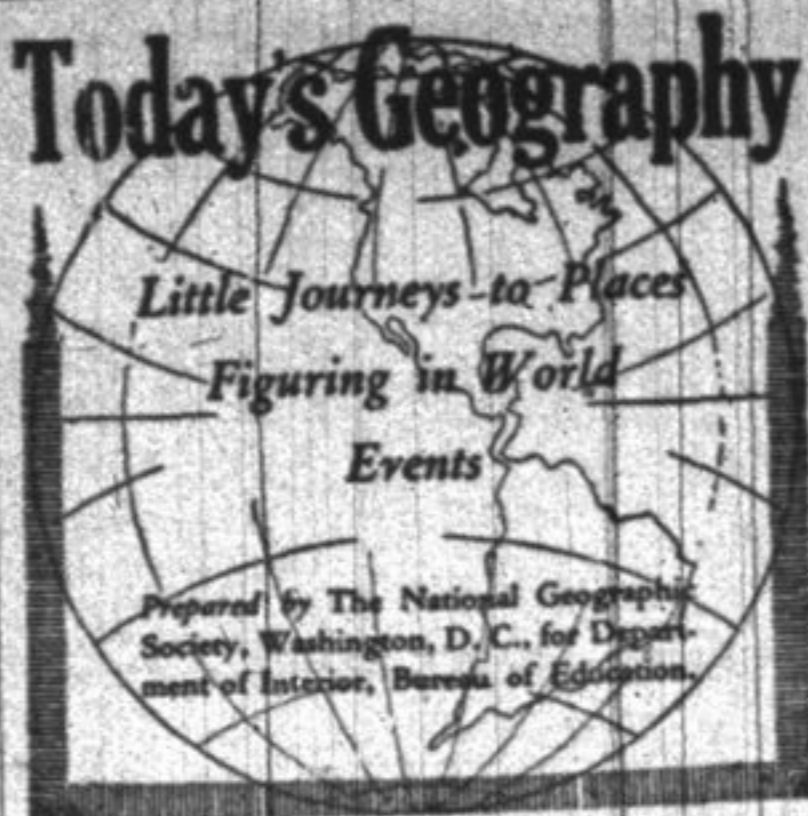


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**ASIATIC PROVINCE OF ANCIENT GREECE**

The province of Smyrna on the coast of Asia Minor, was placed under Greek administration following the World war, and has been the scene recently of fighting between Greek and Turkish nationalist forces.

The basis for Greek claims to the Smyrna district in Asia Minor is put briefly in a statement which former Premier Venizelos of Greece is reported to have made to the supreme council of the allies. "We seek no mandate, we seek to enter our home."

Smyrna, and the remainder of the west coast of Asia Minor, which have been accepted as Turkish with little question for many generations, had a well-developed Greek civilization and culture when the ancestors of the Turks, half-civilized nomads, were still wandering with their flocks over the bleak steppes of central Asia.

The portion of the province of Smyrna which has been occupied by Greek forces comprises roughly old Ionia, a country which was as purely Greek as Attica itself, and parts of Aegolis, another Greek country adjoining Ionia on the north. Greeks, possibly from Crete or other islands of the Aegean, are supposed to have settled in Ionia shortly after the Trojan war. The cities which they built in this favored land of sunny mountain slopes, fertile valleys, and good harbors were thriving and wealthy marks of trade and centers of culture eight hundred years or more before the time of Christ, when they are first heard of in recorded history.

Smyrna is one of the cities which claims to be the birthplace of Homer, and tradition even points out a cave near the city in which he is said to have composed many of his poems. Sappho was born in Asiatic Greece and maintained a school in one of its cities. Sculpture, painting, and practically every phase of the Greek art which has delighted later generations and served as their models had its beginning in Asiatic Ionia, and flourished there before coming to full flower in Athens and the other cities of European Greece. Ephesus, where that world wonder, the temple of Diana stood, was not far from the present city of Smyrna, and a dozen more of the great cities of the early Greeks were near by.

The modern province of Smyrna is the most favored of all the provinces of Asia Minor. It contains three of the most considerable rivers of the country, including the Meander whose serpentine course has given the English language an expressive verb. Fertile soil and temperate climate have added to the region's attractions, while the possession of a port and city—the city of Smyrna—unequaled by any other in Asia Minor has contributed another immeasurably important asset. Though imperfectly tilled during its control by Turkey, the province of Smyrna has nevertheless been noted for its fine fruits. For a long time it has furnished the best figs and raisins which reach the markets of Europe.

