

BIGGEST OF DIAMOND SHOWS

Blaze of Gems to Mark the Durbar at Delhi, India.

WEALTH OF PRECIOUS STONES

Kohinoor and Other Precious Diamonds, Rubies and Pearls, Will Shine on Native and Alien Royalty.

The keepers of the British crown jewels are making preparations for their safe transport from London to Delhi in readiness for the great durbar, at which King George will crown himself Emperor of India. Those who attend this durbar will have a chance to see such a display of precious stones as the eye of no living man has ever gazed on.

The British crown jewels, fine as they are, cannot, with the exception of a few individual gems, compare with some of the great Indian collections. The princes, rajahs and maharajahs of India have the accumulated wealth of generations invested in countless dazzling gems, whose value is incalculable. But every Indian rajah had as great and as valuable a collection as the aggregate of all their collections even then, in the eyes of India, the British crown jewels would surpass them all. And this, for the sake of one stone, the Kohinoor.

Compare with the Kohinoor the Kohinoor, as the Cullinan diamonds are now called, the Kohinoor is but a splendid pebble. Its history is what appeals to the Indian mind. Long years ago it was the chief jewel of the Mogul emperors and remains to this day the symbol of imperial authority in India.

The history of the Kohinoor is fairly well known, but there are legends around which a halo of mystery still hangs. It was brought to England after the Sikh wars, and at once met with a strange if somewhat unromantic adventure. The official who brought it over sent it to the wash in his waistcoat pocket. At that time its weight was 186 carats, which was subsequently reduced to 106 by the recutting ordered by the prince consort.

When it belonged to the great Mogul, the Kohinoor was a far greater stone. The French jeweler Tavernier, who saw it in the seventeenth century, described it as 78½ carats in weight, uncut, or merely "fatted" on one side. He compared it to an egg cut in half. Hortensio Borgia, a dishonest or unskillful Italian diamond cutter, was then called in and reduced it to 285 carats. He nearly lost his head when the emperor saw what had been done to his favorite gem.

Symbols of Imperial Authority. Many experts consider that the Orloff diamond of the Russian regalia, 195 carats in weight, and also a large fragment of 22 carats, may have been cut from the remains of the Mogul diamond. But the Kohinoor, which Ranjit Singh used sometimes to wear in the socket of his blind eye, continued to represent the original gem, and when it is seen in the crown of George V at Delhi next December, for every native present it will be the symbol of imperial authority.

Historically the return of the Kohinoor to India will in native eyes set the final seal upon the great ceremony at Delhi. But some of the other gems in the British regalia will certainly produce their effect upon a people so accustomed to symbolism. There is the great Aigret court ruby, won in the battle from which it takes its name before the Mogul introduced splendor of life into the imperial places they built so lavishly. It will certainly be watched with keen interest by Rajput eyes as it glows from the central cross of the English crown.

Then there is the pale sapphire in the tiara, the crown of the orb. His Majesty surely made its appeal, for it came from the confessor's tomb in Westminster Abbey and has a 900-year-old record behind it.

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And beyond all question the new, uncharted stars of Africa will have their triumph. In a way they will bring home to the native of India the majesty of the occasion better than their proclamations, processions, jail deliveries or the sound of guns. The two gigantic South African stones will have begun their careers of symbolism when they blaze out untraveled and unchallenged over what will probably be the most stupendous assemblage of gems that Europe or Asia has ever seen.

Wealth in Precious Stones. None can estimate the huge wealth that lies hidden in Indian treasuries in the form of jewels. At the 1908 durbar the blaze of jewels surprised even the Indian princes themselves.

The nizam of Hyderabad wore the Nizam of 27 carats and the Victoria of 190 carats. The gaskwar of Baroda had his Star of the South, a Brazilian crystal of the first water, weighing 125 carats. In the rough it weighed 254. He also had the famous Akbar Shah and the Eugenie; the last, as its name implies, was once owned by the emperor of France.

The maharajah of Patiala had the famous Sancy diamond, which at various times has been owned by Charles the Bold, duke of Normandy; Emanuel, king of Portugal; Nicholas de Marlay, Sieur de Sancy, James II of England, who fled with it and other crown jewels to 1688; Louis XIV, Louis XV, Napoleon, Napoleon's brother Joseph, king of Spain, and Prince Demidoff.

But these famous and named stones are only a small part of and are often actually smaller than countless others in the uncatalogued treasuries of the Indian princes. No mention of pearls has been made yet, but the prince of Gwalior wears, besides a necklace of thirteen rows of perfectly matched pearls as large as filberts, a curious sash of crimson velvet depending from his left shoulder to his right knee, the material of which is hidden by similar stones. But the maharajah of Travancore can outdo the prince of Gwalior in pearls.—New York Sun.

UNCLE SAM'S MAIL POUCHES

Vast Number in Use, How They Are Made and Territory They Travel Over.

Uncle Sam has twenty-eight different kinds of mail bags in service and they range in cost from 25 cents to \$1.15 each. There are mail pouches for almost every conceivable use, and you can ship almost anything that comes within the postal regulations with a minimum of loss and breakage. Probably the most peculiar mail bag is the one arranged for carrying bees. Sending bees by mail was a difficult operation before the "bee bag" was adopted. Usually the bees arrived at their destination dead or so exhausted that they were of little use. Now these little honey makers can be shipped by mail several thousand miles in the "bee bag" without suffering, and can obtain aid and a good supply of food during their transit.

