

In Parenthesis

As of Yore
Modern Mother—But doctor, don't you think castor oil is a very old-fashioned remedy to give baby?
Doctor—Madam, babies are old-fashioned things.

In Court
"Do you plead guilty or not guilty?"
"Guilty," replied the prisoner.
"I must warn you," said the magistrate, "that your remark carries conviction."
Laughter.

The Threat
A man in full evening dress entered Hyde Park early one morning followed by two pink elephants, ten blue cats, a lavender giraffe, and forty spotted mice.

When he noticed this motley trope he tried to wave them away, but they continued to trot along behind him. He paused several times, looked back, and cried "Shoo, all of you!" But in vain! The fantastic company crowded in his wake, jostling each other and treading on his heels. At Stanhope Gate the man stopped dead, faced them and said in a loud, fierce voice—

"Now then, all of you get this—if you don't leave me alone I'll take two aspirins and make you all disappear!"

Well, I'll Tell You—

Hollywood, Cal.
I believe opportunity knocks on everybody's door, but the younger you are, the more apt you are to get excited and scare him away. If he'll just wait to knock after you've had a few years to mellow your life and give you a little experience, you'll be able to answer the door more calmly. I had one uncle who had been working for years as watchman down in the railroad yards and had given up all hopes of ever bettering himself. One day a lawyer called on him and said "I just received word that one ten dollars." My uncle says "Are you sure?" and the lawyer says "Yes and you'll get the ten dollars just as soon as the estate is settled." My uncle says "Well, that's fine, but I ain't gonna take no chances—I'm gonna hold on to my job until I get the money."—By BOB BURNS.

News of the Rest

Officials on the agricultural side of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries will, in future, wear straw in their hair. Those on the fishy side will be distinguished by blue hats and pendants from their necks. Thus the Minister hopes to know where he is. All the chiming clocks in Paris struck last night.

A frog has nested in a milk bottle at Gravesend. "Its face," said the householder, "reminds me of my sister-in-law."

Swindon police are caring for a Rochdale mouse that was found singing its way to London. It has stated that its ambition is to be like Gracie Fields.

Evan Evan Evan Evans, a farmer of Llanllanllyfodd, has celebrated his 107th birthday. He says he has seen many big changes, dear me, but nothing like enough small change. He attributes his good health to bicycling round the kitchen for an hour a day. He has 4,000 grandchildren.

A Bit About Life
Tom actually assaulted the girl—gave her a black eye, and might have killed her if her mother had not hit him over the head with a bowl containing goldfish.

Quotation from a review of a novel. "Just why did you do that?" said Tom moodily. There was water down his neck. He felt uncomfortable.

"In my day," replied her mother, "you would have been dropping them in a flower vase, 'you men did not seek their fiancées in the eye.' She rang for a maid to clean up the mess.

Tom lit a cigarette, and turned to the open window of the fifth floor flat. Her mother followed him and pushed him out. "Now," she said to her daughter, "you can see more of that nice Mr. Wynterbottom."

"Oh, I don't know," sighed the girl. "What does it all mean? What is the answer?"

"A bowl of goldfish," replied her mother abruptly.

A Bit About Steppes
My pet music critic—Obel! What tone!—says that Alexander Gretchaninoff "is known only in England by his immortal song, 'The Dreary Steppes'."

Words are tricky things. Not all of us know what a Russian steppe is. Indeed, we have every excuse for confusing it with an English step of the kind that Mrs. Buttonstick whittens so assiduously—especially in view of the existence of the old immortal English song, "A-sytynge on ye steppe." How does it go...

I do implore my sweetheart's doore To open verie soone:
I lacke elle penne, here on ye steppe,
A-sytynge on ye steppe,
Should sleepe betide, a stryge I've tied.

To warn me of her charms:
And see I waite for Kate, who's layde,
To truppe into my armes.

The music, of course, is by Purcell, who also composed "Peppye goes ye Weaslyle." This rollicking song was a favourite of Charles II. Whenever he sang it he made Nell Gwynne.

