



WHERE AMERICA'S VALUED DOCUMENTS ARE KEPT

The most important chronicles of some ancient nations have come down to present generations engraved on porphyry and marble. The United States, however, having existed wholly in an "age of paper," has all its most precious historical records in the form of paper documents, which can easily be destroyed by fire, and injured by dampness, extreme dryness, or rough handling.

A recent fire, which destroyed irreplaceable records in the census bureau at Washington, and an almost simultaneous fire in the State capitol of West Virginia, which practically wiped out the archives of that State, have reinforced the argument of those urging that a fireproof hall of records be built in Washington so the federal government's priceless papers may be kept in safety.

While the Constitution is the most important document possessed by the United States, the Declaration of Independence comes first among our great state papers in point of time and probably in the hearts of the American people. The original of this challenge to tyranny which, like the shot fired at Lexington, has been heard round the world, and has helped to mould monarchies and colonies into republics, is in the hands of the department of state and is kept in a steel case in the State War and Navy building, which adjoins the White House on the west. The original of the Constitution is locked in the same case, which may therefore be considered the steel Ark of the Covenant of the government of the United States.

Washington's farewell address may fairly be considered one of the greatest papers produced in the 145 years of the republic's independence. This document is not owned by the federal government, but is kept in the New York public library, at Forty-second street and Fifth avenue.

The next paper to stand out as a milestone in the shaping of a national policy is the message to congress by President Monroe proclaiming the Monroe Doctrine. The original message is in the files of the senate in the capitol building at Washington.

The Gettysburg address of Lincoln, scrawled in longhand, is in the library of congress at Washington.

Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation is in the library of the state department in Washington, and there too are all the treaties entered into by the United States, from that of 1778 with the French and that of 1783 which closed the Revolution, down to the present. Among these perhaps the most interesting are those which have contributed to the great territorial growth of the country.

There is the treaty of 1803 with France which arranged for what is probably the greatest real estate "deal" in history—the Louisiana Purchase. There is the treaty with Spain, which added Florida to the new republic; and the uncompleted treaty with the independent republic of Texas which led to the only instance in which a separate nation has merged itself with the United States. Near them in the files of the state department are the treaties with Mexico adding to the United States, California and the other territory west of Texas and south of Oregon; the treaty with Great Britain adding Oregon; the treaty with Russia arranging for the second greatest purchase of territory, the Alaska Purchase; and the treaties which have resulted in bringing Hawaii, the Philippines, Porto Rico, Guam, and the Virgin Islands under the American flag.

WHERE FLEET VISITED LIMA AND CALLAO

American Blue Jackets of the Atlantic fleet recently visited Lima, capital of Peru, after the passage of the fighting ships through the Panama canal. The fleet lay at anchor at Callao, the port of Lima, only a few miles away. The history of Callao's sheltered bay, which constitutes one of the best harbors on the Pacific coast of South America may be considered to have begun shortly after Pizarro and his bearded comrades entered Peru in 1532.

From Callao in the years that followed sailed a constant stream of galleons loaded with the gold and silver that the Conquistadores stripped from the rich continent on which they had gained a foothold. Lima, only eight miles inland, became the seat of the viceroyal government by which all South America was ruled, and Callao was practically the only gate through which the treasure gathered by the colonial agencies was poured into the lap of the Spanish king. Close to Callao often hovered British and Dutch pirates to swoop down on the treasure ships.

Callao was the first Pacific port in South America to have completed modern harbor works. A half hour after boarding an elec-

tric car in the city of Callao the traveler alights at one of the many plazas in Lima, the capital of Peru and a thriving city of 200,000 inhabitants. Not far away he will find the center of the city's life and traditions—the Plaza Mayor, or "great square." All of the city's street car lines radiate from this center as though representing the influence and power that radiated from the same spot to all South America when Lima was the "City of the King." On one side of the Plaza Mayor rises the cathedral with its lofty twin towers. Pizarro is said to have laid the foundation stones. His mummy is now exhibited inside the structure.

