

France Loosens Up on Colonies

Vast Overseas Empire Promised Greater Voice in Government.

Washington.—France, second largest colonizer of the world, has drawn up a Magna Charta for its vast overseas empire, exceeded in area only by that of Great Britain. Rich territories scattered around the world are promised a greater voice in government, energetic development of their resources, credits for agriculture and industry, abolition of tariffs and better communications between each other and the mother country. Announcement followed the opening of a great French Colonial exposition in Paris.

"All modern Gaul is divided into some thirty parts, and dependencies," says a bulletin from the National Geographic society. "French colonies can be found in every continent except the North American mainland and Australia, although French-owned islands lie but a short sail from these. The French share the proud boast of the British that the sun never sets on their empire.

"France's greatest success as a colonizer and administrator has been achieved in Africa, where the tricolor floats over nearly the whole western shoulder, from Italian Libya and the Anglo Egyptian Sudan to the Atlantic ocean, and from the Mediterranean sea to the Belgian Congo.

"The 36,000,000 inhabitants of these regions run the gamut of human color from the white Berbers to the blackest—blue-black—Senegal and Congo negroes.

"Smaller, but important, is isolated French Somaliland, on the opposite shoulder of Africa. The district is hot and inhospitable, but through its port, Jibuti, France controls commerce of Ethiopia (Abyssinia). In the Indian ocean, not far from the east coast of Africa, lie the Comoro islands, Madagascar and Reunion. Madagascar, one of the world's largest islands, produces much vanilla. In Reunion, Abdel Krim, Moroccan rebel leader, spends a lifelong 'vacation.'

Five Bits of India.

"Syria, including a Syrian republic and a Lebanese republic, has been French by mandate of the supreme council of allied powers since 1923. Outposts of the French Foreign legion have pushed the desert Arabs steadily inland until the caravan routes to Iraq are now open and safe to travelers.

"Not all of India is British controlled. France has five diminutive

colonies along the coast of the great empire.

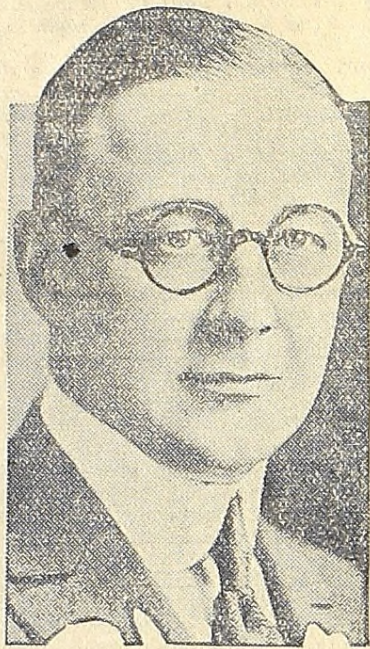
"French Indo-China, almost mile for mile equal in area to Texas, boasts 20,000,000 inhabitants and one of the world's greatest rice producing areas.

"France is well stocked with islands. Off the northeast coast of Australia lie the Loyalty islands, New Caledonia, and many smaller groups, and the New Hebrides, which are jointly governed by the French and British.

"Tatiti is even more interesting and alluring. It is the center of the Society islands, and a port-of-call for world tourists. Not far away are the Marquesas, the Tubuai group, Tuamotu archipelago, Gambier and Rapa islands, where singing, dancing, feasting and all that suggests happiness and romance are part of the daily life of the natives. About 32,000 inhabitants, most of them hospitable, live there amid scenery whose description by Captain Cook enraptured all Europe.

"At the edge of the Antarctic ocean, where that body of water merges with the Indian ocean, France lays claim to several uninhabited islands, among

WHITE HOUSE AIDE



George Aubrey Hastings, press promoter for welfare organizations in New York, who replaces French Strother, reputed "ghost writer" and research man for the President. Mr. Hastings is added to the White House staff in connection with a reorganization of President Hoover's secretariat.

them St. Paul, Amsterdam, the Crozet islands, and the Kerguelen islands.

