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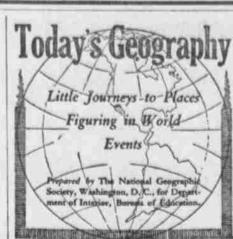
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W. N. U., OMAHA, NO. 6-1921.



CHERSO: MAY BE THE HELGOLAND OF ADRIATIC

The Rapallo agreement of last November which fixed the status of the troublesome city of Fiume and disposed of other moot points in regard to territory on the eastern shore of the Adriatic sea, gave Italy an important foothold near Fiume in the obscure island of Cherso.

Practically unheard of on this side of the Atlantic, eluding most travelers, even escaping many of the seekers after the little-known places of Europe, Cherso neither is inaccessible nor unattractive.

It dangles like a pendant in the Gulf of Quarnero, low hung from the neck of Fiume. It is the Long Island of that port, its shore line rising 12 miles to the south. Its slender form extends to the southwest for 40 miles, though it never exceeds seven miles in width, and its area is somewhat more than twice that of the District of Columbia.

Holding in mind this location, near the head of the Adriatic, in view of the plans to make Flume a buffer state between Italy and Jugo-Slavia, the strategic possibilities of Cherso become apparent. Inded one may picture it as a potential Heigoland of the Adriatic.

A natural curiosity of the Island is Lake Vrana, or Crow's Lake, with a surface 40 feet above the sea level, fed and drained by invisible streams. The island is rugged, with one mountain peak rising more than 2,000 feet above the Quarnero waters. Gibraltar-like rocks rise precipitously 1,000 feet along one of its shores. Here are the dome-like caverns of Smergo, now protected from the sea by a wave-built rock barrier.

The devastating Bora, which sweeps the Dalmatian coast, drips its salt spray over Cherso, excluding many varieties of plant life. The absence of large trees and scarcity of springs are two physical characteristics. In vines and olive trees abound in the southern portion.

Politically Cherso was included in

Cherso lies off the shores of the northern part of Dalmatia and the Croatian littoral, a region formerly known as Moriacchia. The Moriacchia channel preserves this name originating with the Slavic invaders of people they found there Vlachs, or Mayro-Vlachs-Black Vlachs," Thus the Slavs of this region have come to be known, by a corruption of this title, as Morlachs,

In rural districts Morlacchian women retain their historic costume, which includes a kerchief for the head, many strands of beads, a waist band from which hang amulets and various trinkets, and, over a blue cloth gown, an apron of exquisite embroidered pattern. About her neck an unmarried girl wears a string of coins and rings which comprise her dowry. Formerly the men wore their hair in a piait.

---TABRIZ: PERSIA'S CAPITAL CITY

Tabriz, capital of Persia, from which diplomatic representatives recently fled at the approach of Bolshevik forces, is one of the most important cities in Persia. Its population is about 200,000. Teheran, the capital, is the only place in the dominions of the shah which exceeds it in size.

It is beautifully situated in a wide valley on the River Aji, which flows into the sait lake of Urumlah 35 miles to the west. Although apparently surrounded by mountains, Tabriz has an elevation of more than 4,000 feet and the climate in winter is extremely

severe. Hundreds of springs and fountains water thousands of beautiful gardens in this ancient city which for centuries has enjoyed a deserved reputation as a health resort. Indeed, tradition says that the place was founded by Zobeldeh, the wife of Harun-al-Rashid, hero of the "Arabian Nights," According to this legend, Zobeldeh came here to recuperate from a fever in the year 791, and a cure was quickly effected, thanks to the salubrious climate, hence the name Tab (fever) riz (pourer away), or "fever destroy-As a matter of cold history, ing." however, Tabriz was in existence four centuries before the birth of the beautiful Zobeideh,

Up to the time of the completion of a railway through the Caucasus and the improvement of transportation facilities on the Casplan sea. Tabriz was the emporium of Persian trade with the West, Now, however, most of its trade has been diverted to Astura, on the Caspina, 150 miles to the east, and to Resht, 200 miles

to the southeast.

a tower 120 feet high.

