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PAGODA

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Saturday, August 20, 1949

Kingston, Jamaica, B.W.I.

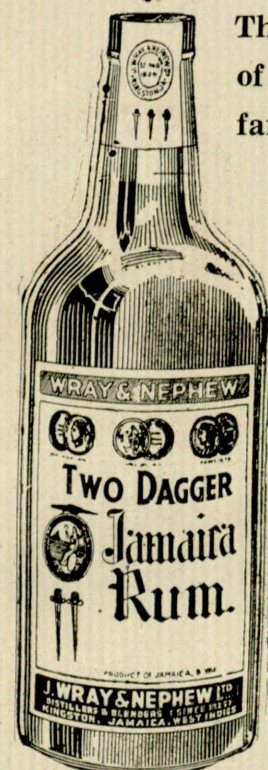
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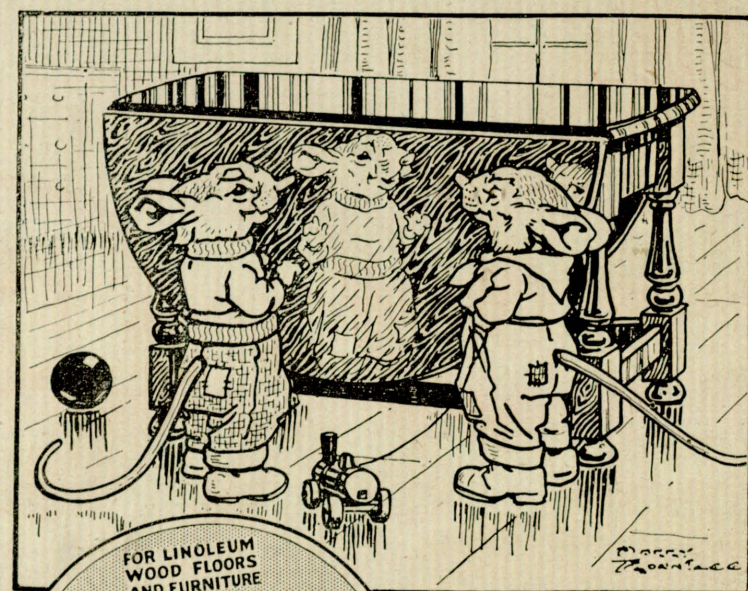


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CHINESE LACQUERWARE

By Peng Fei
From THE CHINA MAGAZINE

LACQUERWARE is the product of "time, skill, originality and, most important of all, patience," a writer once said. To these now should be added an artistic brain, a painter's hand and the experience of many generations of the same family. Such are the qualifications of Shen Fu-wen, who has turned lacquer works from handicraft products into artistic masterpieces. His lacquerware has been exhibited in Nanking and other cities.

Lacquerware, usually vases, plates, bowls, and panels and sometimes cigarette cases and jewel boxes, have long been representative of Chinese art and date as far back as 600 B.C. Mostly in dark colours, these articles serve practical as well as ornamental purposes.

Each article, said Mr. Shen, a native of Fukien province where the best lacquerware is made, requires about forty to eighty coatings of lacquer to give it durability and lustre. For those which have Chinese linen bases, no wooden or plaster of Paris mold is used, and the number of coatings of lacquer are as many as 120. "This makes the articles lasting, resistible to boiling water and acids, and also non-heat conducting," he explained. "Also, they aren't easily broken if dropped, since only one or two coatings of lacquer may come off."

"My idea about lacquerware," he said, "is that their designs need some changes, and I am trying to introduce some freshness and variety in them." Shen, who has devoted about twenty years of his life to that end, was a student of painting in both Hangchow and Peiping before he went to Japan. For three years in that country, he studied Japanese lacquer products in order to get new and exotic designs. After teaching courses on lacquer works in three or four art institutes in the interior during the war years, Mr. Shen proceeded to Tunhuang, Kansu Province, after the war ended. There, after one year's careful study and work, he finally succeeded in copying the Tunhuang frescoes in his fine products.

"There are more than 400 caves with frescoes in Tunhuang," he explained. "Mostly about Buddhist legends, these pictures are not only painted on the walls of the caves, but also on the ceilings. As the latter are usually enormous, I copy them through the reflection of a mirror laid on the ground. Similarly, rather than copy whole wallpaintings, which cover large areas, I generally adapt only certain features of parts of them as designs for my lacquerware."

IN the opinion of the Chinese lacquerware expert, Western design appears to be "too geometrical and symmetrical to be of everlasting appeal to the human eye." On the other hand, ancient Oriental paintings like the Tunhuang frescoes, some of which date back to A.D. 220, are not strictly symmetrical. "They present a different picture each time you change your angle of view," Mr. Shen explained, "nevertheless their designs are harmonious as a whole and keep that unity in variety which is so important in works of art."

Time is an essential element in the making of lacquerware. Ordinarily, it takes about three months to make a small plate about five inches in diameter and nearly half a year for a vase with projected figures and some 120 lacquer coatings, he said.

Lacquer is the sole requisite for these fine products. Pure lacquer comes from a tree commonly called lacquer tree or varnish tree (*Rhus vernicifera*), found in Szechwan, Kweichow, Hupeh, Shensi, Shantung and Kwangtung provinces, and also in Peiping. Before it is fit for use, it has to be refined, strained, and stirred, and 30 per cent of its water content evaporated. After a number of coatings, lacquer, which is originally brown and semi-transparent, becomes black. The blackness, however, will fade after years of usage, and the lacquer will become brown again. Another Chinese product, tung oil, is sometimes used instead. Although it is as lustrous as lacquer, tung oil has proved to be less durable and lasting in the long run, Shen said.

A wooden form or a plaster of Paris mold serves as the base of a lacquer article and is covered with several layers of Chinese linen, generally called grass-cloth by foreigners. Then coating after coating of lacquer is applied. "The reason why Chinese linen is used instead of silk is that the former is more durable and less absorbent," he said. For a so-called "baseless" article, in other words, a kind of lacquerware whose wooden or plaster mold is removed when layers of linen have sufficient strength of their own, seven or eight layers are necessary.

After sufficient coating, the article is painted. Of all ready made pigments, only mercuric sulfide can be readily mixed into lacquer. Others lose their original colour as soon as they are blended with lacquer. "Thus I have to make all colours except red myself through a special refining process," said Mr. Shen.

OVER designs and figures thus painted, vivid with many colours, and inlaid mother of pearl and even broken parts of

eggshells, more coatings of lacquer are applied so as to fully cover up the colourful pictures. The article is finally finished usually by rubbing and smoothing with pumice or whetstone. Mr. Shen said he uses a piece of fine, yet hard charcoal. After about twenty rubbings, the coloured designs will become visible. And, depending on the number of rubbings, light and dark shades and also projection of figures—such as the figure of a goldfish against a black background—are possible.

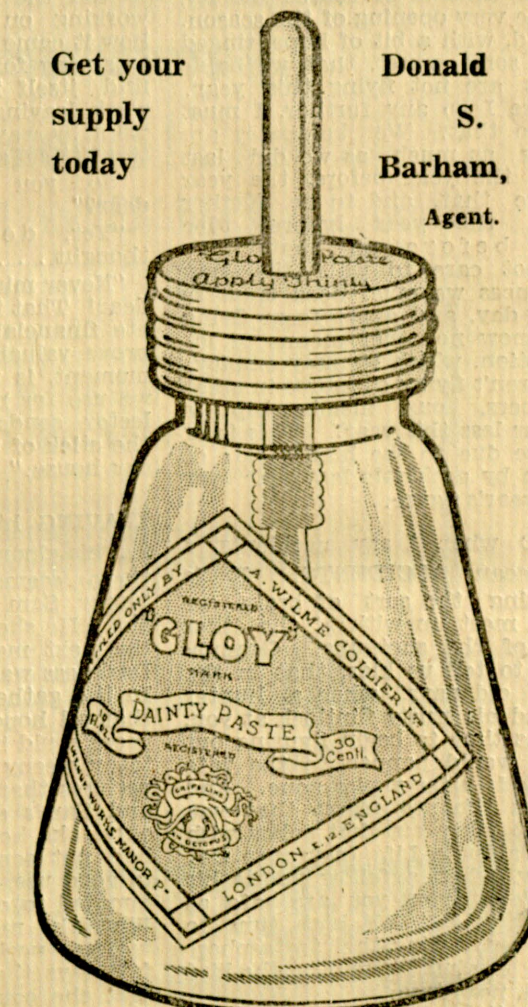
"Rubbing after the painting of designs," the artist-craftsman explained, "gives the fine and velvet touch usually denied to most lacquer works made by ordinary artisans. In the latter case, they simply trace designs on numerous coatings of tung oil, he said.

"My project for the future development of lacquerware in China includes the founding of both a national institute of lacquerware art and a lacquerware factory for mass production and exportation," Mr. Shen said.

(Continued on page 8)

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AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF A BALDPATE

By S. H. C.

I am a baldpate. I am not boasting about it. I am not by nature one who exalts himself. The first four words that constitute the opening sentence of this paragraph is a mere statement of fact. Nothing more, and very little less. I am a baldpate for the very simple and self-evident fact that both my mother and my father were baldpates.

That I am still a baldpate is nothing short of a miracle, accountable for only in the clemency of Heaven, and my own well-developed ability to differentiate even when flying at high speed, between an unwary gnat and a charge of buckshot. I suppose this instinct — business of survival and self preservation — does harbour some degree of truth; for birds who leave school before they can distinguish between the two, never seem to live long enough to tell about it. Bang!!! A puff of smoke! and Poof! It's all over. In just a matter of hours what was once bird, is now haemoglobin, red and white corpuscles, vitamins, and shortly after that I suppose, gross human flesh.

I won't clutter up these precious columns with the life and crimes of a young baldpate. The time is all too short for that. I would much rather concentrate on telling you the other side of the story.

The time is of course August, at the very opening of the season. I read, with a bit of hope, tinged with some regret, that we baldpates are not flying this year. Before I go any further, I must refigure that. We baldpates are flying as much as we did last year, the year before, the year before that, and to go further back, the year before, the year before all that. We do not care to walk the long distances we must need traverse each day, and apart from flying we know no other means of locomotion, which we may employ. We aren't flying of course in great numbers, our membership is rather less this year. This is of course due to the higher rate of death by accidents last year over this year's figure.

