

# ESTHER GOULD'S TRAVEL CORNER

En route to Bombay.

Dear W:

We have seen the famous Taj! I was awfully afraid of being disappointed in it, for from the horrible little images thrust at us everywhere it was a very bald and plaster-y looking thing. But the moment we alighted from our cars and looked through the great red sandstone gates I knew that it was a thing of beauty after all. The richness of the red walls, the brilliance of the lawns and beds of flowers, the symmetry of the mosques placed at some distance on either side, and perhaps more than all the dark green of the cedar trees lining the reflecting pools all give it the necessary dignity and mass. It is very lovely. As we sat on the lawn in the hush of the late afternoon we could imagine that we were back in the days of the great Emperor who built it, for there were almost no tourists about, only groups of brilliantly and richly dressed Hindus walking with their stately tread up and down the paths.

Benares, the holy city of India, is incredible. I cannot try to describe to you the bathing of the pilgrims in the river Ganges, the most fantastic scene I have ever witnessed, viewed by us from our barges on the river on which we sat in, I think, kitchen chairs.

Delhi is very different. More Mohammedan than Hindu it seemed to us, and then, too, the cleansing hand of Great Britain is very apparent. New Delhi, the governmental city, is boulevarded and marble columned to suit any taste—except mine, which preferred the first mosque in India dating from 1166, a lovely old sandstone ruin, or the Kutab Minar tower, a slender minaret, from a slightly later date. As we left the latter we met a live Maharajah who saluted us gravely. Many notables of India are here for the horse races.

When we returned to our hotel we found most of the notables there—principally English but some Hindus, a few Hindu women unveiled with bobbed hair and very graceful "adapted" Hindu clothes; they were quite stunning. Tea on the terrace was a gala affair, and then the dinner at the hotel in the evening.

When we tore ourselves away finally to get down to our train we found that a whole city of shops had sprung up on the platform, the merchants squatting like old spiders waiting for their flies, the whole lighted by lurid flaring lamps. One little boy attached himself to me, following me everywhere saying with the most appealing look in his great liquid eyes, "You buy, mem sahib, they no buy so well today, you buy, mem sahib." When they wish to, these people have an appeal which would take the coat from your back.

Now we are traveling across India. The only bright spot in our leaving it is that we'll see all our friends again in Bombay where all the parties join together, and that ahead of us lie Singapore, Juva, Ceylon.

## MIND WITHOUT HEART

**"A WOMAN WITH WHITE EYES"**  
By Mary Borden  
Doubleday Doran

In "A Woman with White Eyes" Mary Borden has written an extraordinarily cruel book. She has written from the head and not from the heart. Heaven forbid that we should ask for sentimentality, but a feeling sympathy. Her technique is perfected far beyond that of her other books; she writes with the assurance of the initiated. But it is almost as if that assurance had led her astray, given too sharp an edge to her dissecting knife, too great an arrogance to her use of it.

The story is that of an old disillusioned woman who has led a dissolute, useless, mistaken life, and now is trying to recall it—trying to understand it. "I don't want a promise of heaven, I want an explanation, a weapon." This old woman, retired to New England to do her remembering, forms the frame of the picture, her recalled past is the picture itself. Sometimes, as in the cleverest devices, the frame becomes a little too heavy for the picture. The method chosen demands a great deal of skill to carry it through successfully, for the picture is done by a stroke here and a stroke there, until almost without your knowing it, the whole thing stands out clearly before you. That it is a gloomy picture of empty lives is not the author's fault, the only thing we could ask of her is a little more leavening of emotion.

## Legion Advised to See Postmasters About Jobs in Holidays for Buddies

A suggestion that American Legion posts make proper contact with postmasters throughout the country in seeking temporary postoffice employment for ex-service men with families during the holidays, has been made by Walter F. Brown, postmaster general. The suggestion was contained in a letter received by Ralph T. O'Neil, national commander of the Legion, which was an official reply to a telegram Commander O'Neil recently sent to President Hoover.

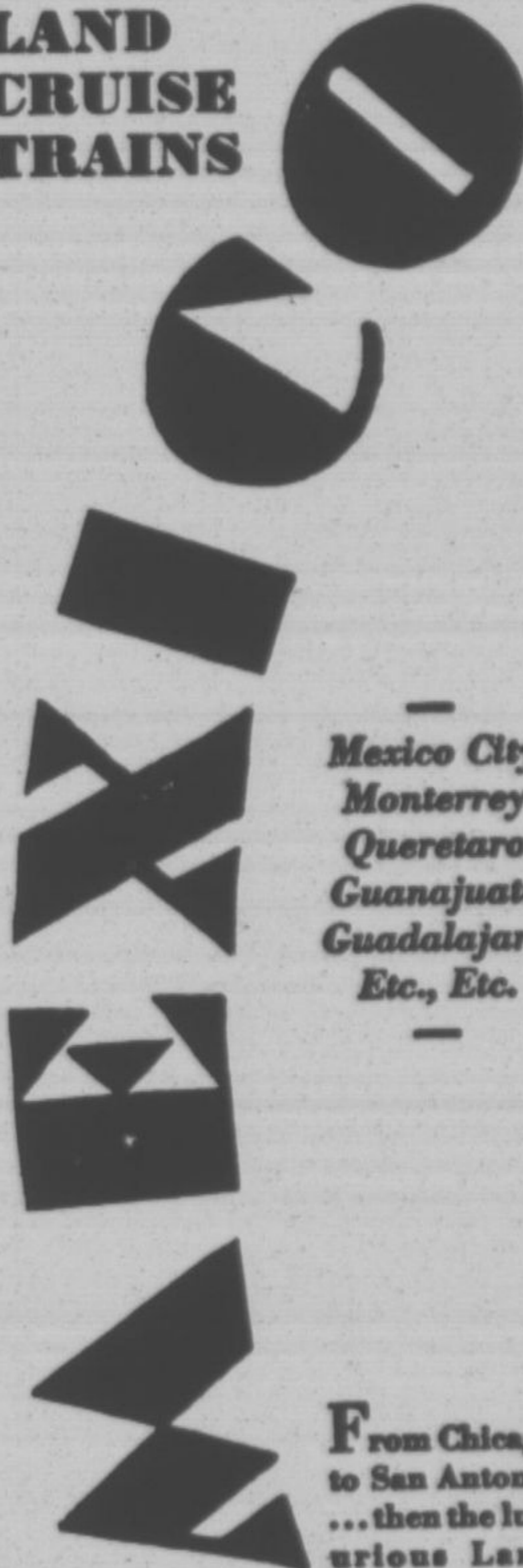
The telegram sent by the national commander was to inform the President that the Legion's national employment commission had unanimously adopted a resolution requesting an executive order be issued giving ex-service men with dependents preference in connection with holiday or seasonal postoffice work. Such work had been provided in an executive order of Oct. 24 which excepted veterans from civil service examination for such temporary work.

The New York Central railroad wants an increase of forty per cent in the fares for taking people in and out of New York City. Well it ought to be worth that to get out anyhow.

## Declares Advertising Will Boost Prosperity

Advertising will start prosperity on its way back, Roger W. Babson, economist and statistician, is quoted as saying in an interview published in a recent edition of Editor and Publisher, dedicated to the "Power of Newspaper Advertising." "The tired consumer is getting ready now to put his money to work," Babson said.

## LAND CRUISE TRAINS



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