Abandoned Fort Turned Into National Monument

Fort Jefferson, Off Florida, Has Glamorous History.

Washington.—Fort Jefferson, an abandoned fortress on one of the tiny Dry Tortugas isles off Florida, recently turned over by the United States navy to the National Park service, has a history that is "at once glamorous, tragic, and futile," says the National Geographic society.

"The Dry Tortugas lie some sixty miles to the west of Key West, like an afterthought to the main Florida Keys," continues the bulletin. "These isolated isles are nothing more than seven low bars of wind-swept shell and coral sand, sparsely covered with small bay cedars and palms, encircled by dangerous reefs, and uninhabited—except for a few faithful lighthouse keepers, and thousands upon thousands of nesting sooty and noddy terns.

"The fully bastioned brick and stone walls of Fort Jefferson, on Garden Key, once earned for it the nickname 'Gibraltar of America.' Long obsolete as a means of defense, the heary stronghold now has become a national monument by Presidential order.

Futile Military History.

"Despite its resounding nickname, however, the dismantled and decaying Fort Jefferson has played a futile part in military history. Built in 1846, it was supposed to guard the ship lanes between Cuba and Florida, but even before it was completed the vast citadel was agreed to be a military mistake. It was garrisoned, however, early during the Civil war and held by federal forces throughout the conflict, serving as a prison after 1863.

"No enemy gun ever poured shot and shell into its barracks. A Confederate gunboat sailed cautiously within range in 1861, but it was frightened away when the commander of the fort trained upon the warship his full complement of guns—scarcely a dozen of which were loaded!

"Although it never figured in a military action, the grim old stronghold is no stranger to horror and death. Within its moated walls yellow fever suddenly appeared in August, 1867.

"All officers, including the surgeon, died, and for a time direction of medical affairs rested with a prisoner. This was the unfortunate Dr. Samuel A. Mudd, who had been imprisoned at the island fort because, when awakened in the dead of night, at his Maryland home below Washington, he had set the broken leg of a stranger who turned out to be John Wilkes Booth, assassin of President Lincoln. Doctor Mudd courageously tended the sick and dying until he, too, was taken ill. He recovered, and, because of his heroic efforts, was granted a full pardon.

Used in War With Spain.

"Fort Jefferson was finally abandoned in 1873, although it was temporarily reoccupied by American troops during the Spanish-American war. Since 1900 it has been a ward of the Navy department. As a national monument it will be open to visitors. Already a force of relief workers has cleaned up part of the courtyard and is installing quarters for those who come by boat or plane and wish to remain overnight. Fort Jefferson is one of the least-known bits of American domain, because under navy rule it was closed to all visitors, and not even airplanes were permitted to fly over it.

"The Dry Tortugas possess a great many attractions for fishermen and naturalists. More than 600 varieties of fish abound in the clear waters off its enveloping reefs, and Bird Key has long been a national bird and turtle refuge.

"The Dry Tortugas owe the last part of their name to Ponce de Leon, who discovered the islands in June, 1513. Tortuga is Spanish for turtle. The famous explorer captured 170 of the reptiles there to replenish the larder of his ship. In 1565 that sturdy Elizabethan, Capt. J. Hawkins, homeward bound from a profitable voyage in forbidden Spanish waters, visited the islands. He loaded his pinnace with birds of species that still breed there by thousands, took the flesh and eggs of great sea turtles, and set down in his log notes that read like a page from Robinson Crusoe."

Non-Freezing Lake Gives Farmer Idea

Geneva, N. Y.—Farmer Dell had a great idea.

The farmer's inspiration came from a peculiarity of Seneca lake, one of the state's most famous beauty spots.

The lake seldom freezes, despite the fact that surrounding waters are sheets of ice. Only in the most severe cold spells will the lake develop more than skim ice.

Farmer Dell's idea, as he later admitted, was to fill the radiator of his automobile with Lake Seneca water, and save the cost of purchasing non-freezing agents.

To his surprise, the water which would not freeze in Lake Seneca turned to ice so quickly during a zero cold wave that the radiator burst in several places.

Cupid's Assistant

Morrilton, Ark.—Justice of Peace R. A. Baird likes to see young people get married and will help Dan Cupid in his matches this year. A notice in local newspapers promised he would perform all marriages free during 1935 and would answer calls at any time, night or day.

Germany's Quota of Sugar for U. S.

