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Transjordan Smiles to Find Freedom Won

Forgotten Desert Land Steps from Dinginess of Turkish Misrule to Happiness

Capital With Only One Hotel

By CAPT. OWEN TWEEDY

In The Christian Science Monitor, Jerusalem—Transjordan is a country whose name tells the world where it lies—for everyone can place the Jordan—but otherwise most people know little or nothing about it.

Transjordan is a revelation of evolution. In 10 short years it has stepped from the dinginess of Turkish misrule into a jolly, enterprising and hopeful career as an independent Emirate. It is paying its way; its population is surely appreciative of the new regime where things now happen as they are expected to happen and life has ceased to be a round of unpleasant shocks and extortion; above all, it is a happy country and one with a cheerful future—not cast in grand lines; for it can never be rich—but one in which life can be lived easily according to the motto "Live and let live."

Bowing Down Jericho Road

As the traveler makes his way to the new kingdom from Jerusalem affairs began to mend. And it was time that they should. For the police and gendarmerie were over a year in arrears of pay. So also the salaries of the judges and tax collectors, with the result that they made both ends meet by wholesale acceptance of bribes.

This new policy stood for retrenchment. The Emir, with public spirit, acquiesced in the reduction of his civil list to £30,000; a budget was produced and properly allocated; the judges and the tax collectors were opened and improved, and, above all law and order, particularly on the French Syrian border, was imposed with Oriental severity.

Then there is the 10-mile span of the Jordan Valley in a heat which makes the car boil; and as likely as not there will be a puncture. Punctures-mending in the feasibility of the Jordan is anything but pleasant. For the last fortresses and villages are rapidly as far as his Arab friends—their friends by now—gratulate the chieftain on his increasing prowess and heap again holy duty, the ascent from the valley into the mountains of Moab is lovely.

A back view gives examples of the Dead Sea landscape in its beauty of purple blit; an excellent road—well-paved and well-surfaced—leads to the new regime—climbing steeply and enthralling. Along mountain torrent, pinkly bathed with clematis; and then it is the Transjordanian highlands, one rise after another, sweeping east to the great Syrian Desert, an unending vista of waving corn and close-grown pastures.

Paper of Fat Raisins

The chancery stops at Es Salt—his native place—and buys a twisted paper full of the fat raisins which the district is famous; the four travelers pass them round politely, while the car charges one hill, and skids down the next, avoiding carelessly flocks of goats and sheep wading aimlessly from the day's pasture back to their villages where each animal knows and finds its own way home. Amman lies in a cup of the hills. The sun is low, half of the clustered town is in deep purple shadow; beyond, in the eastern quarter, the traveler catches his first glimpse of the great Roman amphitheater, still seated in the pink of the setting sun.

Amman has one hotel, the "Philadelphia"; for in Graeco-Roman days, when the amphitheater was built, the old Hebrew name of Rabah Ammon was changed to Philadelphia. It is a good hotel—good food and good beds; but it is small. That night he slept in a four-bedded room and his companions were an Englishman representing a London insurance company, a German selling knives, razors and scissors and a Greek, food contractor to the British Air Force depot four miles out in the desert. As he settled himself contentedly between the sheets he recollects with a grin that Philadelphia means the love of brotherhood.

Whirling 'Round Hairpin Turns

He spent two days in Amman. One was a hectic hotel expedition to Gerash and its ruins—a day which left less memory of antiquities than of hairpin turns taken on one wheel. The other was due south past Mount Nebo whence Moses surveyed the Promised Land, which he was not destined to reach, and then on to Madaba, where on the floor of a Crusader Church, he pores fascinated over a mosaic map of Palestine—the oldest in the world. And he traveled in comfort—exciting comfort—with complete security, meeting Transjordanian friends who were glad to see him, revelling in the beauty of a landscape which far transcends that of Palestine and, savoring an interest of antiquity of which he had but read and which his western imagination, primed with reports of Transjordanian uncivilization, had imagined were beyond the scope of all but the most intrepid of explorers.

In 1918 Transjordan emerged out of the wreck of the Ottoman Empire, as an appendage of King Faisal's Syrian Kingdom; but in 1920, with the French Kingship in Syria, it became for two years a sort of no-man's land, without money, without credentials and without boundaries. The over throw of the Damascus Government displaced not only King Faisal but a large number of Syrian Arabs who had during the war allied themselves to the Arab cause. These Damascus refugees withdrew to the Hozaz, as guests of Faisal's father, King Hussein; and in Mecca under the leader-

ship of Abdullah, the elder brother of King Faisal, hatched a far-flung plan to restore native Arab Government in Syria by invasion.

