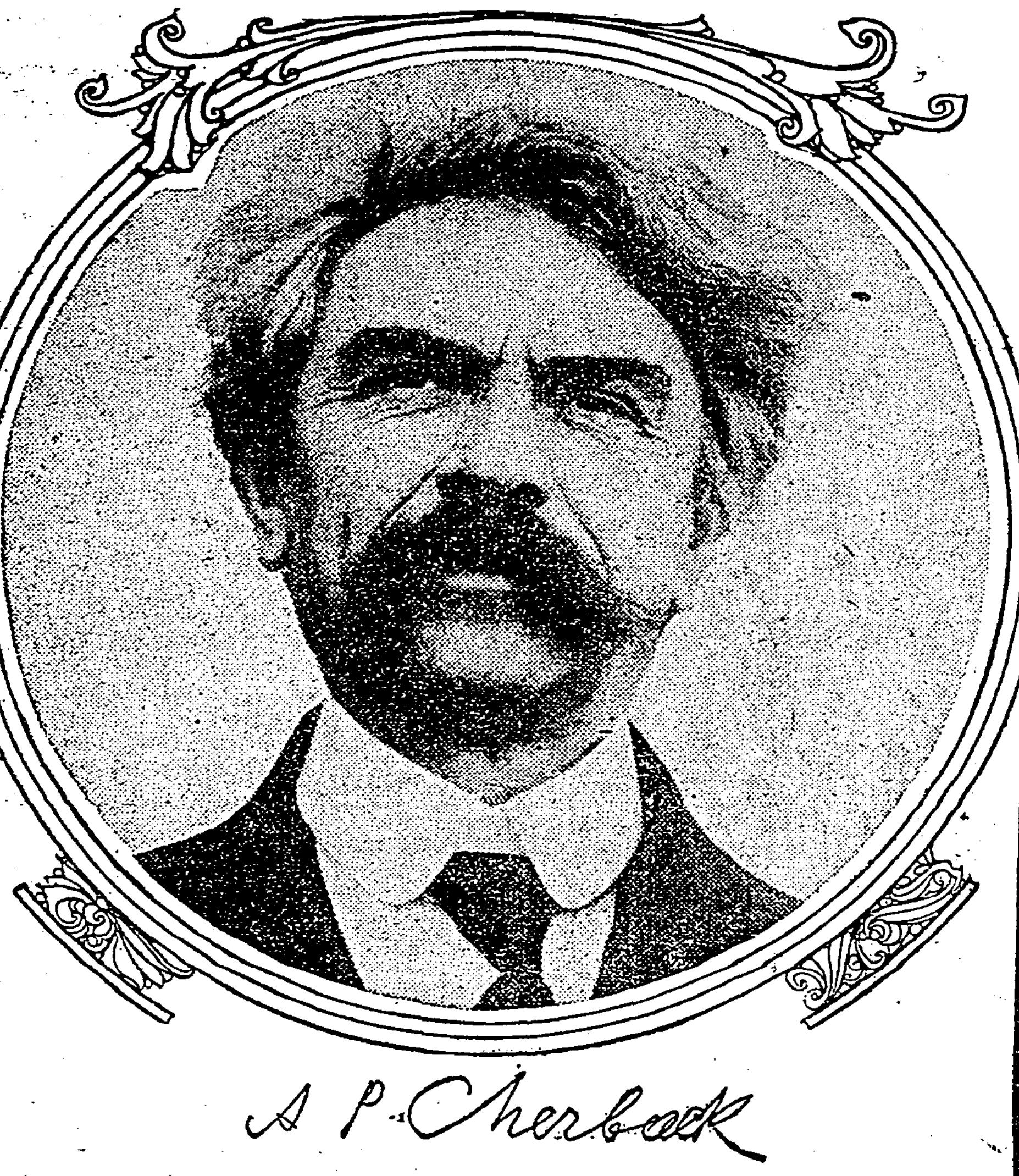


# RUSSIAN REFUGEES TO UNITE IN BIG AMERICAN COLONY



A. P. Cherback

## Will Purchase 30,000 Acres in Far West and the Big Communities of This Country and Canada and Will Settle There.

**A** MOVEMENT to unite all the Russian colonists in this country is under serious consideration.

These colonists are Molokanes, driven out by the oppressive measure adopted toward them by the Russian Government. They have been engaged in their earlier life in agricultural pursuits, but since coming here have found employment for the most part in lumber yards, iron foundries, flouring mills, and at other occupations that require heavy muscular work. They are industrious, and with their economical methods of living they are accumulating money. They are located in cheap quarters in the lowlands along the Los Angeles River and number about 5,000.

