

AMERICAN CONSULAR BULLETIN



From Consul George T. Colman

THE UNITED STATES MARINES' ENCAMPMENT AT GLORIA PARK,
RIO DE JANEIRO, BRAZIL, DURING THE EXPOSITION WHICH
CLOSED JULY 2, 1923

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FEDERAL-AMERICAN NATIONAL BANK

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AMERICAN CONSULAR BULLETIN

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AUGUST, 1924

In the "Frozen North"

By G. BIE RAVNDAL, *Constantinople*

FRIENDS will still rally me on my transfer in 1905 "from the burning sands of Syria to the icebergs of Alaska." They make it appear that the joke was on me because I had asked the Department for a post "in a higher latitude."

Whether or not my sense of humor is stunted, I never pictured my assignment to Dawson City in the light of a jest. It afforded me in fact a variety of opportunities and experiences which, at least in the afterglow, appear to radiate in the colors of glory.

Although I had a family of my own fairly measuring up to Rooseveltian standards, and there was no allowance, not even the 5 cents a mile, of sacred memory, for travelling expenses, the transfer did not frighten me excessively because I had faith in the Service.

Amplly was I rewarded—not exactly financially, because on the White Pass railroad the fare was twenty-five cents per mile per person instead of less than five, and living in Dawson City cost five times as much, on an average, as in Chicago (these statements are facts and not embellished for post allowance purposes), but otherwise: The climate was magnificent (although slightly rigorous in January when the official thermometer of the Royal Northwest Mounted Police registered $71\frac{1}{2}$ degrees below zero Fahr.) and life generally exhilarating since there was no consul in all the world as near the North Pole as myself. I

always loved space and elbowroom and freedom of action, and my consular district embraced immense regions, stretching from the borders of Saskatchewan to the Arctic Ocean and containing untold natural wealth.

Please do not think that I am bantering. Honestly and truly, although I went "broke," I harbor no regrets whatever except, perhaps, that before leaving Dawson City I recommended that the post be discontinued and removed to Prince Rupert. At that time, the exuberant terminal city of the Grand Trunk railroad consisted of but one-half dozen houses. At first blush the Department may have thought that I was "rushing the season" and felt inclined to insert a question mark on my efficiency record under sobriety or decision and balance. However, not long afterwards Consul Cole (George C.) closed the doors of the Klondike consulate and settled in Prince Rupert while Vice Consul Woodward, a tireless and efficient worker, now Consul in New Brunswick, was assigned to Vancouver. But when I recall the wonderful year I passed in the Yukon and meditate upon the rare possibilities for service offered by the Dawson City Post, I experience a pang of remorse at having contributed, even if only a mite, towards placing that romantic outlook station on the retired list.

It is an amazing privilege to cross the Rockies and thus to obtain a reasonably adequate notion of the grandeur of one's country. Highly interesting and instructive it is, furthermore, to study



at close range the Oregon trail and the story of Fifty Four Forty or Fight. It is more than fascinating, because it inspires fresh trust and hope, to mingle with the Pacific slope Americans and to enjoy their breezy hospitality, generous as the bounteous nature of their countryside, and their inciting scope of vision, wide as the sea washing their winsome shores. Those people of Tacoma and Seattle appear never to have heard of the cruel theory of the survival of the fittest; every decent man is welcome to put his shoulder to the wheel; there is plenty of room. Nor is the horizon limited by Lilliputian distances; they talk and act as if Honolulu and Yokohama were situated just over in the next county.

And what can possibly be more delightful than the "Inside Passage"? One thousand miles of

eral sentiment was hostile to the acquisition of Alaska) at the "provincialism" of the M. C. who, in the course of the debate preceding the appropriation of the purchase price, used the following language: "Persons well informed are ungrateful enough to hint that we could have bought a much superior elephant in Siam or Bombay for the one-hundredth part of the money with not one-ten-thousandth part of the expense incurred in keeping the animal in proper condition." After visiting the Northland in person, Mr. Hoover, Secretary of Commerce, if correctly quoted by the newspapers, predicts that in time three or four commonwealths will be carved out of Alaska to swell the sisterhood of American states.

Nothing in Switzerland surpasses the majestic beauty of the mountains, glaciers and gorges through which the White Pass train wends its way from Skagway to Whitehorse. Nor can any section of the world present to the hunter and angler more enticing wilds than those through which the Yukon river, especially in its upper reaches, flows on its course towards Behring Sea.

Contrasts are necessary for relief. In sharp discord violating the harmony of the primeval river scene which accompanied us as our boat for three days descended the "Mississippi of the Pacific North," was the weird greeting accorded us at sunset by the



A POST NEAR THE ARCTIC CIRCLE
Dawson in the Yukon Territory, Canada

the most glorious cruising waters in a new world of totem poles in Indian villages and forest clad islands and silvery waterfalls buoyantly precipitating themselves from dizzy heights of thousands of feet into the fjords. Certainly, if I had a yacht, and the Department granted me an old-fashioned leave instead of the war measure of 30 days, that is where I would sail and fish and go shooting.

You step ashore for a minute or two at Ketchikan and find on the pier a heap of freshly caught salmon literally as big as a house. It is a marvellously rich country—abounding in gold, coal, copper, oil, timber, fish, fur and what not—Mr. Seward bought for Uncle Sam in 1867 for \$7,200,000. We now smile (but at that time gen-

"huskies" when our steamer tied up at Dawson City. There is perhaps nothing ever listened to more doleful, heartrending, nerve-racking, maddening than the howling at night of the dogs of the "Frozen North." When hundreds of them join in the concert—well, the braying of 1,000 donkeys at 2 o'clock in the morning would be heavenly music in comparison. Otherwise, I have a high opinion of the husky which, by the way, is a cross between dog and wolf. What the ox was to the pioneer of the Wabash, what the pony is to the ranchman of the plains, what (going farther afield) the camel is to the Arab—the dog is to the miner and traveller in the Yukon. He has no possible rival except the Alaska reindeer.

What did we do at the Consulate? There were the usual invoices, notarial acts and reports. Shipping work proved important because many steamers during the open season of four months (June 15 to Oct. 15) plied between Dawson City and St. Michaels, flying the American colors, and the seamen were illiterate Indians of Alaska who invariably received their wages across the consular counter. We would clear the ships at 2 A. M. when the busi-

ness of the previous day closed. Obviously, since the summer was so brief and so much business had to be crowded into it, folks worked long hours: there would be plenty of time for rest when the river should freeze up. People then would begin hibernating like the bears. Since, furthermore, during the summer the sun was out all the time, and the air was so bracing, nobody seemed to be able to get much sleep or to require it.

In Dawson City, to our surprise, we found no money of any kind in circulation of a smaller denomination than a quarter of a dollar. Pennies, nickels and dimes did not exist, and all prices current were based on the assumption that what was sold "outside" at five cents must cost "two bits" in the Klondike. Unfortunately consular salaries were not regulated accordingly but one derived some consolation from the fact that, a few years previously, eggs had been worth \$2 apiece and other commodities in proportion. Consular fees occasionally were paid in gold dust from the "poke" but as a rule in dollars. Like the good people of the Pacific Coast, the inhabitants of the Klondike, irrespective of nationality, preferred "hard" money, and the American "cart-wheel" dollar, in spite of periodical withdrawals from circulation through the banks, ruled the market.

Our consular building was a two story log-house over which had been raised a stout flag-staff. From this mast, as if nailed to it, floated the Stars and Stripes night and day, rain or shine. Since only the United States maintained a career consul in Dawson City, and about one-third of



CONSUL GENERAL AT DAWSON CITY WITH HIS 1905 MODEL

the population of the Territory were Americans, the office of the American representative presented the appearance of a most animated hive as long as the Yukon was open to navigation. Numerous prospectors, hundreds of them, were leaving for Alaska and came to the Consulate for licenses. Gold dredges had been introduced into the Klondike, and the individual miner hied him away to fresh diggings across the border.

Considerable mail came to the Consulate addressed to so and so, "Care of the American Consulate, Dawson City, Alaska." I was rather sorry for the worthy postmaster who frequently and not unnaturally became enraged at the geographical ignorance of correspondents in the States. Had they reflected, they would have realized that we do not operate consulates in our own country.

