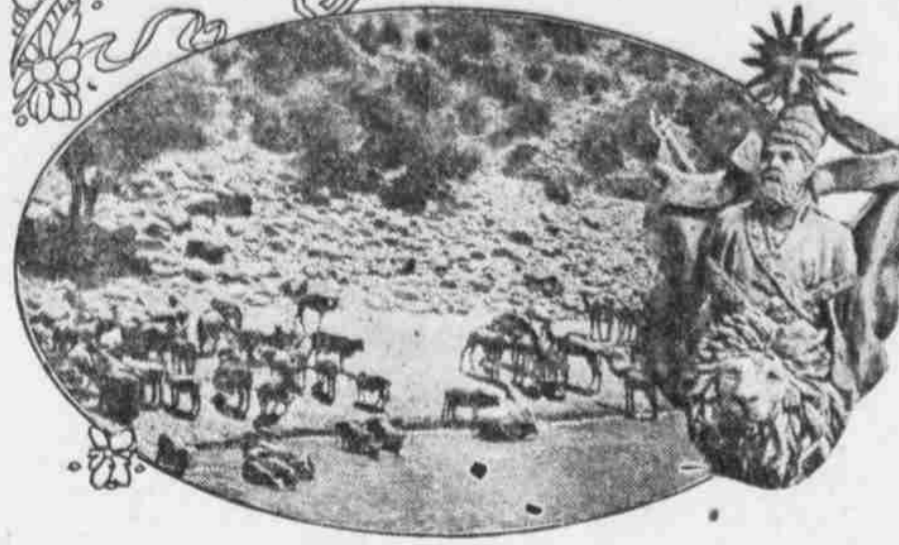


# Independent Abyssinia



Cattle and Camels at a Foro.

(Prepared by the National Geographic Society, Washington, D. C.)

A Christian nation when our ancestors were floundering in paganism, now as for centuries an African empire—one of the three or four remaining empires of the world—and the only bit of land on the great continent of Africa, with the exception of the little republic of Liberia, which has not been made a possession or a protectorate of a European power—such is Abyssinia, little heard of in the world's affairs, but possessing a history and a promise of future economic importance which make it deserve a different fate.

The country owes its independence in large part both directly and indirectly to its geographical environment. Set upon a great plateau, it is a natural fortress; and while the natives of most other sections of tropical Africa dwell in enervating jungles or inhospitable deserts, the people of Abyssinia, thanks to their altitude, fertile soil and temperate conditions in general, have an invigorating climate and a land literally of "milk and honey." A situation near Arabia and Palestine, too, has drawn Arabian and Jewish blood to Abyssinia and has given the people of the country a racial advantage which the African tribes of pure negro blood have not had.

But while geographical situation has in many ways been an advantage to Abyssinia, it has brought its disadvantages also. Without access to the sea for centuries, the Abyssinians, held to their inland tablelands without contact with the outside world, failed to make the most of their possession of a lofty religion and an early start toward civilization, and have remained a semibarbaric people. It is perhaps remarkable that, isolated as they were, they maintained their Christianity in any recognizable form. Observers marvel at the fact that the principal tenets and observances of the faith are practically pure rather than at the growth beside them of certain superstitions and laxities.

**Cut Off From Sea and Nile.**  
As the situation now stands, Abyssinia is entirely cut off from the sea and the Nile by the colonies of European powers; Italian Eritrea, French Somaliland and British Somaliland on the north; Italian Somaliland on the east; British East Africa on the south and the Anglo-Egyptian Sudan on the west. But this is a mere holding of the gates by new keepers; since the rise of Mohammedan power in the Near East the country has been cut off about equally as effectively by various Mohammedan tribes. Those people of Arabian blood were able to take possession of the low desert lands, but on their invigorating highlands the Abyssinians were, with rare exceptions, masters.

Abyssinia is more than twice the size of the German republic and of about the area of California, Oregon and Nevada together. The country lies in the same latitude as Venezuela and the southern islands of the Philippines, well in the tropics; but because of its general high elevation it has, like Mexico, a much cooler and more healthful climate than its proximity to the equator would indicate.