Devil's Island and Mt. Pelee. "It is a long jump from here to the French colonies in the Americas. French Guiana, one of the European triplets of South America's north coast, has diamonds, gold, silver, mercury, tin and copper, but it is best known because it is the principal French penal colony, possessing the notorious Devil's island. Cayenne, its capital, ships no pepper, but it carries on an active trade with the Indians of the interior, obtaining gold and foodstuffs, principally rice, cocoa, coffee and sugar cane.

"In the West Indies the tricolor floats over Guadeloupe and Martinique, whose combined population of whites, mulattoes, negroes, and orientals is almost half a million. Martinique has not forgotten the terrible eruption of Mt. Pelee in 1902, when the city of St. Pierre was completely wiped out.

"French North America consists principally in two rocky islands off the south coast of Newfoundland. St. Pierre and Miquelon, peopled by about 4,000 sturdy fisherfolk of Breton and Norman stock.

"All told, the French flag flies over almost 4,000,000 square miles and 100,000,000 people. The French empire is thus about a third as large as the British, and has about one-quarter as many people."

Couple Spends Fortune Providing Wading Pools

Neosho, Mo.—In 20 towns of Kansas, Missouri, and Oklahoma, the youngsters are beginning to visit the wading pools, to get relief from the summer heat.

And Mr. and Mrs. Frank H. Reed sit on the porch of their bungalow here and smile as they think of the fun the children are having.

For in these 20 towns are wading pools which the Reeds have built, as one of the ways of spending the money which came to them from oil wells which have been developed on apparently worthless land which Reed picked up while a struggling lawyer in the Seminole Indian district of Oklahoma.

Watching the children play in a San Francisco gutter one hot day, Reed got the idea of building wading pools. He built two in Tulsa, Okla., then one in Neosho, where he later came to live, and then others throughout this section, in towns where the authorities agreed to put up dressing rooms if he would build the pools. Until now 30 of these pools are in use, and others are planned for the coming summer.

Whenever a pool is opened it is dedicated by all the children who want to attend, and the ceremonies consist of eating all the ice cream cones that the youngsters can hold, while the Reeds pay the bill.

It's a fine way to enjoy oil wells, the Reeds agree.

TALES... of the TRIBES

By EDITHA L. WATSON

The Skidi

It is not every tribe which can boast of being organized by the stars, but the twenty-two villages of the Skidi, a Pawnee tribe, made that claim.

It was said that the stars gave shrines named for them to certain men, and that the villages took their names either from the shrines or from some incident of their bestowal. The stars also "made them into families and villages, taught them how to live and how to perform their ceremonies." These rites began with the first thunder of spring, and ended when the long winter sleep set in. One of the most important of these ceremonies was the sacrifice of a girl, impersonating the evening star, to the morning star, and the last of these sacrifices became a drama equal to that of Pocahontas and Capt. John Smith.

At this time (the early part of the Nineteenth century), the Skidi chief had a son, Petaleshoro ("Chief of Men"), who was everything to be admired in a man. Tall, of fine physique and handsome face, the young chief was as brave as a lion and as wise as an old man, and with all these qualities he also had a tender heart. His exploits of chivalry and his quickness and daring had won him the respect and admiration of all his tribe.

The day came for the sacrifice to the morning star. A Comanche maiden had been captured by Skidi raiders some time before, and it had been decided to offer her, rather than some girl of their own tribe, to the stellar deity. The unfortunate captive was bound to a framework, and the rites were commencing, when Petaleshoro appeared upon the scene.

In a ringing speech, he declared his and his father's opposition to such a ceremony, and their determination to end the custom. He daringly offered his own life in place of the captive's, should he fail to rescue her. Then, while his tribesmen were still under the influence of his surprising words and action, Petaleshoro cut the things which bound the Comanche girl, lifted her in his arms, and rushed with her through the crowd to where he had prepared saddled horses. They mounted and galloped away while the Skidi were recovering their wits, and were able to ride so fast and so far as to avoid all pursuit.

