WOMAN TO HEAD TRADING EXPEDITION TO AFRICA

Ida Vera Simonton, Well Known as African Explorer, Selected by Financiers to Plan Trip

By WINNIFRED HARPER COOLEY.

AND now a woman is to head a trading expedition to Africa. When the American Tropical Trading Company was formed recently with the purpose of shipping Virginia leaf tobacco and other goods to the west coast of Africa only one person in the United States was deemed thoroughly competent to command the expedition. This was Ida Vera Simonton, the African explorer, whose two years work on the west coast and in the French Congo placed her among the leading explorers, ethnologists and scientists of the world.

Miss Simonton wrote a book, "Hell's Playground," whose vivid descriptions of the horrors of life in the region called the White Man's Grave comprise almost the only authentic data concerning conditions in that part of Africa. Some critics declared that no woman possibly could have created this remarkably virile work. At the present moment "Hell's Playground" is being dramatized, and also "filmed," and undoubtedly will prove especially valuable as a moving picture study.

Miss Simonton was the first American woman to master the technicalities of the moving picture business from the ground up, by the way, and she is to operate a special moving picture machine in this new African exploration, and is herself to be featured.

Although I have known "Africa" (as her friends love to call her) for some time, it did not seem possible that this young woman wearing a pretty kimono and cuddled up on a divan in a childish attitude could be the person chosen to select the cargo of a trading ship and decide on the plans for an expedition to the treacherous jungle land.

The sailing vessel is to take at least five weeks for the voyage, and is to make directly for Liberia from New York. Although the promoters are men conspicuous in the financial and commercial world, they rely upon this little young woman as the brains of the expedition because she has the technical knowledge which is indispensable to them. After reading "Hell's Playground," they sought her out, and gave her absolute authority as an advisory committee of one.

Miss Simonton passes upon every ounce of cargo, foodstuffs and medicines to be taken on the voyage. She is to be the only woman on the ship, and as there will be no ship doctor she will act in that capacity. When I suggested that she might get into trouble with the medical fraternity she laughed and said:

"There are many things you can do upon the high seas."

It is necessary for white people if they would live amid the perils of the part of Africa to be visited to take great quantities of strychnine, quinine and nux vomica. Men who have survived actual residence in the jungle declare that it is not possible to exist unless one takes from eighty to 150 grains of quinine every single day! Malaria carries off vast numbers of white men.

"We are making for the yellow fever coast," said Miss Simonton cheerfully when asked about her plans, "and you know malaria is the bete noire of the white man. Also, there are little matters of smallpox, jungle fever and loathsome diseases. We have panthers, wildcats, hippopotami and boa constrictors. Also five weeks at sea in a sailing vessel is no joke.

"Do you know," she continued confidentially, "it is honestly a fact that I am not in the least afraid of any form of death, but there is one thing that worries me terribly. What do you suppose it is?"

Of course I gave it up. The prospect of many weeks of storms at sea, with possible war adventures and the danger of yellow fever and a welcome to the African shore by crocodiles and wildcats and pythons, did not seem to me alluring. What could be worse if she really did not dread any of these things?

"It is to be eaten by sharks!" she announced seriously. "You see, burial at sea is not objectionable. It is as dignified and sanitary as cremation. But when I consider the idea of the sharks tearing one's body it really does give me an occasional tremor."

However, as this intrepid explorer endured two years in Darkest Africa for literary purposes and lived to tell the tale I can reasonably hope that the sharks are to be cheated.

The American Tropical Trading Company is doing an important work for this country, although the enterprise is of course commercial. Its directors include exporters, as well as Wall Street bankers and brokers.

The President of the United States and the Secretary of State have shown interest in this enterprise on account of its possibilities as a new factor in trade expansion and they are furnishing Miss Simonton with letters of recommendation to the European Powers.

It might not occur to the average person that a letter of recommendation is a very necessary passport to a woman going to Africa. This is true, however, for apart from missionaries the few women who venture into such a region as "Hell's Playground" are mostly adventuresses. Just as in the days of the forty-niners, when vast numbers of men rushed to the California coast in search of gold, the few women who followed them were usually of the lawless and venturesome variety, so are most of the women who seek the French Congo and the West African Coast.

