Women's Clothes May Mark Epochal Change in Old Asia

THE SPEEDERS.

From The Living Age.

Padishah Amanullah, King of Afghanistan, has ended his European tour and with Queen Suraya has gone back to his palace at Kabul. The Queen contrary to expectations, may prove to have been the more important figure of the pair.

For five months this spring and summer the nations of Europe paid court to the Afghan royal couple. As they swept triumphantly from capital to capital-Amanullah, spruce in his uniform, Suraya, chic in her Paris gowns-factories opened their doors, banquet halls overflowed, troops marched and countermarched impressively, and the finest shops displayed their awres to let the monarchs choose. European attention naturally centered one Amanullah himself-and on his checkbook: for here was the enlightened ruler of a Mohammedan Kingdom of Central Asia that was soon to emerge from century old seclusion into the full glare of modernity, and would undoubtedly need European manufactured goods for the purpose. But Afgan eyes were fixed on Queen Suraya and her Paris gowns; for to those reared n the Mohammeden views of womanhood, the fact that the Queen had left the seclusion of the harem, had doffed her long gown and veil for the short skirts and revealing lines of Paris, meant the possibility of a tremendous change in Afghan life and social customs.

The apprehension of Afghan husbands was great enough while Queen Suraya was toddling quietly along behind her royal husband across the continent of Europe. It grew to fever heat as the homing couple neared Teheran, the capital of neighboring Persia. For only a few days earlier, the wife of the Persian Shah had been driven from a mosque in the Holy City of Kum by the priests-simply because while she wore the traditional schador covering her body from the top of her head to the soles of her feet, she had adjusted her veil in such a way that a glimpse of her face might be caught. The Shah had immediately avenged this insult to his wife by having the priests horsewhipped; but feeling was still strong, and the whole question of

women's dress was in the air. All Persia, all Afghanistan, most of Islam were awaiting anxiously to see how Queen Suraya would be arrayed when she arrived in troubled Teheran. Thousands of Persian ladies, long hopeless of breaking down old traditions, had taken heart when they had read of Queen Suraya's appearance on the continent in European attire and had heard nothing of her Afghan majesty's being excommunicated for it by the decendants of the prophet. Should she now appear in public in Teheran without the long schador, it might mean that the garment

would disappear immediately from Persia, never to return. Surava arrived at the station elegantly garbed in Suropean fashion and wearing a veil that was admittedly improper, in that it consisted I a thin strip of silk covering only the lower portion of her face, closed automobile rushed her at a furious pace to the Shah's palace, where she stayed with Shah's wife in the harem and refused to appear in public at all. She was thus cannily non-committal; and though she set a certain example, it is not reported that any Persian women have had courage to follow.

Arrived in Kabul she has been equally reticent; but it is certain that sooner or later she will be the centre of a definite effort to bring Afghan women out of their seclusion and give them a share in the life of the country comparable to that which their Queen knows European women enjoy. Mustapha Kemal has been able to do it for Mohammedan women in Turkey, largely because he has broken the Caliphate and eliminated the re-actionary power of the clergy. In Afghanistan, however, the influence of the Mohammedan holy men still hangs like a dark cloud over the country, and any attempt to introduce new customs in the capital is invariably met by a petty insurrection inspired by them in the wild outlying regions. It will take months, perhaps years, to overcome such opposition and to let the Queen's abandonment of traditional dress during her European tour have its full effect. Meanwhile, as Amanullah busily gives his country factories and roads and schools, Suraya bides her time.

Boston Not the Hub.

From the Boston Transcript. We have the Autocrat's word for tt that Boston is the hub of the universe, but the sober advices of the Harvard astronomers do not exactly agree with this locally satisfactory conclusion. A profound scientific announcement made by Prof. Harlow Shapley places the center of the known universe in the constellation Sagittarius, the "arch-Sagittarius is that sprawling constellation, almost farthest from the pole star to our eyes, to which imaginative Greeks assigned the form and place of the Centaur Chiron, who renounced his immortality, and was placed by Zeus among the stars-where eternally he shoots an arrow into everlasting

From New York World In the concerted efforts of power interests to use the schools and colleges for propaganda their best assurance of success was that the public should remain in ignorance of their plans. It was essential to their scheme of operation that they keep under cover. With exposure

they faced failure. the immediate result of the recent revelations at Washington an organized movement is now under way to set a guard aroud the schools against this propaganda abuse. The Save Our Schools committee has an ambitious program,

space. So much for the name. The actual center to which the Harvard astronomers have been guided by their observations of the rotations of worlds immeasureably removed from us is 47,000 light years away In other words, we are decidedly way-backers in the universe. Be-tween us and the real "hub" there is room for an infinitude of worlds. We are as a grain of sand in the illimitable desert of space.