Facing another side of the main plaza is the old viceroyal palace, still used for governmental purposes. Not far away is the oldest university in the western hemisphere, the Universidad de San Marcos, established more than half a century before the Pilgrims landed at Plymouth. In the Plaza of the present the classic old Universidad shares the educational field with the thoroughly modern technical colleges devoted to engineering, medicine and agriculture.

Lima and Callao, thought of vaguely perhaps by many as somewhere near the northern end of South America's Pacific coast, are approximately 1,600 miles south of Panama—as far from the isthmus as Key West is from Nova Scotia. Though only ten degrees south of the equator, and therefore well within the tropics, these cities, due to the dryness of the western slopes of the Andes and to the cold Humboldt Current that washes the coast, have an equable climate. The temperature in summer (December to May) seldom rises above 80 degrees Fahrenheit, and in winter rarely falls below 60 degrees.

VALPARAISO, WHERE OUR FLEET VISITED

Valparaiso, home of Chile's naval academy, was visited recently by the United States Pacific fleet while the Atlantic fleet was anchored at Callao, Peru.

The harbor of Valparaiso, while not so remarkable as that of Rio de Janeiro where tropical verdure runs riot among granite crags, nor so idyllic as vivid, sun-bathed Naples, still deserves to rank with them and three or four others as the most beautiful and striking of the important harbors of the world. It is no detraction to say that Valparaiso's name—"Vale of Paradise"—is not merited. Such a name suggests soft lines, rolling greenwald, flower-strewn meadows, shady paths, noble groves. The beauty of Valparaiso is more austere.

Sailing into Valparaiso the voyager enters a wide semi-circular bay flanked by high capes. On a narrow level strip of ground that borders the curving shore line is the well built business section of the city. Behind and above this level portion of Valparaiso tower bluffs and steep semi-arid hills. These highlands once hemmed in the old city, but modern Valparaiso has burst its bonds. Fine castle-like residences now cling to the slopes of many of the hills or perch upon the edges of the bluffs.

Valparaiso has a population of 230,000. It is by far the most important South American Pacific port, and the annual value of its commerce exceeds that of Montevideo on the Atlantic coast.

While Buenos Aires and Montevideo on the east coast have been handicapped by the shallowness of their harbors, Valparaiso's difficulties have lain in the opposite direction. Its waters are so deep that the building of breakwaters and jetties was delayed until 1912. The carrying out of the entire harbor improvement now under way will cost \$15,000,000 or more.

In 1906, the year in which San Francisco was destroyed by earthquake and fire, Valparaiso was also devastated by the same two forces of destruction. Like San Francisco, South America's greatest Pacific port city has risen from its crumbled stone and ashes not merely to rehabilitate itself, but to become even greater and more prosperous.

Valparaiso is in practically the same latitude as Buenos Aires, Cape Town, and Sydney, and is about the same distance from the equator in the south as San Francisco and Charleston, S. C., in the north. Because of South America's position considerably to the east of North America, Chile's greatest port is almost due south of New York, and therefore has about the same time.

Warships are always to be found in the harbor of Valparaiso, for this is one of Chile's chief naval bases. It is also the location of the Chilean naval academy, whose buildings, on a great promontory, dominate the harbor. No better view of the city and harbor of Valparaiso can be had than that from the parked grounds of this fine institution.

BIRTHPLACE OF BOARDS OF TRADE AND TRUSTS

He who thinks that vast monopolies are modern enterprises, or that chambers of commerce are latter day civic institutions, or that Prussians first strove to implant Kultur with a sword in 1914, will be disillusioned if he reads the history of Riga, chief city of Latvia, on the Baltic, through which city such intercourse as has been had with Russia in recent months has largely been carried on.

Riga, which was attacked by German troops in 1919, had to wrest itself free from Prussian control once before, and thereby hangs the story of an early exploit like the attempted

subjugation of Belgium and the Jesuit nation of its workers.

About the middle of the twelfth century a few German merchants established settlements about the mouth of the Dyvina, which empties into the Gulf of Riga nine miles below the present city of Riga. Whereupon Bishop Albert, in the role of missionary, sought to colonize the territory in 1201 by building a town where Riga now stands and the following year he founded the Brethren of the Sword.