Miss Simonton does not think well of missionaries, having encountered many selfish and impossible men and women in her two years residence in the jungle. She maintained a household of eighteen native servants when she lived in the tropics and was protected by the military, under the instructions of the French Government.

The boat which is to carry the American cargo to the far distant land is the Adeline Carleton. She is a four masted schooner, manned by naval reserve men. She is in dry dock in Brooklyn at present. When refitted for this voyage she will dock off Wall street in the East River.

The importance of tobacco in Africa cannot be exaggerated. Not only is it consumed in vast quantities (and Virginia leaf is demanded by Europeans and natives) but it is the only money in some regions. Rubber is the coin of the realm for the natives, but tobacco is the white man's medium of exchange.

For instance, when white or black men want to buy a woman they pay her father or husband three pounds of rubber or several pounds of tobacco, or in a few instances so many teeth of ivory. Food and all living necessaries are purchased through tobacco as a medium.

The object of this American expedition is not only to carry tobacco to Africa but also to establish a trade in rubber, ivory, ebony, mahogany and teakwood, palm oil, pam kernels and dyestuffs. It is well known in these war days that American manufacturers of some cotton fabrics are suffering because the only good dyestuffs are usually imported from Germany, and the impossibility of securing them is crippling American industry. Miss Simonton insists that most valuable dyestuffs may be secured in Africa. Up to now the only way by which America could send tobacco to Africa was via England, but now the tobacco can be sent direct, and the dyestuffs brought back to us direct.

For nearly two centuries England, France and Germany have controlled the West African trade. The European war at last is giving America its chance, and is opening up trade, which ought to mean considerable wealth from absolutely new sources.

The buying of a cargo boat by Wall Street interests and the stocking of it with American goods is expected to open up the direct market. Thus, although the affair is of a private nature, it takes on a national aspect. If this first venture proves successful the company will operate monthly cargo boats. If this voyage, which is scheduled to begin about October 15, really makes history in this way it will be all the more notable because a woman is in charge of the enterprise.

To equip a vessel for so strange and long a voyage is no small task. There is something about it almost uncanny. Scientists of distinction are becoming interested in the expedition. Dr. Fink, the inventor of the Tungsten light, is a stockholder, and is equipping a photographic laboratory for Miss Simonton.

There are serious war features connected with the venture. Although flying the American flag and clearing for a neutral country, this expedition is quite likely to have exciting experiences; for in the waters to which it is bound many of the laws of civilization are often disregarded, even in time of peace.

Although I had heard many startling and sensational facts narrated by Miss Simonton in personal talks and public lectures, although I had examined her relics and trophies in her home, and studied the beautiful and wonderful transparencies which the Museum of Natural History acquired from her, this new venture reawakened my curiosity and I begged her to tell me some more of her personal experiences. She replied amiably.

"As to my adventures—let me see; well, for instance, I recall at one time I was living among savages inflicted with the dreaded and incurable sleeping sickness, and I did not know it until I reached Leopoldville, in the Belgian Congo. There I happened to call upon a Belgian bacteriologist, and when he heard of my having been in the sleeping sickness belt, he welcomed me most profusely, for he saw in me an intelligent 'victim' from whom he could exact data regarding the malady.

"Before that all his patients had been savages, from whom he could get no lucid accounts, but in me he saw one who could cooperate with him in his research work. In his mind's eye, he joyfully saw me fading away daily, describing my feelings and symptoms to him in an obliging and amiable manner, while he made copious memoranda, which would be of incalculable benefit to science—and incidentally make him world famous! You know, there is very little yet known of the malady. Picture his disgust when, after taking my blood test and studying me for some time, he was obliged to resign himself to the fact that I was absolutely free from trypanosomata!

"Again, I lived among leprosy, and smallpox was as common as the ordinary colds are in a New York winter season. Malaria, as I have told you repeatedly, is the horror of Africa, which saps the white man's very blood and takes the soul out of him, leaving him a limp, languid being, who frequently finds it less agonizing to lie down and die than to keep up life's battle.

