Berlin's Sidewalk Cafes Are Popular.

Prepared by National Geographic Society, Washington, D. C.—WNU Service.

THE baffling element of Berlin's character is its extreme simplicity. One anticipates complexities which do not exist. The city is as unaffected and logical as the language spoken by its inhabitants.

Before one can begin to comprehend what makes Berlin tick, preconceived ideas of capitals must be cast aside. Gradually, out of the confused outlines of the vast mass, emerges a recognizable pattern.

Behold the anomaly of an urban agglomeration with a total population of some 4,220,000, a city which can boast one of the most highly perfected transportation systems in the world, with every convenience contributed by science, and yet which contains within its limits the following:

Twenty thousand cows (providing a third of the milk supply), 30,000 pigs, 10,000 goats, 700,000 chickens, 180,000 rabbits, 5,800 people keeping bees, only three or four buildings that you can find as much as ten stories high, twelve windmills still functioning, and more than 100,000 little gardens, the harvests of which include such imposing yearly figures as 46,000 tons of potatoes and proportionate quantities of other vegetables and grains.

Such items would appear fantastic to the dweller on narrow, rock-ribbed Manhattan.

The Schreber Gartens.

These little "Schreber Gartens" afford city workers easily accessible contact with the land which is so dear to the German heart; they promote bodily fitness through exercise, and minimize food cost.

Beside each garden is a neat little house for storing equipment. Here centers the odd-hour and week-end life of a substantial number of families. During times of crisis, these wee shelters have even housed many who would otherwise have been roofless.

The so-called "Schreber Garten" movement, which has spread to most cities of Germany, was founded in 1864 by a philanthropist who named it in honor of Schreber, a famous physician of that day. The land is owned in some cases by the city, in others by the state, and is furnished to its users (together with implements and seed) at a nominal price.

Trees and rivers, more rivers and more trees. Therein lies Berlin's greatest hold on the hearts of its dwellers.

The two rivers, Havel and Spree (pronounced "Shpray"), with their eccentric twistings and turnings, form a network of waterways which makes it possible to reach many parts of the city by water.

These small streams and their tributaries, connected by canals with the Elbe and the Oder, give communication for transport of freight by steamer and barge to the farthest corners of the land.

Berlin has, except for Duisburg, the largest shipping tonnage of any inland city of Germany. More than five million tons of goods arrived at the port in 1935 and 1,300,000 tons were dispatched.

Through the watery lanes, under gracefully arched bridges—of which Berlin has 1,006, even more than Venice itself!—glide along wooden barges, heavy-laden carriers of coal, building materials, petroleum, and an infinite variety of other products.

Large numbers of fruit barges come in from the provinces, bringing apples, pears, and peaches in their holds. In some cases these loads are marketed directly from the barges, which find mooring at advantageous points within the town.

Berliners Love Trees.

The banks of the rivers are planted densely with trees. Rows of lindens or plane trees line the majority of the streets. The public parks are standing armies of trees in close formation, through which cut beguiling avenues and paths.

The most numerous member of the tree family is the linden. Also in large numbers are found most of our familiar American trees, such as maple, elm, horse chestnut (much beloved by the German), oak, acacia, poplar and birch.

A census of trees standing in streets and squares alone—entirely exclusive of the parks—totals half a million.

The Berliner's love of trees is so deep that in many cases, where city appropriations have not provided the necessary funds, private citizens have paid for the planting of their own streets.

Venerable, and in many cases unbeautiful, landmarks of a bygone day are being sacrificed to the demands of traffic.

Scaffoldings clamber over the facades of many old buildings which do not have to suffer demolition but are going through a much-needed face-lifting operation. The town hall, a mammoth red-brick structure, has recently emerged, rubicund and a bit garish, from an all-over bath performed by steam and cleansing acids.

Many Old Buildings Saved.