Professor Shapley's announcemen is a highly important one, scientifically speaking, for it establishes, on the highest authority, the value, the credibility, of the observations of the variable stars in the Milky Way. The announcement opens a vast new field of knowledge for astronomical determination. In the

for the field it proposes to cover is enormous and the source of the evil it would combat is not always easy locate. But at the start it offers itself at least as a nucleus for the opposition to the misuse of the schools and colleges of the country for propaganda of every questionable kind; by its mere existence it should gather strength for itself through recruits from many quar-

Its mission obviously must be not to combat a particular propaganda from known directions but to check and destroy a system, maintained for whatever purpose, for the invasion of the schools for other than

meantime, how profoundly it affects the imagination! We are, in our lit-tle world, traveling yearly about tle world, traveling yearly about our little sun—but our sun himself, with his petty brood of planets, is traveling around a center of the universe that is an inconceivable number of billions of miles away from us. And then, beyond the out-er and farther edge of this vaster system, this universe whose limits our most powerful instruments are apparently perceiving, there is a black and empty gulf. Farther still, are there other universes, quite be-yond the gaze of Mount Wilson or Arequipa? The question remains to be answered. It is an awesome world, that upon which Professor Shapley directs our feeble gaze.

J.R. WILLIAMS

Not New Theory. From New York Times. Governor Brewster of Maine gave the other governors in their meeting at New Orleans the impression that Mr. Hoover had endorsed in detail the plan to establish a reserve fund of \$3.000,000.000 to be used in times of unemployment, he probably went too far. The scarcely have been intended to indicate more than approval of bringing the general subject up for discussion. It is no novelty. The main idea has been put forward many times during the last 8 or 10 years. It has been favored by several economists and business men and public officials whose opinions are entitled to respect. It was one of the suggestions under debate by the conference on unemployment summoned by President Harding in 1921. To the report of its proceedings Mr. Hoover himself wrote an introduction, in which he said: "The committee has developed

some constructive suggestions as to the deferment of public work and construction work of large public service corporations to periods of depression and unemployment, which, while in the nature of relief from evils already created, would both by their subtraction from production at the peak of the boom and addition of production in the valley of depression toward more even progress of business itself." Since then the plan has been

widely discussed and a limited amount of action taken. The principle is partly embodied, as Secretary Mellon explained, in the program for public building under the treasury department. Bills have been introduced in congress in furtherance of the main idea. The latest one was that of Senator Jones which was read to the Senate on January 11, 1928, and was then referred to the committee on commerce. Its title sufficiently shows its purpose: "A Bill to Create a Prosperity Reserve and to Stabilize Industry and Employment by the Expansion of Public Works during Periods of Unemployment and In-dustrial Depression." It would have carried appropriations of about

Compulsory Insurance. Chicago Journal of Commerce. The defects of compulsory automobile liability insurance are being emphasized in Massachusetts with increasing sharpness. The obligation to accept any Tom, Dick, or Harry as an insurance risk has compelled the companies to insist on higher rates. The state commissioner of insurance was forced out of office when he declared it was imperative that the rates be raised. But his temporary successor the acting commissioner of insurance, has now raised the rates, at the stme time cutting commissions to such a point that it is admitted the agents are out of pocket on the service they render. If the commissions were not reduced, the rates would have to be raised still higher. Massachusetts has got into a mess from which she does not seem to know how to ex-

the true ends of education. In a way, it will have to combat the general indifference to some things that in disguise pass as part of the education of youth, though wrongfully introduced through influences unrevealed.

Q. Why is John Barton Payne, chairman of the American Red Cross, given the title, Judge? J. T.

A. Judge Payne earned the title through several years on the bench. He was special judge of the circuit court. Tucker county. West Virginia, in 1880, and judge in the superior court, Cook county, Illinois, from 1893 until 1898, when he resigned.