It would make a pretty romance if the historian were able to state that Petaleshoro and the Comanche maiden fell in love. However, it appears that such was not the case, for at the end of the ride, the handsome young Skidi brave presented the girl with a package of food and advised her to travel on until she came to her own people (who were some 400 miles away), while he rode back to his own village and unchivalantly took his place again among the men whom he had so cleverly outwitted.

This dramatic scene marked the end of the evening star sacrifice.

Besides the story of Petaleshoro, there is not a great deal to relate about the Pawnee confederacy, and it is said that centuries ago the Arickara were one people, who later separated, the Skidi family settling on Loup River, Neb., where they lived for two hundred years.

The tribe is also known as the "Wolf Pawnees," or "Pawnee Loup," as the French called them, and doubtless the river received its name from the tribe who lived along it for so many years. This is one of the puzzles of Indian lore: why the tribe, instead of referring to the celestial patronage and calling themselves "Children of the Stars," should affiliate with the wolves and be named for them.

The later history of the Skidi is that of many another tribe. They first fought against the white invaders, and to this end acquired as many horses as possible, so that horses became the standard of wealth among them. They later joined the whites and fought with them, signed treaties, and finally moved to Oklahoma, where they live today as United States citizens, owning their lands in severalty. Tradition tells us of their star-guided origin and of their early wanderings, many years before their settlement of the Loup river district. History has preserved the story of Petaleshoro and the Comanche maid, and of the treaties which brought the Skidi closer to the government of the white men. The present finds them, their glories departed, assimilating with their conquerors, a people of little importance, whose passing would be no more marked than the sinking of a stone in the waters of Loup river.

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Hominy, succotash, samp, maple sugar, johnny cake, and many other dishes were taught to the white people by the Algonquian tribes.

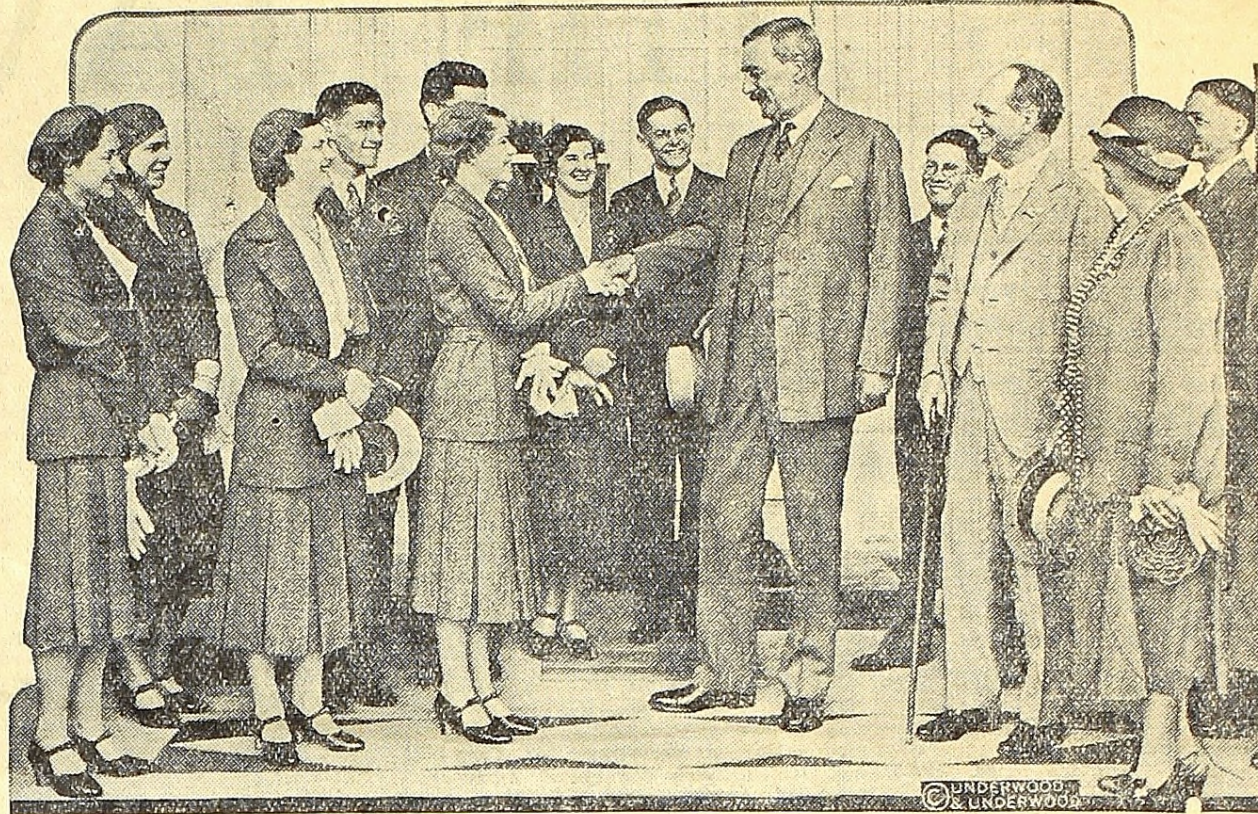
The Indians were found to be unsuited to many tasks, so negro slaves were introduced into America in 1501 to take their places.