More than half of the trade of imports before the World war disturbed conditions were cotton and woolen tissues, sugar and ten-

DIGGING INTO HISTORY WITH PICK AND

SHOVEL Recent deciphering of a clay tablet which may add a thousand years to the span of recorded history-for it contains a code of laws said to antedate that of Hammurabl by a millennium-is another reminder that archeologists are finding stranger true stories than fiction can reveal. The pick and the spade of the explorer have resulted in astounding revelations, says a communication to the National Geographic society from Albert T. Clay, who has deciphered some of the most famous of the documents.

"Above all else, one of the greatest surprises is that the earliest peoples, instead of being barbarous or uncultured, were civilized and possessed a culture of a high order, writes Doctor Clay.

"Several ancient libraries and immense archives have been found.



Ruins of a Library Building at Nippur, 4,000 Years Old.,

Years ago the library of Ashurbanipal (668-626 B, C.) was discovered at Nineveh. In more recent years temple and school libraries have been found at Nippur, Sippar, Larsa, Babylon, and Erech. The libraries of the the north laurel and mastic grow, and first three sites belong chiefly to the third millennium B. C.; those of the last two belong to later periods.

"But especially large archives of Istria, when under Austrian rule. these documents, numbering several With its neighbor islands, Lussin, to hundred thousand and belonging to last three centuries, failed to destroy the southwest, and Veglia, to the the third and fourth millenniums B. east, it was a part of the Lussin dis- C., have been found at Tello, Nippur, Drehem, Jokha, and recently at Ur.

"The Code of Hammurabi, written about 2000 B. C. upon a large and somewhat irregular stele, is perhaps the most important monument of antiquity of a high order. In codifying his laws, Hammurabi arranged them Dalmatia, who "called the Latinized in a definite and logical order, based upon accepted judicial decisions. In no better way is it possible to become acquainted with the everyday life of the ancient Babylonian than by a careful study of the Hammurabi Code.'

POSEN, THE EXPERIMENT STATION FOR "KULTUR"

The province of Posen, formerly part of Germany's eastern Prussia. and one of the most important fragments of old Poland, which has been incorporated in the new war-born Foland, was the unhappy experiment station for some of Prussia's most vigorous and futile efforts to Germanize an alien population.

Until the northern portion of Posen fell to Prussia, after the first partition of Poland in 1772, and the remainder was annexed to Prussia 21 years later, Posen's history was blended with that of Poland. In connection with the first partition, it will be recalled that Frederick the Great adopted the ingenious scheme of surround ing those parts of Poland he desired with a military force, on the pretext that he was seeking to check the

spread of a cattle disease. After being bandled for a brief pe riod. Posen fell to Prussla again la 1815, and for more than half a cen tury Germany paid little heed to it After the division of the vast estates and other economic changes, Polish middle classes in Posen began to prosper, whereupon, toward the last quar ter of the nineteenth century, Prussia began to take notice of its provincial "Topsy." Germans had been imm grating there since the thirteenth contury and the newcomers, at first werwelcomed. Severance of Posen from Poland changed that feeling though open friction was not generated unti-Prussia began her repressive men-

Polish nobles had kept alive Polish traditions, but Prussia was moralarmed by the prosperity of the Pole than by what, today, might be called the nobles' propaganda. So she se about Germanizing Posen, both by colonization and by compulsion, much as she attempted to do to the French [Alsace.

Pruss'a's first move was to make German the language of the schools Police were ordered to disperse meet ings where Polish was spoken.

After 16 years that program falled to make much of a Prussian Impression upon Posen, so a commission was Of the three bundred mosques of set up, in 1884, to buy land from which the city boasts only one de the Poles for German settlement. Beerves special mention. It is the fa- fore the failure of this policy was own, but all people,

mous Blue Mosque, so called because openly admitted the original approt is covered with blue tiles. It dates printion of 100,000,000 marks was supfrom the fifteenth century and is now plemented again and again until, in in ruins. The ark or citadel is a 15 years, more than bair of Posen had brick building of massive walls, with been bought for German colonists. Still the Poles predominated. More kept coming from Poland and opposi-Tabriz was with Russia. Its chief tion to the German program was intensified as the measures became har-

Even Germany was scandalized when, in 1902, it was brought to light in the Prussian parliament that pupils had been whipped by the wholesale for declining to say the Lord's Prayer in German. But the opposition of the grownups did not cause the world-wide interest aroused by the school children's strike in 1906 when about 100,000 Polish pupils took that means of protesting against being beaten when they would not answer questions in German. The Prussian government refused to accede to the request of the archbishop of Posen that children be permitted to receive religious instruction in Polish. Parents who withdrew them from school were Imprisoned.