U. S. Made No Effort to Reconcile Differences About World Court

From New York World.

During the summer two events have made American adherence to the world court more fitting and desirable than ever. One is the choice of Charles E. Hughes as a judge upon its bench. The other is the signing of the Kellogg treaty, which, renouncing war as an instrument of national policy, logically commits us to finding some effective agency for removing the causes of war.

At its first meeting next month the senate foreign relations committee will take up the Gillett resolution for resuming negotiations upon the world court question; and the American foundation today issues an appeal in its behalf supported by quotations from nearly 60 important newspapers. This resolution was first offered last spring. By a close vote, 9 to 8, the committee postponed its consideration till the short session. It declares merely that the Senate "respectfully suggests" to the president that he attempt a further exchange of views with the signatory nations in an effort to adjust the differences between them and the United States.

This a sensible proposal for ending a deadlock that seems to rest on misapprehension and indifference. The original world court resolution, adopted in January 1926, assented to American membership provided the other nations accepted five reservations. Four of these, framed by Mr. Hughes, were promptly assented to. The fifth, added by the Senate, raised a graver question. It provided that unless the United States gave its consent the court should entertain no request for an advisory opinion "touching any dispute or question in which the United States has or claims an interest." The other nations did not as some people imagine, reject this reservation; they simply asked us to explain it.

The reply to the American reservations adopted at Geneva on September 23, 1926, offered a counter-reservation, requested the United States to interpret the fifth condition and invited us to "such further exchange of views as the government of the United States might think necessary." The chief point in doubt was simple. The other nations wished to learn if the United States asserted the right, by entering a "claim of interest," to prevent an advisory opinion on any question whatever or whether we simply asserted the right to prevent an advisory opinion in case where we had a clear material interest The nations represented in the court also hesitated because it has not yet been decided whether a unanimous or a majority vote of the league council is necessary to ask the court for an advisory opinion. If the former, the grant to the United States of a veto on all such requests would merely give us co-ordinate power; if the latter, it would give us special and superior power.

But the important fact is that since the reply of September 23, 1926, the United States has never furnished an explanation and has never accepted the invitation to a "further exchange of views," The Coolidge administration has treated the matter as closed. Our attitude has been one, as the Portland Oregonian says, of "churlishness" and "obstruction." It may be that the Senate will not modify the fifth reservation, but is there any harm in explaining it in an effort to induce other nations to withdraw their counter-reservation?

This court is more the creation of the United States than of any other single nation. Its original impulse grew from the efforts of Roosevelt Hay, Taft and Knox in behalf of international arbitration; its most vital feature was supplied by Elihu Root; it was championed by Wilson; it had had the most cordial support of Mr. Hughes while he was secretary of state. There is something anomalous and discreditable in our abstention from its work, and Mr. Coolidge and Mr. Kellogg should be urged to make a genuine effort to bring the United States to a whole-hearted participation in its activities.

Strange Ports

J. B. Priestly, in "Open House."
I might be described as a poetical tripper. It is the enchantment of distance and strange names on the map that holds me, and not the promise of sights. The atlas and not the nde book is m tion. I have a boyish delight in the thought of enormous journeys, beginning at the front door and ending somewhere at the other side of the world. The least thing will set me longing to be off. Only the other day a whole morning's work was lost to me because I had caught sight of a tiny advertisement of a shipping company, which informed traders that its ships now sailed from Manchester-of all places through the Panama canal to California. I saw myself going to Manchester and hurrying through its irab streets until I suddenly turned a corner and beheld, as if by magic, masts and funnels; I saw myself crossing a gangway and then sliding out of Manchester down the ship canal for the distant glare of Colon and Panama; I saw myself sitting on a hatch that night with the mate or the second engineer, talk-ing of our golden coast of Califor-. . . I am under no illusion about such voyages and distant places, both of which I can readily conceive to be uncomfortable, dull and disappointing; but the magical gleam of far travel to places with

names like a pageant does not If I lived in New York, however, I should have to hurry past the railway stations, for there you may take a train for the very bluenoticed the other day an advertisement of a train that roared you from the Hudson to Vera Cruz on the Mexican gulf. a whole world away. I can well imagine that such a journey would be intolerably dull and that Vera Cruz is a baked misery of a town, but nevertheless if I lived in New York, sooner or later I should board that train, after being almost idiotically happy poring over epic timetables. Never in my life, I think, did I envy a man so much as I did that nameless one who, when I asked him where was going, said very quietly: the Orinoco." It was just as if with a touch on a spring, he had suddenly released a vast glittering pageant of far travel and fantastic destinations, of multicolored seas and blowing whales and flying fish, of coasts like bronze and steaming rivers in the jungle and brown faces chattering in an unknown tongue. I think of him now as the only anonymous poet I have ever met.

