

#### The Water Front at Bagdad.

Irak, the new Arab state, of which Emir Feisal recently was proclaimed provisional king, under British mandate strikes a new note to many ears; but despite its unfamillar name it is a land whose influence upon the history of the human race it would scarcely be possible to overestimate. For Irak is none other than Mesopotamia, that between-the-rivers strip today it can be seen that only wellof land which is believed by many to directed work is needed to bring back have been the original home of the the ancient fertility. After the spring human race-the Garden of Eden, rains, the Mesopotamian slopes are There in the dim and misty ages be- clothed with rich verdure and are fore history began, men first attempted gay with flowers. But of old, these to form themselves into organized lands were the wonder of the world communities, there the Hebrew race for their richness. found its origin, and thence their search of the land which he should

Tazros mountains and that lofty tableit is bordered by a fringe of moun- duces three hundred fold." tains, gradually sloping up toward the great northern ranges. On the southern and southwestern side it fades

#### Its Two Famous Rivers.

Far up in the tableland of Armenia, about 800 miles in a straight line from the gulf, rise two great rivers-the Tigris and the Euphrates. The former breaks through the mountain wall of the tableland on its eastern flank and flows in a southeasterly direction throughout almost its entire course.

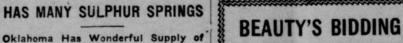
(Prepared by the National Geographic So- | it up until it was raised to the level ciety, Washington, D. C.) of the land, over which it was then distributed by canals. In Babylonia the surplus water was drawn off directly by a great canal system, the banks of whose ancient arteries still from the small squid to the giant cutstretch in formidable ridges across the plain.

> Under the system of irrigation both lands were astonishingly fertile. Even

Of Babylonia the Greek historian imported from the Hellenes and all first leader, Abraham, went out in Herodotus, wrote 2,350 years ago; along the Asia Minor seaboard. It "This territory is of all that we know is the roe of the bashra which is saltafterward receive for an inheritance. the best by far for producing grain; ed down, mild-cured and sun-dried to It is a long and comparatively nar- as to trees, it does not even attempt a firm compactness which makes the ful grin, and somehow the girls knew row stretch of country, running up to bear them, either fig or vine or article almost as hard as wood. Then from the Persian Gulf toward the olive; but for producing grain it is it is steeped in and given an effecso good that it returns as much as tive coating of beeswax. This will land which we now know as Armenia. two hundred fold for the average, preserve it for years and the slightly On its northern and northeastern side and when it bears at its best, it pro- fragrant beeswax film will hold its

constant human occupation and with kavlar. constant and organized attention to away into the great Arabian desert. the details of irrigation, was capable of almost anything; but at the same The parching heat of summer with- ostrich could make it. ered everything on the Mesopotamian very speedily became marsh if the South African society birds like comwaters were not regulated.

The latter breaks through on the drawn or checked, both Mesopotamia same tree. western flank and flows at first west- and Babylonia went back to the state which we see them now. They be-There are few things more remarksize able than the way in which this land which had once been supreme in the history of the world, and which for centuries was one of the great molding forces of human history, passed albirds take no notice. most entirely out of the thought and memory of civilized man. We know it, of course, from our filled with dust, feathers, and fright-Bibles. The name of Nineveh. "that great city," and the story of Nebuchadnezzar's pride, as he looked round upon palace and temple and tower, homes and said: "Is not this great Babylon, which I have built?" These things are part of our earliest and unforgettable impressions of history.



on Beacon Hill.

to each evening.

her, Nell!"

Sparkling Water Impregnated With Health-Giving Minerals. In southern Oklahoma not far from

the Texas boundary, a group of 30 healing springs, all of cold sparkling water, were set apart by congress in 1904 under the title of the Platt national park. Most of them are sulphur springs; others are impregnated with bromides and other mineral salts

Many thousands yearly visit the bordering city of Sulphur- to drink these waters; many camp in or near the reservation; the bottled waters bring relie? to thousands at home. All these Platt springs, like those

at Hot Springs, Ark., were known to the Indians many generations before the coming of the white settler.

According to a Chickasaw legend, two warriors competed for the hand of Deerfoot, a chieftain's daughter. Both were killed by jumping off a cliff. Then Deerfoot also jumped and killed herself. The chief on the hilltop cried so many briny tears that, according to Indian tradition, they filtered down through the cliff and mingled with the spring water, to which they imparted remedial qualright eye.

## THE DEVIL-FISH IN DEMAND

Delicacy, Dried and Fresh, in All Sizes, Never Missing From the Stores of Manhattan.