Going, going, gone!—all the sugar Germany will be permitted to import into the United States in 1935, all 79.8 pounds of it! C. W. Cole, auctioneer, is shown turning over the entire bag to B. F. Welch, after several minutes of feverish bidding. The sugar was purchased by Lamborn and company, New York brokers, at the Northern Sugar Refinery, Frellstedt, Germany, and brought to Chicago for exhibit during the convention of sugar refiners.

Plan to Explore Stratosphere by Rockets

Professor to Use Projectiles to Go 150 Miles.

Roswell, N. M.—Rockets equipped with automatic recording devices will be shot into the stratosphere to a distance of from 40 to 150 miles from the earth's surface from an especially constructed 60-foot tower near here this spring in science's latest attempt to penetrate the secrets behind cosmic rays, light rays and radio waves.

The experiments will be the culmination of months of work on the part of Dr. R. H. Goddard, head of the department of physics at Clarke university, Worcester, Mass., who expects they will yield data of great value to science. One immediate beneficiary would be radio broadcasting.

The tower is rising in a shallow valley 25 miles from Roswell. In the meantime Doctor Goddard is carrying out preliminary experiments on a farm four miles from here, aided by a staff of assistants.

The Guggenheim foundation is financing the unique tests. Roswell was selected for the site of the experiments because of unique atmospheric and climatic conditions.

The type of rocket to be used is 12 feet long and approximately 2 feet in diameter at its widest point. It is equipped with a parachute designed to be released at the highest point of its flight.

There is no danger of the rocket causing injury, Doctor Goddard believes, as he calculated it will return to the earth almost vertically, and its flight will be under control from the tower at all times. The tower site is 15 miles from the nearest settlement.

Advantages of the rocket ascensions over stratosphere balloon flights lie in the fact that balloons, to rise beyond 14 miles, must be of such great size and at the same time such light weight that construction dangerous to passengers results, according to Doctor Goddard. He pointed to the fatal outcome of the 72,000 feet stratosphere ascension of three Soviet Russians.

The date of the projected tests will depend on the results of ground experiments now being conducted here.

"There is a long period of testing before any practical results are certain," Doctor Goddard explained. "We will probably spend several months in the laboratory before any test will be made."

STUDYING THE BRAIN

A student with electrodes connected from his head to the apparatus—showing how Dr. Herbert H. Jasper, and Dr. Leonard Carmichael, of Brown university department of psychology, take "action currents" from the brain. The new apparatus is capable of photographing amplified "action currents" given off by the human brain.

775 U. S. Planes Are Now Equipped With Radios

Washington.—A recent survey by the bureau of air commerce shows that there are 775 radio-equipped airplanes in commercial and private operation throughout the United States, whereof 345 are owned by the scheduled air lines, 246 installed in private planes, 135 in ships used by individual firms for business purposes and 49 in craft employed for air taxi and charter flights. Government-owned aircraft, such as that operated by the army, navy and bureau of air commerce itself, many of which carry radio equipment, was not included in the survey.

A considerable increase in the employment of airplane radio among private owners during the coming year is anticipated as a result of developments that have been under way for some time with the "homing" radio compass. This device enables an airplane pilot to tune in either on Department of Commerce airways radio stations and course beacons or on regular radio broadcasting stations and fly directly toward them from any point of the compass.

Moon Looks Like Green Cheese, Asserts Expert

Washington.—Sweethearts may find romance in the moon, but it's just another piece of green cheese to Dr. Harry Burton, astronomer at the naval observatory.

Doctor Burton views the moon through a 26-inch telescope. He said the celestial body is made of pumice and volcanic ash.

Explaining why he thought the moon looked like green cheese, the astronomer said its upper quarter is full of holes, which are really extinct volcano craters. This part resembles Swiss cheese.

Near the center and the lower half of the orb, he said, the surface is smoother and a darker green. This is caused by the setting sun and shadows cast by mountains. To Doctor Burton it looks like green cheese mold.

Find College Students' Honesty Nearly Perfect

Delaware, Ohio.—Ohio Wesleyan university students are "almost perfect" in the matter of honesty, believes Charles Hamilton, Y. M. C. A. president.

The "Y" has been selling examination books at a cost of one cent each. The books are placed on a table and students asked to drop their pennies in a box nearby. Although several thousand books have been sold, an average of only one in 100 is unaccounted for, Hamilton said.

Fortune in Stamps Is Revealed in Waste Paper

Burlington, Wis.—An old receipt bearing a canceled stamp blew against the feet of Jay Land here and he picked it up. Trying to trace its source, he discovered that it came from a bale of paper which a junk man had taken from an old express office in a neighboring town.