These highlands are from 5,000 to 8,000 feet above the sea. Their rolling prairies are well watered and have a good growth of grass. The climate on these uplands is superb, and if one desires cooler surroundings there are mountain chains rising from the plateau in almost all sections of the country. Some of these mountains reach a height of 15,000 feet and are topped by perpetual snow. Irrigation could be practiced in Abyssinia to great advantage, but the utilization of the abundant water supply in that way seems never to have entered the minds of the natives.

**Canyons and Deep Valleys.**  
The great amount of water which runs down from the Abyssinian mountains has carved gigantic gorges through the tablelands, some of which, in depth at least, rival the Grand canyon of the Colorado. The gorge of the Blue Nile which flows for more than half its length through Abyssinia is from 5,000 to 6,000 feet deep in places. The material washed from this remote chasm has played an important part, incidentally, in the history of the world. Ground into silt and deposited through the centuries and millenniums in the lower valley of the Nile, it produced there a garden spot and made possible the growth of

one of the world's earliest civilizations.

In the bottoms of these deep valleys, some of which are fairly wide, and in other depressions, tropical conditions prevail, so that the possible products of Abyssinia range from those of the tropics to those of the northern temperate zone. Little has been done toward the development of agriculture beyond its primitive stages. The raising of cattle, sheep and goats for their milk, flesh and skins is the more popular pursuit.

The Abyssinian has been described by one American as "rather an independent, easy-going, battle-loving, raw-meat-eating, sensual, devil-may-care chap." Socially, the people are living in feudal times. The various reigning princes of the provinces owe allegiance to the emperor and must furnish soldiers to support him in time of war. The land is theoretically owned by the emperor and those who make use of it are his tenants. "Justice" is administered personally by the rulers and their representatives. When a person is accused of a crime the first step is to confiscate his property. Decision as to his innocence or guilt can follow in due time. Because property has been unsafe for a long period people of wealth have buried what they could for safe keeping. Vast quantities of gold, silver and ivory are believed to lie underground at the present time, the latter, of course, deteriorating.

**Good Roads Are Scarce.**  
One great drawback to the commercial development of Abyssinia has been the lack of roads leading up to the high plateau and over its surface. The routes of travel which have been used for more than a thousand years are mere trails, and the burdens have been carried on mule and camel back since the days of the great Queen of Sheba, who, the traditions of the Abyssinians say, was the queen of Ethiopia. The royal line claims descent from her and Solomon. Some years ago the French began constructing a railroad from their port of Djibuti, just below the mouth of the Red sea, toward Abyssinia. The Abyssinians permitted this to be extended into their country and in 1917 it reached Adis Abeba, the capital. Over this road a large part of the hides, coffee, beeswax and ivory, which constitute the chief exports of the empire, are shipped.

Specialists in various fields who have visited the country believe that this is but a small part of the products that could be shipped to the world, and that the people are enjoying but a fraction of the prosperity that they might enjoy if they developed their resources along modern lines.

As the only African people which has been able to maintain its independence in modern times in a war with a European power, the Abyssinians have become rather conceited and are inclined not to recognize the superiority even of Western civilization and culture. Their victory was won over the Italians in 1896 at the battle of Adowa where the pick of the Italian army was cut to pieces. The Abyssinians have bought large quantities of modern rifles in recent years and could probably put in the field in case of war an army of 250,000 well-equipped soldiers, a large part of them mounted.

**Tested the Saw.**  
Mr. Biggs was planning to build a motor shed in his garden, so he bought an expensive saw. He left his office early the next afternoon, with the intention of starting the job. Putting on a pair of overalls, he went out into the garden. An hour or so later he came into the dining room and flung himself down into a chair in disgust.

"That new saw I bought isn't worth 2 pence!" he stormed. "Why, the thing wouldn't cut butter!" His small son, Harry, looked up in surprise. "Oh, yes, it would, daddy," he exclaimed earnestly. "Why, Ted and I sawed a whole brick in two with it this morning."—London Answers.

**Diabolical Joke.**  
Ted—Tom is a great practical joker. He made himself up as a ghost and appeared before a professional medium.

Ned—Yes, and as it was the first ghost she'd ever seen it threw her into convulsions.