The new order was well named. It killed where it could not convert, though slaughter was not the main object after a foothold on the promising Baltic port was obtained. The "missionaries" were satisfied to reduce the native population to serfdom; appropriate the land, and build fortified towns and castles to uphold this miniature feudal system in a land they aimed to exploit.

But the Livonians are a liberty loving people. They resisted despotism then, and many times later, just as a year or so ago they rebelled against Bolshevism. When their early oppressors became too severe they arose and drove out the "missionaries." Later Livonia, and Riga, which became its capital, espoused the Christian religion; and the Order of the Sword merged with the Teutonic Knights and continued to operate in other quarters.

Though Prussia's political hold was shaken off Riga, it maintained its economic ties there, and individual Germans usually have been important factors in its commerce. This phase of German influence was consummated when Riga, in the thirteenth century, became a member of the Hanseatic league, the first great trust which for two centuries controlled practically all the trade channels of continental Europe north of the Alps.

The third modern aspect of medieval Riga is to be found in the famous "Blackheads." It was this body which soon came to have the civic importance, and apparently many of the functions, of a chamber of commerce or board of trade today.

Originally it was organized by the young traders who came to Riga, as a social club, to afford fellowship in addition to the needful board and lodgings during their sojourn. Since the members were mostly young men, progressive, and somewhat assertive, they took their name to distinguish themselves from their elders, or grey beards. Naturally their table talk turned to ways of promoting business, and soon the club became, in effect, an organization for a "Bigger, Better and Busier Riga," as the modern trade body would phrase it.

From the beginning of the World War Riga was an objective of the Central powers, because of its importance as a focal point for the lumber from White Russia and Volhynia, the flax from northwestern Russia, and other products from a wide area with which it has rail and water communication. Its pre-war prosperity is indicated by the growth of its population from 162,000 in 1867 to more than 500,000 in 1913.

KLAGENFURT: A SELF-DETERMINED AREA

The Klagenfurt area, the only region in which a plebiscite was provided for in the treaty between the allies and Austria, has been retained by Austria as a result of the vote which was taken several months ago.

When the crazy-quilt patch-work of diverse peoples that made up the old Austro-Hungarian empire was ripped apart by the treaty of St. Germain and rearranged more nearly in accordance with nationality and language, it was clear that the old Austrian province of Carniola, extending from the Klagenfurt area south almost to Fiume, was Slavonic in its population. It was therefore included in the Jugo-Slav kingdom along with the other obviously Slavonic provinces in the southern part of the old empire: Bosnia, Dalmatia, Herzegovina, Croatia and Slavonia.

Carinthia, the province adjoining Carniola on the north and containing the Klagenfurt area, was recognized, on the other hand, to be predominantly Teutonic as a whole. But it was seen that the southeastern section of the province, the valley of the Drave river about Klagenfurt, had a heavy population of Slovenes. It was felt by the allies that the question whether the Teutons or the Slavs predominated in the region should be definitely determined and that the area should be attached, according to the desires of the majority of the residents, to the Teutonic republic of Austria or to the Slav kingdom to the south.

The region which Austria retains as a result of the plebiscite is roughly almond-shaped, approximately 85 miles in extreme length and twenty-five miles in extreme breadth, with an area of something more than 600 square miles—slightly less than one-third that of Delaware. It contains much mountain land but also a portion of the rich Drave valley, one of the most productive parts of Carinthia.

One of the most important results of the vote to the Austrians is that they will retain the rich lead mines of Bleiburg, perhaps the most important in all the old territory of Austria-Hungary. In the city of Klagenfurt, with its population of about 25,000, the Austrian republic retains one of its important metal-working centers.

The Klagenfurt region came near being a bone of contention among three nations instead of two. Its western end almost touches the furling top of the Italian boot, and during a great part of the World war its mountain peaks echoed the thunder of the great Italian and Austrian guns on the Isonzo front, a few miles to the southwest.

