

MODERN ETHIOPIA

Haile Selassie the First, Formerly Ras Tafari, Succeeds to the World's Oldest Continuously Sovereign Throne

BY ADDISON E. SOUTHARD

United States Minister to Ethiopia

WE ARE ready to start officially for the coronation of His Imperial Majesty Haile Selassie the First, King of Kings of Ethiopia, Conquering Lion of the Tribe of Judah. A typically sharp, blue Ethiopian morning has just dawned. The mountain air carries the faintly pungent odor of the blue-gum-wood breakfast fires.

Although I have not been out all night, I am in full evening dress. Only an hour ago I left my bed after a sane and sound sleep, undisturbed even by the intermittent rejoicing of the hyena that lives in the Legation grounds.

An American diplomat is not conceded the splendor of gold braid and feathers, even on occasions of official show; but he must garb himself in some distinctive style, and the white tie and somber suiting of evening wear are prescribed. Embarrassment over actual or imaginary comment of spectators at his thus turning day into night matters little after the first few years. Only to local natives is his prestige in doubt, for to them fine feathers make fine birds.

MODERN AND MEDIEVAL CHEEK BY JOWL

From the American Legation in Addis Ababa to the Cathedral of St. George is five minutes by motor car. The journey ended, I take my official seat in the great Cathedral hall between two gaunt and venerable feudal chieftains. I know these bearded "greats" to be from the more remote parts of the Empire because they wear the ancient style of lion's-mane regalia (see Color Plates IV and VI). Native leaders better accustomed to the capital have taken generally to the more prosaic uniform of Europe.

These lion's-mane fellows are splendid to look at and most impressive in photographs, but rather difficult neighbors when one must sit for hours between two of them. The skin worn by one of this pair surely came from a particularly mature

lion. Its bristles are so stiff that they not only tickle but prick my ear and cheek. The other pelt lacks olfactory appeal. But both add magnificently to the scenery.

I look immediately over the head of Italy's Prince of Udine. Facing me across the open space before the twin thrones is a row of imposingly large and gilded chairs. The first seat holds a prince of England; more than resplendent in his guardsman's uniform. Next to him sits a prince of the ancient and royal line of Solomon; then a marshal of France, using his knee as a rest for his gold baton; a king of Tigre, an ambassador of Belgium, and so on.

Great and representative men from the Occident and from the Orient; bearded feudal chieftains from the north, the south, the east, and the west of this ancient Empire of Ethiopia—Christians and Moslems and many others all are gathered for the coronation of a new emperor on this second day of November, A. D. 1930 (the Ethiopian date of Tekemt 23d, 1923)—modern civilization cheek by jowl with medievalism.

The studded doors of the Holy of Holies open ponderously. Through them rolls, in giant and stirring hum, the seemingly far-off chant of hundreds of priests, probably exactly as it would have sounded on an Ethiopian coronation day a thousand and more years ago.

ENTER THE CONQUERING LION

The Conquering Lion of the Tribe of Judah and his Empress have just completed a night of prayer and devotion at the most holy altar within. Preceded by waving incense-burners, His Majesty enters now the main part of the Cathedral and takes his throne.

The thrilling but solemn silence gently breaks to the throaty voice of His Holiness the Abuna Kyrillos:

"Ye princes and ministers, ye nobles and chiefs of the army, ye soldiers and people of Ethiopia, and ye doctors and chiefs of



ETHIOPIAN WARRIORS CHARGE THE THRONE (SEE OPPOSITE PAGE)

At a military review held during the coronation festivities, mounted and unmounted warriors proclaimed their prowess as they dashed up a slope toward the imperial throne.



Photographs by W. Robert Moore

THEIR IMPERIAL MAJESTIES RIDE IN STATE PROCESSION THROUGH ADDIS ABABA

Two days after their coronation, the Emperor and Empress, attired in full coronation robes with the exception of their crowns, visited the chief metropolitan churches of the capital. An extra rear seat has been attached to the royal motor car, in which the parasol-bearers may sit.



Photograph by W. Robert Moore

THE EMPEROR AT A MILITARY REVIEW

In full military dress of red and gold and high lion-maned busby, the sovereign sits on his red-and-gold throne in a richly carpeted pavilion. High Ethiopian officials and diplomatic representatives are seated to the right and left.

the clergy, ye professors and priests, look ye upon our Emperor Haile Selassie the First, descended from the dynasty of Menelik the First, who was born of Solomon and of the Queen of Sheba, a dynasty perpetuated without interruption from that time to King Selale Selassie and to our times."

SEVEN SYMBOLS OF AWE AND MAJESTY ARE BESTOWED

For five hours then we witness the unfolding of the ancient and traditional

Hebraic-Christian ceremony of the crowning of a ruler of the Empire of Ethiopia. Forty-nine bishops and priests of this ancient Christian country, in groups of seven, have held place for seven days and nights in the seven corners of this national Cathedral to chant without ceasing nine Psalms of David. They are now joined by hundreds more. The Established Coptic Church is revered and all-powerful in Ethiopia. This is a day when it may, and does, show its impressive might and splendor.



Photograph by W. Robert Moore

THE MINISTER OF WAR HEADS THE ROYAL PROCESSION

Since the coronation, when this photograph was made, the Minister of War, Fetawrari Mou Iou Gueta, has been promoted to a Ras and has become governor of a province in western Ethiopia (see, also, Color Plates III and VII).

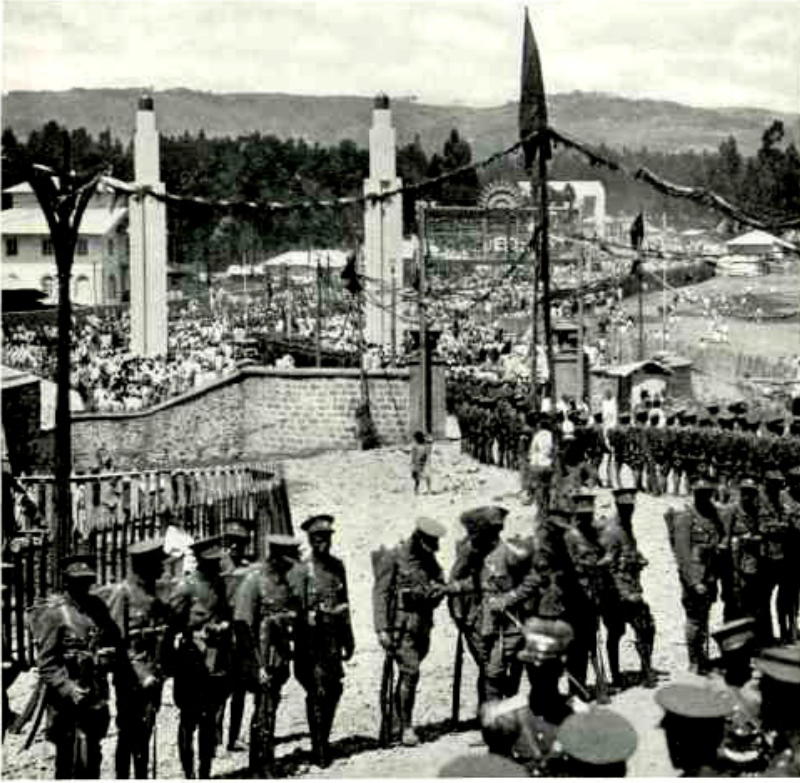
The Emperor, whose name may be Anglicized as Power of the Trinity, is vested first with his sword of gold studded with precious stones. Chanting and prayers to the God of Gods rise from a multitude of priestly throats and reverberate from the lofty ceiling of the Cathedral.

Bestowals of the imperial scepter of ivory and gold and a golden globe of the earth follow.

The diamond-encrusted ring, the two traditional lances filigreed in gold, and the imperial vestments are all bestowed in turn with appropriate and lengthy ceremony. Seventh and last comes the magnificent crown.

Seven differently scented ointments of ancient prescription are received on the imperial head, brow, and shoulders—one with each of these seven ornaments of the coronation (see Color Plates I and II).

After the completion of the coronation ceremonies for the Emperor, the Empress enters and takes her throne. She is crowned with less elaborate but always impressive rites, conducted also by the archbishop, his bishops, and his priests. The final ceremony is a grand tour of the Cathedral by Their Imperial Majesties. They are escorted by the bishops and priests, the princes and high dignitaries, assistants, and others, carrying palm branches and chant-



Photograph by W. Robert Moore

CORONATION THRONGS FILL THE CITY STREETS

Tens of thousands of soldiers and civilians from the provinces swelled the population of Addis Ababa during the coronation festivities. A view from the Royal Palace grounds, showing the masses of people after one of the State processions. Some of the modern khaki-clad troops are in the foreground (see, also, Color Plate V).

ing in mighty volume, "Blessed be the King of Israel."

Shortly after noon the cannons boom. There is the fanfare of a thousand trumpets. The triumphant ululation of tens of thousands of waiting women is released in waves over the city of the "New Flower."

We go forth in proud procession, which escorts to his "Hill of the Palace," across the city, the three hundred and thirty-fourth of all the kings of Ethiopia and the one hundred and thirty-fourth of the *Christian kings* of the Empire.

The Ethiopians list their kings from Ori, of 4478 B. C., to Haile Selassie the

First, of A. D. 1930—with time out, naturally, from the date of the Deluge until the Fall of the Tower of Babel. What matters time in a country which can reach with such apparent certainty directly back into the dim mists of the past!

Was the Queen of Sheba an Abyssinian? I believe that she was, and that, more intimately known to her contemporaries as Makeda the Ethiopian, she possibly lived in what we now again call Ethiopia and certainly included it in her extended domain.

"Shoa was once Sheba," say my Ethiopian friends in speaking of their principal



Photograph by W. Robert Moore

THE ROYAL PALACE INCLOSURE SERVES AS AN ASSEMBLY GROUND FOR THE MILITARY

Companies of soldiers gather for review on the Felou-Omaha plain, a portion of which may be seen in the valley to the left (see, also, illustration on opposite page).



Photograph by W. Robert Moore

A MILITARY REVIEW IS A GALA OCCASION

Interested spectators surrounded the Felou-Omaha plain at the edge of Addis Ababa on the day of the military display. Nearly 200,000 people either watched or took part in the event. A number of the automobiles are familiar American products.



Photograph by W. Robert Moore

THE KING'S HORSES AND THE KING'S MEN

Some of the infantry and cavalry have been provided with modern equipment and khaki uniforms (see, also, page 683), but the majority of the soldiery still wear the *chamma* and other picturesque garments of old.

province of to-day. The royal house of Shoa claims the present Emperor.

I have also been told by many Abyssinians that, since their country was Ethiopia in the time of their Queen's visit to Solomon, they rightfully prefer that geographical designation to the one favored by recent map-makers, which has an origin obscure and not inspiring. Ethiopia is to them more dignified than Abyssinia.

Could King Tutankhamen be resurrected spiritually as he has, in recent years, been resurrected materially, he would find interest in this modern and decidedly vigorous survival of that Ethiopia which is said to have provided not the least of the

foreign-relations problems with which the Pharaohs of ancient Egypt wrestled.

ETHIOPIAN SOIL SUPPLIES THE "FLESH-POTS OF EGYPT"

Political relations pass into the discard of ancient history. Ethiopia, however, continues one most important relation to Egypt as a source of youth to its agricultural prosperity. I think of the Blue Nile, so named from the dark color of its silt-laden waters. This river in mighty flood from the heavy summer rains in the Ethiopian mountains dams the flow of the White Nile at its junction near Khartoum and carries directly to the inundated fields



Photograph by W. Robert Moore

AT THE UNVEILING OF THE MENELIK II MONUMENT (SEE COLOR PLATE VIII)

The Emperor, wearing a sun helmet, stands on a dais at the right, under a small parasol.

and gardens of Egypt its load of rich and life-giving Ethiopian soil.

This Ethiopian contribution represents much of the water and most of the rich silt upon which Egypt depends for agricultural prosperity—so much so that the control of the Blue Nile has become an outstanding problem, not only of Egyptian, but of international concern.

By means of a dam where the Blue Nile issues from Lake Tsana (see page 746), the waters can be made to serve more efficiently. Part of my own work in Ethiopia has had to do with an American arrangement for building such a dam. American engineers surveyed the site a few months ago. Actual beginning of this \$20,000,000

construction probably will not be long delayed.

Modern Ethiopia includes more than 350,000 square miles of the rich and productive northeastern African plateau. It is mainly a mountainous region, much broken by deep valleys. Arid, semidesert country surrounds it on every side. It does not touch the sea, although some Ethiopian feudal chieftains like to grasp a marine telescope as they pose for a formal photograph (see map, page 702).

