KENT CHILDREN TELL OF DISCOVERIES

William Carroll and Agnes Ford Write Interestingly of Men Who Have Made Past History and Who Have Pushed Back Intellectual Horizons

Flatland School, taught by Mrs. Annie Duyer Brown, has been taking up the study of discoverers to a considerable extent since school began in September. The result has been that a number of essays on this subject have been written, whcih are well worthy of publication.

Below we are publishing essays on the lives of Magellian and Cortes, whose names are written large across the pages of history, written by Agnes Ford and William Carroll. They make interesting reading, and they show considerable knowledge of the subject considered.

.. FERDINAND AND MAGELLAN ..
By Wiliam Carroll

Magellan was twenty-five years old when he made up his mind to sail the seas and seek his fortune. Magellan formed a partnership with another adventurer and started out on his voyages of discovery.

Ferdinand Magellan was in command of a fleet that sailed from Spain in 1517 searching for a passage way around South America. For nearly ten years he journeyed too and fro between his little homeland and various points in East Africa, India, the Malay Penninsula and the Island beyound. Going from country to country that were full of savages, he had to fight the savages to keep them from killing all of his men and he received a wound that crippled him for life.

Magellan wanted the king to help him to get a passage around America so that it would help to shorten the distance time and expense of going away from Europe to the Spice Islands but the King refused to help him. He set out for Spain to see if he could get help from Spain after a while the Spainish King helped him. He helped to furnish five ships with two hundred and thirty four officers and sailors, then he stocked them with provisions to last them for a two years voyage.

The King agreed also that Magellan and his partner would receive one twentieth of profits of their undertaking, that they could be governors of the islands they discovered.

After they waited for two long years Magellan lay ready to sail.

Crossing the Atlantic seemed to be an easy matter. The natives that were along the northern coast were friendly. They were ready to exchange enough fish for ten men for a looking glass, a bushel of sweet potatoes for a bell and several fowls for a butcher knife.

Magellan's little Spanish fleet went along toward the south. When they came nearer to the south pole it grew intensely cold. Magellan's men wanted him to turn around and go home. Many of his people died of exposure and the rest of the people were afraid they could not live thru such a winter. Magellan and his men stayed several weeks at a port in a country that was called Patagonia without seeing a person. One day an Indian giant strode in on them. He was so tall that Magellan's men barely came to his waist. The men let the giant see himself in a steel mirror. He was so astonished that he jumped backward and knocked down four of the Spaniards standing around him. When he found out it was himself he saw in the looking glass he was pleased. Magellan made him a present of the mirror. They found out that the giants was a savage of a very low brutal type. They ate raw meat and even rats. When they felt sick they stuck arrows down their throats, when their neads ached they gashed their foreheads with shell knives.

Here some of Magellan's men turned against him. They tried to murder him. Magellan with the help of the other men put the mutineers in chains and left some of them on the shore when the ship sailed.

On the 21st of October 1520 they went into a bay thru an opening. After they sailed thru its winding ways they found that it led out at the other end into a vast expanse of water.

They at last discovered the only passage from sea to sea thru the American continents.

They lost some of their ships and their provisions were eaten. Most of the men begged to turn back. One dark night the commander of the largest ship deserted the others and went back to Spain with the greater part of their provisions.

They had to use the leather on the ships after dragging it after the ship in the water for several days. After three days of hunger they discovered a group of islands and called them the Ladrone Islands. There they enjoyed the fruits and the fresh water.

They left the Ladrone Islands and stopped next at the Phillipines where the natives were very friendly.

Besides the desire of possession, Magellan's greatest desire was to make the savage people Christians. He had the pleasure of seeing thousands of the dusky Islanders kneeling before the crosses he had set up.

On one of the islands where he was leading the natives in battle he lost his life.

Three years and twelve days from the time they had started out the ships returned to the Spanish port from which it had sailed. The vessels were loaded with spices from the Moluccas as Magellan had planned.

HERNANDO CORTES
By Agnes Ford

In 1490 a little boy was born in a Spanish noble family named Hernando Cortes as a child his young mind was filled with longing for adventure and when he was nineteen years of age he ran away from home to find adventures in American.

He was a cruel man. He loved gold as all the other Spaniards did in those days but he loved power and adventure as much as he did wealth.

Cortes heard stories about the wonderful wealth of the king of Mexico. The king was said to live in a palace so covered with gold that it shone like the sun. The man were gold emprovided clothes every day. Cortes was placed at the head of an expedition designed to conquer Mexico and with him were the bravest of the Spanish captains and the wildest adventurers in the new world nothing suited Cortes better than this expedition and he set forth.