On one occasion, I received some 375 letters more or less simultaneously, and thereby hangs a tale. Our whaling fleet in the Arctic Ocean had been caught in early ice, and at once the ever tender-hearted American press began planning rescue. Those six or seven hundred whalers would surely die from famine or scurvy. A relief expedition must be organized, something a la Lieut. Jarvis' reindeer expedition from Nome to Pt. Barrow in the winter of 1897-98. Before long the public became quite agitated, and mail trains carried numerous petitions to Washington. Even in Dawson City the subject was eagerly discussed. I learned from former Arctic whale hunters, then in the Klondike, that all this excitement was uncalled for. Plenty of game could be killed along the coast, muskox and hare and,

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Kant and Königsberg

By HAROLD D. CLUM, *Königsberg*

THE quaint old city of Königsberg on the Pregel lays claim to world renown from its being the original seat of the kings of Prussia, and from the fact that the great philosopher Immanuel Kant was born here (April 22, 1724). Königsberg's history makes interesting reading. In the year 1230 a band of crusaders of the Order of Teutonic Knights under Landmeister Balk penetrated into what is now East Prussia, in order to christianize the warlike inhabitants of the Samland on the Baltic. Apart from the desire to recruit to the ranks of Christianity more saved souls, the fact that in the Samland were located the world's largest deposits of amber added zest to the crusade. The present castle occupying the center of modern Königsberg was actually begun by the Teutonic Knights in 1255, and signs of its early origin can easily be seen today. Shortly after the removal of the Teutonic Knights from Venice to Marienburg, Königsberg became the headquarters of the Marshal of the Order. It formed the most important operation base against that part of the Prussian tribes still unconquered and against the Lithuanians lying still further east. In 1340 Königsberg became an important member of the Hanseatic League. After the loss to Poland of the great fortress of Marienburg in 1457, the castle of Königsberg became the headquarters of the High Master of the Order and served as such until 1525, when the last High Master, Albrecht von Brandenburg, laid off his insignia and changed the old Order City of the church into the capital of the worldly Duchy of Brandenburg. In 1544 Duke Albrecht founded the Albertus University with an enrollment of eleven professors and two hundred students. In 1618 was consummated the complete union of the Prussians with the Electoral House of Brandenburg. The opening years of the 18th Century brought great glory to the old city. On the 18th of January, 1701, the Elector Friedrich the Third of Brandenburg was crowned king of Prussia in the castle church. The night before the coronation, the founding of Prussia's highest military order, that of the Black Eagle, took place. At about this time Königsberg's greatest son, Immanuel Kant was born, after whose principal work Königsberg since then has been known as "the City of Pure Reason."

The Seven Years' War brought East Prussia under the rule of Russia. In 1758 the city was occupied and not released again until 1762. The Napoleonic wars weighed heavily upon it. In 1806 Frederick William III and his court retired here from Berlin. On the 16th of June, 1807, the French under Soult entered Königsberg, which immediately afterwards was partly consumed by a great conflagration. A heavy fine of twelve million francs was imposed upon the city by the French and this was not entirely paid off until 1900. In 1812 troops of the French army on its way to Russia were regularly quartered here. The defeat of the "Great Army" on the icy steppes of Russia caused General Yorck to strike, just outside of Königsberg, the first blow for German freedom. On the 18th of October, 1861 Wilhelm I was crowned King of Prussia in the old castle church.

Immanuel Kant though devoted to his native city of Königsberg to such a degree that he never wandered far from its immediate environs, was nevertheless a most liberal thinker, a real republican and an internationalist in the truest sense of the word. His Critique of Pure Reason is his greatest work in modern philosophy, and it placed idealism on a basis that could not be refuted or questioned. It was published in 1781, the year of Washington's victory at Yorktown. Most remarkable of Kant's international essays was "The National Principle of the Political Order." He taught that all nations must ultimately be republican and advocated a Cosmopolitan Union, a precursor of the League of Nations. It was always a source of sorrow to him that he was looked upon with suspicion and distrust as an enemy to Christianity by King Frederick William the Second. One can readily understand what heresy Kant's liberal teachings must have been to that ruler of the militaristic and absolutist Prussia of the 18th Century.

His native city and his Alma Mater, Albertus University, to both of which he brought such fame, united in a most appropriate Kant Festival this year to commemorate the bicentenary of his birth. Students and professors from all the German universities as well as from many foreign countries came to Königsberg to attend the "Kantfeier." It was my privilege to be included

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ITEMS



MR. CARR REWARDED

Honorable Wilbur J. Carr, Long the Director of the Consular Service is Elevated to the Post Of Assistant Secretary of State.

ON July 1, 1924, Mr. Carr became Assistant Secretary of State. The new office was created under the Act of May 24, 1924, known as the Rogers Bill. Mr. Carr's appointment to the new office follows thirty-two years of exceptional service in the Department of State and when notified of his promotion he was presented with a silver box from Mr. Hughes, Mr. Grew, Mr. Harrison, Mr. Adee and Mr. Wright whose autograph signatures were engraved on the lid.

In presenting the gift to Mr. Carr, the Secretary of State said he desired to express on behalf of himself and his associates the satisfaction and pleasure they felt from the fact that loyal and devoted services had been given recognition and reminded him that the high standard of duty which he had set had long been an inspiration to all the men in the foreign service.

Consul General Charles C. Eberhardt has sailed from Europe for Washington to take up his duties in connection with the Executive Committee of the Personnel Board, of which he is chairman.

Frederick M. Ryder, formerly Consul General at Vancouver, following his retirement, now resides at 1789 Marine Drive East, South Vancouver, B. C.

The Secretary of State and Mrs. Hughes sailed from New York July 12, aboard the *Berengaria*, especially chartered by the American Bar Association, for London, where the Secretary will devote a part of his holiday trip to attending

meetings of the Bar Association. He expects to return to Washington about August 15.

The American Consular Association met for the monthly luncheon on Wednesday, July 2, at the Hotel Shoreham. General H. M. Lord, the Director of the Budget and guest of honor, was introduced by the Chairman, Mr. Evan E. Young, and made a most interesting address on the working of his office. General Lord stated that the Director of the Budget had no policy of his own but carried out the desires of the President and the aim of his office is to reduce governmental expenditure to a minimum without affecting its efficient operation. Many illustrative examples were offered to show the need of such an office. The Director closed his remarks by telling the men assembled that they were all partly responsible for the economic administration of the Government and caused much merriment when he added, "You may want more money, when you are in the field, than is allotted to you; you may cuss and complain, but when you do, don't forget to drop a tear for the Director of the Budget, for his work is not easy!"

Mr. Carr makes it a point to attend all of the luncheons. Honorable John E. Ramer, Minister to Nicaragua, now on leave and Mr. Francis White, Chief of the Mexican Division of the Department, were guests of the Association. Some fifteen or twenty visiting consular officers were present at the luncheon.

A visiting consular officer in Washington, not to play upon the gullibility of the Editorial Staff, vouches with solemnity that in the days before the World Code when no one was ashamed of getting a promotion he received *en clair* the following telegraphic instruction: "You have been promoted to Consul Class Five. Take bath before American Diplomatic or Consular Officer and proceed immediately thereafter to —."

Miss Robertina Harty and Vice Consul Herbert S. Bursley were married on June 2, 1924, in the chapel of the French Embassy at Constantinople by the Reverend Father Norbert of the Frères Mineurs Capucins.

The engagement has been announced of Miss Nancy Robinson, daughter of Mrs. Thomas W. Robinson, of New York and Harrisburg, to Consul John Farr Simons, detailed to the Consulate General, Paris.

Mr. E. J. Ayers on July 10, 1924, took the oath of office as Chief Clerk of the Department of State, succeeding Mr. Ben G. Davis.

A son, William Alfred Frederick, was born June 9, 1924, to Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Louis Aloisi, at Messina, Italy. Mr. Aloisi is clerk in the Consulate there.

During the month of June 2,712 reports were received in the Department as compared with 2,796 received in May. Trade letters transmitted through the Department in June numbered 3,589 as against 3,814 in May. The consulate general at London led with 91 trade letters sent and was followed by Habana with 84, Valparaiso with 48, Mexico City 47, Bluefields and Stockholm 46 each.

The North China Star, Tientsin, announced the reception and dinner tendered by the American community of Chefoo on May 6 to Consul and Mrs. John R. Putnam upon their arrival at that post.

Miss Lillian May Wilkinson, private secretary to Consul General Cunningham at Shanghai, visited the Department while in Washington.

Mr. Stillman W. Eells, Consul at Funchal, accompanied by Mrs. Eells, has gone to Hot Springs, Ark., to convalesce from his recent illness.

During the month of June, 1924, there were 2,895 general and miscellaneous letters received by the Department for transmission to the addressees in the United States. Warsaw led with 589 and was followed by Riga (215), Habana (181), Kovno (179), London (134), and Constantinople (112).