The devil-fish tribe, blg and small, dried and fresh, are never missing from the stores of the Italian, Greek, Spanish, Turko and Mongol colonies of Manhattan. They range in size tlefish. The cuttlefish can also always be obtained, from one year's end to another, pickled and canned in its

own ink Sun-dried oysters are always obtainable at Mongol stores throughout the They never use canned country. oysters. The bivalves are sold on rat- you hear the other fellow talking tan, and circled (after drying) for hanging up in stores.

Lobsters' tails, sun-dried, are a great delicacy with the Greeks, and are imported regularly. A caviar is

faint honeytike odor for as long. You had, then, a land which, in This is the real original Turkish

Birds That Fell Trees.

A bird's nest as big as a house! It time it was a land which, left to it- sounds a tall order, and you might self, went back quickly to wilderness. think that only some kind of super-As a matter of fact, it is built by a uplands; the low levels of Babylonia little fellow no bigger than a canary.

So, the hand of man being with- the members of which build in the Each pair

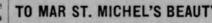
### NO MIRRORS IN BARBER SHOP Tonsorial Parlors for Bobbing MI-

THE MUNITUR

lady's Hair Are Now Without Looking Glasses. By ALICE J. FORSYTH

Speaking of the play of Hamlet without the Dane, what do you think 1922, by McClure Newspaper Syndicate of the mirrorless barber shop? Surely as an egregious thing, revolutionary Wednesday night, just before I went to bed, the big idea came, like an unand rather alarming, almost a contradiction in terms. Yet it has arrived. expected gift of real gold. I was leanon my elbows listening to Eva It flourishes. It proves itself an an-Herrick dissertating about her favorite swer to a need of the hour. But not for men. No, no! The cold cream, and what Madame So-and-So had told her was the proper way to barber shop without mirrors is for the bobbing of women's hair, remarks the rub the stuff in. Three of us, hard workers, lodged in the upper attic New York Sun. It seems that women room of the Fletcher's boarding house are too emotional to watch the amputation of "woman's crowning glory" It hadn't taken much ingenuity to without raising a fuss interfering with the work of the hair surgeon. make it a sort of paradise to return They twitter and fidget, and get excited and give directions, and make We had each managed to acquire a the operator so nervous that he is comfy chair, and in these we were sometimes prevented from turning out severally reposing preparatory to what he considers a neat job. seeking sleep. Eva declared that

The idea of mirrorless surgery for proper attention to one's looks meant the mutilation of female heads seems a terrible lot to the working woman. to have originated up Boston way. who got too little out-of-door exercise When the bobbing craze first struck to keep the natural pink in her cheeks. New York barber shops were fitted up She looked at me critically for a few for women with a special eye to abunmoments, her hand poised in the act dant and brilliant illumination of mirof the proper upward rub under the rors. Indeed, the mirror, woman's firmest friend, was banked upon as "Say, Belle, how do you do it? It is the supreme attraction in the new right down mean of you to have such style of shearing parlor. But it was wonderful color, and me here talking found the reflection of the victim so fast about acquiring it. Look at after her tresses received their first slash was so unnerving to her, and stimulated her to so many criticisms I lunged forward until my face came warnings and minute instructions that opposite the cheval glass, and looked it was soon seen that the mirrors at myself. We all looked hard. We all would have to go. And now milady agreed that I was mighty lucky. And must learn to take her shearing like then things began to buzz in my head. a sheep.



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#### that it was getting me anywhere, Jim Bryant, a clever young clerk, had been shouting around all day about a chap's getting out on his own, and not working for a salary, even if he took to farming something the other fellow had abandoned. It is strange how easy this money making sounds when

about it. "Make the most of your collateral," Jim Bryant had said, "Size up your assets.

Now, if I do say it as shouldn't, my only assets are my beaux yeux, as Madame So-and-So would call them. Well, why not? I smiled a slow, cheerthat I had hit the nail on the head. That's the way it started, my busistrange as it may seem, but the it is predicted, will eventually make strangest part of all was getting used the Mont just part of the ordinary to the name of Mile. Pretty.

Mrs. Gibson came first, with a repu-

tation as a professional beauty to preserve, though her soul perish. Then little Betty Enderhurst, fagged from last night's late supper dance, rushed in and demanded to be made ready pany. They live in large colonies, all for a dinner that night, where she was need a light to empty her purse! to meet somebody "quite special." She Nevertheless, the novelty handbag is looked at me enviously and sighed, about the cutest thing to arrive this

I had worked pretty hard at the office that day, and nothing had gone just right, besides which I could not see

Silting Up of the Bay is Causing Much Anxiety to the People of Normandy. The steady silting up of the Bay of St. Michel is a cause of much anxiety to the good people of Normandy.