Land bought the bale for 75 cents It contained many more stamps of the Civil war period. He already has sold $150 worth to dealers and has made one rare find that may be worth as much as all the others sold.

Sidewalk Cafe

By LEONORA WOODWARD

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THE rain swept suddenly down upon Fifth avenue and drove the diners indoors. All but Constance who left her young man for a gap in the boxed hedge and ducked around the nearest corner. Like a bedraggled chicken running for cover, she thought a little hysterically, and hailed a passing cab.

"And that's that," murmured Constance settling herself as comfortably as possible, meaning that she had written a rather clever ending to an evening of adventure. Meaning that if a girl has been so indiscreet as to pick up a man, the better part of valor lies in flight.

Once back in her hotel room, surveying her rain-drenched self in the mirror, all fear vanished and all sense of shame as well. She was glad that she had got dust in her eye and had to have it removed by the best looking man in New York!

It had all happened because she had spent a two weeks' vacation in New York alone and this had been her last night. And dining all by yourself in one of those romantic sidewalk cafes between Madison and Washington squares wasn't so pleasant if you remembered that very shortly you must return to Mr. Berring and his typewriter back in Midvale.

The best looking young man she had ever seen was dining just two tables away quite alone.

A bit of Fifth avenue lodged in her eye. It felt more like the Empire State building, although it came out at the first dab of Constance's handkerchief. But Constance discarding all her aunt's teachings, had continued to wipe her eye and had even moaned a little for good measure. It had worked! The tall blond young man had left his seat to offer assistance. He had said: "You see, I've had a great deal of experience; my mother was always getting things in her eye. So if you'll permit me—"

Constance had submitted bravely to having her ridiculously long lashes rolled back on a match and to having the corner of a very large, very clean linen handkerchief inserted in a perfectly clear eye.

"There!" the young man had announced at last and gravely showed her a fleck of dust on his handkerchief.

So the blond young man moved over and they lingered over coffee and cigarettes. They exchanged names and other unimportant information which on Constance's part, at least, was strictly misleading. She still preferred to be a New Yorker down for her shopping. His name was Bill Maynard. He was the sort you called Bill at once. He had lived in New York all his life.

Bill was saying: "You're a real person, Constance. I mean—real."

Constance had wanted to say that she wasn't real, at least she wasn't what he thought her. She wanted to tell him that she was just a stenographer from the Middle West enjoying a vacation in New York.

"I'd like you to meet my mother. She's a darling. Taught me to scrub behind my ears; that hard work never hurt anyone; and not to tell lies."

"So many people do," murmured poor Constance, "tell lies, I mean."

"You couldn't," Bill had said confidently.

How could she tell him then?

• • • • • • •

A few days later she was walking the streets of her home town, jobless.

She knew she ought to be registering at an employment agency but nothing seemed to matter now. She had lost her job and Bill. She looked at a store set back from the sidewalk and thought, "What a grand place for a sidewalk cafe."

Then said sternly to herself: "Look her, Constance, this won't do, you know. You've got to be nonchalant," and took out her compact to repair the damages from not being nonchalant.

After that she felt better. She could even face the wind which was blowing off Main street and then it happened again! All the dirt from Main street was in her eye and no amount of rubbing did any good.

She turned blindly toward the nearest door. She'd have to sit down and find her handkerchief; she'd have to find some one to help her. Only there wasn't any Bill now.

Some one inside was taking her elbow, leading her to a seat. A professional voice murmured, "It's rather dusty, isn't it? Now if you'll just hold still a moment—"

And then gentle, efficient fingers were rolling back her ridiculously long lashes.

"There, do you want to see what did the damage?"

Constance opened her eyes. She saw a glass case filled with eye glasses above which was a sign "We Are Glad to Romove Dust from Your Eyes Free of Charge." She looked up and there was—

"Bill!"

"Constance!"

"But how, when, where—" It simply couldn't be true.

"You darling! did you think I'd let you get away so easily? In all that nonsense you told me, you had said you were stopping at the Treymore. And when I found that you were from Midvale, well, Midvale was as good a place to hunt for a job as any, so—"

"You found a job and I lost one."

"You only need one job in a family," said Bill confidently.

"I hadn't," and Constance smiled, "thought of that."

IMPROVED UNIFORM INTERNATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL Lesson

(By REV. P. B. FITZWATER, D. D., Member of Faculty, Moody Bible Institute of Chicago.)

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Lesson for March 3

PETER UNMASKS FALSEHOOD AND HYPOCRISY

LESSON TEXT—Acts 5:1-11, 8:18-24.