"Whistling root," a magic plant of the Mohegans, was believed to whistle and then disappear, when placed upon a rock.

Selenite, separated into thin sheets, was formerly used as window lights by the Pueblos.

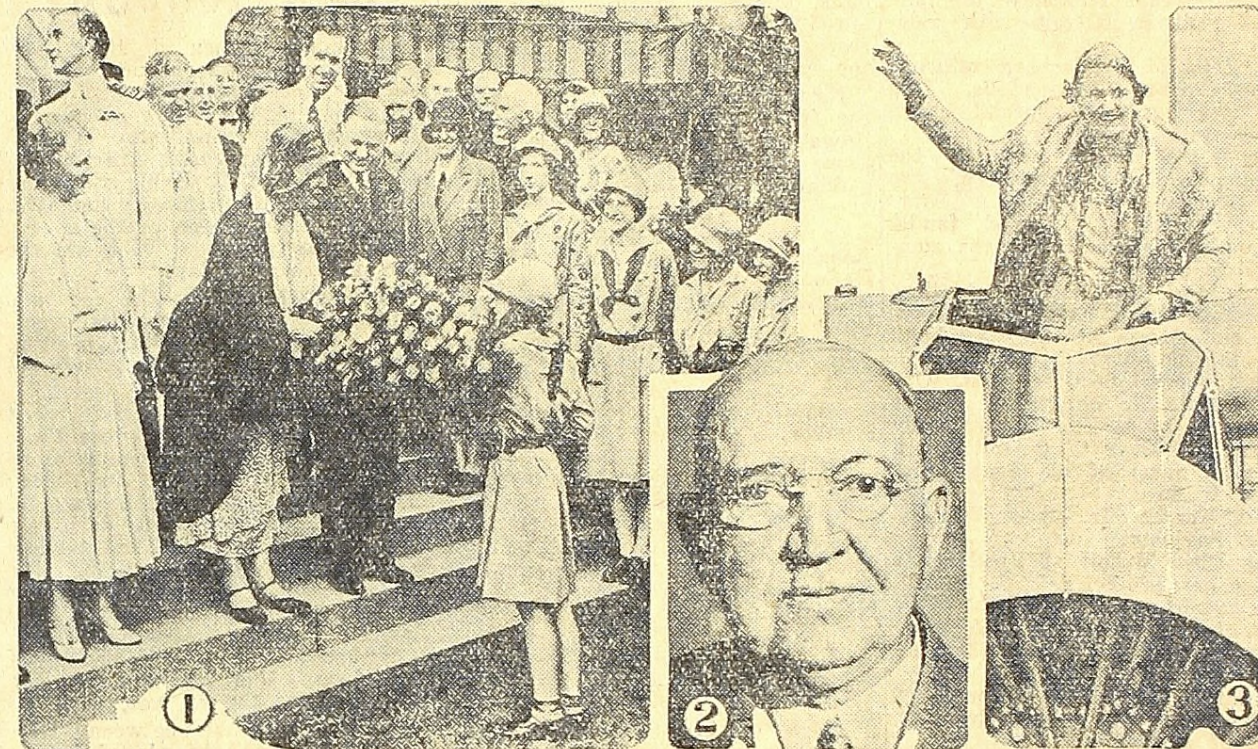
Sewing was done by men and women alike, among the Indians, and men made their own clothing.