It threatens to spoil the beauty of the famous Mont St. Michel's, which at lously preserved as an historical ness of creating beauty for others. The ish counterpart, St. Michael's Mount following Sunday morning's papers still is. But the causeway enabled a blazoned an awfully cute advertise- light railway to run to the very foot ment, and from then on, our delight- of the Mont, and this causeway is ful nest in the attic became my place stated by experts to be one of the of business. And I was busy, too, great causes of the silting up, which

coastline.

Electric-Lighted Handbag.

Paris-is a lady's handbag equipped interiorly with an electric light. Just as if it was necessary for a woman to

monument, was as inaccessible at high tide, except by boat, as its Corn-

present is linked to the mainland only by an artificial causeway. Formerly the Mont, which in the course of the centuries has been by turns a Druid-Ical shrine, a Benedictine abbey, and a state prison, and which, since its restoration by Violet-le-Duc, is jea-

TO MAR ST. MICHEL'S BEAUTY

ward, as though making for the in which they were originally, and in Mediterranean. It then turns south and flows directly southward for came great barren wastes. awhile; then sweeps around in a great bend to the southeast and follows a course gradually converging upon that of its sister stream. Finally, near the sea, the two unite and issue as one river into the Persian Gulf.

The land traversed by these two rivers has, like the sister riverland of Egypt, been from time immemorial one of the great historic centers of human development. It divides into two portions of fairly equal length. For the first 400 miles the country gradually descends in a gentle slope from the mountains, forming an irregular triangle between the two rivers, within which the land becomes less and less hilly, as it sinks southward, till, as it nears the Euphrates, it becomes a broad steppe, which, beyond the river, rolls off into the

land called by the Greeks "Mesopo- and at the height of their glory. tamia.

ferent in character. It is simply a great delta, like that of the Nile-a from the memory of man that 400 flat, alluvial plain, which has been years before Christ, when Xenophon entirely formed of the silt brought and the Ten Thousand marched down from the mountains by the two through the land after the battle of great rivers.

What this slow process may achieve cient city named Larissa." in many centuries is evidenced by the fact that we know that the ancient town of Eridu was, about 3000 B. C., an important seaport on the Persian lost garden spot, but did not make Gulf. It is now 125 miles from the any great headway. All activities

#### Control of Waters Necessary.

Both lands were entirely dependent for their habitability and fertility on the rivers which traversed them. In Mesopotamia the Tigris and the Euphrates have for long stretches chaneled deep into the soll and flow below the level of the land. In the lowdistrict-Babylonia-the ordinary evel of the rivers is frequently above that of the surrounding plain; so that dad, up the Tigris half-way to Mosul. nundations are of frequent occurence, and large tracts of the country state of Irak and the British manare now unhealthy marshland.

In both cases, therefore, though for work that will be needed to rejuven-posite reasons, the hand of man was ate Mesopotamia's ancient irrigation opposite reasons, the hand of man was all all an approximate is much to be done needed to make the rivers helpful. In system. But there is much to be done esopotamia the water was con- before the "Garden of Eden" will olled by dikes and dams, which held bloom again.

#### Vanished From Memory,

The men who wrote the history and the prophecy of the Old Testament desert. This portion is strictly the did so when these lands were living,

Then came down midnight. So ut-The second division is totally dif- terly had the local habitation and the beak, which is just the tool required name of these great cities vanished for lopping off tough seaweed.

come

Cunaxa, they passed the ruins of feels that it has collected enough for The process of land making is still Nineveh and never knew of them, and going on, and the waters of the Per- encamped beside the ruins of Kalah, by means of the splendid set of teeth. sian Gulf are being pushed back at the another of the mighty cities of As- which nature has placed not in its rate of about 72 feet per annum. syria, and spoke of them as "an an- mouth, but in its throat.

> The Young Turks, who came into power in the political upheaval of 1908, made an effort to reclaim the stopped, of course, with the outbreak of the World war. But since the British occupied Bagdad in 1917, the work begun by the Young Turks has owing to the wind, ran to the curb and overturned. The baby was thrown out been pushed much farther. Many at the moment when a horse-drawn van acres have been drained and dams was passing. A wheel of the vehicle and canals have been constructed. passed over the child's head, killing Bagdad has been connected by rail han instantly. with Basra, the port near the Persian Gulf; and a line has been extended in the opposite direction from Bag-

It is planned under the new Arab date to continue the great engineering

heart, and did my best for her. joining its walls to those of its next-But why go over the list? Everydoor neighbors. As the colonies are

town soon reaches a very respectable advertisement will do There were eight the first day, not so had for a The following season the colony ocbeginning. cupies the same tree, building new It took a heap of tact. I finally got nests on top of the old ones. The tree

Mrs. Gibson to leave off wearing plnk creaks and groans, but the society shades and to wear only blues. Little Betty had to be told that haste and Sometimes the huge mass of nests much enthusiasm are fatiguing too comes crashing down, and the air is and only make one look flustered. 1 helped her cultivate a very delightful ened squeaks. But often the tree it-self is weighed down by the industrirepose. I congratulated myself on a very genuine success, deserved beous colonizers, until eventually it colcause. I had put my heart into my lapses beneath the weight of their work.

