

Making Tomorrow's World

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IN THE SOUTH SEA ISLANDS



Gap, Caroline Islands.—No old maids are to be found in the South Sea Islands. There are no "unappropriated blessings." No widow remains a widow many days. There are no "odd" women. The bachelor girl is one product of civilization which has not yet found way to these tropical islands, though cigarettes and liquor are here in ample measure. The widow tears her hair, gashes temples, put on mourning, then, in a few days adopts half-mourning, and, shortly afterward, seizes on a second husband.

Marriage customs vary in different islands and among different tribes. Usually the bride is bought from the village by payment of shell-money, canoes, weapons or other articles of value. Sometimes she is stolen. When the husband tires of her and sends her away or she divorces him by desertion, the articles of value or their equivalent must be returned, a primitive alimony.

Betrothal in Babyhood.

In Kaiser Wilhelm land, the Bismarck Archipelago and other scattered islands of the German possessions in the Pacific, as indeed in most lands in this great ocean, the betrothal takes place when the prospective bride and bridegroom are babies and they have nothing to say about it. In one tribe the girls are betrothed at the age of five years and from that date until their mar-

riage, five or ten years afterward, they are kept imprisoned in bamboo cages from which they are released for only an hour once a day. Despite this close imprisonment, they grow up apparently strong and in good health. Romance is absent from the betrothal ceremony which is concerned altogether with pigs, canoes and tomahawks.

Husbands Won by Cookery.

The second marriage differs in this tribe from the first in that the widow has her husband selected for her by her relatives, but she must win him by her skill as a cook. As soon as the man is selected, the widow, with her cooking pots, is taken to his house. She prepares and cooks his food and when he returns in the evening offers it to him with her own hands. Should he accept, the marriage is established, but if the lady be not attractive in his eyes he clicks his tongue, a peculiar Papuan note of disapproval, and she must leave to try her culinary skill on another man. The good cook nearly always wins, whether or not she is good looking. Not in America alone is husband won or kept by "feeding the brute." The American girl who wears a cook apron gracefully will get her best young man sure!

A story is told in New Guinea of a Papuan widow who was an indifferent cook. She cooked blinner every day for three weeks for the man selected to be her second husband, while the wily prospective bridegroom, knowing what was in store, took all his meals with his father. Finally, seeing the case was hopeless, she removed the cooking pots, her implements of warfare, to the house of another man where she—and her dinners—proved irresistible.

Germany's Islands.

Germany's possessions in the Pacific ocean are not large. They are mere stepping stones along the ocean's highways, thrusting themselves above the surface of the sea as the ancient stepping stones in Columbia, Missouri, or Pompeii, rise above the level of the streets. Germany holds to them with tenacity, however, and governs them with the same autocratic police meth-

ods that great nation employs at home. The German possessions consist of German New Guinea (Kaiser Wilhelm Land) Bismarck Archipelago, Marshall Islands, a part of the Samoan group, the Caroline Islands and the Mariana Islands. The native population is about 500,000.

The contrast between the British and German governmental administration of their South Sea Islands is marked. The British interfere as little as possible with the native. The governor of Papua, British New Guinea, issued a proclamation recently condemning the undue sale of European clothing to the native. A shell necktie and a grass loin-cloth, the ordinary wearing apparel, he evidently thought were conducive to morality and progress. The German insists upon Berlin regularity and upon the native becoming Germanized as far as possible and at once. The native police army of the Bismarck Archipelago all wear the German military cap, though the climate forbids the coat and trousers! "Self-government" remarked a German official at Rabaul, "how can we give self-government to cannibals?"

Natives Enslaved in Copra Traffic.

Copra is king in the South Sea Islands. Copra is the dried flesh of the coconut and is used for soap, oil and many commercial purposes. One German firm, with headquarters at Maron, has 500,000 coconut trees from which copra is being obtained. The development of the copra industry has brought some commercial prosperity to the islands, but it has brought also many of the demoralizing vices of civilization. There are honorable merchants engaged in the business, but there are also many low-class traders or "beach combers," who disgrace the name of white man. Slave-labor, through a system of enforced servitude called euphemistically a li-

with his work, facing loneliness, privation, disease, death. Fourteen missionaries on the island were killed by hostile natives. His life was threatened and for a long time he was in danger. He never faltered. He went about alone among the natives, preaching, teaching, healing with simple medicines the sick, leading into gentler ways the natives, "half savage and half child." Cannibalism was stamped out, slavery and polygamy disappeared.

The Native Converts.

