

ITALIAN EMBASSY IN LONDON HOUSES ANCIENT BEAUTY

London, Oct. 15—Signor Grandi and his wife, who recently gave a "house-warming" musical party, have transformed their new home into one of the most beautiful embassies in the world. It contains tapestries, pictures, furniture gathered from the most famous museums, galleries and art collections in Italy, Premier Mussolini having asked Signor Grandi to make his choices from the priceless collections of Rome, Florence and elsewhere so that the embassy in London might be worthy of his country.

Fifty pictures and 32 tapestries are distributed about the embassy, including some Lelys which have come back to England from Florence after 200 years. It has taken Signor Grandi two years to collect these treasures, but it is his wife, Donna Antonietta, who is primarily responsible for making the new Italian embassy so beautiful. She planned the setting for all these masterpieces.

Lord Gerald Wellesley was called in to redecorate and modernize the house in such a way that, while providing a suitable setting for the art treasures, it should also be a comfortably modern home. Donna Antonietta's favorite color is blue, and where possible, she has used this color in her scheme of decoration. In the lounge entrance hall, for instance, blue predominates in the wonderful 17th century tapestries from the Royal galleries in Florence that hang on the pale buff walls.

In the morning, room walls and carpet of palest buff, with cushions of rose-colored velvet, set off such masterpieces as a terra-cotta relief of the Madonna and Child of the school of Donatello. In the dining room grey-green walls and a pink carpet made a charming background for the Bacciacca tapestries, which are worked in colored silks and gold and silver and were commissioned by the Grand Duke of Tuscany in the 16th century.

In the ballroom are two 17th century mirrors from the Palazzo Rospigliosi in Rome and opening from this apartment is a green Venetian room where the treasures include a Venus by Botticelli, two Titans, a portrait of Bronzino, a Tintoretto, and Venus and Mars by Paolo Veronese.

A country club which is different so they say, from any other in the world has been opened in Hertfordshire, about 12 miles from London. It is called the Aldenham House club, and its premises, Aldenham House, stand in one of the most beautiful estates in Britain.

The house itself dates back to the 15th century, though it was almost entirely rebuilt in the reign of Charles I. It is essentially English, and no drastic alterations were made when it was turned into a club, the idea being to retain its historic flavor and traditions.

From the ancient panelled walls of the entrance hall, portraits of the former occupants of the house still look down. "Faith, wife of Henry Coghill of Aldenham, died 1670," is the inscription under the one picture. "Sarah, daughter and heiress of Henry Coghill and wife of Robert Hucks, died 1771," reads another. Every room in the house has its portraits, some of them by Reynolds and Romney. The beautiful curtains in the drawing-room came from the imperial court of Russia.

Within the house is the little chapel, consecrated in the 16th century, where the owners of Aldenham used to worship.

A Scottish travel exhibition will open in London towards the end of this month. It is to demonstrate that

side of Scotland which is Britain's playground. Lectures, concerts and dances will be given and films of Scottish life and scenes will be shown. The Duke of Montrose and the Master of Semphill are among the lecturers and Miss Jean Bruse will deal with the primitive home industries in the Hebrides.

Many improvements have been made in recent years in catering to motorists wishing to visit the Highlands, and visitors to Great Britain will no doubt find extra incentives for going to Scotland from the fact that the king and queen are to spend a week in Edinburgh in July, when they will stay at the famous Palace of Holyrood house and hold an afternoon drawing-room and a garden party.

The British textile trade benefits from the four courts, directly or indirectly, to the extent of something like £100,000. An expert estimates that 80,000 yards of silk, 40,000 yards of satin, 24,000 yards of velvet, 10,000 yards of lace, 7,500 yards of embroidery and 4,000 yards of other trimmings will be used to make gowns for the courts this year, and that the mills of Yorkshire, Lancashire and Nottingham will benefit most.

Accessories such as gloves, shoes, feathers and bouquets, account for several thousands of pounds, and hairdressers are expecting to benefit from the fashion for longer hair, as this involves a more elaborate coiffure than was required for a neat shingle.

DISCOVERED A SURE CURE OLD AGE

"I've discovered the fountain of youth at last," began Simpkins. "If you've reached that point in your life when you want to spend your winters in Florida there's one sure way of growing younger."