Where possible, worthwhile old buildings are being preserved. The march of time has not yet intruded on the neighborhood of the Nikolai church, where one comes across such architectural oddities as the Knoblauch Haus—literally "Garlic House"—with its vivacious rococo exterior, and its pretentious contemporary, the Ephraim house.

One learns from the archives of the Markisches museum that this latter was built by one Veitel Ephriam, an enterprising racketeer of Frederick the Great's time. He aided an embarrassed state and likewise amassed his own fortune by coining debased "thalers," nicknamed "Ephraimites," which he struck from copper with only an onion-skin thickness of silver surface.

The most striking change observed in the physical aspect of the city is that on Unter den Linden. This wide avenue, because of building this new subway, has been denuded of its famous shade trees. Their roots were too deeply sunk in tradition and earth to make their lot tenable when the human moles began their burrowing.

These dignified patriarchs were carefully dug up and placed in other more hospitable locations. Their place has been taken by a quadruple row of fresh little upstarts. Shockingly callow and insufficient they look.

It was Dorothea, wife of the Great Elector, who caused the wide boulevard to be laid out, and who herself planted the first linden tree in 1681. Perhaps it would have been only fair for her generation to name the avenue for the electress instead of for the tree she planted However, they made amends by giving her name to the street which parallels Unter den Linden one block north.

In 1690 an ordinance was passed by the Elector Frederick III forbidding the burghers of the neighborhood to allow their hogs to root around on the public street, as they were injuring the trees!

Changes in Latter Days.

Berlin did not escape the westward-pushing urge which has possessed continents, countries and cities.

Oldsters of today tell of open fields and woodlands in western areas where now stretch illimitable acres of concrete streets and business blocks. The inexorable thrust of building enterprise has encircled lakes and linked once widely separated communities into an urban entity.

In the galloping twenties of the postwar period came the realization of the realtor's dream of a Berlin Broadway—"Berlin in Light." The Kurfuersten-Damm sowed its wild oats in the lurid early day of jazz, but has now settled down to a smug, bourgeois middle age.

The Emperor William Memorial church (built as a monument to Kaiser William the First and his wife, Kaiserin Augusta), which forms the root of the West Berlin section, is as out of place amid its surrounding cafes, restaurants, and movie palaces as Trinity church is in the hubbub of lower Broadway.

Neon signs make a vivid imprint on the night aspect of the city. Step gayly up the Kurfuersten-Damm or Friederich-Strasse at any time after dark and you will find yourself wooed by the variegated, pulsing effulgence of a host of dance halls, ball houses and cabarets.

Haus Vaterland on the Potsdamer Platz, twelve years after its much-advertised construction, is popular with travelers. They flock in of evenings—visitors from abroad and from the provinces of Germany.

There are twelve halls, each decorated to represent some special locality. One may choose between the Bavarian Alps, the Rhineland, the Wild West of the United States, a glamorous bit of sunny Spain (machine guns omitted), and other exotic scenes.

The Walking Fern

The walking fern (Camptosorus rhizophyllus) is one of the native ferns. In a moderately shady spot in a rock garden it "walks" to multiply itself. The drooping narrow leaves extend themselves until a tip touches the ground on a bit of favorable soil. There it roots and a new plant forms and extends its exploring fronds until it can find another favorable footing.

Odd Wedding "Dish"

The wedding feasts of the Bedouin tribes of Palestine usually include a "dish" which consists, from its appearance, of only a roasted camel. But inside the camel are two roasted sheep; inside the sheep are several roasted chickens; inside the chickens are fried fish, and inside the fish are fried eggs.—Collier's Weekly.

STAR DUST
Movie • Radio
By VIRGINIA VALE

DEANNA DURBIN will do a play on Broadway early in the spring if all the experts concerned with her upbringing agree that it won't be too much of a strain on her.

Any decision affecting her welfare has to be pondered over by her mother, her manager, her vocal teacher, and the physician at Universal studios and they are all a little reluctant about adding any further public appearances to her already very public life. Until recently, Deanna could go light-heartedly about her work at motion-picture and radio studios, but lately such crowds have followed her wherever she went that it is a source of worry to everyone around her.