## THE AMERICAN LEGION

(Copy for This Department Supplied by The American Legion News Service.)

### FIRED FAST, HIT THE MARK

Auditor of Legion's National Finance Division Made Record With Field Artillery.

A record for fast firing and direct hits with field artillery, may be far removed from keeping records and accounting expenditures. But the American Legion considered this recommendation when it chose William N. Day, Great Falls, Mont., as auditor of national finance division. He is still scoring bulls-eyes.



Twenty-five minutes to one minute was the reduction Day's battery, "F" of the 146th Field artillery, made in the time experts required to train 6-inch rifles on a target. A German train, sighted on the St. Mihiel front, was hit by Day's guns on the third round and completely demolished on the eleventh. With shells of all calibers dropping on his battery every half-minute for more than two hours, the battery came through without a man wounded and with three guns in action.

Mr. Day says that he finds the addition of a column of figures almost as exciting at times as the bombardment of an enemy fleeing target.

### THE SOLDIER AND STATESMAN

Texas Is Newly Appointed Director of the Legion's National Americanization Commission.

"He can tell you about an ordinary baseball game in such words and expression that if you will be grief-stricken," is what they say of Alvin M. Owsley, Texas, newly appointed director of the American Legion's national Americanization commission. Mr. Owsley, who left off being assistant attorney general of the largest state in the Union to join the Legion organization, has become a "soldier and a statesman" of national prominence at the age of thirty years.

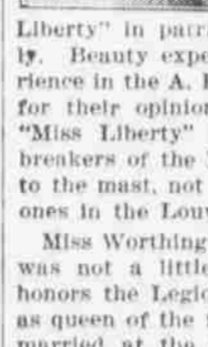


In the West, the Texan has long been known as a speaker of unusual ability. When he went East and had as his field Americanism, its origin and its purpose, Mr. Owsley began delivering addresses of such eloquence and inspirational content that he became in constant demand and his reputation as a master of diction naturally followed. Overseas Mr. Owsley commanded a battalion of 36th Division infantry until his promotion to division adjutant. As head of the Legion's legislative committee in Texas, he obtained a \$2,000,000 hospital for service men at Kerrville, Tex.

### BEAUTY AS "MISS LIBERTY"

Seattle Legion Selects Charming Miss to Serve in Recent Patriotic Exercises.

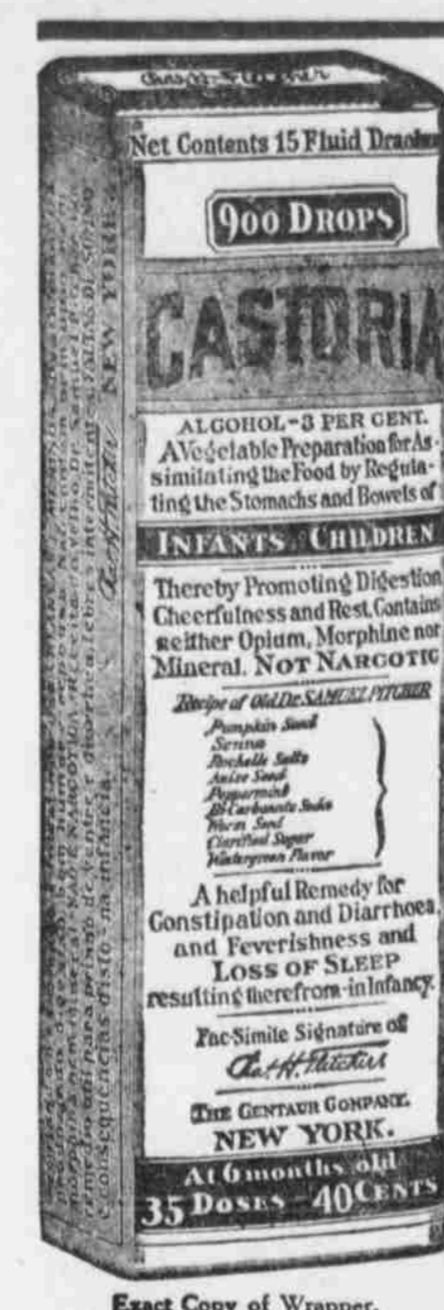
"Talk about the beautiful French girls and rave about the dark tresses and flashing eyes of the Italians and Spaniards—we've got them beaten to death with our own Americans," declared the American Legion of Seattle, Wash., in selecting Miss Helen Worthington of their city to represent "Miss Liberty" in patriotic exercises recently.



