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Archives Center - NMAH

Leo Baekeland Diary Volume 40, 1925

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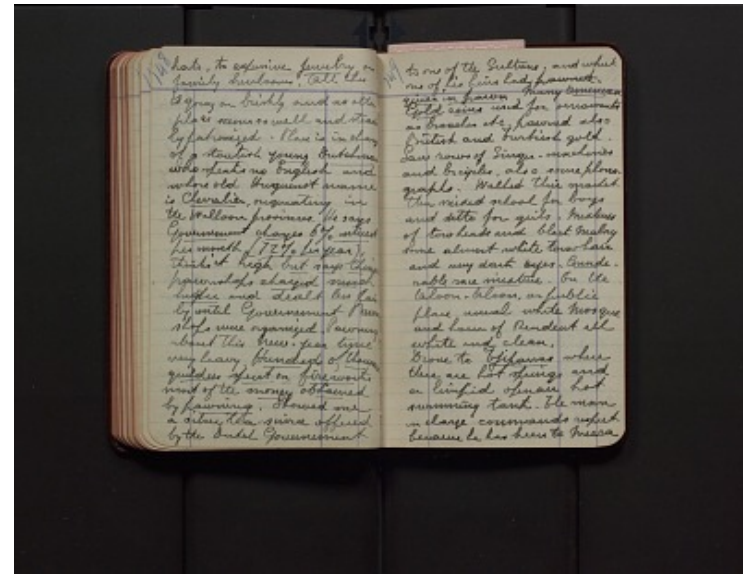
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hats, to expensive Jewelry or family heirlooms. All this is going on briskly and no other place seems well and steadily patronized. Place is in charge of a stoutish young Dutchman who speaks no English and whose old Huguenot name is Chevalier, originating in the Walloon provinces. He says Government charges 6% interest per month (72% per year), thinks it high but says Chinese pawnshops charged much higher and dealt less fairly until Government Pawn shops were organized. Pawnery about this New - Year time very heavy. Hundreds of thousands guilders spent on fireworks most of the money obtained by pawning. showed me a silver tea-service offered by the Dutch Government

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to one of the Sultans, and which one of his heirs had ~~pawned~~ given in pawn. Many American Gold coins used for ornaments as brooches etc. pawned also British and Turkish gold. Saw rows of Singer - machines and bicycles, also some phonographs. Walked thru market then mixed school for boys and ditto for girls. Mixtures of tow heads and black Malay some almost white tow-hair and very dark eyes. Considerable since mixture. On the Aloon-Aloon, or public place usual white Mosque and houses of Resident all white and clean. Drove to Tjipanas where there are hot springs and a limpid open air hot swimming tank. The man in charge commands respect because he has been to Mecca



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