Sixty Years Ago

FROM THE "NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS," OF JUNE 14, 1877.

From Hongkong.—The "Mail" says that the first marriage of a Chinese under the civil law in Hongkong took place on the 7th instant, and caused quite a commotion. The bridegroom is the son of Mr. Chun Tai-kyong, translator and clerk in the Supreme Court. The bride and the bridegroom were before the Marriage Registrar in their nuptial costumes that of the former being a suit of Mandarin dress, while that of the latter consisted of the usual red robe, and the headpiece resembling a crown with strings of beads hanging down over the face. After the ceremony had been gone through, the lady, contrary to the usual illiterateness of Chinese females, signed her name in good legible Chinese characters.

Mr. Tong King-sing, chief manager of the China Merchants Steam Navigation Co., is now in Amoy, looking after the interests of the Company. He proposes at once to place a line of steamships between Hongkong and Foochow, and will shortly visit Formosa with the view of starting a line of vessels between Amoy and Formosa ports.

JAPAN'S MARCH OF MODERNISM

Communications Excellent Throughout Country

MEDICINAL QUALITIES OF HOT SPRINGS

By THORNTON

For the moment we have left the remote areas of Japan and betaken ourselves to the beaten tracks. We have fared well on Japanese foods, and the tendency has been to eat delicious things all day long. This is the land of cakes, sweets, fish and fruit. Our diet, including as it has oysters, lobsters, celery and asparagus, has been even daintier; and, as I remarked before, the amenities of Japan are enjoyed by all, and the modernism is not limited to the beaten tracks, but extends to the most remote areas. That is the astonishing thing, and in my travels I have been constantly and perpetually amazed at the excellence of communications all over the country, and at the high quality of the Japanese inns.

Nevertheless the diet is different to the one to which I am accustomed. Now that I am for the moment back in a centre like Miyazoshita I regard the potatoes on my plate almost with reverence. Potatoes are not understood in Japan. Nor is salt. Salt is put into the cooked food, but it is rarely served at table in a Japanese inn. Again, bread is obtainable in shops and restaurants, but it does not often find a place at meal times where its substitute of course is rice. Similarly you can buy excellent milk, but tea is commonly served without it, and since there is no bread at the table there can be no use for butter. You get sugar in chocolates and sweets, but it is usually served in single lumps.

Necessaries Procurable

So I dare say one gets much less of the necessities of life than one is normally accustomed to, though, as I say, you have got to ask for bread, butter, milk, sugar and salt, and they are usually procurable. Perhaps I have been careless in these matters, but the fact remains that I have lost a whole chance in three months and that I have grown rather thin. I am not sure that this is wholly a bad thing. Here on the beaten track, with three hearty meals constantly available, I see about me a number of gross people who might well be to my frugal Japanese inns and reduce their girth a little. For me guzzling is a passing indulgence, but I shall be back on the local diet before long; and may I say that it is one to which you become accustomed far more easily than might be supposed.

In the Fujiya Hotel here there is preserved an early pamphlet of 1884 describing how tourists in the neighbourhood could be provided with porters and ponies at reasonable rates. It is curious to reflect that I myself can recollect those vanished times. I passed through Japan in 1912, spending a brief fortnight in the country; but it was just long enough to enable me to appreciate how marvellous has been the development in the interval. I remember those porters very well, and how they carried my baggage at a brisk pace across the Harkone mountains and round the base of Fuji.

Now trains and motor buses and cars rush you over the country with speed and comfort. You can easily run up to Miyazoshita in a day from Tokyo, and tour about a bit round by Harkone, and be back in Tokyo next afternoon. It is wicked to rush it; but it can be done, and alas too many people do it. But the Fujiya Hotel does attract most travellers to tarry a while.