AND when I say accidents, I mean ACCIDENTS. It is amazing the sort of brain we birds meet up with at the other end of the shotguns. Grampa used to tell us kids, that in the good old days, when a hunter turned his trusty flintlock at you, it was time to begin figuring out what would happen to the wife and kids after you're gone. And it was time to regret that you hadn't taken out that policy with the Baldpate Life Insurance Co. Today, when a fellow points his muzzle at you, you are safe as churches; but it's high time to start puncturing the stratosphere when he aims his gun on the bird in the next tree.

Sometimes I actually take time

out to feel sorry for them. Look at all the fancy gadgets they carry around these days. Formerly a man would take just his rifle, a few charges of powder and shot and leave it go at that for an evening shoot. Today he takes two highpowered rifles, a half a case of cartridges, water bottle, sandwich kits, knee boots, and sometimes even the wife. Imagine all that trouble for maybe two or three birds. Why, anyone would believe that he was off for a pleasant week-end in the country. From aloft I can see his every action, and brother, take it from me, the evening is far from pleasant for him. I can list quite a number of pack animals who are quite happy and contented with much heavier loads.

Although we end up sometimes at the business end of a charge of birdshot, I must say that life has its compensations. I can remember one or two incidents last season which made me very happy.

Gun-Happy Sam and his bird-boy were very, very dejected. Four boxes of cartridges had gone skywards, leaving the heavenly canopy a mass of holes. I knew that this night would be lovelier than ever from the number of stars that would come shining through all these new peepholes. Sam I am afraid was occupied with things more close to hand. He was trying to figure out what to tell the wife. He was busy working on an explanation of how it came about that the weekly saving for Income tax did not find itself into the bank this week, leaving its progressive footprint by way of a credit entry in the little Pass Book.

"So you bought cartridges, dear?"

"Yes, dear! You see I thought"

"Never mind what you thought, dear! That is never of any ultimate financial value. What will prove valuable at this particular moment, is what do you suggest we use for money when the collector sends his little man with the stick of white chalk round to our house."

HAVING hit upon this snag in his gloomy thoughts, to which there seemed no answer, Gun-happy Sam took the easy way out. He shelved the question for the next meeting of the house. Darkness was just minutes away. In the gathering dusk, it seemed that all hope had faded. Oh if there could be just one flight, one teeny weeny little bit of a flight, perhaps that would save the day, and Sam's stakes. If he could only take home evidence that he had put some of the cartridges to good use, then Mary might be tempted to overlook the charges. Why, the money she'd save on beef, or pork or mutton for the few days that a good bag would last, she could put that towards the I. T. money.

Time drags inexorably on. It pussyfooted over the threshold of day, the way it does in story books. Darkness from the far reaches of the sky began drawing his muffling cloak. The thin half-light of dusk was slowly melting away, and blacker and blacker grew the thoughts of our gunman.

"Mark! On your right sir!" The shrill excited voice pierced the evening like a sudden explosion.

Sam swung the rifle up, took quick aim. On his mind registered the fact that this was no ordinary flight. There must be thousands of them, in fact, in his eagerness and anxiety, he must have seen millions. In that split fraction of a second he envisioned a wife whose face was wreathed in smiles of happiness and pride. In that dizzy wisp of time he tried to calculate how many could be knocked down and how many times he could fire before they passed out of range. Even as these thoughts raced through his mind, he cut loose with both barrels. Birds fell in a welcome shower. Dozens of them it seemed. Some plummeted to earth. Some flapped feebly as they dropped out of the sky. Some fell hesitatingly like leaves in Autumn. Others fell spinning and twisting. Both gunman and birdboy raced to the spot, faces aglow, hearts too full for words.

The boy bent down to examine the first bird. He stopped, frozen. For all we know he might have been a statue of a birdboy instead of the real thing. After what seemed a long, long time, he cupped his head in his hands — his shoulders heaved convulsively — he choked back a sob. Sam stood like another graven image. He was torn between doubt and anxiety. What had happened — what could have happened. Is the boy seized with some fit or other? Why doesn't he start picking up the birds?

Anxiously Sam figured the distance back through the now dark woods. It was easily a mile back to the car. He went up to the boy: "What happened, Massa Joe?"

Mutely the chap held up a bird for his inspection, then he picked up another and passed it over, then another, then another. Ten of them in all.

They were all blackbirds!

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AUGUST 20, 1949.

MOVEMENTS OF NOTE

By I. C. Evre Ting

BY now you must have definitely confirmed the fact that I have won nothing in the recent Sweepstakes. How can a man outhope and outpray so many experts in the optimism business these days?

LIKE every year the pre-shooting talk is usually on the expected poor season. Too many birds shot off the past season by inconsiderate sportsmen and the depletion of bird life in the Island. The season officially started on the 12th but a few like to steal a march and go out a week or two earlier. Now we are hearing nothing but bird stories and they usually concern the wonderful flights that have been coming regularly. Gone are the doleful tales of the scarcity of the birds. The flights are just as good as other years if not better.

IF you should walk by the avenue where you see a beautiful carpet of grass it probably is the home of our friend and onetime softball coach who has become an ardent nature lover in a big way. He goes home early every evening and attends to his first love — gardening. Every afternoon you will find him in the garden with a magnifying glass and tweezers rooting out all sorts of undesirable weeds in his lawn.

OUR B. G. visitor who has become so popular around the Club was given a farewell dinner the other night. Although he was the guest he was actually host at the same time as the few months that he has been here he has been very generous in the role as a "Santa Claus of the round table." His departure will make his person very sadly missed.

THE wedding at the Northside will be one of the social events of the season. For the past week parties have been organised to make a day or a weekend excursion of it to Montego Bay. As a result quite a few carloads will be going. The couple will spend their honeymoon at Shaw Park, as romantic a setting as you can find anywhere.

THE cricket team is one more notch up to securing the Caribbean Cup for good. Under the guidance of our little Sarge the team this season got off to a good start which made it appear that it was the easiest win any team ever had for the Cup. Their position was never jeopardized at any stage of the competition. On the other hand the Interparish cricket which was started last year has not done anything for this season as yet.

HOLIDAYS in Canada will become popular next year if our two emissaries this year come back with anything to say it which they most certainly will. With three young ladies to Panama, two to Curacao, and two to Canada, all for holidays, the ladies are starting a trend which our boys will do well to follow. Travel broadens the mind and for both body and spirit it will be an exciting and exhilarating experience.

To do easily what is difficult for others is talent. To do what is impossible for talent is the work of genius.

Our duty is to be useful, not according to our desires but according to our powers.

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PERSONALIA

The marriage of Miss Ruby Se Moy Chong, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Chong Chun Nyap of Balaclava to Mr. Chin Kon Fah, son of Mr. William Chin Honson will take place on Sunday, August 21 at 2.30 p.m. at the Holy Trinity Cathedral. A dinner will be held afterwards at the Chinese Freemason Hall.

A pretty wedding was solemnized last Sunday at the Kingston Parish Church when Miss Kong Kim Yuen, niece of Mr. George Kong Kim, became the bride of Mr. Albert Hew, son of Mr. and Mrs. Hew Bian of Claremont. The bride was given in marriage by Mr. Kong Hon, Chief bridesmaid was Miss Ruby Hew and the other attendant, Miss Nancy Chin. Mr. Melvin Hew was bestman while Mr. John Chin was groomsman. The ceremony was followed by a dinner held afterwards at the Chinese Freemason Hall.

Mrs. Egerton Chin Loy returned on Friday, August 5, after spending a six-week holiday in the States, and attending the marriage of her brother-in-law, Dr. Arthur Chin Loy to Miss Es-

mee Chai. She also travelled across the continent by car and visited friends in California.

Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Lai Fook left for Nassau last Thursday, August 11 for a brief business and pleasure trip.

Miss Lily Fung left for Canada last Tuesday, August 16 on a visit to friends there. She will be away for about 2 months.

The Chinese Christian Guild picnic to Boston Beach planned for August 21 has been postponed as the Kalamazoo train is not free on that day to take the party to Port Antonio.

The next meeting of the Guild will be held next Wednesday, August 24 when Canon Evans will show some moving pictures. Some parts of it were shown in June which was well appreciated by the members present.

The Sunday School teachers are asking parents to send their children to Sunday School regularly as there has been a slackening off in attendance recently.

Jamaica may soon be visited by Miss Florence Soon-kin Wong, outstanding Chinese pianist of Singapore, who made her premiere appearance in Washington, D.C., in September of last year. She also gave a recital at the Brooklyn Academy of Music in May of this year and will

again appear at the National Gallery of Art in Washington on September 11, 1949. She is scheduled to play on August 30 at Port-of-Spain, Trinidad, under the patronage of the Governor and Lady Shaw. On September 1 and 2 she is to appear at the Town Hall in Georgetown, B.G. under the patronage of Mr. Heape, the acting Governor of British Guiana. It is likely that she will include Jamaica in her tour of the West Indies.

Mrs. Hubert Chen returned to the Island on Saturday, August 6 from the States, where she attended the marriage of her son, Keith, and Miss Audrey Seih, which took place in Mishicott, Wisconsin on July 23. Another son, Neville, is also a student at Marquette University where Keith graduated in the summer of last year.

Miss Sylvia Chan Pong, L.R.S.M. spent four days in Jamaica last week on her way home to Trinidad from the States. While in Jamaica she was the guest of Mr. and Mrs. Reginald Hendrickson of Mandeville, Mr. and Mrs. H. Tai Tenquee and Mr. and Mrs. Bertie Leahong. She left on Saturday, August 13.

Mr. and Mrs. William Sun Jr. (nee Alice Chong Yen) of Panama announced the birth of a

daughter on Wednesday, August 17.

Miss Gladys Phang arrived from London last Saturday on the s.s. "Eros". Miss Phang left here about a year ago for England for a holiday there.

Mr. and Mrs. Stanley (Tots) Chan Choong will leave on Sunday, August 21 for their home in British Guiana. Mr. and Mrs. Chan Choong came here with the B.G. goodwill cricket team in April last and have been spending their vacation in Jamaica the past few months with Mr. Chan Choon's brother, Philip, and his wife. Stanley is with the British Guiana Customs Department.