**HUDSON BAY: WHERE U. S. NAVAL BALLOONISTS ALIGHTED**

In coming to earth near Moose Factory, at the southernmost point of Hudson Bay, pilots of the United States naval balloon which in the closing days of 1920 was blown from New York city to the frozen North in relatively a few hours, scrambled on a country rich in the history and traditions of the picturesque old Hudson Bay company.

Henry Hudson—"Hendrick" Hudson to his Dutch employers—was responsible, strangely enough, for putting on the map both the starting and ending point of this recent, chance balloon trip. In 1609 he anchored his famous "Half Moon" close to the present location of New York's Goddess of Liberty, and the following year, still searching for the elusive Northwest Passage, he sailed into Hudson Bay and followed its eastern shore south to near the present Moose Factory.

It was there in James Bay, the shallow southern arm of Hudson Bay, that Henry Hudson suffered the keenness of disappointment that can come only to the world's great dreamers. His dream was to find a passage to the "South Sea," and therefore a short cut to India. When he sailed into Hudson Bay and found that it was a great body of water he was sure his dream was about to be realized. But when he reached the shallow James Bay, and nosing across found that there was a great west coast to the great expanse of water, his dream came to an end.

It was on the shores of James Bay that Hudson and his surly crew wintered following his discovery, and only a short distance to the north that the great explorer met his tragic end next spring, when, bound by mutineers, he was set adrift in a small boat with a handful of sick men, to perish.

The Company of Gentlemen Adven-

urers Trading to Hudson's Bay," which carried domination for Great Britain across North America, established its first post near Moose Factory soon after King Charles II signed its charter in 1670 and blithely made its members "true and absolute lords" of three-quarters of a continent, vested them with trading monopolies, rights to pass laws and impose punishments, and even gave them power to make war on non-Christian peoples. During the three and a half centuries since that time Moose Factory has remained one of the important posts of the Hudson's Bay company, gathering a rich harvest of furs. It was the scene of many raids and counter raids in the early days between the French and the company's employees.

**WHERE CHINAWARE COMES FROM**

Ching-teh-chen, possibly a stranger city to the average American, needs only this introduction: "It is the home of chinaware."

It is the subject of the following communication to the National Geographic society from Frank B. Lenz: "The greatest industrial city of China is not one of the treaty ports, where the direct influence of western progress is constantly felt, but a bustling interior city of Kiangsi province—Ching-teh-chen. This is the famous porcelain and pottery center of the nation—indeed, it is the original home of the porcelain industry of the world. "There are few cities in America or Europe that are so completely given over to a single industry as this one."

"Chinaware: What does the word connote? It is simply a ware made of clay and named for the country that first produced it. Whether it be a green tile from a temple roof, a dish, a vase, or a painted ornament from a wealthy Celestial's home, it all has a traceable connection with Ching-teh-chen. With the Chinese, Ching-teh-chen and porcelain are synonymous. "Ching-teh-chen (Town of Scenic Virtue) is one of the four largest towns (as distinguished from cities) of China. Technically, it is a town, because it has no wall. In reality it is a busy industrial city of 300,000 people, two-thirds of whom are engaged in the manufacture and sale of porcelain. Romantically, it is a city to stir men's souls. Longfellow, in his "Keramos," speaks of it.

"The geographical location of Ching-teh-chen is not accidental. It became the pottery center of the country centuries ago because of the enormous quantities of excellent clay in the district around Po Yang Lake. More than a dozen kinds of excellent clay are found in the neighborhood of the lake.

"After the clays are thoroughly cleansed, sifted, and refined they are kneaded together in varying proportions, usually by a bare-footed boy, until they are ready for the potter. The wet lump of clay is then placed on the knob of the potter's wheel.

"The potter's wheel, which was invented by the Chinese, is a huge circular machine, about four feet in diameter, made of heavy timbers to lend it momentum. It rests on a perpendicular axis in a slight depression, or pit, into which water and debris rapidly drain.

"The potter is perched above the wheel, with one foot on either side, in order to allow sufficient space for the movement of his hands. After revolving the wheel swiftly with a short pole, he deftly and with mechanical precision fashions a plate, bowl, or vase. After years of practice he can estimate to within a hair's breadth the proper size.

"The piece is then removed and placed on a long tray in front of the potter where it awaits the next artisan. Handles and other decorations, made in molds, are added, and then the whole is scraped smooth and allowed to dry until it is ready for the next process—the under-glaze decoration.

"Several basic colors, like blue and red, can be painted on under the glaze. The glaze is next applied in various ways—by dipping, by blowing on with a tube, or by sprinkling. After the mark has been added the piece is ready for the furnace."

