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Saturday, May 6, 1950

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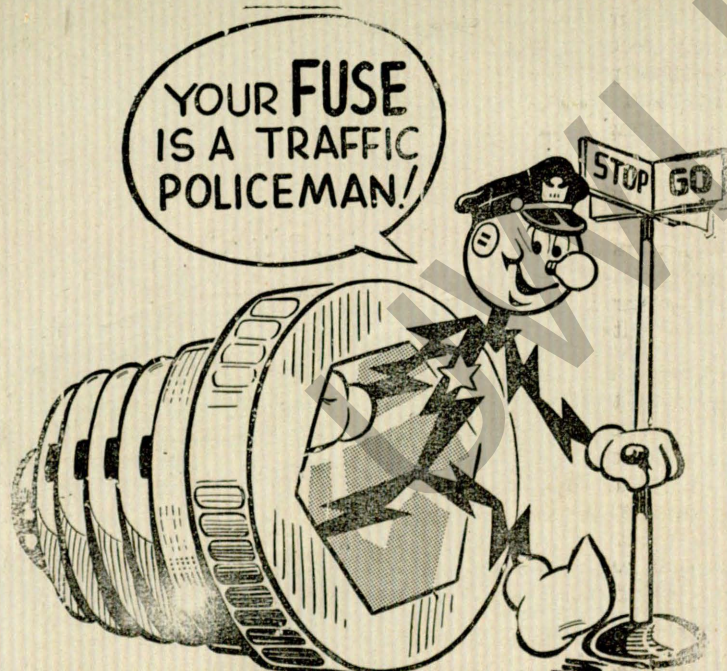


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THE DEVELOPMENT OF CHINESE PAINTING

By Yao Yun Shan

From THE CHINA MONTHLY

LIKE Chinese literature, China's painting has gone through many changes in the past, but, unlike her literature, the changes were never very obvious. Probably this was due to the fact that Chinese literature has penetrated further and spread wider among the masses, and therefore was more readily understood by them. Chinese painting, on the other hand, though it has been the heritage of the people as well, has never been so well understood. Even a Chinese of average education may not be able to appreciate a good work of art. Nevertheless, Chinese painting is in itself an essential part of Chinese culture.

The origin of painting amongst the primitive people in the world is a subject discussed in the first chapters of any text-book on the history of the arts and need not to be discussed here. The origin of Chinese painting in primitive times should scarcely have been any different from that of others. To be able to distinguish that element or characteristic by which we can say that such is "Chinese," we must proceed to much later times, that is to the period when Chinese culture took its shape in a certain definitely recognised form. Naturally, too, the idea that painting shall "help to promote morality and to achieve cultural transformation among men" came at a still later date.

The brilliant past of Chinese painting fully acclaims its excellency and superiority, and to understand the painting of the present age it is necessary to resort to its historical background and to recognise the greatness of its past.

Students of oriental art believe China to have been the cradle of oriental painting. Such an assumption is quite probable. Its early stages can be traced to the ancient Yao and Shun dynasties, and one of the many factors in its development was the need to meet the demands of daily life. Motifs such as mountains, dragons, flowers, insects, sacrificial vases, etc., were painted

YAO YUN SHAN is a young Chinese artist who is at present in India. In addition to giving a survey and evaluation of Chinese art through the ages, Miss Yao very aptly suggest that the time is ripe for a renaissance in Chinese art. This will come to pass, she believes, if Chinese and Eastern painters in general strive to harmonise the new views and techniques that have been flowing into China during the last 40 years. Miss Yao is confident that "if all Chinese artists bend their efforts toward the same end, and continue to struggle with a firm and steady spirit, little by little they shall be able to restore not only the ancient glory of Chinese art, but also bring about a greater appreciation of it to people all over the world."

on the robes and dresses worn by the nobles, and the variations of colour and decorations serve as the various distinctions of official rank. However, it also played a part in the culture of the people and entered into the most remote corners of life where neither politics nor jurisprudence could reach. The great and profound influence of not only painting but of the fine arts in general on the uplift of humanity was well understood by the people of the Chow Dynasty (ca. 1122 B.C.-247 B.C.) Thus we may say that Chinese painting was gradually turned into an instrument of influence in the hands of the cultural leaders, and thus was elevated above its previous utilitarian purpose.

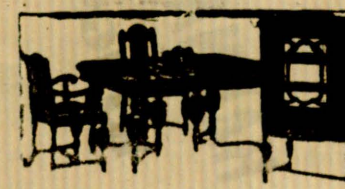
THIS state of affairs continued up to the time of Confucius, when painting showed signs of independent growth. A famous poet, Ch'u Yuan, of the Tsu state on one occasion entered the temple for the ancestral worship of the princes and dukes of the decorations on the walls. What he saw gave state and noticed for frescoes and various him the inspiration for his famous long poem "Questioning on Heaven." To a certain extent we can by reading this poem still

conjecture the scenes of those wall paintings. In the next period, that of the Chin Dynasty, painting was used more for decorative purposes and as a supplement to architecture.

Relics of the paintings from the Han Dynasty are numerous, and we can still see the sketches which have been made on walls and bricks, etc. These stone walls were by no means "reliefs" in the European sense of the word. They were simply carved out or rather "drawn" by the chisels of the artist. In other respects painting served practical purposes as usual, not in any way different from those of the Chow Dynasty. It was not, however, until the "Six Dynasties" that followed, that painting gained some ground as an independent art, and that painters used it as a means of expressing more freely their feelings and sentiments. Instead of the orthodox thought which was in accord with the cultural traditions, namely Confucianism—Taoism, the thoughts of the philosophers Lao-Tze and Dshang-Tze, became the guiding principles of artists. To this was added Buddhism which had been introduced at a much earlier date. Both of these not only flourished at this time but left deep impressions upon Chinese painting throughout the ages.

The most brilliant age in the whole history of Chinese painting was that of the Tang Dynasty, known as the golden age of poetry and of the fine arts. Since then, many kings of succeeding generations patronised this type of art. In the Sun Dynasty that followed, painting took yet another turn. Its spiritual side was emphasised, while the phenomenal aspect, such as the likeness of an object, was more or less ignored. Thus we may say that Chinese painting at this time reached the zenith of its development. It was during this period also that the special tendency towards rationalism and the remarkable affinity for the work of "ink-and-brush" was cultivated.

(Continued on page 8)



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DEEP SEA FISHING

By S. H. C.

I had just settled down to supper when the telephone rang. I lifted the receiver and pressed it against my ear.

"Jim!" I yelled as a familiar voice came over the wires.

Well, neither Jeepers nor I had heard from the old rogue in many a year, and it certainly was wonderful hearing the voice from the dead once more. He had been living in the country for some time, and being a poor one at writing frequently, we had to depend on his equally infrequent trips to town for communication.

"What's rattling in the old noggin?" I asked him.

"How's about some deep sea fishing? Are you any good at that line?"

Well, I figured it out this way. I have fished to date from nearly every pier head in Kingston, and since some of them go pretty far out into the briny—

"Sure" I answered, "I've been deep sea fishing!"

Then he told me of the plans Jeepers and himself had made. They were arranging to hire a canoe and go fishing on the deep sea side, some three or four miles out.

NOW I'd never admit this, even to my closest friends, but I had never been out to sea in one of those little playthings. To be quite honest, I had never thought them the most seaworthy craft that had even plied the oceans' surface. If it had ever occurred to me that there may be any seagoing in my future, then I am sure that the means of transport that completed that bright little picture, must have been a modest vessel the size of say, the Queen Mary or the Nieuw Amsterdam. Smaller craft I am afraid, never lured me with the call of the sea.

But what could I do now. I steeled myself to the decision. If they can do it, then I do not see why on earth I can't. But again with the thought came the realization that that was the trouble. There would be very, very little earth in that picture. I groaned in spirit, then turned to the brighter side of things.

I was doing passably well at the fishy spot. I was hauling them in, in more than fair quantities. Why, my average catch was pretty well up on the scale for wharf-head fishing. I was pulling in three-and-a-half-pounders. And there was no catch to it. I went through the same motions as anybody else. If I could do this so near to shore, what couldn't I do out on the three mile line. I closed my eyes to the picture of heaving seas, I closed my ears to the sounds of helpless men clinging to the sides of an overturned boat. I forced my mind back to the contemplation of a twelve pounder fighting gamely at the end of my line.