Efforts to absorb or crowd out the Poles by German colonization having falled, a measure was passed for the expropriation of Polish land. Further laws were enacted compel ling wider use of the German language. Then came the Kattowitz incident, in 1910, crowning a series of petty persecutions which bordered on the absurd, wherein a number of minor officials who had voted for Poles at a municipal election were removed from

Posen is smaller, territorially, than Maryland, but had half a million more population in 1910. About a million Poles-more than half the total population in Posen-were established there before the World war. Posen has mineral deposits of lignite and salt. Much of its land was tilled. Its manufactured products, besides those of its breweries and distilleries, were sugar, cloth, tobecco, bricks and ma-

THE CZECHS

Recent dispatches reporting attempted uprisings among the radical element in Czechoslovakia, and statements that a stronger and stronger enmity toward the German inhabitants is being shown on all sides by the Czechs and Slovaks, center interest once more on this newly created central European republic that was carved after the war from Germany and Austria-Hungary. The following description of the Czechs is based on a communication to the National Geographic society from Prof. Ales Hrdicka.

A 1,500-year-long. life-and-death struggle with the German race which surrounded them from the north, west and south, with a near-burial within the Austrian empire for the or break the spirit of the little nation of Czechs or Bohemians.

They are the westernmost branch of the Slavs, their name being derived, according to tradition, from that of a noted ancestral chief. The term Bohemia was applied to the country probably during the Roman times and was derived, like that of Bavaria, from the Boll, who for some time before the Christian era occupied or claimed parts of these regions.

Nature has favored old Bohemia, an important part of Czechoslovakia, perhaps more than any other part of Europe. Its soil is so fertile and climate so favorable that more than half of the country is cultivated and produces richly. In its mountains almost every useful metal and mineral, except sait, is to be found. It is the geographical center of the European continent, equally distant from the Baltic, Adriatic and North seas, and though inclosed by mountains, is so ensity accessible, because of the valleys of the Danube and the Elbe rivers, that it has served in history as the avenue of many armies.

Besides Bohemin, the Czechs occupy Moravia and adjacent territory in Silesia, both formerly parts of Austria-Hungery, The Slovaks, who show merely dialectic differences from the Czechs, extend from Moravia eastward over most of what was formerly northern Hungary.

The Czech is kind and with a stock of native humor. He is musical, loves songs, poetry, art, nature, fellowship, the other sex. He is an intent thinker and restless seeker of truth, of learning, but no apt schemer. He is ambitious and covetous of freedom in the broadest sense, but tendencies to domineer-Ing, oppression, power by force over others, are foreign to his nature. He ardently searches for God and is inclined to be deeply religious, but is impatient of dogma, as of all other undue restraint. He may be opinionated, stubborn, but is happy to accept facts and recognize true superiority, He is easily burt and does not forget the injury; will fight, but is not lastingly revengeful or vicious. He is not cold, calculating, thin-lipped, nor again as inflammable as the Pole or the southern Slav, but is sympathetic and full of trust and through this often open to imposition. His endurance and bravery in war

for a cause which he approved were proverbial, as was also his hospitality in peace.

He is often highly capable in languages, science, literary and technical education, and is inventive as well as industrial, but not commercial; Imaginative, artistic, creative, rather than frigidly practical. Inclined at times to melanchety, brooding, pessimism, he is yet deep at heart forever buoyant, optimi-tic, hopeful-hopeful not of possessions, however, but of human imppiness, and of the freedom and future golden age of not merely his A Lady of Distinction

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