

BUTTER LAMPS GIVE WAY TO ELECTRICITY

Capital of Tibet Takes Forward Step.

Washington, D. C.—Lhasa, capital of Tibet, the Forbidden City which in all its existence has been visited by only a handful of white men, is reported about to make a jump into twentieth century methods by constructing a hydroelectric plant.

"Lhasa, the Place of the Gods, well deserves its name, as anything more beautiful can hardly be imagined than the vision of the sacred city set against its magnificent background of snow-capped mountains.

City Dominated by Potala. "The Potala is by far the finest building and eclipses all others in the beauty of its appearance. The present Potala was commenced in 1645 by the Grand Lama Nag-wang Lob-sang Gya-tsho, on the same site as a former building; and there is no doubt, I think, that the city is an ancient one and was in existence more than 1,200 years ago, although we can find no records giving any authentic historical account.

"The Potala dominates everything in Lhasa. The enormous mass of buildings, partly monastery, partly palace, and partly fortress, is built on a rocky ridge which stands out in the center of the valley, commanding the town and dominating the landscape. Its architecture is magnificently grand, bold in outline and design; it towers above everything, with its gray white walls and buttresses, its immense flights of steps and terraces dotted with red-robed monks ascending and descending from religious ceremonies; its dull madder-red temple walls, with carved and painted windows, showing behind black brown yak's hair hangings, surmounted by its gilded roofs and set in almost parklike surroundings of trees and meadows, with snow-capped mountains on all sides and the Kyt-chhu, the River of Delight, running clear in many channels through groves of willow or poplar.

"It is indeed a fitting shrine for the heart of any religion, and with such surroundings it is difficult to understand how the present form of Buddhism (Lamasism), as practiced in Tibet, could ever have sunk to the depths of degradation that it has reached.

"But the interior of the Potala is curiously disappointing, as it consists principally of a mass of dark passages and cells, a certain number of halls and flights of steps.

"Among the larger halls were several striking ones, especially that in which was the gilt tomb of Nag-wang Lob-sang Gya-tsho; the dome of this hall extended upward through several stories. On the tomb there was a great deal of metal ornamentation, and the whole formed a fine piece of work. On each side of the principal tomb were similar ones of smaller dimensions, those of Dalai Lamas less notable.

Gold Images and Butter Lamps. "In another room of fairly large dimensions the walls were lined with shelves from floor to ceiling, each shelf closely packed to its utmost extent with images of Buddha. There must have been thousands of all metals—gold, silver, copper, brass—and many were of very beautiful workmanship. In another chapel there were hundreds of golden butter lamps.

"It would be quite impossible to give even a semblance of a plan of this conglomeration of buildings, and it would take weeks, perhaps months, to visit every part of the enormous structure, capable of holding thousands of people.

"From the flat roofs of the Potala the whole valley lies mapped out below—two-storied, substantially-built houses interspersed with temples; the Jo-Khang, the most holy shrine in Tibet; the Chagpori, or school of medicine; the Turquoise bridge (Yutok Sampa), so-called on account of its green-blue tiled roof; the many channels of the River of Delight (the Kyt-chhu), beyond which lies the arsenal, and to the north the Monastery of Sera under the hills, containing 5,000 monks. Further on the Debung monastery with 10,700 inmates; the gilded roofs of the Na-chung-choskyong; and the Ling-Nor, the sacred road along which all devout Buddhists prostrate themselves in the hope that all their earthly sins may be forgiven, could be seen in places.

"There are monks everywhere in or near Lhasa. The three large monasteries of Sera, Debung and Gah-dan alone contain about 20,000, and with all the other temples and monasteries the number cannot fall far short of 80,000, while the lay population of Lhasa only amounts to about 15,000, of whom 9,000 are women, who, strange to say, carry on practically the whole of the trade done. The remaining 6,000 males are about 3,000 Tibetans and 3,000 foreigners—Chinese, Nepalese, Kashmiris, etc.

INDIANS SUE TEXAS FOR BIG LAND TRACT

File Title Claim to Acreage Value of \$150,000,000.

Tyler, Texas.—As another legal step in prosecution of their claim to title to 1,500,000 acres of land in eastern Texas, the Cherokee Indians, through their attorney, John M. Taylor of Claremore, Okla., have filed for record in the county clerk's office here a complete abstract and description of the property involved. The value of the land at this time is placed at about \$150,000,000. It is made up of many fine farms, thriving communities and towns.

The Cherokees claim to have obtained the territory outlined by treaty dated November 8, 1822, with the Mexican government, and assert the treaty rights acquired from the Mexicans were recognized by the republic of Texas, Sam Houston, and other representatives of the republic, acting for Texas.

Asserting the white settlers, for no reason other than that they wanted the Indians' land, forcefully dispossessed the Cherokees in 1839, using Texas rangers for the purpose and engaging in warfare against them, the remaining tribe of the Cherokees declares that it still holds title to the country described.