Hayday for Abdullah

Transjordan was under the British mandate. The so-called army of invasion was financed by yet another warally of the French, King Hussein of the Hozaz. It was out of the question that it should be allowed by the British to proceed against the French. It was a situation such as the British genius for compromise loves. Transjordan was overdue for organized government. Why not intrust its direction to Abdullah? Thus Abdullah emerged from insignificance and penury, as accredited Emir of Transjordan and with a civil list, paid by the British Government of £150,000 a year.

All the Damascus refugees were included in the new government, and well paid out of the civil list; and in this delightful affluence and security, they spent two years and all the money and credit of the new State, in intriguing with the enemies of the French over the border. Finally the Damascus clique was removed from Amman, the capital of the new Emirate, and the control of the finances placed in the hands of a British resident. At the same time the Emir was invited to negotiate a treaty with Great Britain, which would give Transjordan independence in all matters except finance and war, the final decision in each of which matters was vested in the British High Commission for Palestine.

Affairs Begin to Mend

From that moment Transjordanian affairs began to mend. And it was time that they should. For the police and gendarmerie were over a year in arrears of pay. So also the salaries of the judges and tax collectors, with the result that they made both ends meet by wholesale acceptance of bribes.

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He Couldn't Resist That

Politician: "Can you give my friend a job on your railway?"

Manager: "But he cannot talk English."

Politician: "Well, then, give him a job calling out trains." Watchman-Examiner.

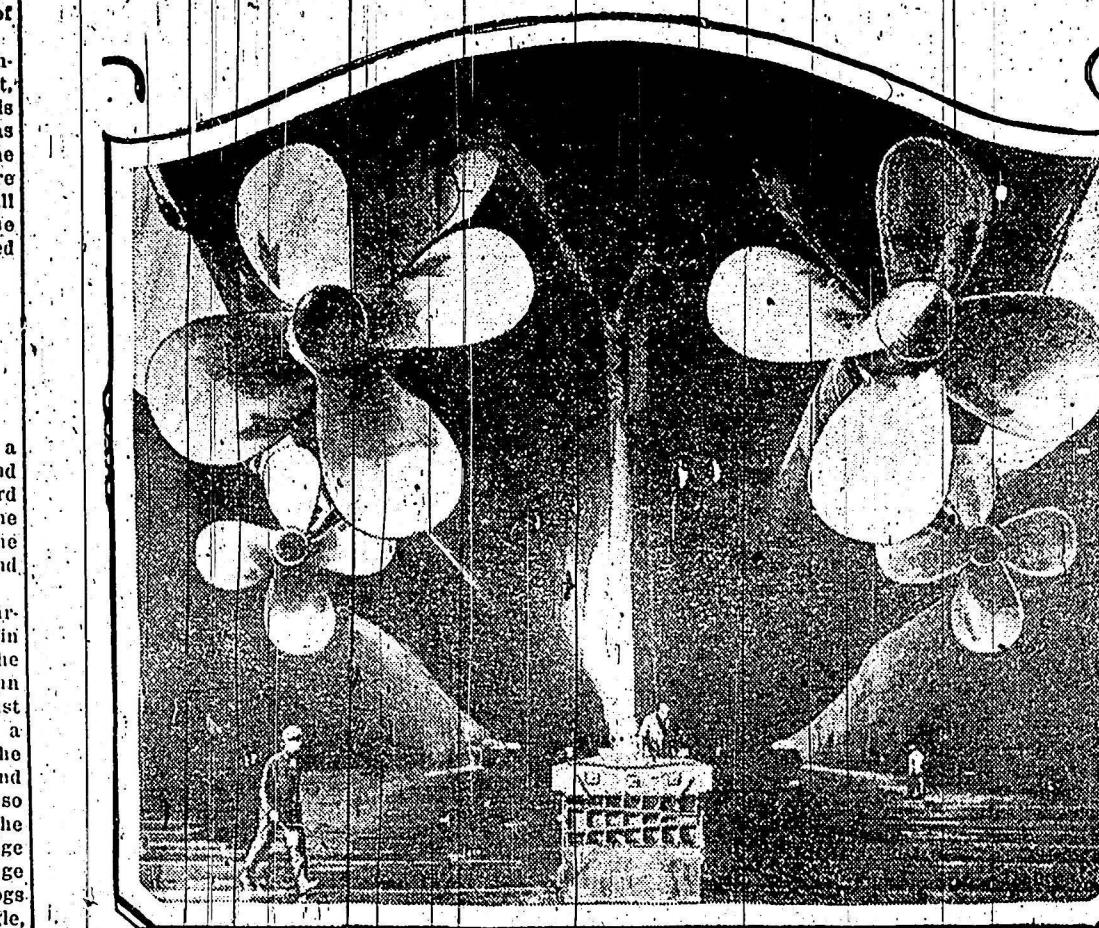
A woman with money to burn has no trouble in finding a match.