BEFORE I knew it, they were at my gate. I picked up my gear and followed them. I was as cheerful as a lark in sole possession of a summer sky. I joked, I sang, I was the very life of the party. But beneath that gay exterior...

Soon we were at the shore and were walking over to the boat moored against a tiny jetty. We climbed in. She rocked like a sailor. We cast off and in the calm still waters of the harbour, I found much comfort. I took out my harmonica. And the air was filled with music. Sweet ballads. Rousing sea shanties. The fishermen were enthralled. Jeepers leaned over the side of the boat to see whether the bottom of the sea was visible by the light of the full moon which was now rising rapidly.

The whole world was up-ended. Half-way through a bar, the music died with a choking gurgle. I envied the music—at least it died and was beyond further pain. It seemed to me that I never was more conscious of the fact that I was alive than at that particular moment when the boat heeled over and seemed at the point of capsizing.

"Strip the boat! Strip her!" came from the throats of the fishermen who were rowing.

Jim seemed to have been in the know for he translated. We steadied her off by changing position, and Jeepers left off his contemplation of the sea bed. The rest of the trip out to Port Royal was more or less uneventful. We kept her on even keel, and the rhythmic stroking at the oars was as soothing a piece of music as I have ever heard.

Then we passed Port Royal and a fresh breeze sprung up. The sea awoke, and as her breathing became more and more agitated, her bosom rose and fell. I ventured to suggest that the sea was getting rough.

"Is only a swell, sir" The seaman nearest me answered. I took in the spirit that I knew it was offered, and I was comforted thereby.

AFTER a while, nearly a mile out in the open sea, I realised that this up and down motion was doing things to me. I suddenly began feeling not so good. Then a swell, a little higher than the rest, lifted the boat and sent it shooting down into a little valley that it had scooped out on its other side. When we reached the bottom of that little valley, something shot up and hit me in the face. It was sometime later that I found out what it was. It was my tummy. Gosh it was awful. In all the vast expanse of moonlit sky and glimmering sea... In the hearty company of two seamen and two close friends... I felt as lonely as the light from a lighthouse. Everything seemed to disappear into nothingness. The sea, the sky, the men in the boat with us, Jeepers, Jim, all faded into nothingness and left just two of us—two of us alone—myself and my tummy. And we were locked in mortal combat.

Even when the "Kelliks" or little anchors went down, my tummy refused to stay down. I stretched myself out on the bottom of the boat and decided to take it lying down.

The other seasoned mariners began fishing. Through the long

cold night—the longest and coldest on my records—I lay passive. Time and again they would hold up a 'big one' for my inspection, but without opening my eyes, or even slightly shifting my position, I would say, absolutely lacking in warmth or enthusiasm:

"Wonderful Great Show; Good Shooting" and wrap myself up more snugly in my somber thoughts.

If I ever get to land—may the Lord spare me—I promised never, ever, to put to sea again, except in the aforementioned Queen Mary or the Nieuw Amsterdam.

Up to the moment of writing it is still a debatable point whether I can say I have survived that night at sea. I know one thing for sure there is going to be an Ad in Sunday's paper:

"LOST, STOLEN OR STRAYED: One male, adult sized, tummy."

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THE PAGODA

MOVEMENTS OF NOTE

By I. C. Evre Ting

FISHING has always been a popular sport. You get your line and a good amount of bait and you are all set for a restful night beneath the stars. Deep-sea fishing however is a different matter and sometime the initiation can be pretty painful. Take the instance of our well known Clubman who has excelled in every sport he has taken up. One night without any qualms whatever he betook himself with friends to some deep-sea fishing. He wasn't out for long before the roll of the boat became too much for him and the fishes had an excellent bill-of-fare that evening. Perhaps the next time he goes out he will be more accustomed to it. Another man was a little more lucky—he caught a 60-lb Jack and at 1/6 a pound it is not at all bad for a night's sitting up.

THERE was not a happier man in all Kingston than our basketball veteran who at long last got what recognition that was his due in the pages of the local press. Lennie still has his bag of tricks and can make the game as bright and colourful as it is played in the best basketball circles. It will be a sad day when he decides to retire as he so often says he will.

SOFTBALL as simple as it seems, is getting the reputation of being a very dangerous game. Our pitching star suffered a fractured ankle in what seemed to be a simple play in a game last week. With this mishap she will be laid up for the next few weeks and so the team's chance of winning

the pennant this season is considerably lessened. Softball has indeed strange fascinations for at least two of the players are playing it against doctors' orders. The boys have broken their jinx by finally winning a game last week. It must have been a surprise to themselves as well as to their supporters.

OUR Clubman and basketball star recently underwent a triple operation. Am very glad to hear that he is out of bed and can move about now. If you drop in on him anytime he can show you Exhibit A, B, & C. He is a very restless person and is always in-

quiring just what is happening at the Club. In a couple of weeks we will see his familiar face at the Club again and I am sure he will be more active than ever.

THE opening of a spanking new business place last Sunday is the story of progress in our mercantile community. The office in particular is impressive and a refreshing departure from the stolid and conservative appearance of the run of them.

ONE of our "school-marm" at the Public School who has been very energetic in keeping up a small Chinese class is planning to let out a secret on her birthday which is sometime next week. Another ex-school teacher who is studying in the States will surprise her friends locally also. Just look out for the announcements.

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PERSONALIA

The wedding of Miss Lorraine Lyew and Mr. William Chung took place at the Holy Trinity Cathedral on Sunday, April 23. Lorraine is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Lyew of Hope Road and William a brother of Mr. Ernest Chung of Vineyard Town.

The bride who was given in marriage by her father, wore a lovely gown of white Chantilly lace over slipper satin. Her finger-tip veil of tulle was applied with Chantilly lace. She wore a coronet of lilies of the valley and carried a beautiful bouquet of matching flowers with orchids forming a lover's knot.

Miss Yvonne Chung was maid-of-honour. She was charmingly attired in blue Chantilly lace over crepe-back satin. Her head-dress a broad-brimmed picture hat of Chantilly lace trimmed with forget-me-nots and she wore mittens to match. Her bouquet was composed of sweet peas with net forming the background.

The other bridesmaids were the Misses Gertrude Lyew and Dorothy Chin who were dressed in pink organza trimmed with frills. They wore mittens of the same materials and broad-brimmed hats made of organza trimmed with bunches of forget-me-nots. Misses Yvette Chung and Daphne Lyew were trainbearers and Master Philip Chung was page boy. Mr. Kenneth Chong acted as bestman and groomsmen were Messrs. Samuel Wong and Johnny Wong.

A reception followed the cere-

mony at the home of Mr. Ernest Chung in Vineyard Town.

On Sunday, May 7, the marriage of Miss Peggy Lowe, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Lowe of St. Ann's Bay, to Mr. Alvin Young, son of Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Young of Woodford Park, Kingston, will take place at the Cathedral Rectory in a quiet ceremony.

St. Anthony's Church in Mon-eague will be the scene of a wedding on Sunday, May 21, when Mr. John Chin, son of Mr. and Mrs. Willie Chin Fo Sing of Mon-eague takes as his wife, Miss Avis Lee, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Davis Lee. The marriage will take place at 2 o'clock in the afternoon.

Another wedding to take place on May 21 will be that of Mr. Warren Roy Shim and Miss Violet Fong Yee. Warren is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Shim Queen and Violet the daughter of Mrs. Wan Keow Fong Yee and the late Charles Fong Yee. The wedding will take place at the Holy Trinity Cathedral at 2.30 p.m. to be followed by a reception at 9 Westlake Avenue, St. Andrew, the new home of the young couple.

At 5 p.m. on Sunday, May 21, Miss Fay Dorothea Wong, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Wong Sin of Mt. View Avenue will become the bride of Mr. Joseph C. S. Young in a ceremony at the Immaculate Conception Chapel. A reception will be held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Eustace Chen at 37 Sandhurst Crescent.

The Holy Trinity Cathedral will be the scene of another wedding

on the 21st when Miss Alice Jacqueline Shim, daughter of Mr. Jack Shim and the late Margaret Shim, will be joined in Holy matrimony to Mr. Ernest James Fung, son of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Fung of Kingston. The ceremony will take place at 5.30 p.m. and a reception will follow at the Chinese Freemason Hall.