Larger River Fund.

From Kansas City Star. It is indicated that the Mississippi Valley Association, which has been an agency of considerable influence in waterway progress, may ask for increased appropriations at the forthcoming session of congress for river channel work and flood control. The question invites serious discussion As to flood control, there would

seem to be little ground for argument, except as to the amount of an increase of funds. The flood control plan, as adopted, called for 325

New York's Farm Problem

From New York World. Governor-elect Roosevelt's call to a number of farm experts to consider and devise remedies for agricultural troubles in New York will remind city readers that farm relief merely a matter for the Middle West. In fact, New York is one of the great farming States, ranking about twelfth in importance. In the dairy industry it is led only by Wisconsin, and of course it is easily first in the business of selling fluid milk to city consumers. When, therefore, Mr. Roosevelt says there are far too many abandoned farms in the State he raises an

million dollars to be expended in 10 years. As some funds already were on hand for the work, only 25 mil-ion dollars was appropriated for the current fiscal year. Control opera-tions now have been started on a considerable scale, and it seems obvious that substantially more than the sum set aside for this year could

be used to good advantage. With respect to the Lower Miccouri, at least, it has been understood for some time that all the money that could be expended properly would be forthcoming for channel improvements. It may be expected the reiterated assurance on point will be made good. Canallization of the Ohio is nearing completion, and soon a considerable portion if not all the funds allotted to that stream can be turned elsewhere. But other approved channel projects, including the Upper Missouri, are awaiting attention. There is, in addition, the pressing question of providing a 9-foot channel in the Upper Mississippi, also eventually, in the Missouri, so that the heavier craft operating on the Lower Mississippi may not need to break cargo at St. Louis.

Waterway development, like road building, is on extended process. Once it is started it must be carried through without prolonged delays if contemplated benifits are to be realized.

When to Kill.

From Time. The famed Hindu doctrine that thou shalt not kill even a bugmuch less a human-was sensationally reinterpreted last week, by the potent ascetic, sage and saint, Mahatma Gandhi.

Quoth the Mahatma: "Just as a surgeon does not commit himsa (killing), but practices the purest ahimsa (non-killing) when he wields his knife on his patient's body for the latter's benefit, similarly one may find it necessary . . . to go a step further and sever life from the body in the in-

terest of the sufferer. "It may be objected that whereas the surgeon performs his opera-tion to save the life of the patient, in the other case we do just the re-But on a deeper analysis it will be found that the ultimate object sought to be served in both cases is the same, viz., to relieve the suffering soul within from pain. In the one case you do it by severing the diseased portion from the body. In the other you do it severing from the soul the body that has become an instrument of torture to it. . . . Suppose, for instance, that I find my daughterwhose wish at the moment I have no means of ascertaining-is threatened with violation and there is no way by which I can save her. Then it would be the purest form of ahimsa on my part to put an end to her life and surrender myself to

the fury of the incensed ruffian." Puzzled Hindus pondered whether it is now safe to tread upon a ladybug-whose wish at the moment one has no means of ascertainingwould she seem menaced with as-

Q. How long is the sea wall at Galveston, Tex.? R. L. A. It is 71/2 miles long and 17 feet high. At its base it is 16 feet wide, and at the top, 5 feet in width. issue that gravely concerns the

Commonwealth. Tax sales in all parts of the State seem to suggest that taxation is the last straw that breaks the farmer's back, "Readjustment or realignment" of taxation, suggested by Mr. Roosevelt, may be possible. The specific trouble with the dairy industry is that there is much too great a margin between the farmer's price for milk delivered at the railway station and the price asked for it at the area door in the city. If Mr. Roosevelt's experts can devise a cure for that condition their labors will have been indeed useful.