Beauty experts with varied experience in the A. E. F. were called upon for their opinion and they held that "Miss Liberty" had even the heart-breakers of the Latin countries lashed to the mast, not excepting the painted ones in the Louvre at Paris.

Miss Worthington is a home girl and was not a little embarrassed at the honors the Legion showered upon her as queen of the festival. She was unmarried at the last report, although her mail has greatly increased in volume with those who would alter her singular course.

**Posts in Foreign Countries.**  
The ranks of the American Legion have been extended into the second enemy country with the recent formation of a post in Constantinople. Two posts are going in Germany. Service men with the Near East relief and the American Foreign Trade corporation are organizing the Stamboul post. A charter recently issued to a new post in Teia, Spanish Honduras, makes a total of 25 posts in 19 foreign countries.



Exact Copy of Wrapper.

## Children Cry For Fletcher's CASTORIA

**Special Care of Baby.**  
That Baby should have a bed of its own all are agreed. Yet it is more reasonable for an infant to sleep with grown-ups than to use a man's medicine in an attempt to regulate the delicate organism of that same infant. Either practice is to be shunned. Neither would be tolerated by specialists in children's diseases.  
Your Physician will tell you that Baby's medicine must be prepared with even greater care than Baby's food.  
A Baby's stomach when in good health is too often disarranged by improper food. Could you for a moment, then, think of giving to your ailing child anything but a medicine especially prepared for Infants and Children? Don't be deceived.  
Make a mental note of this:—It is important, Mothers, that you should remember that to function well, the digestive organs of your Baby must receive special care. No Baby is so abnormal that the desired results may be had from the use of medicines primarily prepared for grown-ups.

MOTHERS SHOULD READ THE BOOKLET THAT IS AROUND EVERY BOTTLE OF FLETCHER'S CASTORIA  
**GENUINE CASTORIA ALWAYS**  
Bears the Signature of  
*Chas. H. Fletcher.*  
THE CENTAUR COMPANY, NEW YORK CITY.

### WOMEN NEED SWAMP-ROOT

Thousands of women have kidney and bladder trouble and never suspect it. Women's complaints often prove to be nothing else but kidney disease, or the result of kidney or bladder disease. If the kidneys are not in a healthy condition, they may cause the other organs to become diseased. Pain in the back, headache, loss of ambition, nervousness, are often times symptoms of kidney trouble.

Don't delay starting treatment. Dr. Kilmer's Swamp-Root, a physician's prescription, obtained at any drug store, may be just the remedy needed to overcome such conditions. Get a medium or large size bottle immediately from any drug store. However, if you wish first to test this great preparation send ten cents to Dr. Kilmer & Co., Binghamton, N. Y., for a sample bottle. When writing be sure and mention this paper.—Advertisement.

**Not Quite Finished.**  
The most embarrassing moment of my life was when a new stenographer came to work for my boss. About noon of her first day with us I wrote to the old stenographer and I left the note in the typewriter when my boss called me in. Just then the new stenographer came back from lunch and she read the note.

When I came out of my boss' office she said, "There is a note of yours in the typewriter. Do you want to finish it?"  
The note read: "Dear Peggie—I am writing to let you know of our new stenographer. She is dead from the neck up and as slow as molasses. She has a face like a—"—Chicago Tribune.

**Hard to Solve.**  
Extracts from a book on self-helps: "Life is just what you make it. Don't do anything foolish. Get married in early life. Remember, one great mistake may last a lifetime." There is about as much help in that as there is in an income tax blank.

Two swollen heads are worse than one.

**Freshen a Heavy Skin**  
With the antiseptic, fascinating Cuticura Talcum Powder, an exquisitely scented convenient, economical face, skin, baby and dusting powder and perfume. Renders other perfumes superfluous. One of the Cuticura Toilet Trio (Soap, Ointment, Talcum).—Advertisement.