"This accounts for the strange fact that white people in Africa do not become tanned black, as one might expect in the tropics, but remain thin, pale and anæmic. They look like corpses wandering around to save funeral expenses! The ghastly and tragic occurrences in my book, which reach a horrible climax, seemingly so sensational as to be beyond the pale of probability, are simple and oft repeated facts. The flower of England all too often is sent to "Hell's Playground," to amass or recoup a fortune, but withers away, and never returns to civilization.

"Perhaps the most unendurable agony for the highly sensitized white man is the torture of the sameness, the dead monotony. Under the glare of the noonday sun one day is like unto another in endless succession, as in the eternal years of Dante's 'Inferno.' If you fail to mark off the date on your calendar you lose all account of time and the world stands still. I have seen men go mad from the sheer sameness of the horrible life. Step by step they degenerate, until many of them reach the plane of the brute. A thousand times worse do they become than the white man in the drama, 'The Bird of Paradise,' who could not resist the apathy of Hawaii.

"White women are very, very rare. Outside of the missionaries no white woman ever remains longer than from three to six months in the deadly country. No lone white woman is admitted to the colonies nowadays unless she is to engage in missionary work, marry some white man who has sent for her, or engage in scientific research, like myself, an almost unknown instance.

"My credentials from Washington enabled me to enter the West Coast colonies, and I was always afforded military escort and had the power to commandeer food, men and canoes, and every possible thing necessary to my project. Also, I was allowed to have firearms and ammunition and to take everything I needed into the colony free of duty, which is a very big concession, particularly on the part of the French Government, which taxes everything that comes into or goes out of its African possessions.

"As you know, I first went to Africa to study primitive women and children and, heartrending as were some of my experiences, I am glad to be an authority upon the savage woman. Perhaps you will find more on this subject in my new book, which is to be called 'The Great White Eye.'"

Already I had heard many of the horrors of the lives of the native women and seen pictures of their mutilations, and others showing old hags, scarcely 25 years old. The African girl matures very early and is straight and slim and full of life and vigor. She is like a statue of mahogany or ebony. But her years of attractiveness are very few in number. Child bearing soon reduces her to old womanhood. Sometimes she is a grandmother at 30.

Knowing the horrors and perils again to be braved, I gazed at my sister woman with a new feeling little short of awe and veneration when I first learned that she was deliberately going to sail into the jaws of death, and seemingly court disaster. But all intrepid explorers find compensation and joy in the daring project itself, and because she is a woman is no reason for being a coward, according to the creed of Miss Simonton. Curiosity and literary feeling and a desire for scientific research caused her to brave the jungle the first time. This time she is deliberately going on a trading expedition, and I, for one, hope that she will wax rich and prosperous, and live to come back and tell her adventures to the thousands at the Panama exposition.

"It is really very simple," she said. "I am cashing my knowledge so arduously gained. Men capitalize their experience; why should not I?

"Of course I will have the same deadly climate to contend with, but this time I will not have the additional hardships of going into the interior. It is my delight that I shall be better equipped to take pictures of the country, natives and animals. I am to be featured in the moving pictures, and probably shall accompany the films around America, if I live to return.

"I know all the dangers of death from wild animals and poisonous reptiles, and it is no secret that the natives still indulge in the pleasant pastime of using poisons and poisoned arrows if you do not please them. But I am willing to take my chances. Never before in the history of the world has a woman alone explored and then taken and developed moving picture films. All the world renowned explorers always have taken with them experienced photographers, but I intend to become expert before leaving and accomplish this feat alone."

After all, in spite of typewriters and moving picture machines, the real purpose of the expedition is trade, and when the girl's social friends assemble the last night before sailing on shipboard, in a merry party, they will wish her not only health and safe return and fame but a snug little fortune.

Ida Vera Simonton under military escort in the cannibal district of the French Congo.

Will Be Only Woman on Sailing Vessel, Which Is to Take Five Weeks for Voyage

Social Activity at Lenox and Newport--Happenings at the Autumn and Winter Resorts

LENOX, Mass., Oct. 10.—This week has been the most interesting of all the Lenox season. Into it has been crowded the Red Cross fair, the spectacular balloon race and the pursuit by automobiles, picnics, luncheons, large dinner entertainments in a score of villas, and the touring to the hilltops to look down on the most gorgeous foliage of a decade.