In the population there are, perhaps, 5,000,000 Christians of the true Ethiopian (Hamitic-Semitic) type. They are the inheritors of an ancient civilization under whose feudal form of government are



Photograph by W. Robert Moore

AMERICAN VISITORS AT THE MENELIK II MAUSOLEUM

The American special diplomatic group to the coronation is leaving the mausoleum after having placed a wreath before the tomb of the present emperor's grand-uncle, who made the first treaty Ethiopia ever had with the United States (see, also, Color Plates III and X).



Photograph by W. Robert Moore

THE GEBBI, OR ROYAL PALACE, CROWNS ONE OF ADDIS ABABA'S MANY HILLS

With the exception of the domed mausoleum to the left (see preceding page and Color Plate X), all of the buildings seen across the eucalyptus-covered ravine were constructed under the supervision of Emperor Menelik II.

estimated to be 7,000,000 Moslems and pagans. The latter are mainly negroes.

The country is surrounded, or embraced, we might say, by African colonial possessions of Great Britain, France, and Italy. As the Ethiopia of Solomon's time, it probably included all of these adjacent territories, with an Egyptian frontier, and that part of southwestern Arabia known to-day as the Yemen and Hadhramaut.

We find in Ethiopia a very evident mixture of Asia and Africa. Some of the blood came from ancient Palestine, some from Arabia, and some from the shores of the Caspian. Authorities do not agree as to the elements in this African melting pot of races. But the Ethiopian claims with pride a strong relation to the Semites. To one who knows them well this claim is quite understandable.

Rasselas was the first Ethiopian I knew. I met him in the pages of that beautiful work of the imagination of the illustrious Samuel Johnson, published as "Rasselas, a Prince of Abyssinia."

I have met many less imaginary but equally interesting Ethiopians. Fourteen years ago I first visited Ethiopia. At various times since I have renewed my acquaintance. My latest visit has run into a continuous residence of three years. As my acquaintance has grown, so has my interest increased in fascinating Ethiopia.

DJIBOUTI IS ETHIOPIA'S FRONT DOOR

The front-door entrance and port to Ethiopia is Djibouti, French Somaliland. I have traveled, as you may also, from Europe to Aden, and thence across the Gulf of Aden to Djibouti. A preferable and more modern route is from Europe directly to Djibouti.

Djibouti is poetically termed by the French "Queen of the Sands." From offshore its small group of whitewashed stone and mud buildings and pyramidal piles of salt, from the principal industry of evaporating sea water, glisten and sparkle in the tropical sun. There is just a suggestion of the immediate background of tawny desert and of the purplish mountain shapes of Ethiopia in the far distance (page 704).

The sea water is bluest of blue and the beach sands are snowy white. The picture is singularly attractive, although I must admit that on shore the heat, the flies, and the fleas vie at certain seasons in establishing a maximum of human discomfort.

The French are commendably responsible for Djibouti. It is the base of their 500-mile railway from the coast directly inland to Addis Ababa, the Ethiopian capital. This railway is Ethiopia's only modern connection with the outside world (see page 703).

Djibouti is, therefore, very important to Ethiopia. It is headquarters for an Ethiopian consul who gives intending visitors their visas. My first Ethiopian friend there was the one-time consul, Ato Yusef (Anglicized as Gentleman Joseph), an elderly individual with snow-white hair and a decidedly Hamitic caste of countenance and color, who wore with ostentation and pride the Legion of Honor insignia. He gave me always a hearty welcome and always assured me that the Ethiopian Government was looking forward to my visit. Ato Yusef is gone these many years.

THE FAST EXPRESS MAKES NEARLY 14 MILES AN HOUR

There are two kinds of trains now on the efficient but expensive little Franco-Ethiopian Railway. On Sunday and Wednesday mornings a train leaves Djibouti to arrive three days later in Addis Ababa. Each Tuesday evening departs the "through express," which does the 500 miles in 36 hours. Passengers can sleep on this "fast" train, not in Pullmans, but in adjustable seats. On the three-day trains sleeping is done at little wayside hotels the two nights *en route*.

My first, and of course best-remembered, trip into Ethiopia was in the days when there was no express service. To see the semiweekly morning train off, there is always a considerable assemblage in the Djibouti station—mostly native loafers, of whom the majority are dusky Somalis and Danakil in the usual abbreviated desert costume of a yard or so of cotton cloth. Sometimes there may be observed a more dandified individual sporting a leopard skin as costume.

Nearly every one of these fellows carries a spear shaft minus its business end. The omission of the lethal point, I have been told, is in deference to the enforced wishes of the French police authorities at Djibouti, who find these dark sons of the desert unduly careless in the use of any cold steel handy when emphasizing the wordy differences of opinion to which they are prone.



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THE NEWLY-CROWNED MONARCHS OF HISTORIC ETHIOPIA

The Emperor, Haile Selassie the First, and the Empress Menen, in their coronation robes, posed especially for the National Geographic Society's representative. In the background stand the Crown Prince, Istiaf Wasen (right), and a younger son of Their Majesties, little Lidj Makonnen. Their Majesties also have three daughters.



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 HE PLACES THE CROWN ON THE EMPEROR'S HEAD

The Abuna, or Archbishop, appointed by the Coptic Patriarch of Alexandria to preside over the Ethiopian Church, speaks only Arabic. Ethiopia has maintained her Christian faith for sixteen centuries (see, also, Color Plates IV and IX).



Natural Color Photographs by W. Robert Moore
 "THE LION OF THE TRIBE OF JUDAH" IN CORONATION RAIMENT

Although only 39 years of age, the Emperor has directed the affairs of State as Regent since 1916, previous to which he, as Ras Tafari, was Governor of the wealthy Harar Province, having succeeded his father, Ras Makonnen.



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 THE AMERICAN DELEGATION TO THE CORONATION

The American special Ambassador, Mr. H. Murray Jacoby, Brig. Gen. William Wright Harts, and Mr. Charles Lee Cooke, Department of State, are with Ras Gugsa, Governor of Tigré Province, who was designated by the Emperor to accompany the American party during their visit. It took as long for Ras Gugsa to reach Addis Ababa from his isolated province as for the American Mission to get there from New York.



Natural Color Photographs by W. Robert Moore
 HE DIRECTS THE EMPEROR'S MILITARY FORCES

His Excellency, Fetawrari Menjou Gineta, who holds the position of Minister of War, is here attired in full ceremonial costume and is holding spears and a shield of rhinoceros hide, which are still used as fighting equipment in Ethiopia (see, also, Color Plate VII). The country's forces are organized in much the same manner as were the feudal armies of Europe in the Middle Ages.



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Natural Color Photograph by W. Robert Moore

THE CLERGY ARE EXEMPT FROM BEARING ARMS

Priests with their crosses and censers (left); venerable warrior (right), with headdress and collar of lion mane and a rhinoceros shield,



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Natural Color Photograph by W. Robert Moore

KHARI-CLAD SOLDIERS AWAIT THE ARRIVAL OF A DIPLOMATIC MISSION TO THE CAPITAL

St. George's Cathedral and a few surrounding shops, together with the Palace just out of range at the right, are all that can be seen of Addis Ababa on its eucalyptus-forested hills. The lion monument in the right foreground was erected by the officials of the Franco-Ethiopian Railway to Emperor Menelik II, who had much to do with the completion of the line.



HEADDRESSES AND COLLARS OF LION MANE ARE FOR THE BRAVE

A group of hardy warriors clad in colorful robes sitting on the steps of St. George's Cathedral on the morning of their Monarch's coronation.



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Natural Color Photographs by W. Robert Mase

VETERANS SUCH AS THESE HAVE KEPT ETHIOPIA FREE

Brilliant costumes and rhinoceros shields bound with silver-gilt will no doubt soon disappear, as Emperor Haile Selassie is putting his soldiers into modern khaki uniforms (see, also, Color Plate V). Virtually every man in Ethiopia, except members of the clergy, is a potential soldier.



THE MINISTER OF WAR RIDES A GAILY-CAPARISONED MULE

The high bushy of lion mane worn by His Excellency is one of thirteen made in London for the Emperor and his highest officials (see, also, Color Plate III).



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BOTH MEN AND WOMEN WEAR THE NATIVE-WOVEN "CHAMMA"

The *chamma*, or upper garment such as this man is weaving, is worth about seven thalers, although some of the very finest ones are worth as high as 200 or 300 thalers. The Maria Theresa silver thaler, valued at about 33 cents, is the currency of the country, and, although minted to-day, the coins must bear the date of 1780.



A TRIBUTE TO THE FAMOUS MONARCH, MENELIK II

The equestrian statue was unveiled by Haile Selassie the day before his coronation, in the presence of high Ethiopian officials and the foreign diplomatic groups. The coronation took place in a temporary building adjacent to St. George's Cathedral, which may be seen in the background.



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Natural Color Photographs by W. Robert Moore

TWO AMHARIC BELLES OF THE CAPITAL CITY

These Ethiopian women shade their heavily-buttered pompadours with umbrellas. Amharic is the official language of the country, although the Amharic people form only about one-third of the population.

The traveling public on the Franco-Ethiopian Railway is truly international. Usually an Englishman, a German, or an American, two or three Frenchmen or Italians, Arabs or Turks, and perhaps a dozen Armenians and Greeks make up the first- and second-class complement of the average train.

LUGGAGE RACKS HOLD SPEARS AND RIFLES

The third-class passengers are largely natives of the country. They ride in what we Americans would call small box cars, provided with lengthwise benches or upholstered cross-seats. No third-class coach on this railway is complete without a rack from which to hang the rifles and spears of the passengers. Windows and doors are rarely, if ever, closed. The problem of ventilation, which in these usually much-crowded cars would be one of importance, thus solves itself.

The scenery, after the train leaves Djibouti, is more or less an ascending stretch of tawny desert, broken here and there by outcroppings of great gray and black rocks. Occasional patches of thorn bushes, delectable provender for camels, vary the pattern. The only green is at the little stations where water kept for the locomotive permits cultivation of a tiny patch of vegetables and two or three papaya trees.

Sometimes the station building is kept company by a few native huts, in the construction of which kerosene tins and cases are widely used. An occasional hut is embellished on front or side with the stretched skin of an unfortunate leopard, speared, perhaps, in the act of filching a fat-tailed sheep from the thorn *zareba* (stockade) near by.

THE NOMADS CANNOT RESIST COPPER WIRE

This desert view is not as monotonous as one might think. The train stops occasionally in the open country between stations. We wonder why until we discover scampering back from the locomotive tender a couple of dusky wiremen—trousered, but otherwise unimpeded by clothing—who climb thin poles with barefoot agility to mend a break in the telephone and telegraph line paralleling the railway.

These breaks once occurred more frequently than now, because of the attrac-

tion the bright copper wire held for the nomadic tribesmen, who purloined lengths of it from which to fashion armlets, anklets, and other trinkets for personal adornment. The use of copper wire has now been more or less controlled by the authorities, but breaks occur still by reason of the gymnastics of the troops of great dog-faced baboons, which often cross the right of way. Giraffes, too, have been known to cause damage by hanging themselves in the wire.

From time to time a pair or more of wild guinea fowl rise with a whir and screech from almost under one's car window. Just as the eye is becoming glazed with drowsiness from the torrid heat, it catches sight of two or three dik-dik, tiny antelope not much larger than small dogs, which flit in and out of the scrub, disturbed by the passing train. Hundreds of thousands of dik-dik skins are used by American tanners.

NATIVE COIFFURES SERVE TWO PURPOSES

In desert Somaliland the people who come to meet the train at way stations combine curiosity with business. They bring for sale to native travelers raw morsels of goat and sheep; sometimes a bit of camel meat, high in age if not in price; small eggs of doubtful quality; scrawny chickens; camel's or goat's milk, carried in ancient skin or burnt-bark containers not accustomed to cleansing contact with water; and other odds and ends of not particularly appetizing foodstuffs. Cash in advance is the rule, to prevent the customers' profiting by a premature start of the train (see page 706).

By an application of animal fat or rancid butter as a hair pomade, some of the natives seek to produce modish coiffures and at the same time to discommode small parasites whose favorite habitat is the human head. One application of this unique pomade may be used as the base of another, and the olfactory effect is not to be recommended (see, also, page 741).

Another style of hair-dressing in vogue is achieved by the application of a plaster of lime. The effect is not only the eradication of insects, but a bleaching of the black, frizzly hair to a most glorious and pinkish red.

The Somali or Dankali beau with his locks thus tinted, his radiantly black skin



Photograph by W. Robert Moore

IN COMMEMORATION OF ETHIOPIA'S RECENT CORONATION

The monument to the entronement of Emperor Haile Selassie and Empress Menen stands on a newly built-up triangle in the center of the capital. The symbol suggests the name of the ruler, which means Power of the Trinity (see text, page 682).

well oiled, his white teeth dazzling, and his shoulders draped with several yards of white cotton sheeting arranged like a toga, is a vision not easily overlooked or forgotten. To complete the picture, there is usually a pet goat or fat-tailed sheep which has followed its master out of the hut and blinks in bored manner at the train. Since these natives are at least nominally Moslems, dogs are taboo. But man must have his animal companion; hence the sheep or the goat.