"What's that, Simpkins?" asked another man who was no longer a boy. "Get a puppy—that's all," replied Simpkins, "and if you don't feel twenty years younger before the day's out I miss my guess."

"You speak from experience, Simpkins?" somebody asked.

"Indeed, I do," was the reply. "The other day on Ninth avenue I saw a litter of pups in a pet shop that fascinated me. I had to have one, so I bought a likely looking one and took him home under my arm. His effect on me was magical. You know how puppies are, of course—irrepressible. He scampered around, chewed up my slippers and did all of the regular puppy tricks. In short, he was a bundle of bounding energy, a miniature cyclone, the essence of vitality and youth. It was contagious."

"You began to chew things up and cavort, too, I suppose," a listener suggested.

"Almost," replied the story teller. "At any rate, I certainly lost a number of years, and although I couldn't keep up with the pup, I wanted to. And that's about the same thing."

"So, I repeat, if you want to renew your youth get a puppy. Then see if my prescription doesn't do the trick. And don't forget to give the youth renewer plenty of rope."

Motorist's Wife—What lovely fleecy clouds. I'd just love to be up there sitting on one of them.

Motorist—All right. You drive the car.

FARMS FOR THOUSANDS EMERGING AS HOLLAND DRAINS ZUYDER ZEE

Amsterdam, Oct. 15—"God made the world—we made Holland." The biggest job the Dutch ever have undertaken is the draining of the Zuyder Zee. Already thousands of persons live and work in the first reclaimed part. Everything looks so normal that it would be quite impossible to realize the sea water ever had filled the site.

This is only the beginning, though. Three more lakes will be drained and the total area will be 800,000 acres, or nearly one-tenth of the entire surface of the Netherlands. This land will give room for 5,000 to 6,000 people. The new land lies from six to fifteen feet below the level of the sea and is entirely surrounded by strong dikes. The water, after three dikes had been built, was sucked away by enormous pumping stations—the biggest in the world—and the soil thus laid bare its mostly rich clay, excellent for growing every kind of farm produce imaginable.

The reclaiming of the first lake

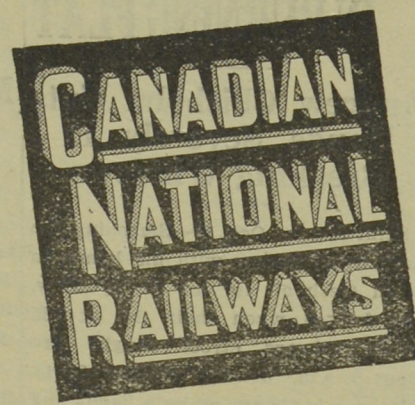
alone cost the Dutch about \$30,000,000. The total cost for the four lakes was originally estimated at \$155,000,000. It is now estimated that the total cost will run to \$325,000,000.

When the work was started in 1920 it was hoped to complete it in twenty-three years, but it will take much longer. At one time, when the depression came, it was thought advisable to stop work altogether but Premier Colijn would not hear of that and the engineers are now working on the preliminaries for the second lake, a much larger one than the first.

The biggest job was the building of the large inclosing dike, right across the narrow part of the Zuyder Zee, where it joined the North Sea. The building of this dike—nearly nineteen miles long—took eight years.

Doctor—"Does your husband take his medicine religiously four times a day?"

Lady—"No. He always swears!" — Ideas and Town Talk.



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The C.N.R. renders many essential services . . . constantly and efficiently.

The aspect of railway operation with which the general public is most familiar is, perhaps, that of passenger transportation, and undoubtedly facilities for speedy, safe and comfortable transportation, such as is provided by the Canadian railways, are of prime importance to the whole community. There are, however, other and equally important services rendered by railways—and by them alone. All these services blend into one complete whole, and the support which members of the public give through using the particular service or services they require, determines the extent to which the whole usefulness of a railway system can be placed at their disposal.