Within the week there were but two villas closed and two cottagers came up to Lenox and opened their villas, which balanced the score. The weather is responsible for the long sojourn of the cottagers, late September and the opening week in October having been a stretch of golden weather.

At the Red Cross fair the success of the managers was phenomenal. Every one for miles around attended and the little hall was filled to capacity throughout the day. In the evening auctioneers sold the remaining wares.

Cottagers are preparing for the chrysanthemum show which will be opened October 22. This is the largest display made of the products of the greenhouses of the region in the year. Beside chrysanthemums there will be roses, carnations, violets, plants and in another department fruits and vegetables. Some of the big growers are Charles Lanier, Mrs. Carlos de Heredia, William B. Osgood Field, Mrs. John E. Parsons, Mrs. George G. Haven, Mrs. Giraude Foster, Joseph H. Choate, Mrs. William Hall Walker, Mrs. Warren M. Salisbury, Arthur H. Cooley and Mrs. John Alden Spoor.

Mr. and Mrs. Cortlandt F. Bishop, who are now on an automobile trip into the White Mountains, have been giving picnics on the top of the Hoosac range, where the new Mohawk trail crosses the divide between the Deerfield and the Hoosac rivers. This new motorway is the finest highway in New England and it will be opened by a celebration on the summit in November. Mr. Bishop crossed the trail five times this week with different parties.

The most important social functions of the season were given this week. Some of the large entertainers were Thatcher M. Adams, Miss Clementina Furniss, Mr. and Mrs. William B. Osgood Field, Mr. and Mrs. Newbold Morris, Mr. and Mrs. Carl Cos de Heredia, Mr. and Mrs. David Lydig, Mrs. Charles Carroll Jackson, Mrs. John E. Alexandre, Mrs. Anson Phelps Stokes, Mr. and Mrs. John Hutton and Miss Clementina Furniss have given luncheons.

Pittsfield society was interested by the announcement of the engagement of Miss Agnes Van Santvoord, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Seymour Van Santvoord of Troy, to William T. Rice of Pittsfield, Mass., son of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur H. Rice.

Cottagers are arranging for their winter residences. Mr. and Mrs. Charles Astor Bristed, having taken a house in town, will close Lakeside on the 24th. Mr. and Mrs. Carl A. de Gersdorf will close Orchard Hill on the 14th. Miss Anna Blake Shaw will close her villa the same day. This week Dr. Gilman Thompson reopened Halidon and will keep the place open into November. Mr. and Mrs. Thomas W. Strong will keep their cottage open until the last of November.

Mr. and Mrs. Ross W. Whistler expect to have the opening of their new house on Thanksgiving, when they will have a house party and a dinner celebrating the event. For six months the Hidden House, on Church Hill, has been rebuilding and a winter home has been created where a summer villa stood. Mr. and Mrs. Whistler will join the winter colony.

AT NEWPORT.

NEWPORT, Oct. 10.—This city can still boast of having a very fair representation of the social colony here, and while the summer season is over there is still considerable life about the Bellevue avenue section. The Casino is open, as is Bailey's Beach. The golf clubhouse is closed, but the links are still in daily use and the Clambake Club is still without its winter shutters, for the place continues to be used for entertainments.

Another sure sign that the fall season is still on was the fact that during the present week Mrs. Charles H. Baldwin gave at her Bellevue avenue home, Snugharbor, one of the largest luncheon parties given since the summer season opened. She had thirty-four guests.

The week has seen the change in proprietorship of two more of the villas here. Castlewood, the former summer home of Mrs. Emile S. Bruguiere, which since last spring has been more or less in the public light owing to the financial difficulties of the owner, has passed from the hands of the Savings Bank of Newport, which bought the place at a mortgagee's sale, to those of William Arnold Essex, a New Yorker, who, it is said, will occupy the place next season.