Hit twice by lightning in the same place within an hour, with no casualties, is the unique distinction accorded the American Consulate General at Athens during a terrific thunder storm which broke over the classical city on May 29th. The two bolts constitute a phenomenon as it is said lightning never "strikes twice in the same place." All the staff received a shock, the office cat shed eight lives and as the electricity played around the chandeliers, record high jumps were made by officers and clerks, the distance being in inverse proportion to the size and physical condition of the individual. Both bolts fell just within the main entrance of the building where in each instance balls of fire disappeared in the tiles of the corridor. A clerk, a messenger and a chauffeur were standing just within the open door when the first flash came and all three were somewhat stunned and much more scared. Two messengers were on the "personnel committee" of the second bolt and were fortunate enough to see a ball of fire described by one as large as a good sized orange and by the other as "big as a balloon," without specifying if he meant toy or racing. Someone suggested that the phenomenon was due to the final passage of the Rogers Bill, while others surmised that the Department had started sending out instructions by radio!

If you think, Mr. Editor, that being hit by lightning twice in the same place within an hour is a joke, please address the Lightning Rod Bureau, American Consulate General, Athens, Greece, with Greek stamps for reply, and remember that this is its busy time.

The passage of the Rogers Bill was fêted at the Consulate General at Constantinople on the evening of June 18th, when the Consul General invited the prospective foreign service officers and their families to a dinner given in honor of the occasion.

The spirit of the united service was briefly outlined by Mr. Ravndal who reviewed the history of the movement which led to the enactment of this foreign service legislation and paid special tributes to Mr. Carr and Congressman Rogers who have labored so earnestly for this great accomplishment. A telegram of thanks and congratulations to Mr. Carr and Congressman Rogers signed by all the diplomatic and consular officers now in Constantinople was despatched.

Mrs. Roy W. Baker, wife of Vice Consul Roy W. Baker, at Barcelona, Spain, is visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Walter Holcombe, of Washington.

How American Consuls Are Helping American Shipping*

By WINTHROP L. MARVIN

ON the initiative of Secretary Hughes, the Department of State has instructed American consuls at foreign ports to prepare special reports on trade and shipping conditions at those ports for the benefit of American merchants and manufacturers and of the American Merchant Marine. Through the active cooperation of the Department of Commerce, these reports are being regularly made available for the information of American steamship companies. Many of them are being distributed to these companies from the office of the American Steamship Owners' Association. This is proving a service of much practical value to managers of American steamships in the overseas trade of the United States, and the foresight of Secretary Hughes is heartily appreciated in the maritime community.

Before the World War, in the years when American ships were few and far between in distant waters, our Consular officials seldom had their attention called to the needs of our shipping and the character and purpose of the laws and regulations relating thereto. But between the Shipping Board and the private American shipping companies more than one-third of the foreign commerce of the United States is now being conveyed by American ships which, in certain trades and certain regions, in fact, predominate over their foreign competitors. The result has been to bring the American Consular service at the chief ports of the world into a close relationship with the merchant marine. It is the grateful opinion of the steamship managers that American consuls are quick to discern their opportunities to render a service to the merchant shipping of their country, and that the reports of trade and shipping conditions in countries beyond the seas are of steadily increasing practical character and importance.

"We have read with the utmost interest the Consular reports which have been forwarded to us, and would appreciate the regular receipt of these reports"—is a fair summary of the acknowledgments which have been received from steamship companies at the New York office of

the American Steamship Owners' Association. Then again "Subjects treated are of very direct value to us," states one acknowledgment. "Our traffic people advise us that these reports are of very definite importance to our company," states a prominent West India line." A transatlantic service writes that "We are particularly interested in the cargo moving to Porto Rico from Las Palmas, as well as in cargo moving to West Africa ports. We are also interested in the bunker situation at Las Palmas."

An American company with a direct service to the Far East, in acknowledging reports from American consuls in China and Manchuria, expresses its gratitude and declares that "These reports are very much appreciated." One of the large American lines to South America, after having been for some time in the receipt of Consular reports from that region, expresses the opinion that "They are very good indeed, and we shall be gratified to have the Department continue to send them." A similar word comes in acknowledgment of reports from South and East Africa.

"Very useful information," is the comment of the head of one of the oldest and greatest American overseas companies on the Consular reports of trade and shipping of Chile. "These successive reports are bringing us information which we do not receive in other ways," says another steamship executive of advices received from certain ports of India. "We appreciate the thoughtfulness of the Department," is the comment of a steamship president on a group of reports on the trade of Constantinople and the Black Sea. Similar comment comes from operators of American ships in the trade of Scandinavia and the Baltic.

Another steamship manager commends particularly reports received on the fueling facilities of the Continental range. There is special praise for advices sent by American consuls in the ports of the Mediterranean, where, until recent years, the American flag had been almost a stranger. Contained in these Consular reports are careful statements of the proportion of cargoes shipped to and received from the United States in Ameri-

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* From The Marine Journal of April 19, 1924.



FOR THOSE WHO LEAVE

Messages are being received already from the various parts of the world expressing sympathy, congratulations, good-wishes and regrets to those officers who retired on July 1. The communities of which a successful officer forms such a close part may not be exuberant in expressing daily their deepest feelings of friendship for the action of one whom they consider part and parcel of the civic whole, but judging from the very apparent sincere outbursts of emotion upon hearing of the retirements, the depth of a considerate feeling was always present. On the occasion of the retirement of Mr. Mason Mitchell, consul at Malta, the Daily Malta Chronicle, under the caption of *An Appreciation*, states:

"In another part of this issue we publish with keen regret, the announcement that Mr. Mason Mitchell, the American Consul in Malta, having reached the age of 65 years, is placed on the retired list from today, 1st July, under the age limit clause of the Foreign Service Bill, which becomes law today. The news will be heard with sincere regret by the whole community, as Mr. Mason Mitchell, during his stay amongst us has won the esteem and affection of everyone he came in contact with by his unfailing courtesy, his charming manners, and by the real and keen interest he took to further the interest of the Maltese, both in his official capacity and as a private citizen.

"A perfect gentleman, courteous, hospitable, genial and possessing a winning charm, Mr. Mitchell has made a host of friends who highly treasure the privilege of his friendship and who will sadly miss him when, in the course of events, he will leave our Island to enjoy in his native home, the rest and peace from official cares, so deservedly won by an arduous official career in the service of the U. S. of America.

"Remarkable, and well-worthy of grateful notice, is the fact that Mr. Mitchell, with characteristic thoroughness, did not confine his activities to benefit Malta by passively waiting for the opportunity to do so, but "hustled"—he hails from the land of "hustling"—and went out, aggressively, in search of the means to do good; he created opportunities where others would have sat waiting.

"It would have taken a very ungrateful nation, indeed—leave apart the warm-heartedness and susceptibility of the Maltese—had such kindly exertions by a stranger on our behalf passed unnoticed and unreciprocated. The difficulty on our side was how to show Mr. Mitchell the full extent of our gratefulness. An opportunity to do so, and one which we eagerly and with sincere feelings availed ourself of to the fullest extent, arose when a lunatic (now in the Lunatic Asylum) made a dastardly, though irresponsible, attack on the life of Mr. Mason Mitchell, on the 12th December, 1922, at the Upper Barracca, which, happily, proved harmless, except for a slight injury, a glancing flesh wound just above the hip, which only incapacitated Mr. Mitchell for a couple of days or so.

"It is not easy to describe the immense sensation created by the announcement of the outrage. Genuine regret and widespread indignation were manifest everywhere, and had, at the time, the identity of the perpetrator been known, he would have been in serious danger of being lynched there and then. The residence of Mr. Mitchell, where he had been carried in a cab by kind and sympathizing bystanders soon after the outrage, was literally besieged by hundreds of representatives of all classes of the community, from His Excellency the Governor downwards all anxiously enquiring about the state of Mr. Mitchell, not-

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Photo from Thos. M. Wilson

A PORTION OF CHINA'S GREAT WALL AS SEEN FROM NANKING PASS



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ASSOCIATE EDITOR



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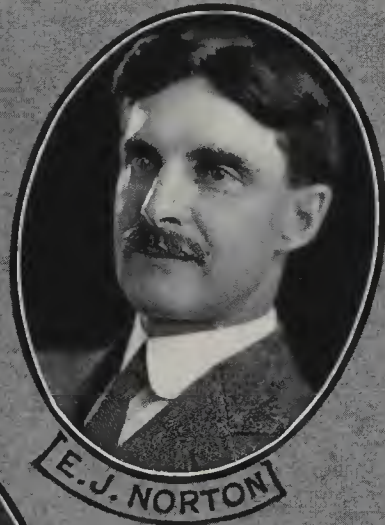


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Picturesque Czechoslovakia

By WALTER A. FOOTE, *Hamburg*

THOUGH Czechoslovakia's place in international political affairs is prominent; though the importance of her commerce and industries is realized; though the world, in the attitude of a spectator, is eagerly observing her internal political developments, there is another reason why the young republic demands much attention—i. e., the wealth of natural beauty of her countryside and the picturesque, stately and historical buildings of her older cities.