When he landed messengers came to Cortes bearing presents of gold, jewels and rich cloth and his men begged him to leave the country in peace. When Cortes saw the gifts his eyes blazed with greed.

"Go tell your Montezumo we will visit him in his palace even if we have to force our way" said Cortes to the messenger.

The king heard this message with dismay Cortes burned his ships so that his men could not think of retreat and they marched to Mexico City.

The natives could see the approaching horses and hear the cannons and guns. The roads in the mountains were smooth and here and there were little stone houses for the convenience of travelers.

At last Cortes and his men came to a point where they could look down over the city of Mexico. They could see white stone buildings. They saw the houses on an island in the middle of a lake connected with the mainland by means of bridges. Temples and palaces were reflected in the clear water. The whole scene was peaceful and beautiful.

"The Land of Gold! The City of Plenty" cried Cortes.

Cortes rode a fine horse covered with trappings of war. He and his men rode into the city. His mantle was decorated with gold and precious stones and the bearers brought them quantities of food and rich gifts for the strangers, hoping to get rid of the cruel greedy Spaniard. He was much mistaken.

Cortes was given the freedom of the city. He went everywhere The Mexicans wanted the Spaniards to leave. The Spaniards wanted more gold.

Cortes at last became anxious. A Mexican killed one of his men. The Spaniards burned him alive in the public square. The Mexicans became more sullen and dangerous.

Cortes had two hundred men. Around him were thousands of Mexicans. His men were loaded with plunder and in fear of their lives. They wanted to escape with what they had. just about this time Alvarado, one of the Spanish captains witnessing the sacrifice of human lives at a Mexican religious festival, grew so indignant that he ordered his men to fire their cannons into the groups thereby killing some of the priests. This brought matters to a crisis. They now wanted the Spaniards, indeed, to leave and to leave quickly. So they went that night. When they departed over the bridge that connected the city with the mainl and the Mexicans discovered them and began a merciless attact upon them. Mexicans came forth by the thousands. They cut part of the bridge down and hurling stones and arrows the Mexicans were rushing upon the Spaniards with their spears. Cortes lost many men. The Spaniards would not drop the gold for they were so greedy. They clung to the gold to the very last and many of them were killed who might have escaped.

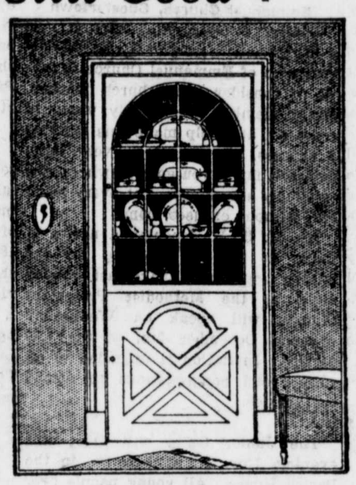
In Spanish history this is known as the sorrowful night.

It took a whole year for Cortes to get enough men from Cuba and Spain to march again upon Mexico. In the meantime Montezuma had been slain by his own people and Guatemazim reigned in his stead. This time the seize lasted three months and thuosands of the Mexicans were slain before the proud city gave way and the conquest of Mexico was complete.

Cortes had at last broken the heart of the ancient race and from that time on Mexico was in the possession of the Spanish conquerers.



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"There is no one on the line now," she says, "will you excuse it, please?"

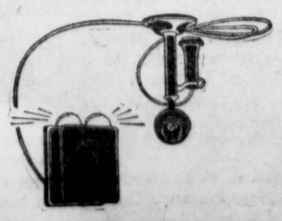
Annoying, isn't it? But just who is to blame?

Of course, the operator may have made a mistake *but* suppose that some one gives your number to the operator by mistake, discovers his error and hffngs up. When you answer there will be "no one on the line." Suppose some one starts to call you, then changes his mind and hangs up—again, "no one on the line." Suppose that because you do not answer at once the person calling concludes that you are out, and hangs up—"no one on the line."

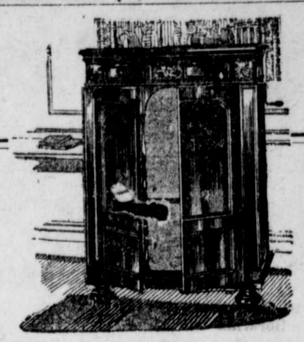
"But," you may ask, "why does the operator act as though expecting me to make a call in such cases, instead of explaining that whoever called me has hung up?" The answer is this: the operator who answered you was not the one who rang your bell. The call may have been made through any one of a number of other operators. Thus the chances are greatly against the operator who answers you knowing anything about the abandoned call.

So, realizing that you have been inconvenienced, there is nothing for her to but apologize for another's mistake.

"There is no one on the line now. Will you excuse it, please?"



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