

# JUST LAWS FOR LAPLANDERS ENSURE PEACE AND JOY, NOW PUT ON BUSINESS BASIS

(By William H. Stoneman in Chicago News)

Kiruna, Lapland, Feb. 25—Since the year 1500 when Christianity first began to make its force felt in Lapland, Sweden has exercised a firm but gentle influence over the Laplanders within its boundaries. That influence, it may truthfully be said, has never been abused and its only effect has been to bring increased prosperity and enlightenment to the original natives of the region.

With customary Swedish thoroughness, the central government and the governments of the three northernmost provinces in the country have gone about the business of organizing the Lapps, giving them laws, educating them and simplifying the raising and herding of reindeer. It is a tough task to place a population of arctic nomads on a businesslike basis but the job has been well done, with results which by contrast recall too vividly the messes which other countries have made in their attempts to "do right" by the original owners of their territory.

## 3,000 Laplander Nomads

There are now 8,000 Laplanders in Sweden, approximately one fourth of the total Lapp population of the Scandinavian countries. Of that number 3,000 are actual nomads, moving back and forth across the country with their reindeer, while the remainder live by fishing, farming and other occupations. There are 250,000 reindeer owned by the Swedish Lapps.

It is with the reindeer owners alone that the government concerns itself, while the remainder receive no more special benefits than do Swedes living in the same communities. Vaesterbotten, Jaemtland and Norrbotten, the northern provinces, each have specially appointed Lappfogdar, or superintendents, tillsyningsmen, or guardians and special departments in their governments to regulate the nomads. Each Lapp village has its self-elected "ordningsman" to see that laws are obeyed and to settle disputes of minor importance.

## Fines for Encroachment

Migration of the Lapps and their reindeer from the summer grazing grounds in the mountains of northern Sweden and Norway to the winter grounds in the wooded tracts farther south are strictly regulated by law and encroachments by the herds upon tracts other than those set aside for them are punished by stiff fines. Only during the course of actual migration from one place to the other are the reindeer allowed any freedom to range about, and even then if they are allowed to linger suspiciously long in a particularly choice area their owners are tried by the tillsyningsman or Lappfogde. Agreements have been entered into by the Swedish, Norwegian and Finnish governments through which summer grazing grounds are distributed among the Lapps of the various Swedish "byar" or villages.

Particularly strong measures are taken against reindeer thieves and the punishment is so stiff that the few dishonest Lapps are unwilling to take a chance on being caught. The same law applies to any who surreptitiously carves his own markings into the ears of some one else's reindeer or who shoots reindeer. There are no such things as "wild reindeer" eliminating any possible alibi for

hunting them, and the number of violations are negligible.

The Lappfogde alone has the final decision regarding any infraction of the laws and among the Lapps he is regarded with awe and respect. Great care is taken in filling this office and only men who have proved their worth by long service as under officials are given the appointment.

## Nomad School Provided

One of the most unique educational institutions in the world is the nomad school which the Swedish government has operated in Lapland since 1630. No other factor in the lives of the Lapps has done as much to brighten their existence and to develop their intelligence. Some of the old ignorance and many of the old superstitions remain—notable among the latter being the idea that the devil comes around on Christmas eve—but the average Lapp is now quite the equal in intelligence of the Swedish and Finnish peasants with whom he comes in contact.

The nomad schools have solved the problem of educating the children of the reindeer herders in a very effective way. For three and a half months in the summer classes are conducted in "school kotas" located in twenty-one different Lapp camps in the mountain tracts of Sweden and Norway. In the autumn the teachers move with the children back to the wooded areas and continue the courses for another four and a half months. In this way every Lapp child beginning at 7 years of age is given eight months schooling a year for a period of three years. In Jaemtland and Vaesterbotten he then continues for three more years in a stationary "vilage school," eight months a year, but in Norrbotten, where special conditions exist, the secondary school lasts only during four and a half months a year.