Czechoslovakia is composed of Bohemia, Moravia, Silesia, Slovakia and Russinia. The Republic, born in 1918, inherited approximately 80 percent of the industries and 25 percent of the population of the former Austro-Hungarian Monarchy. Her people are proudest, however, of their inheritance of traditions and of their history, whose pages are filled with records of hundreds of years of fighting for independence. They are also proud of their highly democratic form of government and of the fact that one of the greatest events of their political history, the signing of their Declaration of Independence, was consummated in the shadow of Independence Hall, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Of all these things, the Czechs are justly proud.

Zlata Praha (Golden Prague), in which place Consul Winans so courteously holds forth, is one of the most picturesque cities of Europe. Many stately and historical buildings and imposing views combine to impress the visitor. The view of the city from the heights of Hradcany (The Castle) is one of remarkable beauty; while the Hradcany as seen from the bank of the River Vltava is impressive.

Bohemia is really a country of castles, many of which, though very ancient, are in excellent condition. The largest, most picturesque and probably the best preserved, of all Czechoslovakia's old castles is that of Karluv Tyn (Carlstein),



Photo submitted by Walter A. Foote

KARLUV TYN, FOR MANY GENERATIONS THE REPOSITORY OF THE CROWN JEWELS OF THE KINGDOM OF BOHEMIA

whose walls protected the Crown Jewels of the Kingdom of Bohemia for many generations.

Czechoslovakia's Parliament building is very simple and yet dignified. It is a very suggestive fact that the building is situated on the bank of the Vltava river, almost facing the ancient castle, and just across the street from the Law School of the very ancient, dignified and venerable Charles University.

A short motor ride takes one away from the old buildings to winding country roads, bordered on both sides by fruit trees of all kinds. Miles of cherry blossoms; sweeping views of well-tilled fields; ranges of mountains, with many virgin forests, all combine to convey the idea that Bohemia, though ancient and made venerable with much stirring history, is in fact still young.

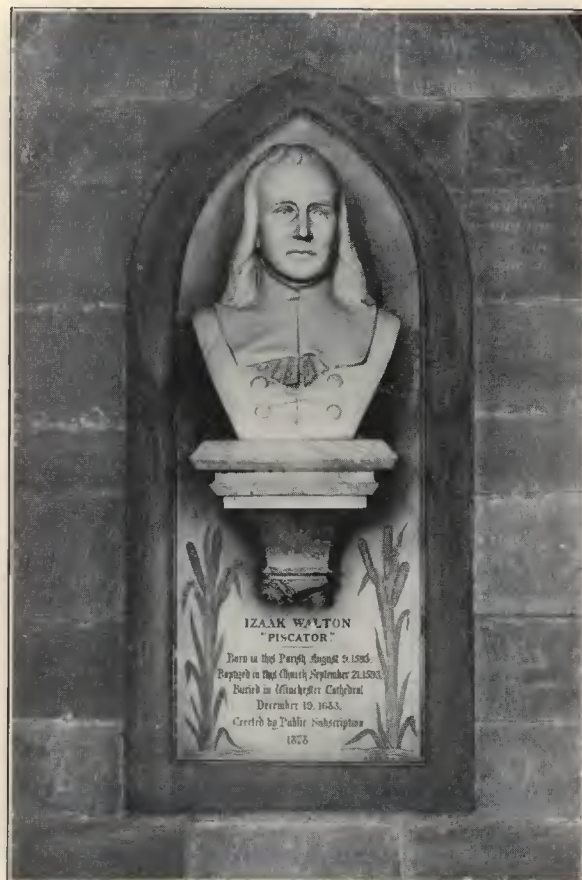
IZAACK WALTON "PISCATOR"

By JOHN FRANKLIN JEWELL, *Birmingham*

THE official opening of the restored cottage of Izaak Walton, at Shallowford, near Safford, England, on April 30th, 1924, as a memorial of Walton and a museum of the Waltonian cult, recalls a visit that I paid to the old home of the author of *The Compleat Angler*. After many difficulties, the old thatched, timbered cottage has been made a worthy place to associate with a man of mild and sweet and peaceable spirit, who has taught many to love the things which he loved, and who in every part of the world has had a wider influence on men than perhaps any churchman or statesman has had.

Before the cottage was restored it was as appears in the accompanying photograph. Every year it was visited by lovers of the great fisherman, and in its improved state visitors from all parts of the world will no doubt continue to worship at the restored shrine at Shallowford.

In the Parish Church of St. Mary's, Stafford, there is an unique bust which commemorates this noted man who is known to fame as IZAACK WALTON, "PISCATOR." When I visited Stafford a short time ago, I thought it a simple and yet very impressive tribute to the town's greatest citizen.



In Memoriam



Photo by C. E. Fowler

THE COTTAGE BEFORE IT WAS RESTORED

Izaak Walton "Piscator"

Born in this parish August 9, 1593. Baptized in this Church, September 21, 1593. Buried in Winchester Cathedral, December 19, 1683. Erected by public subscription 1878.



NECROLOGY

Hon. Alvey A. Adee, who died on July 5, 1924, was born in Astoria, N. Y., November 27, 1842, and educated by private tutors. In 1870 he was appointed Secretary of the Legation at Madrid, serving as *Chargé d'Affaires* at different times. In 1877 he was transferred to the Department and in 1878 appointed Chief of the Diplomatic Bureau, made Third Assistant Secretary of State in 1882 and Second Assistant Secretary of State in 1886, which office he continued to hold until the time of his death.

On the death of Mr. Adee, Secretary Hughes said:

"The death of Alvey A. Adee brings to an end a service which is unparalleled for its length and efficiency in the history of the Department of State. Mr. Adee entered the Diplomatic Service 54 years ago, and he held for nearly 38 years the position of Second Assistant Secretary of State. He was a man of broad scholarship, rare diplomatic insight, and for intimate knowledge of our foreign relations easily held first place. During a long period, and until his health failed, he was the constant and the most trusted adviser of Secretaries of State. It is not too much to say that the Government has never had a more faithful and competent servant."

Mr. Cornwall Hart Loomis, former vice consul at Calcutta, died at his home in Washington on June 20, 1924.

The BULLETIN extends its sympathy to Consul Joseph Emerson Haven, at Florence, and Vice Consul Richard B. Haven, at Constantza, in the death of their mother, Mrs. Fanny Barnard Haven, who died at Florence on June 8, 1924.

The BULLETIN extends its sympathy to Vice



HONORABLE ALVEY A. ADEE

For thirty-eight years he served as Second Assistant Secretary of State

Consul Salisbury in the death of his father on July 14, 1924.

As the BULLETIN goes to press word has been received of the killing of Vice Consul Robert W. Imbrie by a mob in Teheran, under shocking circumstances. He leaves his wife, who was Katherine Gillespie of Boston, Mass., and aunt, Mrs. Mary Fishbaugh, residing in Washington with her son, Paul W. Fishbaugh, and his wife. Mr. Imbrie's keen and kindly interest in persons and things never flagged, and he will be deeply mourned by his friends throughout the service, whom he won and held by the rare quality of his friendship.

AMERICAN CONSULAR BULLETIN

Vol. VI AUGUST, 1924 No. 8

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The purposes of the Bulletin are (1) to serve as an exchange among American consular officers for personal news and for information and opinions respecting the proper discharge of their functions, and to keep them in touch with business and administrative developments which are of moment to them; and (2) to disseminate information respecting the work of the Consular Service among interested persons in the United States, including business men and others having interests abroad, and young men who may be considering the Consular Service as a career.

Propaganda and articles of a tendential nature, especially such as might be aimed to influence legislature, executive or administrative action with respect to the Consular Service, or the Department of State, are rigidly excluded from its columns.

Contributions should be addressed to the American Consular Bulletin, c/o Consular Bureau, Department of State, Washington, D. C.

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The American Consular Association is an unofficial and voluntary association embracing most of the members of the Consular Service of the United States. It was formed for the purpose of fostering *esprit de corps* among the members of the Consular Service, to strengthen Service spirit, and to establish a center around which might be grouped the united efforts of its members for the improvement of the Service.

ON RECEIVING CALLERS

By CHARLES AMSDEN, Basel

ONE of the numerous Scotch stories concerns the Australian on a visit to England, who was asked by a friend if there were not many Scotchmen in Australia. "Yes," was the reply, "but the rabbits are the worst."

We are apt to consider callers as among the worst of those little drawbacks to the consular profession which make us feel that we are, after all, earning our salary. Callers have the practice of coming in bunches, as though by pre-arrangement; and their visits often coincide with a press of other work, which makes their presence more distracting than if they came on Wednesday or Friday instead of on Saturday or Monday. Of course the ideal caller is the one who comes at 2 P. M. on Saturday, when we are all away. But he is a negligible factor in our calculations.