The first day of this railway journey ends usually at 6 in the afternoon, at Dire-dawa, the first town of importance after

the train enters Ethiopia. It is on the fringe of a plateau 4,000 feet above sea level and a 200-mile climb from the coast. Rain sometimes falls and the climate is equable. There is a substantial and well-kept railway station and an Ethiopian custom-house (page 707).

CEREMONIES FOR VISITING OFFICIALS: CUSTOMS FOR OTHERS

The customs ordeal is not for me. I am a visiting official. The Ethiopian governor of the town meets me with a considerable number of capable-looking soldiers. I am escorted with marked ceremony through the customs to one of the two frontier-style hotels. There is also a third hotel when the proprietor is not away hunting antelopes or lions.

An interesting side trip from Dire-dawa is the old Mohammedan walled town of Harar, four hours away by rough motor trip or a whole day by muleback. Camels, horses,

or mules are available as a means of transportation, but the mule is considered the most appropriate for one of actual or apparent high station in life (see page 739).

The trip is now almost a commonplace one. When I first knew it, the governor provided an escort of about 30 soldiers to frighten away renegade tribesmen from the coastal desert country, who in those days of greater "personal liberty" found much diversion and occasional profit in looting the lone traveler on the trail to Harar. The Ethiopian authorities in recent years have become kill-joys in so far as that particular diversion is concerned.

Diredawa even has an American-educated mayor.

THE ESCORT KEEPS UP WITH THE MULE

My soldiers used to walk or run—according to the mule's humor—the entire 35 miles in a day. They would go through the motions, at least, of lifting both the mule and me over certain steep places in the ascent of the Harar plateau. There would, of course, be a certain pecuniary reward at the end, the amount depending on the degree of interest shown by them *en route*.

On my first visit to Harar I was given, as part of the traditional courtesy of Ethiopian provincial officials to the recommended traveler, a big and very much alive ox, many baskets of large, round, flat cakes of Ethiopian bread, and a generous number of jars of home brew.

Such gifts are embarrassing until one understands how to dispose of them. They are actually intended for the nourishment and cheer of one's Ethiopian escort. My 30 soldiers killed the ox and ate him completely before sunset of the next day. For me there was broiled a choice bit of the tenderloin.

This old-fashioned style of Ethiopian hospitality is now enjoyed mainly in the outlying parts of the Empire. More Occidentalized procedures have come into practice in the easily accessible centers.

ETHIOPIA IS THE HOME OF COFFEE

The Harar district, town and province, is the center of production of cultivated coffee in Ethiopia. Investigation of that



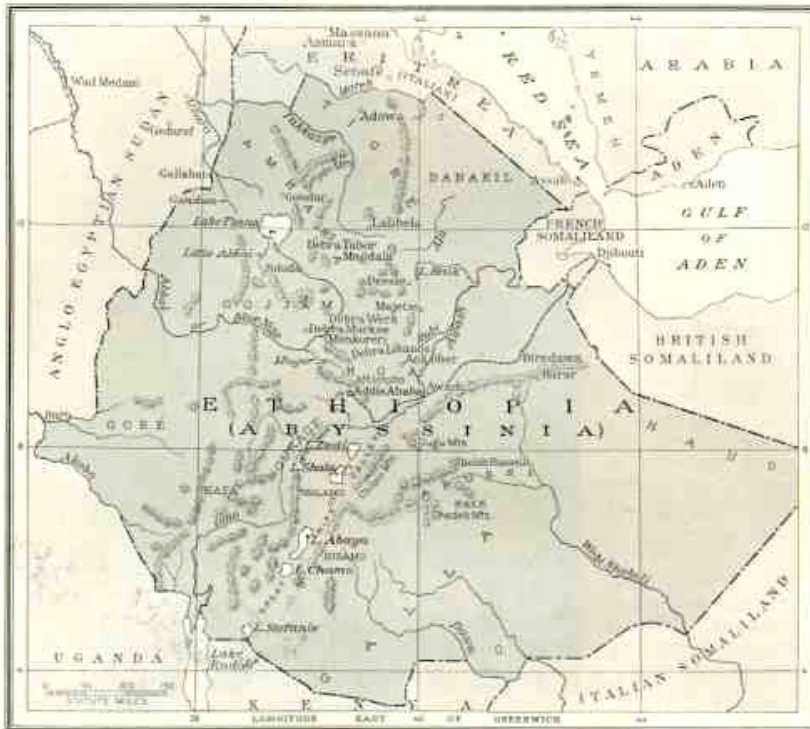
Photograph by W. Robert Moore

AN ARMY CAPTAIN IN FULL-DRESS UNIFORM

The resplendent robes and jewel-studded, gilt-bound rhinoceros shield are gifts from the Government to this dignified warrior.

was one reason for my earlier visits to Harar. The bean produced is of excellent quality and ranks next only to Mocha in world markets. It is called "long-berry Mocha" and is sold to a discriminating clientele in the United States.

Although the Harar plantations are descended from seed introduced from the Mocha district in Arabia, Ethiopia is the home of coffee. The tree was found originally by Arab travelers in the Ethiopian province of Kafa, from which it took its name. Seed was taken from Kafa to Arabia, and thence came back to Harar. According to the Arabs, the cultivation of coffee also spread to other parts of the



Drawn by James M. Darley

ARID, SEMIDESERT COUNTRY SURROUNDS ETHIOPIA

The ancient Empire embraces more than 350,000 square miles of the productive north-eastern plateau of Africa, and, while it lies wholly within the Tropics, its elevation tempers the climate.

world from the Yemen, in southwestern Arabia (see page 735).

In Kafa and adjoining parts of southwestern Ethiopia may be seen to-day vast and virgin forests of coffee of the indigenous variety. It necessarily grows without cultivation or care and thousands of tons of the berries fall to the ground in waste each year.

The outer fringes of some of these forests are worked by natives in sections not too far from export trading centers, where the market value of coffee is known. Egypt buys much of this coffee, shipped via Khartoum, in place of former importations of the Brazilian product.

An article in the NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC MAGAZINE describes *kat*, the

"Flower of Paradise,"* grown in the Arabian Yemen. This small Celastraceous shrub, known botanically as *Catha edulis*, is cultivated in Harar also. The tender shoots and twigs are gathered wet with the early morning dew and made into bundles, protected by larger leaves and grass to keep them fresh, for sale in the native bazaars. Good prices are obtainable, particularly from the Moslems.

I am always reminded of a goat when I see a native leisurely masticating these *kat* twigs, which are chewed to stimulate wakefulness, relieve fatigue, and produce pleasant hallucinations.

My main adventure in Harar was a lion

* See "The Flower of Paradise," in the NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC MAGAZINE for August, 1917.



ETHIOPIA'S FLAG WAVES OVER A FRONTIER SOME 3,000 MILES LONG

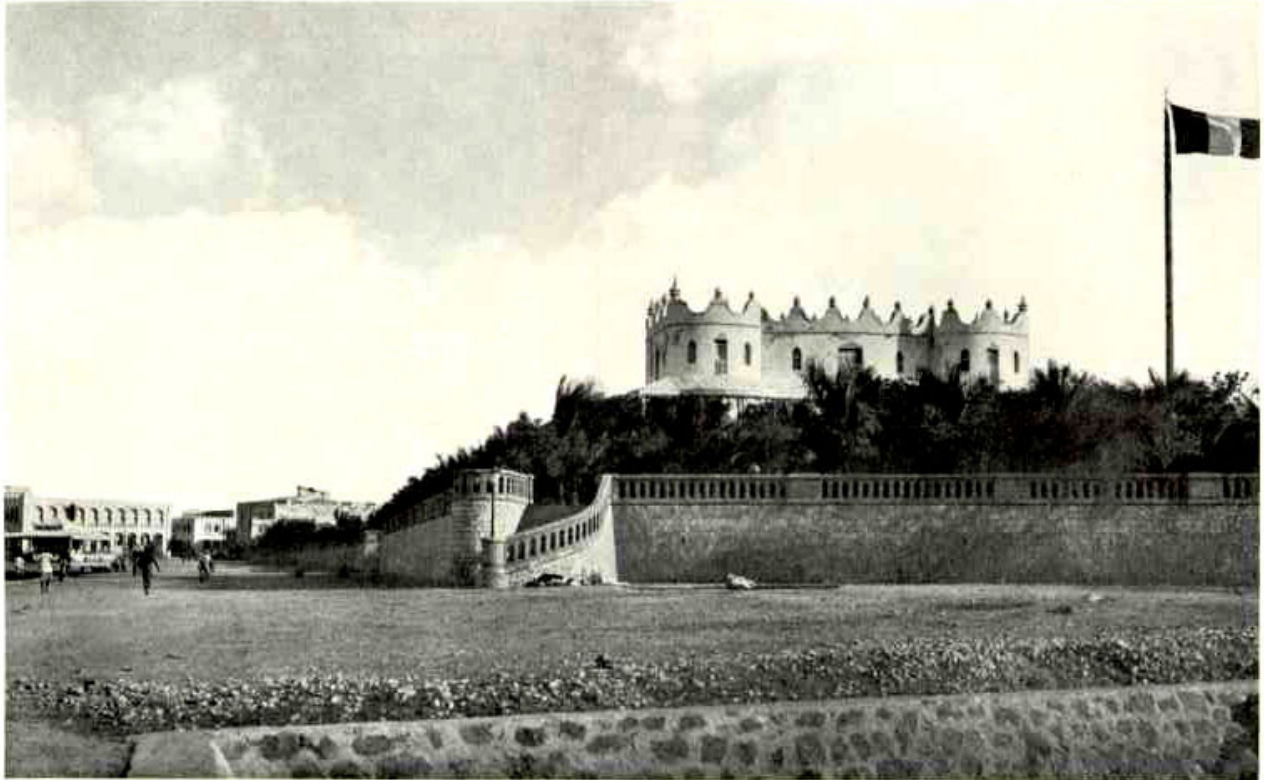
The Empire has British, Italian, and French neighbors, the first holding about 2,000 miles of boundary and Italy most of the remainder, only about 200 miles being French (see map, opposite page). A train halt at an Ethiopian gendarme post, with the green-yellow-red banner flying (see, also, Color Plates X and XIV), on the Ethiopian-French Somaliland frontier.



Photographs by Addison E. Southard

ETHIOPIA HAS ONLY ONE RAIL LINK WITH THE OUTSIDE WORLD

The 500-mile-long Franco-Ethiopian Railway connects Addis Ababa, the capital, with Djibouti, in French Somaliland. Formerly only two trains a week were run in each direction, the trip requiring three days, with stop-overs at night; now there is also a 36-hour "through express."



Photograph by Addison E. Southard

THE GOVERNOR'S RESIDENCE AT DJIBOUTI, FRONT-DOOR ENTRANCE TO ETHIOPIA

Though it is the port, the capital, and the only town of any size in French Somaliland, the "Queen of the Sands" derives its main importance from the fact that it is the base of the railway from the seacoast directly inland to the capital of Ethiopia. The Empire carries on internal trade by caravan, but most of its foreign commerce passes through this French port (see, also, text, page 696). It is also headquarters for an Ethiopian consul, who gives prospective visitors their visas.



Photograph by Salisbury from Galloway

PROUD OF HIS WARLIKE HERITAGE

The Ethiopians start carrying arms at an early age and love to play at soldiers.



© Alex Stöcker

HOW WILL YOU HAVE YOUR EGG?

The ostrich egg which this cook will serve to her master's family is equal to 24 chicken eggs.



© Alex Stöcker

REFRESHMENT VENDERS INSIST ON CASH IN ADVANCE

Third-class passengers, on the way from Djibouti to Addis Ababa, are bargaining for the cactus pears, tea and coffee, eggs, bread, camel's or goat's milk, and sugar cane sold at a way station. Sometimes the hungry traveler "forgets" to pay for his purchase, or else the train pulls off before change has been made; therefore the vendors, a canny lot, demand that payment be made before delivery of goods (see, also, text, page 699).

hunt. Though not fruitless, it was not sufficiently successful to merit accurate recording. I like big figures. But there are plenty of lions not far from the old walled town. They are the fine black-maned fellows so alluring to the big-game hunter. Probably other kinds can chew one up just as thoroughly, but the Harar fellow is particularly respected.

