

BEAUTIFUL LISBON



Open Air Elevator in Street in Lisbon.

(Prepared by the National Geographic Society, Washington, D. C.) LISBON, capital of the Republic of Portugal, where a move to restore the monarchy was recently nipped in the bud, has a strange appeal for the seeker for quaint and individual places. This port of Portugal, which has very aptly been called the kernel of the country, saw the commercial pride of the Phoenicians and heard the fervent prayers of Vasco da Gama before he set out on his perilous voyage in search of India, the land which had lured navigators for centuries.

Lisbon's ancient name was Ulisipo, which caused many Greek scholars to try to connect it with the wanderings of Odysseus, but the name probably originated from two Phoenician words meaning Pleasant Bay, which is made doubly plausible because the mouth of the Tagus just beyond the city widens into one of the best harbors in the whole of Europe.

The Romans knew Lisbon as Felicitas Julia, and it grew to be the second city in Lusitania, that famous district of Hispania in time of the Caesars. Its temple and theater ruins attest its occupation. Successively it has been seized by the Alans, the Visigoths, the Moors and the Crusaders. The kindly influence of the English Crusaders who mingled with the Portuguese masses left its mark, and has shown itself in the friendly relations that have, practically ever since, existed between the two nations.

Men of letters have sought out the city for its individuality and beauty, which caused the ecstatic Byron upon first beholding from the bay its terraced seven hills to exclaim: "What beauties doth Lisboa first unfold! Her image floating on that noble tide Which poets vainly pave with sands of gold."

What the City Is Like.

Commercially the city has natural advantages in its harbor, which can accommodate the largest vessels, and an advantageous position on the Atlantic. At present its trade is confined chiefly to exporting cork, wine, olive oil and tropical fruits to and importing coal, wood, corn, rice and manufactured articles from England, Brazil and its own African colonies.

Along the Tagus vegetables, fruits and flowers are piled in high heaps to tempt the eager marketers, boats of every description from the dingy little fishing smack to the ladylike Atlantic liner are loading and unloading their cargoes, and the fish peddlers who are to be seen everywhere in the Lisbon streets are raucously bargaining for their stock in trade with the fishermen along the wharves.

Then house above house in ever-ascending terraces the city proper rises above the water front, its white buildings gleaming in the sunlight. In the hills near the city there is a limestone as white and soft as chalk which becomes hard upon exposure, and this has largely been used as building material. Many of the buildings are faced with colored tiles, and others are washed pink or blue, but there is a softness in the general impression nevertheless, which is very pleasing. The old tiled roofs which are warped and curving, with their grass-grown furrows are delightful.

Lisbon is interesting to visitors not only because of its setting and its architecture, but also because of the conglomerate population within its limits. Here may be seen representatives of all the various nationalities which, fluxed into homogeneity, characterize the urban population of Portugal today.

Traces of Many Peoples.

The prolonged visits of the Phoenicians, Visigoths, Romans, Moors, and Spanish had little effect or influence on the stock of the Celtic-Iberian folk in the interior and mountainous districts of Portugal, while along the

coasts the cities absorbed all those strangers into its urban life. The conquerors fell victims to racial absorption.

Consequently in Lisbon, often invaded and brought under alien rule, are found types which distinctly betray their origin from one or another of the shifting dominant races. Pure Celts from the hills are met on the streets, their pugnacious visages markedly Bretonese, their costumes like all Celtic raiment, and their side whiskers just as bristly. Traces of imported negro slave blood are distinguishable, as also are Jewish types, descendants of the refugees from Spain.

One marvels at the strength of limb and neck of the basket-peddler girls, whose profiles, complexions, hair, and stature find a parallel in the descriptions of the Phoenician women of old.

Striking Moorish types are also often seen, dark-skinned, with the black-bronze hair, large, brilliant black eyes, and pearly teeth of their ancestors. They lack, of course, the thick lips and flat noses of the African types from more tropical regions than the Mediterranean coast.

But by far the greater number of people on the streets are "Portuguese," a race in which is combined something from each of a long list of descendants of successive invaders. They are clean-limbed, regular-featured, medium-sized people of fine appearance. Their type is somewhat akin to the Greek, but they are more swarthy and also more urbane, even-tempered, and cordial.

Ancient and Modern Mingle.

All the linguistic inheritances and racial divergences of the Portuguese have a direct influence on the life, architecture, and economics of the city. The most ancient of customs and the most antique of implements are found side by side with electric cars, automobiles, modern banking houses, luxuriously furnished homes, and ultra styles.

Yet so perfectly natural and unartificial are the people that nothing seems strange or out of place. The city is a mosaic of civilization; harsh and glaring antagonisms have melted into the picture.

Because earthquakes have shaken the city disastrously in the past, an architecture has been developed to resist earth tremors. The best examples of such construction lie in the business section of the new city, the Cidade Baixa.

