

Cont. Lectures on Modern History and Civ.

had a road--the highway of the Incas. It went the whole length of it. It's not the kind of road you could ride with an automobile because they didn't have anything that needed that sort of a road, but it was a road along which their couriers went from one end to the other of their empire. They had several million Indians in the Empire who were under their control and their representatives would run. They had couriers who would go afoot and would go from one end to the other so that the Inca Emperor was able to keep track of the whole area. He had it so completely organized that everyone in the empire had his own special work to do. They were forbidden the use of money or anything similar to money. All of the people in the empire had a particular place to live, and they were not supposed to leave this place except with permission of the Inca or his representative. They had to stay in these places, and there they had their particular task in growing crops for food for their area and in building the buildings that the Inca Emperor ordered, and it was very very highly organized. Some of those fortresses there are really colossal ones and some of the great central places where the Incas lived at times and have houses in them that have thousands of stones beaten out by hand so that they'll be just exactly the right shape so that they just fit together and fill these very very fine walls with the windows in and everything arranged. When you consider no metal tools, it's really remarkable what they were able to do, and it meant thousands of people organized and active and everyone had his own place and his own work to do under the Incas, and they seemed to be kept absolutely under the direction of them. You might say it was a benevolent despotism because on the whole the life was fairly comfortable and the people had everything they needed for a fairly satisfactory life, and it was very well organized, and they saved no money, no possibility of going from one place to another except with special orders from the Inca whose couriers went back and forth, up and down the line, but the Indians had there within the place where they had to stay, they had a very good arrangement. The land was very well parceled out and handled in such a way as to utilize practically all the good land in that mountainous area. Well this Inca empire, unknown to Pizarro, just before he got there, had undergone a severe difficulty. They had two sons of the Incas who had previously died, and who had fought for supremacy over the

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