If we try to imagine an office without callers, we may come to realize how welcome these intruders really are. Imagine sitting in the office all day, seeing and speaking to nobody but ourselves, conducting all our business with the outside world through the medium of letters. Even a telephone call would be as welcome as the visit of the proverbial rich uncle. Which would you rather do; write a letter, or talk to a visitor in the waiting room? Naturally, so would we all.

These people who come at the most inconvenient times, to empty their bag of seemingly trivial questions in our faces, they make the time fly, and distinguish today from yesterday, and from tomorrow. They season the dull routine, and give us a valid excuse for setting aside our record books and invoices and letters awaiting answer.

Callers have the great merit of being not all alike. Consequently they are not necessarily dull or exasperating. Once in a while—perhaps as frequently as pearls occur in oysters—one falls to our lot who is worth months of effort; such a one, for instance, as the destitute college boy who was "afraid the Consul was going to have to send him home," giving the Consul the satisfaction of assuring him that his fears were utterly groundless!

Perhaps our efforts on behalf of a casual visitor will be as richly rewarded as were those of the Vice Consul on the shipping desk who put a seaman on relief, whereupon the relieved mariner went straightway to the Consul, and recommended the deserving subordinate for promotion! We may even receive a written and lasting testimonial to our courteous reception of those who

(Continued on page 299)



VISITING OFFICERS

The following Consular Officers called at the Department during the period from June 15 to July 15:

Leslie A. Davis, Consul at Helsingfors.
 Frank Bohr, Consul at Cienfuegos.
 Fred C. Slater, Consul at Fort William and Port Arthur.
 Julian C. Greenup, Consul at Las Palmas.
 Charles Bridgham Hosmer, Consul at Santo Domingo.
 William C. Burdett, Consul at Seville.
 George N. Ifft, Consul at Nancy.
 Harold D. Clum, Consul at Königsberg.
 Bernard Gotlieb, Consul at Teheran.
 George Wadsworth, Consul at Cairo.
 Alfred T. Nester, Vice Consul at Naples.
 Robert Y. Jarvis, Vice Consul at Warsaw.
 J. Cameron Hawkins, Vice Consul at Vancouver.
 H. Armistead Smith, Vice Consul at Brussels.

PROMOTIONS

(Clerks to Vice Consuls)

George B. Andrews, Montreal.
 James K. Angell, Prague.
 George S. Appleyard, Fernie.
 J. Eustace Denmark, Soerabaya.
 William E. Larkin, Foochow.
 Stanley R. Lawson, Dresden.
 R. Frazier Potts, Para.
 Harvan Teall, Toronto.

RESIGNATIONS

George E. Anderson, Consul General Class II.
 John R. Bradley, Consul Class VI.
 John C. Moomaw, Vice Consul de carrière.
 George A. Follett, Honorary Vice Consul.

APPOINTMENTS

Lawrence M. Taylor, Consular Agent, Tuxpam.

DIPLOMATIC

The following diplomatic officers called at the Department during the period from June 14 to July 15:

The Honorable Montgomery Schuyler, American Minister to Salvador.
 The Honorable J. Morton Howell, American Minister to Egypt.
 Stokeley W. Morgan, Riga.
 Joseph Flack, Santo Domingo.
 John Harrison Gray, Tokyo.

Transfers

Alexander R. Magruder, Class 2, from Berne to Department.
 Pierre de L. Boal, Class 6, from Warsaw to Berne.
 Stokeley W. Morgan, Class 4, from Riga to Panama.
 J. Webb Benton, Class 6, from Montevideo to Caracas.
 Harold M. Deane, Class 7, from Tegucigalpa to San José.
 Robert S. Burgher, Class 8, from San José to Panama.

ASSIGNMENTS

Hiram A. Boucher, Belfast.
 Richard F. Boyce, Hamilton, Ont.
 John K. Caldwell, Department.
 Thomas W. Chilton, St. Stephens, N. B.
 José de Olivares, Kingston, Jamaica.
 Dudley G. Dwyre, Guadalajara.
 John G. Erhardt, Winnipeg.
 William W. Heard, Department.
 Samuel W. Honaker, Teheran.
 John E. Kehl, Stuttgart.
 Andrew J. McConnico, Bluefields.
 Keith Merrill, Sydney, N. S.
 John R. Minter, Breslau.
 Maxwell K. Moorehead, Dundee.
 Orsen N. Nielsen, Dublin.
 Harold Shantz, Toronto.
 Marshall M. Vance, Windsor.

Vice Consuls de carrière

Joseph F. Burt, Berlin.
 Fred C. Eastin, Pernambuco.
 Samuel C. Ebling, Stockholm.
 J. Cameron Hawkins, Vancouver.
 A. Dana Hodgdon, Stuttgart.
 R. Flournoy Howard, London.
 Richard G. Monges, Warsaw.
 Alfred T. Nester, Christiania.

Non-career officers

Edwin N. Atherton, Vancouver.
 Amado Chaves, Barranquilla.
 Harry A. Dayton, Belgrade.
 Francis P. Dormady, Canton.
 Earl W. Eaton, Nuevo Laredo.
 Lucius H. Johnson, Montreal.
 Clifford W. McGlasson, Goteborg.
 Ben C. Matthews, Antofagasta.
 Herbert F. Pearson, Trieste.
 Hernan C. Vogenitz, Progreso.

RETIREMENTS

Consuls General

Alexander W. Thackara, Paris.
 Joseph I. Brittain, Winnipeg.
 Dominic I. Murphy, Stockholm.
 Frederic W. Goding, Guayaquil.
 Frederick M. Ryder, Vancouver.
 Alfred A. Winslow, St. Johns.
 Francis B. Keene, Rome.

Consuls, Class III

Frank W. Mahin, Amsterdam.
 George H. Pickerell, Para.
 William P. Kent, Hamilton, Bermuda.
 Chester W. Martin, Toronto.
 Henry S. Culver, St. Johns, N. B.

Consuls, Class IV

John N. McCunn, Yarmouth.
 Robert B. Mosher, Victoria.
 Gebhard Willrich, St. Gall.
 Charles M. Freeman, Sydney, N. S.

Consuls, Class V

Edward L. Adams, Sherbrooke.
 Julius D. Dreher, Colon.
 John H. Grout, Hull.
 Mason Mitchell, Malta.

Consuls, Class VI

Percival Gassett, Leeds.
 Lorin A. Lathrop, Nassau.

Consuls, Class VII

James B. Milner, Niagara Falls.
 Bradstreet S. Rairden, Curaçao.
 Henry Albert Johnson, Dundee.
 Eugene L. Belisle, Limoges.
 Henry W. Diederich, Sarnia.
 James S. Benedict, Windsor.

Consuls, Class VIII

Alonzo B. Garrett, St. Stephens, N. B.
 Thomas R. Wallace, Martinique.
 Frank C. Dennison, Prescott.

CONFERENCE IN BERLIN

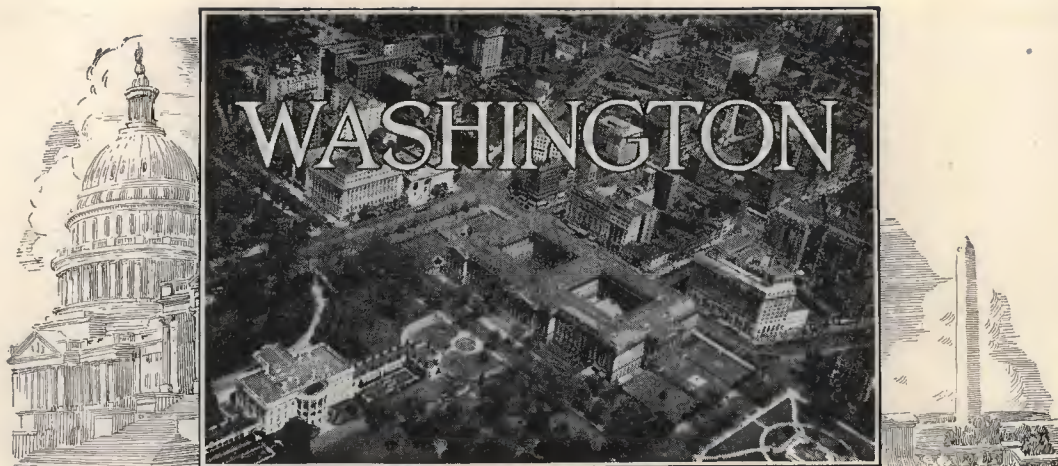
On May 23d and 24th, the consular officers in Germany were the guests of Ambassador Houghton in Berlin, the purpose of their visit being an informal conference with the Ambassador on the political and economic situation in their respective districts.

On the afternoon of the 23d, the consuls met the Ambassador at the Embassy, and the general situation in the different districts was discussed by the consuls, the Ambassador in his turn giving them the latest information on the central political situation at Berlin. The Ambassador took the occasion to refer to the fact that the meeting was probably the first since the passage of the Rogers Bill through both houses of Congress and that, if not actually at the moment, the officers present soon would be united in the American Foreign Service.