Mr. Wong Chew Onn invited more than 250 guests to the opening of his new business premises at 80-84 Princess Street last Sunday morning at a cocktail function. The new building extending from street to lane is a modern, spacious building erected by Messrs. Wilson Chung and Leonard Chang. The entire ground floor will be occupied by Messrs. Wong Chew Onn and Co., Ltd. and they have expanded their business to include dry goods and haberdashery, hardware and electrical supplies.

The Jamaica Basketball Association climaxed the season with a Presentation Match on Wednesday, April 26 at the Chinese Public School. The Y.M.C.A. team won both the League and the Knockout Tournaments and played an exhibition match against The Rest team skippered by Lennie Chin. After the match which the "Y" won by 42-35, the presentation function was held. Mr. Horace Chang, chairman of the Basketball Association presided and called on the Colonial Secretary, Hon. D. C. MacGillivray, C.M.G., to make the presentation. The referees' prize was awarded to Mr. Rufus Chang. Other speakers at the function were Mr. Fletcher, president of the Y.M.C.A. and Mr. W. J.

Palmer, a former president of the Y.M.C.A.

Mr. and Mrs. Philip Chan Choong and their 3 children, Carol, Michael and Wendy, left by plane for British Guiana on Wednesday, April 26. Mr. Chan Choong came here 2 years ago to take up the post as Chief Island Botanist. He is returning to his home in British Guiana on a transfer on government service.

Among the passengers on the s/s Ariguani which sailed on Tuesday, April 25 for England were Mr. Egbert A. Tai and Mr. Lloyd Hosang, Mr. Tai, who is Senior Agricultural Officer of the southern division of the island was awarded an Empire Training Scholarship and will study at the different botanical stations in Britain.

In the last Interclub Bridge Tournament held at the C.A.C. Miss S. Gentles and Mr. Alfred Kong were the leading N/S pair and Messrs. A. V. Cheong and Maurice Cheong the leading E/W pair. The next interclub Bridge Tournament will be held on Tuesday May 9. On Tuesday, May 16 the tournament will be played at Lucas.

The Table Tennis Open Tournament for Ladies will be played off early next month. The present holder of the Horace Chang Challenge Cup for Ladies is Miss Lena Wong. All lady members of the Club are asked to join and practice in the competition to make it a success. Please send in your names by the end of the month to Mr. Robert Chin.

At the last annual general (Continued on page 17)

MAY 6, 1950.

THE PAGODA

PANORAMA

ISLAND EVANGELISTIC CAM

The Jamaica Christian Council under the chairmanship of the Rt. Rev. Gibson, Bishop Suffragan of Kingston, which is comprised of the various denominational bodies in Jamaica, and of such Associations as the Society of Friends, the Y.M.C.A., the Y.W.C.A. and the Jamaica Auxiliary of the British and Foreign Bible Society has in recent weeks been organising a special evangelistic campaign.

"The objects of the Christian Council are to provide a means whereby member-bodies can study together the problems and opportunities which challenge the Christian way of life, and can make clear by co-operative action and public statement, the spiritual issues involved in our Island problems" was one of the statements issued by the Council in the press.

Local Campaign Councils are being formed in various areas which will be able to give practical help, and Literature of a religious nature is being supplied these. Through the work of the Campaign, Christianity will be taken to the people with its special Message in an effort to draw in all who are scattered far and wide throughout the Island, for the need for Christians to rally together in these distressing times becomes more apparent every day.

WORDSWORTH CENTENARY

April 23rd last was the centenary anniversary of the death of the great English poet, William Wordsworth, an anniversary which was commemorated jointly in Jamaica by the British Council and the Poetry League of Jamaica in a series of events. The first of these was a broadcast given by Mr. Vivian L. Virtue on "In the Steps of Wordsworth," Mr. Virtue having paid a visit to the poet's home area in the Lake District and visited his memorial at Westminster Abbey etc., during a visit to England a few years ago.

On Sunday the 23rd another broadcast was given by Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Hendriks and Mr. and Mrs. Wycliffe Bennett, edited by Mr. Hendriks who provided the commentary, all four taking part in the readings from Wordsworth. On Monday afternoon the 24th, an exhibition arranged by the British Council of photographs of Wordsworth, his wife, and places of interest associated

with him, was opened in the Junior Centre by Lady Livingston, and following this at a later hour an address on the poet was given at the Lecture Hall of the Senior Centre by Mr. J. E. Clare McFarlane, O.B.E., president of the Poetry League, the chair being taken by Mr. Martin Blake, M.A., Representative of the British

LESSONS IN CHARM

HAND-IN-HAND

Shaking hands is an intimate gesture. A hand-clasp can be a lovely, inspiring thing. Much feeling is transmitted through the hand. A little child grasps your hand for protection. A friend, thrilled over your success, gives you a firm, vibrant hand-clasp that seems to transmit to your innermost being the joy felt. In the same way we console not only through our words and voice and eyes, but through our tender, sympathetic pressure of a sufferer's hand. People are welcomed to our fire-sides with a friendly handclasp. We wish them good-night and goodbye in the same way.

When you shake hands it should be about the level of the waistline; no hand must ever be pulled far above or below that line, nor should we pull away from someone we are greeting. But the most important point of all is this: At the moment hands clasp, your thoughts should be concentrated completely on that person. Often I see a hostess shaking hands with one guest while her face is really turning slightly or fully toward the next arrival. Never be afraid to give your thought and attention completely. If momentarily, to the person you are greeting, even if you are in a receiving line with many people passing by.

A careless handclasp spoils one of the loveliest greetings on earth. That irresistible charm you are pursuing can be caught with no lower a standard than your desire and ability to have each and every person feel welcome and important.

—Agnes McCall Parker, Copyright.

Council in Jamaica. At this meeting poems by Wordsworth were read by Miss Valerie Packer, recent Island Elocution Women's Champion, and by Mr. Wycliffe Bennett, Hon. Secretary of the Poetry League.

The exhibition of pictures is an exceptionally lovely one, for the photographs are beautiful;

some are of the originals of letters written by Wordsworth to members of his family, and of a page from his sister Dorothy's Journal. Explanatory items underlie each picture for the information of those who view the exhibition, and a number of books in relation to Wordsworth are also on exhibit, and are available from Jamaica Library Service.

ANOTHER CENTENARY

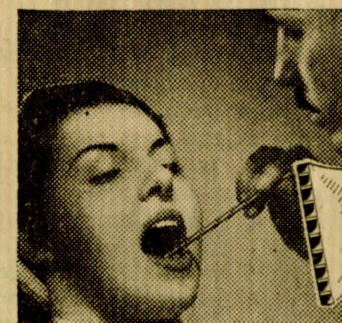
St. George's College Centenary celebrations have also been taking place during the week commencing on April 23rd. These began with a march of the old boys, students of the school, scouts and cadets to a Solemn High Mass of Thanksgiving at Holy Trinity Cathedral at which

the Rev. Fr. Gladstone Wilson, Ph.D., preached a most impressive and appropriate sermon, in which he declared that "true education demands the harmonious development of the entire human personality — his mind, his heart and his will."

A great variety of activities were carried through which included the staging of the play "Robin Hood", the proceedings being climaxed by a Centenary Dinner held at the Myrtle Bank Hotel on Saturday evening last. A Centenary Souvenir Booklet was issued in commemoration of the one hundred years of outstanding work of the College, which is a souvenir worth keeping.

(Continued on page 10)

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THE PAGODA

Editor: Chas. T. Chang.

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

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Refugees

Hong Kong has now had to bar her gates to refugees owing to the overcrowding of the city by the numbers which have been coming in recent weeks. Since the year 1931 with the start of the Japanese invasion of North China a great part of the population in China have been on trek from one part of the vast country to the other. In 1937 when the Japanese invasion spread to the south, nearly all China was on the move. After the Pearl Harbour incident in 1941 refugees had to remove all the vital communication services such as the radio and the press to the rock basement of China's wartime capital, Chungking, and seats of learning, medical and social service centres also had to take to the road. China became a land of refugees.

Even before this time it was no uncommon occurrence to see thousands of unfortunate people fleeing before the ravages of Nature when floods and famine attacked the areas in which they lived. Only recently have there been instances of what these can do and millions of starving refugees are even now in a serious plight in Central and South China. So intense, indeed, is the known suffering of these people who have journeyed so far in vain for sustenance, that it is said the Chinese Nationalists are trying to organize relief for them from Formosa by lifting the blockade of Communist Government ports and by dropping food from the air.