**Canada a Good Customer.**  
Canada is the second best customer of the United States. This is proved by trade statistics recently issued by the Canadian government covering the fiscal year ended March 31. Great Britain is the largest buyer. Canada's imports from the great republic last year averaged \$100 per capita of Canada's population. Its total imports amounted to \$1,240,125,000. This was an increase of \$175,000,000 over imports of the previous year. due, according to authorities, to heavy buying in the United States. The grand total of trade done by Canada during the last year was \$2,450,553,175.

**The French Sportswoman.**  
Georges Carpentier was talking to a girl reporter. "The modern Frenchman," he said, "is well up in sport, but the French woman is still rather retrograde."  
"I know a young Frenchwoman who called a friend up on the telephone the other day and said: "I'm sorry to trouble you, dear madame, but can you give me a good recipe for cooking clay pigeons? Jacques has just sent me word that he is going out to shoot some, and he is sure to bring a lot home, and I can't find a single word about them in the cook-book."

**C'mon.**  
"I'm lookin' for a harness shop."  
"C'mon. Them's corsets."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

To make headway, improve your head.

### The Folly of Cheating Nature

Many people get the idea that they can keep their nerves on edge and their digestion upset year after year, and "get away with it." They sleep only half as much as they should—and never get properly and thoroughly rested.

If you tire out easily, if you are getting pale and anemic, if your food doesn't digest as it should, would it not be well to stop and consider whether coffee or tea is having its effect on you?

The caffeine and their found in coffee and tea are drugs, and any doctor can tell you. Is it any wonder that the steady use of these drugs sometimes causes serious damage?

If you really want to be fair with yourself, and give yourself the opportunity you deserve in order to do your best work, make up your mind to quit coffee and tea for awhile—and drink delicious, appetizing Postum instead.

Postum permits sound, refreshing sleep which builds strength, energy and endurance.

Order Postum from your Grocer today. Drink this hot, refreshing beverage in place of tea or coffee for 10 days and see what a wonderful difference it will make in the way you feel.

Postum comes in two forms: Instant Postum (in tins) made instantly in the cup by the addition of boiling water. Postum Cereal (in packages of larger bulk, for those who prefer to make the drink while the meal is being prepared) made by boiling for 20 minutes.

**Postum for Health**  
"There's a Reason"

The board of death—three square meals a day.

If you use Red Cross Ball Blue in your laundry, you will not be troubled by those tiny rust spots, often caused by inferior bluing. Try it and see.—Advertisement.

The price of copper isn't coming right down to brass tax.

Every once in a while it is a long time between mail robberies.

Japan has recognized Mexico, affording grounds for another Jingo story.

Paris is vaccinating its dogs against rabies. That probably makes the dogs mad.

D'Annunzio dramatized Flume, but Italian warships furnished the music.

An alleged automobile thief stood mute in court. This throws the case into neutral.

"An apple a day will keep the doctor away."—Eat two and avoid a consultation.

It's getting to be the proper thing to decline a cabinet portfolio before it is tendered.

It seems much easier for hogs to approach the pre-war level than for pork to do so.

The controversy over the cables is complicated by the fact that England, France and Japan have physical possession.

When a man expresses sympathy for old maids he means that he regrets their inability to do as well as his wife did.

### Western Canada Land of Prosperity

offers to home seekers opportunities that cannot be secured elsewhere. The thousands of farmers from the United States who have accepted Canada's generous offer to settle on FREE homesteads or buy farm land in her provinces have been well repaid by bountiful crops. There is still available on easy terms

**Fertile Land at \$15 to \$30 an Acre**—land similar to that which through many years has yielded from 20 to 45 bushels of wheat to the acre—oats, barley and flax also in great abundance, while raising horses, cattle, sheep and hogs is equally profitable. Hundreds of farmers in Western Canada have raised crops in a single season worth more than the whole cost of their land. With such success comes prosperity, independence, good homes and all the comforts and conveniences which make life worth living.

**Farm Gardens, Poultry, Dairying** are sources of income second only to grain growing and stock raising. Attractive climate, good neighbors, churches and schools, good markets, railroad facilities, rural telephone, etc.

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