The other estate is Eastbourne Lodge, on Rhode Island avenue and Kay street, the home of Mrs. William Fitzhugh Whitehouse. According to the deeds filed at the city hall here in appreciation of natural love and affection Mrs. Whitehouse transfers the large estate to her four sons, Henry J., William F., Sheldon and Norman O. Whitehouse. During the past summer it has been occupied by one of the sons, William F., and his family, and summer before last Mr. and Mrs. Robert Goelet, who have since been divorced, had the place.

The week has been marked by the return of a few of the social colony who reverse the order of things and do not spend the whole summer here, staying for a while early in the year and then returning for the fall season. Dr. J. J. Mason is back from Bar Harbor and has joined Mrs. Mason at Wabun. Mr. and Mrs. Louis B. McCagg have also returned from Bar Harbor, where they spent the greater part of the summer, and they are at their Gibbs avenue home to remain until Thanksgiving.

ASHEVILLE.

ASHEVILLE, N. C., Oct. 10.—The series of autumn weddings in Eastern cities is filling Grove Park Inn with brides and bridegrooms. Prominent additions to the newly wed contingent this week were Ensign Laurence Wild, U. S. N., and his bride, the former Miss Louise Weber of Washington. Another well known young bridal couple arriving this week were Mr. and Mrs. Charles Wall, Jr., of St. Louis, the latter having been Miss Helen Maloy, a niece of Fred Cavenaugh of New York. The fortnight's stay of Mr. and Mrs. William Grosvenor, Jr., of Providence, whose honeymoon was passed at the Inn, came to a close last evening, when they left for Newport to visit Mr. and Mrs. William Grosvenor at Royslyn, the parents of the bridegroom.

Many of the guests arriving here are making return visits, among these being Mr. and Mrs. William Shave and Miss Mildred Shave of New York, Mrs. T. H. Bell and Miss Sarah Bell of New York, who have been visiting in Atlanta, have returned here for October. A party of guests from Chicago arrived this week for a visit and included Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Randle, Ransome Randle and Mr. and Mrs. A. O. McClain.

Among the social affairs of the week was a tea dance on Tuesday afternoon in compliment to the younger guests at the Inn, among whom are Miss Sarah Bell of New York, Miss Pilson and Miss Olga Pilson of Washington, D. C.; Miss Mildred Shave of New York, Miss Marion McCarty of Washington. A dinner dance was given at the Inn last evening. Among the guests were Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Wood of Washington, Mr. and Mrs. George Russell of Southampton, L. I.; Mr. and Mrs. Charles Wall, Jr., of St. Louis, Mrs. Augustus Shepherd of Cedarhurst, L. I.; Mr. and Mrs. William Grosvenor of Providence, R. I.; Mrs. T. H. Bell and Miss Sarah Bell of New York, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Kennedy of Buffalo, N. Y. Much attention was attracted at this affair to the handsome evening costume of cotton cloth worn by Miss Bell of New York, who was one of the many young women appearing at a recent "cotton ball" in Atlanta. Her costume was of cotton net, with edged ruffles and belt of gold colored sateen, and was finished by a corsage bouquet of cotton bolls.

Mrs. Augustus Shepherd of Cedarhurst, L. I., left for her home this week, but will return soon for a longer stay in Asheville.

Mrs. J. Albert Potter of Philadelphia, who spent the summer here, is visiting Mrs. Herbert Jackson in Cincinnati and will return next week.

Recent arrivals at the Inn include Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Lichtenhein of New York, Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Van Bibber of Boston, Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Bradford of Boston, Mrs. Samuel McCarty and Miss Marion McCarty of Washington, Mr. and Mrs. W. G. Shave and Miss Mildred Shave of New York, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Burgoyne of Cincinnati, Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Wood, Mrs. B. F. Pilson and the Misses Pilson of Washington, Mrs. T. H. Bell and Miss Sara Inman Bell of New York and Atlanta, Mr. and Mrs. Edward Craft of Atlanta, Mr. and Mrs. T. H. Balfour of Savannah, E. H. Sanchez and William T. Knox of New York, Mrs. Jackson Duncan and Miss Ruth Duncan of Cincinnati.

Recent New York arrivals at the Battery Park Hotel are Mr. and Mrs. A. Lamont, W. S. Osborne, Misses Barbara and Rosa Maurice and W. F. Beverly.