Better Quality Inns

But what interested me even more was the Naraya Inn, which lies just below the lovely Fujiya, and which is a Japanese inn where there is excellent accommodation (with breakfast and dinner included) for 6 Y. a day. The Japanese inns in these day resorts are of a higher quality than those in other places, at least higher than any other inns I have seen; and they are a revelation. The Naraya, like dozens of other hostels in these mountains, and in the neighbourhood of Nikko too, is a dream of polished woodwork. The gleam at you, and are smooth to the bare feet.

For my Y.12 (my daughter is travelling with me) we had an enormous double room which could be divided for the night by screens. It was sixteen mats in all. The balcony, where there were chairs and tables, looked down into a carp pool, an enchanting garden and to mountains beyond.

Elsewhere in Japan (and my experience is growing) the Japanese inns and chairs are very rarely provided in Japanese inns, where ordinarily they would ruin the soft matting floor. But in the holiday resorts tables and chairs on the balcony are now almost the rule, and it is interesting to observe that the Japanese themselves evidently appreciate them.

The matting problem (and in Japan the mat dictates both the size of the room and the nature of the furniture) seems to be on the way to solution. The chairs and tables often have sledge feet which do no damage at all to the straw.

Hot Spring Baths

I really had meant to tell you something about the exquisite scenery of Miyazoshita and Harkone, and about the loveliness of Fuji when its snowy cone hangs, as if swimming in the atmosphere, between earth and heaven. But perhaps you have a guide book handy; so I will take you for a hot spring bath instead.

I am tired after a long day, and the bathroom of the Naraya inn is particularly inviting. There is only one naked old gentleman in it, and when he leaves we have the room to ourselves. In a twin bath beyond the frosted glass partition Alice is enjoying herself in an exactly similar place for ladies. The men's room is wide, and built of clean white Japanese cedar. The floor is of wood. The bath itself is of wood also. Hot water rises up into it from the volcanic earth, and flows away silently over the edges of the pool.

I step slowly in, and sink myself up to the chin, sending by my displacement, a small tidal wave across the room. The water is so clear that my skin gleams in it whitely, and my limbs take on a tenuous elongation. I suppose these springs have some medicinal quality, but I don't know what it is. I am merely aware of a feeling of perfect mental and bodily ease.



TROUBLE IN THE MARKET ZOO

LAMA RELIGIOUS FESTIVAL

After Two-Weeks Fast, Adherents Enjoy Wines and Delicacies: Reincarnation of Dalai Lama Rumoured

By THIBETAN

Tachienlu, May 17.
Religion may be an opiate to people but when mixed, as it is in the Land of the Lamas, with good food and amusements, it is a powerful stimulant. Chinese sweet meats, border sausages and Chengtu spirits, it loses a great deal of its dangerous effect on the unsuspecting inhabitants of the frontier. Tachienlu has been en fête for a day and hundreds of children and thousands of people dressed in their very best spent the day at the different lamaseries.

Wherever dishes and tents could be borrowed they were borrowed and all yesterday, Sunday, elaborate preparations were made for this, the great day of the fast. Lamaism has been successful, at least in one direction, namely, in popularizing religion and the ordinary inhabitants on the Roof of the World do love and appreciate a religious festival with lots of wine and cakes thrown in. The present fast started two weeks ago and finished to-day. Year by year this festival is becoming more and more popular and this year it touched high water mark.

The lamas in the Forbidden Land have given the accumulation of merit a very wide and convenient range. Merit may be obtained by inviting the lamas to one's home to read the sacred books and repeat their voluminous prayers, by circumambulating any and every holy object, by making mud images and erecting mani mounds, by fasting and prayer, by donating gifts to the black red or yellow lamaseries and by lighting the prayer wheel, counting the rosary and repeating "Oh Mani Pad Me Hum."

Binding to Nothing

Lamas and drabs round Tachienlu are neither ashamed of their religion nor their worldly pleasures. Religion as the Tibetan drabs understand it is something that binds him to nothing. In the fasting festival which ended to-day there were all kinds of religious dances games and sports. The young Tibetan women of Tachienlu were called upon to dance their old-time folk dances while the large audience sat round in groups enjoying their wine, the dances and the cakes.