The C.A.C. cricket team defeated Soap & Edible by four wickets in a match played on Sunday, August 7. By this victory the CAC are virtual winners of the Competition for this year. The CAC has won the Cup four times since the Competition was inaugurated in 1940. If they win it for one more year they will have permanent possession of the Cup.

Nothing is more characteristic for a man than the manner in which he behaves to fools.

There is glory and true greatness in raising oneself by the heart.

PANORAMA

TWO MEMORIALS

The Jamaica Union of Teachers' Memorial Hall situated on upper Church Street was opened and dedicated to the memory of all teachers who have passed on in the service of Education in Jamaica on Wednesday last by His Excellency the Governor, in the presence of a large gathering.

Able speeches were given by His Excellency, the Governor, Mr. H. Houghton, Director of Education, Mrs. Dalton-James, president of the Union of Teachers, the Rt. Rev. Bishop Gibson, and Mr. C. B. Facey. The Hall is the realisation of a dream lasting over a period of some fifteen years, and will be used, as Mrs. Dalton-James pointed out in her address of welcome, as "a place for creative work and for the laying of a nation's life." Many expressions of congratulation and good wishes were made by all who spoke on this occasion.

THE KNIFF CHURCH

The other memorial opened on the 11th August was that of the Knibb Memorial Church which has been re-built on the site of the chapel which was destroyed in the 1944 hurricane.

The ceremony was presided over by Mr. P. M. Sherlock, Vice-Principal of the University College of the West Indies, and it took the form of a religious service followed by a public meeting. Preacher at the service was the Rev. Keith Tucker, president of Calabar College, and taking part in the service also were the Rev. F. Cowell Lloyd and the Rev. Dan Allen. A sacred concert was staged in the evening in which artists from Kingston took part.

The Knibb Memorial Church is one of Jamaica's most interesting places of historic value, and tribute was paid to the great emancipator whose name it bears. Thousands of people turned out to participate in the ceremonies arranged for this memorable occasion.

THE H.M.S. JAMAICA

On show at the Art Gallery of the Institute of Jamaica during the past couple of weeks were the gifts being presented by the people of Jamaica to the cruiser, the H.M.S. Jamaica, and two which have been given to Jamaica by the battleship which bears our Island's name. These mentioned are a large oil painting of the "Jamaica" by Leslie A.

Wilcox, and a carved wooden plaque.

The gifts from us to the cruiser are many and varied in type, and similar ones are being given to the Captain, the Warrant Officers' Mess, the Wardroom Mess and the Gunroom Mess in several instances such as the silver salvers, cigar and cigarette boxes. There are three bugles, a beautifully embossed silver Sports' Shield and a radiophone, a carved Coat-of-Arms of Jamaica, a silver centrepiece, and pictures and prints of old-time Jamaica.

LAMENT OF A MOTORIST

To toot or not to toot—that is the question,
When in the city, mid busy traffic's hum,
Some clueless type steps blithely off the pavement,
His mind on higher things — oblivious, dumb.
One toots, Perchance the tootie heeds the call
And, in due haste, retires and quickly fades —
But, more than likely, with one frantic leap
He strides to win his own ancestral shades.
"Why then," say you, "'tis simple. toot ye not,
But, like the serpent, pass him unawares.
Slip stealthily around the dreamy soul,

Then carry on — regardless of his stares."
Too simple far. For, sure as fate, he halts,
As you draw near, he some dim instinct feels
And turns, and seeing you rapidly approach,
Looks wildly round—then dives beneath your wheels.
And so, to toot or not to toot remains
The question that has really got me beat;
And my passage through the city remains a chorus
Of "dammit" and "Hey, hey, hey's" along the street.

AMAK.

Among these pictures are views of the Falmouth Market, the Ferry Inn, Montego Bay, a distant view of Port Royal, the Maroons etc. The display is a remarkably lovely one, and everything is so typically "Jamaican" in type that it is both a credit to the workmanship of our craftsmen and truly symbolic as a presentation from our people.

JAMAICAN SCULPTOR RETURNS
Mr. Alvin T. Marriott, Jamaican sculptor who won a British

Council scholarship two years ago and has been a student at Camberwell centre during this period, returned home on Thursday last, full of praise for the School of Arts and Crafts where he studied, and grateful for the invaluable help to him in his work which this time abroad has provided.

Mr. Marriott has had some of his work on exhibition at Camberwell which was considered of outstanding merit. This work was also exhibited by the London County Council and at the Colonial Month West Indian sector of that exhibition. He has brought out seven of his carvings which he hopes to put on exhibit for us shortly so we may judge for ourselves on his improved performance. Jamaicans will be pleased to welcome home this artist whose exceptional gift in the field of sculpture is well remembered.

WAYS TO LOVELINESS

Arriving in the Island recently was Mrs. Catherine Peterson, cosmetic director of Innox beauty preparations of London, who has come to give some lectures and demonstrations in beauty treatment during a three-month holiday trip. She will be working with Issa's in this connection and will lecture and demonstrate at the Myrtle Bank Hotel.

In an interview with the Press Mrs. Peterson stated that the Innox method will be explained to women on the basis of its "three ways to loveliness": right thinking, right acting and right treatment, and, she added, "right treatment forms only 10 per cent of the whole." Mrs. Peterson is, herself, a lovely looking woman who has, she declared, fulfilled a lifelong ambition in coming to Jamaica. Her teaching on the Innox beauty methods should be of considerable help and interest to the women of Jamaica, and its novelty is likely to make a great appeal.

KESWICK CONVENTION

The forty-ninth annual meeting of the Mandeville Keswick Convention took place earlier in the month and comprised audiences of well over one thousand persons at their evening meetings which has shown how keen is the interest taken in these well known Conventions. At the final meeting held at the Ridgemount Congregational Church it is estimated that there was an attendance of more than 2,500 persons, and it must be very gratifying to all those concerned, and to Mr. Ernest Clarke, secretary,

to know how well their work has been rewarded.

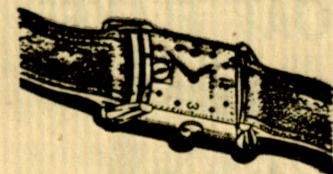
Visiting speakers on this occasion were the Rev. E. L. Langston of the English Keswick and Dr. Daniels of the American, and many inspiring addresses were delivered by various persons who participated in the proceedings this year. There is undoubtedly a great desire on the part of people in these bustling and difficult days to have such spiritual sustenance as this provided by the Convention and other bodies which have recently been making special efforts in reminding struggling minds and bodies that the things of the spirit can help to sustain them.

Observer.



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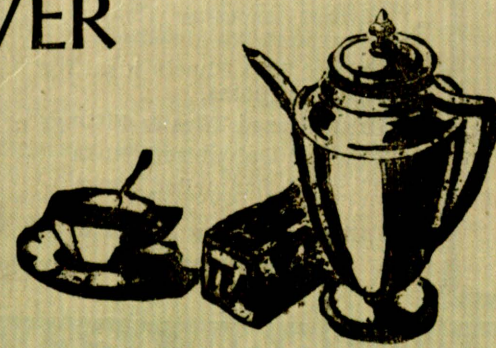
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THE PAGODA

Editor: Chas. T. Chang.

THE PAGODA is a fortnightly magazine. All correspondence regarding subscriptions and advertising should be addressed to the Editor, 108D Barry Street, or P.O. Box 305, Kingston.

Contributors are invited to send in their MSS at any time. Articles should not exceed 1,000 words.

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One year 7/6; half-year 3/6 postage included.

New Export Industry

On Saturday last, Jamaica's new export industry came into being when the first shipment of Belrock building panels, together with a supply of the plaster necessary in the erection of gypsum houses left the Island for Bermuda on the motor ship "Selena". The vessel was loaded by the use of huge cranes at the Company's private pier at Harbour Head in the presence of its Officials.

With this new industry a new phase in building construction has been created, which may well lead to many changes in the types of buildings we have here. In bygone days Great Houses were built of solid stone and heavy mahogany, cedar, and other durable lumber grown on our own soil. No doubt, long periods of time were used in such erections, but at that time the growth of the population did not cause anxiety to the Government. The need exists today for houses and other buildings to be erected easily and at low cost and gypsum is the answer to these problems.

Other orders besides that supplied to Bermuda are on hand, we have been informed, and soon the export industry of processed gypsum rocks and finished panels will be established with the countries of the Caribbean and Central America, a trade which will bring dollars to us and greatly facilitate our sister colonies where there is a housing shortage.

It was only last month that the public learnt that a number of Belrock buildings had already been put up in various parts of the Island. Buildings of a normal size take from five to six weeks to erect. Belrock panels are suited for both interior and exterior walls and are strong, light and load-bearing. They make neat, clean and attractive-looking dwellings, which lend themselves admirably to both in-

terior and exterior decoration. For the purpose of school houses gypsum buildings should be most suitable, and building with this would eliminate the long period of waiting for imported materials and would be more economical.

Jamaica is an excellent port for shipping services and the addition of a new export industry is full of significance to the future welfare of this Island. Soon we will become known for things other than rum, banana, and sugar. The export of gypsum can well presage the start of other export industries in our Island.

CHINESE LACQUERWARE

(Continued from page 3)

"While some talented students of mine would be selected for artistic work" he said, "the rest would be engaged on the factory staff. As finer lacquer works by the former would be sold at a higher price, the factory products, having compressed paper pulp bases, would be much cheaper, thus meeting the practical needs of the majority."

Lacquerware which was used during the period of the warring States around 200 B.C. has been unearthed and was recently exhibited in the Central Museum. Some of these pieces already had Chinese linen as their base, Mr. Shen said. However, according to Chen Chu-hsuan, professor of literature and history in the University of Nanking, the history of lacquerware dates as far back as 600 B.C., and after 300 years, lacquerware began to have coloured paintings.

LACQUER articles belonging to the Chun-Chiu years, made sometimes around 250 B.C., are "valuable for the lovely designs painted upon them," the professor pointed out. Not only were there red flowers painted with gold and silver dust, but also several true-to-life female forms were found, vividly set off by a pure black background.