Deanna Durbin

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All the tumult and hysterical shouting over Fred Allen's return to his radio program does not mean that Walter O'Keefe is being neglected or forgotten. O'Keefe so endeared himself to radio listeners while he was substituting for Fred Allen that he could have walked right into another big program, but he demanded a vacation first.

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When a young newcomer to the screen steals most of the glory away from two enormously-popular stars, you can expect to see her in bigger and better parts right away. So, when you see Loretta Young and Tyrone Power in "Second Honeymoon," be all ready to clap hands for Marjorie Weaver who is the outstanding hit of this gay and giddy comedy. When the picture was previewed, Marjorie was all set to go back home to Louisville, Kentucky, to make personal appearances with the picture, but so great was the audience response to her performance, the trip was called off.

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Warner Brothers' directors have decided that they just cannot stand the strain of wondering whether their handsome heroes will be able to come to work on Monday morning, so they have sent out some pretty stringent orders about what is not to be done over week-ends, or any other time. Fernand Gravet has had to give up steeplechase riding. George Brent and Errol Flynn cannot pilot their planes.

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Out of the hundreds of young actresses who daily apply for work at New York radio producers' offices, the majority specialize in one type of characterization only. In trying to explain how slim their chance is of getting anywhere, many radio producers point to Helen Claire of the cast of "Aunt Jenny's Real Life Stories," on CBS. A typical week's work for Miss Claire called for her to play the Serpent in "Methuselah," the character of Adelina Patti at the ages of sixteen and forty-one, a hillbilly girl, and Alice in "Alice in Wonderland."

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Russel Gleason thought the Twentieth Century-Fox studio was kidding him when they told him he had been cast in "Love on a Budget." He had just announced his engagement and was taking a keen interest in all bankroll-stretching theories. But very seriously, he had been cast for a role in this latest of the Jones family series.

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By far the gayest and most delightful of the new pictures is "It's Love I'm After," featuring Leslie Howard, Bette Davis, and Olivia de Haviland. It does not sound new, because it is that old, old story of the matinee idol, the spitfire leading woman who is in love with him, and the moonstruck young woman who blindly adores him. What is new is the refreshing, witty treatment the story has been given. Never before have the three featured players been so deft.

Leslie Howard

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ODDS AND ENDS—Gertrude Berg was fairly snowed under with flowers recently when she rounded out eight years as author, producer and star of "The Goldbergs." Players love to work with her, she is so patient, so helpful, so like the compassionate Molly she plays . . . Dolores Costello makes her comeback to the screen in "Girls on Probation" and according to fellow workers it is a brilliant comeback . . . James Stewart gets the grand role opposite Joan Crawford in "Shopworn Angel." Gary Cooper played it in the version made years ago . . . George Raft is determined to be a director some day, so he has agreed to work as an apprentice in various technical departments of the studio in order to learn the business thoroughly. He can only do it when he is not acting, of course, so he is asking Paramount to give him nice, long vacations between pictures . . . John Barrymore is going to make another Bulldog Drummond picture.

© Western Newspaper Union.

Producing Green Tea

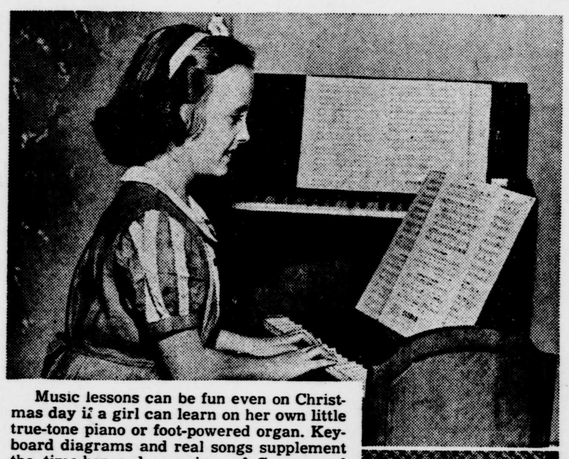
Green tea is produced through withering the leaves by steaming them in perforated pans as soon as gathered and then roasting them for five minutes, thus retaining the green color.