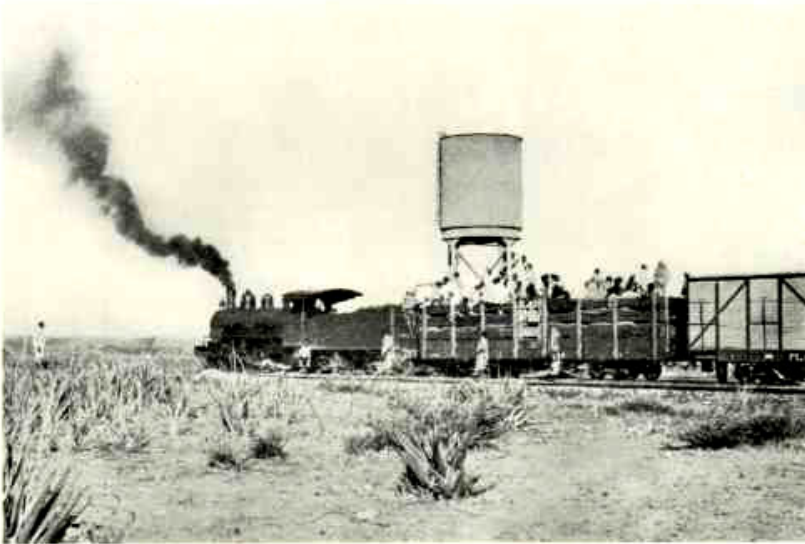
When an Ethiopian kills a lion, he has the right to demand a special audience from the Emperor during which to declaim and act out the feat. Afterwards he is privileged to wear the mane and skin as part of his warrior dress.

Resumption of the railway journey from Diredawa is at early dawn. For many reasons trains in this part of the world do not operate frequently at night. In the days of my first trip over the line the nomadic tribes domiciled along certain sections of the right of way were not averse to the entertainment afforded by a train jumping the tracks, and they enjoyed arranging such spectacles, particularly at

night. These playful practices have been much discouraged in recent years, along with others which once upon a time added to the hazards of travel in Ethiopia.

The days are probably gone forever when a doughty warrior would actually attempt to distinguish himself by attacking a moving engine head-on with spear and shield. The son of the desert has had to give up so many diversions that his life must have become somewhat monotonous. But better times are coming; the radio and popular-priced cinema are in the offing.

Wild and domesticated animals still roam more or less freely at night in these sparsely settled parts of the Franco-Ethiopian Railway zone. They frequently happen on the right of way and generally do not appreciate the nature of a railway locomotive until too late. The "fire-wagons" themselves do not always escape unscathed in collision with a rhinoceros, a large antelope, or a camel or hefty bullock from the semidomesticated herds untrammelled by fences.



A GREAT LARK FOR THE ETHIOPIAN SOLDIER

If more than one feudal chieftain boards the train for Addis Ababa, sometimes there is not enough room in the coaches for their soldiers, who must then climb into open freight cars or even ride on top of the train (see, also, text, page 714). A stop for water at a tank station.



Photographs by Adhwin E. Southard

THE RAILWAY STATION AT Diredawa, END OF THE FIRST DAY'S TRIP TO
ADDIS ABABA

This flourishing little town is the first of importance after the train from Djibouti enters Ethiopia. Originally the terminus of the railroad, it contains a number of well-built houses which were put up for the officials of the company. Adjoining the station is an Ethiopian customhouse (see, also, text, page 700).



© Alex Stocker

AN ETHIOPIAN FILM STAR AND HER CAMERAMAN

Motion pictures have not as yet captured the Ethiopian public, though they are shown occasionally in the capital. The Emperor sometimes has private showings of travel films made by visitors to his country, and also feature films. Since the coronation, he has enjoyed "The King of Kings," "Ben Hur," and Admiral Byrd's Antarctic film, the first two because of their religious appeal to a Christian nation, the last because of its outstanding significance.



Photograph by Addison E. Southard

FOOD AND QUARTERS ARE OF THE SIMPLEST AT AWASH STATION

After two days by rail from Djibouti, the traveler spends the night here before proceeding to Addis Ababa, unless he is traveling on the "through express" (see text, page 714). The station consists chiefly of a small railway yard, a low brick building which serves as hotel, some scattered native shacks, and numerous cats. Sportsmen find Awash a good shooting center.



Photograph by Addison E. Southard

THE MARKET PLACE IS THE FOCAL POINT OF LIFE IN THE CAPITAL CITY

Crude shelters against the sun are erected, and beneath and around them crowds a heterogeneous mass of men, women, and children of various races (see, also, pages 710, 711, 712, and 713).

Camels in particular, according to my personal observation, make a great deal of noise when struck by a locomotive, and are not displaced from the right of way without considerable shock to a train moving at even the reasonable speed favored in Ethiopia.

"Yes," replied a railway inspector to my obvious question, "we pay, and always the price of the most valuable camel of the herd."

This second day's journey on the railway is in Ethiopian-governed territory, but not in Ethiopia proper. Many families of huge, dog-faced baboons cross the right of way as the train approaches. They

are not caught by the locomotive. But 50 feet away from the train, 40 or 50 of the bigger fellows turn impudently to watch and grimace.

Fellow passengers are becoming more interesting. An occasional Ethiopian feudal chieftain, or *Dejazmatch*, sent down to rule this territory conquered by the late Emperor Menelik II, boards the train with his followers. He is usually *en route* to Addis Ababa for conference, discipline, or other purposes, at command of the King of Kings.

Responsibility often comes with age in Ethiopia. These *dejazmatches* are, therefore, usually elderly men. Many are more



ETHIOPIANS SELL HONEY IN GOATSKIN BAGS INSTEAD OF ONE-POUND COMBS

The sweet finds ready sale in the Addis Ababa bazaar, as *tej*, a native fermented drink, is made from it (see, also, text, page 724).



Photographs by W. Robert Moore

WOMEN ARE THE PREDOMINANT SALES FORCE IN THE MARKETS

A large portion of the Addis Ababa bazaar, where 15,000 to 20,000 people gather to barter, buy, and sell every Saturday, is an outdoor market. Some of the sellers utilize small native umbrellas, as does the woman to the left, to protect themselves from the brilliant sunshine (see, also, illustrations, pages 709, 712, and 713).



Photograph by W. Robert Moore

SUCH TRANSPORTATION REQUIRES STRONG HEADWORK

Large quantities of hides and skins, which form an important export of Ethiopia, are brought into the Addis Ababa bazaars to be dispatched by rail to Djibouti for shipment abroad.



Photograph by Adolton E. Southard

GALLA WOMEN THROUGH THE CAPITAL MARKET

They belong to one of the branches of Ethiopia's chief subject race. These women are Moslems, but most of the Gallas are pagans. The Gallas in the Addis Ababa region are less interesting than their wilder brethren, for they have lost many of their former customs and practices and have tended to assimilate to some extent with their Ethiopian conquerors.



Photograph by Adolphe E. Sauthard

RETAILLING AMERICAN COTTON CLOTH AT ADDIS ABABA

Though Japanese textiles have cut into the market formerly dominated by American fabrics, cotton goods are still known as "American" to the native. Much cotton sheeting is used for that distinctive feature of the Ethiopian costume known as the *chamma*, a long strip of cloth worn on the order of the Roman toga (see Color Plates VII and XV).



© Alex Stöcker

THE SELLER OF SALT IS A MAN OF IMPORTANCE

So scarce, and therefore so precious, is salt in Ethiopia that a special quarter of the market at Addis Ababa is reserved for salt merchants. Bars of salt are used as currency in some parts of the country (see "A Caravan Journey Through Abyssinia," by Harry V. Harlan, in the NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC MAGAZINE for June, 1925.)



Photograph by Alfred M. Bailey

THE CREDITOR LEADS HIS DEBTOR ABOUT ON A CHAIN

When a man owes another money, the creditor has the delinquent delivered into his hands and decides whether the chain shall be riveted about the latter's ankle, wrist, or waist. The association continues until the debt is discharged, and often the two seem to derive considerable enjoyment out of it (see, also, text, page 728).



© Alex Stöckel

SPEARHEADS FOR SALE!

Among the objects displayed in the Addis Ababa market are these scavengings of a proud and eminently warlike people. Many Ethiopians still carry a spear, though rifles are displacing these older weapons (see, also, Color Plate XIV). One of their few forms of amusement is spear-throwing, in which they are very skillful.

than six feet tall. With their grizzled and sacred whiskers and with voluminous white cotton mantles thrown togawise over their shoulders, they are magnificent specimens of feudal chieftainship.

TO THE CHIEFS, LARGE ARMIES MAKE
GREAT COUNTRIES

Most of them, as befits leaders of mountain warriors, are interested only in things military. The first question they ask me is how many soldiers the United States has. They have heard, they say, that America is a great and fine country and it must, therefore, have many soldiers. More than one of my friends among these feudal barons has been disappointed to learn that I am not a soldier, either by birth or adaptation.

The military is one of the two supreme castes in Ethiopia. The other is the clergy, which holds the balance of power.

When more than one feudal chieftain is *en route* to Addis Ababa, the slow-moving train takes on an animated appearance. Each leader must be accompanied by a goodly number of his soldiers. If there is not room inside, the soldiers climb into open freight trucks and even on top of the cars for their free ride to Addis Ababa. The trip is for them a great lark. Ordinarily they have to walk.

The second night of the three-day train journey is passed on the banks of the Awash River, one of the peculiar streams of the world. At this point it is a swiftly flowing river in a deep canyon. Rising on the Ethiopian plateau, it turns northeastward toward the Red Sea, but loses itself in the Danakil lowlands short of its natural destination.

Awash consists mainly of a small railway yard, a one-story brick building housing a hotel under quasi-Hellenic management, a scattering of native shacks, and many cats (see page 708).

MOSQUITO NET IS ESSENTIAL EQUIPMENT
FOR THE TRAVELER

Food and accommodations are simple. The most essential thing is a good mosquito net. Even in Awash the old-time tale of the trio formation of mosquito operation is familiar. Once a human victim is located behind what he fondly believes to be net protection, two of the "musketeers," one on each side of a mesh, stretch it for the entry of the third. This

operation, twice repeated, opens the way for the important part of the night's work.

The train gets under way again next morning at dawn and rolls through lovely grass and forest lands, where gallop many herds of gazelles and antelope. I once counted in 20 minutes seven different herds. Occasionally one sees the dark blur of a rhino breakfasting on the far side of the Awash River canyon.

About 4 o'clock in the afternoon of this third day the sprawling capital city of Addis Ababa is sighted in a forest of blue-gum trees, across a rolling, grassy plain some 20 miles from where the train first climbs to the final level of 8,100 feet from the Akaki River valley.

The background of the city is church-crowned Mount Intotto, once heavily wooded and a convenient source of firewood, which attracted the early settler. Some years ago, when most of the original juniper and acacia forest had been cut away, it was proposed to remove Addis Ababa to a new and wooded location, as many another Ethiopian capital had been moved in past centuries.

SCIENTIFIC FORESTRY SAVED ADDIS ABABA

The change was avoided, however, by Emperor Menelik's introduction, at the suggestion of his foreign advisers, of the quick-growing eucalyptus, or blue gum. The Emperor directed his subjects to plant eucalyptus, cut only trees designated by his officers, and replace all fallen trees by seedlings. Menelik never had to give an order a second time.

As a result of the monarch's foresight, Addis Ababa to-day has a forest which furnishes an ample and practically self-perpetuating supply of firewood. Incidentally, the trees provide a break against the strong, bleak winds that sweep at times over the high plateau upon which the capital city is situated.

The one-story frame buildings which formerly made up the railway station and customs depot at Addis Ababa have been replaced by handsome stone structures opened in 1929. Familiar sights at the station are the bales of hides and skins collected from the interior provinces for export to Europe and America; stacks of coffee bags; piles of elephant tusks, and bales of American cotton piece goods, which are a principal import.

PRESENT DAY SCENES IN THE WORLD'S OLDEST EMPIRE



ONE FOURTH OF ETHIOPIA'S MAJORITY SERVES THE COPTIC CHURCH

Clergymen attached to the St. George Cathedral in their full ceremonial robes worn during the recent coronation at Addis Ababa. The church has always been the educational force of Ethiopia. Sacred literature is written in ancient Ge'ez.



© National Geographic Society Natural Color Photographs by W. Robert Moore

WARFARE HAS BEEN THEIR CHIEF OCCUPATION

Approximately 100,000 soldiers were encamped in Addis Ababa during the coronation ceremonies (see, also, Color Plates V and VI).



© National Geographic Society
 OLD WARRIORS GUARD THE FORMER EMPEROR'S TOMB

King Menelik II gained the reverence of his subjects because he ruled his country with a firm hand and a loving heart. His mausoleum is one of the finest buildings in the Capital. It is the custom for a visiting diplomat to place a wreath at the tomb.



Natural Color Photographs by W. Robert Moore
 MUSIC GLADDENS THE ETHIOPIAN'S HEART

Itinerant Walamo musicians produce queer airs on their long pipes of bamboo and animal horns. The interesting music produced by the combination of the different pipes is often accompanied by dancing. The drum provides the cadence.



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A STREET SCENE DURING THE CORONATION FESTIVITIES

Natural Color Photograph by W. Robert Moore

The gilded rhinoceros shields and brilliant capes give a hint of the magnificent spectacle presented on all of the streets of Addis Ababa along which the royal procession passed when visiting the chief metropolitan churches to render thanks, two days after the coronation.