In addition to these terrible scourges of Nature's doing, the civil war which still rages is the cause of thousands of persons fleeing from the immediate sector of the battle to anywhere which seems to offer even temporary protection. This has been the case recently when panic-stricken citizens fled from the city of Hoihow on Hainan Island

as it fell to the Reds. Chusan Island, only 330 air miles from the Nationalist stronghold of Formosa is said to be the next target of the Communists. It is said by refugees from Shanghai that Soviet troops are now manning the Red Chinese air defences, and that Russian advisers and experts have arrived in Shanghai. The Reds allege that United States military are directing the Chinese Nationalist forces in the bombing of Chinese cities and in their attempts to impose a naval blockade.

Existing conditions under the Communists is another chief cause for the conversion of citizens into refugees. The Red domination of religious bodies has begun. Heavy taxation and compulsory loans have been forced upon the wealthy people and the merchants and other businessmen have been put out of business by Communist economic measures. It is noticeable that students who have most ably supported the Chinese Reds all along are now flocking in hundreds from the scene of disaster they have so largely helped to bring about. Even Chinese writers and artists have been drawn into the widening net of Communist suppression and can no longer pursue their art except in accordance with their Russian suppressors who link it with revolution.

One refugee has been said to have declared that present conditions under the Red regime are worse than those under the Japanese. A former Chinese General has commented that "the people despised the Nationalists, but they are beginning to hate the Communists".

THE DEVELOPMENT OF CHINESE PAINTING

(Continued from page 2)

From this period up to the present, however, the tradition thus established has been preserved with no marked changes.

WITHIN the last 600 years, there has been one innovation worth mentioning. When European missionaries, such as Matteo Ricci and others, came to China, they brought with them a number of pictures of the Madonna and Christ. In the eyes of the Chinese artist, these Italian paintings of the fifteenth century were exuberant in colour effect, and what attracted their admiration most was that "perspective" which made the human figure so life-like and real. A Chinese painter with the name Tsen Po-Cheng learned a great deal from this new technique, and became quite fam-

ous in portrait-painting. In fact, he actually started a new school with many adherents following the new method. Later on, in the beginning of the Ching Dynasty, a Chinese painter, Wu Yue Shan, became so enchanted by the Christian culture thus introduced into China that he joined a Catholic order in his old age, and went to Europe, perhaps Italy, never to return. The Italian artist Castiglione was for a long time attached to the Imperial court of China under the patronage of the Emperor, and his works are still well preserved in the Peking Palace Museum. Although he painted many pictures, some of them even in typical Chinese style, he, however, never understood the underlying spirit, and hence made no great impression, because of the overwhelming power of Chinese philosophic tradition in art.

YET during the last 40 years, that is, since the era of the Chinese Republic, this philosophy in art has absorbed additional ideologies. Western art and western thoughts have streamed into the Chinese cultural field, and conflict between the old and the new has arisen. Both inclination and aversion towards the influences of the modern western world have formed an eternal conflict in the mind of the public, not the least being the art-critics and thinking artists. No matter how a follower of some old school may abnegate or decry the new western art with its innumerable changes and "isms," consciously or unconsciously they have al-

(Continued on page 17)

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The Chinese And The Maoris

By Anne Ah-Chan

From CHINA REVIEW

THERE is remote possibility of Chinese and Maoris having had contact with each other in the early times but the two races have, surprisingly, much in common.

Both revere their ancestors, and are also greatly devoted to their villages (or clans), in the case of Chinese, and tribes, in the case of Maoris. Both races are highly superstitious. In their idols and gods they have implicit faith. Gradually, Christianity is making an impression on both these races, but a herculean task confronts missionaries who undertake to spread their teaching to the greater section of these communities.

Chinese and Maori alike are touchingly proud of their families, especially the size, which is usually quite large. True, disease and ignorance of hygiene have been responsible for a high rate of infant mortality in China, as well as among New Zealand Maoris, so that a family is often a skeleton of what it might have been. In New Zealand, at any rate, such conditions need no longer be endured, for Chinese and Maoris share with their white sisters the privilege of free medical attention pre-natal and during confinement.

CHINESE are gathered in clans—as distinct from villages—and classed under various cognomens, viz., Wong, Lowe, Chan, etc., and marriage between persons of the same cognomen is strictly forbidden. This rule has been respected for a long, long time, and even the quick pace of the modern world has not upset Chinese integrity and rigid observance of this golden rule, which was kept scrupulously by our forebears before us.

The Maoris have tribes, which are much like the Chinese clan. Also like us they are able to trace the family tree back quite a number of branches, a feat that most Smiths, Browns, and Whites find impossible to accomplish. In earlier times Maori marriage rules were as stringent as ours, it being compulsory for one to marry a person of the same tribe, in order to keep the family tree "pure". Nowadays inter-tribal marriage is freely practised.

New Zealand, up till the beginning of the twentieth century, was

the scene of frequent inter-tribal Maori wars. Bloodthirsty battles ended in victors devouring their slain victims. But that is past history; a new leaf has been turned.

Also for the sake of determining superiority, did the Chinese engage in civil strife, and even today inter-village skirmishes are not uncommon. Almost always these battles arise from trivial offences, such as one party being rude to the other, or a cow grazing over the boundary into the other party's property. It is hardly necessary to stress that these excusable and trivial offences are merely excuses for the aggressors to be nasty! Happily, risings of this sort usually end with the loser calling a truce. Casualties, if any, are small, but there are usually indemnities against the losers—indemnities quite out of sensible proportion.

THE effects of inter-village or inter-tribal battles continue to be felt in the form of feuds. Among Chinese, as among Maoris, it is sometimes difficult to live down a defeat suffered by one's village or tribe in his great-grandfather's time. Descendants of the victors find smug pleasure in nagging and teasing, and gloating over their old triumph. In the case of Maori girls working under the same roof in an Auckland hospital, those of the Northern Maori tribes "give it" to those of the south, whose tribes suffered dreadfully at the hands of the Northerners as far back 1820.

Feasting is an old love of the two races, but in this matter East and West do not meet. While sweet potatoes (Kumara), fish and a variety of field thistle, which they call puha, are the Maoris' gastronomical delight. Chinese are epicures, really and truly. To dine is to dine in style on a great variety of tasty, rich and expensive food and drink.

Despite many similarities in mind and thought, the races do differ, as is to be expected of a race which found civilisation only a little over a century ago, and one that has enjoyed—even as it has suffered from the impacts of—civilisation and its refinements for over 4,000 years.

Early Maori history was passed down, generation after generation, by word of mouth, for the Maoris had no written

word. Their life and culture was recorded chiefly in handicrafts, which, at a glance was of primitive form. On the other hand, Chinese culture, as reflected in their art, literature, and philosophy, was in every way by far superior to even that of the white races.

The world is by now familiar with the cultural stagnation that has beset China at this period of her history. From her present plight, perhaps she will emerge better as a result of experience, for, well do we realise that progress achieved at a cost, is progress that will endure, and strengthen the thought, spirit, and will of the people.

A CHINESE CAMEL OF 3,000 YEARS B.C.

A Chinese ornament in the shape of a camel, said to be nearly 5,000 years old was on show at the Ninth Antique Dealers' Fair in London recently.

The £4,000,000 fair was made up of antiques, including furniture, gold, silver china ornaments, lucky charms, pictures and books, all dated before 1830.

Some of the antiques were thousands of years old. The oldest was a Chinese camel ornament, reputed to date to 3,000 years B.C.

It was found in the tomb of a Chinese emperor. The camel was to take him on his long journey to the next world.

There was much China among the antiques for sale. An official at the fair said "All the antiques, apart from a few were lent to us for show purposes."

A comedy is like a cigar: if good everyone wants a box; if bad no amount of puffing will make it a draw.

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THEY WERE CRUSOES

By J. D. Oughton

INEVITABLY, there comes a time in the life of almost every man when he wishes very desperately to forsake civilisation, and flee to some lonely spot where life may be lived to the fullest; where Mother Earth is his only companion. Family ties, responsibilities, and the intricacies of social systems all combine to keep him prisoner. He has his dreams.