From the dynasties of Han (208 B.C.-A.D. 220) and Tsin (A.D. 265-420) to those of Yuan (A.D. 1200-1368) and Ming (A.D. 1368-1644), more colours were involved in the painting of designs, and the skill of the makers of lacquerware greatly increased. During the Yang (Mongol) dynasty, the art of lacquerwork first reached Japan, where some modifications in design and colouring were made. After a period of decline during the last

years of the Ming dynasty, lacquer workmanship underwent a kind of "renaissance" during the reign of the Manchus. Both Ningpo, Chekiang Province, and Foochow, the provincial capital of Fukien, were and are centres of lacquerware production.

Today there are in Foochow about two dozen shops engaged in making lacquerware. One establishment considered the best, was founded by Shen Shao-an whose products won prizes and medals at the Sesquicentennial Exposition in Philadelphia in 1926, at the Commercial and Industrial Fair in Manila in 1929 and at various international exhibitions held in London, Paris, Berlin, Tokyo, Rome and Taiwan (Formosa).

"HSINTAI" — OLDEST SHIP ON LLOYD'S REGISTER

The oldest ship on Lloyd's Register, the "Hsintai", originally built as a yacht for a Russian grand duke, is still a familiar sight on the China coast as she plies between Tientsin, Shanghai, and other North China ports.

The "Hsintai" one of the earliest iron ship, was built in 1840 by Scottish engineers at the Nevsky dockyard at St. Petersburg. Few facts about the history of this 481-ton vessel are known in China. Her original name is not known, but at an early stage in her career she was renamed "Tungus", and Far Eastern waters.

After the Russian revolution she was bought by Denbigh and Company of Vladivostok, and shortly afterwards passed to Chinese ownership, being named the "Hsintai". In 1937 she was seized by the Japanese, and was operated throughout the war years by the Japanese K.U.T. Steamship Company. After the war ended she was seized by the North China Communists, and for many months shuttled back and forth between Dairen and Chefoo. In September, 1947, she escaped from a Communist port, returned to Tientsin, and passed into the hands of her present Chinese owners, the Tun Shun Steamship company. She still does eight knots, and her owners are confident that she has many years of service ahead of her.

—The London Times.

Dignity, high station or great riches, are in some sort necessary to old men, to keep the younger at a distance.

AMERICA IN THE EYES OF CHINESE STUDENTS

By Theodore Hsi-en Chen

From CHINA AND AMERICA

(Continued from last issue).

NO visitor from the Orient can, of course, fail to be impressed by the technological advance and the scientific manipulation of the material environment for human comfort and enjoyment. He finds that the material environment in the United States is as advanced and as wonderful as he originally expected. He is impressed by the efficient systems of transportation and communication. The efficient railway system is supplemented by airlines and highways which enable the common man to conquer distance. The ubiquitous telephone service reaches every town and every home and transforms the very pattern of living.

Automobile parking meters, cafeterias and automats, and such strange sights as the moving of an entire house on wheels from one place to another fill a visitor with nothing but wonder and a keen appreciation of the application of science and technology to daily living. The stores and markets are eloquent expressions of the wealth and plentifulness that exists in this land. The neat and attractive homes enjoyed by the common people and the comforts of life contributed by modern conveniences all testify to the high standard of living in this land of plenty. Once in a while a meditative Chinese would ask whether the advanced development of material comforts of life has not resulted in a tendency to evaluate life in terms of material possessions and to identify the goals of living with physical comfort, but, in general, this phase of American life arouses the enthusiastic admiration of most Chinese students.

Comparing American conditions with those in his own country, the Chinese students are impressed by the prevalence of public schools, the high level of the general education of the people, the wide circulation of newspapers, and the population of radio programmes, forums, and public lectures organized by the community. They marvel at the beautiful parks and beaches and the facilities provided for public enjoyment. They appreciate the measures taken to safe-

guard public health. They are also impressed by the fact that parks and beaches are kept in good order and, usually, in fairly near condition. They come to the conclusion that American society is a stable and well-organized one and is not subject to such sharp changes and disturbances as a transitional society like the Chinese. The people in general cooperate in the maintenance of public places. Even such a small thing as the deposit of picnic remnants in garbage cans provided in parks and beaches becomes of significance to the visitor from the Orient. A stable society makes possible many conveniences enjoyed by all. The prevalent use of personal checks in America is an example of such a convenience.

IN regard to personal characteristics, the Chinese student is impressed by the individualism and independence of Americans. He likes the independence of young people as shown when teen-age boys and girls take up such tasks as selling newspapers and working in stores in order to gain financial independence. He finds that the individual is less dependent on the family and more willing to struggle on his own resources. Sometimes, Chinese students who learned about American college life through the movies they saw in China had got the wrong impression that American college life consisted largely of fun and frolic. Not a few of them reported that it was a new revelation to them to find, after having been here for a few months that many American boys and girls had to struggle their way through college and were engaged in various forms of employment to finance their own education. When they know of cases where students work long hours for self-support and give up all play in the evenings and during week-ends for the sake of employment, they get an entirely different idea of college life and of American youth.

The activities of the students and the relations between teachers and students all reflect an atmosphere of freedom. The classroom is characterized by informality. The new arrival is sometimes puzzled by what he considers an abuse of freedom when he sees another student slouch in his chair with one foot on the chair, but after observing repeated examples of like nature

he becomes accustomed and judges that probably no disrespect is involved in such free and easy classroom manners.

Many a Chinese student has remarked about the curiosity of Americans. They find that American people are curious to find out about things and people. They ask many questions in the classroom and outside. They bombard the foreign visitor with endless question about his habits, his clothing, his personal characteristics, his reactions to American life. Some of the questions seem too personal and embarrassing to the visitor but on the whole they are an expression of a wholesome curiosity which leads to new knowledge and new discoveries.

THE Chinese student finds the American people much more demonstrative than the Chinese people. American demonstrativeness is seen not only in the demonstration of love and affection in public, but also in such common verbal expressions as "How lovely," "How cute," "Isn't that grand," "That's certainly too bad!" "You're just marvellous!" and so on and so forth. The reaction to this phase of American life varies with individuals. Many feel that the profuse expressions of appreciation and the general compliments exchanged between friends and strangers alike add much to the fun and joy of life, while others consider such expressions as embarrassing and at times too superficial to have any real meaning.

The Chinese visitor observes in the American environment some things which bewilder him. It seems strange to him that the drugstore should be a place where people go for meals; his own feelings would be that a store selling drugs and medicines would not provide a very pleasant environment for meals. He has to be warned before he goes to the barber shop; otherwise he is likely to pay an uncomfortably large sum for his haircut. While a haircut includes all the subsidiary services such as shave, shampoo, and massage, the unwarned visitor is liable to make a mistake of accepting all the services of an American barber shop, including the shoeshine, and expecting no more than the price advertised for a haircut.

Some of the American customs seem strange. Being used to bright colours as a symbol of happiness and the use of white as a symbol of mourning, the Chinese visitor receives a shock when he attends an American wedding where all decorations are in white. In attending the reception following the wedding, he receives a further shock when he watches the bride and groom cut the wedding cake and serve themselves first before serving the guests. Politeness would seem to require first attention to the guests!

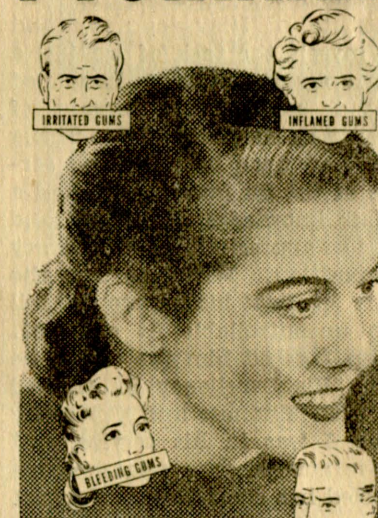
It takes the Chinese visitor some time to become used to the relations between the sexes.

(Continued on page 18)

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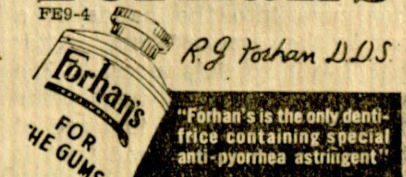
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TRADITIONAL CHINESE TALES

THE ANCIENT MIRROR

By Wang Tu

6th. Century

Translated by Chi-chen Wang

(continued from last issue)

IN the winter of that year I was appointed member of the Institute of Historiography and set myself the task of writing a biography of Su Cho. It happened that I had an old servant of seventy by the name of Pao Sheng who had once been in the service of the Su family. He had a fair knowledge of history and some appreciation of literary composition. When he saw the draft of Su's biography he fell into uncontrollable fit of grief. When I asked him the cause, he said, "His Excellency Su treated me with kindness and generosity when I was in his service. I grieve now because what he prophesied has come true. For, sir, the magic mirror that you have was once given to His Excellency by Miao Chi-tzu of Honan and he greatly treasured it. In the year of his death, he was constantly in a state of melancholy, and once, summoning Miao Chi-tzu to him, he said, 'My death is not far off and I wonder what will happen to this mirror after my death. I want now to divine it by the milfoil and should like you to witness it.' He then commanded me to bring the milfoil sticks and having cast them and read the pattern, he said: 'Ten years after my death, the mirror will be lost to my family, no one knows where. But the presence of a spiritual object is always indicated by some supernatural sign. I note that of late there have been emanations of an auspicious nature in the region of the Ho and the Wei, and that these emanations coincide with the message of the milfoil. The mirror will probably be recovered in that region.' 'Will it be found by some man?' Chi-tzu asked. His Excellency examined the milfoil again and then said, 'It will first come into the possession of a man by the name of Hou and then pass into the hands of a man by the name of Wang. After that it is impossible to tell.'" Pao Sheng, the servant, wept after giving this recital. I inquired of the Su family and found that it was indeed as Pao Sheng had said, and that the mirror vanished after Mr. Su's death. Therefore I appended this incident to Su's biography. I had

this in mind when I wrote: "Mr. Su had a surpassing skill in the art of divination and was able to put it to his own use."