British Ambassador Greet Good Will Envoys



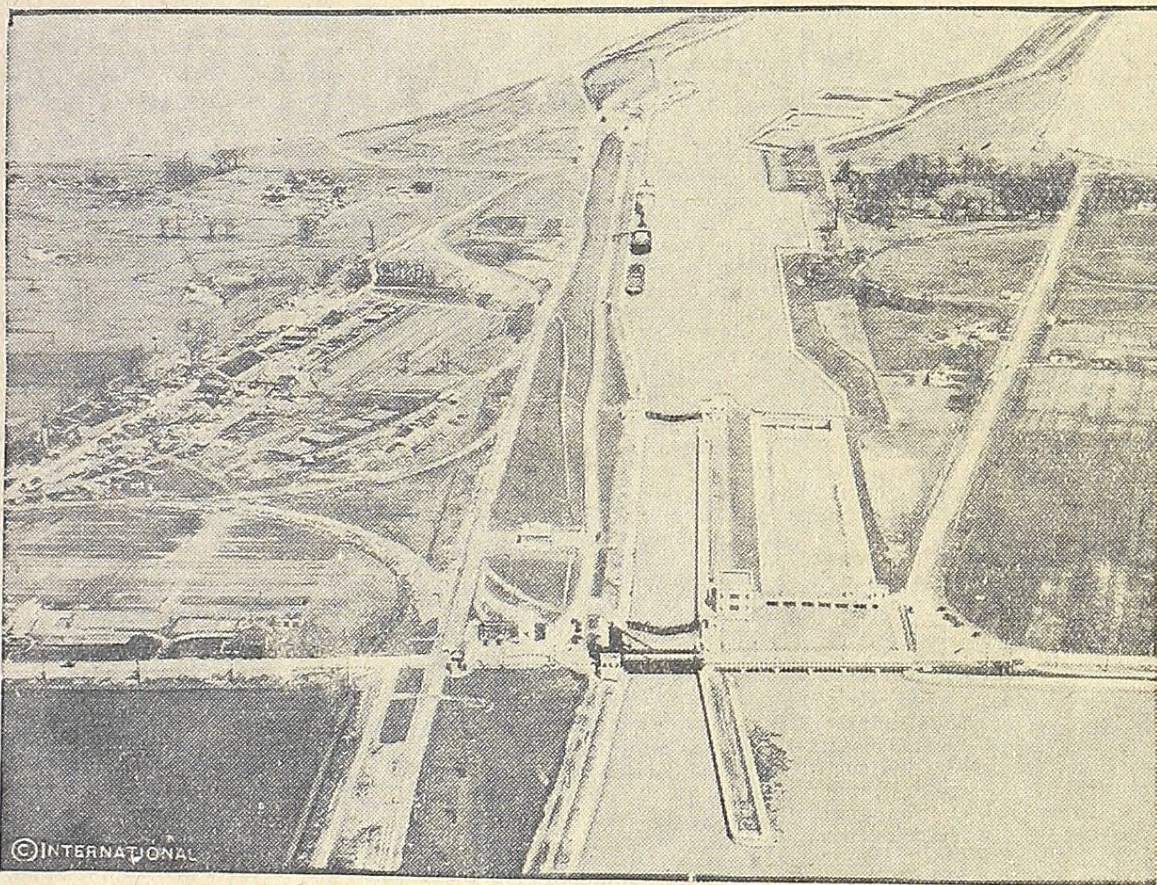
The 22 young American school children who have been selected by the United States Flag association as good will envoys, and who will visit various European countries as representatives of American youth, were received by Sir Ronald Lindsay, British ambassador to the United States, at the British embassy in Washington.