From time to time determined men have managed to escape, sometimes to a veritable utopia, but more often to a hell on earth. For a self-willed Englishman named Thomas Holt, the refuge of Robert's Island in the Pacific proved a paradise in the 18th century. He had been serving aboard an American trading ship when a dispute amongst the crew singled him out to act as scape goat. Being a man who loathed quarrels he asked to be put ashore at Robert's Island. The master of the vessel granted his wish.

As the ship sailed away leaving Holt on the beach he experienced few pangs, but instead started to survey his kingdom. Practically every tree bore fruit of some description. Sweet potatoes flourished in the undergrowth, and in a clearing he discovered a water hole brimming over. It was a few yards away from this same hole that he built a rough cabin, a structure measuring twenty feet by twelve feet. It was subdivided into a living room, bedroom, and kitchen. Though many miles away from his own country, Holt introduced such things as the griddle and thatched roof. On completion the cabin closely resembled an English cottage.

WHEN the news reached England visitors started to arrive at Robert's Island to see and speak to the remarkable man who seemed to love his new life. He curtly refused all offers of help, but on one occasion did accept a set of cooking utensils. Loneliness began to make itself felt. It was a natural reaction, for man is, after all, a gregarious creature. We wonder what was in his mind as he died peacefully at the age of seventy, whilst sitting in the very first chair he had made, after coming to the Island. The crew of a visiting ship found his body, and Thomas Holt was buried with full honours. Visitors to Robert's Island, now largely deserted, may still come upon the simple grave, and ponder on the man who rests beneath.

Alexander Selkirk, a well-built Scotsman, asked to be set ashore on the island of Juan Fernandez, a minute speck of land even more bountiful than Thomas Holt's retreat. That this was a brave action there is no denying. Unfortunately, Selkirk had the courage of his convictions only up to a certain point. The grimness of loneliness obsessed him to such an extent that just over twelve months after landing he tried but failed to take his own life. In after life he said that the fact that he failed was clearly ordained. He must carry on. With considerable industry he set about making his portion of Juan Fernandez habitable, working from dawn to sun down, making a clearing, constructing two log cabins, one as a living room and sleeping quarters, the other a kitchen. He derived great mental comfort from daily Bible readings. Cats drawn from the bush by the antics of this strange new animal, came to squat on the fringes of the clearing. Eventually they were tamed, and Selkirk humorously relates in his journal how difficult it became to gain access to his sleeping quarters owing to the cats who had taken up residence inside.

Alexander Selkirk, though a brave man, eventually succumbed to the tempting offer of the captain of a British ship, and sailed for England after staying four years five months on his island. His mind must have harboured many interesting thoughts as the vessel sailed towards the 'delights' of civilisation.

ONCE in Scotland Selkirk became misted in obscurity, leaving only his journal which was later fictionalised by the august Daniel Defoe. He called it 'Robinson Crusoe'. So powerful is the story that schoolchildren seldom pore through the colourful pages without wishing that they could emulate the hero. Adults, too, have used it as a working-plan for their secret dreams of escape. Perhaps it is fortunate that civilisation exerts some restrictions, otherwise Juan Fernandez and the myriad islands of the Pacific would become overpopulated in a very short time.

One of the men who did succeed in leaving his country to play the part of Crusoe was a Swede, Johan Johanson, who sailed to Charles Island. His plan was to grow vegetables with which to

trade. Surprisingly, the idea bore fruit. Many vessels called to barter their goods with the settler. Sometimes he was paid not in kind but with gold. His hoard grew larger and larger. It was, of course, quite useless beyond civilisation, so he returned to Sweden with no trace of regret, and a lot of money. His case is solitary, however, for the genuine recluse usually flees from the curse of money amongst other things.

These men, Holt, Selkirk, and Johanson, are not the only ones to live as their fancy dictated. Right up to the present day people are attempting what usually amounts to the impossible. For Mr. Modern Crusoe there can be no indolent luxury. He must work hard, taking his rest and finding true peace many years after landing. Is it worthwhile? That is for you, the prospective Crusoe, to decide.

PANORAMA

Continued from page 7
SILVER JUBILEE

Also celebrating a great period has been Kingston College which came into being twenty-five years ago and which has been marking its Silver Jubilee with many big events beginning with a broadcast given by the Rt. Rev. Bishop Gibson, Bishop Suffragan of Kingston and founder and headmaster of Kingston College.

The opening of the Jubilee was celebrated at a service held in its own Chapel. A magnificent Pageant based on the history of the College was staged on the grounds of the school, and a Souvenir Album was also published to commemorate this period. Those of us who can look back to the days when this College was not in existence and then only in its infancy are well able to realise the wonderful advance it has made in so short a time and the value of it in our midst as a seat of learning along Christian lines.

SPECIAL FILMS

A special documentary film was shown at the Carib Theatre a fortnight ago by the Masonic

Brethren, for themselves, their relatives and friends, at which the audience was made welcome by Mr. Percy L. Abraham, J.P., District Grand Master of English Free Masonry in Jamaica. In his address Mr. Abraham explained that the showing of the film had been made possible through the kindness of Sir Ernest Cooper, President of the Craft's Board of General Purposes.

The film which was called "Heritage" depicted the story of the senior school in Herefordshire, England, now 152 years old, which is known as the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, which now benefits as many as 907 boys, it having been started and maintained by voluntary subscriptions for the purpose of clothing and educating the sons of indigent Masons.

The other film which has been attracting special attention is the moving drama entitled "Pinky" which had a special preview release for two nights, and then came back on the screen on Wednesday of this week. It is being shown at the Tropical Theatre and is a film of racial problems and romantic interest. Observer.



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Jamaican Proverbs

Their Meaning and Significance

A characteristic feature that is common to the proverbs of all nations and races, is that they deal more with their faults than with their virtues. In the case of Jamaican Negro proverbs, one outstanding fault is interference. From time to time among the proverbs dealt with are those which issue a warning against interfering with other people's business and the advice that people should mind their own business. As regards the characteristic feature referred to above, I quote examples to illustrate this statement:—

1. An English proverb says, "A fool may ask more questions in an hour than a wise man can answer in seven years."

2. Says an Ancient proverb, (Author unknown), "The goodness of gold is tried by fire, the goodness of women by gold, and the goodness of men by the ordeal of women."

Eh-Eh.

This proverb in a single double-word is the shortest I have ever written. It is merely an exclamation of surprise, and yet its meaning covers a wide range. None but a real Jamaican can ejaculate it in a manner that will convey the true meaning, which stands for a world of things: some good, some bad; some indifferent.

Werrey—Ketty.

Here is another double-word proverb that puzzle me. Some people tell me it means the same as the foregoing, but I find it difficult to believe this, and so I will regard them as first cousins.

Anything not dead noh dash'way.

Noh dash'way means do not throw it away. Since death ends all things, as long as there's life there is hope.

Wha' me noh waan, Ah dat catch me.

What I do not want is the thing that catches me. That is, it is the unexpected that happens.

One foot da lay table, tedder foot da call company.

One foot lays the table, while the other calls the company. Here is an example of interference, and a touch of unkindness mingled with it. The motive is to hurt one's feeling in a speech which reflects on a neighbour's physical deformity.

If yuh belly no full you caan sarbe God

Sarbe means serve; caan means cannot.

It is impossible to serve God faithfully, if you are hungry.

The proverb also occurs as: Hungry belly noh got aise. A hungry belly has no ears; that is, cannot listen to reason.

Debil ole, but him noh bedridden.

Bedridden means confined to bed through infirmity; Debil means the supreme spirit of evil; ole means old. The devil may be quite ill, and yet be able to operate, as "Prince of this world."

Fowl an' darg noh one

The fowl and the dog are entirely different in their habits. If a fowl strays from your yard it will make itself quite at home in new surroundings, provided it is well fed. The dog may stray ever so far, partake of your hospitality, but eventually will return to his master.

Darg nebber fight ober dry bone.

The dog never fights over a dry bone. For the reason that it lacks of substance.

Darg ole dem chuck bone gi' him

They throw a bone to the old dog, because he is too weak to jostle for it.

Mauger darg nebber pass ole bone

A meagre dog never by-passes an old bone. His condition forces him not to take chances.

Mauger darg shake dem tail according to dem size

A meagre dog shakes his tail according to his size. It is not every company one must keep, might be one meaning of this proverb.

Any way you cut darg tail i' fit him

Any way you cut a dog's tail it fits him. The dog knows how to suit himself to circumstances. He can be easily satisfied.