CO-OPERATION IS BEING PROMOTED

More Attention Being Given to Organization by Farmers and Labor.

DRIFTING BACK TO THE FARM

Tendency of Drift Toward the Farm Has Reduced Wages and Makes Labor More Plentiful.

Washington, D. C.—Labor and farm organizations, through their reappraisal and their greatly increased interest of late in the co-operative movement, are advancing that movement in the United States with remarkable rapidity.

Where two years ago there were only about 500 co-operative enterprises in the country, figures made available recently show there are now nearly 4,000, and new ones are coming into existence at the rate of about 100 a month.

Although the emphasis has been laid principally in the establishment of co-operative stores, upon reduction in the cost of living, a much wider scope of the movement is in the minds of those who are its principal sponsors. They see in the growth of co-operatives a gradual supplanting of the system of capitalistic production and distribution, and they hope, through expansion of their project, to develop a real co-operative society.

Drifting Back to Farm.

Kansas City, Mo.—Widespread unemployment in cities has created a drift back to the farm and relieved the farm labor shortage brought about during the war, reports of federal and state employment bureaus reveal.

Farm hands in the great grain belt of the central states are reported plentiful at wages greatly reduced as compared with a year ago.

Farm wages in Kansas this year average \$40 per month, board and lodging, or about \$20 less than a year ago, the free employment bureau in that state reports. W. H. Lewis, Missouri labor commissioner, declares "there probably will not be any shortage of farm labor this year and wages probably will be much lower than in any year since 1915."

Investigating Charles Return.

Budapest.—Investigation of the attempted return of former Emperor Charles to the Hungarian throne has been demanded at a meeting of agrarian members of the national assembly. It appears that the anti-Carlists had confidential agents near the former emperor and it is declared they have a list of men associated with Charles in his attempt to re-establish his throne. The agrarian deputies have urged their punishment, on a charge of treason.

Parks Teeming With Soldiers.

London.—From Malta, Egypt, and other parts of the far-flung British empire, troops are being brought back to the mother country to save it from the menace of socialism. The metropolis of the world is taking on the appearance of an armed camp. Kensington Gardens, Regents Park and Hyde Park are beginning to teem with soldiers and their officers. These men, fresh from other lands, give the only note of color to the depression of London.

President May Visit Alaska.

Washington, D. C.—If President Harding has time for extended travel during the next four years, he may take a trip to Alaska for a first-hand study of administrative problems there. He has been interested in development of the northern territory for a number of years and had planned a trip there last summer, but was prevented from going by the presidential campaign.

Stockholm.—Tension that has been noticeable recently between Russia and Finland is becoming more acute. Bolsheviks have invaded the Repola and Porajarvi districts to which the Russo-Finnish peace treaty had guaranteed autonomy. The inhabitants of the districts are fleeing into the interior of Finland.

Will Submit Reconstruction Proposal. Berlin.—Germany will submit to the allied supreme council specific proposals for the reconstruction of the devastated regions of northern France in a note which now is being prepared and which will be dispatched before May 1, it is announced officially.

Riga.—Out of 75 deportees, who arrived in Russia from America on March 9, it is reported that twenty were executed or imprisoned as anarchists because they had voiced opposition to the bolshevik regime.

Warfare in Stock Yards Trouble.

Chicago, Ill.—Warfare has broken out again among the stock yards workers. Stanley Robasz, former president of Stock Yards District Council No. 9 and business agent of the Butcher Workmen's union, was fatally slugged by three men in a taxicab, who overtook him as he was walking in the street. One leaped out and felled Robasz with a baseball bat and beat him into insensibility, fracturing his skull. He then leaped into the taxi and was driven away.

WORK OF LEGISLATURE

The Smith bread bill, as amended by the senate, provides a tolerance of two ounces to the pound instead of one ounce and also provides for half-pound loaves. Other bills signed by the governor: H. R. 240—Legal recognition to American Legion, its women's auxiliary and a long list of fraternities and sororities. H. R. 272—Requires insurance companies organized hereafter in Nebraska to select only officers of good character and known ability. H. R. 164—Allows Omaha school board to pay 6 per cent on bonds heretofore voted at 5 per cent; \$5,000,000 bond issue for new Commercial high school involved. S. F. 61—Raises salaries of court reporters from \$2,000 to \$2,750.

