

ETHIOPIA IS A STRANGE COUNTRY — IT IS CALLED ABYSSINIA BY FOREIGNERS

With This Country Mussolini Has Chosen to Pick a Quarrel

It is well to have some first hand knowledge of Ethiopia. It is now and will be for some time in the public eye.

Richard Halliburton, who writes for the Toronto Star, visited Ethiopia, he tells what he saw there in an entertaining manner. From his story we extract the following

For the last seven days, I have been living in the crazy, bewildering country of Ethiopia.

If you look at a map of Africa you will find Ethiopia—or Abyssinia, as it is called by foreigners—situated at the northeast corner of the continent, twelve-foot neck towered high above near the southern end of the Red Sea.

Cut off from the rest of the world by deserts and mountains, by the savagery of its people, by its self-contained character, it has remained completely and proudly independent, while all the rest of this vast continent was being colonized and annexed by the European powers. Ethiopia has never been conquered. Its people firmly believe that it never will be.

Ethiopia's kings claim descent in an unbroken line straight down from the son of King Solomon and the Queen of Sheba.

This country has 10,000,000 people, all black, or very nearly.

Surrounded by Moslems and pagan races, it has continued to be, since the year 300 A. D. fanatically and militantly Christian. It has a black pope and a black priesthood that completely dominate the population.

The country is older than recorded history, but its capital, Adda Ababa, was built only forty years ago.

Spend Nights in Rest-houses

To reach Addis Ababa one must undertake a journey typical of this weird land. Ethiopia has no seaport—the only country in Africa without one—but a railroad starts at Djibuti, a French colonial port at the entrance of the Red Sea, and runs 500 miles inland to the Ethiopian capital.

The trip takes three days of daylight travel. All night the passengers must sleep at rest-houses along the way, for night travel is too dangerous. Bandits, wild animals, violent rains that sweep away the tracks would have to be faced. The Galla and Dankall natives along the route are forever tearing up the rails to pound into spears and cutting down the

telegraph wires to make bracelets and necklaces. Consequently the train may be anywhere from a day to a week late.

Giraffe Creates Problem

The greatest excitement of the journey happened at the half-way point where the ascending and descending trains meet. For on the descending train, travelled a fullgrown giraffe en route to Djibuti and Europe. The transportation of this enormous beast had offered numerous problems to the

into an open top box car but his twelve-foot neck towered high above the roofs of the rest of the train—much too high to get through the numerous tunnels along the way. An ingenious device solved the difficulty. A halter was put over the giraffe's head, attached to which was a rope fixed at the lower end to a windlass. By means of a handle, a black Somali boy could wind up the rope—and down came the giraffe's head, willy-nilly, for the passage through the tunnel. Out of the tunnel the attendant released the rope, and the giraffe pulled his head up again.

The building and maintenance of this railroad has cost many a life. The original builders in 1916 had to be accompanied by a small army to fight off the hostile Dankall tribesmen. Nearly 20 years of suppression has not entirely quelled these wild desert dwellers. Only two months ago 2,000 swarmed down the tracks, and across the borderline of French Somaliland.

Guard Handicaps Chief

There was a roar of indignation in Paris. Immediately an army started out from Addis Ababa to try and capture at least the leaders. This army brought two elderly chiefs to the capital. The chiefs confessed, and were sentenced to be hanged. But while waiting execution they were chained in Ethiopian fashion, and turned loose to amuse themselves.

After two days of this close association with his guard, one of the old chiefs complained to the court. He stated that his two wives had come to Addis Ababa with him, and that it was his custom to sleep between them, but now he was chained to a guard his domestic arrangements were suffering from no end of embarrassment and inconvenience . . . could he be unchained at least for the night.

The court received the old bandit's problem by speeding up his execution before another embarrassing night came down.

The arrival twice a week, of the Rhinoceros Express is an event. Several hundred natives are gathered to watch it emerge. They were all dressed exactly alike—long white cotton shirt, white drawers tight around the knees, and a white shawl called a shamma thrown over one shoulder. Ninety percent of the faces were completely black though a certain beauty and refinement of feature distinguished these people from the savage blacks of the Congo.