SOME HUNTERS ARE VANDALS

From Brookings Register.

A small percentage of the hunters are rapidly closing South Dakota farms to all hunding by their vandalism. Each fall there is a small group of alleged sportsmen who think it smart to ignore the rights of the farmers on whose land they hunt. They do not seem to realize that they are there in the nature of guests, and as such should show common courtesy their hosts. Instead, they drive into cornfields were the crop is not yet gathered, they shoot recklessly and without regard to live stock they leave gates open and let stock get out, and they mutilate simes and sometimes machinery whit they can find no some to shoot at. self defense many farmers are posting their farms against hun'ers, In the news column of this week's Register is told where one from of farmers have had printed 100 "No Traspassing" signs to post. Local friends of thes farmers will doubtless get permission to grier their farms anyway, but the sirns will keep out all strangers, no matter well behaved they might be. foolish depotters of farm rights and property are herting not only themselve, but the legitimate hunters who are careful of the rights of others. On would think they would have more sense than to destroy their own neivileges that way, but apparently they haven". No doubt they way yeary wroth and use strong language directed at the posted farms but they are getting what they deserve.

The Safety Match

The safety match, which strikes only on the box in which it is packed, was invented in lass by a Swede named Lundstrom. The ordinary match will ignite if rubbed briskly on any hard surface. Its head is composed of a chemical mixture that combines all the essentials for combines all the tials for combustion. But the little safety match has a different kind of head, one that is made up of chiorate of potash and sulphur and has to be rubbed on paper spread with a paste of phosphorus and antimony to make fire.

If the wrong chemical mixture were used for safety match heads, they might take fire spontaneously. That would never do. They would not be safety matches if they suddenly took fire inside their boxes,

so they have to be tested. Only the choicart wood is suitable for making these matches, the best being the aspen. A log of this wood is sawed into sections 15 inches long, which is the length of seven of the little splints. The section of wood, freed from all bark, is the sput into a lathe with a cutting tool which converts it into a strip of veneer, just the thickness of a match and 15 inches wide. But in the process it is sliced into seven ribbons of wood, the width of each being the length of a match.

The ribbons are fed, 100 at a time into a machine which chops them into match sticks. The latter are dried in heating drums, sifted to get rid of splinters, and bundled machinery. Then they receive heads by being dipped into the right chemical mixture to insure safety.

Long have I watched o'er you, home land.

Idaho, child of my heart, Long have I guarded and gloated, In my mountain fastness apart, O'er the glorious future awaiting Possibilities far beyond When I should decide,

To send, far and wide, A dream, to the children of men.

'Neath your grey sagebrush coated I saw the rich grass and the grains, I saw in your rushing streamlets Life for a thousand plains, And I knew in your mountain fis-

Of copper and silver and gold. So I sent on the gleam Of the sunlight, a dream, And the children of men were told.

Then o'er your borders came teeming
Hordes from the east and west.
Of all the land of their dreaming

This was the grandest and best; And straightway brave cities were founded And water was turned on the land. And you, lavish one

Gave forth with a bountiful hand ... And I. from your mystery moun-

tains. Look down from the heights as of

And know this is but the beginning That you will expand and unfold, Till every state in the nation. With proud hands, will point to

your star. Saying: "Idaho, blest, Bright Gem of the West May your greatness and fame spread afar." -Laura Edith Darrow, in "From

Idaho to You." New York .-- When will men who have been given the france of public attention and lond--in, learn to use such power in a bemisrepresent facts recording

coming and sereible manner? America today is steeped in hypocrisy, prejudice, bigotry, sectional feeling and intolerance, largely because archment has given way to abuse. This pertiminate same true of the pulpit. The hurch is no place to preach polities or to political or secular activity. The only becoming thome for a mulnit oration is the religion of James Christ who taught only of the beauty of love and truth.

Help Wanted.

From Answers.

Editor (to applicant for a job): Any previous newspaper experience? Applicant: No; but I was editor of my school magazine. Editor: Oh I am so sorry; we've

Q. What is the Pannykhida? L.

got an editor.

A. This is the beautiful "Cff ce for the Faithful Departed," said to be perhaps the most impre sive of the Russian church services because of the beauty of the language.