The business buildings which house the banks, jewelry stores, trading shops of all kinds, and offices are built of light materials, with walls covered with ceramic tile. Base stories are frequently constructed of stone, but one sees four and six-story buildings lighter than the average two-story loft building in America.

The tile covering is generally in small sections, six to eight inches square, and highly colored in most instances—blues, greens, yellows, and browns.

The use of tile wall space is a universal complaint with Portuguese architects, but it is a matter of law in Lisbon—Eight materials above the first story must be used.

The eight streets running north and south in the Cidade pour into the Rocio and the Praca da Figueira. The Rocio is a beautiful square, remarkable for its pavement, laid in a mosaic pattern which produces an optical illusion responsible for its popular nickname, "Rolling Motion Square."

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FREAK STORMS DUE TO ELECTRIC RING

Physicists Advance New Theory of Magnetic "Rumpus."

London.—A ring of electric current surrounding the earth in very much the same way as the more material rings of Saturn surround that planet is seen as the cause of the magnetic storms that sometimes occur, upsetting cable and telegraphic communication. This suggestion is made by two English physicists, Dr. S. Chapman and V. C. A. Ferraro of the Imperial College of Science here. They have announced their theory through the pages of Nature Magazine.

This current occurs, according to their theory, in a stream of neutral ionized particles shot out from the sun. As the stream advances toward the earth the magnetism of that body sets up electric currents in the stream in its forward surface. The stream then proceeds to envelop the earth, possibly approaching as close as the upper layers of the atmosphere. The flow of the current in a westerly direction in the part of this stream around the earth then sets up magnetic effects that produce the main phenomena of a magnetic storm.

The authors of this theory point out that one of its distinctive features is that the current is close to the earth, only a few times its radius away. After the current ring is formed, they say, it could persist for several days, even after the flow of particles from the sun has ceased.

As magnetic storms are frequently associated with sun spots, it would seem therefore that the particles are shot out of the spots, though this is not mentioned in the announcement of the theory. It is suggested, however, that the stream approaches the earth with a speed of about 1,000 kilometers (620 miles) per second. This would take it across the 92,900,000 miles separating the sun and the earth in about forty hours.

California's Law Fails to Reduce Marriages

Los Angeles, Calif.—Youth of Los Angeles will be served and served quickly at the altar of matrimony even if a trip out of the state is necessary.

Rosamond Rice, in charge of the county marriage bureau, made this discovery when she looked over the statistics of her office for the month of July.

The report showed that 2,719 applications were filed in July of 1929, compared with 2,458 for July of this year.

"Quite a few couples have canceled their license applications," Miss Rice said, "stating they intended to go to Reno, Nev., Yuma, Ariz., or Tia Juana, Mexico."

All of the young people admitted they didn't like to wait for the end of the three-day limit California requires between the days of applica-

tion and final granting of the license. The law, which is turning Yuma, Deno, and Tia Juana into Gretna Greens for California, was playfully called the "gin wedding" law because one of its backers declared that many young folks wed during gay parties who would remain single if three days were given them to consider their action.

Regiment's Lost Medal Found After 14 Years

New Haven, Conn.—Forty years ago the Second Continental regiment, now known as the One Hundred and Second regiment, purchased a gold medal set with diamonds and valued at \$1,000.

It was presented to Col. S. R. Smith, who then turned it over to his successor. Fourteen years ago the medal was lost. Recently Col. James Gettys, while looking over military papers, found a notation giving the location of the medal, which had been put in a safety deposit vault.

The medal has been recovered, and it was presented in turn to Col. Ernest L. Isbell, James A. Haggerty and Louis L. Fields, past and present commanding officers of the regiment who served during the 14 years the decoration was lost.

Boy Dies as Result of Tiger's Mangling

Los Angeles.—Twelve-year-old Alfred Hill, attacked by a tiger at the Luna park zoo, died in the police hospital recently despite the sacrifice of his mother, Mrs. Lynett Hill, who gave a pint of her blood for a transfusion.

Alfred was caught by the tiger and his scalp nearly torn off before a trainer ended the beast's life with a rifle bullet.

With three companions Alfred crawled through a fence at the zoo and wandered through a jungle-like enclosure, ignoring warning signs. The lad climbed another low fence and suddenly the tiger darted upon him.

Bratislava Girl Admits Killing Three Children

Bratislava, Czechoslovakia.—Under arrest for murder of her new-born baby, Veronika Molnar, a working girl, confessed that in 1928 and 1929, as well as this summer, she had given birth to illegitimate children and had strangled each to escape the disgrace of being an unmarried mother. Bodies of the first two were sunk in a swamp and the third was buried in a garden.

Novel Aerating Process

Keeping men alive on the way to market has been a problem in China, where fishing is one of the principal industries. Now an inventive genius has discovered a simple, though unscientific, way of aerating the water in the tubs in which he shipped carp fry. An arrangement of floats, which is operated by an attendant, paddles the surface of the water and thus introduces a sufficient amount of air.

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