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RICH PLATEAU LANDS NORTH OF ADDIS ABABA

Natural Color Photograph by W. Robert Moore

Due to the different elevations in Ethiopia, it is possible to produce a variety of excellent crops in spite of the primitive methods of agriculture employed. Round *tobols*, or native homes, with their low mud walls and peaked thatch roofs dot the landscape.



© National Geographic Society

A MODERNISTIC BRUSH DEPICTS AN ANCIENT LEGEND

Natural Color Photograph by W. Robert Moore

The crude painting on muslin exhibited by these Ethiopian boys portrays the supposed visit of Makeda, the Queen of Sheba, to King Solomon at Jerusalem, whither she had gone to see his courtly splendor and test him with difficult questions. The present ruler traces his ancestry to Menelik I, who is credited as being the son of Solomon and the Queen of Sheba.



GUN BEARERS TO AN ETHIOPIAN CHIEF

Nearly every man in Ethiopia carries a rifle. When the gun is carried covered, it belongs to the bearer's master; if uncovered, the bearer is the owner. Cartridges are a medium of exchange in the interior.



© National Geographic Society

Natural Color Photographs by W. Robert Moore

A STRINGED TRIO PRODUCES STRANGE HARMONY

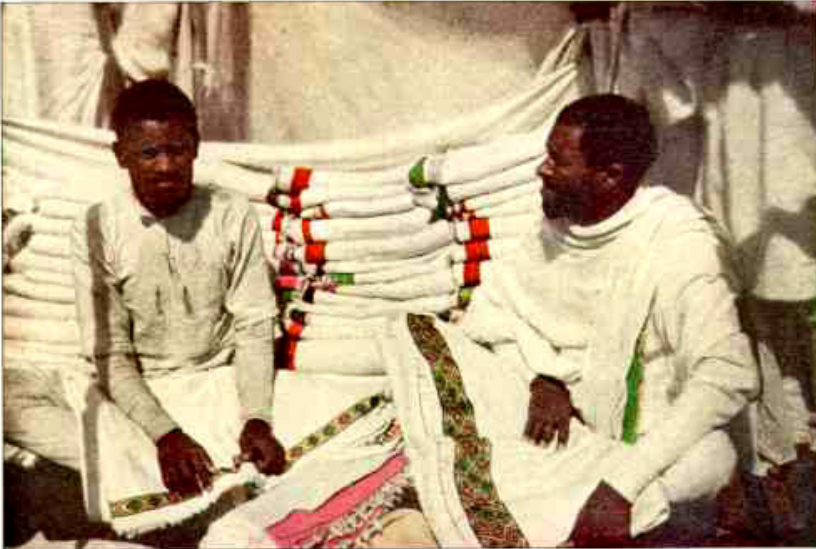
The musician in the center bows his single horsehair string, while the men on each side use a bit of leather to pick their several stringed instruments, which utilize enameled "soup plates" with hide stretched across them as sounding boxes.

PRESENT DAY SCENES IN THE WORLD'S OLDEST EMPIRE



THIS "DE LUXE SPORT ROADSTER" HAS ONLY A RUMBLE SEAT

Mule back is the popular means of transport throughout Ethiopia. The trappings of the mounts are always elaborate, and increase in value in the ratio of the rank and wealth of the owner (see, also, Color Plate XVI).



© National Geographic Society

Natural Color Photographs by W. Robert Moore

"CILAMMAS" ARE SOLD IN OPEN MARKET STALLS

Comparatively little cotton is grown in Ethiopia, so most of the cotton goods come from the United States, Japan and England. At one time the United States exported almost all the cotton sheeting used by the country for clothing.



COLOR CONTRASTS IN A SURVEY CARAVAN

Members of an American party which left Addis Ababa on October 28, 1930, to survey the Lake Tsana district preparatory to building a barrage across the Blue Nile, to regulate the flow of water through Western Ethiopia.



© National Geographic Society

Natural Color Photographs by W. Robert Moore

PRODUCTS WHICH SHOULD ATTRACT THE BUYER'S EYE
Examples of native basket weaving on sale in the Addis Ababa market.

Not infrequently huge packing cases containing Detroit's important contribution to our foreign trade are piled on the station platform, for American motor vehicles are in great favor in Ethiopia. American chewing gum is growing in popularity, too, but not yet in such large packing cases.

A ride of 20 minutes on mule- or horse-back, or five minutes by motor, takes the arriving traveler to the main part of the city of the "New Flower."

On one of the two principal elevations of Addis Ababa is the ever-interesting market place. Here once stood the often-described great tree which served for generations as a gibbet. I have been told that in bygone days it sometimes bore as many as seven criminals, generally thieves, but of its ghastly fruit I never saw more than two hanging on one occasion. All of this was, of course, years ago. The famous tree has made way in recent years for a fine equestrian statue of the late Emperor Menelik (see Color Plate VIII).

Addis Ababa has good streets and no "across the railway tracks" quarter. It has also legations, consulates, hotels, many American motor cars, airplanes of sorts, and some presentable business buildings. The population approaches 200,000, of whom at least 5,000 are foreigners. There are 50 Americans in the country.

HAILE SELASSIE, ONCE RAS TAFARI, IS EVERY INCH AN EMPEROR

The other main elevation of Addis Ababa is crowned by the group of buildings which make up the Imperial Palace. The most imposing edifice on this designated "Hill of the Gebbi" is the Audience Hall of the Conquering Lion of the Tribe of Judah, constructed of stone and given its high-sounding title by order of the late Emperor Menelik.

Menelik pleased himself with the title of "Conquering Lion of the Tribe of Judah," which he claimed by virtue of his descent from that first Menelik who was born to Sheba after her visit to Solomon.

The present and recently crowned ruler of Ethiopia is perhaps better known by his former title of Ras Tafari Makonnen. He is a son of the late Ras Makonnen of Harar, the most powerful of Ethiopia's feudal princes in Menelik's time and the principal supporter of the latter as King of Kings.

The new Emperor is only 39 years old, slight of build, and of a decidedly Semitic cast of countenance, which is enhanced by a full beard and a mustache. His personality is particularly engaging and he is famous for his hospitality. French he speaks well; English, a little.*

ANCIENT EMPIRE TO BE MODERNIZED

His Majesty has progressive ideas for modernizing the ancient and richly endowed empire over which he rules. This modernization, which he has frequently discussed with me, he hopes to carry on to an important extent with the advice and aid of citizens of the United States. He is a remarkable man in many ways. After 14 years of his friendship, I am firm in my belief that he is, from all viewpoints, a ruler of whom any country might well be proud.

From time to time Ethiopian students have been sent by their ruler to the United States for schooling. There are five in American colleges at present. Returned Ethiopian students have persuaded the Emperor to engage one of their former American professors as educational adviser to this government and he is already on the job.

Haile Selassie was an apprentice emperor for several years. He became Prince Regent in 1916. For several years after that time, in association with the Empress Zauditu (Judith) and the Fetawrari Hapta Giorgis, he was the practical ruler of the country. Judith, the comely but somewhat elderly daughter of Emperor Menelik II, died on April 2, 1930. Hapta Giorgis was Menelik's hearty old cavalry general and a famous Ethiopian, who would never consent to ride either in a railway train or a motor car. He died in December, 1926. I knew and admired both Judith and Hapta Giorgis.

The Emperor Menelik nominated a grandson, Lidj Yasu, as his successor. Yasu (Joseph) was never crowned, however, and was deposed in 1916 because of an alleged move on his part to substitute Islam for Christianity as the Ethiopian State religion. He is now a political prisoner, but apparently no longer important.

* See, also, in the NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC MAGAZINE, "A Caravan Journey Through Abyssinia," by Harry V. Harlan, June, 1925, and "Nature and Man in Ethiopia," by Wilfred H. Osgood, August, 1928.



Photograph by W. Robert Moore

ANCIENT TRANSPORT OF MODERN PRODUCTS

Corrugated iron is used as roofing on the modern buildings in Addis Ababa, and is carried into the interior on camel- and mule-back to replace the thatch on native *tukuls*, or huts.

Succession to the throne in Ethiopia is inherited as to family, but not necessarily as to individual. The strongest or most astute prince of the family rather than the one in most direct descent may, and often does, succeed to the imperial crown. Succession is, of course, usually limited to one of the royal line of Solomon, of which the present Emperor is an illustrious member.

FEUDAL BARONS STILL HAVE POWER

Primogeniture does not apply necessarily in Ethiopia in the royal family, with the nobility, or even among the families of lesser note. The feudal chieftains have been a law unto themselves, and up to at least recent times might have been compared in their activities to the great barons of Norman times. Their power has waned much of late, but it is doubtful even yet whether any prince might succeed to the imperial throne if he were opposed by a majority of them. Feudalism appears, however, under the new order in Ethiopia, to be doomed.

In these recent years of transition in Ethiopia I have seen many changes, polit-

ical, social, and otherwise. Not the least interesting of these changes may be observed in the attitude of increasing disfavor toward strong drink.

Even so great a man as the late Fetawrari Hapta Giorgis reserved as a special honor to a guest the offering of his famous and inspiring *tej* in a rhinoceros-horn cup, a beaker, as I remember it, of amazing capacity.

Tej and *talla* are native beverages to which much alcoholic vigor is imparted by fermented honey. *Tej*, the national Ethiopian drink, is essentially a home brew, made usually by the wife, daughters, or servants of the household.

Many of the leading families pride themselves upon *tej* made after old recipes handed down from generation to generation. That made in the household of Hapta Giorgis was famous for its quality. The old warrior's favorite garden of the *qeshu* plant, the leaves of which are used in *tej* fermentation, may still be seen in the grounds of the American Legation in Addis Ababa. It is now the home of a pair or two of hyenas.



Photograph by W. Robert Moore

MORNING CUSTOMERS AT THE OUTDOOR GRAIN AND FLOUR STALLS IN ADDIS ABABA
Among the grains for sale is *teff*, which is much used in making flat, brown slabs of bread having the taste and consistency of soggy, sour pancake.

Other sorts of brewed and distilled liquors are made in Ethiopian households, but there is as yet little commercialized form of manufacture. Imported liquors are favored by some, particularly by the Ethiopian soldier, who appears to dote on the more furious joys of imported Greek brandy, which is reasonably cheap and unreasonably potent. However, the upper classes of Ethiopians of the newer generation are becoming more and more temperate in their use of alcohol.

Ras Kassa, second in rank only to the Emperor as a member of the royal line of Solomon, has even considered the proposal of temperance laws for Ethiopia. His Highness not long ago asked the American Legation to obtain for him from the United States copies of some of our prohibition regulations.

The Ethiopian in general is not a user of tobacco. He neither smokes nor chews the weed. Smoking in the presence of most Ethiopians is not good form, as I learned many years ago. I have been told

that as recently as the first half of the last century there were Ethiopian rulers who so objected to tobacco that they ordered the mutilation of the lips of any subject caught smoking.

Foreign manufacturers of cigarettes continue in their efforts to cultivate an Ethiopian market, but thus far without signal success.

In my social calls upon Ethiopian families I have been much impressed with the number of culinary uses for red pepper of a superlatively scaring effect upon the tongue and "innards" of the uninitiated. In my opinion, tabasco sauce would be regarded in Ethiopia as a rather mild condiment.

RAW-MEAT EATING IS LARGELY CEREMONIAL

Ethiopia produces many fine beef cattle and the people are great meat eaters. They have what might be called a ceremonial custom of eating a bit of raw beef as a sort of *hors d'œuvre*. The practice



Photograph by W. Robert Moore

HAIR-CUTTING TO HARMONY

Perhaps the music makes the ordeal less trying for the woman who is having the back of her head shaved with a razor blade and a piece of broken bottle. Some women wear their hair in high pompadours, some shaved in back, and some plaited in various styles, depending upon their position or the racial group to which they belong (see, also, page 729).

apparently has led many an amateur, as well as professional writer, in search of the sensational to devote much space to an allegedly deep-rooted taste of the Ethiopian for his beef raw, warm and quivering, as it comes from the freshly butchered animal. Such writers have even been known to stage raw-meat feasts for photographic purposes.

I cannot corroborate their statements from my own somewhat unusual opportunities for observation of Ethiopian appetite. Here, as in other countries, only an occasional palate fancies the taste of raw meat. I remember having seen a "raw Hamburger sandwich" consumed with apparent gusto both in Europe and America. The Ethiopian who likes a bit of meat raw doesn't chop it up with onions, etc., but he often passes the morsel through a bowl of sauce made principally of red pepper and oil.

Ethiopians tell me that the opening of a ceremonial feast with bits of raw meat is a tribute to tradition coming down from the times when the country was nearly en-

gulfed by the Mohanmedan invasion of several centuries ago. Ethiopian soldiers, hard pressed by the enemy, hid in the forests, where they could not make fires for fear of betrayal by the smoke. Since they could not cook their meat, it was, perforce, eaten raw. At great feasts, particularly among the soldiers, a first course of raw meat is often served as a historical tribute to those perilous early times.