Darg dead, fly walk ober him

Flies walk over the dead dog. His condition is just the opposite to that of the live dog.

Puppy belly full de tail roll catta

Roll catta means coils up, as a sign of satisfaction

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RUSSIA

.... "When the god-given word is stirring

The poet's soul, its pinions whirling,

Is like an eagle that awakes—
Then wearied of all worldly playing,

He shuns the babble of the crowd;

The people's idol disobeying,
His haughty head remains unbowed.

He runs away, and wildly, proudly,

Comes full of riot, full of sound,
Where empty waters wash around
The shores and woods that echo loudly."

Alexander Pushkin: "The Poet."

ENGLAND

"Then sing ye Birds, sing, sing a jovious song!

And let the young Lambs bound

As to the tabor's sound!
We in thought will join your throng,

Ye that pipe and ye that play,
Ye that through your hearts today

Feel the gladness of the May!"

William Wordsworth: "Ode."

KOREA

.... "Never hold back a parting lover—

Absence makes reunion sweet.
Ariron, Ariron, Arari O!

No waterfall can live on the hills of Ariran....

The moon comes up and the stars come out—

Who is that laughing at us behind the clouds?...."

Translated by Kim San and Nym Wales: "Love Song of Ariran."

POT POURRI OF THOUGHT

JAMAICA

.... "I did not know
That leaves on the Sour Sop tree
Were shaped to treasure pearls
Until the quiet lingering rain
Left drops to sparkle there
Bringing the tenderness of tears
That come from out the swelling heart,
Tears that fill the eyes yet do not overflow."

Una Marson: "May Rains."

BRITISH GUIANA

"Glory of white wings against the Cathedral
Birds going home.
Brilliance of birds in a hollow of Sunlight
Out of the evening sky, beating up eastward
Birds going home...."

A. J. Seymour: "Evensong."

EGYPT

"Thy priests go forth at dawn;
they wash their hearts with laughter;

Divine winds move in music across thy golden strings.

At sunset they embrace thee, as every cloudy rafter

Flames with reflected colour from thy wings."

3500 B.C.: "Book of the Dead."

CHINA

"I went out by the Tower on the Wall,

I saw the girls in flower,

Like towering rushes they swayed and bent,

But in that hour

I thought on the maid who is my saint,

In her thin white robe and her colouring faint:

She is my all."

Written B. C. 680: "Lyrics from the Chinese."

AMERICA

"The dew is on the grasses, dear,
The blush is on the rose,
And swift across our dial-youth,
A shifting shadow goes.
The primrose moments, lush with bliss,
Exhale and fade away,
Life may renew the Autumn time,
But never more the May."

Georgia Douglas Johnson: "Youth."

BELGIUM

"The landscape now reveals a change;

A stair—that twined elm—boughs hold

Enclosed 'mid hedges mystic, strange—

Inaugurates a green and gold Vision of gardens, range on range.

Each step's a nope, that doth ascend

Starwise to expectations bright;

A weary way it is to wend While noonday suns are burning bright,

But rest waits at the evening's end...."

Emile Verhaeren: "The Gardens."

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PERSONS PLACES THINGS

By Old Joe

PERSONS

ASTLEY CLERK (continued from last issue)

Astley Clerk was a poet of necessity. He studied the art of poetry. I often saw him inviting the aid of the poetic muse in order to put on paper the thought of his mind when it was slow to respond to the emotions he felt. Although he was a communicant member of the Presbyterian Church of Jamaica yet he was catholic in religion. He was included on the Preaching Plan as a Local Preacher of the Wesleyan Methodist Church. He believed that God the good was the only power at work in his life and in the world. Always his heart was filled with divine love, and so he found it easy to control negative emotions and to treat everyone with kindness and consideration, thereby taking the first step toward emotional stability. No deserving applicant for aid ever left his establishment without a coin or some other gift, along with a word of cheer and comfort. His music warehouse at 35 Peter's Lane was the rendezvous for youngsters of both sexes who came to see "Uncle Astley" for council or advice. He was not a wealthy man according to the world's standard, but his faith was founded on the fact that the resources of the supreme Spirit of the universe was a limitless reservoir of all good, and his belief was that this good was his for the asking and taking. I have known occasions when he was in some tight corners, but he was never worried nor unduly anxious. Always he faced his troubles with a smile or a touch of humour. During the last few months of his life, he wound up his business, paid all his debts, made all his bequests, and settled all the plans for his funeral arrangements. Among his instructions was one that he should be buried in his nightgown, (not a shroud). In order that he might appear as one taking his long, last sleep. He died in June, 1940. His bequests included the following gifts to me: Dictionary of Jamaican Dialect, which he termed Jamaicanese; all his notes on Jamaica Folk Lore with instructions that I should add to the lists and carry on from where he left off.

Astley Clerk's main business was in the music trade. Himself an expert musician, he catered to the musical world of Jamaica, both vocal and instrumental. He made large importations to supply the needs of teachers and pupils for music examinations, as well as instruments of all description. Among his outstanding achievements were the Lectures on Music and Musical Instruments of Jamaica and the Music and Song Words of Jamaica. The former was delivered at Edmondson Hall, (Wesley Guild), on the 19th November, 1913, and at the Jamaica Institute, (Kingston Athenaeum), on December 15 of the same year. It was illustrated by a number of Lantern Slides. That it was a most elaborate production and highly instructive may be seen from the chapter headings thus:—The origin of the music and musical instruments of our Aborigines; our Arawaks; Spanish influence on Arawak music; The many tribes of Africans, how they were musically influenced by the Arawaks and the Spaniards, and how they have influenced our later music; The Maroons, their music and musical instruments; The English and their influence; Other influences—Caribbean, East Indians, etc.

The Music and Song Words of Jamaica was delivered at Ormsby Hall, Kingston, on the 4th March, 1931. This Lecture was illustrated vocally, instrumentally and in costume. A number of folk songs were on the programme the artistes appearing in costumes suitable to the scenes.

Astley Clerk gave birth to a long-cherished idea of his when in 1934 he launched a scheme for the publication of brief biographies of Jamaicans who have made good, to be written specially for children in order to inspire them to emulate the good examples of their fellow-Jamaicans. The idea was approved by the Director of Education, Mr. B. H. Easter, B.A., M.B.E., the Schools Office Staff, Inspectors of Schools, Training College Principals and others interested in the education of children, all of whom agreed that, written in booklet form, the publications would provide indispensable aid to the teaching of History in the schools. Mr. Clerk had greatly desired to edit the booklets himself, but he was handicapped by time. He was, however, more than pleased when a journalist of ability, who had been an elementary school teacher, expressed his willingness to take up the pleasant work. "Little Lives" No. 1. was entitled MARY SEACOLE, a Nurse in the Crimean War, and was the story of a Kingston girl who had made good. One

thousand copies of these booklets were printed for circulation among the schools of the island, but the response was not gratifying, and so the scheme was abandoned, although the manuscript copies of other "Little Lives" had been prepared.

PLACES

Parish of St. Catherine

When the English took the island in 1655, they soon began to divide it up into parishes, and the names given to them are of interest. For example, St. Catherine was named, it is thought, after Catherine of Portugal, the wife of Charles II, who was king of England when the parish was formed. It is interesting to note, however, that in the first act in which it is mentioned the correct spelling of the name is Katherine.

The parish of St. Catherine figured prominently in the early history of Jamaica. Spanish Town, the capital was selected as the chief city of all Jamaica in succession to Sevilla d'oro, (or the golden capital of Jamaica), for strategic reasons. The Spaniards invaded the island from the northside, and the native Indians seemed to have been utterly incapable of combining, even in self-defence, against the arms

and tactical unity of the Spanish invaders. In spite of their having been a strongly fortified place at Sevilla, it seemed certain that, from some adequate cause, the town became suddenly deserted, and this led to the selection of a site remote from the scene of its disasters. The new site was found on the banks of the Rio Cobre, which flows through a vast savannah sufficiently distant from the sea to guard against the dangers of surprise. The town which quickly arose received the name of St. Jago de la Vega, (that

(Continued on page 17)

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TALKING IT OVER

By ELIZABETH MARTIN

Dear Miss Martin,

Could you please advise me of one reasonable and simple method to become properly sun-tanned?

Anxious.