While upon their arrival here they are uncouth and peculiar in their manner, they rapidly acquire American methods and are anxious to learn. This is evidenced by the fact that the so-called university established among them contains nearly 300 students. These students are taught United States and Russian history, history of culture and religion, the conditions of life in the United States, etc.

A large number of Molokanes are now located in a colony of their own about thirty miles north of Escondido, Lower California. That colony has a population of about 2,000, practically all of whom are engaged in agriculture. The lands in the vicinity of their settlement are rich, and they raise large crops of grain without irrigation. They are at a disadvantage, however, on account of being at a great distance from a market, the nearest railroad station being at Tia Juana, on the Mexican line below San Diego, Cal., a distance of about fifty miles through a very sparsely settled country, with roads that are unfit for heavy hauling.

In North Saskatchewan, Canada, about 10,000 of these people are located, and they own about 300,000 acres of land in that far northern section, with its cold



Cherback and His Family.

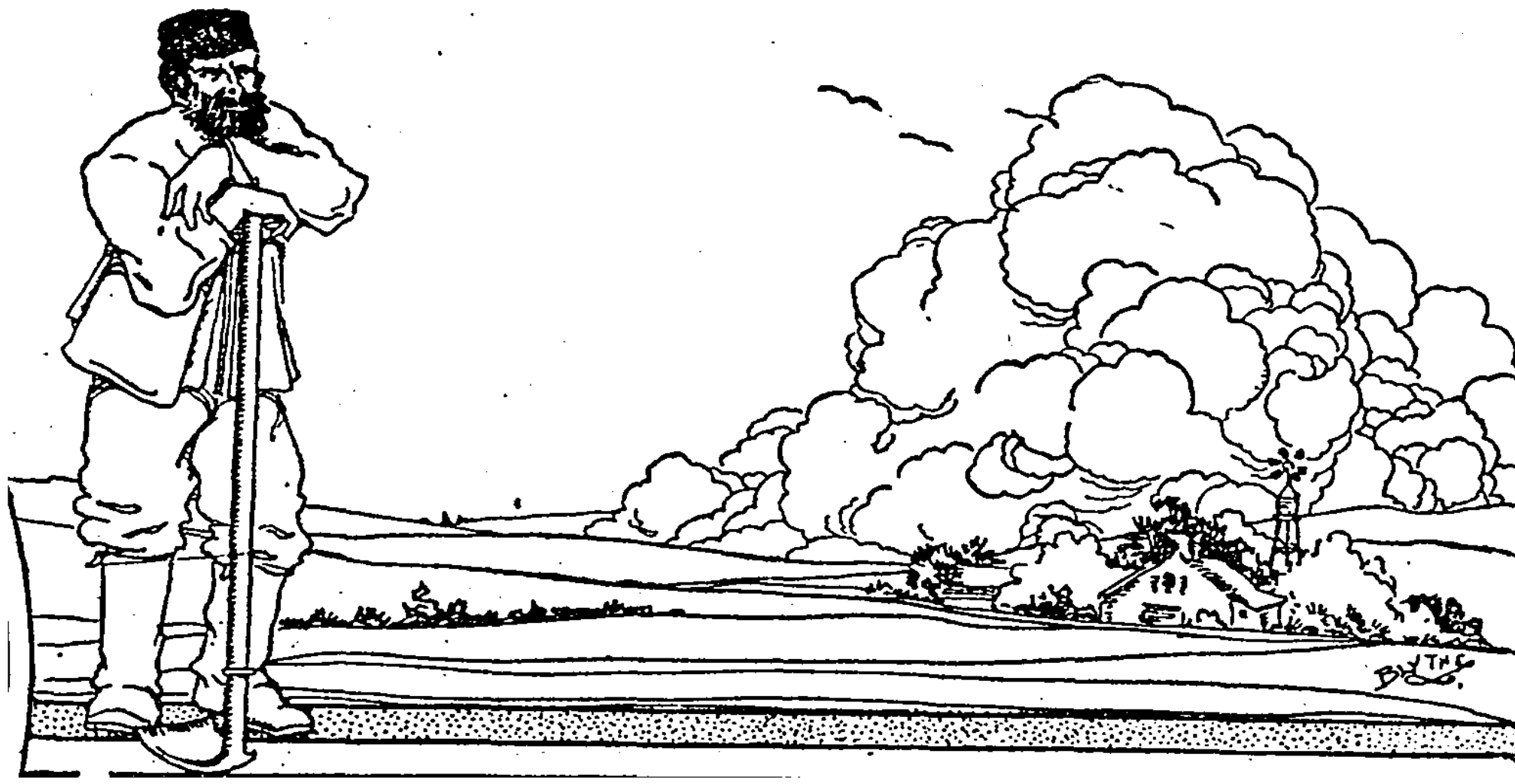
climate. In Manitoba there is a settlement of about 1,000. A considerable number have gone to San Francisco, and there are others in various sections of the United States.