LITIGATION IS A FAVORITE OUTDOOR SPORT

Ethiopians appear to enjoy litigation, whether friendly or otherwise, and it is more often friendly than otherwise. One of the important centers of the market place in Addis Ababa and in other large towns is the courthouse. It consists usually of a sizable wooden booth, with benches on three sides for the judges and their friends. The fourth side is entirely open to the market ground. In front of this open side gather those who have complaints to be heard. They are given all the time they desire to argue their own cases, for time is of small import in Ethiopia.



Photograph by Salisbury from Galloway

THUS DAVID DANCED BEFORE THE ARK

In their services the Coptic priests often encircle the church dancing, or dance before it, like the Jews of old. Music is provided by enormous drums, beaten with the flat of the hand and by the shaking of small brass sistras similar to those used by Egyptian priests in the Temple of Isis. The long wands are praying sticks.

When I inquired which were the lawyers, I was told that in Ethiopia every man is his own lawyer, if he desires. Individuals may, by the custom of the country, call, "in the name of the Emperor," upon any passer-by to sit in judgment on their differences. The opposing parties then proceed to argue. In their interest and excitement they often rise to somewhat startling vocal and physical efforts. Their enjoyment is obvious.

The extemporized judge eventually gives his decision, which may or may not be accepted. If it is not acceptable, the case is carried to the Government courts. Here justice is dispensed much less expeditiously and, of course, more expensively.

Following the trails of Ethiopia, I have frequently come across these impromptu roadside courts. They are both interesting and amusing, to judge from the expressions of the native onlookers, who can follow the argument and exchange of Amharic imprecations without an interpreter's aid. For participants as well as for onlookers, these spirited court proceedings seem to

have almost the status of a national sport of the masses, and the trials are popular social events.

DEBTORS LED ABOUT ON A CHAIN ENJOY THEIR LOT

Criminal cases, of course, are tried by officially constituted judges. They are usually brief and to the point. Theft is one of the more heinous crimes. According to the old Ethiopian law, a first conviction results in the amputation of the left hand. A second costs the thief his right foot, a third the right hand, and a fourth the remaining foot. These penalties have been much softened under the rule of the present sovereign, but they are still legal.

Cases between foreigners are tried in the consular court of the defendant. Cases between foreigners and Ethiopians are tried in a special court, in which the consul of the foreigner sits with the Ethiopian judge. European lawyers practice in the consular courts and in this special Ethiopian court. Justice becomes more expensive.



Photograph by W. Robert Moore

ETHIOPIAN MUSIC HATH CHARMS

Of the various types of musical instruments of the Empire, this large harp produces the most pleasing notes (see, also, Color Plates X and XIV).

If a man owes you money in Ethiopia you can sometimes, upon proof of your case, get him delivered into your hands with a chain riveted about his ankle, wrist, or waist, according to your choice (p. 713).

To see an Ethiopian leading his debtor about on a chain is at first rather offensive to the occidental mind. However, viewpoint changes when it is observed that the two seem to derive considerable social enjoyment out of the association.

Our cook in the Legation not long ago obtained custody of a friend who owed him money. During the performance of the cook's duties in our kitchen his debtor's chain was fastened to a post outside the

door, so that companionship and conversation might continue without interruption. Incidentally, the debtor had to be fed by the creditor—with *our* food! In self-interest we had to take appropriate steps to discontinue the association. Neither the cook nor the debtor was happy about our interference.

The quaint custom of getting one's debtors legally on a chain, as one would have a dog on a leash, is great material for the foreign sensation-monger who wants to prove photographically that "slavery" is rampant in Ethiopia. Such evidence proves nothing more heinous than would photographs of ball-and-chain gangs in the United States.

After leaving the market place in Addis Ababa, we pass near the Cathedral of St. George, built in commemoration of the battle of Adowa, in 1896, and named after the patron saint of Ethiopia. This church, one of the largest in

Ethiopia, displays typical architecture in its seven-cornered form, with a conical roof ending in a point decorated with an ornate gilded cross.

Ethiopia claims to be the oldest Christian sovereign State. The teachings of Christ were introduced about A. D. 330 by two shipwrecked Phœnician youths, Frumentius and Edesius. The former was in time consecrated by the head of the Coptic Church in Alexandria as Bishop of Axum. He comes down to posterity as Saint Frumentius.

Through the centuries since, this close relation with the Coptic Church of Egypt has continued. The Abuna, head of the

Ethiopian State Church, is always a Coptic monk nominated by the Patriarch at Alexandria upon request of the Ethiopian monarch. A substantial fee is paid by the latter for this service.

Some of these abunas have exercised great temporal influence—even to the extent, not so long ago, of excommunicating an Ethiopian ruler. This act was more potent than arms. It thoroughly defeated the allegedly recalcitrant one. The great temporal power of the Ethiopian Church, usually exerted passively rather than actively, is rapidly disappearing, as the old feudal form of government weakens under the assault of modernism; yet even to-day neither emperor nor feudal chieftain finds it wise to oppose the church.

The intense form of Ethiopian Christianity still retains a deep hold on the people. Venerable Abuna Matthew, now dead, once told me, "My Ethiopians are real Christians; they are Monophysite Christians." Explaining that he and his flock were the select brand of Christians who consider Christ as a single nature, he added, "The human and the divine in Him are one." This tenet is, perhaps, the outstanding difference between members of this section of the old Greek Church and other Christians.

Next in command to the Abuna is a native Ethiopian chief priest whose title is *Itchigué*. He is usually appointed from the headship of the very holy monastery at Debra Libanos (Mount Lebanon), Ethiopia.



Photograph by W. Robert Moore

BY THEIR COIFFURES YOU SHALL KNOW THEM

The closely plaited hair of this young woman, who has just come to market, identifies her as a Galla. Her people form some two-thirds of the population of Ethiopia (see, also, page 711).

The present *itchigué*, who is landlord of the American Legation, usually addresses his rent correspondence to me by a letter beginning: "From Gabré Menfes Kedus, elect by the will of the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost, successor to the seat of Takla Haimanot, Son of St. Mark, Servant and Apostle of our Lord Jesus Christ, *Itchigué* and Bishop of Debra Libanos, Bishop Sawiros of the Empire of Ethiopia." That is his full title.

Before they became Christians, the ruling classes of Ethiopians were adherents of Judaism. Their present church ceremonial retains many traces of that great and venerable religion (see page 727).



Photograph by W. Robert Moore

THREE MUSKETEERS OF ETHIOPIA

Observers estimate that one-fifth of the total ruling, or Christian, population of Ethiopia is officially a part of the State Church organization. The monks number about 20,000 and nuns about 5,000. The remainder are mainly priests, deacons, or chanters. A single large church may have as many as 300 priests. There are approximately 15,000 recognized Christian State churches in the empire. There is also an Ethiopian church and monastery in Jerusalem.*

In lieu of regular pay from the Government, a priest may be allotted a piece of land. Unless he can find parishioners sufficiently devoted to plow and cultivate this land for him, he does it himself. He must eat. It is not unusual to see an Ethiopian priest, with his gown tucked up, patiently following a wooden plow drawn by a pair of oxen or perhaps one ox and a donkey.

After the professions of priest and soldier, agriculture is the principal occupation in Ethiopia. The country is very fertile, though methods of cultivation are still primitive. The Government does not per-

mit the free exportation of the main crop of grains. This regulation, presumably, is designed to keep down the cost of living; at least it has that effect.

CIVET CATS OFFER PROFIT AND DIVERSION
TO STOCK RAISERS

In addition to the ordinary kinds of stock, Ethiopian farmers in parts of the country raise civet cats for commercial purposes. From these animals, specially fed in small pens, they obtain a liquid musk marketable to French and American perfumers at \$2 an ounce.

The civet cat is usually of a petulant disposition and objects violently to having his head placed in a crude iron contrivance while the civet is pressed from the glands into a spoon. The liquid civet is stored in bullock horns for export.

The chase is also a commercialized industry in Ethiopia, and naturally ivory heads the list of its products. Veteran hunters and traders say that most of the ivory passing through Addis Ababa comes from elephant herds in the western and southwestern parts of the country. Some is smuggled in from British East Africa, also from the Sudan, but this is mainly immature or from female elephants. The

* See "Color Records from the Changing Life of the Holy City," by Maynard Owen Williams, in the NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC MAGAZINE for December, 1927.



Photograph by W. Robert Moore

THE EMPIRE ALSO HAS ITS BOY SCOUTS

possession of such ivory is illicit under the strict game laws of the adjoining Anglo-African territory, and when tusks are found there they are confiscated by the authorities.

According to local gossips, many fine tusks are buried in the elephant country by native hunters to await a favorable time to get them secretly out of Ethiopia and avoid payment of the Emperor's royalty of a large share of all ivory obtained. In the warehouses of Arabs in Djibouti and Aden I have often recognized, by earth stains on tusks, ivory which has been thus buried.

PURSUIT OF STRAY ELEPHANTS INVOLVES INTERNATIONAL COMPLICATIONS

The pursuit of ivory often leads to frontier difficulties with European neighbors. A certain foreign legation complained to the Emperor about an old feudal chieftain who had gone into their territory for his ivory. This old fellow was called to Addis Ababa for inquiry by the central government into his alleged offense.

He admitted that possibly there had been a frontier intrusion. "But," he argued, "I was only going after Ethiopian elephants which had wandered across the frontier.

I go after my bullock or my mule which strays into the property of another. Why shouldn't I also go after my strayed elephants, which wander even more than do bullocks and mules?"

Many a leopard involuntarily contributes his skin to American feminine fashion. As many as 100,000 of these spotted skins of Ethiopian origin have gone to American furriers in a single year!

Also monkey furs are an item of profitable trade. A shy member of the monkey tribe, called the *guereza*, lives in the trees of the Ethiopian highlands. Their long, silky, black-and-white fur was worn by the Ethiopians as capes until Parisian dress-makers fancied it as a trimming for feminine finery. Then the monkey-fur vogue spread to America and other countries. A good skin costs locally the equivalent of an American dollar. The resulting demand has seriously threatened the extermination of these poor animals, too attractively clothed by Nature.

The King of Kings, a humane and far-seeing ruler, has in late years prohibited the killing of *guerezas*; but, as an old Italian friend of mine in more remote southwestern Ethiopia recently wrote, "still they kills 'em."



Photograph by Alfred M. Bailey

COPTIC PRIESTS DISPLAY RELICS OF A FAMOUS WARRIOR AT DEBRA WERK

They are holding the crown, slippers, shield, and spear that formerly belonged to the warlike ruler Takla Hamanot, once the most powerful man in northern Ethiopia (see "Nature and Man in Ethiopia," in the NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC MAGAZINE for August, 1928). The building in the background is an old church. Many such edifices throughout the country are veritable store-houses of historical relics of early days.

Lately the Ethiopian Government has decided to protect its wild game by requiring the taking out of licenses and payment of hunters' fees. Restrictions will grow. The fees are not high, but they will be a deterrent to the kind of slaughter of former days.

The most costly part of hunting in Ethiopia is not, however, the fee for killing a wild animal. A goat or a bullock accidentally shot costs much more even than an elephant, if the bereaved farmer has his way—and the killer is a foreigner.

CHAPERON TO MISSOURI MULES BECOMES AN IVORY HUNTER

One of the old-time ivory hunters and traders in Ethiopia is an American who was once upon a time a blacksmith "back in the States." His first trip abroad was as escort to a shipload of Missouri mules bound for Liverpool. There he heard of a country "wheab a black man is jes' ez good ez a white man." He came to see it. He is still here, much advanced in

years, but with a Vandyke beard, auriferous teeth, a fair amount of wealth, a regal poise, and possibly more than one helpmate.

In recent years Ethiopia has been the magnet for many ambitious Afro-Americans. Many have come; a few have remained. Fewer still have prospered; but there is always a way of extracting at least small change from an American diplomatic or consular officer to carry on while hope springs eternal.

One who came not long ago had heard that there was plenty of gold here. "But," he reported to me after some desultory and unprofitable prospecting, "these people seem just as fond of gold as they do at home. They don't give a man a chance."

The true Ethiopian is often decidedly dark complexioned and his hair is frequently somewhat more than curly, but he is not a negro. Delvers in ethnological research and traditional history may be found who agree with the Ethiopians' characterization of themselves as the result



Photograph by Harry V. Harlan

THE DEVIL IN A CHURCH AT ANKOBER

The one-time capital of the Kingdom of Shoa, 90 miles northeast of Addis Ababa, has two churches, the most interesting of which is probably from 80 to 100 years old. It is decorated in the gaudiest of modern Ethiopian paintings, representing scenes from the Bible and Ethiopian history (see, also, illustration, page 734). The colors are the brightest that can be obtained from aniline dyes.

of graftings of Arabic and Jewish blood upon original non-negro tribes of north-eastern Africa. I find many of the true Ethiopians to have distinct characteristics of these two great branches of the Semitic race.

