CITY WHICH VERY FEW SEE

Strange Tales Brought From Kuwait, the Paris Of Arabia — Crimes Are Negligible There, the Summer Is Cool at 118 Degrees and Women Seldom Leave the Harems.

a place is Kuwait, at the head of the material.

Back permanently from this well few distinguished visitors, are T. H. Rakestraw and his wife, sometimes of Tulsa, Okla. Mr. Rakestraw, an oil man with the Gulf Exploration Com-

The world is full of places which respectively sticking to their oil and puritanical, you might say. Their are interesting for a few days, but it household fields, while leaving the mosques are severely plain, with no takes too many days to get to them, writing of a book about this Arabian decoration, and they dress quite simand when you do arrive, there are no city to an English authoress who re- ply, with practically no ornaments. accommodations for travellers. Such cently spent a month there securing Persian Gulf on the Arabian side, in "The traveller who goes in for a the poorer families the wives do the

Shaikdom, with about 60,000 people, different kind of place, a city off the work. All women are closely veiled most of them Mohammedan, less than beaten track, can certainly find it in when in public , wearing a black covtwenty of them English and Americ- Kuwait," said Mr. Rakestraw. "It is ering, revealing nothing and rendernot an easy place to get to, but there ed necessary by centuries-old custom. is a lot of interesting sightseeing on Indeed, the higher class women hardunknown spot, which has attracted a the way, if you have the time to enthe world.

"I went out by way of England, to tea twice a year. France and Egypt, so to speak. From pany, has been in Kuwait for a year London, I travelled to Toulon, where and a half; Mrs. Rakestraw for eight I took a boat to Port Said. There I months. They know Kuwait like a entrained for Alexandria and chose her ideas and dress. She has a Mont the purchaser being the Commissionbook and could write a volume con- the quick and easy way to Kuwait—a gomery-Ward catalogue, high-heeled ers of Crown Lands. Last year he cerning the city and its native, Ameriane of the Imperial Airways, which arrival is quite an event in the lives pean dress. of the outsiders living there, for the plane's crew, passengers and mail rules not only the women but also was made necessary by 'modern taxworld. Freighters and British war- said: "Kuwait's ruler, the Shiek Ah- is estimated that the Duke of Rutkeep them in touch with the outside ships come to Kuwait, but no passenger ships ever stop there.'

Taking a different route to Kuwait seeing tour of her journey out. She of money. The state is under British head, is reported to have disposed of sailed from Jersey City on one of the Protection, with a British political Ex' ships of the American Export agent. Lines and on the way saw Ponta The city was very prosperous up Delgada in the Azores, Marseilles, to the time of King Ibn-Saud, since it to the time of the projection of only of the control of the co from the mouth of the Persian Gulf.

place of Sinbad the Sailor," laughed hit the pearling industry. Mrs. Rakestraw. "From Basra the only way to Kuwait is by car. In com only way to Kuwait is by car. In com same latitude as Galveston, suffers the Euphrates and Tigris meet. It is er theory has it that before the dawn by that same overland route, only we from excessive summer heat and lack brought in sail boats and sold to any- of the coal age much of the coalwent to Damascus and Haifa, then by of water supply. It has had a maxi- body and everybody from skins cartrain to spend six days in Cairo and mum of about 130. Last summer, Alexandria, where we took the Pres- which they figured was a cold one, The unit of measure is the British oil ident Polk of the Dollar Line. After the thermometer stayed up around can of four Imperial gallons, equivbeing in such an out of the way place 118 from the beginning of June to the alent to about five of our American for ages, or so it seemed to me, an first of September. But I'm from Ok-American ship flying the American lahoma and west Texas, so the heat over a cent. When you want to be flag was the grandest sight of all.

about Kuwait, its people and its place much like southwestern Texas. Last the doctor at the American mission in the sun: "This Arabian city has winter, which they say was the cold-told us that the city has not had any been referred to as the 'Paris of Ara- est one they have had, the temperabia,' but we haven't yet been able to ture got down to freezing. figure out what that means. For that section of the world Kuwait is quite progressive, although its people for the most part live as their ancestors have through centuries. The only modern changes which have come in to Their lives, all since the war, are automobiles, eelctricity, an ice-plant and Japanese goods.