And nature was very kind. The morning opened bright and beautiful as a glorious sun shone from a clear blue sky. To conclude a two-week's fast the day was perfect. On this last great day of the fast, relatives of those who have been fasting go out in state to bring home their friends. Daughters bring home their mothers and nieces bring home their aunts. Women as a general rule are not permitted to reside in Tibetan lamaseries but during this time of fasting the hard and fast rule is laid aside and many women leave their residence in the comfortable cells of the different priests.

Similar to Other Religions

Whatever may be the origin, spread and history of Lamaism there are many striking similarities in its religious calendar to that of the churches in other countries, specially of the Episcopal and Catholic churches. Lent as a general rule coincides with the Tibetan fourth moon which frequently occurs in the month of April. The lama calendar also has its Feast of Flowers; its chase and expulsion of the "Scapegoat," the Demon of Bad Luck; Feast of the Dead, All Souls Day; the Picture Feast, and the Feast of Lanterns.

But the fourth moon, the Earth Happy month, is outstanding in the Tibetan religious calendar. The Tibetans leave their homes, the drabs forsake their cells, the hermits renounce their caves and all seek to dwell in tents, at least during part of the fourth moon. Special worship is also made to the Great Pitier, Jenzehzee of whom all the Dalai Lamas are reincarnations. Jenzehzee, according to Lamaism, looks down in pity and mercy on a weary, struggling, sinful humanity and offers his help and guidance in escaping from the Wheel of Life and in reaching Delzeze, the lama's paradise. Jenzehzee, more than Jambhaya or Chandroje—the three great incarnations in the Land of the Lamas—is prayed to by Tibetans all over the Roof of the World. From all over the land of Tibet, men and women, lamas and nomads, pray to Jenzehzee, whose incarnation on earth is the Dalai Lama, and who seeks to fulfil the benevolent purposes of the Great Pitier.

Fasting, confession and listening to the law read by some cultured lama, and the doing of innumerable good deeds, is devoutly observed every fourth moon along the frontier. Among these different forms, however, of religious exercise fasting seems to occupy an important place. Both Chinese and Tibetan authorities note the numerous fast days—lamas and drabs in the larger institutions are supposed to fast four days every

Coronation Service Held

The second event of interest was listening-in to the Coronation service up here on the Tibetan border. It began, local time, at 4.45 and continued till after 6 a.m. At times the broadcast came through beautifully and we followed step by step the

service in the Abbey. There were thrilling moments when the announcer said, "The Archbishop places the crown on the King's head." The music from the great organ in the Abbey was distinctly heard and also the words "Long Live the King." As a rule the static conditions round Tachienlu are not good but some times messages are picked up from different parts of the world.

The third event of importance was the departure of Mr. Hanson-Lowe and Mr. Floyd Johnston for Litang, Kanse and Dawo, on May 14. Mr. Hanson-Lowe is studying glaciation on the Roof of the World and is tremendously interested in the subject of the movements of continents. He has written numerous papers on glaciation and kindred subjects. He is also a keen geographer and very much interested in the great land movement. The Academia Sinica is following his work and is doing all it can to facilitate his studies throughout the Republic.

Rumours persist of trouble in Eastern Tibet, and the latest is an interesting one. Chatrin, south of Litang, Mr. Potts is travelling along one side of Chatrin and Mr. Hanson-Lowe along another and both may hear wild rumours of what is going on in this wild and turbulent part of Sikkim. Chatrin is inhabited by a lawless and truculent tribe of Tibetans whose allegiance wavers between Nanking and Lhasa. Sometimes this dangerous people will burn a lamasery and on another occasion they will destroy the Chinese yamen. And what determines their course of action is not easy to discover.

No "Soft" Appointment

When the Sikkim Administration invites a Chinese magistrate to proceed to Chatrin there is no great rush for the position. The present magistrate is controlling Chatrin from the safe distance of Litang and behind the safe protection of the Chinese garrison. There are two Tibetan chieftains in Chatrin who have fought each other for years and if the Chinese magistrate's yamen is unfortunate enough to come between the opposing forces—well then, look out! Apparently nothing can be done with this wild and lawless tribe and Mr. Chao, Warden of the Marches, with a large army at his disposal, left Sikkim without being able to subdue the Chatrinwa. It will be a thorn in the side of the Sikkim Administration until it is controlled from the air.