**THE ROMANCE OF HELIUM**

A group of United States balloonists recently left for Italy to bring back a huge dirigible balloon, purchased by the government to form a part of our fighting equipment. Addition of this great flying ship to our "air navy" will probably call into use helium gas, one of the materials which chemists, urged on by the needs of the World war, produced in large quantities where only infinitesimal amounts were available before.

Helium, this new incombustible balloon gas, so called because it was discovered on the sun 30 years before it was identified on earth, which promises to revolutionize the science of ballooning, is the subject of the following communication to the National Geographic society by Dr. G. Sherburne Rogers:

"When the United States joined the allies, the military value of helium was at once brought to the attention of the army and navy authorities, and a vigorous campaign was begun for the production of helium in quantities.

"The two main problems were obvious: first to develop methods of extracting helium from natural gas; and, second, to determine the geologic occurrence of the gas, and so to locate adequate supplies.

"Late in 1917 two small experiment-

al plants using different methods were erected in Fort Worth, Texas, to treat the gas of the Petrolia field; and some months later a third plant, using a still different method, was erected in the field itself.

"As the apparatus used in all the processes of extracting helium gas for balloon purposes requires rather delicate adjustment and manipulation, some time was naturally consumed in determining the most efficient working conditions; but just prior to the armistice the first shipment of 150,000 cubic feet of helium, compressed and stored in steel tanks, had been started to Europe. This was enough to fill four of the ordinary kite balloons, though large dirigibles require one to two million or more cubic feet of gas.

"Although quantity production of helium was achieved just too late to be of value in the actual hostilities, it was in itself a great accomplishment, for the world's total output of helium up to 1915 was probably less than 100 cubic feet, the market value of which was about \$1,700 a cubic foot. Our helium can be produced by the first two methods developed at less than 10 cents a cubic foot, and if the third process fulfills expectations, this figure will be still further reduced.

**JEWS AND THE WORLD WAR**

The development of Palestine under its administration as a Jewish homeland renews interest in the part played by Jews in the late war and how the war affected them. In a communication to the National Geographic society, former President William Howard Taft says:

"One-half the Jews of the world have had to bear its miseries, its cruelties, its sufferings. They lived in the theater of war between Russia and Germany and Austria. In this region, almost without ceasing, the campaign continued. The Russians laid waste the country in order to embarrass their pursuing enemies, and between the two armies the population, of which the Jews were a large part, suffered untold horrors.

"As soon as the war came on, as soon as mobilizations were initiated, Germany and Austria, on the one hand, and Russia, on the other, vied with each other in a cultivation of the good-will of the Poles and the Jews.

"Russia promised that an autonomous Poland would be created from all three of the incomplete tribal districts of the partitioned kingdom. Some of the leaders of the Austrian government announced an intention of giving autonomy to Galicia.

"When the war came to an end, tremendous governmental changes occurred in the countries where the Jews are so greatly congested.

"The dreadful destruction of life, the necessity for rehabilitation of these countries where the war raged with such violence and destruction, must necessarily give greater economic value to every man who survives. The loyalty which the Jews have shown to their respective governments in these countries under a most trying ordeal ought to impress their governments with the claim that they make to equal treatment.

"If education and opportunity and freedom and equality are extended to them in the next generation, the traits to which objection has sometimes been made will become less and less conspicuous, and Russia's great domain, which needs people of energy, people of keenness, people of enterprise, people experienced in trade, people of financial genius, will find a benefit in the presence of the Jews.

"From the East End of New York and through centers of population in this country where Jews are gathered, by the million and hundreds of thousands, come the youth of the race who soon manifest a spirit of Americanism and get on.

"They cultivate little or no solidarity in politics, and they manifest a disposition to disintegrate as a community. They retain a loyalty to the race, but not a strict adherence to the ceremonial, and they intermarry with Gentiles.

"The Jews of the world, in countries where they have had equal opportunities, have won their way not only to great financial power, but to places of commanding influence in journalism, in the professions, and in business. They have retained always an acute interest in the welfare of their co-religionists throughout the world. Their religious training has inculcated in them the duty of charity to all—Jew and Gentile.

"The result of the war and the breaking up of Russia and the giving rein to the principle of self-determination of racial units have created a number of independent European states in central and eastern Europe. Of these, the Baltic provinces and Poland, as well as the Czechoslovak state and the Jugo-Slav state, have many Jewish citizens. In addition to this, the Greater Roumania, is another state which has many Jewish citizens.

"The German treaty specifically provides that the five great powers shall make future treaties with Poland and with the Czechoslovak state securing the religious liberties of the people who constitute a minority in those states."

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