Six thousand converts are the fruits of eight years' labor of this man and his associates. Nor are these converts merely "rice Christians," as the native Christians for revenue only are contemptuously called in some countries, but men and women who lose in present position, socially and materially, by adoption of the new faith. They are accepted as converts on probation for three years, during which time they must lead upright lives, sober, industrious, before they can be received into the church communion. After baptism they are dropped from the rolls or placed again on probation, should they fall into the old and evil practices. Even the most captious critic in the islands has only words of commendation for the work of Pastor Wenzel and his colleagues. The results in the lives of the natives brought under their influence are too patent to be sneered away. And the German Methodist missionaries in the German Islands of the South Seas are types of the hundreds who labor for humanity's betterment in the world's dark places. Of such stuff are genuine heroes made.

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SEES PROBLEM FOR ENGLAND

Trouble Over Ulster Has Been the Cause of Much Comment Throughout France.

The conflicting reports and rumors with regard to the attitude of the officers of the British army toward the crisis in Ulster created a painful impression in France. French history has more recent instances of similar events than that of England. The mutinies in the south when the troops refused to move against the rioting wine growers led to a general dislocation of the French army with a view to avoiding the use of local conscripts against their own friends and relatives; but perhaps a closer parallel is to be found in the refusal of a few officers to obey their orders during the taking of the church inventories under the church and state separation law. Those officers were at once arrested and court-martialed.

To the general upon whose orders the arrests were made General de Gallifet telegraphed: "My heart is with you; you have done your duty. Dura lex, sed lex."

That officers who belong to a nation whose sense of discipline is the admiration of the French should have tendered their resignations rather than obey orders is regarded as a sign of the extreme gravity of the problem which the Petit Parisien fears may lead to an Irish Vendee.

Amount Has Been Figured by Scientists, Due to Its Radiation of Energy.

The work of Einstein on the principle of relativity shows that a body which radiates energy loses a portion of its mass depending on the energy radiated. It follows that the sun, which continually radiates energy, is constantly losing mass. M. J. Bosler has calculated that the sun loses a mass equal to that of our earth in 30,000,000 years.

If it be assumed that the mass thus lost is gravitational mass, it follows that the length of the year increases by six seconds in a million years, and that in the same time the mean longitude of the earth is affected in such a way as to produce a variation of one-tenth of a year, that is, a retardation of 36 days in the seasons.

Such variations are too minute to be observable. In stellar systems possessing a higher temperature the effect would be much more marked, for the energy radiated by a body varies as the fourth power of its absolute temperature.

If, as M. Nordmann believes, there exist stars having a temperature six or seven times that of our sun, their radiation is one or two thousand times as intense. Thus, if the temperature of Algol is 13,800 degrees, it is calculated that at the end of 2,000 years the eclipses of Algol suffer a retardation of about 12 minutes.

Many Deaths in the Alps.

Fatal Alpine mountain accidents during the year 1913 numbered 118, as compared with 119 in 1912 and 146 in 1911. The causes of the accidents were reported as follows: Avalanche, 11; lightning, 6; storm, fog and snow, 6; gathering flowers, 6; unintentional descent from a snow field, 3; slipping on the grass or sod, 3; struck by a stone, 3; slipping on a rock, 1; struck by a block of ice, 1; breaking down of a snow wall, 1; breaking of a rope, 1; slipping on a loose stone, 1; suicide because of loss of way and despair, 1; dizziness, 1; falling over a precipice while hunting, 1; insufficiently equipped and insufficiently experienced in the mountains, 9; no special definite cause given, 59; and disappeared, 1. Among the unfortunates 113 were men, including 3 guides and 6 were women.

Time for Bird Study.

In the last ten years the little company of students of bird life has grown into an army. Everywhere the birds are being seen and studied to equal advantage. This month marks the height of the tide of the spring migration. The schoolroom has not walls and the sky is its ceiling. Now is the time to study.—Chicago Post.

Uncle Pennywise Says:

When I read about a man high in the councils of his party, I picture to myself a fellow sitting on a stool in a grocery, talking politics.

EXPERT'S ANTIDOTE FAILED TO WORK

Snake Trainer, Owner of 500 Reptiles, Dies From Puncture in Wrist.

BITTEN BY A KRAIT

Estimated That Their Bites Cause Fully 20,000 Deaths Annually in India—Said to Be Lots of Them in That Country.

Calcutta, India.—The death occurred here recently of a man for whom it is claimed that he was without equal in his skill in handling snakes. This was Professor Fox, an Australian snake farmer, who came to India a little time ago to prove the efficiency of what he claimed to be a perfectly sure antidote to the virus of a snake.

Fox had been successful in all his experiments with animals in the Calcutta zoo, and had just treated a goat which had been bitten and was leaning on a box containing poisonous snakes when a krait, one of the most venomous of Indian snakes, escaped and punctured Fox's wrist in five places.

Fox, who had often submitted to snake bites in order to show the efficacy of his antidote, was in no way perturbed and treated four of the bites at once. Later in the day symptoms of poisoning developed and the tiny fifth puncture was discovered. It was then too late, as the antidote only acts if applied at once, and Fox died the same evening.

