

SIDELIGHTS

ANOTHER AXE CREMATED.

Somewhere about a year ago, Rev. E. W. Thwing was applying to U. S. District Attorney Breckons all the epithets which his cloth permitted him to use, and accusing him of all the crimes which a missionary criminal code and supplies of typewriter paper permitted. The accused had little to say—but it may be safely asserted that a transcript of his thoughts reduced to writing, in so far as they had reference to the reverend gentleman, would probably be denied unexpurgated publication.

But observe! The strife is pau. Across the many, many miles of the Pacific intervening between Honolulu and China, we see unity of purpose indicative of peace, and the burial of the hatchet.

In China, through prayerful persuasion, is the Chinaman being taught by Mr. Breckons' accuser, to cut out the use of opium. In Hawaii, by use of warrants, and the temptations afford by opportunities of doing road work, is Mr. Thwing's erstwhile victim strenuously endeavoring to accomplish the same laudable object.

Sidelights is in doubt as to which of the methods employed may prove the more productive of results, but congratulates the gentlemen heartily on this Christian-like method of settling their personal difficulties.

Just the same, while doubting the sincerity of neither reformer, both admittedly energetic, I, as rather a close observer, entertain considerable doubt of real results. The Chinaman likes to smoke opium, and the chances are he will get it. In many provinces in China the consumption is increasing. In Hawaii it is not decreasing. Reformation appears only to increase the price.

And speaking of opium and its price, Sidelights learned a curious fact the other day, perhaps not generally known. My laundryman gets confidential occasionally, when returning my husband's linen, probably with an intention on his part to divert my attention from the fact that one of the best shirts or two or three collars are shy. He informed me that the price of the dope was now so high that he was strenuously endeavoring to garner enough money together to get a considerable quantity belonging to him out of pawn. Curiosity induced me to make inquiry as to which one of the three-ball concerns handled this particular commodity; and lo, and behold, was I not told that it was a bank—not a faro bank, or a che-fa bank, but a real, live financial institution. So interested was I then that the Chinaman might have gotten away with two shirts and made me forget the change due me. I learned that five-tael tink of opium—I believe that means half-pound tins—duly stamped, were considered as collateral for the purpose of borrowing money equal to any sugar stock on the market, and sometimes preferred thereto, provided always the strangely-marked and sleepy-looking tins were delivered. It was news to me, but I have no reason to doubt it.

I trust that you are more fortunate than Sidelights, and don't get hard up; but if you do, take your family supply of dope and soak it. Now, on account of the price of the weed, is a good time.

A QUESTION FOR STUDENTS.

Cultivate a good digestion, the friendship of some hospitable Chinaman—and inhospitable Chinese are mighty scarce—and a little leisure time. Be tactful, work an invitation to a Chinese dinner, and you will spend a delightful afternoon, enjoy a good meal, and likewise learn something which perhaps you may not know. In other words, knowledge may be acquired while pleasures are enjoyed.

You will probably get sharks' fins and birds' nest soup, and duck prepared in two or three different styles, ditto chicken, and other dishes equally palatable, but with unpronounceable names. But no matter what these dishes may be, you may mark it down that there will not be less than nine of them, more perhaps, dependent upon the prodigality of the spread, but never less, no matter how poverty-stricken your host may be.

Just what the significance may be I know not. I have inquired carefully from several Chinese, and the only answer I am able to get hold of is that it is a Chinese custom. Nine at least must it be, else shall everlasting disgrace be meted out to the host.

Perhaps from the dim, legendary past may have come stories about the number being a lucky one in gambling—in which event The Advertiser might consult Willie Crawford; or perhaps from that same hazy atmosphere may have permeated traditions of nine-course feasts.

And it is said, too—although this is as difficult to swallow as some of the dishes themselves—that even when rice is the only dish served, it is prepared in nine different ways.

Will not some of our students—and Honolulu is as long on students as she is on politicians—look up this interesting fact, and advise your readers of the reasons for this baseball banquet idea?

I will have another question next week for these same students, should this one be satisfactorily answered.

UNCLE SAM KNOWS US.

If you are the fortunate possessor of a pair of goggles, a motor cap, and a chauffeur, and the automobile incident to and a part of these luxuries, take a ride some day—preferably in the morning, with the view of observing that we are part and parcel of a great country. If you will heed the speed ordinances, and keep busy looking about, you will readily make the discovery.

Look out for that well-known pair of initials which means so much—"U. S."—and notice how often they will bob up. Time and time again along King and Queen streets, along the waterfront, out at Waikiki, down toward Moana Jua—in fact pretty nearly everywhere, will you see them on well-fed mules and horses, drawing wagons with like inscription, containing material of every description. Indeed, so great has this traffic become that we might well be justified in asking congress to assist us politically by making a good appropriation for street repairs, to be expended under the direction of the road supervisors.