English Beauties Training for the Future



POLY GIRLS COMMENCE THEIR TRACK TRAINING IN THE WARM SUNSHINE Polytechnic girls start their training on the Paddington recreation ground in England in preparation for their forthcoming events in track and other physical contests.

"The Whole Push" of the Majestic



NOW YOU SEE WHY IT IS ABLE TO GO SO FAST Huge propellers of the Majestic, which drive her at tremendous speed, as they appeared when the liner was put in the world's largest floating drydock at Southampton for overhauling.

No More Camel! Holy Land by Plane

Sailing From Bagdad to Caza by Dead Sea Route in 6½ Hours Beats 40 Days Rocking on Ship of the Desert, Thinks Air Novice

Jerusalem—The seasoned traveler from Persia seated in the waiting room of the Bagdad airfield on a frosty morning ready for the great machine trip in eight-hour trip to Gaza reflected that the same trip took 40 days by camel caravan and was confined to one not as much out of the country now as then.

But let the gentleman from Persia say what he likes about traveling on camel back, there is one unforgettable ride which you can obtain only from the air after you have left Bagdad. It is the view of the serpentine Euphrates at the time the "bird of the morning" struggles to break through. As the sun finally bursts forth in all its glory, the tiger below took on more and more the appearance of a snake, its skin a dazzling metal.

Two and a half hours after you left Bagdad you are roused by the decrease in speed preparatory to landing.

Rutbah, the well-known watering station—not a nest of the Iraak desert

and the rest house for passengers crossing the desert by road or air—is a fortress become a fortified castle.

Over the Dead Sea the machine seems suspended motionless in midair, between the bluest sky and a something that blotched green sheet of metal. But after four minutes the sea is behind us. The wireless operator appears with another disc anounding and Jerusalem, and, from a height of 4000 feet, one realizes that to the ancients Jerusalem was indeed the most impregnable of cities. David knew why he chose it and Bethlehem, its entirely unapproachable by the lowlanders except by circuitous marches through the mountainous wilderness of Judea.

For purposes of landing, and in order probably to be more directly on the Egyptian-Palestine railway line, the machine heads southwest toward the country of the Philistines and Gaza Samson's home. The pilot has sighted the airfield and the wireless operator has hung a new shingle. Six and a half hours after we left Bagdad it is the view of the serpentine Euphrates at the time the "bird of the morning" struggles to break through. As the sun finally bursts forth in all its glory, the tiger below took on more and more the appearance of a snake, its skin a dazzling metal.

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LIMERICK CORNER

Joyous Jingles By Gifted Rhymers

The Contest is closed. For the time being at any rate, the Limerick Contest will be discontinued. There is no question, however, about its popularity with readers who have been literally swamped with letters. We will be glad, however, to hear from any others who have taken part in the contest or who have found pleasure in following it in the papers. Let us know what you think of the Limerick Corner and whether or not you would like to see this feature continued.

On the other hand, if you have any ideas to take the place of Limerick Corner, let us have them. Editor, Limerick Corner, Associated Publishers, 73 Adelaide St. W., Toronto.

Following are some prize winners:

LYDIA PINKHAM'S COMPOUND
A pale little lady was Minnie,
So gawky and frightened skinny,
Until she once found
That Pinkham's Compound
Made her let out the tucks in her
plains.

Miss Annie McCulley,
Windermere, Ont.
BIG BEN TOBACCO
There's a funny old fellow called
Mackey,
Who lives in the town of Cam-
lachio,
He said, "When I chew
the other will do
that superfine Big Ben To-
bacco."

Mrs. Joseph M. O'Neill,
Kent Bridge, Ont.
ROYAL BANK
Shiro, come in
And most of you
In the bank
To teach about birds
and their cages,
Canary and finch
The size of a minute
Song "Without Words"—
from its pages.

Mrs. Z. Mills,
Elora, Ont.
GEO. A. ELLIOTT
Director of Colonization
Come help us to build up the
Nation,
Through the channels of Coloniz-
ation.
If you need a farm hand
For the work you have planned
we'll welcome your profit applica-
tion.