ON New Year's Day of the ninth year of Ta Yeh a Buddhist monk from the Western Regions came to our house to beg and was received by my brother Chi, who, impressed by his uncommon appearance, invited him into the house and set food before him. After a while the monk said to Chi, "It appears that you have in your house, charitable patron, a unique mirror. May I have the honour of gazing upon it?" "How do you happen to know, Master of the Law?" Chi asked. "I have some instruction in magic," the monk replied, "and I am thus able to detect the presence of spiritual emanations. For the past two years I have noted a jade-green light emanating from your mansion by day and a saffron light when the moon is shining and I know it for the work of a magic mirror. I have come on this auspicious day in the hope of looking at it." Chi brought out the mirror, whereupon the monk took it in his hands and danced with joy. Then he said to Chi, "This mirror has several magical qualities that you may not be aware of. If you paint it with a gold ointment and spray it with pearl dust, its rays will penetrate the wall. And if you smoke it with incense of gold and wash it with liquid jade before you apply the ointment and pearl dust, it will enable you to see the inner organs of man. The only pity is that it provides no cure for the ailments that it enables you to diagnose." Before he went away, he left some of the ingredients required for the tests, which all turned out as he said. The monk was never seen again afterwards.

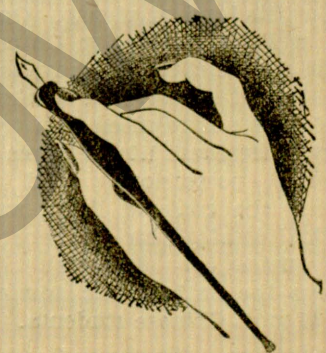
In the fall of that year I was sent from the capital to serve as governor of Juicheng. In front of the governor's yamen there was an ancient jubube tree, several rods in circumference and untold centuries old. It had been the custom for the new governors to make sacrifices to this tree, for failure to do so had invariably brought disaster. As I was of

the belief that the malign spirits were born of man's imagination, I was inclined to discontinue the sacrifice, but the clerks and officers all begged me to follow the former custom, and unable to refuse them, I complied. Then I thought to myself that the tree might indeed harbour some evil monster which had grown in magic power as no one had been able to destroy it. Therefore I secretly hung the mirror among the branches of the tree. That night around the second watch I heard a rumbling sound like thunder in front of the yamen. When I rose and went out to look, the sky was darkened by a storm and there was thunder and lightning that shot around and up and down the tree. In the morning a huge serpent with purple scales and a red tail, green head, and white brow, and the character for "king" patterned on its forehead, was discovered dead of numerous injuries under the tree. I took down the mirror and had the serpent burned in the public square. I also had the tree cut down and in doing so the trunk was found to be hollow down to the ground and to have traces left by the serpent. After this no malign spirits troubled the district.

IN the same winter I was ordered to the Hopei Circuit to supervise dispensations from the government granaries; there was then a famine in the land and the people suffered greatly from hunger and disease, particularly in the regions of Pu and Shan. Among my officers there was a man by the name of Chang Lung-chu, a native of Hopei, whose entire household, numbering more than a score, was stricken with sickness. Taking pity upon them, I went to his house with my mirror and left it with Lung-chu with the instruction that he should uncover it at night. When this was done the sick all rose from their beds with their fevers completely gone. They said that Lung-chu had come into the room with a moonlike object in his hand and that its light had chilled them like ice and driven away their fevers. Since it did not occur to me that this service would cause the mirror any harm, while it might save a multitude of people, I instructed Lung-chu to take the mirror and turn its magic emanations on the other people in the district who were afflicted, but that night the mirror made a strange, chilly, and penetrating noise and did not stop for a long while. In the morning Lung-chu came to me and said, "I dreamed last night that I

was visited by a man with the head of a dragon and the body of a snake, wearing a red hat and a purple robe. He told me that his name was Purple Gem and that he was the spirit of the mirror. 'I have come to you,' he said, 'because I have just been of assistance to your household. Please tell Mr. Wang for me that the people have been visited with sickness as a penalty of Heaven and that he should not make me cure them contrary to the Higher Will. Moreover, the sickness will pass of itself in a few months; why should he set me this task?' 'I complied with the request, and indeed in a month or so all those who were stricken gradually recovered, just as the spirit of the mirror had said.

IN the tenth year of Ta Yeh my brother Chi resigned from his position as assistant magistrate of Liuho and decided to embark upon a tour of the mountains and rivers of the empire. I tried to dissuade him from the project as there were signs of disturbed times to come, but in vain. He asked me to lend him the mirror for his protection. This I gladly did. He was gone for a long time and did not return to Changan until the sixth month of the thirteenth year of Ta Yeh. "The mirror was indeed a marvellous object," he told me and went on to tell of the wonder that it had wrought and of the animal spirits that it had exposed. "Then," he concluded, erudition and with a gift for prognostication of things to come. 'A magical object such as your mirror,' he warned me, 'will

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Jamaican Proverbs

Their Meaning and Significance

Corrections — In the issue of July 23rd., the Printer's Devil made two awkward mistakes. In the Proverb "Sweet wud blaze but him no keep fire." Fine was printed instead of fire, 2nd. column, the Proverb "Drizzle drizzle fabor contentious 'ooman", for "much" showers, read "why such showers are sometimes described" etc.

Pot full, pot-kibber get some.

Pot-kibber means the covering for the pot.

When the pot boils over, the cover benefits. This may be illustrated by a negro dance known as the "Mento," which is usually accompanied by the chanting of the following ballad:—

"Beg you little ah you coffee-tea, Put i' eena you pot-kibber."

Hence the meaning of the proverb: Don't you worry or be envious when your neighbour flourishes. Rest content for a while, and you will get your share.

Facey darg no 'frad fe lay him bone a 'tranger burin'-groun'.

Facey means forward; no frad means not afraid; lay him bone means to die; tranger means stranger; burin'-groun' means burial ground.

The proverb registers a warning to the individual who meddles with his neighbour's affairs even though this may cause his death.

Doant mek ghost fool you. Don't be deceived by what is not real or tangible.

I will sarb you a sauce.

Sarb means serve. That is, "Paying one back in his own coin", as the English equivalent puts it or I will teach you a lesson.

If green leaf ah feel heat what fe say dry.

If the green leaf is feeling the heat of the sun how much more does the dry leaf feel it? That is, if people in affluent circumstances suffer as a result of the present high cost of living for instance how much more suffering do the poor and indigent folk undergo.

Han's a bowl, knife a 'troat. Han' means hand; 'troat means Throat.

This proverb issues a warning against hypocrisy or double-dealing tactics. Here is a man who pretends to be a dear friend to such an extent that you are dining from the same dish, and yet at the same time he is planning your ruin. Shakespeare's description of the death of

Caesar is a classic illustration. Et tu Brute were the words that the poet put into the mouth of Caesar as he was stabbed to death by the mob, among whom was his bosom friend Brutus— "And even you Brutus" is the free Latin translation.

Other Negro sayings that are akin to this proverb run this way:—

You own knife cut you T'roat; and you are a snake-a-grass.

Han' use fe cut big punie caan leave off.

Punie means corn pone, a kind of pudding; use fe cut means accustomed to cut. That is, the persons who are accustomed to partake of a dainty dish will feel the loss very sorely if a change takes place in their mode of life. Applied to morals, the proverb is a warning to youngsters who practise petty vices which, if not discontinued become a habit that may lead to disaster in later life.

You fabour like Duppy 'trow ashes eena you yeye.

Duppy means ghost; 'trow means throw; eena you yeye means into your eyes; fabour means it seems. Applied to a shamese or impudent individual.

Easy-squeeze mek no riot.

If you take things easily or wisely, you will avoid much trouble or confusion.

"Silence is golden" is the English equivalent with the nearest approach to this proverb. I am also reminded of a French proverb, which freely translated runs this way: "For all the ills of life there are two remedies, the one is time, the other is silence."

Good me do ah Tenky me get.

My good service is not appreciated. Here is a corrective to ingratitude, which the following Gem refers to:—

Heart like doors can open with ease.

To very, very little keys; And don't forget that two are these.

"I thank you sir," and "If you please."

Good-belly Susan neber hab big 'tomach. 'Tomach means stomach; good-belly refers to her being over-generous or goody-goody.

This proverb applies to a person who responds to every appeal for help. (whether or not it is genuine), without reserving anything for herself, a condition which may lead to deprivation.

PLUTO.

not for long remain in the midstmonth, the thirteenth year of the of men. The world is now in turmoil and you should return to your native home while you still have the mirror for your protection. I agreed with him and started northward. But in Hopei I tarried for a while until one night I dreamed that the mirror came to me and told me that it was about to leave the world of man and that it would like to have a last meeting with you. It begged me, therefore, to return to Changan as soon as I could. In the dream I granted its request, and on waking up the following morning and reflecting upon the situation, I immediately set out for Changan. Now that I am with you, I have fulfilled my promise. I am afraid, however, that you will soon lose possession of this marvellous object." After some days my brother returned to Hotung, and then on the fifteenth day of the seventh

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ENGLAND

"This was her grief, that when
the moon was full,
And earth lay drowned far down
in beauty's pool,
She only, through that loving
loneliness,
Of all earth's creatures went
companionless . . .
And ah, she cried, That I must
live alone—
The song unsung, the blank un-
carven stone,
The jewel lost forever in the well,
News that the runner, dying, did
not tell.
I am a plough whose share is red
with rust,
I am a harp whose gold is grey
with dust,
I am a wisdom that no man will
heed,
I am a garden that no hand will
weed,
I am a ruined house, a disused
way,
Silence, forgetfulness and dull
decay—
Ah, what false steward took and
set aside
This talent from love's treasury?
she cried."

Sylvia Lind:
"The Solitary."

ECUADOR

"We must dress in water, in docile
fabrics,
In friendly and invisible things.
We must adorn ourselves with
trifles cut off by the doves,
The rainbows, and the angels.
And wash the scanty gold of day,
Reckoning its nuggets when the
wounded west
Burns all its ships and night
approaches
Commanding its dark tribes."

Jorge Carrera Andrade:
"Nothing Belongs to Us."

POT POURRI OF THOUGHT

CHINA

"In the courtyard there grows a
strange tree,
Its green leaves ooze with a
fragrant moisture.
Holding the branch I cut a flower
from the tree,
Meaning to send it away to the
person I love.
Its sweet smell fills my sleeves
and lap.
The road is long, how shall I get
it there?
Such a thing is not fine enough
to send:
But it may remind him of the
time that has past since he
left."

