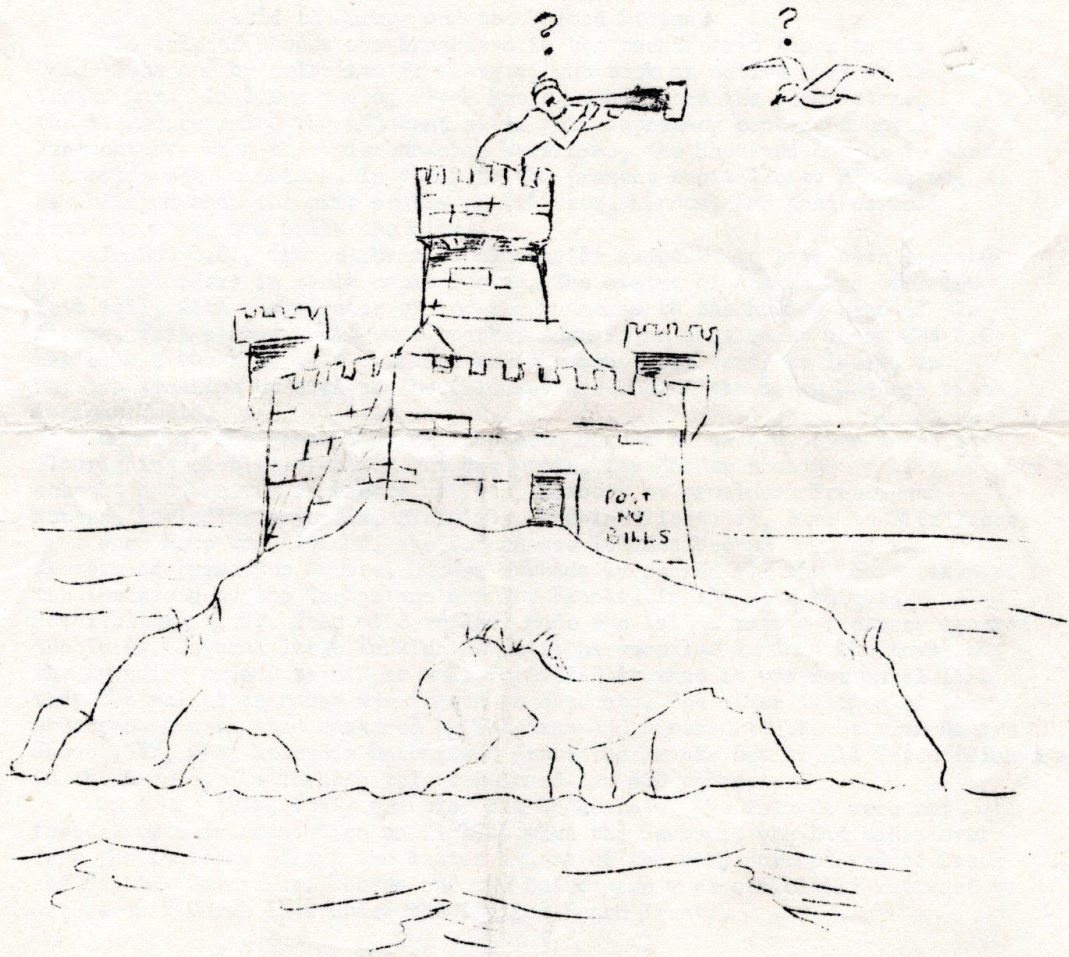


Rhodes



NUMBER FOUR OF THE SERIES OF I & E PUBLICATIONS ABOUT PORTS AND
WHAT ALL THERE IS TO SEE

HISTORY--GENERAL INFORMATION

Rhodes, the easternmost island of the Aegean Sea, lies off the southern coast of Caria due south of the promontory of Cynossema. Its length from NE to SW is about forty-five miles. Twenty-three thousand of the island's 56,000 inhabitants live in the capital city of Rhodes, the rest in villages throughout the island. Mt. Attabyrus, the highest point, rises 3986 ft, above sea level. It is part of a chain of mountains with lateral spurs which form the backbone of the island.

The island is mainly agricultural. The principal products are fruits, olives and olive oil, onions, and fresh vegetables. Sponge fishing affords a leading item sold to Europe and the United States.

The isle of Rhodes was inhabited in the prehistoric times by the Pelasgians and by colonists from Argos, who took an active part in the Trojan war. In later years, after having vanquished the Phoenicians, the islanders ruled the adjacent seas. This supremacy continued until the 7th century. When the Peloponnesian Wars came, the Rhodians fought in them alongside the Athenians. In 407 B.C. the present capital city Rhodes was established when the city states of Ialysos, Lindos, and Kamiros united into one state and built the city.