Fox was well known in Australia. His snake farm was a few miles outside of Sydney, where he kept over five hundred snakes, most of which he had caught in the brush. His business was to extract the poison from the snakes and sell it to the chemists, and for this purpose he farmed snakes as other people farm pigs or poultry, and moved about his stock as fearlessly as if they were rabbits.

On his snake hunts he tracked his prey with the cunning and patience of

BEETLE MAKES AUTO CRASH INTO A POLE

Bug Alights on Driver's Clothing and Distracts His Attention From the Wheel.

Newton Centre, Mass.—A beetle that alighted on the clothing of Lawrence Rice of Newton as he was driving his father's automobile toward his home the other afternoon, distracted his attention from the wheel long enough to send him crashing into a telephone pole at the top of the incline on Commonwealth avenue, near Lake street.

Rice and his companion, John Carlson of Newton Centre, had a narrow escape from serious injury, and the machine was considerably damaged. The car hit the pole with such force that the lamp on top of it was shattered.



Crashed into a Telephone Pole.

tered. Rice was cut about the head and sustained a possible fracture of one rib, and Carlson was gashed on the knee.

When the insect alighted on Rice's clothing, both he and his companion turned to examine it in the belief that it was a June bug. They were marveling that it should make its appearance so early in the year, when Rice chanced to glance up, and saw that they were running straight into the post. He gave the wheel a twist, but not in time to avert a collision.

SOAPS SELF AND ESCAPES

Sandit in Jail at Hollidaysburg, Pa., Slips Through His Prison Bars.

Hollidaysburg, Pa.—Frank G. Carroll, alias Wilson, the confessed bandit who robbed the Union bank in Altoona and shot the cashier, A. E. Rupert, and W. E. Blackburn, Pennsylvania railroad foreman, on March 23, wriggled through a six-inch window opening in his cell in the Blair county jail here, climbed with the dexterity of a circus athlete up the outer wall to the roof and then fashioned a 40-foot rope out of his bedclothing, by which he descended to the street below.

Carroll then walked to the district attorney's office, directly opposite the courthouse, and there scrawled in chalk marks on the bricks under a window of the commonwealth's prosecutor this parting message: "See me later.—F. G. C."

Nearly residents declare that a high powered motor car was stationed in the street close to the jail at midnight and that the prisoner had the aid of accomplices in making his successful dash for freedom. The greatest vigilance had been exercised by the county authorities in imprisoning Carroll. He was placed in a cell behind double doors and a guard patrolled the jail yard beneath his window throughout the night.

Carroll's only aid within the cell to escape was a bar of soap. With the soap he greased his naked body and the six-inch opening in the window, wriggling self-fashion through the narrow opening and then, hallooed, clad only in pajamas and bedroom slippers, fled to the Allegheny mountains. His escape was not discovered until five hours later.

HUSBAND OF MANY WIVES

Man Convicted Under Mann Act Said to Have Wed 16 Women in 15 Years.

Fort Worth, Tex.—The eight wives of Ludie Arnold and two girls who have testified against him smiled when he was found guilty on two charges of violating the Mann act. They smiled again when Judge Meek told attorneys for Arnold that they could go ahead with the preparations of a motion for a new trial, but to consider it already overruled.

The conviction is based on the charge of transporting Grace Huffine from state to state. The jury foreman said they reached a decision to convict in 30 minutes, but there was some debate as to the number of counts.

Arnold heard the verdict without a show of emotion or any comment. It is said that he married 16 women in 15 years without the formality of getting divorces.

The maximum sentence he can receive is five years in the federal prison and a \$5,000 fine on each of the two offenses.

A motion for a new trial will be filed and the case will be appealed to the United States circuit court of appeals on Judge Meek's refusal to grant a new trial.

BETTER THAN NOTHING

This year it is expected that the king of the Belgians and the king of Greece will be admitted to the exclusive Order of the Garter.

One recalls Lord Dufferin's story of the French station master who approached him with a request that he would obtain for him a British decoration of some sort. Most of the royalties who had, so to speak, passed through his hands had conurred on him various "stars" and "crosses," but though he had several times been responsible for the safety and comfort of the British sovereign, he had received no decoration in return.

"But most of our orders are given for military distinction or to civil servants," Lord Dufferin explained, soothingly. "For example, the Bath, the Star of India, and so forth."

The station master looked very grim.

"There is, however," his lordship continued, "one order that is given for no particular merit or service—the Order of the Garter."

"Ah, well," said the station master.

WORKING OF INSTINCT

A young man in Paris had lost last sou at the gambling table. He only was he without means, but had lost a large sum belonging to his employer. He started for the station with the intention of drowning himself. On the way there was a great commotion, caused by the escape of a lion from a strolling menagerie. The animal came galloping down the street and people fled in every direction. Instantly the man who was so near death climbed a lamp-post and clung to the top of it, trembling in every limb. When the animal was captured and the danger over he proceeded to the river and plunged in.