Anon:
"Seventeen Old Poems"
1st. Century B.C.

RUSSIA

"Where boughs above the pool
are swinging,
Where the hot summer sunshine
burns,
The dragon-flies in airy winging
Lead on the dance's merry
turns . . .
The songs we know to sing are
many
And we have loved you long ago,
Look at the bank more soft than
any,
Look at the sandy floor below."

Alexey Tolstoy.

JAMAICA

"A flock of crows on graceful,
gilded wing
Bravely disporting in the evening
sky!
A pageantry of flight in places
high.
Circling and dipping, slanting,
lingering
Poised on fantastic curves, they
darkly fly,
Twining a wreath of motion
round the sky . . .
Are they not shapely shadows
heralding
The vague beginning dusk that
trails the sky,
Floating, and fading . . . gradu-
ally . . . on high?"

Vivian L. Virtue:
"Flight."

WALES

"When poverty strikes pavement—
there is found
No cripple like contentment
Which stultifies all statement
Of bright thought from the
brain's tent."

— Lynette Roberts:
"Englyn."

AMERICA

"I know not whence I came,
I know not whither I go;
But the fact stands clear that I
am here
In this world of pleasure and
woe.
And out of the mist and murk
Another truth shines plain—
It is my power, each day and
hour,
To add to its joy or its pain."

Ella Wheeler Wilcox:
"I Am."

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KONG. NO PERMIT REQUIRED. TRANS-
FERS MAY ALSO BE MADE DIRECT TO CHINA
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FENCE (FINANCE) BOARD. WE SHALL BE
PLEASED TO TAKE CARE OF YOUR RE-
QUIREMENTS. YOUR PATRONAGE IS IN-
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THE PAGODA

PERSONS PLACES THINGS

By Old Joe

PERSONS

THE BARRETTS FAMILY

It is not generally known that
Elizabeth Barrett Browning, the
famous English writer, had con-
nections with Jamaica, having
owned property in this island. In
a book published in the United
States some years ago, she is re-
ferred to as a member of the
family of the "Barretts of Ja-
maica and Wimpole Street fame." The
book also traced the early
connections between the two
families, for Robert Browning's
ancestors, the Tittles lived in Ja-
maica and the West Indies from
almost as early a date as the Bar-
retts.

Hercey Barrett, Lieutenant in
Venables' army was the pioneer
of the family in Jamaica. He ar-
rived here in 1655 with his wife
and children, joined later by
other members apparently, for
soon there was mention of Bar-
retts established at Half Way
Tree, at Withywood in Vere, in
Spanish Town and Mile Gulley.
In 1662 they received their first
grants of land in Vere, and also
in Spanish Town, (where a street
still bears their name); and in
the same decade we find them
trekking as pioneers along the
old Spanish Road to the
Northside, there to lay the
foundation of the great estates
of the future Barretts in
Trelawny and St. James.

They had their interests too,
in Port Royal, with its fabulous
riches in slaves and merchandise,
for Thomas Barrett was an in-
fluential merchant there, vital-
ly interested in the weekly human
cargoes and the lucrative trading
of that notorious port. This
same Thomas wrote a letter in
October 1672 from "Port Riall"
which provides a firsthand evi-
dence of those qualities of com-
passion and kindness which re-
mained throughout that Jamai-
can history typical of the Bar-
retts, and which undoubtedly
preserved their persons and their
property during slave insurrec-
tions one hundred and fifty years
later. Not that they ever ques-
tioned the slave system, bound
up with it as their traditions
were, till the generation of Ed-
ward Moulton Barrett, father of
Elizabeth, who was to find him-
self involved in an emotional
conflict inescapable at that period
for a man who was at once a
large slave-holder and a member
of the Wesleyan Methodists, who
were abolitionists.

As a passing reference I might
mention that in the Port Royal
earthquake of 1692, those who were
engulfed in that great disaster
included Dr. Hans Sloane's wife
the daughter of Thomas Barrett;
also John Waight, cordwainer
and churchwarden, master of the

young apprentice, John Tittle,
who carried on the business.
Thus began the career of the
great-great-grandfather of Robert
Browning, who afterwards owned
substantial lands in Kingston,
and who no doubt made foot-
wear for the more aristocratic
Barretts, their near neighbours.
and it is with this generation of
Tittles that originates that
strange theory, (unsubstantiated,
however), of the "dash of the tar-
brush" in Robert Browning's
family, built on the assumption
that John, the eldest child, was
an illegitimate, possibly mis-
cegenated, child of Edward Tittles
wife, Lucy . . . Another note in
passing is, that John himself went
to St. Kitts as a pillar of the
Church, and took up an interest
in land outside Basseterre, al-
ways to be associated with the
name of Browning.

(to be continued.)

PLACES

BITS OF OLD JAMAICA

The story of the Retirement of
the L. M. S. from the West In-
dian field in 1870 is briefly told.
Congregationalism was affected,
as its fortunes were directed by
the London Missionary Society.
The halt in Congregational
Church extension concerning
which I made mention in the last
issue (August 6th), was only tem-
porary. Difficulties in the path
of progress had to be removed,
however. Economic depression
was one difficulty. Others in-
cluded backsliding, the growth of
free societies usually formed by
leaders who had seceded or been
excluded from membership of the
recognized mission church. All
these problems helped to make the
2nd. decade following Emancipa-
tion a time of great testing.
Added to these set-backs there
came, in the years 1851 and 1853,
a Cholera epidemic that claimed
6,500 victims. Most churches
suffered depleted congregations.
The year between these two out-
breaks brought a widespread
epidemic of small pox which
claimed further victims. The
year following these epidemics
brought famine and want, since
the people had neglected to
plant. Still there was some pro-
gress.

In Clarendon, Frederick Jones
of Mount Carmel, Colonel's Ridge
opened another station at Mor-
gan's Pass, which he called "Light
of the Valley." He later secured
Orange River, a disused sugar
estate, at which he resided, work-
ing the two stations he had es-
tablished, until his death in 1875.
In his will, he left them both to
the Presbyterian body, in whose
possession they still are at the
present time. Jones might al-
most be regarded as the founder
of education in this Parish.

In 1855 Hillyer from Mount
Zion started a cause at Rutlands
in the North Clarendon hills.
Gardner describes going to Rut-
lands with Hillyer for a mission-
ary meeting in the same year.
They took with them a mission-
ary map. Some of the older
women made an attempt to take
Hillyer up and carry him, ex-
claiming, "You de fuss bring we
missy meeting, and Lord Jesus
Christ map."

In 1857 work was opened in St.
Catherine at Brown's Hall, and
two years later Clark from Four
Paths formed a church at Bread-
nut Bottom.

THINGS

RICE AS A FOOD CROP (Continued from last issue)

Since I wrote my last article I
have read with interest that the
Jamaica Rice Growers' Associa-
tion, formed a few years ago, has
been making progress; and I un-
derstand that it is working on
the possibility of federating this
Growers' Association into an
All-Island body. The hope is,
that from the efforts of the As-
sociation Jamaica will be able to
grow a substantial proportion of
the rice it needs for local con-
sumption at a price suitable to
farmers and consumers.

I have been investigating the
rice question for the benefit of
my readers. First of all there is
some misunderstanding in re-
spect to the minimum prices
guaranteed by Government for
local rice. The sure facts are
these. The Department of Com-
merce and Industries will buy
rice of sound merchantable qual-
ity from anyone who offers it at
the rate of 58s. 4d. per 100 lbs.
delivered at the Packing House
in Kingston, or at 55/- per 100
lbs. at any of the following rural
station operated by the Depart-
ment, namely Port Antonio,
Williamsfield, Christiana, An-
chovy and Brown's Town. These
are the points at which the De-
partment purchases not only rice
but all guaranteed crops.

In the next place I understand
that there is dissatisfaction be-
cause new buying stations have
not been opened. It should be
realised, however, that the opera-
tion of such buying stations is
very expensive. The limited
number of buying stations now
operated by the Department of
Commerce and Industries are
situated at points which ex-
perience has shown to be most
convenient for growers as a
whole; but it is quite understand-
able that it would be very con-
venient for growers of certain
crops to have stations opened
at other points. This applies as
much to yams as to rice. Just
as rice growers would like to see
a station opened at Savanna-la-
mar, so would the yam growers
like to see a station opened at
Lucea; and so on. But this would
be extremely expensive to the
taxpayers. And don't forget
that if new stations were to be
opened at every point which the
growers of each crop considered
to be most convenient to them,
the cost of operating the guaran-
teed price system would be
greatly increased; and the very
persons who maintain that Gov-
ernment should open new sta-
tions at these points would prob-
ably be quite ready to criticise
the heavy expenditure that would
thereby be involved.

It should be added that the De-
partment of Commerce and In-
dustries has been in consultation
with growers' representatives in
an endeavour to assist in the
satisfactory solution of such
problems as may arise in con-

nection with the marketing of
local rice.

NEGRO SLAVES IN JAMAICA.

A brief Survey of their Intro-
duction is sufficiently informative
and interesting to be incorpor-
ated among PERSONS.

The Spaniards took Jamaica in
1494. The English took it away
from the Spaniards in 1655.
While cotton-growing was the
first industry of the slave-work-
ed plantations in America, sugar-
cane cultivation early became the
manufacture of rum; and the
principal characters on the sugar
estates, owner, attorney, overseer,
head man, field-hand figure con-
spicuously in the drama of early
Jamaica history; each one leaving
his imprint upon the character
of the imported slaves. It is in
Jamaica that the history of the
slave traffic can be studied with
advantage; because it was here
that the British slavery reached
its greatest strength, and (in-
cidentally) made its fiercest
struggle and met its final doom.

English ships brought the kid-
napped Africans chiefly from
West Coast and Congo mouth to
the island markets; and an old
record shows the four-foot, space
between decks where the "black
ivory" was stored for the voyage.
The slaves on landing were sold
in open market to the slave-own-
ers or their agents. Usually a
whole family, or at least the
mother with the children were
purchased together; but this was
not compulsory. On the estate
negroes speaking the same dia-
lect were kept apart to prevent
any planned revolt. For speak-
ing to their white masters, the
slaves seem to have been left to
pick up the necessary English
phrases as well as they could.
Hence such surviving African
terms as "tata" (grand father)
"massoo" (lift up), and "nyam"
(eat).