One service which at this time of the year invites public attention is that of carrying grain. Without adequate railway transportation the whole country would be placed under a serious handicap and millions upon millions of dollars of new wealth would be lost, for crops which could not be brought to market or to the seaboard would be of little value. This service is, of course, a seasonal one, lasting only through some months, but to perform it, tracks, engines and cars must be maintained all the year round, and on such a basis that even large crop harvests may be adequately handled. When the crop is small, the railway suffers through having less to carry—but the same necessity for it being there to provide transportation remains.

This is only one of the services which railways perform and which go directly to enriching the country and providing employment. In 1933 the C.N.R. carried over thirty-one million tons of freight. Some idea of the importance of this freight to the workers of Canada can be obtained from a glance at its nature. Over ten million tons consisted of coal and mine products . . . over three and a half million tons of forest products . . . almost a million tons of animals and animal products . . . almost a million tons of gasoline . . . and over five million tons of wheat and farm products.

In every department of service rendered by the C.N.R. there is a whole-hearted desire and effort to provide the best possible. That spirit permeates the entire system and the public can confidently use the C.N.R. feeling that complete satisfaction will be obtained.

CANADIAN NATIONAL

SIR M. SADLER'S THREAT OF DOOM TO UNIVERSITIES RAISES SMILES

Cambridge and Oxford men, who place for a "chosen few" in this way escaping the dangers of mass instruction. "Cambridge," he stated, "enjoyed at the present time the greatest reputation in 50 years for her scientific achievements. Oxford," he added, "is now definitely in the trough of the wave. No informed person for instance, would think of studying economics at Oxford. However, Oxford still stands high in the realm of classics. The conditions is but natural, for it is hardly to be expected that a university could excel in all its departments."

The remark of the retiring Master of University College, Oxford, that "pre-eminence of place in the administration of the country will no longer be the prerogative of Oxford and Cambridge," and that London University "will one day be the most famous and influential of English universities" was however, hailed with broad smiles of delight by those who had never entered the portals of Oxford and Cambridge.

One of the members of the staff, who had been at both Cambridge and London, interpreted Sir Michael's remarks to mean that Oxford and Cambridge could not hope, in fact, were not even desirous, to meet the demand for university education. He was quite satisfied that Oxford and Cambridge universities would continue to be a

Eloper—I thought that I saw your father at a window.

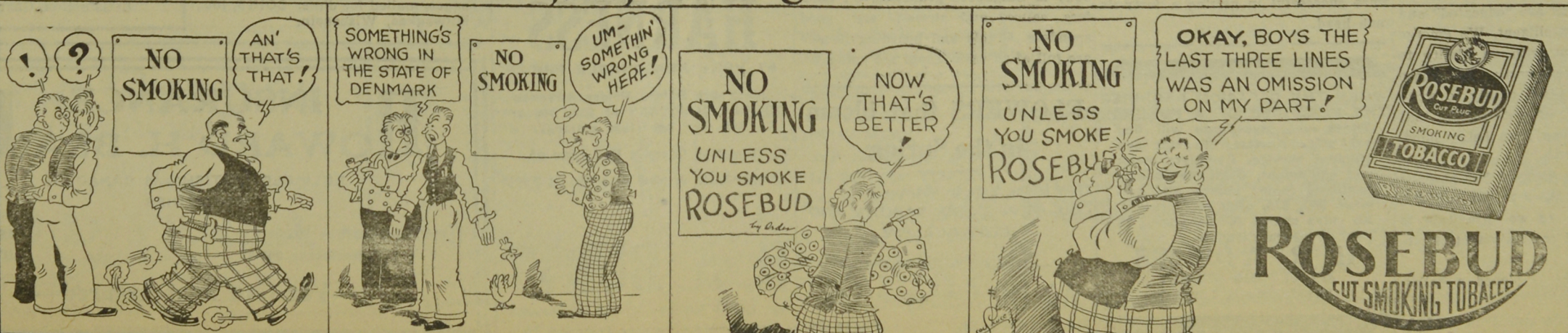
Girl—Yes, I'll fix for that; he promised not to peek.

Mother—"Until I met your father I never kissed a man. Could you say the same?"

Daughter—"Yes, but not so convincingly as you can."

ROSEBUD — "No Arguing — it's the Best"

by LOU SKUCE



THE MARITIME SMOKE