Mail bags are made of various materials. The cheapest are of cotton and the most costly of leather. Those used on fast express are reinforced with metal so that they can be flung from fast moving trains without damage. Even then these bags, or "catcher pouches," do not last much more than a year and a half, while some of the cotton bags used for the work will remain in service upward of ten years.

In parts of the west where the mail must be carried for many miles on horseback special pouches are in use for silencing over the animals' flanks. In the far frozen north special bags are made for sled transportation, and in the cities a bag in use for pneumatic tube service is made of a composition called "leatheroid." The ordinary cotton mail bags are woven so closely that they are practically waterproof, and in the case of the leather bags are lined with blue. Each country marks its own mail pouches in some individual way, so that if one gets lost in a far country its ownership can be readily detected.

Nearly sixty-five million mail bags are used each year by the whole country, and as they are being worn out all the time, the supply has to be kept up. There are mail bag hospitals where tens of thousands of them go every week. One such mail bag hospital repairs upward of 5,000 a day. These crippled bags are in all sorts of dilapidated conditions. A railroad wreck may injure several hundreds or thousands, and these must all go to the hospital before entering active life again. Christmas is responsible for much damage to the mail bags owing to the hard service they get, and immediately after the midwinter holiday season several hundred thousand bags go to the hospitals.

Mail bags are the most traveled of all articles in use today. They are constantly moving, and it would be impossible to estimate the number of miles a bag ten years old has traveled.—Harper's Weekly.

SOUNDING THE OCEAN'S FLOOR

Vast Undulating Plains Lie Two or Three Miles Beneath the Waves.

The ocean has been sounded in nearly all directions with modern appliances, and these soundings show that the floor of the ocean consists of vast undulating plains, lying at an average depth of about two and one-half miles beneath the surface of the waves. In some places huge ridges and cones rise from these submerged plains to within a few hundred fathoms of the sea surface, or they may rise above the surface as volcanic islands and coral atolls. The greatest depth hitherto recorded is in the Challenger (or Nero) Deep in the North Pacific 5,269 fathoms. If Mount Everest were placed in this deep 2,600 feet of water would roll over the peak of this, the highest mountain in the world. The greatest depth in the Atlantic is in the Nares Deep, between the West Indies and Bermuda, 4,922 fathoms. The greatest depth in the Indian ocean is 5,528 fathoms, in the Wharton Deep, between Christmas Island and the coast of Java. We now know fifty-six of these deeps where the depth exceeds three geographical miles, ten areas where the depth exceeds four miles, and four places where it exceeds five miles.

The sea, as all the world knows, is salt. It is salted where strong dry winds blow across the surface, as, for instance, in the trade-wind regions and in the Mediterranean and the Red sea. It is less salt toward the poles and in the deeper layers of the ocean. It has long been known that the very salt water of the Mediterranean flows as an undercurrent outward through the Strait of Gibraltar, and thus affects the salinity of the deeper waters of the Atlantic over a wide area. Although the amount of salt in sea water varies, the composition of sea salts remains very constant; slight differences have, however, been noticed along the continental coasts, in the polar regions, and in the water in direct contact with deep-sea deposits.

The temperature of ocean water varies at the surface from 28 degrees Fahrenheit at the poles to over 80 degrees Fahrenheit in the tropics. The cold water toward the poles has an annual variation of less than 10 degrees Fahrenheit at any one spot, and the warm water of the tropics also has an annual variation of less than 10 degrees Fahrenheit in a band that nearly encircles the earth; this is the

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It must be borne in mind that you are NOT REQUIRED to BUILD upon such lots as you may purchase in Dundee, but, SHOULD you build in the future, reasonable building restrictions must be observed, thus keeping up the "standard" of Dundee property in general.

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region of coral reefs and atolls. Between these regions of small annual variation there are two bands surrounding the earth where the annual variation is greater, and may exceed in certain regions 40 degrees Fahrenheit at any one spot.—Sir John Murray in Harper's Weekly.

CATCHING ON TO MEN'S TIPPLES

Boston Clubwomen Reaching Out for All the Comforts of Life.

Members of the exclusive Chilton club, one of the largest women's clubs in the world, situated in the heart of Boston's Back Bay, may be served with a cocktail, highball or any other sort of "bracer" that they may desire after May 1, if the license commissioners see fit to grant it the license it has asked for.

Mrs. Robert Lovett, a vice president, said that she was confident the license would be issued. She said the members could not expect to serve their male friends with finger ale.

But there isn't to be a regular bar at the club, for some time. The drinks are to be served on trays by waitresses.

Women may smoke in the club now. They

have no regular smoking room, but the members and their men or women friends who desire to do so may puff a cigarette or fragrant cigar in the roof garden. Only cigarettes are sold in the club.

The list of membership comprises some of the most fashionable women of the city. There are 450 resident members and 100 nonresident.—New York World.

A money saver—The Bee's Market Shopper on page 8.

A Bachelor's Reflections.

The wedding presents that you cast upon the waters sink.

Compared with being nice to some people even the gout is fun.

It's easy enough for a man to make a fool of himself when a girl arranges it for him.

When a man takes the family to the theater he looks as if he were going to a funeral.

The man who sells you gold bricks doesn't do it because he's so smart, but because you're such a fool.

Families are very useful for making other troubles seem light.

The kind of weather we like is always the kind we had the other day.

A woman would rather have free postage stamps than free grocery bills.

There are people who can decide to be jealous before they find out what about.—New York Press.

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