On the evening of the 23d, the Ambassador entertained the consuls and the staff of his Embassy at dinner and afterwards gave a very interesting analysis of the report of the Dawes Commission.

On the morning of the 24th, a purely consular conference was held at the Consulate General, in which matters of current interest were discussed, and the views of the different officers exchanged. In the afternoon Mr. and Mrs. Coffin were at home to the visiting consuls, most of whom left Berlin that evening.

The interchange of views on the situation in the different districts and in the capital proved of much mutual benefit, and it is hoped that similar meetings may be arranged more frequently in the future. The consular officers who came to Berlin were very much interested and greatly aided by their talks with the Ambassador and feel under a deep sense of obligation for his very kind hospitality in affording them the opportunity to meet him and each other.



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SHORT TERM NOTES

ACCEPTANCES

ON RECEIVING CALLERS

(Continued from page 294)

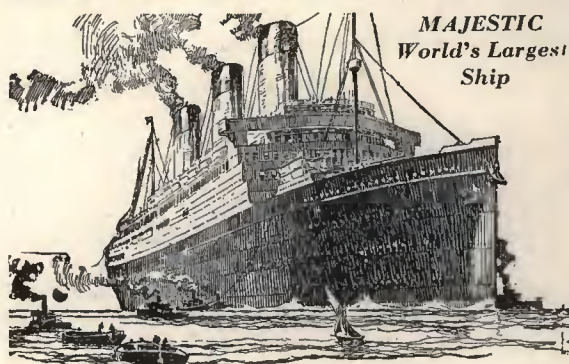
are temporarily our guests, as did the officer who had an importunate negro "impresario" thrown almost bodily out of his office. The ejected one went immediately to his hotel and wrote a letter expressive of his deep appreciation of the "prompt and efficient treatment" accorded him at the Consulate.

Each visitor is a problem in himself. He comes to us with something already thought out in his mind, to spring it on us point-blank, and see how we react. He has us at a disadvantage, because his role is studied, while ours is necessarily extemporaneous. That's where the fun comes in; we have to think fast to checkmate him.

If he goes away dissatisfied, or bewildered, or wrongly informed, then we've lost. We've either bluffed and given wrong information, or we've blustered and taken advantage of our position of host to the caller, or we've confessed defeat and helped him not at all. People don't come to us just to see the color of our wall paper. They want something. We may not have it, we may not know where they will find it; but we can make them feel that we should be glad to help them if we could.

There are two things to determine about a caller. One is the object of his call, the other is the spirit in which his request is made. If he is angry about something when he arrives he must either be soothed or thrown out, and the latter expedient becomes fatiguing when resorted to continually. If he's in good humor, affable, it is safe to deal with him in a man-to-man fashion, even to crack a joke at his expense. If he's in a hurry he wants to be given the impression that his request is being attended to with the utmost speed. If he has plenty of time, he shouldn't be rushed.

Callers judge us more by the way they feel at the moment of calling than by the way they are received. The proof of this is that one person will consider So-and-So, who attended to him, a most courteous gentleman; another will find this same So-and-So an unbearable grouch, or an impertinent young scamp. Stated in the form of an Indian proverb, "When fever is treated with cholera remedies, the physician's reputation suffers."



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AN OBSCURE AMERICAN SHRINE

By W. W. SCHOTT, *Palermo*

JUST outside of Syracuse, in Sicily, (the ancient island city of Ortygia, founded by Greeks in B. C. 734) is an old stone quarry called *Latomia* dei Cappuccini*. From here was extracted the stone used in constructing the temples, other edifices and walls of what Cicero termed "the greatest of Greek cities and the most beautiful of all cities."

Multitudes of men must have labored to carve out this immense pit, which is several acres in extent, and which is surrounded by sheer walls of smooth white limestone, rising in some parts to a height of 100 feet.

In later times, this labyrinth was used as a prison, and it enclosed prisoners brought even from other and remote cities of Sicily. Following the disastrous rout of the Athenians in B. C. 415, nine thousand free men of proud Athens were put in this quarry to languish through a

*Latomia (quarry) is said to be the oldest European word used in common parlance.

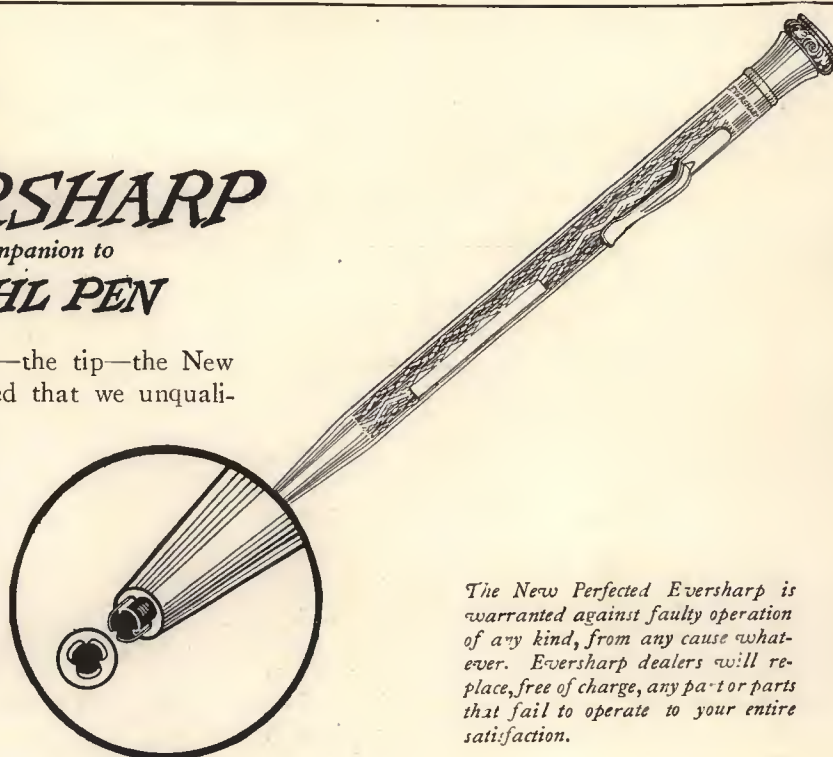
long captivity. But now this pit is a sheltered garden of indescribable beauty. Its depths hold groves of lemons, almonds, olives, oranges, pomegranates, wild figs, cypresses. Exquisite flowers of all hues grow luxuriantly and fill the hollow with color and perfume. Even parts of the white walls are covered with festoons of golden ivy, silvery vermouth and pink geraniums. At sunset the walls turn pink, the depths are a soft *chiaroscuro*, and the impression is that of the interior of a sea-shell.

Below, the walls hold scooped out halls and chambers, open to the Heavens, in which were made tombs for the nobles, during the Roman period, some of which tombs have inscriptions and architectural decorations. And here, rudely cut in the slab of a tomb sunk into the wall, is found the following:

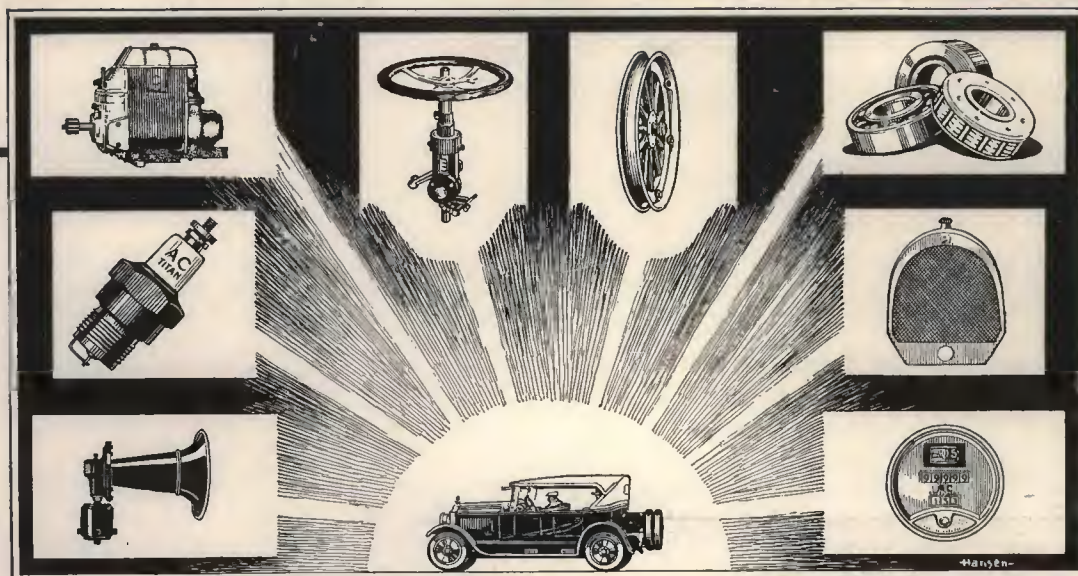
IN MEMORY OF WILLIAM R.
NICHOLSON MIDSHIPMAN IN
THE NAVY OF THE UNITED
STATES OF AMERICA WHO WAS
CUT OFF FROM SOCIETY IN
THE BLOOM OF YOUTH AND
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OF SEPTEMBER ANNO DOMINI
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ET ANNO AETATIS 18

Eternally relieved in the "first watch" of his career, this young gentleman of the sea, unlike his eternal Roman neighbors, had not come to Syracuse to conquer and to gain, but he was impelled by the spirit of service and the example of

his illustrious leaders to maintain "the freedom of the seas" in far waters and to demand recognition of and respect for his flag.