"There have been motor cars only for the last five or six years—the total now numbers around 100. Ice is a mystery to these people. Those who can afford it gladly make use of it, -he hangs his water up in a skin.

to the conversation with observations n the city's Arab population: "As a rule, the people of Kuwait are very friendly, very hospitable, very quiet and very solemn-faced. The Mohammedan sect to which they belong is ican and English life, but they are exceedingly strict—highly orthodox or "The Arabs who can afford them

"Those who know their eastern cit-

ies find Kuwait clean. It is also comparatively free of crime, even though the practice of chopping off a man's

hand for stealing has been abolished.

At this point Mrs. Kuwait came in

have harems, slaves and servants. In joy it, and there's only one Kuwait in know one very progressive family whose women are permitted to go out

the men of Kuwait, Mr. Rakestraw ation, especially the death duties. It med, is a progressive, capable man of land, since the war, has sold land pleasing personality. He is putting in Derbyshire to the value of \$5,000things on a firm basis, but he is un- 000, while the Russell family, of Mrs. Rakestraw made a grand sight- fortunately handicapped by the lack which the Duke of Bedford is the

"The city was very prosperous up Naples and Pompeii, Alexandria and was the principal port of entry for Beirut. Then she travelled by bus to the interior of Arabia and besides, Bagdad and by train to Basra, down pearl fishing brought in a lot of monon the Euphrates about sixty miles ey. But Kuwait would not join Ibn-Saud, so he opened up his own port "In Bastra they show you the birth- on the Red Sea, and the deperssion

"The climate? Well, that is some thing to talk about. The city, in the don't bother me. By the way, the economical you use your bath water Mr. Rakestraw resumed, to talk country around Kuwait looks very twice. We boiled all our water, but

"In the whole state there is no fresh water."

WHEN DUKES NEED CASH

Norfolk House to Make Way For Apartments

LONDON-Following a lull in the a quarter of its acres. To ease the ong period of land sales by notable burden of taxation a number of families of the peerage, especially by dukes have, like many other landholders of dukedoms, two of Britain's owners of the peerage, converted dukes-the Duke of Norfolk and the themselves into companies, or, more Duke of Richmond and Gordon-have strictly speaking, varying proportions just figured in property dispersals of of their landed property into compannational interest. The Duke of Nor- les. They have been referred to as folk has sold Norfolk House, the modern counterparts of the Duke of town mansion of the Dukes of Norfolk Plaza Toro of Gilbert and Sullivan's from 1684 to the present time, and 'Gondoliers,' who floated himself as a the birthplace of King George III. company. Fully 50 per cent of the The existing structure dates from country's galaxy of twenty-six dukes 1742, and has been one of the finest figure in the company category. In overlooking St. James' Square. It will the last twenty-five years the state probably make way for a building is estimated to have collected more ontaining flats and offices. Its de- than \$6,000,000 000 in death and suc molition will be regretted as much as cession duties. was the disappearance of Devonshire House in Piccadilly just after the war. The property sold by the Duke of Richmond and Gordon is in Scot-"In another family there is a very land and embraces Gordon Castle pretty Arab woman, quite advanced in and 90,000 acres (140 square miles), uses the place as a stop on its ilne to India. I was to learn that planes arrive twice a week both ways and each native black covering over her Euro- who died in 1928, succeeded to the title in 1903. In his farewell message When we asked about the man who to his tenants the Duke said the sale

> water. A brackish water is found, and the Bedouins drink it, but a white \$575,000,000. Then the matter went man can't. Why, we drilled a well to arbitration, and the total agreed up 7,900 feet deep and never struck fresh on was \$332,250,000. The annual inwater. All we got was sulphur water come from the royalties amounts to and water so salty that even the Bedouins couldn't drink it.