Practically all of these people are better satisfied with the conditions of life in the United States than in any other country. They are therefore considering the plan of forming a colony in this country where all may gather into one large settlement and establish themselves where conditions are most favorable.

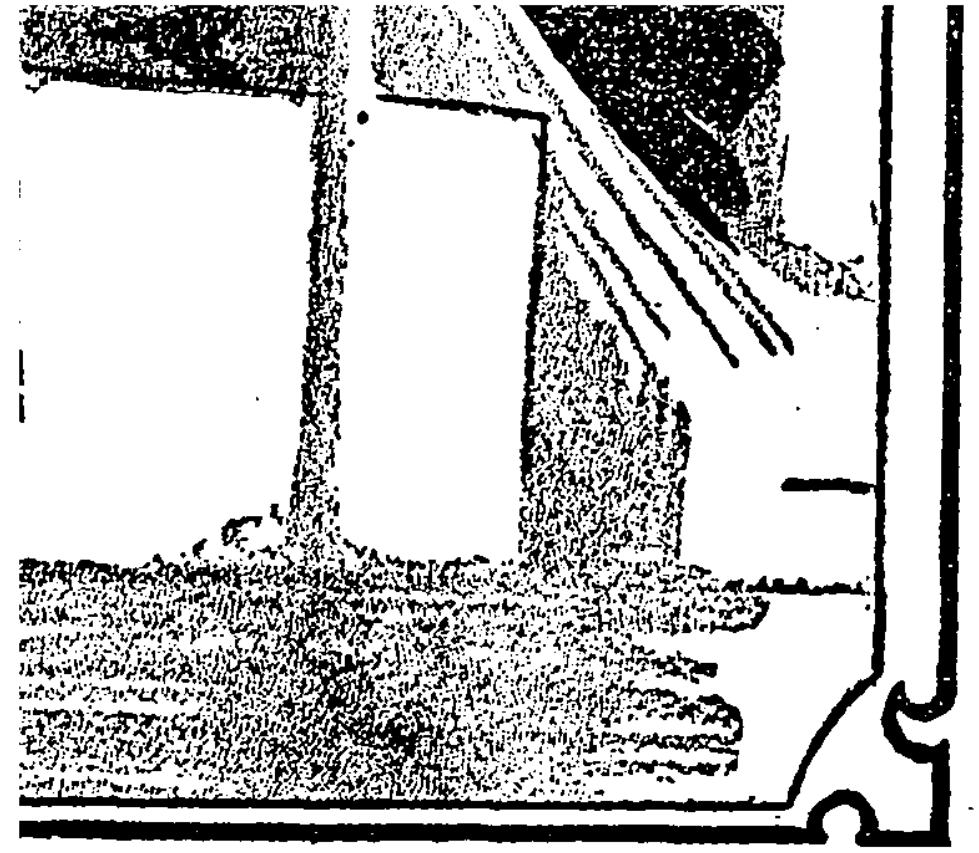
Representatives of the colonies in North Saskatchewan, Lower California, and

elsewhere have gone to Los Angeles, for the purpose of consulting with members of the colony there with reference to this great scheme.

Anton Paul Cherback, editor of a Russian weekly paper published in Los Angeles, is taking an active part in this economic movement. Cherback is a typical Russian revolutionist, and paid the penalty for his opinions by two terms of imprisonment before he left his home for America. He protests, however, against being called a leader. He says the very word "leader" is offensive to him and his people. They all co-operate to carry



Cherback in Prison in Russia, Taken from a Photograph in His Booklet.