Again will you see the magic letters innumerable times on letter boxes, and on buildings where supplies are kept; on that odd-looking structure with an equally odd name just across from the Young Hotel, which it is understood automatically makes predictions concerning the weather as freely and as accurately as does a campaign manager and chairman concerning the outcome of an election; on signboards, admonishing you that the grounds to which they are nailed are holy grounds, and that not even taking the shoes from off your feet will allow you to enter unless you have a pass signed by some officer, who attaches "U. S." in some manner or other to his signature—in these and a variety of other places you can enjoy the privilege of getting patriotic.

Again, observe the growing number of soldiers, marines, and sailors bear-

ing that brand. If you don't care to take your machine to the baseball games, the moving picture shows, or downtown on a Saturday evening, make your chauffeur wait with it, and size up the crowds. You'll find a very fair proportion, indeed, of what a French writer recently denominated as a lot of military mercenaries, on account of the manner in which they were housed, fed and paid.

Truly we are going to be the Gibraltar of the Pacific if the expenditure of large amounts of money and the use of the initials can make us so.

WHITE SLAVES AND OTHERS.

We are not so far behind the times after all. On Thursday, while eating our Thanksgiving Turkey, rightfully spelled with a big "T" by reason of his price per pound, we probably gave thanks, and if we didn't we certainly should have, because The Advertiser of that morning had announced the intention of President Taft to suppress the white slave evil. And yet but a few days before had I read in one of the papers that in one of the courts—I don't know which, and never could get the distinctions clear anyway—a father had been convicted of selling his daughter, and that the jury didn't wait for dinner or lodging in order to arrive at a conclusion, but took just three minutes to say guilty. And I learned that the evil had been recognized here for some time and vigorous efforts made to suppress it. Of course, with us it is seldom that the term "white slave" would be applicable; an alteration in the descriptive adjective would be necessary. Just the same, perhaps the President has profited by what we are trying to do here, and wants congress to copy some of our laws.

Anent which, Sidelights is in most hearty sympathy with the attack made by The Bystander on such resorts and "amusements" as the dances at Waverly hall. It is not a pleasant subject to discuss in the public press—but it is one of the tasks which we must tackle. I myself see little difference in degradation, and none in criminality, between the accomplishment of the ruin of young girls by the "slave" method, and the dance-hall plan. Numerically and proportionately, results might show a tie—probably with odds in favor of the musical route.

THE BYSTANDER

Continued from Page Four.)

Governor this Territory has, who waited until Justice Wilder wanted to announce his own plans and wouldn't announce them for him.

But in regard to Leal. Let the Bulletin consume its soul in patience and keep its eyes open. Pretty soon it will know quite a bit more than it does now.

One hundred Red Cross ladies, who are neither red nor cross, will be out tomorrow to sell holiday stickers and incidentally raise five thousand dollars for a good cause. In this connection I might say that while the stamps to be sold are stickers, the ones buying them are not necessarily stuck. The stamps are worth the cent each they cost intrinsically, and as a setting off for the Christmas package you may intend to send to the States and which, owing to the frequent steamship service we hear so much about, you will have to get off three weeks early, if at all, to be in time.

Last Christmas these Red Cross stamps were sold in millions all over the mainland. A friend of mine, a lady who takes an interest in philanthropic work, and who was a stamp lady in San Francisco at that time, expresses the hope that none of the Honolulu sellers will have an experience like hers a year ago, when a tall, distinguished-looking and nicely-dressed gentleman sauntered up to the booth which was attended at that time by several officers of the Red Cross branch, and requested to be informed as to the use and price of the stamps, and the manner in which the proceeds of sales would be expended. Scenting a ten or twenty dollar sale, she spread herself in telling him "the story," and duly impressing upon him the great good the stamps would do and the privilege he was enjoying by contributing to the antituberculosis work.

He seemed duly impressed. He put his hand into his trousers pocket and, picking a penny from a handful of change, said, "I'll take one."

BIG FIRE DAMAGE.

(By Associated Press.)

SEWARD, Alaska, November 27.—The damage done by the fire that swept this place amounted to \$45,000.

PORTO RICANS APPEAL.

(By Associated Press.)

WASHINGTON, November 27.—President Taft this morning received an appeal from a delegation of workmen of the federation of labor in Porto Rico. These delegates made a personal appeal to the President to improve conditions in the islands.

CAPTAIN AND CREW MISSING.

(By Associated Press.)

TILLAMOOK, Oregon, November 27.—Further advices regarding the wrecking of the steam schooner Argo on Tillamook rock state that Captain Snyder and ten others who were known to be on the ill-fated vessel are missing.

ENTERTAINING THE VISITORS.

(By Associated Press.)

SAN FRANCISCO, November 27.—The party of Japanese commercial men were entertained today by a trip about the city in automobiles through the main business districts.

AMERICA CHALLENGERS LOSE.

(By Associated Press.)

SYDNEY, Australia, November 27.—The Australian tennis champions won an international championship today when Brookes and Wilding, the Australians, defeated the Californians, Long and McLaughlin.

THE LOG Kaalokai

In which is jotted down some remarkable tales of the sea, being the personal experiences of

SKIPPER F. D. WALKER

and related by him in a manner that is interesting to seamen and landsmen.

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