LAKEWOOD.

LAKEWOOD, N. J., Oct. 10.—Society here is rapidly completing its fall and winter schedule of entertainments. The members of the cottage colony are arriving daily and a great number of the regular patrons of the Laurel in the Pines and the Laurel House have registered for the winter and the ranks will be completed next week.

The afternoon concerts in the palm room of the Laurel in the Pines were started on Monday. Tea is served on small tables attractively arranged around the fountain and it is a rendezvous for visitors at Lakewood. A special sacred concert will be given by the hotel orchestra to-morrow afternoon.

Members of the Laurel House Gun Club will hold their first meeting next week when plans will be discussed for holding an open shoot some time before Thanksgiving. The regular Saturday cup events of the club will begin a week from to-day.

The Wholesale Coal Dealers Association of New York are planning for their tournament on the links of the Country Club the later part of this month. Frederick A. Potts of New York and Lakewood, president of the association, will have charge of the event. At the last tournament held here more than fifty of the leading coal dealers from New York, Philadelphia and Pittsburg competed.

The links of the Country Club were the scene of much activity this week. Some of the players who took advantage of the fine weather which prevailed were W. W. Willock, H. M. Forrest, Jasper Lynch, Frederick A. Potts, A. C. Soper, S. B. Ferris, E. E. Wentworth, Dr. C. O. H. Kayser, W. J. Schauffler, Jr., J. Marquard Walker, P. S. P. Randolph, P. S. P. Randolph, Jr., Harry Suydam, A. J. Murphy, W. C. O'Leary and Mr. and Mrs C. N. Lindley.

The contest committee of the club is arranging for an open golf tournament late in October. This will act in a way as a preliminary to the regular National Golf Association event scheduled for Thanksgiving.

Among the cottage rentals reported this week are the Porter cottage at Forest avenue and Eighth street to Mrs. A. H. Minot of Boston. The Sheldon cottage on Main street to Horace Porter of New York and the Glover cottage on Sixth street to Miss A. Jeannette Jones of New York.

W. C. Hope, general passenger agent of the Central Railroad of New Jersey, was a visitor at the Laurel in the Pines this week. He was accompanied by H. E. Rube. Mr. and Mrs. A. B. Twombley of New York were also visitors at the Pines this week.

Arrivals at the hotels this week include:

Laurel in the Pines—Mr. and Mrs. James P. Marrone, Dr. Frederick P. Hammond, John Ferguson, Jr., Samuel Carson Goodman, Mrs. Margaret Carroll, Miss Catharine Belden, S. H. Kress, John A. Hoagland, Miss Beatrice Allen, Miss Mary Mallon, H. R. Sand, J. Caleb Ward, Foster S. Naething, Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Atwater.

Laurel House—G. Varinbosh, Peter Quinn, Mr. and Mrs. Francis Wyatt, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Norment, W. Hambler, George Gregory, G. Burdett, Mr. and Mrs. E. G. Roberts, E. B. Wilson, Mrs. M. How, Walter O. Emerson, Mr. and Mrs. George E. Chatillon, Mr. and Mrs. William H. Kemke, Mr. and Mrs. G. B. Hotchkiss.

Oak Court Hotel—Mrs. Frank S. Williams, Mr. and Mrs. Turner C. Brown, Mr. and Mrs. Charles W. Riecks, the Misses Marion and Gertrude Riecks, Mr. and Mrs. M. T. Loebl.

Bartlett Inn—J. G. Mafera, F. E. Higbie, G. R. McLernon, W. E. Bush, Mr. and Mrs. A. B. Smith, Mrs. C. W. Smith, J. Kenneth Rutherford, Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Walker.

AT WHITE SULPHUR SPRINGS.

WHITE SULPHUR SPRINGS, W. Va., Oct. 10.—Things have now settled down into the routine one expects to find at a cure. Practically all of the summer throng who made the season the gayest in years have left and the round of morning germans, afternoon thes dansants and evening cotillons has ceased. The October crowd is living the simple life and dividing its time out of doors between tramping over the trails, golf and tennis and motoring, which is particularly enjoyable at this season of the year when the mountain sides are a panorama of rich colorings.