A Class of Children in One of the Schools of the Community.



The Head Men of the Los Angeles Colony. Cherback is the Second from the Right End. It Was Only After Much Persuasion by Cherback That His Coworkers Would Pose for This Photograph for The New York Times.

out the great principles instilled in their minds by Count Tolstoy, whom they regard as having been the greatest man of the present generation.

The office of Cherback's paper contains on one of its walls—the most striking decoration of the room—a large portrait of Count Tolstoy, whose name is mentioned there only with great reverence.

Cherback was a personal friend of Tolstoy in Russia and was sent by the great Russian philosopher to inspect the conditions of the Molokanes in Canada several years ago. He has recently issued in pamphlet form a copy of his report. As a frontispiece this report contains a portrait of Cherback in prison at Moscow in 1905.

At a recent gathering of delegates from Canada and from Lower California in Mr. Cherback's office it was decided to send a committee to Santa Barbara to examine certain lands in the vicinity of that city with a view to locating there, but no decision has yet been reached in the selection of a new location.

An offer of land with some special inducements has come from property owners in New Mexico, who hope to negotiate a sale. The Canadian representatives explained that they are desirous of finding a climate more favorable to agricultural pursuits than the cold one in the Dominion, where they are now located. They

state that last year early frosts caused heavy losses to the Canadian colonists, and it is quite probable that this big northern community will move bodily to Southern California. This would bring more than 10,000 agriculturists to that State, and that number would probably be augmented by 2,000 from Los Angeles and several thousand now en route from Russia, even if they from Lower California should not decide to join the big colony.

The Lower California contingent, living as it does remote from American influences, is still antiquated in its methods, and has made but little progress intellectually or industrially since its arrival there.

One of the interesting features at the recent meeting was the narration of exploring adventures by the Molokane colonists from the community near Escondido. In accordance with their ancestral traditions they decided to send out emissaries in search of new territory, much in the manner pursued by Abraham in patriarchal times. Eight men were selected and divided into two parties. One of these parties started for the Sonoran desert, about 1,000 miles away, and the other was dispatched for Durango, about 1,500 miles distant. They had horses and provision wagons, but their supply was scanty, and their route led through deserts, forests, swamps, and mountains almost impassable.

During their search for the promised land these parties endured terrible hardships. Three of their horses died, one of their wagons was demolished, and a number of the men nearly perished by fever.

At the meeting the delegates delivered themselves of a fervent equivalent of "Never again," and decided that Southern California was just about right for the contemplated new colony.

It was unanimously agreed that no further communistic ventures would be made in Mexico, despite the fact that the Diaz Government is exceedingly well disposed toward the Russians, and has offered them land and subsidies of other kinds. The chief objection to Mexico is the high duty on agricultural machinery, which adds 25 to 40 per cent. to the cost of farm implements and supplies, which are bought for the most part in Los Angeles by the Russian colonists in Mexico.

There is a small mixed colony of Russians in Kern County, Cal., which will be greatly enlarged in the near future, but at present it seems likely that the Santa Barbara County community will become and remain the largest in America.

The committee sent to Santa Barbara was practically empowered to buy from 40,000 to 50,000 acres of land. The members of the different communities differ in their opinions in regard to individual as opposed to communistic ownership. This question as it relates to the proposed new colony is not yet decided, but will be decided by the preponderance of opinion among the members. Mr. Cherback personally favors individual ownership. He himself is the owner of a ranch in San Bernardino County on which there is a producing orange grove.

## MR. NATHAN, ROME'S STRENUOUS MAYOR

**N**O matter what opinion may be had of him, none can deny that the present Mayor of the Eternal City, Ernesto Nathan, is most remarkable both as a man and as an administrator. His fame is not limited to Italy, but is international, and his career has proved in a manner so ample, indeed excessive, as to embarrass even himself. To demonstrate his exceptional position it will be sufficient to say that he, an Israelite, an Englishman by birth, a Free Mason since his youth, a republican in principle, occupies now the chair of Mayor in the seat of Christendom, on the top of the Capitoline Hill, facing the Vatican, from where all the ideas personified in Ernesto Nathan have been fought for centuries with every thunderbolt, spiritual and temporal, of the Papacy.