Scenes and Persons in the Current News



1—President and Mrs. Hoover receiving flowers from Girl Scouts at the home of Governor Leslie in Indianapolis. 2—Dr. Edward Henry Clay of Dallas, Texas, who was elected president of the American Medical association at the Philadelphia convention. 3—Miss Ruth Nichols in the cockpit of her Lockheed plane in which she planned to fly across the Atlantic.

Air View of the New Welland Canal



Looking down on Port Weller and Lock No. 1 of the Lake Ontario entrance to the new \$122,000,000 Welland canal. The new waterway is 25 miles long and is a time-saving connective between Lake Ontario and Lake Erie. It is now open to navigation.

ONE FOOT OF LAND BARS HOME OWNER FROM ROAD

Realty Firm Reserved Plot When Buyer Refused to Pay for Improvements.

Baltimore.—Stepping across a strip of land one foot wide, even though the ground itself is not touched, constitutes trespass and is preventable by law, the Maryland Court of Appeals has decided.

A curious contest for the right to walk over a narrow strip separating a house owner's property from the public highway arose in a lawsuit brought by a realty company against Alonzo Slaysman, in Baltimore county, and later tried at Annapolis.

As a result of the decision, Slaysman, who owns the property facing on an improved street, is prevented from using the highway because he cannot step across the one intervening foot of ground which he does not own.

When the realty company, which

owned the development, started the construction of a paved street which would pass in front of Slaysman's lot, he was assessed \$300 for his share of the expense of laying the road. He refused to pay, claiming he did not want the improvement sufficiently to pay that amount.

The realty company proceeded to build the highway. Instead of making it the full 50-foot width as intended, the roadway was narrowed to 49 feet, leaving a one-foot margin between the paved road and Slaysman's property. The completed road was then turned over to the county.

Slaysman, in order to use the new road, was obliged to step across the one-foot strip, which he did without touching it. The realty concern, however, warned him that passing over its strip of ground constituted trespass and filed suit in the County court to prevent him.

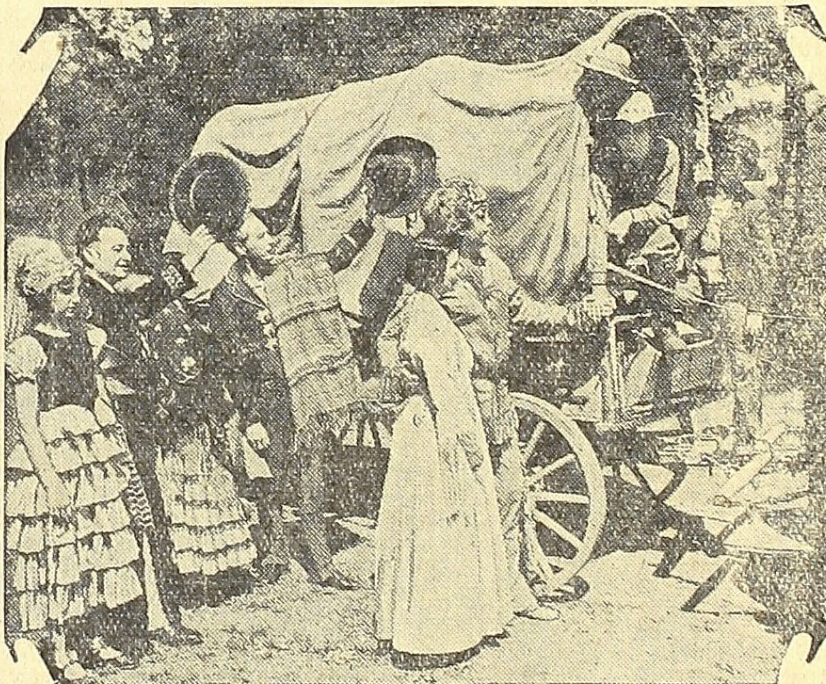
The judge in the County court ruled that the strip had been "reserved for punitive purposes" and refused to grant the realty company the right to prevent Slaysman using it.

