

IN HOLLAND'S BACKWOODS.

HOW THE PEOPLE DRESS AND LIVE IN THE DUTCH COUNTRY DISTRICTS.

Special Correspondence of the Deseret News by Frank G. Carpenter.

If you want to see the Dutch as they are you must go to the backwoods of Holland. You will find there districts where the people dress the same from generation to generation and where their customs are unchanged by the ages. This is so on some of the islands of the Zuider Zee, lying in the mouth of the North Sea and also in north Holland on the edge of the German ocean.

IN THE ZUYDER ZEE.

I took for instance the island of Marken in the Zuider Zee, not far from the great city of Amsterdam. It seems to be another world. The people look as if they had stepped out of a picture upon modern clothing and dress as the Dutch did 50 years ago. The women wear bloomers so full at the hips that you could make a dress skirt out of a pair of trousers. They have blouses or shirt waists of black cloth with big silver buttons running two rows down to the waist, where the trousers are fastened by buttons as large as an after-dinner coffee cup. The trousers stop at the ankles of the calf and below are woolen stockings and shoes.

The women wear gorgeous red and white hats, red bodices and white aprons, which fall to the knees and below are blue or black stockings and shoes. Their caps come down almost to the eyes ending in a fringe of bangs which covers the ears, a curl of hair hanging down each cheek to the chin.

I went out to Marken one day and was the day photographing the people in their homes. I had no trouble in getting good pictures, for every man, woman and child was ready to pose for a camera. The men wore blue or black trousers and a thick cap of hair cut straight off at the neck, a richly embroidered shirt, a roundabout with enormous silver buttons and trousers of velvet which look like enormous bags tied in at the knees.

The Dutch are plain and simple in their ways. They are sober looking, but they can laugh upon occasions, and many of them are hospitable.

A LAND OF SMALL FARMS.

More than half of the farmers of Holland own the lands which they farm, but the holdings are comparatively small. There are not in the whole country 200 farms each containing more than 250 acres, and 80,000 of the farms have each less than 15 acres. Indeed, a large part of Holland is tracts of heath or of swamp and water, which are good for nothing. There are two and one-half million acres in pasture, and more than 600,000 acres in forests, so that the land actually cultivated does not comprise more than one-third of the country.

The people are more devoted to stock farming and dairying than to tilling the soil. The country raises excellent grass, and there are now here something like 1,500,000 cattle, chiefly Holsteins. There are 1,250,000 hogs, more than 500,000 horses, and 750,000 sheep.

ALKMAR AND ITS DUTCH CHEESES.

Some of the chief dairy regions are in the north, and at Alkmar is a famous cheese market, to which the people from 70 or 80 villages bring in their cheese for sale. Each cheese is marked with the initials of its maker. The stock is spread out on waxed cloths, and is bought by wholesale merchants, who ship it to all parts of the world. Holland exported about \$3,000,000 worth of cheese in 1900, the bulk of the product going to England, Belgium, Germany and France.

Thousands of tons of this are sold at Alkmar, the stuff being brought in in wagons over the road, on barges up the canals and by the small farmers in dog carts. The price of cheese makes good bread times in the dairy regions, and by the rise or fall of a cent or so a pound the farmer is happy or miserable.

IN DUTCH DAIRY LAND.

I am surprised to see how well the Dutch care for their cattle. They treat them like children, and are careful that nothing is done to excite or disturb them. On a cold day if in the fields they are blanketed, and when hot the blankets are often kept on as a protection from the flies. The cows are fed in the fields, and the milking is done in the pasture, the farmers claiming that the animals should not be worried by being driven into the stable. On large farms the milk is collected by wagons, and on the small ones the milkmaids often bring it in themselves, using a yoke which fits over the shoulders, with a bucket hung to each end.

In France I found the cattle tied to stakes to keep them from destroying the crops next the pastures. Here in Holland nothing is tethered or watched. There are but few fences, but little canals two or three feet wide take their places. The gate to a field is often a drawbridge, which is let down when the animals pass in or out, but at other times remains up. Other bridges have gates built upon them, and it looks funny to see such gates standing here and there alone in the fields.

THEY ARE THRIFTY.

The farmers are everywhere thrifty. Nothing goes to waste. The haystacks are roofed with boards or thatched in such a way that the thatch can be lowered as the hay is fed out. All woodwork is painted, and rot and rust are not to be seen. Indeed, the only things that show signs of decay here are the windmills, some of which are hundreds of years old. In some cases they have been replaced by steam or oil engines, but they still do a great deal of pumping and grinding. You see them everywhere upon the Dutch landscape; some are huge affairs with arms 30 or more feet long, and great stone or brick towers rising high above the rest of the landscape. Many furnish the power for grist mills. Some saw lumber and others grind flour food for the stock. It takes only two men for a large mill, so that the expense of running is slight. I am told that a large mill costs one or two thousand dollars, and that the smaller ones are much more expensive than the steel structures of a similar kind in America.

MONEY IN BULBS.