Signor Nathan, although he is now over 65 years of age, having been born in London on Oct. 5, 1845, is still a most vigorous and active man, exuberant with life and energy, tireless in his daily work and with projects stretching over many years to come. His father was a banker of German origin and it is even said that his family is a branch of those Nathans from which the Rothschilds sprang, it being known that the latter were originally Nathans until they were named after the red shield which hung over their shop door.

The Nathans had twelve children, the Mayor being the fifth. He lost his father when he was only 14. With his mother he went to Pisa, where he continued his studies.

Sara Nathan, or Sarina, as she was called, and her son, on account of their opinions, were obliged to move from Pisa to Florence, to Milan, to Genoa, where his relations with the conspirators who had Mazzini as apostle and Garibaldi as leader, were discovered, and they were obliged to flee to Lugano, Switzerland, to escape imprisonment. Their home in the free land of William Tell became the centre of all the exiled Italian patriots, through daily contact with the young Ernesto Nathan molded his character and sowed in his mind the seeds of those principles which have been the constant guide and aim of his life.

Still it must not be thought that Ernesto Nathan lived entirely in an atmosphere of political speculation, as the necessities of life forced him to dedicate his intelligence to commerce, and he pursued in Genoa, in London, and in London. He remained in London

1870, when, with the taking of Rome and the fall of the temporal power, Italy won her liberty and became at last a united nation.

He then re-entered Italy and met Mazzini again, who had been freed from prison, and became the manager of the newspaper Roma del Popolo, which the great agitator started and which died when he passed away. Even after Mazzini's death Nathan continued to cultivate and diffuse the doctrines of the "Master" through the newspapers Emancipazione and Dovero, of which he was the soul inspirer, claiming that even outside the Republican field the Mazzinian teaching was the best means to uplift the people toward justice and truth.

After years of propaganda in this sense his efforts were crowned by a great victory, i. e., the publication at the expense of the State of Mazzini's works which he had gathered together with great care, and the decision that Mazzini's "The Duty of Man" should be used as a text book in the schools. To him it is also due if the spirit of Mazzini animates Italian Freemasonry, of which for twenty-five years he has been a prominent figure, as Grand Master, first, and as Honorable Grand Master later.

He is also the author of several books, the best known being "Twenty Years of Italian Life," which is a picture of the progress made by the country under the present régime. His name was frequently the battle cry in the fights of Liberals, Democrats, and anti-Clericals against the Conservative and Clerical elements.

Three years ago the extreme parties of Rome joined in what was called "The Popular Bloc," which comprises Monarchical Democrats, Radicals, Republicans, and Socialists, with the object of having a decisive battle with the Clerico-Moderate parties, which for many years had held the administration of the town. The bloc was successful all through, and Nathan, in whose name the coalition had been possible and who, as a Hebrew and a Freemason, was the most objectionable personality to the Vatican, was chosen Mayor.

Ernesto Nathan

Once Mayor Signor Nathan, notwithstanding his Republican past, imitated Garibaldi and Crispien, and went to pay homage to the King, recognizing that with a monarchy as democratic as that which now rules in Italy there is no reform no matter how radically advanced which cannot be put into practice. Since then the whole of his work and all his frequent speeches have been directed to actuate his programme, his speeches culminating in that discourse on Sept. 20 last on the occasion of the fortieth anniversary of the taking of Rome, which created such a stir throughout the world on account of the protest of the Pope and the subsequent withdrawal of the Mayor, who was thus called upon to resign.

The problem which confronted Mr. McKim was not alone artistic, but practical. With the large amount of old and valuable woodwork which the building was to contain, the priceless tapestries of delicate texture, and the many fragile works of art, it was necessary to provide protection against the great changes of temperature and humidity which have proved fatal to so many carvings, panels, and other artistic treasures brought to this country. This protection has been adequately given in the Museums of Berlin, Vienna, Paris, and London, but in the case of the Museum of Art in New York, the problem was more difficult.

In the Metropolitan Museum's new wing of Decorative Arts, which was opened last Spring, there has been installed a ventilating system unlike that of any other museum in America. This wing is, in effect, a climatic oasis, which maintains a uniform temperature and humidity through the blizzards of January and the sweltering dog days of August.