DESPERATE

Mamma—Do you believe, my dear, that the young man would make a sacrifice for you?

Doris—Yes, indeed, mamma, trying to cut out his eyes.

Judge.

A TRIP TO WEI-HAI-WEI

ON THE fourth day after leaving Shanghai I reached San Kan bay and passed a lighthouse on what is called the northeast promontory, about thirty-one miles from Wei-Hai-Wei, the territory leased to Great Britain by China in 1898. The hills of this coast look bare, but the ground is almost all cultivated, and I could make out the shadows of the lines of terracing against the tawny color of the dry grass. The commissioner's launch came out to take me from the steamer to a substantial stone jetty in Port Edward on the mainland. This was two miles beyond the island of Liu Kung, which helps to shelter the harbor from the northerly gales, and upon which are situated the marine barracks and the naval hospital, writes A. H. Fisher in Illustrated London News.

The hills slope down to the water, and the town seems built in tiers, with government house at the top of one side watching over land and sea. The territory covers about two hundred and eighty-five square miles, and includes 300 villages with a native population of 150,000 exclusive of the walled Chinese city of Wei-Hai-Wei. This latter is a strange though picturesque anomaly. Within a gunshot of government house lies this enclosed fragment of China over which the British have no more jurisdiction than fifteenth-century London aldermen had over the sanctuary of St. Martin-le-Grand.

Lofty Mountain Peaks.

From government house, where a smart Chinese police-guard—all that remains of the former Chinese regiment—act as sentries, there is a magnificent view of sea and mountains.

Yalu by sea. As I walked toward the walls of the Chinese city I passed a Franciscan Catholic mission, and near it, in a fenced enclosure, great heaps of scrap-iron from the warships sunk at Port Arthur.

A wide middle road divided the city within the walls of which I first visited a Confucian temple. Behind the chief altar sat an image of the great sage (of whom, by the way, a lineal descendant still survives), the remarkable contemporary of Pythagoras and of Cyrus, king of Persia; and on either side of this were figures of his favorite disciples; Mencius and Tsengtzu on the left, and on the right, Su-tzu and Yentu. Above the altar in large golden character hung the motto, "Among living mortals never has there been one like him," and over this, also in gold characters upon a red ground, "Teacher and model for all ages." Further along the same street stands an open-air stage for theatrical performances, a stone platform, five feet high, with tall stone columns at the corners to support a roof.

Monuments to Widows.

The distinguished commissioner, Mr. James Stewart Lockhart, who has an exceptionally thorough knowledge of the Chinese language, took me one morning on a long pony ride to some of the inland villages. The houses were of stone and thatched with reed, which had weathered to a silvery grey. They were less substantial than they appeared, as the binding material was only of mud. The air was fresh and bracing—hills to the right of the terraced except for their rocky summits and a few stretches of oak-wood lower down. Near several villages I saw stone monuments to female con-

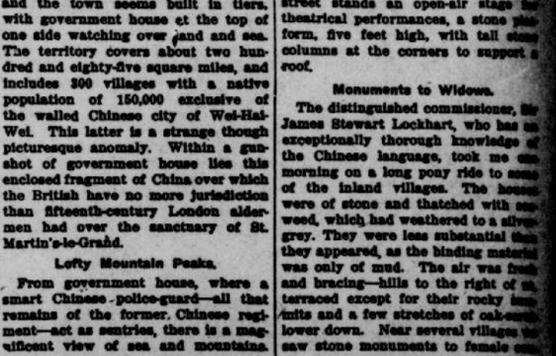


IMAGE OF CONFUCIUS

The highest peaks, called Landowne and Goeben, are so shaped as to make their modest altitude (some three thousand feet) appear much greater. To the east below lies the town of Port Edward, and across the harbor the island of Liu Kung with its signal station.

The morning after my arrival was market day at Port Edward. The main street seemed to be full of turnips, cabbages, sweet potatoes, and wads of fir and scrub-oak for fuel. Mules and donkeys from inland villages were tethered along a wall, near which lay stores of pea-stuff ready for exportation. Piled up near the town I saw some fine timber, but learned that it had all been brought from the



IMAGE OF CONFUCIUS

stancy, columns erected to the memory of widows who had never remarried, a curious title to respect among a people who consider women to have no mind of their own, nor to be capable of taking the initiative in anything.

Near the end of that street we came upon some that were weeping and lamenting with loud voices. A funeral procession was crossing a stream under flickering sunlight that shone through the willows. A canopied bier was carried in front of the procession with a tablet inscribed with the names of the dead—a woman in this case—and after the hearse the chief mourners walked a group of women wailing loudly.

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