Favorable action was taken by the lower house on three bills affecting newspapers, approving for passage House Roll 281 amixing 8-point type as standard for the printing of legal notices and for payment on that basis of 10 cents a line for the first insertion and 8 cents for subsequent insertions; House Roll 299, governing publishers' affidavits as to circulation and other facts; and House Roll 601, providing all legal notices with few exceptions shall be published three times.

Governor McKelvie sent a message to the senate asking for the introduction of a new bill to require district judges to appoint the department of trade and commerce receiver of state banks which are ordered closed by that department. In the absence of a district judge any judge of the supreme court may make such appointment.

Special rules to speed up the work of the house by limiting debate on bills when they come before the committee of the whole are being formulated by Speaker Anderson and the committee on rules at the suggestion of the sifting committee.

When the house sifting committee made its final report it was announced that over seventy bills had failed to come through and there would be no chance now to bring them up for action at the present session.

Governor McKelvie has issued an order suspending from office John L. Schiek, sheriff of Gage county. The sheriff is charged with failure to enforce the prohibitory law and with violations of the same law.

The pure seed bill passed the senate. Farmer members forced an amendment to the bill permitting farmers to sell 10 bushels of seed annually to neighbors without subjecting the seed to inspection.

Nebraska is to have a state racing commission of three unpaid members, according to the indicated sentiment of the representative diet in approving for passage the senate bill creating such a body.

The lower house killed H. R. 174, which provided for abolishment of the district road overseer and conferred his powers and duties on the county highway commissioner.

The lower house by a vote of 71 to 11 passed the bill creating a state bureau of criminal identification (finger printing) to be under the department of public welfare.

The house of representatives passed the Christian Science bill which exempts Christian Science healers from complying with the health regulations of the state.

The house voted, 65 to 31, to recommend for passage the much-mooted Norval language bill, which is the Simon law of two years ago, with a few added teeth.

Under the new state constitution, water rights not heretofore appropriated may be leased by the state, but are not to be alienated.

The house passed on third reading the anti-picketing bill, House Roll 617. The bill now goes to the senate.

Seventy-one house bills met death at one blow when the sifting committee ended its labors.

The house killed the Anderson anti-cigarette bill by a vote of 59 to 28.

Governor McKelvie has appointed Judge Charles A. Goss of Omaha and Carroll O. Stauffer of Oakland judges of the Fourth judicial district. His appointment was the result of the action of the legislature in increasing the number of judges in that district from seven to nine. The district comprises Douglas, Burt and Washington counties.

Failure of the governor to include an appropriation for the salary of Dr. W. H. Wilson, state epidemiologist, resulted in that official's resignation.

An amendment to Senator Good's bill fixing potato grades for Nebraska, proposed by a house standing committee to take care of the early potatoes grown around Kearney and marketed during July and August, was adopted by the house before it advanced the bill for third reading.

Attorney General Davis is urged by Walter Holland, a Washington lawyer, that he should begin action against the national government to prevent it from selling any more public lands located within the borders of Nebraska.

Sight Regained After 20 Years. Mrs. Jenkins, wife of a mason living at Fleur-de-Lis, a little village near Pogram, in Monmouthshire, has just recovered her sight after being completely blind for 22 years. She was struck by lightning 23 years ago, and in consequence of the shock she lost her sight a year afterward. She also became subject to trances, some of which lasted as long as 14 days. On Saturday night she suddenly exclaimed to relatives in the house: "I can see," and began to describe the objects around her. Her doctor believes the recovery will be permanent. —London Times.

Another Call to Arms. A lad of twelve, riding his wheel at top speed, suddenly burst out singing, "Good-by, Ma! Good-by, Pa, good-by mule with your old behaw." An old dorky, sitting half asleep on the board seat of a little old wagon, and drawn by a gray mule, roused himself and exclaimed, "What, you goin' agin'?"

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