

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.

Back permanently from this well known spot, which has attracted a few distinguished visitors, are T. H. Rakestraw and his wife, sometimes of Tulsa, Okla. Mr. Rakestraw, an oil man with the Gulf Exploration Company, has been in Kuwait for a year and a half; Mrs. Rakestraw for eight months. They know Kuwait like a book and could write a volume concerning the city and its native, Amer-

"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, but the ordinary native never has any—he hangs his water up in a skin.

"In the whole state there is no fresh

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"All Kuwait's water for drinking, cooking, bathing and ice comes from close to Basra, near the point where the Euphrates and Tigris meet. It is brought in sail boats and sold to anybody and everybody from skins carried through the streets on donkeys. The unit of measure is the British oil can of four Imperial gallons, equivalent to about five of our American gallons, and a canful costs a little over a cent. When you want to be economical you use your bath water twice. We polled all our water, but the doctor at the American mission told us that the city has not had any serious epidemic which could be attributed to its long distance river water."

While it is sixty-three years since the last dukedom, other than royal, was created in Britain, there was a period of fifty years when the only dukes were of the blood royal, or from the time of the execution of the Duke of Norfolk in 1572 until James I revived this highest order of the peerage in the person of George Villiers, one of his favorites, who was made Duke of Buckingham. In recent

Write to
Director, Marketing Service
Department of Agriculture, Ottawa

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

years Stowe House, the seat of the Duke of Buckingham has been a public school. When Charles II came to the throne he restored, with their fifteenth and sixteenth century precedence, the attained Norfolk and Somerset dukedoms. When the present King created the abdicated Edward VIII Duke of Windsor it affected in no way the right of the Duke of Norfolk to be known as the Premier Duke, as the Duke of Windsor is royalty. Although the Duke of Norfolk is one of the country's wealthiest landowners, there are a number of dukes listed higher in this category, among them the Dukes of Bedford, Westminster and Devonshire. Yet none still possesses a castle as romantic in appearance as Arundel Castle, the turretted home of the Duke of Norfolk in Sussex. Some of the most valuable property of the Premier Duke, now in his thirtieth year, is in London adjacent to the Strand and east of Waterloo Bridge, and in Sheffield. Other dukes owning much urban property are Westminster (whose dukedom, the last to be created, dates back to 1874), Bedford and Devonshire. Few, however, have more extensive rural holdings than the Duke of Sutherland, much of whose property is located in Scotland. He is said to own 1,000 square miles, large stretches of it being moorland. The area of greater London is approximately 700 square miles.

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