The claims involved in the instrument just filed have been pending for years before both federal and state governments. The motive for filing the abstract and history of the claim for record in the county clerk's office here is not known.

Students of early Texas history declare the republic of Texas never legally ratified any agreement made by Sam Houston and others with the Cherokees and that, even had the treaty been ratified, it expired upon the outbreak of a state of war between the Cherokee tribe and the republic of Texas, which culminated in the bloody battle of Larrison, Cherokee county, in 1839, when the power of the Cherokees was broken after a determined fight.

Once Famous Violinist

Playing in Streets

Pittsburgh.—Back in 1908 Peter van der Meer played a violin recital in Carnegie Music hall, New York, and critics acclaimed the artistry in his performance of Paganini's Concerto in D Major. He had studied under Ysaye at Antwerp and Brussels, and had been a member of the Boston Symphony orchestra.

Recently a group of men idling about the entrance to the Fort Pitt hotel saw a blind street musician preparing to play. To them he was just a gypsy fiddler.

But apathy vanished and a crowd gathered as the strains of Schumann's "Traumerei" came sweetly from the instrument in the hands of the sightless player. "Evening Star" from "Tannhauser," "Souvenir" by Drdla, a Drego Serenade, the prison scene from "Il Trovatore," and the intermezzo from "Cavalleria Rusticana" followed for a two-hour program.

Bill folds were opened and the battered hat held more than \$50 when the collection was over. The blind player was Peter van der Meer, sightless since 1915 when catarracts followed measles in a prolonged illness. For six years he was in Bellevue hospital, New York, where physicians told him he would never see again.

He has played his way to Pittsburgh. He will continue in a few days his journey southward with his violin, and what Ysaye and his own passion for the instrument have given him will pay the way.

Armenia Has 40,000 Acres in Cotton Plant

Erivan, Armenia.—American methods of cotton growing are being introduced in Armenia.

A new cotton factory, equipped with modern American machinery, has just been completed in Erivan.

At the present time, more than 40,000 acres of cotton are under cultivation. This is 40 times greater than the acreage under cultivation in 1921.

The Armenian government expects this year to produce 30,000,000 pounds of raw cotton. One factory in Erivan has an output of nearly 2,000,000 pounds a month.

In order to encourage farmers to cultivate their own cotton fields, the government is allotting them large quantities of free seed. The government pays \$2.75 for 40 pounds of the raw material. The present average yield is about 1,000 pounds an acre.

Methuselah Only 80 Astronomer Declares

Berkeley, Cal.—Methuselah was not nine hundred and sixty-nine years of age when he died, as set forth in Genesis, but was only eighty, according to a statement by Prof. Russell T. Crawford, astronomer at the University of California.

"The ancients computed their time by cycles, which we have taken to mean years," Professor Crawford said. "This is wrong for the ancients did not mean a yearly cycle but a cycle of the moon, of which there may have been 969 in Methuselah's life. There are that number of moon cycles in 80 years."

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Miscellaneous

Use DENTLO for the teeth. Large tube 25c.—Adv.

Advertisement for ORANGEINE medicine, featuring a portrait of a man and text describing its benefits for various ailments.

Advertisement for WATERS BARNHART PRINTING CO. featuring a logo and the name OMAHA.

fear

Are you self-conscious about the impression you make on people? PERSONAL appearance has a lot to do with the way you feel. Clothes count, of course. But still there is one thing so many people overlook—something that at once brands them as either fastidious or careless—the teeth.

NEGRO VETS PARADE FIFTH AVE.

(By the Associated Negro Press.) New York, N. Y., Nov. 21.—Among the military units that took a prominent place in the Armistice day parade on Fifth avenue was the "Famous Fifteenth", now the 369th regiment, national guard. Invitations were sent to one hundred colored citizens to be present at special exercises in Central Park.

MAUD CUNEY HARE IN RECITAL

(By the Associated Negro Press.) Brooklyn, N. Y., Nov. 21.—Standing room was at a premium in the Brooklyn Academy of Music when Mrs. Maud Cuney Hare, pianist and reader, appeared in recital under the auspices of the Brooklyn Institute of Arts and Sciences.

Washington, D. C., Nov. 21.—According to United States Assistant District Attorney David Hart, there is one bootlegger in this city for every 90 inhabitants, or a total of 5,900, all but 250 of whom have been in the courts.

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Advertisement for SUNDAY SPECIAL at Peoples Drug Store, offering a dessert for your Sunday dinner.

Advertisement for The Monitor newspaper, featuring the headline 'Do You Take a Race Paper?' and 'Subscribe Now for The Monitor \$2.00 a Year'.

Advertisement for JONES & CO., UNDERTAKERS and GRANT ST. TAXI CO., featuring images of a hearse and a taxi.

Advertisement for THULL PHARMACY, listing various services and products.