Of Hebraic settlement in Ethiopia, the Falasha, or so-called "Black Jews," are a religious remnant. The exact origin of this community, residing just north of Lake Tsana, in Ethiopia, is obscured in mystery. They are as dark as the Ethiopians, but preserve a form of the Jewish faith which probably preceded Christianity as the State religion of the Empire. An organization sponsored by prominent American Hebrews is interested in uplifting the Falasha from their centuries-old isolation.

SCIENCE MAY READ FORGOTTEN HISTORY IN ETHIOPIA

In anthropology and archeology Ethiopia offers much of fascinating interest.

That the ancient Ethiopians were chisellers and benders of stone, the close relation of ancient Ethiopia with Egypt, Palestine, Arabia, and other geographical units of the Red Sea area seems to make reasonably certain. Earlier scientific investigation has been handicapped by the heretofore firmly rooted Ethiopian suspicion of any foreign curiosity. This situation is now much improved.

Incidentally, northern Ethiopia, where ancient history left most of its evidence, is not so accessible as the part of the Empire centering around Addis Ababa. Approach from the north through the Italian colony of Eritrea is good as far as the frontier, for the Italians have built fine roads all over their colony, which actually is the northern tip of the Ethiopian plateau proper.

Massaua, on the Red Sea, is the Eritrean port. From it a railway runs up in the mountains to Asmara, the capital.



© Alex Stricker

AN ETHIOPIAN ARTIST DEPICTS HIS RULER HOLDING COURT

In the background attendants flank the king. In the right center stand priests, who read the law bearing on the cases presented by the man in the center. In the right foreground are prisoners ready for the court. In the immediate foreground a malefactor is being flogged.

From Asmara I have traveled on a beautiful motor road due south to the Ethiopian frontier opposite Adowa.

This highway passes Senafé, the place where the notable Napier expedition (1867-8) first reached the plateau after climbing up from the Red Sea. Here one may see a graveyard wherein are buried several British soldiers, including a colonel whose grave marker indicates that he was a V. C. The historic little burial ground

is now kept in order through the fine courtesy of the officers of an Italian mountain artillery post near by (page 744).

The Napier expedition may be regarded as the real beginning of modern Ethiopia's contact with the outside world. King Theodore of Ethiopia imprudently imprisoned a British consul. British emissaries sent to investigate and remonstrate were also seized and imprisoned by the willful monarch.



ETHIOPIA IS THE HOME OF COFFEE

Arab travelers originally found coffee in the province of Kafa (see map, page 702) and took some back to Arabia. From there it recrossed the Red Sea to Harar, to-day the center of production of cultivated coffee in the Empire (see, also, text, page 701).



Photographs by Addison E. Southard

THE GOVERNMENT COLLECTS ITS EXPORT DUTY IN KIND

The Ethiopians are not great coffee drinkers, so most of the superior plantation crop finds its way to foreign tables, while the wild crop, which grows in the west and southwest, finds a ready market in Egypt. Coffee spread on the ground to dry at the Ethiopian customhouse in Harar.



Photograph by Alfred M. Balley

CROOKED-STICK PLOWING IS DOOMED TO DISAPPEAR

Much of Ethiopia's soil is so fertile that, even with such crude methods and implements, it yields abundantly. Foreigners have introduced some modern machinery, however, and the Government is also taking active interest in improved agriculture.

There resulted the British expedition under Lord Napier, who, assisted and sponsored by an Ethiopian faction opposed to Theodore, invaded the country as far as Magdala, where Theodore, defeated, committed suicide.

The British expedition then withdrew and left their Ethiopian allies to crown the rival Emperor, Johannes, as successor to Theodore.

ETHIOPIA HAS NEVER BEEN CONQUERED

The united Ethiopians have never been defeated in a war. The only foreign invasion of their country which did not come to grief was that led by Lord Napier. His success was based to an important extent upon the large faction in Ethiopia which allied itself with him as a means of defeating Theodore.

Lord Napier took back with him to England one of the Ethiopian royal crowns as well as priceless manuscripts and related material. Many of these relics are in the British Museum and are of intense interest to Ethiopian scholars. A gracious British gesture of recent years was the re-

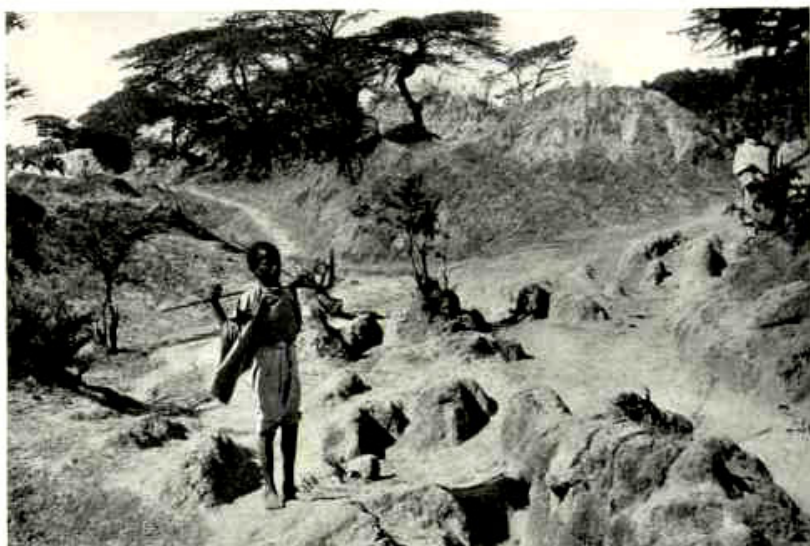
turn to Ethiopia of Theodore's throne and crown.

Egyptian expeditions sent by Ismail Pasha, the Khedive, to extend his frontiers at Ethiopian expense met with defeat in territory which is now Eritrea. I have traversed the battle ground of 1876, where the Egyptians were defeated by the Ethiopians. A member of the Egyptian commander's staff was Loring Pasha, otherwise the Confederate veteran W. W. Loring, who, after the Civil War, took a commission in the Khedive's army.

The natives of Eritrea, mostly Monophysite Christians of the true Ethiopian type, look to Ethiopia as their motherland. Many of them, after education in the excellent Italian schools of Eritrea, come south and take service under the Ethiopian Government.

ETHIOPIA IS A MEMBER OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS

Ethiopia is a member of the League of Nations. It has diplomatic or consular representation either to or from many of the important governments of the world.



Photograph by Harry V. Hatlan

AN ETHIOPIAN ARGUMENT FOR BETTER ROADS

The Empire's highways include 50 miles of macadamized streets, 1,000 miles of miscellaneous roads, 1,000 miles of caravan tracks, and passages over grass fields; but exploitation of the country's natural resources demands a better transport system, and to this end plans are afoot for the construction of highways, especially one to link the capital with the fertile provinces in the west and southwest.

Notwithstanding the reputation of the Ethiopians as a mountaineer warrior race, they appreciate the value of peace. The Government has adhered to the Kellogg Pact. It seeks progress, and modernization of its feudal system of official and social organization. While there is a strong national feeling that Ethiopia should be for the Ethiopians, there is also an appreciation that there is much for them to learn from Europe and America.

The Ethiopian Government is still in form that of an absolute monarchy. "L'état, c'est moi" may quite accurately be remarked by the present Emperor; but Haile Selassie is a broad-minded and progressive ruler. He wants his people to participate in the Government and is taking educational and other steps to that end. I have personal knowledge of his plans to draw and promulgate a constitution as soon as that work can be properly done and adapted to a country and people not yet out of the feudal stage, in which they apparently have for centuries been contented.

The stirrings of republicanism have not yet developed in Ethiopia, nor is there yet any organized internal political opposition to the present Government. The Emperor's intentions for governmental reform are, therefore, entirely voluntary and from the innate goodness of his heart and mind.

HAILE SELASSIE PRIZES AMERICAN FRIENDSHIP

An outstanding impression which I have of this country during the 14 years I have known it first hand is the feeling of friendship and admiration for the United States and its citizens freely expressed by all classes of the dominating Ethiopian element of the population. American visitors to this country, who fortunately are becoming more frequent, are received with courtesy and cordiality.

A very frequent remark of His Imperial Majesty to me is, "We want closer relations with America; we want more Americans to visit us; we want American

assistance in the development of our country." A recent step in this direction is the appointment of an American financial adviser.

The Ethiopians are convinced, and have convinced me since I have lived and traveled in their country, that while modern Ethiopia may not come to be, with respect to our world, what ancient Ethiopia was to the world of Solomon, it does have geographical position and exceptional natural

resources which entitle it definitely to a place in the international spotlight.

My friend the Ethiopian Minister of Foreign Affairs says: "We are the only purely native-governed State in Africa. We have a culture as old as any, with our own literature and our own grammatical language. Our country has the longest continuous history of stable sovereignty in the world."

CORONATION DAYS IN ADDIS ABABA

By W. ROBERT MOORE

Staff Photographer, National Geographic Society

FOR years Ethiopia had high position in the list of special places, selected in my map wanderings at home, which I secretly hoped to visit; yet it seemed highly improbable that I should ever have my hopes fulfilled, when, out in Bangkok, Siam, a fairy waved her wand in the form of a radiogram from the National Geographic Society giving me the assignment of visiting Ethiopia to make a natural-color record of the coronation ceremonies.

I read unbelievably, faltered, and within two weeks had temporarily deserted my family and was on my way to Singapore to embark for Djibouti *en route* to Addis Ababa.

Djibouti, on the French Somali coast, at the west end of the Gulf of Aden, where we disembarked early one morning, is the chief gateway to Ethiopia. After a wait of three days in this sweltering port I proceeded by train to the capital.

DIPLOMATS DON GOLD BRAID AND PLUMES

Our train stopped for a time a short distance outside the city to allow the diplomatic representatives to plunge into the depths of their trunks in the luggage van, so that when they emerged from their cars at the station they appeared in all the gold braid, plumes, and glittering medals of full official dress; for as the various delegations arrived at the capital they were greeted with official honors, in a brief reception at the new railway station, by the Crown Prince and high officials. Then they were escorted by a troop of cavalry to their respective legations or to the homes

they were to occupy during their visit. Upon the arrival of the representatives of the three countries having neighboring colonies—France, England, and Italy—His Majesty the Emperor accorded them a special reception, he being present at the station to welcome them to the city.

After a day or two in Addis Ababa, I attached unto myself a young man, "Friday," to act as interpreter and camera-bearer. His arms proved to be somewhat stronger than his linguistic abilities or his influence in getting various subjects to pose before my camera lens.

But, except for getting himself in police court twice in as many days—once for arising while it was yet dark, in order to come to my hotel on a morning when I was to photograph some priests at early mass, and again for quarreling over changing a bill that I had given him to buy some clean clothes—Friday served me well.

For my own comfort, I considered hiring a mule to ride. But that would have necessitated one or more gun-bearers to make my retinue complete in the sight of the Ethiopians, and, as I had no gun, I had to forego that pleasure and luxury and walk as much as possible to avoid the exorbitant taxi fares.

The taxi men had such a keen desire to let the coronation visitors cover the last payments and the year's overhead expenses on their cars that the Emperor eventually had to issue a bulletin stating the maximum rates that could be charged between various points in the city.

The hotels, too, were pressed to the limit for accommodations, and prices mounted.



Photograph by Salisbury from Galloway

FOLLOWING THE CUSTOM OF THE COUNTRY

No man of importance would think of riding abroad without his retinue trailing along on foot, the number of followers depending upon his rank and station (see, also, illustration, page 740).

But it is not every day that a country may have a coronation.

"NEW FLOWER" IN HOLIDAY MOOD

For the period of the festivities, Addis Ababa, "New Flower," was in full bloom and in a cheerful holiday mood. Many of the streets had been freshly asphalted or metaled; too many, perhaps, were lined on either side with tall eucalyptus picket fences to conceal the native *tukuls* (huts). But everywhere quantities of hunting and flags lent it a colorful air against the general backdrop of green foliage and beneath the clear sky of rare November blue.

Over the main routes that the Emperor was to pass, several great triumphal arches

had been erected. Workmen were still busily engaged in the final completion of the coronation monument, which was being erected on a newly built triangle in the center of the city (see page 700).

On the day preceding the coronation, in the circle in front of St. George's Cathedral, the Emperor, in the presence of diplomatic groups and thousands of his own people, attended the unveiling of the gilded statue portraying his venerable predecessor, Menelik II (see page 687 and Color Plate VIII), and paid tribute to his illustrious great-uncle, whose strict justice and whose iron hand had so effectively quieted the internal strife and had brought a measurable extent of unity in the land.