Addis Ababa, in area, is as big as Paris, though it has less than 80,000 people. The city sprawls through a great forest of eucalyptus trees all planted forty years ago when King Menelik, the conquering hero-king who founded the modern empire of Abyssinia, built Addis Ababa and made it his capital.

Two Million Slaves

I noticed the slave quarters at the palace. Slavery is one of the most deeply rooted institutions in Ethiopia. Of the country's 10,000,000 people 2,000,000 are slaves. In Addis Ababa the proportion is one in four. It's difficult at first glance, to tell who is slave and who is master, as all are black or dark brown. It takes a discerning eye some time to begin to notice the finer faces of the master class.

The importation of slaves is now a capital offence, for the present emperor, seeing in the custom an excuse for European power to seize and "purge" his country is doing all he can to put a stop to it. But the law is constantly broken, and as in prohibition America, bootleg slaves are easy to buy if you know the right bootlegger. As long as the importation of "black ivory" continues to be highly profitable, slave-running will continue.

Almost every townsman in Ethiopia owns one or more slaves. At the American legation here in Addis Ababa the minister employs half a dozen Abyssinians — grooms, chauffeurs, gardeners, office boys. (all with beards. They may be paid no more than \$10 a month but each one owns a slave or two, and delegates to that slave any work or errand beneath the dignity of the master.

Retainers Show Rank

One of the commonest sights in the capital is a provincial chief, or his lady, riding into town. He is always mounted on a mule richly caparisoned in scarlet cloth that floats out behind. The chiefs will be arrayed in a helmet of monkey fur and purple coat and protected from the sun by a special umbrella. And behind him trotting swiftly and tirelessly, in his retinue of barefoot slaves—six—ten—fifty slaves, each carrying a rifle and a sword. Some of the great chiefs own 15,000 slaves.

When the emperor himself goes abroad in his automobile, traffic is congested for blocks by the army of slaves and retainers that trot behind. It is the custom to bring along as many slaves as possible whenever any Abyssinian appears in public, for the station is indicated by the number of slaves he can display, and according to their number is honor granted him.

The present emperor, a truly enlightened man, is stoutly opposed to any mass emancipation of the country's slaves. He is well acquainted with the chaos and anarchy that arose in America when, after the civil war, such a sweeping measure was attempted. He insists that some occupation and economic independence must first be provided for the freed man before he is freed. Otherwise ex-slaves, to live, will be forced to desert to banditry.

Religion Powerful Force

In this curious land of the moon, religion is the most powerful of all forces. Ethiopia is a Christian nation of the Coptic branch, and has been Christian for 1,600 years. The church completely dominates the people. . . . one man in four among the pure Ethiopians, is a priest. And the great Abuna, the Ethiopian pope, wields a power that the emperor himself profoundly respects and carefully courts.

However there is so much paganism and barbarism in Ethiopia that Christianity is scarcely recognizable. The religion of the people consists mostly of superstitions, fasts, incantations, and the wearing of charms.

There certainly are no Christian moral standards. Ethiopians marry and divorce and marry again in reckless succession. A boy begins marrying at 14 and continues until he dies. It is not at all unusual for a chief to have had fifty wives.

One of the most extraordinary sights of Addis Ababa is the public bath. Here, in broad day, outdoors in a small steaming pool, at any hour, one may see fifty to a hundred men and women bathing together—all stark naked. They are not in the least self-conscious. The day I happened by I had a pocket full of copper pennies. I threw two or three into the mud beside the pool. In a flash a hundred naked bathers leaped from the water and scrambled for the coins.

One sees many drunkards in fact, excessive drinking is the rule. Consequently there is a law punishing any citizen of Addis Ababa found on the streets after eight o'clock. The result of this order is that the dipomanics choose to get locked up all night in one of the bars.

It has been suggested that this curfew law is kept on the books by pressure from the barkeepers themselves.

At the first moment of my arrival in Addis Ababa, on descending from the Rhinoceros Express and crossing the platform I ran in between two Ethiopians and was suddenly stopped short by a chain stretching from the right wrist of one to the left wrist of the other. This sight I was destined to see 20 times a day.