## Practical Subjects Taught

No attempt is made to "intellectualize" the Lapp children during their six years of school and they are given only the instruction which will prove useful to them during their lives. They are given enough arithmetic to be able to calculate reindeer easily, reading and writing in Swedish, a few basic principles in reindeer culture and local and world geography. The courses in handicraft for boys range from the making of reindeer horn tools to the carving of wooden dishes and the manufacture of skis, while the girls are taught to make their native costumes from cloth and reindeer skin and to weave and embroider.

Christianity which the Lapps have seized upon with all of the zeal which once characterized their worship of ghosts and idols has also been a tremendous factor in bettering their existence.

Morality and sobriety are two of the Lapps' outstanding characteristics, due partly to religion, partly to racial creed and partly, it must be taken for granted to the Swedish liquor-control system. Acts of violence are almost unheard of, dishonest dealings are few and far between and even such generally countenanced things as divorces are taboo. That last fact probably goes farther than anything else to label the Lapp as primitive.

# G. G. CONGDON HAS LANDED GOOD JOB

Ottawa, Ont., Feb. 24—Guy Gladwyn Congdon, son of F. T. Congdon, ex-M. P., former governor of the Yukon Territory, has been appointed assistant commissioner, eastern division of the Department of Immigration. He succeeds the late Alexander Gillies. His new appointment is effective from Feb. 1.

Born in Halifax, N. S., in 1886, Mr. Congdon was educated at Upper Canada College, Toronto and at Dalhousie University. He has been with the Department of Immigration since 1910.

Sometimes what is called a matrimonial knot is nothing more than a hyphen.

# GOOD PROGRAM TO BE ON THE AIR TUESDAY

The best features of the radio programs for Tuesday evening in Atlantic Standard time are:

Keith-Albee Hour—WEAF network.  
Eveready Hour—WEAF net work.  
Hank Simmons Show Boat—WABC net work.

## ATLANTIC CITY

Old Gold Hour and Voice of Columbia—WABC net work.

10.15—Chalfonte-Haddon Trio.

11.00—Bridge game; Musical Maids.

12.00—News; Dance music.

## WEEI, BOSTON

8.30—Sketch; Musicales.

9.30—Programs from WEAF.

9.00—Dinner music.

9.15—Little Symphony.

11.30—News; Dance music.

## WLW, CINCINNATI

7.15—Markets; Dinner music.

8.30—Sohio Hour (Cleveland).

9.00—Perfect Circle Symphony.

10.00—Programs from WJZ.

11.00—Crosley Cossacks; Variety Hour.

## WOR, NEWARK

7.00—Dinner music; News.

8.00—Main St. Sketches.

8.30—Sketch; Musicales.

10.00—Paramount Club hour.

10.30—Seascapes.

11.00—Shades of Don Juan.

12.00—Dance music.

## WEAF, NEW YORK

7.00—Waldorf Orchestra.

8.00—Voters' Service.

8.30—Soconyland Sketches.

9.00—Genia Fonariova, soprano.

9.30—Prophylactic Hour.

10.00—Eveready Hour.

11.00—Cliquet Club Eskimos.

11.30—The Contraltos.

12.00—Keith-Orpheum Hour.

## WJZ, NEW YORK

7.00—Dinner music.

8.00—Song due; Law lecture.

9.00—Stromberg-Carlson Sextet.

9.30—Michelin Hour.

10.00—Three-in-One Theatre.

10.30—Dutch Masters' Minstrels.

11.00—Lew White, organist.

11.30—Freshman Orchestradians.

12.00—Slumber music.

## WABC, NEW YORK

7.00—Dinner programs.

9.00—Hank Simmons Show Boat.

10.00—Paul Whiteman's orchestra.

11.00—Voice of Columbia.

11.00—Royal Canadians.

## KDKA, PITTSBURGH

7.00—Reports; Concert.

8.15—Sacred Song Concert.

9.00—Programs from WJZ.

11.00—Penn Orchestra.

11.30—Freshman Orchestradians.

## WGY, SCHENECTADY

7.00—Reports; Dinner music.

8.00—Programs from WEAF.

9.00—Studio program.

9.30—Programs from WEAF.

11.00—Vaudeville Hour.