Photograph by Addison E. Southard

THE ESCORT KEEPS UP WITH THE MULES

The stirrups, being round and small, are held with the big toe only. For ordinary travel, Ethiopians prefer mules to horses, the latter being used by the upper classes chiefly in time of war. The mules are excellent saddle animals, smooth-gaited, sure-footed; many are also fast walkers, even over rough ground (see, also, text, page 700, and illustration, page 739).

It was Menelik, too, who successfully checked the attempts of foreign aggression, and also sought to bring his country, which had been so long isolated, into touch with the progress of the world.

Two days later, in the quiet of the beautiful mausoleum on Palace Hill, while the priests moved about swinging silver-belled censers of fragrant incense, the diplomatic representatives laid wreaths before the tomb of Menelik (see Color Plate X and illustration, page 688) and that of his daughter, the late Empress Zauditu.

As the Ethiopians have maintained their independence through the centuries; so, too, they have been able to maintain their chosen religion, often at the point of the spear. "An island of Christians in a sea of pagans" is the expression once used by Menelik in referring to his country in a letter to the European powers.

THE DAWN OF THE CORONATION CEREMONY

As Sunday, November 2, dawned clear, all in Addis Ababa began to prepare for

the impressive event of the morning. The Emperor and Empress had already spent the hours since the night previous in prayer and meditation with the priests in St. George's Cathedral.

THE THRONE ROOM IS A SCENE OF SPLENDOR

Through the early morning the chanting of praises continued, accompanied by the dancing of the priests with their great pulsating drums, the whole suggestive of the ancient Jewish rites which were in use at the time when King David danced before the Ark of the Covenant (see page 727).

The ritualistic ceremonies of the coronation were performed in a large auditorium, immediately adjacent to the west side of the Cathedral, which had been especially constructed for the occasion to provide adequately for the seating of the 700 officials and guests.

The side walls of the building were of white cloth, decorated only at the pillars with clusters of small flags; the lofty ceiling was formed of orange-yellow cloth



© Alex Stücker

A SERVICE OF LOVE

A pomade of animal fat or rancid butter not only aids in the fashioning of modish coiffures, but also serves to hamper the movements of tiny residents in the hair. A silver or wooden pin is usually worn both as ornament and as "scratcher," but in this group a monkey is giving even better service.

caught in several drapes, and across the entire front rich, gold-shot, red curtains fell in loose folds to separate the inner sanctuary from the main portion of the hall.

Some distance apart, and about one-third of the length of the room from the sanctuary, stood the wide thrones of the Emperor and the Empress, beneath gold-posted canopies surmounted by large golden crowns. The throne at the left, designated for the Emperor, was decorated in scarlet and gold, while that at the right, for Her Majesty, was covered in blue and gold.

On each side of the room, facing the open space between the thrones and the scarlet-covered tables before the sanctuary, upon which reposed the royal insignia, sat the Ethiopian Princes and nobles, accompanied by the diplomatic representatives in a kaleidoscopic display of full official dress. The space back of the thrones was reserved for the other Ethiopian dignitaries and foreign guests.

Long shafts of early morning sunlight streaming through the tall windows and

diffusing through the white side walls lifted out the rich colors of the hangings, the thick floor rugs, and the resplendent costumes, converting the scene into a spectacle of unmatched prismatic beauty. The inner sanctuary, behind the draped red curtains, was suffused with a golden-red light.

Shortly after 7:30 o'clock, His Imperial Majesty, attired in white silk communion robes, entered the ceremonial hall from the church, with an escort of aides and the clergy, and took his place upon the throne. Thereupon the ceremony began (see, also, text, page 679).

HIS MAJESTY MAKES HIS CORONATION VOWS

The liturgy was performed in Arabic by the Abuna, assisted by a Coptic representative of the Alexandrian Patriarch and several Coptic deacons, Ethiopian bishops from the different parts of the country, high priests from the chief monasteries, and a group of the metropolitan clergy (see Color Plate II).



Photograph by Alfred M. Bailey

THE THICK-BILLED RAVEN IS OMNIPRESENT IN THE ETHIOPIAN HIGHLAND

These bold, predacious birds readily attack sick or young animals and are always about camps ready to steal scraps of meat. They have a raucous and far-reaching voice, typical of the raven family.

Before the questioning of the Abuna, the Emperor gave his sacred pledge to uphold the orthodox religion of the Alexandrian Church, to support and administer the laws of the country for the betterment of the people, to maintain the integrity of Ethiopia, and to found schools for developing the spiritual and material welfare of his subjects; and after this he was presented with the royal insignia.

One by one, with the solemn rites and blessings of the high Ethiopian clergy, he received the gold-embroidered scarlet coronation robes, the jeweled sword, imperial gold scepter, the orb, the diamond-encrusted ring, and two gold filigree lances in token of his position and responsibility.

Following ancient custom, as when Samuel anointed David, and Zadok and Nathan anointed Solomon, so the Abuna anointed His Majesty's head with oil, and then placed thereon the crown, made from pure native gold, incrusting with diamonds and emeralds. He then concluded with the words, "That God may make this crown a crown of sanctity and glory. That, by the grace and the blessings which we have

given, you may have an unshaken faith and a pure heart, in order that you may inherit the crown eternal. So be it."

Throughout the whole ritual and the chanting of Psalms, nothing disturbed the impressive solemnity save the staccato ex-haust of low-flying airplanes which circled above. Otherwise the centuries seemed to have slipped suddenly backward into Biblical ritual.

CROWNING THE EMPRESS

In a brief ceremony the Crown Prince pledged to serve and support his father, the Emperor. The princes then made obeisance on bended knee before the Emperor, the assembly applauded their greeting, and the visiting naval band played the national anthem, while outside cannon roared a salute of 101 guns, and cheer after cheer came from thousands of subjects massed in the vicinity of the Cathedral.

As soon as the ceremonies for the Emperor had ended, the Empress, accompanied by her ladies of honor, entered from the right side of the sanctuary and took her throne (see, also, Color Plate I).



Photograph by Alfred M. Bailey

GOATS ARE AMONG THE MOST VALUABLE OF THE ETHIOPIAN FARMER'S POSSESSIONS

Short and smooth-coated animals are kept for meat and milk, while a larger variety grows a long, silky coat used for making cloth. A Galla tribesman can always start a fight by raiding his neighbor's goat herd.

After the chanting of Psalms, she was presented with a ring incusted with diamonds, as a symbol of the faith, and then assumed the scarlet and gold coronation robes.

Taking the Empress's crown from the hands of the Emperor, the Abuna offered the prayer, "O our Lord, place this crown of glory and joy on the brow of thy servant the Empress Manen. Make it a crown of charity, piety, wisdom, and of intelligence. O Heavenly Father, make this crown to be a crown of honor and glory. So be it."

He then placed the crown on her head, after which the Empress advanced toward the throne of the Emperor, bowed, and returned again to her throne.

Again the national anthem was played, the cannon voiced their salute, and the multitude cheered, following the obeisance of the nobles and the applauded greeting of the assembly.

Thereafter Their Majesties removed their crowns and coronation robes and again, in white communion dress, they retired to the inner sanctuary of the Cath-

edral to attend the sacred mass and communion. They later presented themselves in full coronation dress, in company with the high dignitaries and the diplomatic missions, in an outdoor pavilion before the multitude.

Quitting the pavilion shortly after in the State coach (which once did service at the coronation of the Kaiser Wilhelm of Germany), drawn by six bay horses, Their Majesties proceeded through the crowded streets. After reaching the royal palace they received the compliments and the wishes for a long rule from the thirteen visiting foreign delegations.

In a week of festivities given to State and diplomatic dinners, a race meet, and numerous other official functions, two events stand out in brilliant relief—the State procession through the city, when Their Majesties visited the principal metropolitan churches, and the great military review.

Early on Tuesday morning Their Majesties, in full imperial robes of the coronation, with the exception of the crowns, proceeded from the royal palace by State motor car. The streets along the royal



Photograph by Addison E. Southard

ANOTHER SPOT "THAT IS FOREVER ENGLAND" IN ITALIAN ERITREA

The British graveyard at Senafé is a reminder of the Napier Expedition of 1867-8 (see text, page 734), which may be regarded as the real beginning of modern Ethiopia's contact with the outside world. The United States did not send its first diplomatic mission to Ethiopia until 1903. Contacts were allowed to lapse, however, and it was not until 1928 that regular diplomatic relations were reestablished and the author became America's first Minister to the ancient Empire.

route to the various churches of the city were pressed on each side with the multitudes, who waited eagerly to catch a glimpse of the party.

Preceding the royal car were the warrior chiefs in full regalia, with their gorgeous silk tunics, lion-maned headdresses, and collars fluttering in the breeze, as they rode their richly caparisoned mules and horses. The morning sunlight danced and sparkled from their gilt-bound rhinoceros shields and gleaming spears.

Following them came the mounted, red-clad war drummers beating out a march of victory. Companies of warriors in ancient

military attire passed along afoot, preceding the modern khaki-clad infantry. Then came a troop of modern cavalry as the immediate escort to the motor car bearing the royal party, who were shaded from the direct rays of the sun by red and gold parasols (see page 680).

In the company immediately behind Their Majesties were several cars escorting a number of the high State officials, after which came more mounted and unmounted troops, forming in all a magnificent procession upward of a mile in length.

Closing in upon the rear of the procession, the white *chamma*-clad soldiers, who



Photograph by W. Robert Moore

AMERICAN AIDS TO ETHIOPIAN PROGRESS

A survey party to the Lake Tsana district pauses for a few minutes after packing its mule caravan to exchange farewells with the American Minister (second from left) at the American Legation grounds in Addis Ababa (see text, page 686).

had been stationed along the streets, formed a veritable sea of seething rifle barrels, as they marched toward the palace.

A SEA OF FLASHING SHIELDS AND SPEARS

Early on Friday morning the wide plain at the edge of the city became an animated hive of activity, as 100,000 soldiers encamped around it prepared for a military review (see page 685).

It was hardly a military display with cavalry and infantry marching with precise formation in stiff review, to which we of the West are accustomed, but far more informal and spectacular.

Dashing in groups, on horse- and mule-back, with their colorful robes and polished shields and spears flashing in the golden sunlight, the warriors rushed down the plain to the position before the hill on which the Emperor's pavilion was located. Then, with a mad whirl, they would charge up the steep, rocky slope direct toward the Emperor's tent, where, in wild pandemonium, they cried out their past accomplishments and deeds of valor against wild

beast and enemy. How many elephants, how many lions, how many men . . . !

Company after company surged toward the throne, each trying to get nearer, past the guards, who forced them back, to shout their war cries and proclaim their prowess.

The Emperor, dressed in a scarlet and gold military uniform, with a tall lion-mane busby on his head, presented a magnificent appearance, as he sat on his red throne in the richly carpeted pavilion, attended on each side by the diplomatic groups and the high dignitaries in full military dress (see page 681).

Out on the plain, in sure-seated mounting, and moving almost as part of the wild dashing steeds on which they rode, the warriors charged and threw long, slender, wooden spears at fleeing comrades. Theirs it was to live again for the morning, in mimic pageant, the battles that had won for them their lion-mane headdresses and capes (see page 680).

In sharp contrast to the early display of soldiery came the Emperor's well-trained and modernly equipped infantry and cav-



Photograph by Alfred M. Bailey

LAKE TSANA IS THE CHIEF RESERVOIR OF THE BLUE NILE

By means of a dam proposed to be built where the Blue Nile issues from the lake, the waters upon which Egypt depends for so much of its agricultural prosperity can be made to serve more efficiently (see text, page 686). The lake's greatest length and breadth are, respectively, 47 miles and 44 miles; its drainage basin exceeds the area of the State of Connecticut.

alry, which filed past in ordered lines. It is more efficient, perhaps, but certainly not so picturesque as those charging warriors who in the past have maintained the freedom of Ethiopia, but have also caused much internal strife.

THE EMPEROR POSES FOR THE NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

In coöperation with my efforts to picture the coronation in full color for the National Geographic Society, the Emperor, who is a member of The Society, kindly consented to pose in his coronation robes, as poor lighting had precluded the possibility of making the photograph on the day of the actual coronation.

But to secure adequate time during the strenuous ceremonial days of His Majesty and to select the proper position and lightings for my color plates necessitated many

delays. On the late afternoon before I left Addis Ababa, on a last-minute special train which would connect with my steamer at Djibouti, I made the exposures of Their Majesties in the rapidly failing light which all but made color photography impossible (see Color Plates I and II).

In waiting, too, I had the opportunity to see the great open markets again in activity, with from 15,000 to 20,000 people from the provinces bringing in long camel and donkey caravans laden with hides and skins, wax, honey, and other produce to barter and sell in the city.

When at last I departed from the capital, "New Flower" had already shed almost all of the colorful petals of the coronation festivities, but within the calyx of that blossom are the seeds of progress and enlightenment, which should grow and flourish in the long-fallow land of Ethiopia.