SOOCHOW SPORTS MEETING

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT

Soochow, June 11.

The third field meet of the Second District of Kiangsu opened here yesterday with representatives from eight cities as follows: Changchow, Wuxi, Kiangyin, Taichang, Dazhong, Quinsan, Ng Kaung and Soochow. Good representations came from each place and the District Chairman, Mr. Shih Kwang-ling, worked out a very good plan for ushering and directing the meet.

The meet will continue for three days and all outdoor sports are being held on the Soochow University campus. Preliminary trials and heats were held yesterday. The following team games are listed: football, basketball, tennis, baseball, volleyball and track. The pingpong tournament is being held at the Kong Hong Institutional Church in the centre of the city.

As the writer was meeting a bus he saw the best specimens of athletes that have thus far assembled in Soochow. When such meets become the rule China can soon build up teams that can meet any competition.

After a year or so in British and Dutch New Guinea Mr. Potts sailed up into the Dutch Indies. Picking up a boat at Sourabaya he went on to Japan and from there to Shanghai. He did a little journalism along the way and he now has the ambition to write a book on travel. He had a rough time coming up the Yangtze having to change boats a number of times between Ichang and Chungking. From Chungking he travelled overland by bus, first to Chengtu, then to Yachow and from Yachow he travelled eight days on foot to Tachienlu.

With half a dozen words of Chinese he managed to get along doing his own cooking with an Australian billy. He is now on the long stretch between Tachienlu and Likang, having left this city on the Coronation Day. He may get through; he may not; but he is bravely taking his chance and quite prepared for one thing or the other. He was fortunate in meeting a large opium caravan on its way back to Likang. With one servant and three animals he said good-bye to Tachienlu trusting his star to take him safely to the South of the Clouds.

Coronation Service Held

The second event of interest was listening-in to the Coronation service up here on the Tibetan border. It began, local time, at 4.45 and continued till after 6 a.m. At times the broadcast came through beautifully and we followed step by step the

TAO YUAN SOCIETY IN TSINAN

Sect Based on Good Points of Five Great Religions

EXTENSIVE BUILDINGS BEING ERECTED

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT

Tsinan, Sung, June 9.

If the erection of new and costly buildings is any criterion of a city's prosperity, Tsinan must be doing well, in spite of all the doleful tales of businessmen.

It is not quite two years since the members of the Tao Yuan, or Red Swastika Society, that institution which professes to combine the good points of five great religions in its teachings, erected a large hall. Now further extensive building are in process of erection on adjacent land. The Tao Yuan began its life nearly 20 years ago in an unpromising courtyard in a quiet, residential street. Without changing the location, the heads of this body have acquired more and more land, the total value of which must be enormous. The first extension made was to procure some property on which to open a women's branch of the society and to house a primary school for poor children. As the school has grown some of the older buildings have been given over to its use, this change being made possible by the erection of the new hall.

This hall is a really fine building. It is put up in a style reminiscent of the Imperial Palace or Tai Miao in Peiping. It stands on a stone terrace, approached by broad flights of steps and surrounded by a low stone parapet. On the south, the terrace is widened out to form a square platform, roofed over, like the old-style theatrical stage. The hall has concrete window frames, so planned that the general effect is very similar to that of the wooden-latticed windows of many Chinese temples. The roof is covered with shining green tiles which must have come from Peiping. These shimmer in the sunlight, giving off iridescent light very lovely to watch.

Dedictory Tablets

Inside this well-proportioned hall are scores of tablets dedicated to the deities and holy men of many faiths. The names of the Virgin Mary and her Son, of Old and New Testament characters are found alongside Lao Tzu, Mahomet and other great ones. But the majority of the tablets seem to bear names familiar to Buddhism. There are no images, no pictures of these people, just wooden tablets such as are found in the family temples of wealthy Chinese.