> "All Kuwait's water for drinking, cooking, bathing and ice comes from individual landowners was the corner close to Basra, near the point where ried through the streets on donkeys. gallons, and a canful costs a little serious epidemic which could be at tributed to its long distance rive

The decision of the government to buy out the owners of coal royalties at a cost of \$332,250,000 will affect several of the dukes and three in particular-Hamilton, and Beaufort. It has been stated that from coal amount to approximately \$560,000 a year, a sum only exceeded by the Church of England, which through the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, draws down from this source \$2,250,000 a year. The youthful Duke of Northumberland is said to receive about \$345,000. All told, there are between 4,000 and 5,000 royalty owners large number of them peers of the ealm. The government's bill for the unification of threse royalties is expected to have no easy course through Parliament as the Labor opposition regards the purchase price as too high. Yet the royalty owners had hoped for a government offer of \$750 000,000 and refused an initial offer of between \$25,000,000 and \$30,000,000. According to one theory a legal decision in the reign of Queen Elizabeth that all baser minerals belonged to stone of the royalties system. Anothbearing land was appropriated by the

vere described as Enclosure Acts.

lukes were of the blood royal, or alty. Although the Duke of Norfolk is tensive rural holdings than the Duke from the time of the execution of theone of the country's wealthiest land of Sutherland, much of whose prop-Duke of Norfolk in 1572 until Jamesowners, there are a number of dukes erty is located in Scotland. He is I revived this highest order of the listed higher in this category, among said to own 1,000 square miles, large peerage in the person of George Vil-them the Dukes of Bedford, West- stretches of it being moorland. The liers, one of his favorites, who was minster and Devonshire. Yet none area of greater London is approxim made Duke of Buckingham. In recent possesses a castle as romantic in ately 700 square miles.

The Dominion Department of Agriculture has issued a report describing

WHAT EVERY CANADIAN SHOULD KNOW

about

The British Market for Canadian Farm Products

It deals with Beef and Store Cattle, Dairy Cattle, Dressed Beef, Horses, Bacon and Ham, Cheese, Butter, Condensed Milk, Dressed Poultry. Eggs, Canned Fruits and Vegetables, Fresh Pruit, Honey, Maple Products, Tobacco, Hay, Alfalfa Meal, Grass and Clover Seeds, Furs.

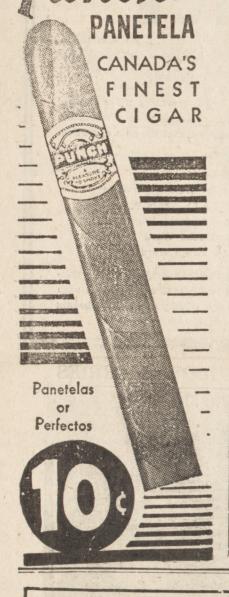
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Director, Marketing Service Department of Agriculture, Ottawa

Issued under direction of Hon. James G. Gardiner, Minister

years Stowe House, the seat of the appearance as Arundel Castle, the Duke of Buckingham has been a pub- turretted home of the Duke of Nor-

lic school. When Charles II came to folk in Sussex. Some of the most the throne he restored, with their valuable property of the Premier fifteenth and sixteenth century pre- Duke, now in his thirtieth year, is in cedence, the attained Norfolk and London adjacent to the Strand and great landowners with the aid of what Somerset dukedoms. When the pres- east of Waterloo Bridge, and in Shefent King created the abdicated Ed- field. Other dukes owning much ur-While it is sixty-three years since ward VIII Duke of Windsor it affect- ban property are Westminster (whose the last dukedom, other than royal, ed in no way the right of the Duke of dukedom, the last to be created, dates was created in Britain, there was a Norfolk to be known as the Premier back to 1874), Bedford and Devonperiod of fifty years when the only Duke, as the Duke of Windsor is roy- shire. Few, however, have more ex-



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