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TALKING IT OVER

with Elizabeth Martin

Dear Miss Martin,

I am a young widow with a little boy of six years old. There is a man I am very fond of who wants to marry me. But I am afraid that he is jealous of my son as he is very hard on him now and says that I spoil him. Now do you think that he will be hard and cruel to my boy if we marry, or is it possible that when he has children of his own he will be more understanding where children are concerned?

Distressed.

Dear Distressed,

If for one moment you think that your child may become a bone of contention between you and your husband don't marry again.

You would only be building a life of misery for yourself and stand the chance of ruining your child's character for good.

Talk the matter over seriously with your fiancé and come to some definite agreement before you commit yourself. You should know him well enough to know whether he will keep his promises to you. Make it quite plain that you will not tolerate any unkindness or cruelty to your son, mentally or physically.

It is possible that he may change in his attitude towards your son if he has children of his own — he may become more tolerant — but in the meantime safeguard your son's happiness. Remember he is your child, and as such should be the dearest thing you have in the world — he is what many women would give the world to have—a son. So think well before you make your decision.

E. M.

Dear Miss Martin,

I have only been married a few years and recently my husband has been coming home later than usual, that is several hours after

he should normally finish work. He gives no explanation for his lateness and seems very cool towards me and very preoccupied in his mind.

Now I know that there are several very pretty and attractive girls working in the same office as he does, and I am afraid that he may have fallen for one of them. Do you think I should employ a private detective to watch him?

Mrs. K. L.

Dear Mrs. K. L.

No! No! No! That is not the way to solve your problem, that is mere moving picture stuff. You must try to settle your private affairs with dignity and understanding before admitting defeat. I can imagine nothing more distasteful and undignified than using a stranger to spy on the man you love.

Do as most intelligent women do under similar circumstances. Ignore things for the moment, and make a tremendous effort to make your home as attractive as possible and yourself as lovely as you were when you were first married, encourage him to take you out socially.

Try to remember that he may have only settled down into the rut as many men do once they are married. They are contented and now that the wooing and winning are over, they feel that they can once more devote their time to business and the enjoyment of their men friends' company. Just thoughtlessness. So would you jeopardise your marriage by spying on him?

Your very last resort should be to ask him. Mind! I said ask him, not accuse him. Apologise and explain to him that loving him as you do you are apt to be jealous of anything that takes his time and attention away from you — ask him to give you an

honest reply. If you hold your temper and jealousy in control—he probably will.

E. M.

Dear Miss Martin,

I am sick to death of hearing my mother-in-law praised. My husband is always saying "Mother makes such wonderful pies — cakes. Mother does this so well and Mother does that so well." It simply makes me mad and we are always quarrelling about it. Is there anything I can do?

C.

Dear C.

Yes there is! Stop being mad at his mother. He is evidently still, mother's boy, and you must realize that there is no one so dear in the world as your mother.

Give him a dose of his own medicine and I bet you will cure him. Mention your mother-in-law every possible chance you get — not maliciously — just keep saying things like this — "I wish I could make pies like your mother — I wish I could sew like your mother—I wish I was such a wonderful housekeeper

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THE PAGODA

IN PARENTHESIS

A woman makes her husband think he's head of the house when he is only chairman of the entertainment committee.

Something is cooking regarding world currencies: but they deny that it's a pressure cooker.

A father was bragging about his son's intelligence and told his wife: "You know, I think our son must have got his brains from me."

And the wife retorted: "Well, he must. I still have mine."

Barber "Well, my little man, and how would you like your hair cut?"

Small Boy — "If you please, sir, just like father's, and don't forget the little round hole at the top where the head comes through."

When a woman buy an article, it is for one of the following seven reasons:

(1) Because her husband says she can't have it. (2) Because it will make her look thin. (3) Because it comes from Paris. (4) Because her neighbours can't afford it. (5) Because nobody else has it. (6) Because everybody else has it. (7) "Because."

Schoolmaster — "Jones, spell 'weather.'"

Jones — "W-e-t-t-h-e-r."

Schoolmaster — "Well, Jones, that's certainly the worst spell of weather we've had for some time!"

Motorist who always insists on his rights, just regaining consciousness: "I had the right of way, didn't I?"

His disgusted passenger: "Yeah, but the other fellow had the truck."

"Your leg is swollen," admitted the doctor, "but I wouldn't worry about it."

"Well, if your leg was swollen, I wouldn't worry about it either."

The touch of that nurse's hand cooled my fever instantly. "Yeah, we heard the slap all over the ward."

A circle is a round straight line with a hole in the middle.

Customer — "Your dog seems very fond of watching you cut hair."

Barber — "It ain't that; sometimes I snip off a bit of a customer's ear."

At a recent meeting Leon Henderson engaged in a bitter argument with a U.S. senator. In the course of the debate, the senator called Henderson a "nit-wit." A few minutes later he referred to him as a "half-wit."

Whereupon, Henderson called a halt and said: "That's a step up. Are you sure you want to promote me?"

A doctor returned home, following his usual day at the office and found his son sitting on the front steps, sulking.

"What's wrong now?" asked Papa.

"I just had a terrible scene with your wife," the small boy explained.

"Queer, isn't it?"

"What's queer?"

"Why the night falls—"

"Yes."

"But it doesn't break"

"No."

"And the day breaks—"

"Yes."

"But it never falls."

An office boy said timidly to his boss, "Please, sir, I think someone wants you on the telephone."

The boss roared, "What do you mean, you think? Am I wanted or not?"

The boy replied, "Well, sir, the man said, 'Is that you, you idiot?'"

"Were you any good as a spiritualist?"

"Just medium."

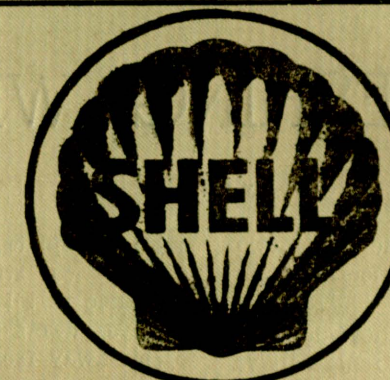
It was cool on the course, in the draft,

As her partner asked, "How is your shaft?"

Without even a blink, She said, "What do you think?" As she showed her neat ankle, and laughed!

A lady hurriedly entered the drug store and asked the man behind the soda fountain: "Are you a doctor?" Smilingly he replied, "No, but I am a fizzician."

It is dangerous to abandon one's self to the luxury of grief: it deprives one of courage and even of the wish for recovery.



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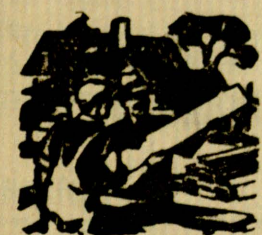
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REFRESHING WINDS

By Gay

WHAT inspired the first notion of romance concerning pirates?

Pirates were hunted men. They were forced to hide in various mudholes and isolated islands and were in constant danger of having an eye, head, or limb blown off. They were thieves, murderers, and ruthless, blood-thirsty fellows, quite cruel and vicious. Why, then, are romantic tales still woven around them?

Probably it is because of that desire for something rash and different from the dull monotony of routine living. It is because of our yearning to identify ourselves with recklessness and dash that pirates can attain immortal romance.

They are natural desires in mankind and they can be met in a practical manner. Not by ruthless attack with a cut-throat gang nor by boarding a pirate ship, but in a way that might prove constructive and exciting at the same time.

No matter where you live, there is something new to discover,

there are places and people and events to stir the energetic romance in all of us. There are always outlets for that desire to break away from routine.

HAVE you been tied to an office desk all through the week? Then get some food and few necessities together and toss a pack over your back and start out on a hike early Sunday morning. Exhilaration sets in almost at once. Feel the wind sweeping out the cobwebs? Feel your own sense of daring and accomplishment when you scale a particularly difficult peak? Romance! Why, it's tingling along every pebble you stamp on and every moss-haunted tree you can pass on your way to higher, yet higher, places.

Some hard-working people, born and living on the same island all their lives, had come to the conclusion that life was all a dull sameness. They felt bored, restless, thwarted. Then a visitor to their island began asking questions about this place and that, about the island habits

and people and ghosts. It aroused an interest in the minds of the bored people and they began a series of trips around their own island that actually startled them.

They found a wide, white-sanded, virgin beach, as beautiful a spot as any deserted isle they had read about in books. It lay on the tip of their island where there were no industries, no commerce, no properties or villages to speak of—and they had just never before made the effort to visit it. There followed hours of vigorous swimming in clear refreshing waters, of wandering along the shore discovering unusual shells, plants, trees, small huts with their own particular kind of fascinating life.

ON still other trips they discovered the art of oil-boiling, basket-weaving, banana harvesting, restoring haunted houses by visiting the places where these things were done, stopping and taking the time to ask questions and joke and be friendly. Romance? Why, the world is full of amazing romantic intriguing things when one takes a moment to seek them out.

There are many who can attain the same result of escape from monotony, by music. Usually a greater satisfaction comes from learning to play an instrument, creating your own music,

for the desire for something rash or different is best met with some physical activity. Getting out and away from things with a fishing pole or a camera or a boat, especially if it includes climbing, walking, pushing, pulling, fighting a strong current, can give you that sense of reckless activity which every person of imagination needs at some time or other.

You can even try doing something that no one else has ever tried in your community. That will satisfy your need for adventure. Try building a playground for children, or forming a small lending library on your own so that all your magazines and books can be shared by others; try collecting some interesting articles that no one else has collected, or even inventing some gadget that no one, to your knowledge has invented before. Have picture-slides or records or collections that you can share with others.

Above all, to satisfy your desire for the unusual, try learning something new, new to yourself, at least. It doesn't matter what. Take up riding, photography, chemistry, anthropology, baking, tennis, poetry, a new language—as long as your mind is actively engaged in tackling something different, it will be a contented

(Continued on page 18)

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FAR EAST BOOKS

INTRODUCING CHINA

By George Yeh & C. P. Fitzgerald

George Yeh, Doctor of Philosophy and part author of this book, is Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs of the National Government of China; formerly he was Professor of English Literature at the National University of Peking. Collaborating with Mr. Fitzgerald, they have together compiled a comprehensive "introduction" to China, as the title suggests, in 116 pages of information about the country and its industrious millions.