The Court of Appeals, however, took the opposite view. Even though the company reserved the one-foot strip "for purposes of which the court might not approve," that did not interfere with its legal right to prevent trespass over it. The Appellate court then granted an injunction against Slaysman.

Excavations Throw Light on Ancient Bohemians

Prague.—Excavations, which throw light on the cave dwellers of northern Bohemia of 2500 B. C., have been made near Maerisch-Neustadt in North Mahren. Well preserved caves have been uncovered. They show a comparatively comfortable standard of living. Stone firepicks with cooking utensils of clay, knives, forks, spoons of bronze and tools of bronze, stone and iron, were found.

Arrival of First Covered Wagon



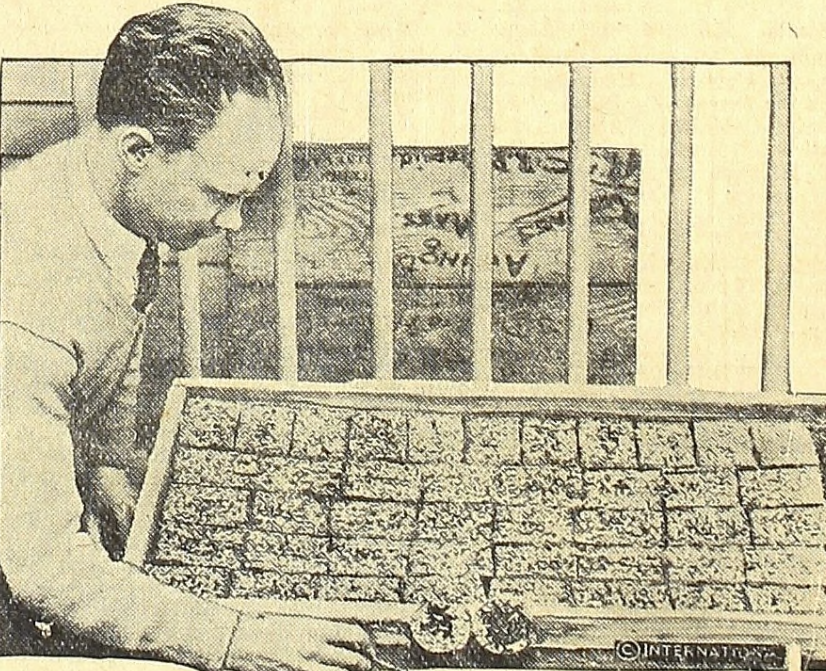
The arrival of the first covered wagon, as portrayed in the pageant of pioneer days celebration, is illustrated here. The pageant was staged at Santa Monica, Calif., and commemorated the settlement of southern California by early American pioneers. Authentic costumes, old-time vehicles and other relics of those early days lent much realism to the occasion.

SPIRIT OF FASCISM



Symbolizing the spirit of Fascism, a young Italian girl, a member of the women's division of the Fascisti, stands in salute in front of the ruins of the Coliseum. She wears the uniform just approved by the government, similar in color and design to the Fascist uniforms worn by the men.

Corn Borer Helps Destroy Himself



At the United States corn borer station at Arlington, Mass., the government is developing parasites from the farm and garden pest—the corn borer. There are 90,000 borers contained in the rack shown above, and the station has a supply of millions of borers. Eggs and larvae of tiny parasites which prey on borers are bred with the unwilling assistance of the captives.

HELEN HICKS WINS



Miss Helen Hicks with the cup she won by emerging victorious in the finals of the Eastern Women's golf tournament at the Engineers' Golf club at Roslyn, L. I.