To the east, west and south of the large hall three more buildings are in course of erection, so completing a hollow square in proper Chinese fashion. Possibly these rooms may be intended for rest and meditation, or even for recreation. They are similar in style to the large hall, but not quite so elaborate, nor are they

roofed with the beautiful green tiles. Stone and concrete are the materials used in these buildings, and the general effect is that of a job where no expense has been spared.

Planchette Fortune-Telling

Superstition plays an important part in the Tao Yuan ceremonies, the chief of which is fortune-telling by means of a large wooden planchette that writes messages in sand. These communications from the spirit world are supposed to guide any who seek for advice or comfort. Some years ago a foreigner, living near to the Tao Yuan, received a request to translate into English a message that had just come, via the planchette, from the Virgin Mary, She, using the Chinese language, had sent a special greeting to a Roman Catholic assembly about to meet at Lourdes.

In former years outsiders were allowed to visit the Tao Yuan and even to see the large planchette at work, but now-a-days such acts of friendship are discouraged, nor are the members of the society communicative about what goes on within the walls.

That philanthropy is an important part of their scheme of things is evident. The school already mentioned has a well-equipped playground where the children may amuse themselves after school is over, as well as during the regular recreation periods. Outside the city is a fair-sized hospital run by the Red Swastika Society, the medical branch of the Tao Yuan.

ONLY Foreign Registered Optometric Eye Specialists in China



MYOPIA

We specialise in eliminating shortsight, having in two decades of practice originated an effective technique.



250 NANKING ROAD
Largest, Most Modern, Best-equipped

Drink
LION BEER

Use STEARNS SHAVING CREAM for easy shaving



- (1) It gives a quick, firm creamy lather with either hot or cold water.
- (2) Leaves the skin clean, smooth, and with no disagreeable after-smarting.
- (3) Softens the toughest beard without irritation to the skin and is ideal for those who shave twice daily.

\$1.40 per tube

Obtainable at all Pharmacies

Agents: WATSON'S

TO MEN who worry about MONEY

SPEND MORE WITHOUT FEELING THE STRAIN

Anyone who genuinely tries to provide for the future of himself and his dependants is under a tremendous strain. He scrapes and saves to meet possibilities which life insurance can completely cover, at a fraction of the outlay.

What life insurance GIVES is far more than life insurance takes. Do you realise how it can ease the strain on every prudent man? How the man who is adequately insured can spend more money, carefree, than the man who is not? When your risks are adequately covered, you can spend up to the hilt with an easy mind.

GIVES YOU MAXIMUM PROTECTION
A man aged 35 can provide his wife with £20 a month for 15 years for an annual outlay of £65-18-0—a little over £5 a month.

Directly you have deposited your first instalment, you provide your wife with the Company's guarantee to meet these payments regardless when your death may occur and for a period which, if death occurs early in life, will look after your children until they are self-supporting. Isn't this much easier on the mind than trying to provide them with £3,600 out of your own pocket?

You can provide for them on any scale of living they enjoy to-day and you can do this by easy instalments, monthly if more convenient.

We ask everyone who worries about money to write for details of our Guaranteed Maximum Protection Policy. Please use the Coupon below. You will incur no obligation.

Graeme D. Nicholl
Manager for North China

The MANUFACTURERS LIFE

Insurance Co. of Canada

Chief Office for North China:
Hamilton House, Shanghai

ASSETS OVER £29,000,000

Incorporated in Canada, 1887, as a Limited Liability Company.

COUPON

Please let me have full particulars of your GUARANTEED MAXIMUM PROTECTION Policy, without obligation.

Name..... Age.....
(Add Mr., Mrs., Miss)

Address.....

THE MANUFACTURERS LIFE INSURANCE CO.
P. O. Box 525, Hamilton House, Shanghai.

LAZARUS
OPTICIANS

126 Nanking Road

126 Nanking Road