All my visitors thought our room quite unusual and exactly what they Curious Mediterranean Fish. had thought so often a beauty parlor A creature which has a beak like should be like. They did not suspect a parrot, cheek pouches like those of that on several occasions two girls monkey, and chews its cud like a were hidden behind the big screen, cow inhabits the warm waters of the getting pointers, and almost choking Mediterranean. It browses on the with laughter. weeds that flourish on the sea floor.

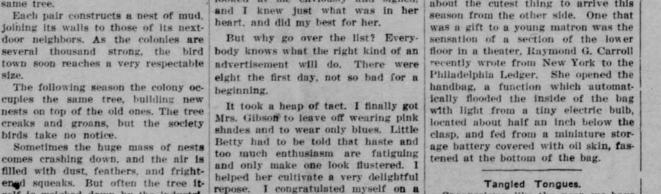
Jim Bryant's married sister had Its upper and lower jaws have be been over-doing hospitality that winhardened into a sharp curved ter, and Mrs. Gibson brought her to without previous notification. Each Grace Bryant, who had sometimes piece snipped off by the beak is called at our office to steal Jimmy for passed into one of the two curious a tea dance or to help entertain some ouches which adorn the cheeks, and girl visitors, recognized me at once, there it remains until the parrot fish as was natural, since I am, as I said hefore, not altogether ugly. Her ideas, a good meal. It then chews the cud like those of my ancestors, were along a narrow plane. Mrs. Gibson never came again, but whenever I saw her, she was wearing a becoming shade

of blue. I wondered if she thanked me down deep in her heart.

While Betty Enderhurst got the reputation for outdoing the Baltimore belles in their lazy ease of manner, I stood on the edge of failure, watching my fine, fat bank account slipping slowly away into the haze of ruin. Then again I awoke to the possibilities of even this situation, inspired to a real flight.

Yes, I've taken two attractive rooms, now. They are hung in ash green and silver. Chevaliat has an order for a beautiful golden wig to

fit Eva Herrick's dull brown locks, His Intention. "Me and wife had a little jower last and Eva is splendidly ready to be my assistant. She's got the key to fit night," related Gap Johnson of Rumthe golden lock, if you'll forgive the pus Ridge, "and when I got the best of the argymunt she 'lowed that pun. My own wig is the smartest white affair you ever saw, and my yuarafter she'd suffer in silence. I aim to watch her a day or so, and if she name is ----. Oh, well, my name is equally smart. And if you want to don't kick back I reckon I'll invite all be beautiful and successful and radithe married men on the ridge to antly happy, just look me up. gather around and enjoy the spectacle."-Kansas City Star.



Spoonerisms, like the poor, we have always with us. Two new and rather good ones came to o r attention recently. The other day a Chicago woman, testifying against her husband in her divorce suit, declared: "He leads me, his awful wife, a lawfut life." There was a loud titter in the court. Wanted and blushing with embarrassment she hastened to correct herself. The other concerns a young woman

who was dining at a strange house. On the table was a dish of bolled onions, and when her hostess was serving these and remarked that, of course, she liked them, the young woman remarked enthusiastically "Oh, yes, indeed; if there is one vegetable I like it is oiled bunions." Just think if her hostess' husband had been a chiropodist .-- Boston Transcript.

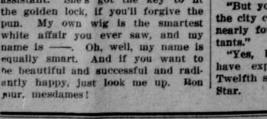
#### Took a Long Journey.

Last fall, an inhabitant of Ostheim, Alsace, captured a swallow nesting under the gable of the roof. He released it with the following message attached on parchment: "During the summer of 1921 I lived with a farmer at Ostheim. He would be glad to learn where I have spent the winter when I return." The bird returned recently to its Alsatian home, bearing the following inscription : "I have been staying with a shoemaker, Joseph Bady, on the Island of Martinique, who salutes my present host."

#### Surprising.

"Gosh-all-beeswax !" exclaimed the country cousin. "Who in the fightin' world would ever believe there was such a lot of folks in Kay See?" "But you must remember," returned the city cousin, "that Kansas City has nearly four hundred thousand inhabi-

"Yes, but, great governor, who'd have expected to see 'em all on Twelfth street at once."-Kansas City





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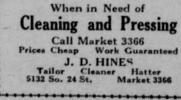
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A Runaway Perambulator. A runaway perambulator caused the death of a baby boy at Daiston, England, recently. It had been left for a moment outside a barber's shop by the mother, while she went to attend to her other child, whose hair was being cut. In her absence, the perambulator,