The Dutch make money out of gardening, and especially flower gardening. They raise vegetables and fruits for England, but their peaches and pears lack flavor, though they are full of juice. They taste to me much like the fruits of Japan, which has about the same climate.

There are parts of Holland, however, which are just right for flowers. Take the region about Haarlem, where more bulbs are raised than at any place in the world. The soil there is a mixture of sand and loam just fitted for the best of tulips, hyacinths and gladioli. There are syndicates and individuals at Haarlem who do a big business in bulb raising. They have patches of tulips, hyacinths and other bulbs acres in extent. The hyacinths load the air with their perfume and the fields are of such colors that in passing through on the railroad at certain times of the year, you seem to be traveling over a crazy quilt more gorgeous than any ever put together in reality.

There are in all about 2,000 different kinds of tulips raised here, 2,000 varieties of gladioli and 1,700 hyacinths. The bulbs are planted in trenches, with the large plants in the center and the small ones at the side. The varieties are kept separate, each row being labeled with its own name.

The most of the bulbs exported by Holland are raised near Haarlem, and this means an amount equal to about \$3,000,000 annually, much of which comes from the United States.

THE SEAT OF THE TULIP CRAZE.

It was at Haarlem that the best tulips were raised during the great craze, when such bulbs brought their weight in gold. That was about the only time that the Dutch lost their heads, and went wild over speculation. They no longer raised out most of their crops are on an investment basis. During the tulip craze, along about when Boston was started, one Haarlem tulip bulb brought \$1,500, with a team of gray horses and a carriage thrown in, and an Amsterdam bulb was sold for twelve acres of land. Both of these bulbs were of the variety known as the Semper Augustus, of which there were then only two in existence. At the same time other varieties brought enormous sums. Tulip buying was a regular business and men grew rich and poor from the trade. Some Dutch mortgaged their houses to buy tulips, and the loss of a peck of bulgur caused a man's ruin.

A Visit to the Island of Marken in the Zuyder Zee—Dutch Farms and Farming—Small Estates and Low Wages—Among the Dairymen, Where the Cattle Live with the People—How Cows are Cared for A Look at the Alkmar Cheese Market—The Tulip Farms of Haarlem, Which Make Money—Pictures in Pen and Pencil of the Thriftiest and Quaintest People of Europe.



Photographed for the Deseret News by Frank G. Carpenter.

A GROUP OF BLOOMER MEN.

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The Dutch tulips now sell for ordinary prices, but they are still handled on business principles, and both cultivation and marketing have been reduced to a science. The bulbs are set out in September and October. They are carefully cultivated by skilled workmen, many of the farms employing hundreds of hands. They are packed for the market just so and are shipped to seed and flower dealers all over the world.

LOW WAGES.

I doubt if the ordinary Dutch farmer makes money. Take the 50,000 who have less than fifteen acres. They cannot at best produce more than a living. Indeed, some of these are selling their farms and renting others. Lands are high and rents are calculated at about a per cent of the land value.

Wages are very low. A good farm hand can be hired for from 30 to 40 cents a day, and a common price is 20 cents a year, with a suit of clothes and a pair of boots thrown in. Many of the farm hands now go off to Belgium and France at harvest time, so that labor is scarce. There is also an exodus from the country to the cities and the factories, where the wages are higher. Even in the cities the wages paid

CHILD LABOR IN HOLLAND.

In the factories there are also women and children. Children are allowed in the factories at the age of twelve. The little ones go to their labor at 6 o'clock, starting with a cup of coffee and a piece of bread, and coming home to breakfast at 8. They go back an hour later, and are off for dinner from 12 to 1, when they return to complete the day. The wages paid children are but a few cents a day, and boys start into a trade as low as 3 cents a week. There are fixed rules as to apprentices, some shops refusing to take them because they are on laws by which they can learn their trade after they have learned enough to be of value.

Of late, however, technical schools have been established, and the children will have a better chance to learn trades than in the past.

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PARIS BEAUTY IS HERE TO RIDE.



Mlle. Helene Gerardi.

