matched by Candles

Dresden.—Scented candles to suit the occasion and daintily colored to match the complexion of the hostess have been used to give tone to some German society events of late. As they burn, the candles exude a pleasing odor, slightly aromatic and suggestive of the orient, in keeping with the general decorative scheme and the idea of the hostess.

Berlin's Population Lower Magdeburg.—Dettler Schraube, a former captain in the German army, is about to lead a company of his former soldiers into Persia where 25,000 acres have been put at their disposal. The land and climate are suitable for cotton, rice, tobacco and tea.

Killed in Avoiding Arrest. Hammond, Ind.—Running as best he could in an alleged intoxicated condition to avoid arrest, an unidentified young man bolted over a grade crossing here, dodged a freight train, but stepped in front of a passenger train and was killed.

Boy Meets Death in Vat of Boiling Sap

Olean, N. Y.—Thomas Persinski, twelve years old, died as a result of severe burns suffered when he fell into a large vat of boiling sap on his father's farm at Lyndon, near here. The boy's father, Alex Persinski, left the lad to watch the vat while he gathered sap in the nearby sugar bush. When he returned he found his son had fallen into the boiling liquid.

COAL THAT SATISFIES

PHONE 3801
MAIN 3801
IS THE KIND WE SELL

Pierrot Beauty Shop
Main 7097
509 Duke Bldg. Olive M. Link

NO DELIVERY—BUT LOW PRICES
GENESSEE PROVISION CO. INC.
37-43 Front St., just a step from Main St.
Meats Fish Baked Goods Etc.

East Ave. C R A M E R Devay Ave.
COR. Chestnut COR. Magee
DRUG STORES
—Are Good Drug Stores—

West Carting & Storage Co. Inc.
RELIABLE RESPONSIBLE REASONABLE
Stone 3289 200 HAMILTON STREET

THOMAS G. CHISELL
Succeeded by—DU MOND-VAN OUBAN CO.
PLUMBING, METAL and FURNACE WORK
445 Monroe Avenue Night Calls, Chas. 1684

M. KATZ D. KATZ
KATZ BROS.
Wholesale and Retail
MEATS AND POULTRY
MAIN 5885
67 FRONT STREET ROCHESTER, N. Y.

EMPIRE RUG & CARPET CO.
8438 JOSEPH AVENUE
Rugs made from Brussels and Tappeta carpets \$1.50 square yard and
Rug Rugs Woven 125 square yard. Carpets and Rugs Cleaned, Resealed
and Repaired New Installation of all kinds and patterns for sale.
Phone 1000

H. E. BRYAN, Wholesale PRODUCE
Quality Fruit and Vegetables and Produce
58 Andrews St. cor. Front St. next to Fish Market
Special attention given to Hotel and Restaurant orders

W. M. J. MEYER CO.
Contractors
ROOFING AND SHEET METAL WORK
79 HOWELL STREET
Chase 4747. Near Monroe Avenue

Phone Genessee 4342 Wears Like the Name
—LONG'S—
Paints, Varnishes, Wall Paper, Floor and
Table Lamps and Shades
138 Genessee St. Rochester, N. Y.

Stone 4545 12 Walnut Street Rochester, N. Y.
From Factory Direct To You
JOSEPH MICK
Manufacturer of
Guaranteed Quality Traveling Bags and Suit Cases, Commercial Cases
and Bags of All Kinds Made to Order
Wholesale and Retail Call Phone, or Write for Catalogue or Price

FRANK J. HART MONUMENT CO.
HIGH-GRADE MEMORIALS
Glenwood 2313 3121 Dewey Ave. Rochester, N. Y.
Opposite Dewey Ave. Entrance to Holy Sepulchre Cemetery

WANTED A RETURN LOAD OF FURNITURE
From Syracuse or vicinity about May 1924.
BOUR'S CARTING AND STORAGE COMPANY
Main 1713-4 47 Sullivan St.

PHONE 785 Glenwood 785
Hoit
CORNS SUPPLY CO.
1594 Dewey Ave.

Rochester American Lumber Co.
GET OUR PRICES
142 PORTLAND AVENUE Phone Stone 122

Subscribe for The Journal