# CULTIVATES A WEED HE COULDN'T KILL

Rev. Con Shugart, Quaker preacher, in Indiana, has become by mere accident, one of the largest growers of horseradish in the Middle West.

Thirty years ago he had no intention of making a business of growing horseradish, but he bought a small farm which was overgrown with a weed which proved to be horseradish. Mr. Shugart tells in Farm and Fireside how he plowed that horseradish up annually for six years and still couldn't kill it out. In the seventh year he hired a man to help him root it out, and as a means of paying the man's wages, he cleaned the ground the roots and took them to market. They brought a few dollars.

But the next spring the weeds came up again, and the Quaker preacher, remembering the cash proceeds of the roots, began to cultivate them. Last fall he had 14 solid acres of horseradish, and his grinding machines will fix 1000 bottles an hour for the next year from the crop.

Meanwhile he has blended horseradish and mustard into a new relish which is proving popular in nearby markets, and seems likely to make him rich.

# A FOUR YEAR TERM OF COUNTY COUNCILLORS

## Well Informed Correspondent From Southampton is Not Impressed With the Idea.

To the Editor of The Mail,

Dear Sir—While there does not seem to be much interest manifested by their constituents, as to whether the councillors shall serve a term of two or four years, yet enough has been done to show that a majority of the present councillors would desire a longer term. However a good healthy opposition was shown to the movement, indicating perhaps men who are not averse to meeting their constituents at any time. In politics as in business short term settlements are much to be preferred.

But lest we should overlook whatever good there is in having a longer term for councillors, let us analyze the arguments favourable to such change being made. I believe such legislation should originate with the people themselves and not with their representatives after they are elected to office, then supposing it did. We are told the expense and turmoil of election every two years is entirely unnecessary.

Granted the high cost of election is a load, yet it is probably the thing that will retard some representatives from seeming extravagance. Its a pretty poor councillor who by being careful cannot save his constituency fifteen or twenty dollars per year. Otherwise let us make them senators and be done with it. Questions of policy are not usually associated with council elections, and an ambitious and politically inclined candidate can generally speak for the fact that electoral bodies are notoriously fickle and unsteady, yet we can be pretty sure short term men are more popular than men who serve a long

term, and the man who takes his political reverse philosophically usually turns out to be the man of the proper capacity for that kind of work.

That the Warden's supper is a venerable and educative institution and one in which more of the country people would willingly taking a part, yet there is a reasonable limit to such things, and certainly any increase of the Warden's salary to cover any extension of such contingencies would be unpopular. Taxes come hard and the collectors have their work cut out for them already to keep the delinquent list from growing too large, and what good a ice to take a dip.

longer term for councillors would do. Yours truly  
CHIPMAN L. GRANT  
Southampton, York Co.

## SWIM IN ICY DANUBE GREEK ENVOY'S HABIT

Vienna, Austria, Feb. 25—Despite the below-zero weather in Belgrade, capital of Yugoslavia, which has caused the schools to be closed and cast a layer of ice nearly three feet thick on the Danube river, the Greek minister to Yugoslavia, M. Plychronides regularly chops a hole in the growing too large, and what good a ice to take a dip.

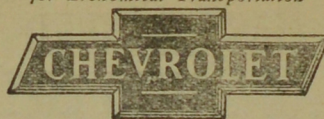
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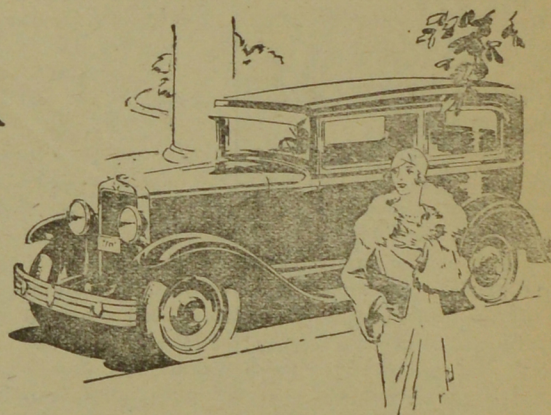
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