Site of Austin, Texas

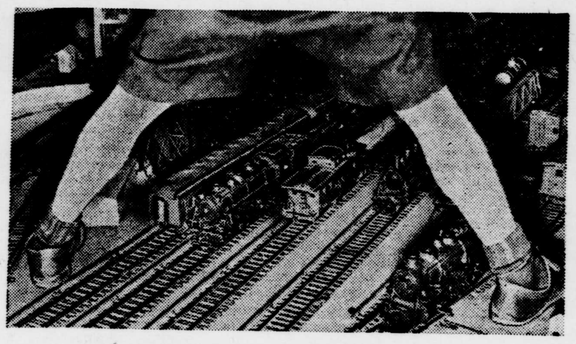
The site of Austin, Texas, was selected by a commission appointed in 1836 by the Republic of Texas to find the most attractive spot within its boundaries for the seat of government.

Toys Go Realistic for 1937

CHRISTMAS toys for little boys and girls of this modern age must be as near the real thing as possible. Christmas "babies" are more real than ever, not only in dress (this one wears a knitted yarn Gertrude) but in other ways, as the name Betsy-Wetsy doll indicates.

Young transportation tycoons will have a real Christmas this year. Miniature trucks, airliners, tractors and buses are faithful copies of the real thing.

Music lessons can be fun even on Christmas day if a girl can learn on her own little true-tone piano or foot-powered organ. Keyboard diagrams and real songs supplement the time-honored exercises of Czerny and scale practice nowadays. Most of these miniature instruments cover three full octaves, so simple two-staff pieces can be played.

Streamlining for sidewalk "motor cars" is more advanced than ever, and now includes door-grips, radiator caps and headlights. Added innovations are the enclosed "rumble-trailer" and perforated disc wheels on what children are already terming, very, very professionally, the "tractor."



Track layouts this year are almost as perfect as real ones, with wooden ties and innumerable switches. This plan would be a little too fancy for most boys, but many a mile of track will be laid through America's front parlors during Christmas week!

Oil for the wheels, another realistic note.

Mozart in Prison

Music lovers yearly visit Bertramka, near Prague, in Czechoslovakia, to see where Mme. Dusek imprisoned Mozart in a garden pavilion, refusing to release him until he had finished composing an aria for her.

Belittling People

"Dar ain' no hope," said Uncle Eben, "foh de man dat thinks he kin rise in de world by belittlin' everybody else till he makes hisse'f look great by comparison."

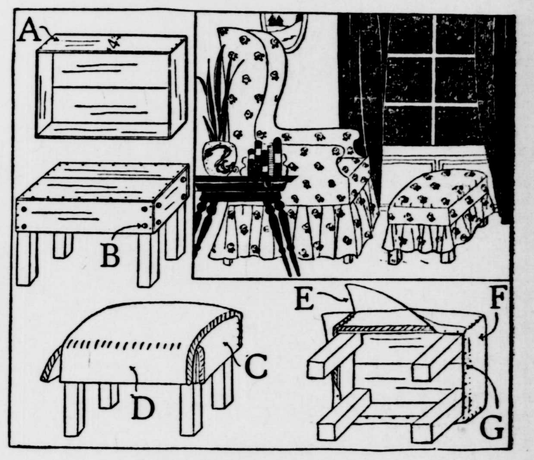
Humboldt Current

The Galapagos islands, 600 miles off the coast of Ecuador, lie squarely across the Equator, but the blaze of the vertical sun is tempered by the cold Humboldt current, which washes their shores.

Hi Ho Says:

"A physician," said Hi Ho, the sage of Chinatown, "must be able to lecture on human anatomy and learn to be silent about family skeletons."