GOLDEN TEXT—Wherefore putting away lying, speak every man truth with his neighbor: for we are members one of another. Ephesians 4:25.

PRIMARY TOPIC — Peter's Friend Helps People.

JUNIOR TOPIC—Peter Stands for Truth and Honesty.

INTERMEDIATE AND SENIOR TOPIC—The Sin of Lying.

YOUNG PEOPLE AND ADULT TOPIC—Modern Forms of Hypocrisy.

I. Ananias and Sapphira (Acts 5:1-11).

The new community formed after Pentecost is now for the first time called the Church. Since the Christians have now broken with Judaism the success of the new community depends upon its gaining recognition. The Church is now superseding the Mosaic economy. It was now to be God's dwelling place, as hitherto it had been in the Tabernacle and Temple. Their sanctity was now being transferred to the Church. This fact the Church itself must learn as well as the Jewish people who surrounded it.

1. Their sin (vv. 1, 2). It was a hypocritical imitation of the generous act of Barnabas (4:36, 37). Because of the particular distress of the early Church following its open rupture with Judaism, its members for a time had a "community of goods." This was not universal nor permanent. Ananias kept back a part of the proceeds from the sale of his land, while pretending to have brought it all. His wife was a partner in it. They wanted the honor of generosity without paying the price thereof.

2. Their judgment (vv. 3-10). Physical death was visited upon Ananias and Sapphira for their sin. They lied to the Holy Ghost in keeping back a part of the price of their land. They were not obliged to sell their land or, having sold it, to bring any of their money and place it in the common fund. People today are walking in the way of Ananias and Sapphira when they make a profession of Christianity for temporal gain and pleasure. Preaching the sermons of Moody, Spurgeon, etc., without giving credit is another form of this evil. God is passing judgment upon many for their sins of this kind (I Cor. 11:27-30).

3. The effect (vv. 11-16).

a. Great fear came upon the Church and upon all who heard of these things (v. 11). The Church should be regarded as holy because of its being the very dwelling place of the Most High God. Irreverence is an outstanding sin of this age.

b. Multitudes of men and women were added to the Lord (vv. 14, 15). The fame of Peter was spread far and wide, so that the people were anxious to come under his shadow. The proper recognition of the holiness of the Church, the body of Christ, will bring many to Christ for salvation.

c. Hypocrites did not dare to join (v 13). The vindication of the holiness of the Church deterred none but hypocrites from joining. No unregenerate person and nothing unhallowed has any place in the Church.

II. Simon the Sorcerer (Acts 8:18-24).

1. His wicked request (vv. 18, 19). When Simon saw that Peter's power to work wonders exceeded his own and that this power was received through the laying on of hands, he offered money for the gift. This act revealed his hypocrisy. He professed faith in Christ and was baptized, and even followed the apostles for a selfish end. Traffic in sacred things is called "Simony," from the name of this sorcerer. Making merchandise of Christianity is committing the same sin. Using the name of Christ for the purpose of gain is to be guilty of this sin.

2. Peter's severe rebuke (vv. 20-22).

a. "Thy money perish with thee." This implies that Peter's judgment was that Simon was unregenerate and that he himself was in the way of perishing.

b. "Thy heart is not right in the sight of God." One whose inner life delights in God could not seek the Spirit's power for selfish reasons.

C. "Repent of thy wickedness and pray to God for forgiveness." While Peter recognized that this man was unsaved, he did not regard him as beyond the hope of salvation, but urged him to turn from his sin and ask for forgiveness.

d. "Thou art in the gall of bitterness and in the bond of iniquity." The one and only thing for this man to do was to repent and sue for forgiveness. Simon requested Peter's prayer to the end that he might escape divine judgment.

The Power of Jesus

Therefore doth my Father love me, because I lay down my life, that I might take it again. No man taketh it from me, but I lay it down of myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again. This commandment have I received of my Father.—John 10:17-18.

Must Be Tested

In most men there must be a tragedy of the soul, and the "majesty of righteousness" must be burned into us.

LIFE'S IMPORTANT THINGS

My list of the four most preferable things in life is: First, wisdom; second, domestic happiness; third, recognition and encouragement; fourth, welfare of one's country.—Dean Inge.

A Law Every Mother Should Know and Observe

Never Give Your Child An Unknown Remedy without Asking Your Doctor First

According to any doctor you ask, the only safe way is *never* to give your child a remedy you don't know *all* about, *without asking him first.*

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