He sleeps in foreign soil with honored, martial men, and his presence here causes pause in the reflection of ancient glory to a stimulation of national consciousness and a feeling of reverence for his ever glorious service.

During the recent revolution in Honduras, a little girl, aged seven, the daughter of a local German merchant who still insists on flying the flag of the old monarchy, was, among others, a refugee in a certain American consular office on the North Coast.

A few days after the shouting and tumult had died, the little Teuton sought to be enlightened on a matter which was evidently causing her some doubt.

"Papa," she seriously questioned one evening at dinner, "who has the most to say; Santa Claus, the German Emperor, or the consul?"



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FOR THOSE WHO LEAVE

(Continued from page 288)

withstanding that a reassuring doctor's bulletin had been issued soon after his examination stating that there was positively no danger, and that the wound was a superficial one, healing in four or five days. Visitors poured into the Consulate and private residence to leave their cards expressing their indignation at the outrage, and their sincere congratulations for the averted danger. It was the sensation of the day, and at item talked about with genuine sympathy and grave concern for Mr. Mitchell's safety.

"Such unanimous manifestation of concern and affection for an individual not invested with the halo of a throne or its surroundings must spring from one source only, and that is personal worth and sterling qualities which alone can compel the general admiration and win affection, esteem and sympathy. These sentiments, expressed by the whole population, freely and spontaneously at the time of the outrage, were given a concrete form, when the "Casino Maltese," to which were associated the highest personalities, entertained at a formal lunch Mr. Mason Mitchell as the guest of honour with the express purpose of congratulating him on the miraculous escape, and as an expression of the community's sense of horror and indignation at the outrage, while the occasion was eagerly availed of to deeply thank Mr. Mitchell for all his splendid endeavors on our behalf. These sentiments were very forcibly embodied in the masterly speech delivered on that occasion by Judge Dr. Alfred Parnis, who presided at that ceremonious lunch.

"In giving expression to these few remarks of appreciation of all Mr. Mason Mitchell has done for Malta and the Maltese, we feel sure we are voicing the sentiments of the whole community in Malta. Not less confident we feel of expressing the general sentiments, when we venture to offer Mr. Mitchell and Mrs. Mitchell our best wishes for their future welfare and happiness, expressing at the same time our heartfelt regret at parting from those who have proved such real friends to Malta."

KANT AND KÖNIGSBERG

(Continued from page 284)

among the invited guests and it was with particular pleasure that I joined in honoring this renowned internationalist who regarded the founding of our own United States of America with such real sympathy and enthusiasm.

The ceremonies began on Saturday, the 19th of April, with a reception of the guests by the city



officials and the professors. On Sunday, the 20th of April, took place a conference of the Kant Society in the Palästra Albertina, a students' recreation hall donated to Albertus University by an American, one of its former students. On Monday the 21st, a memorial service was held in the Cathedral, after which the new Kant mausoleum was dedicated. The principal speaker on this occasion was the celebrated theologian, Dr. Adolf von Harnak of Berlin. That same evening a musicale and reception were held in the Stadthalle. On Kant's birthday, the 22d of April, a beautiful ceremony took place in the city theater, which was made colorful and picturesque by the attendance of all the student corps in uniform with their corps flags, and at which addresses were made by various well-known German scholars. At six o'clock in the evening a banquet called *Das Bohnenmahl* was offered by the *Gesellschaft der Freunde Kant's*, a society which had its origin in the small group of friends with whom Kant was wont to surround himself at meal time. The name *Bohnenmahl* (bean meal) is taken from the fact that a bean is hidden in the cake, and the member of the society who finds the bean is its president for the next year. At

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8:30 a gala performance of Beethoven's opera *Fidelio* was given.

On Wednesday, April 23rd, the final day of the Kantfeier, the invited guests were taken in automobiles on a sight-seeing tour of the city.

HOW AMERICAN CONSULS ARE HELPING AMERICAN SHIPPING

(Continued from page 287)

can vessels. These reports indicate that gradually American shipping has been gaining a foothold in quarters where there have been no American shipping services since the disappearance of the old-time sail craft. Many of the Consular reports present suggestions of openings for certain classes of American goods, so that the reports are as directly of interest to manufacturers and merchants as to shipowners and operators.

American Consular officers regard it as one of their obligations to report any cases of discrimination against American shipping or commerce. Fortunately, these are very few indeed in many

quarters of the world, but some pertinent information on this point has been duly conveyed to the Department of State, where it will have careful consideration. Not for a long time has a Secretary of State manifested the keen interest in the American Merchant Marine that has been shown by Secretary Hughes ever since he took charge of this great department of the Government. Long will Americans engaged in ocean shipping remember his significant words at the Washington conference on the limitation of armaments, when on November 12, 1921, after outlining the contemplated plan of a reduction of the fighting forces of the great powers of the world, he sounded this note of warning to the American people, that "The importance of the merchant marine is in inverse ratio to the size of naval armaments."

[It is gratifying to learn that the initial efforts of the Service in furnishing information for shipping interests in the United States are producing results of such concrete nature that Mr. Marvin has felt justified in publishing this very appreciative comment. It will prove a stimulus to every officer reading it.]

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IN THE "FROZEN NORTH"

(Continued from page 283)

furthermore, a vessel supplied for three years was known to be wintering in the danger zone. This reassuring news I took the liberty of communicating to the Department of State. At this juncture, a newspaper friend privately informed me that the Royal Northwest Mounted Police detachment at Herschel Island was to be relieved by a squad from Dawson City and suggested that in this manner I might establish contact with the icebound whalers. This news seemed important, and I forthwith called on Major Zachary Taylor Wood who commanded the western contingent of that splendid force, requesting the privilege of sending mail to the imprisoned whalers by the police body destined for Herschel Island. Major Wood at once consented on condition that only first class mail be forwarded since the police force would travel light with only one dogteam and every pound would count. Telegrams confirming this arrangement were despatched to Ottawa and Washington and afforded occasion for an exchange of amenities between Sir William Laurier and Mr. Root. The Department of State notified the Governor of California since the whaling fleet hailed from San Francisco—hence the somewhat unexpectedly large mail received in the Klondike from fathers, mothers and sweet-hearts of the unfortunate whale hunters. A few days later (Nov., 1905), seven policemen started across the snowfields, bound for the Arctic, some six or seven hundred miles away. Following the Mackenzie river, they would travel and hunt for food during the day, repose in their sleeping bags at night. There was no road or trail, only the vast expanse of snow, but they had a compass. It sounds quite simple. To the R. N. M. P. detachment it was "all in a day's work." But we may assume, without impugning their unique reputation that, as Christmas approached, these doughty agents of law and order, most of whom belonged to "good families" in England, occasionally, as the moon cast its ghostly light across this virgin wilderness, sent a wistful thought or two back home to mother and fireside and feather-bed. Among other precious freight they carried some mail for the *Gjoa*, Capt. Amundsen's vessel, on which this intrepid explorer, after spending two and one-half years in the Arctic observing the magnetic pole, performed the splendid feat of bringing his ship through the Northwest Passage, the dream of navigators for centuries. I had heard of Capt. Amundsen's mission to the Magnetic Pole and of his photographs of the variations of the needle. In fact, I had just read



