



This bugler closes his eyes when he becomes enraptured by the fanfare he is playing



The population of the kingdom is small. On the local remembrance day, all inhabitants - including the clergy - form a parade, circling honoured members of the government



In the fiftieth year after the lion-hunting, King Leo - a teacher of the neighbour-state, Denmark - distributes the order of the lion-hunter

The Kingdom of ELLEORE

The smallest state in the world has no need of A-weapons; it has its own secret weapon - laughter - which has often conquered even the most dangerous enemy . . .

THE Kingdom of 'Elleore' is situated in Denmark, on a little island deep in the fiord of Roskilde - one of the many beautiful fiords in Denmark. You may not find this island on a map and, on a map of the world, it will only appear as a microscopic spot - because, being only 2,300 metres square, it seems quite insignificant.

Once before, during the infancy of the film industry, a most exciting safari picture was taken on the island. Two decrepit old lions, a very lean goat and an old horse were used. The animal-lovers of those days were so opposed to the film, that an action was raised against the film company; the upshot was that one promoter - a Danish minister - had to resign.

From then until 1944, everything was peaceful on 'Elleore'. Other nations fell into ruins during the Second World War, but a new kingdom, with the well-known Erik the Long as ruler, was established on the island. Hitler never discovered the existence of the kingdom and, after the World War, when rearmament began, 'Elleore' had its own navy and army. Previously, it had its own finances and mail services, and a pious and zealous clergy. Because there are no treaties with other places abroad, the currency and stamps of 'Elleore' may not be used outside the narrow confines of the kingdom.

Few kingdoms have, in such a short time, created a real bureaucracy. The national time which, in Denmark, was abolished some 60 years ago, is still used on 'Elleore'; this means that foreigners coming to the island have to set their watches back 12 minutes.

King Erik the Long chose to abdicate when a revolt arose; he is now a princely adviser in another Lilliput-kingdom - Prince Rainier's of Monaco. The name of the present king is Leo, in commemoration of the short lion-period of the land, and nobody seems distracted because he is living a double-life - he is also a teacher in Copenhagen. Leo rules like a real king, in a very majestic way; he even wears a crown, and lives in a beautiful castle made out of wood.

Everyone fears the tariff; customs duty must be paid on egg-and-sardine sandwiches and loose coat-buttons, for example. Relating to foreign politics, the government aims at good relations with both East and West. However, the army is in constant training, as the State believes in a policy of strength. The A-bomb has been renounced by the kingdom, because a

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The navy of 'Elleore' puts to sea on a coastal patrol to ensure that there are no illegal immigrants



The historical background of 'Elleore' - such as the lion-hunting and the invasion in 944 A.D., by the monks, etc. - can be studied on these stamps. Top left, the two kings - King Erik the Long and King Leo - are pictured together. The bottom stamp are in two colours and are used a great deal. Bottom left, is the airmail-stamp picturing a flying goose - the kingdom does not yet own an aeroplane!



Tax has to be paid, and the rough hearts of the soldiers are not easy to melt - even if a young girl tries her most winning smile.

ELLEORE

member of the government discovered that it would cost 100,000 times more than the Treasury possesses. On this point, too, 'Elleore' is a pioneer-country. They have, instead, a secret weapon of which there are great expectations, but no one will say what it is - because then it will no longer be a secret! However, a general from 'Elleore' declared, when visiting the neighbour state, that the best weapon in 'Elleore' is laughter...

The inhabitants of the kingdom of 'Elleore' are schoolboys from Copenhagen on vacation; the king and the ministers are their teachers. One of them, a teacher in History, believes that Irish monks landed on the island in 944 A.D.; because of this, the flag of the kingdom consists of a white cross on a red background. The only republican on the island tries to get a lion in the flag - but he is met with great opposition from the other islanders.



'Elleore' has its own finances, but you must pay a percentage to the treasury if you want your money changed in order to buy some of the rare stamps printed by the islanders



The troops are well-equipped and tough, and have to keep in training



The army is very popular in 'Elleore' - too popular, thinks Sergeant Jensen (above), as he orders back two over-enthusiastic young spectators. Below, King Leo walks through his guard of honour in the special 'Elleore'-day ceremony which is performed every summer