Dear Anxious,

It takes time and patience to acquire an even tan. You must also be sure that your skin can take a tan as some skins are sensitive and merely burn and peel. Others take on a blackish tinge which gradually fades.

If you are sure that your skin tans to a lovely golden brown, you can obtain sun-tan oils at most beauty counters. Choose a well-known and reliable make and, armed with this, set out on your sun-tanning adventure.

Do not try to rush it! You will require many days to achieve a satisfactory result. Smear a thin layer of the sun tan oil on your skin and on the first day start with a short time in the sun, and be sure that each side or area gets the same length of time exposed to the sun. Each day you can lengthen the time, as you grow more accustomed to the sun. Be sure to keep the skin well oiled if you want a successful tan.

E. M.

Dear Miss Martin,

Our son is marrying a very charming girl whose mother died some years ago. Her father has married again and since his second marriage she has not lived with him. There is no quarrel between them but she preferred to work and live in town.

As her father lives in the country and the wedding is to take place in town we have arranged to have the reception at our home. Now our problem is this. She has asked my husband to give

her in marriage and he is quite willing to do so, but feels that she should ask her own father. Now the question arises as to how her father and step-mother should be treated. Are they just guests at the reception or should they help to receive?

Mrs. Q.

Dear Mrs. Q.

There has been no actual breach between daughter and father so I see no reason why he and his wife should be treated like ordinary guests at his daughter's wedding.

Your husband is quite right and her father should be asked to give her away. It would only cause embarrassment for both your husband and the girl's father — one at usurping the place of the other and the girl's father at being merely a guest at his daughter's wedding. Besides, it would cause a lot of speculation and gossip at a function that should be harmonious throughout.

Also, her father and step-mother should be asked to stand with you to receive the guests. In other words, her father should take his rightful place at the wedding.

E. M.

Dear Miss Martin,

My fiancée and I are to be married early in June, and many of our close friends have already started to ask what we would like for a wedding present.

Now, we are not well-off and I have been to so many weddings where I have seen lots of duplicates among the wedding gifts. We have made a list of what we would like, so as to avoid duplicates and cut out things that we do not need.

But a friend has told me this is not right for people in our position, that it is only done where there are hundreds of invitations to the wedding and great amounts are spent on the gifts. So shall we discard our list?

B. C.

Dear B. C.

Commonsense and tact are always necessary in dealing with these matters. There is no reason in the world why you should abandon your list and find yourself inundated with lampshades and not a single plate in the house.

Of course, it would be quite wrong to send this list around, or to head it with say — a refrigerator, a radio or dinner service — but you can keep it and show it to close friends who ask you what you want. And even then you must leave the choice to them; you may not hint or suggest what they should give. For a young couple who are not well-off, this is a helpful way of starting off.

And here's a hint to any young girl who may be reading this — if you have a close friend who is to be married shortly you can be

of invaluable service to her and save her a lot of embarrassment, by obtaining from her such a list so that her other friends may come to you for suggestions rather than worry an already harassed bride-to-be.

E. M.

A Spanish Proverb—

Happiness is a butterfly which, when pursued, is always just beyond your grasp but which, if you will sit down quietly, may alight upon you.

* * *

Dear Elizabeth Martin,

I am getting engaged shortly and I would like to know whether it is correct for me to give my boy-friend an engagement present. I would like to very much. If it is all right what should I

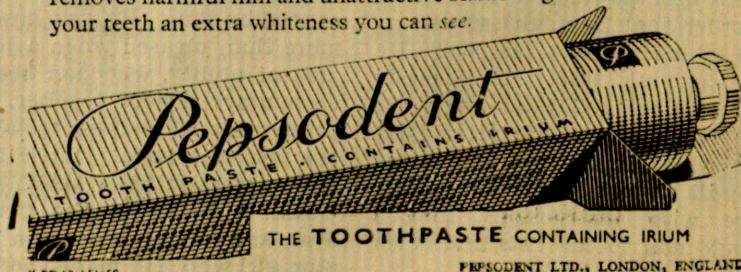
(Continued on page 17)

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THE PAGODA

IN PARENTHESIS

A flirt is a woman who believes in every man for herself.

They ought to call it May or May Not Day.

This from John Bull: "Mummy," said the ten-year-old girl, "how does Princess Elizabeth know she's going to have a baby?" Before Mummy could reply, the youngest daughter, aged five, piped up scornfully, "Well, she can read, can't she? It's been in all the papers."

Queer epitaph: "In memory of our father. Gone to join his appendix, his tonsils, his kidneys, his ear drum and a leg prematurely removed by a hospital surgeon who craved experience."

Bill: "You dance wonderfully well."

Betty: "I wish I could say the same about you."

Bill: "You could, if you could lie as I do."

"No, John, I am sorry; but I am sure we could not be happy together. You know I always want my own way in everything." "But, my dear girl, you could go on wanting it after we were married."

Breakfast is the neglected meal, the cereal manufacturers rightfully complain, and it's all because hard-hearted businessmen insist on opening their offices at 9 o'clock.

Lady: "You would stand more chance of getting a job if you would shave and make yourself more presentable."

Tramp: "Yes, lady. I found that out years ago."

Then there was the scholarly young woman who decided after long and careful research that sailors are not interested in grammar—they always end a sentence with a preposition.

The priest was writing the certificate at a christening, and paused in an endeavour to recall the date. He appealed to the mother. "Let me see, this is the nineteenth, isn't it?"

"The nineteenth, bejabers! Yer riv'rence must be losin' yer mind. This is only the elivinth I've had."

Famous last words: "That was the accelerator, darling!"

Comic Dictionary

Creditor: A man who has a better memory than a debtor.

Diamond: A woman's idea of a stepping stone to success.

Echo: The only thing that can cheat a woman out of the last word.

Firmness: That admirable quality in ourselves that is detestable stubbornness in others.

Genius: One who can do almost anything except make a living.

Hope: A sentiment in the wag of a dog's tail when he is waiting for a bone.

Irony: Giving father a bill-fold for Christmas.

Joint Account: An account where one person does the depositing and the other the withdrawing.

His house had been overrun with mice—hundreds of mice.

"How did you get rid of them?" I asked.

"Oh, it was easy," he said, "We just got hold of 50 tomcats and they killed the mice in no time. Of course we did have a little trouble getting rid of the cats—had to get a bunch of ferocious bulldogs."

"What did you do about the bulldogs?"

"Well," he admitted, "they were a little reluctant to leave. We imported ten Bengal tigers, and within a couple of hours there wasn't a bulldog left. Since we couldn't get near a house full of tigers, we had to employ a herd of elephants."

"So how did you get rid of the elephants?"

"Mice," he replied.

In Long Beach, Calif., two policemen checking a stolen-car report found the automobile parked in front of the owner's home, listened calmly while she explained, "I guess the rain washed it clean—I didn't recognize it."

—Time.

A lady was asked what her husband said when he proposed. She said he told her he loved her and wanted her for his wife.

"But didn't he do anything to back up his statement?"

"Oh, yes," she said, "we have a daughter and two sons."

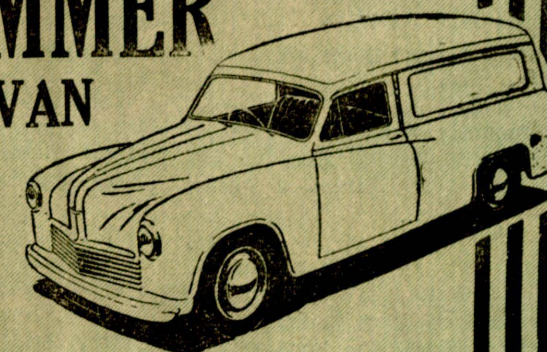
—Mag. Digest

An epidemic of disappearing pens from a public library prompted the head librarian to put up a sign:

"Not government property. Please do not remove."

The best cure for the body is to quiet the mind.