This chain usually, links a debtor and a creditor, or any two people who cannot agree over a lawsuit. If a creditor feels that a debtor is going to run away before the debt is paid, he can have the debtor chained to him for safe measure.

They may be chained for days or even months. They must eat, sleep, walk, together, as inseparable as Siamese twins. But instead of loathing each other as one would expect them to, those I saw always appeared to be the best of pals, and smiled and joked over their forced companionship.

Murder in Addis Ababa is frequent, and can be punished only by the emperor. The sentence, both for manslaughter and murder, is death by shooting. Immediately the murderer has heard his fate he is marched off to the execution field behind the railroad station.

Buying One's Life

With him goes the family of the murdered man—agreeable, usually, to accepting a cash payment as expiation of the crime. The murderer starts off with an offer of \$100 to the victim's family to try and stop the execution. They refuse. \$250—the procession is nearing the deadly field . . . the price mounts with each step. Sometimes this auction sale goes on right to the edge of the grave, the family accepting the blood-money only when sure it is every cent the murderer has to offer. Sometimes the murderer will refuse to offer anything, and die, rather than deprive his children of his property.

If the murderer hasn't the price demanded and agreed to, he is allowed three days to raise it. It's a frequent sight to see such a man chained to a guard, begging in the streets from everybody. If in three days he has not been able to raise the price, the family may either take what they can get, or else, if especially vindictive, demand that the execution be carried out.

Until recent times the victim's family killed their man in the same manner and with the same weapon as used by the murderer, but this savage system has lately been discontinued. By the same gesture he discontinued, public hanging, which, almost daily, had entertained the populace in the market place. But only last week this advance and progressive ruler reminded the people, in a public pronouncement, that the punishment for the treason to the state was anointment in honey and burning at the stake!

Even in broiling July weather, Alvin Rey, star of the steel guitar with Horace Heidt's Brigadiers, always wears gloves to protect his hands.

Only two days more to get your free tickets to the circus. Call or send to The Daily Mail Office.

The Daily Mail Advertisements Bring Results.

HOME MERCHANTS

Home owned stores that The Daily Mail would like to see patronized.

AMUSEMENTS:

Gaety Theatre.
Capitol Theatre.
Capital Billiard Parlor.

AUTOMOBILES:

Philips & Pringle.
J. Clark & Son.
Capital Garage.

BEAUTY PARLORS:

Blue Orchid Beauty Shoppe
Nu-Art Beauty Salon
Idell's Beauty Shoppe

DRY CLEANING PLANTS

Fashion Plate Cleaners

DRUGGISTS:

Kenneth Staples.

DRY GOODS:

R. L. Black.
Joseph Kheel.

ELECTRICAL WORK:

Clarence Mills.
Harry C. Moore.

FARM MACHINERY:

J. Clark & Son.

FURS:

Mrs. Jennie Johnston

FLORISTS:

Bebbington's Gardens.

GROCERS:

Harold Yerxa, York Street.
A. E. Eardley.
A. T. Sweed.
M. M. A.

HABERDASHERS:

J. H. Fleming.

HARDWARE:

J. S. Neill & Sons, Ltd.
E. M. Young.

HOUSE FURNISHINGS:

Colwell & Jennings, Ltd.

Lemont's

HARNES MAKERS:

H. A. Burt.

HOTELS:

Waverly.
Queen.

INSURANCE:

H. H. Blair.

JEWELLERS:

Shute & Co.
Mavor Bros.

MEAT STORES:

York Meat Market.

MEN'S GOODS & SHOES:

Joseph Kheel.

PLUMBING:

Arthur F. Betts.

PHOTOGRAPHS:

Harvey Studio.

RESTAURANTS:

Lannan's.

STATIONERY & BOOKS:

C. W. Hall.
McMurray Book & Stationery Co., Ltd.

Mrs. A. M. Griffiths.

TAILORS:

T. M. Boyd
Karl Walker.

UNDERTAKERS:

The Chapel Funeral Home.

H. R. Adams

WOODWORK:

J. C. Risteen Co., Ltd.

H. R. HANSON

(Successor to A. E. Hanson)

DEPUTY LAND SURVEYOR

198 Regent St. - Tel. 226.

Special VACATION FARES

Get particulars of these Bargains in comfortable travel before planning your vacation. Save money. Travel by rail and avoid congested highways. Arrive "Fresh and ready for fun!"