There has been a marked tendency during the last season or two to observe as religiously as people do at the European health resorts the rules of diet, exercise and bathing in connection with the cure, and the visitors who have been coming since early September for the autumn season to take the "kur" have been up with the lark and off for a mountain tramp before breakfast and have retired with the denizens of the barnyards.

During the day they have spent several hours at the Kurhaus, played eighteen or more holes of golf, several sets of tennis and then joined the dancers in the spring room during the afternoon tea hour. A little after 11 P. M. the corridors are deserted, for those who don't take the baths are taking the rest cure, storing up energy for winter seasons in New York, Washington, Philadelphia, Boston, Baltimore and other cities.

Some of those who are present here for the cure are Mr. and Mrs. M. Orme Wilson, Mr. and Mrs. Frank B. Keech, Mrs. William Allen, Hugh Inman, Mr. and Mrs. Franklin Mott Warner, Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Price Wetherill, George J. Geer, Jr., Mrs. Frank L. Norton, Mr. and Mrs. Huntington Norton, J. Campbell Maben, Miss Elizabeth Maben, Mr. and Mrs. William Lawrence Green, Mr. and Mrs. Sidney S. Blackwell, Mr. and Mrs. Robert A. Gardiner, Mrs. Clarence Cary, Mr. and Mrs. William F. McCombs, Mrs. John R. Williams, Miss Francise Williams, Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Tarafa, Frederick Hemsley and Dr. and Mrs. Edwin W. Ryerson.

John Hays Hammond arrived at the New Greenbrier from his summer home on the Massachusetts north shore on Tuesday and will be joined by Mrs. Hammond and his family to-morrow.

Mrs. Joseph E. Widener, who spent two months here last autumn, has returned from Newport to take the "kur" and will be here through November.

Mrs. Reginald Brooks, who recently completed the "kur" here, spent a short time at Mirador, the home of her father, Chiswell Dabney Langhorne, before sailing last week for England to aid her sister, Mrs. Waldorf Astor, in her work among the wounded soldiers returning from the Continent to England.

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Leiter, who recently returned from their year's yachting cruise around the world, will join Mrs. Leiter's mother, Mrs. John R. Williams, and Miss Francise Williams at the New Greenbrier next week. They are now at their country place, McLean, Va.

Mr. and Mrs. Blaine Elkins, who were members of the Leiter yachting party, will be at the New Greenbrier for late October and November.

"WATCHFUL WAITING" IN JAPAN

By JEREMIAH W. JENKS, LL. D., Ph. D.,

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AMONG several important statements made at the Japan Society's luncheon to the great Japanese scholar, thinker and orator, Dr. Sanaye Takata, was the assurance that the people of Japan are now carefully and deliberately making up their minds as to what is the attitude of Americans toward them and Dai Niphon. The attitude of the Japanese toward us just now is, we are assured, one of "watchful waiting."

The Japanese are a respectful, methodical, cool headed people. Not in the banzai of Bushido, not in the hysterics of Tokio or Nagasaki rabble, but rather in the submarine lieutenant who goes calmly and cheerfully to his death, in the imperial statesman who annexes a kingdom on the Asian mainland, and in the septuagenarian tribune who recasts, en bloc, the entire social and industrial organization of his country, can be found the true key to the character of the Japanese people. It is the deliberate, systematic subordination of the individual to the ideals of the nation, right or wrong.

Often have we been reminded how strong are the ties which unite in friendship the people of this country with those of Japan. Commodore Perry's mission was the wedge which opened up Japan to progress along Western lines. It is a matter of fact, established by incontestable evidence, that the soldiers of Kuroki and Nogi thrilled with pride when they read translations of the despatches appearing in the American papers extolling their valor and their victories. At 303 Meter Hill and in the lines outside the old town of Mukden they would sit around their campfires while linguists of each detachment read from stray copies of THE NEW YORK SUN, the Chicago *Herald* and the Los Angeles *Times* graphic accounts of how they were battling for the Mikado and for "dear Nippon" in Manchuria and on the Liaoyang.