Mr. R. H. McPherson,
Markham, Ont.
**PINKHAM'S VEGETABLE
COMPOUND**
Of her wonderful child, Mrs. Red-
ditt,
Said, "You see she's a darling, you
said he."
But praise mustn't be
Accorded to me;
It's Pinkham's Compound deserves
credit.
—C. Thompson,
Box 709, Thorold, Ont.

CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY
Are you planning your trip for next
summer?
I've decided on mine," said Dick
Plummer,
14, Guelph, Ont.

Grace Hubley,
Arundel, Que.
CUTICURA TALCUM
Said a young Mrs. Lee to her Mai-
colm,
"Cuticura I find the best talcum
for Junior and Jewell."
It's soothin' and cool!

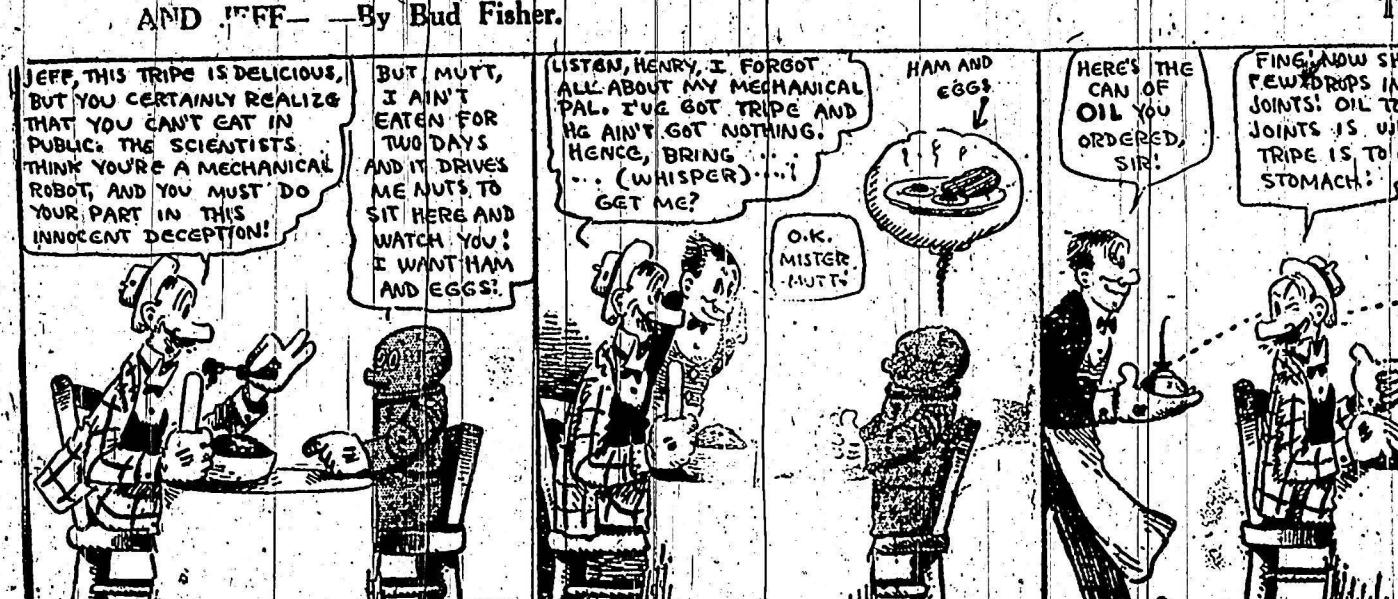
Seems a mighty good talcum,"
said Malcolm.
Mrs. J. A. Cook,
66 Forest Ave.,
St. Thomas, Ont.
AUNT DINAH MOLEASSES
When Mrs. Monks comes in and
passes
Her fingers round, lads and
lasses,
Who could use one kind of
moleasses?
Snack their lips, and they say:
"How'dja make it that way?"
Quite easy, Aunt Dinah Moleasses."

Mrs. Fanny T. Hicks,
R.R. No. 2,
Niagara Falls, Ont.
DIAMOND DYES
There is a bright maid who con-
fesses,
She longed for some new colored
dresses;
But said, "I'll not cry,
I'll use Diamond Dye."
And her old gown's now nobo-
dy guesses.

Miss Gertrude Wilson,
Loverne, Sask.
AT Color
The "Grand
Panama" motion picture, im-
mortalized in the theme song for their
adskin." Among the
contributors to the
song was one entitled, "Life
Are You Blue?"

A five-cent program of air mapping
the water portion of Northern Alberta
to be carried out by the
Survey Branch, Canadian Government
Interior.

AND JEFF—By Bud Fisher.



That's Going Too Far Even With An Innocent Deception



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