In 280 B.C., the celebrated Colossus is supposed to have been erected by the islanders in their capital city. The statue of Apollo was over 100 feet tall, with a staircase giving ready access to the hollow head of the figure. This statue, which was knocked down in an earthquake about 224 B.C., has caused the name of the island to be a household word, at least, in English speaking countries. The Colossus was one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World.

Cassius, the Roman general, captured Rhodes in 42 B.C. Even then, its flourishing civilization did not disappear, for Rhodes remained a city of many schools and boasted of famous artists. Numbers of prominent Greeks and Romans, including emperors, officials, and intellectuals, came to live there.

When Rome was divided, the Dodecanese Islands became part of the Eastern or Byzantine Empire. Rhodes eventually shared all the misfortunes of the invasions by the Barbarians and the Franks. In 1309 the Knights Hospitallers of St. John of Jerusalem made the island into a fortress against the Turks. Several large Turkish expeditions were led against the town, but the invading crusaders had so well fortified it that it was not until 1522 that the religious order was forced to evacuate. The other islands of the Dodecanese were then captured by Sulaiman and annexed to the Ottoman Empire about 1537, when Meireddin Babbarossa drove the Franks out of all Greek islands in the Aegean. The Turkish rule continued for 400 years.

On 4 May 1912, Italy occupied the Dodecanese. The islands were not freed from this occupation until 1945 when the Germans, who had taken over from the Italians during the latter stages of the war, surrendered to Greek and British Commandos. Rhodes and the Dodecanese were officially returned to Greece on 7 March 1948 under the Italian Peace Treaty.

PLACES TO SEE

THE OLD TOWN AND FORTRESS

The old town, enclosed within the walls of the immense medieval fortress, is romantically picturesque. Within this fortress, which was built in A.D. 1310 by the Knights of St. John, are the Castle of Great Magistrates, with its beautiful Greek mosaics, and the Hospital of the Knights, which is now a museum. Its exhibits include the famous statue of Aphrodite (Venus) of Rhodes. Within the walls of the fortress, there are monuments of every period of history: The Street of the Knights, with its houses and their coats of arms; Byzantine churches, with ancient frescoes; and minarets of mosques, remainders of the Turkish occupation.

THE NEW TOWN

Outside the walls stretches the new town, a garden city with beautiful houses and imposing public buildings. The small and picturesque Fort of St. Nicholas faces the entrance of Mandraki Port. At a short distance from the latter is the famous Hotel Des Roses on the sea front. The well known Aquarium is nearby.

IDYLIC LANDSCAPES

Rosini Park is just a few minutes from the town, full of small streams and lakes, rich vegetation, great shadowy trees, and winding paths. Higher up is the top of Filerimos Hill with the old monastery of Panaghia. The view from this height is really beautiful. Below is the Valley of Butterflies.

ANCIENT SITES

Ruins of the ancient temples of Athena and Apollo can be seen on the hill of the Acropolis of Rhodes, as well as an ancient Stadium and a Theatre.

Following the coastal road on the western side of the Island, you come to the cape of St. Minas. There, on the side of a wooded hill, lie the ruins of ancient Kamiros; a complete city.

Crossing the island to its eastern coast, you reach the ancient city of Lindos, famous for its Acropolis, on a huge, wild rock, towering high up above the sea. Prominent among the ruins of the Acropolis of Lindos is the restored temple of Athena. The story goes that Helen, returning home after the fall of Troy, stopped at Lindos and dedicated to this temple a moulding of her breast made of pure amber. The village of Lindos itself is very picturesque and full of interest. It has well preserved Byzantine churches with excellent frescoes, old houses with beautifully painted ceilings, and a famous collection of old Rhodain plates.

GREEK LESSON

Hello or Greetings	KHER-et-e	Please	pa-ra-ka-LO
Hello and Good-by	YA-soo	Thank you *	ef-cha-ree-STO
Good Morning	ka-lee-MER-ah	Yes	NE or MA-lee-sta
Good Evening	ka-lee SPER-ah	No	O-hee
Good Night	ka-lee NEEH-ah	Do you understand?	ka-ta-la-VEN-ees?
Sir or Mister	KEE-ree-e	I understand	ka-ta-la-VEN-o
Madam	kee-REE-a	Speak slowly	MER-la seo-GHA
Miss	ghess-pee NEESS	What is it?	TEE EE-ne?
How are you?	TEE KA-net-e?	What's this?	TEE EE-ne af-TO?
Excuse me	seegh-NO-neen	How Much?	PO-so KA Nee?

(*Note: When someone thanks you, you answer with the word for PLEASE)

USEFUL PHRASES

1. I want a taxicab. THEL-o EN-ah af-to-KEE-neet-o.
2. I want to go to the American Navy Ship. THEL-o na-MIR-go ees toe am-ay-ree-ka-NO naf-tee-KO PLEE-o.
3. My bill (or check) please. Toe lar-gar-la-SMO'pa-ra-ka-LO.
4. Take me there pee-YEN-et-en-ay ay-KEE.