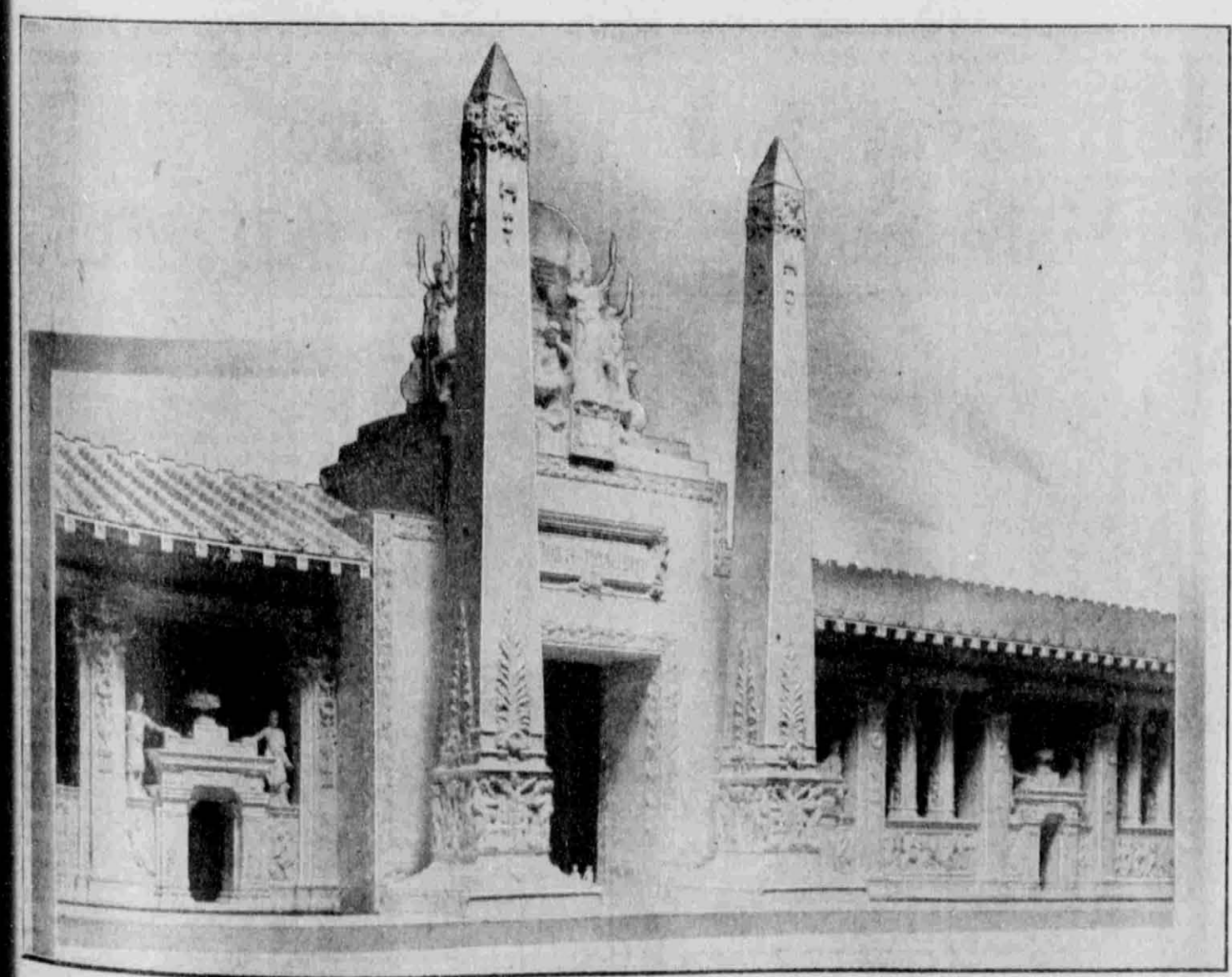
Famous throughout all France for her great beauty as well as for her wonderful skill as a horsewoman, Mlle. Helene Gerardi of Paris is in this country to give exhibitions of horsemanship. For several years she has taught the elite of Paris how to ride side saddle and astride.

EXILE FOR CHEATING GUESTS?



Society in England is still talking about the card scandal among the most exclusive aristocratic set which occurred at a party given by the Duchess of Devonshire. The guests of the duke and duchess caught cheating by their host may be forced to permanent exile on the continent. London is now too hot for them.

PALACE OF MINES AND METALLURGY, ST. LOUIS WORLD'S FAIR, 1904.



(Photographed from architect's model in miniature.)

This building, in which will be placed the exhibits of mineral resources from all nations of the world, together with mining machinery and equipment and metallurgical processes and equipment, is 525 feet wide by 750 feet in length, with an exhibit area of nine acres. Its height to the cornice is 90 feet, and the obelisks at the main entrance rise to a height of 150 feet. The building will cost approximately \$500,000. There are no galleries and the entire exhibit area is on the ground floor. Joseph A. Holmes is chief of this important department.

The design of the splendid Mines and Metallurgy palace at the Universal exposition of St. Louis in 1904, as well as its general and special proportions and arrangement, are peculiarly well adapted for an effective display of exhibits. There are numerous openings in the facades and roof of the structure, admitting light and ventilation, and every foot of the nine acres of floor space is directly available. All of this space is advantageously situated, being compact, symmetrical, well lighted and well distributed according to aisles and entrances—there being not an obstruction column in the building. Most important of all it is all ground floor space. There is not a foot of gallery space in the Mines and Metallurgy building, nor in any other exhibit building of the exposition, a feature that will be welcomed and appreciated by exhibitors and public alike. This marks the first time in the history of the exposition that the facility of gallery space has been effectively recognized and its equivalent in proper ground floor supplied. Whereas there are no galleries in the exhibit buildings at St. Louis, the exhibit space available is of greater area than that provided by any other exposition. The ground covered by the buildings of this exposition approximates 250 acres, almost double that covered by the buildings in Chicago in 1903.