Ernesto Nathan

## METROPOLITAN MUSEUM'S UNIQUE VENTILATORS

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An institution like the Metropolitan Museum does not attempt to control the vagaries of the American climate without good reason. When in the Summer of 1906 it became known that J. P. Morgan had acquired the great Hoentschel collection of works of the French decorative arts of the Middle Ages and the eighteenth century, and was sending it to the Metropolitan Museum primarily for the benefit of the craftsmen and designers of this country it was at once evident that in addition to the building would have to be constructed to receive the collection. The late Charles F. McKim, the architect, was sent to Paris, where he saw the Hoentschel collection before its removal, and gathered his ideas for the design of the new wing, which has won such widespread admiration as in itself a work of art.

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humidity are not so violent as in this country.

It was not till after long and painstaking study of the European practice that there was installed in the Metropolitan Museum's new wing a system which was believed adequate to meet the conditions imposed by our climate.

In every room of the new wing there are on the walls three registering instruments. Two are directly connected with the ventilating system, and a third is for the convenience of the engineer in controlling the apparatus. This last instrument is Lloyd's Hygrometer, which measures the humidity, and was not installed till the ventilating system had been placed in operation.

In most of the rooms there are radiators incased in the walls, but these are merely for furnishing heat in the cold weather and are independent of the ventilating system; in fact, the steam heat comes from the plant in the main building, while the elaborate machinery of the ventilating system is contained in the basement of the new wing.

A vaultlike room entered only by a narrow airtight door and having its west side replaced by a wooden lattice is the beginning of this ventilating system which makes possible the maintenance of a uniform temperature and humidity day after day. The lattice faces an open space in the park and as the air is drawn in by a large fan it is passed through upright screens placed at an angle with the latticed windows. Though this air comes from the park on the side away from Fifth Avenue and the museum is in a section of the city where there are neither factories nor business places, the screens through which the air filters give striking evidence of atmospheric impurities. When a screen has been in place for a short time it is necessary to remove it

and clean it. This is done by an absorption machine especially designed for the purpose.

The air being filtered next goes into an open passage about two feet wide. From here it goes into one or the other of two chambers of pipe coils. Each chamber has a corrugated steel curtain which may be raised or lowered like a window shade. The pipes back of one curtain contain live steam from the heating plant while through the pipes back of the other curtain cold Croton water is run. The air forces its way between the coils of pipes and is thus cooled or heated as desired. At no time are both curtains raised. When the system has been used a year it may be found that one curtain will have been down six months and the other raised about the same length of time, but there have been numerous cases when on the same day the curtains have been changed and they could not in this country be kept up or down according to the seasons.

When the air has been brought through either one or the other of the two chambers it reaches a second narrow passage from which it is drawn through a second set of filtering screens, and then at this point it is controlled by valves and is distributed to the apparatus which pumps it into the ducts and shafts leading to the different galleries.

This corner of New York, where the visitor may be sure of finding the same climate all the year around, is a large, central hall, surrounded by two galleries, making twenty-five exhibition rooms in all. Excluding the small projection on the north, this extension measures about 100 feet in length by 100 feet in width. The central hall is 116 feet long, 42 feet wide and 67 feet high. This height is considerably greater than that of the side por-

Surrounding this hall on the lower floor are nine exhibition rooms of varying dimensions, with a tenth projecting from the north end, especially constructed to receive the Swiss rooms, and the upper floor are fourteen rooms. Architecturally these rooms are structurally of a tempered design merely as backgrounds or settings for their contents, and restricted to moderate size, to keep the periods and groups of objects distinctly separated from one another, and also to avoid bewildering the visitor with a range of too many objects of a generally similar character at one time. The walls between these rooms are structurally of a temporary character, though of fireproof material, so that any of them can be easily removed or shifted should a change in the collection require it at some future time.

The height of the rooms on the lower floor is twenty feet, and of those on the upper sixteen feet. Each of the side rooms is lighted on one side only, thereby avoiding crosslights and giving three good walls for exhibition space in every room. The windows being square topped and extending on the lower floor from the ceiling to about seven feet above the floor, and on the upper, to about five feet.

As a very large part of the material to be exhibited in this wing was of such a character that it would have to be attached directly to the walls, it was desirable to make this attachment as easy as possible, and also to facilitate rearrangement as the collection grew. To this end each room was lined with a thin sheathing of wood, to which objects can be fastened without the necessity of drilling holes in the walls, and this sheathing has been covered with stuff of an inexpensive quality, the color and pattern of which vary in the rooms.