HOW TO SEW
by Ruth Wyeth Spears



Make This Attractive Ottoman.

GET a wooden box from the grocer. It should be about as long as the width of the chair with which the ottoman is to be used. The depth of the sides should be four inches as shown here at A.

The legs should be made of two by two's or you may have a set of nicely turned legs from an old table or other piece of furniture that may be cut down to the right length. Fasten in place with long screws through the corners of the box as shown here at B.

About half a bat of cotton will be needed. Put five or six layers of the cotton on the top, cutting the first layer about four inches smaller all around than the top of the box. Place it in the center. Cut the next layer a little bigger and the others still bigger until the last one is the same size as the top. Now, cut a layer of cotton to go over the top and down over the ends as at C and another to go over the top and down the sides as at D.

Cut a piece of heavy muslin to fasten tightly over the cotton. Cut the corners of the muslin as at E. Sew with heavy thread as at F and then tack as at G.

To make the cover, stretch the top tightly over the muslin and sew it along the sides through the muslin, then make a straight four-inch band to go all around and add the ruffle to it.

Every Homemaker should have a copy of Mrs. Spears' new book, SEWING. Forty-eight pages of step-by-step directions for making slipcovers and dressing tables; restoring and upholstering chairs, couches; making curtains for every type of room and purpose. Making lampshades, rugs, ottomans and other useful articles for the home. Readers wishing a copy should send name and address, enclosing 25 cents, to Mrs. Spears, 210 South Desplaines St., Chicago, Illinois.

"Quotations"

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We see things not as they are, but as we are.—*H. M. Tomlinson.*

A poor life this if, full of care, we have no time to stand and stare. —*William H. Davies.*

Being happily married is merely the development of the art of living to its superlative degree.—*William Lyon Phelps.*

Thus each extreme to equal danger tends; plenty as well as want, can sep'rate friends.—*A. Cowley.*

Favorite Recipe of the Week

Pumpkin Custard a Real Treat.

TREAT the family to a pumpkin custard as a change from the usual pie. Canned pumpkin is suggested because it is already cooked, mashed and ready to use, which saves considerable time and energy. Bake the custard in a basin, not too large or too deep. A good size would be one which holds a quart.

When it comes time to serve the custard, unmold it onto a chop platter and around the custard arrange prunes which have been pitted and stuffed lightly with shredded American cheese. Mounds of whipped cream placed between the prunes would be a good idea. A little prune juice poured over the top of the custard and cream will add flavor and a pleasing appearance. The canned prunes are convenient to use.

If you have no favorite recipe try the following:

Pumpkin Custard.

2 cups canned pumpkin
¾ cup sugar, part brown
1 teaspoon cinnamon
¼ teaspoon cloves
½ teaspoon ginger
¼ teaspoon nutmeg
1 teaspoon salt
3 eggs
2¼ cups milk.

Beat pumpkin thoroughly with dry ingredients. Beat eggs slightly, add to milk and combine with pumpkin mixture. Pour into baking pan, set in a pan of water (½ inch deep on pan), and bake for about 45 minutes in a moderate oven (375 degrees), or until a knife comes out clean when inserted in the center. Chill before serving, unmold onto chop platter, and garnish.

MARJORIE H. BLACK.

MOVIE

TRADE MARK

Be considerate! Don't cough in the movies. Take along a box of Smith Brothers Cough Drops for quick relief. Black or Menthol—5¢.

Smith Bros. Cough Drops are the only drops containing VITAMIN A This is the vitamin that raises the resistance of the mucous membranes of the nose and throat to cold and cough infections.

A Resolution

Shall we make a new rule of life from tonight; always to try to be a little kinder than is necessary?—James M. Barrie.

Perfect Virtues

Industry, economy, honesty and kindness form a quartette of virtues that will never be improved upon.—James Oliver.

CHEW LONG BILL NAVY TOBACCO 5¢ PLUG

LIFE'S LIKE THAT — By Fred Neher

"Looks like the scrub team's in a huddle."