Every aspect is given its chapter; from the history of its evolution, the teachings of Confucius, to the language and the Literary Renaissance; the old Imperial Government leading up to the Revolution of 1911 and present-day post-war problems. Art and Handicrafts find their places in these pages and, although the authors say in their introduction that there are so many more interesting things they would like to tell us about China than they can put into this short book, it is the basis of factual reference for student and uninformed alike and sweeps away many unfounded prejudices born of ignorance.

At only 6s., the Publishers should expect heavy sales, for this book compares more than favourably with many a handbook at double the price.

SCIENCE OUTPOST

By Joseph Needham

The "Outpost" of the title was Free China, where for many years off from the great cities where their laboratories and equipment had been seized or destroyed by the Japanese, struggled to maintain and develop their country's ancient civilization. Something of their story is now told in this book by members of the staff of the Sino-British Science Co-operation Office, who travelled through most of China's pro-

vinces in the course of their work.

Scientist and layman alike will be fascinated by this unusual and important volume, which contains not only reports and articles, but also a number of vivid letters, travel journals and some remarkable poems. Nearly a hundred new photographs add to those already published in "Chinese Science." The book does justice for the first time to an aspect of China usually quite overlooked — the achievement of her scientists and engineers. The romance of the subject lies not only in its extraordinary mingling of the old and the new, but also in the unconquerable pertinacity of a great nation emerging from an agricultural quasi-federal culture to the mastery of modern science and technology.

CHINATOWN FAMILY

By Lin Yutang

Another best seller by Lin Yutang. Here, the master of those who write about things Chinese, is at his best. He gives free rein to the gay humour that graces this novel about our neighbours, the Chinese, right here in New York.

Chinatown Family is a novel written against an original background. It tells the intensely interesting story of the Fong family, dominated by Mother Fong, a keen, understanding woman who would not be the first by whom the new is tried, and father Tom Fong, come to the States in the Gold Rush days, left penniless, then toils in the sweat of a hand laundry. The children are as colourful and individual as those



Gloria deHaven's a treat in black and white and a still greater treat in Technicolor. Gloria was seen recently in Universal-International's Technicolor "Yes Sir, That's My Baby."

of any American family. There is Daiko, who marries an Italian girl; Yiko, the big shot who goes in for easy money; Eva, a daughter of old China; and Tom, Jr., who wants to go in for modern science.

Chinatown Family is a new sort of novel for Dr. Lin. The author

who educated America about far-off China, leaves Asia and turns to another world right around the corner, to a hardworking, courageous and charming people living lives as you and I — the Chinese in America.

Ronald Norris.

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AMERICA IN THE EYES OF CHINESE STUDENTS

(Continued from page 9)

Many a question has been asked as to why the American ships coming from China to the United States should have men stewards for the women's quarters and while in the men's dormitories on American campuses there should be women housekeepers. One new arrival who was asked to go to a men's dormitory to apply for a room came back to report that he must have gone to the wrong address because he was received by a woman (the housekeeper) and he certainly did not expect to see a woman in a men's dormitory! The Chinese visitor is also puzzled about the American attitude toward marriage and divorce. He is embarrassed when in polite conversation he hears such remarks as "my second husband" or "my former wife." He could not but feel that such a matter as divorce should not be referred to in public, much less with a seeming sense of pride. On the whole, it takes the Chinese visitor some time to become used to what he considers rather unrestrained relations between the sexes.

RECENTLY a group of rather mature Chinese students arrived from China. During one of the week-end holidays, they said that one of the questions that arose in their minds was why there was so much fuss and bother about holiday accidents and why it was necessary to issue repeated warnings over the radio concerning holiday deaths. They asked why so many people were being killed each day. "Is life so cheap in America?" they queried.

Perhaps the most notable differences are found in human relations. Many a Chinese visitor finds that the American people are much more friendly to strangers than the Chinese people are, but less devoted to their friends. The Chinese makes a clear distinction between friends and strangers. Friendship to him means far more than politeness or enjoyment of each other's company; it is a lasting relationship and a permanent bond that even transcends common courtesies. One student remarks that the average American has many more acquaintances than the average Chinese, but fewer friends. Americans are profuse in such common courtesies as "Hello," "Good morning," "Good-bye," and other pleasant words of compliment and appreciation. But the Chinese visitor sometimes wonders whether there is not a difference between such courtesies and genuine deep friendship. He finds that American make an unnecessary distinction between friendship and business. They do not mix business with friendship. Friendly relations with the landlord or landlady do not make business relation any more easy. In China, on the other hand, personal friendly relations go a long way to help in settling business matters. American people, it seems, can be very friendly and

generous in normal times, but become very formal and strict when discussing business matters with friends.

A thoughtful Chinese student once remarked that America is a wonderful land for children and young people, but not for old people. Many other Chinese students would agree with him in his observation that American society greatly neglects old people and provides few comforts for old age. From the Chinese point of view, nothing can quite take the place of the family in giving old people a sense of security in the home, a pride in their offspring, and the satisfaction that comes from being the respected elders of their own family. Homes for the aged, the Chinese student points out, do not solve the psychological problems of old people. He feels sad when he sees an old landlord or an old landlady who enjoys no other companionship than that of a dog or a cat. In view of the prevalent neglect of old age, he does not wonder why the American people are so afraid of becoming old and why middle-aged people are so averse to admitting their age, instead of taking pride in maturity and the respect which age in Chinese society would normally bring.

It may be observed here that too many Chinese students unfortunately base their impressions of America upon their contacts with landlords and landladies. The cold and calculating business attitudes of many a landlord or landlady have given many a Chinese student a distorted view of American life. For the purpose of acquainting the foreign visitor with many phases of life in America, it is imperative that special effort should be made to bring him into American homes and to give him an opportunity to know the more wholesome aspects of American life.

Chinese students come to the United States with great hopes and high expectations. For years, while attending schools and colleges in China, they have cherished the ambition of coming to the United States for further study; they have dreamed of large universities with their well-known professors and amply equipped libraries and laboratories; they have waited impatiently to visit this land of plenty, the land of freedom and of equal opportunity, the stronghold of democracy, the nation noted for humanitarian generosity. Upon arrival, they find many things that fully measure up to their expectations, other things which disappoint them. The net impression of America depends much on the specific experiences on and off the campus; happy associations enable many a student to enjoy and appreciate the finest aspects of an American life and bring back to China fond memories of friendly and democratic living among congenial people, while at other times unfortunate incidents

may colour (or discolour) the entire experience of living abroad and even affect scholastic achievement. A wise programme of guidance will go far toward insuring that the Chinese student may have broad and wide contacts enabling him to see and know American life in its varied aspects, to form a balanced view of this land and its people, and, both while in this country and after return to China, to become an effective force working for a closer understanding and a deeper mutual appreciation between the two nations and peoples.

REFRESHING WINDS

(Continued from page 16)

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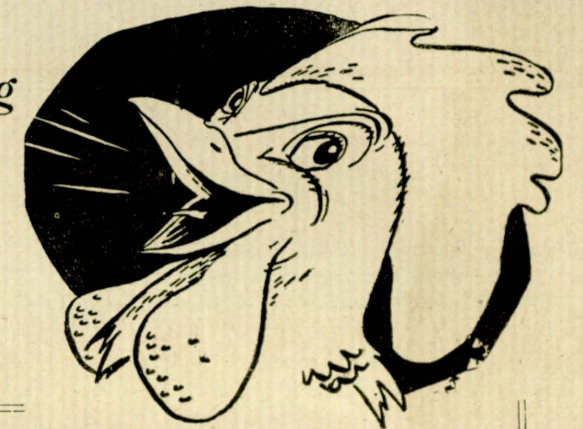
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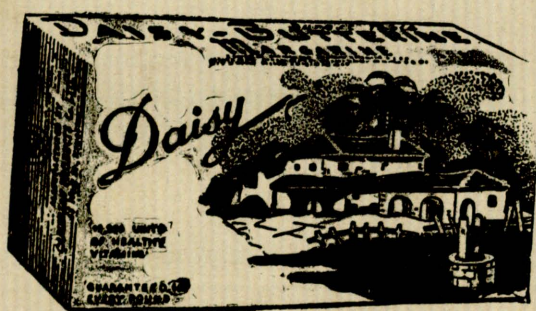
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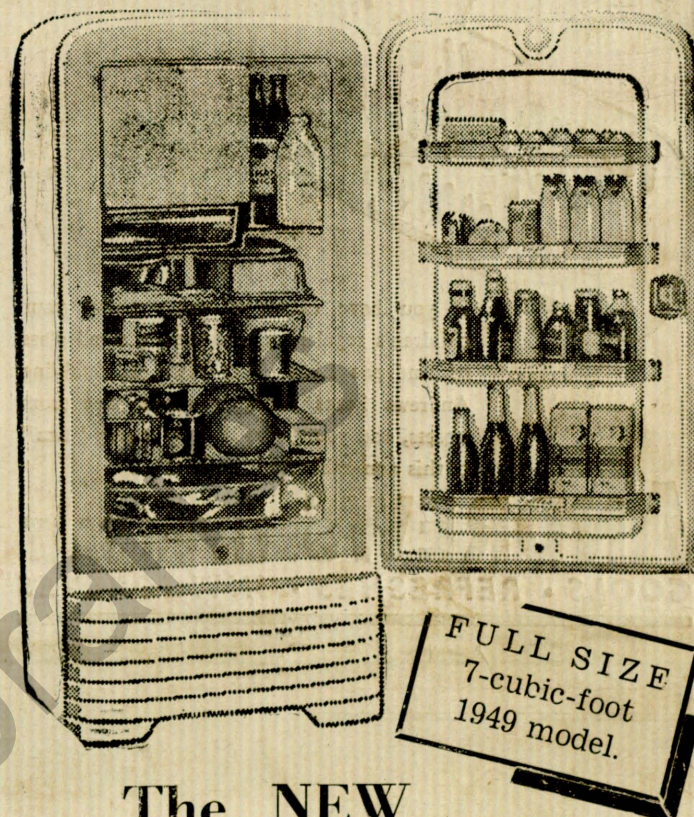


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