Our presence in the Philippines made the Japanese and the Americans close neighbors, and, it must be said, good neighbors. Until the yellow press made a burning issue of the California land question (which in itself need not have been so considered), until a revival of "sand lot" appeals to passion and prejudice thoughtlessly and recklessly slighted Japanese national and racial pride, there was every reason to believe that this traditional friendship, this brotherly good fellowship, would burgeon into a useful fruition for both peoples.

But the rift has appeared within the lute. And the yellow press in Japan, as in this country, is, it is feared, widening the breach.

A British diplomat who spent the greater part of his life in Japan and who very probably knew the Japanese people much better than any other Occidental then or since, once observed: "The Japanese have no aims, but they have a most overwhelming ambition." The remark was called forth by a discussion of the future control of the Pacific, and the man who uttered it, the late William James Kenny, expressed in this way his belief that there was nothing necessarily in Japan's activities calculated to arouse uneasiness at Washington—provided no cog was permitted to slip at Washington or in the United States. Kenny's view still holds good.

It is inevitable that great changes must take place in the future history of the Orient. Great changes are now taking place. Japan is just entering upon a new period of social and industrial activity under the leadership of men like the revered Prime Minister, Okuma, and Dr. Takata, the president of Waseda University. China is being organized anew upon democratic lines. India is restive. The poets of Hindustan are breathing new fire and life into the teeming millions from Herat south to Ceylon. We ourselves have made real in Luzon the dreams of the assassinated Rizal. Out of this melting pot of the races can come great good—or vast evil. Much depends upon the attitude of the people of this country toward the people of Asia, as translated into deeds.

Dr. Takata tells us that "the people of Japan know more about America than Americans know about Japan." This is quite true. Still it is to be feared that in Japan, as in the United States, too much credence, too much weight, is given to hysterical utterances of irresponsible opinions, exaggerated in transit across the Pacific. A distinguished Japanese man of letters is authority for the statement that, compared to the yellow journals of Nippon, there is no such thing in this country as a yellow journal, and the editors of these pernicious Japanese newspapers seize as gifts from the gods every wild and absurd anti-Japanese outburst mouthed on this side of the ocean. That cannot be helped, except by the Japanese people themselves. But the sober, sound, conservative newspapers of this country can, and should, play an important part in enlightening the Japanese as to the actual attitude of Americans toward them so that out of this period of "watchful waiting" in Japan may ultimately come a revivification of friendship, endangered, but, happily, not lost.

Before a shot was fired in Belgium in this year of blood and wanton waste the newspapers of London and Berlin were yelping and snarling at each other, implanting, engendering, inflaming antipathies. The bomb exploded before either nation knew it was loaded. Do we want the same thing to happen across the Pacific?

Wars are not made in a night. They are made during the "twilight sleep" of international caution, candor and common sense. The last and final proof of unreason, war is ever the product of unreasonable selfishness, stubbornness, false pride, which, permitted to drift at random, looms up suddenly like a dark derelict in the dead of night to wreck the ship of state.

Is it worth our while to see this danger and to avoid it?

Engagements Announced.

Announcement has been made by Mr. and Mrs. Thomas A. Wark of 350 Ocean avenue, Brooklyn, of the engagement of their daughter, Miss Mabel Irene Wark, to Peter M. Fraser, son of Mr. and Mrs. Peter Fraser, Jr., of Richmond Hill, L. I. No date has been set for the wedding.

Mr. and Mrs. William S. Patten of 235 West Seventy-fifth street have announced the engagement of their granddaughter, Miss Grace Ferry Barnum, to Forrest Milton Anderson of Dallas, Tex. The date of the wedding has not been decided upon.

Mr. and Mrs. Peter Zucker will give a large reception on October 18 at their home, 1 West Seventieth street, in honor of their daughter, Miss Marjorie Zucker, and Edwin W. Lehbruger, whose engagement was recently announced.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Simpson Roberts, who were married last week, are spending their honeymoon automobiling in the Berkshires. Mrs. Roberts was Miss Marguerite Grace Louise Schumann, daughter of Mrs. George Henry Schumann of 29 West Eighty-eighth street.