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AMERICAN CONSULAR BULLETIN

in *The Times* of London an account by Capt. Amundsen himself of his first year's work in the Arctic regions of Canada. Incidentally, this correspondence to *The Times* had been forwarded by two Eskimos from King William Land to Hudson Bay. It arrived too late to go out that year and remained during the winter at Ft. Churchill in the care of the Royal Northwest Mounted Police. Next summer the message was despatched to Quebec and thence to London where it was published. In the autumn, some sixteen months after being written, the account reached me in Dawson City. The mail sleigh which brought me this issue of *The Times* also favored me with a copy of *The Tribune* of New York in which appeared an editorial highly appreciative of the Amundsen expedition and replete with regrets prompted by the then current rumor that it had been wrecked and its leader and crew lost. *The Tribune* expressed the fervent hope that at least the photographs might be saved. One crisp morning I learned from my faithful newspaper friend that Capt. Amundsen had arrived at Eagle City. His ship, like those of the whalers, had been entrapped in unseasonable ice and found itself compelled to pass a third winter in the Arctic Ocean. In order to secure some medicine for one of his

men who was ill and also to obtain some news from the outside world, Capt. Amundsen had put on his skis and, accompanied by two Eskimos, husband and wife, acting as guides, and a whaling captain, slid down to the nearest telegraph station, some 600 miles to the South. On this trip he did not meet a single human being except a few Indians near Ft. Yukon. Realizing that Capt. Amundsen who had been out of touch with civilization for over two years and did not even know that he owed allegiance to a new sovereign (Norway in the meantime having separated itself from Sweden), I clipped from my newspapers and magazines everything which might particularly interest the explorer and sent it by special dogteam to Eagle City. Thus, as he afterwards told me, Capt. Amundsen received his first intelligence from "the outside." These cuttings he forwarded by the aforementioned police squad to his men in the Arctic. Capt. Amundsen was staunchly loyal to his comrades. He replied to my invitation to spend Christmas with my family in Dawson City that he did not feel that he could accept any invitations as long as his companions were still in limbo of the Arctic. The police also carried letters I had addressed to each whaling

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captain asking about the health of the whalers, their food supplies, the success or failure of their business venture. Late in March, the relieved detachment arrived in Dawson City from Herschel Island, incidentally bringing replies to my inquiry. Everything was alright with the whaling fleet, plenty of food, no case of death or illness. Into the bargain, I received material for a report on the whaling industry which conceivably DC-2 if it had then been in existence, might have rated as above average as "showing resourcefulness in obtaining commercial information."

During the dark season when the sun was gone, the river frozen up and business generally at a standstill, the Consulate in order to keep the "blue devils" away and for other purposes occupied itself in further strange ways.

Several extensive reports which somewhat tried the fortitude of Vice Consul Woodward (we had no other clerk, or typist, or messenger) were prepared for the U. S. Senate Committee on Territories comparing the administration of Yukon Territory with that of the District of Alaska and suggesting improvements.

The idea of an Alaska exposition in Seattle was beginning to make headway, and it was de-

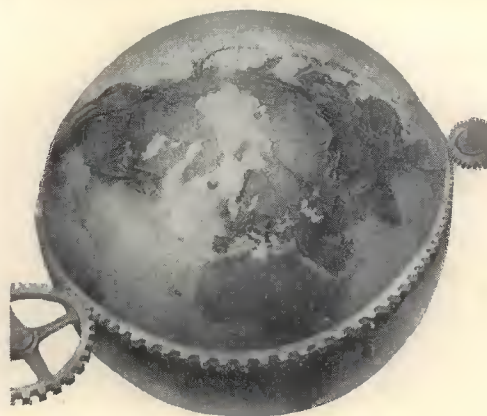
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sired that Yukon Territory should take part. Officialdom in the Yukon naturally was partial to Vancouver. Ultimately, however, the territorial government, at the head of which stood Commissioner McInnes, heartily joined in making a success of the Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exposition (1908-09). In promoting such cooperation, the Consulate at Dawson City exerted itself quite actively in 1905-06. As an example of its endeavor may be mentioned an enterprise for which my newspaper friend, to whom I have repeatedly alluded (Mr. Settlemyer), deserves credit. Since the flora of the Yukon is surprisingly rich, he advanced to me a scheme of offering prizes for the best collections of native Yukon wild flowers to be mounted and ultimately exhibited at the proposed Exposition. In order to provide money for such cash prizes, I gave an illustrated lecture at the "Opera House" on the Holy Land. The flower rewards raised in the Yukon in 1905 were the first money actually collected for the benefit of the Fair. Although, when the Exposition opened, I was back in Syria. I recall that the official representative of the Department of State at the Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exposition was Mr. Wilbur J. Carr.

I found the people of the Klondike especially attractive. Life in the Northland appeals particularly to the strong, the ambitious, the adventurous. There is no place for weaklings.

As for the climate, the coldest spells occur in January. At that time the sun is not visible above the horizon, and things seem rather gloomy. Add to this the feeling of exclusion from the outside world, the absence of fresh food, the fear of fires, and it is no wonder that mental depression at times gets the upper hand. However, these cold spells do not last long, and generally speaking the climate is not only invigorating but also pleasant. When more railroads shall have penetrated into the interior, doing away with the feeling of isolation and of loneliness, the cold spells will hold no terrors whatever. The spring, summer and fall seasons impressed me as simply charming. I cannot think of a climate more glorious, more inspiring than that of the Yukon or Alaska summer. The sun is out all day and all night. There are flowers in profusion and birds in every tree. But above all, the air is so full of ozone that work seems like play, and one cannot help feeling bright and happy and generous toward all mankind.

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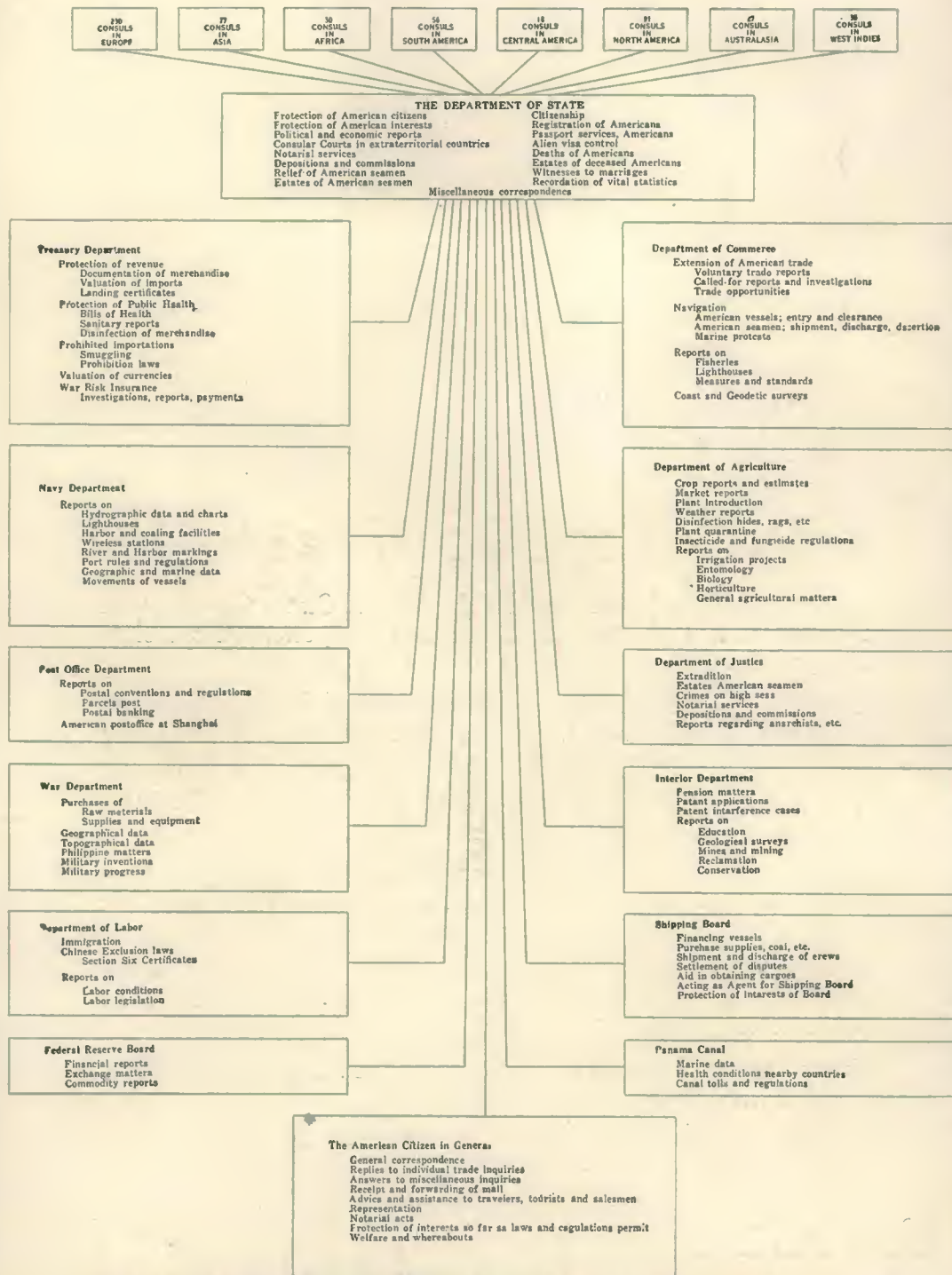
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