For long or short vacations, or week-end trips to the country or seashore, ask about

LOW WEEK-END FARES

Going Friday Noon to 2.00 p.m. Sunday; returning leave destination up to Monday midnight. On sale all year.

45 DAY FARES to

Western Canada (until Sept. 30), to Pacific Coast (until Nov. 10)—good for passage in (A) Standard Sleeping Cars—(B) Tourist Sleeping Cars—(C) Coaches.

ALL-EXPENSE GREAT LAKES CRUISES

June 22 to Sept. 18. SPECIAL SUMMER FARES OR LIMITS to Ontario, Quebec, Maritime and many United States points, until Sept. 30.

TRAVEL BY RAIL

Ask any Railway Agent about low fares and vacation resorts.

CANADIAN NATIONAL CANADIAN PACIFIC

KELLOGG'S CORN FLAKES

3 packages 25c

NEW POTATOES — RASPBERRIES — BLUEBERRIES

TRY US WITH YOUR NEXT MEAT OR GROCERY ORDER

HAROLD YERXA

GROCERIES, MEATS AND FISH
PHONE 306 89 YORK STREET

- THE CAPITAL GARAGE -

— W. E. Vaughan, Proprietor —
QUEEN ST. FREDERICTON, N. B. CAMPBELL ST.
PHONE 206-21 OFFICE 206-41

Northern Electric Radios

Lacquer System of Painting Tires and Accessories of All Kinds

Johnson Outboard Motors and Boats
Weaver Automatic Brake Testing Service

DISTRIBUTORS FOR U.S.L. BATTERIES
Special Attention to Tourist Travel OPEN ALL NIGHT

INSURANCE HOWARD H. BLAIR

RELIABLE BRITISH and CANADIAN COMPANIES

PHONES — Office 291-21 Residence 345-11 68 YORK STREET

—You Can Rest Assured—

FRESH VEGETABLES All Varieties

Nature Tomatoes, Cucumbers, Fresh Fruits, Raspberries, Blueberries, Georgia Peaches, New Apples, Cherries, California Plums, Oranges, Lemons, Grape Fruit, etc.

A. E. EARDLEY Phone 618 and Be Satisfied. Home-owned Store Corner Brunswick and St. John Streets

Vacation Thrills On Canada's Sky Line...

BANFF and LAKE LOUISE in the CANADIAN ROCKIES

Golf, swim, dance, play tennis, hike, climb, fish, ride the trails on Canada's Sky Line. Banff-Lake Louise provides the best holiday in the world, unsurpassed for comfortable quarters and exhilarating sports. Take advantage of exceptionally low rates to plan a summer holiday at Banff, Lake Louise, Emerald Lake Chalet, or at the Chalet-Bungalow Camps!

4 Colorful Days—2 days at Banff—2 days at Lake Louise—126 miles of mountain motoring, including visit to Moraine Lake and Emerald Lake. All Expenses \$55.

6 Wonderful Days—2 days at Banff—2 days at Lake Louise—plus 1 day optional at Banff or Lake Louise—1 day at Emerald Lake. 126 miles of spectacular motoring, including visit to Moraine Lake. All Expenses \$70.

All Tours begin at Banff or Field, June 21. All include transportation from Banff to Field (or Field to Banff), modern hotel room, meals and Alpine motoring. Add rail fare from starting point. Banff Springs Hotel open June 16-Sept. 10. Chateau Lake Louise and Emerald Lake Chalet open June 21-Sept. 10. Ask about lower fares, good in coaches and tourist sleepers.

GOLF WEEK

Banff Springs Golf Course August 25-31

Exceptionally LOW Rates via Great Lakes . . . Rail to Vancouver, Victoria and Seattle.

From FREDERICTON: 45-Day Limit.

Round Trip, \$138.20 Season Limit.

Round Trip \$160.25

Full information from any Canadian Pacific Agent, including C. B. Andrews, District Passenger Agent, Saint John, N. B.

CANADIAN PACIFIC