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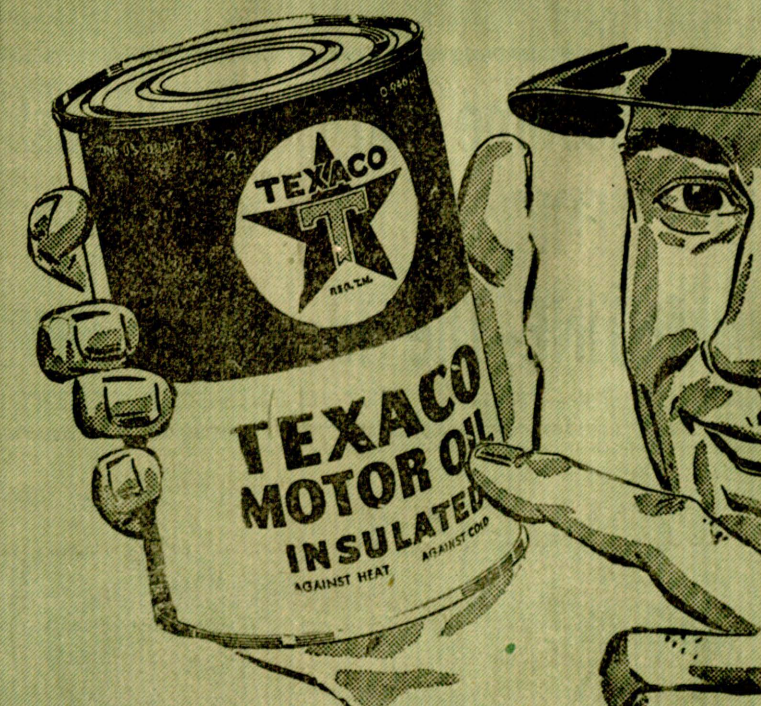


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FAR EAST BOOKS

ROUND THE WORLD

A Unique Travel Book

By J. N. Sinha.

I recently received a copy of "Round the World" from its author, Mr. J. N. Sinha, a Forest Officer in Ranchi, India, who had been told about me by a friend of his, Mr. U. C. Panigrahi, a member of the All-India International P. E. N. Club Centre. I was asked to review the book if I so desired.

It is certainly my desire to do so for I have never yet read a travel book which I have enjoyed reading more, perhaps because of its recognised quality of being unique. It is filled with geographical, historical, descriptive, practical, and philosophical facts combined into a most comprehensive and informative whole that makes for knowledge and pleasure. It is comprised of a collection of letters written by the author to his family and friends during his period of travel in all parts of the world as a Forest Officer, who, because of his pronounced abilities was granted special study leave at the Imperial Forestry Institute at Oxford University, and practical training at

various forestry centres in other countries.

These letters were considered far too informative and unusual in many respects to be stored away or else destroyed, and so, at the persuasion of others Mr. Sinha made a book of them. He left Bombay in December, 1936, and returned home in November, 1937. Following his two terms at Oxford he visited Scotland, Ireland, Wales and every country in Europe; Canada and the United States; Japan, China, Malaya and Ceylon. The difficulties attendant in obtaining a passport to Russia, "the land of mystery" as he calls it, and rightly so, prevented him from seeing more of this land than what he could perceive from the Finnish frontier. From the little he did see he considered it awe-inspiring, with an atmosphere of tensity and suspicion.

The book was first published in June, 1938, and the second edition appeared exactly a decade later, paper restrictions during the war having delayed the second impression. It carries prefaces by the author to both editions, and a Foreword by Dr. Sachchidananda Sinha, Barrister-at-Law;

D.Litt.; Ex-Vice-Chancellor Patna University who, tells the particulars concerning the author and the things which led up to his world-wide travels. It has been considered by some that the book is now out of date, owing to the vast changes which World War II has brought about; by others, this very fact has enhanced its value as a work of permanence, for its graphic and clear account of conditions in Europe and other places immediately prior to the outbreak of war throws much light on the position as it existed. My own view is in complete accordance with this latter one, and I feel that its value will become more realised as time goes on.

Some of the qualities in Mr. Sinha's writing are outstanding: his clarity of vision, the ability to draw truthful and correct comparisons, his sense of humour which enables him to suffer with a smile many of the inconveniences, indignities and difficulties of travel which a rose from language, nationality and other differences. His sense of values is superb; he is always able to look at things in their true perspective and to derive the full benefit from all he saw and did. His psychological and philosophical outlook perhaps were the cause of these abilities. His naturalness and frankness are noticeable throughout the telling

of his experiences, and the bits of humour he includes are real humour. In a few simply phrased sentences he brings out the main characteristics of every country he visited; describes its peoples, and refers to its language, a reference which, in the present trend in this direction is of particular interest. Said he in reference to Great Britain: "Three languages in Britain, 1/36th the size of India! And still it is said: India has too many languages". He was always ready to admit things he considered better done in other countries than his own, and, too, to think his own the wisest on occasions.

Mr. Sinha's similis are good, uniquely expressed and most graphic, as for example: "The English public's disciplined mannerliness is like the delicate precision of a highly sensitive machine". Again: "French... is spoken in blocks like puffs of a medium speed railway engine".

In Vancouver the author was impressed by the number of Chinese settlers he found there. Leaving for Honolulu from this city, after a most impressive period spent in the New World, he then found himself in Kobe, Japan. While there he witnessed thousands of Japanese soldiers leaving for China amidst enthusiastic scenes of farewell for: "those were the days when Japan had achieved its initial successes in China". He was unable to visit

Canton as he wanted through recent bombing incidents in that city, and even from that time war refugees were pouring into Hong-kong. Singapore and Penang were his final stops before his return to India via Colombo.

In a recent letter which I have received from Mr. Sinha he remarked: "Things on the surface have changed... but the human material still responds in the same manner to the fundamental impulses. How much we learn from travels abroad that humanity is the same all the world over, that we are all children of the same God and that the differences in habits of body and mind are created only by the climate and topography of the countries concerned".

"Round the World" is lavishly illustrated with photographs taken by the author in all the countries he visited. It is obtainable from the Sri Gouranga Press, 5, Chintamani Das Lane, Calcutta, India, Price, 8/-

Reviewed by
H. V. Ormsby Marshall

THE DEVELOPMENT OF CHINESE PAINTING

(Continued from page 8)

ready shown in their achievements the traces of some new element, entirely foreign and exotic. Times have changed, tempos quickened, and everything in our daily life is visualised in a new haze, sometimes clear, sometimes quite misty and obscure, and our ancient pictorial art, has not escaped the doom of the age, whether for good or bad remains yet to be seen.

That art should have another purpose besides its own, namely, that of serving as the means to some other end, is perhaps a matter of secondary importance to modern tinkers. For example an art critic in the Tang Dynasty — Chang Yen-yuan — has remarked: "Oh painting, it helps to accomplish cultural transformation, it

helps to promote humanity, and going to the utmost profundity with its innumerable transfiguration in divinity, it is as meritorious as the six classics, and moves as the moving of the four seasons." — This saying expresses best the old orthodox view. In fact, nowadays we think that only with the exception of those which were done with a definite purpose (either for the sake of religion or for education) paintings do not necessarily bear such a responsibility. Yet as in art, its effect upon men as a promoting and transforming force for the better cannot be ignored, and this truth may not be challenged even by future generations to come.

(To be continued)

PERSONALIA

Continued from page 6)

meeting of the Jamaica Amateur Table Tennis Association held on Monday, May 1, Mr. Robert Chin was elected vice-President.

In cricket the Chinese Athletic Club met defeat on all sides. In the Caribbean Products Cup League they lost to Local Forces and the Indian Recreation Club. Against the former they scored 67 all out while their opponents made 87 for the loss of 3 wickets. In the latter match C.A.C. scored only 70 runs while Indians made 100 for 1. C. A. C. will play Han-nason's tomorrow and Soap & Edible Products on May 14.

In the Junior League the C.A.C. cricket team will play Kingston Police at the New Asylum grounds next Saturday, May 13.

The Primrose Softball team lost to Light and Power by 10-2 in the second round of play in the Softball League. Lila Lee, their pitcher, unfortunately suffered a fractured ankle while sliding into third base in the sixth innings.

BIRTHS

Dr. and Mrs. J. F. Chacko (nee Daphne Hosang) announced the birth of a daughter, Sharon Margaret, on Wednesday, April 26.

Mr. and Mrs. Ferdie Chin Yee also announced the birth of a daughter on Friday, April 28.

Mr. and Mrs. H. S. Loh announced the birth of a son on Tuesday, April 25th.

The Men's Softball team won their first match of the season playing against St. George's by the score of 21-18 but lost to Y.M.C.A. by 7-4 playing at Doncaster.

A dance sponsored by the Primrose Softball Team will be held on Tuesday, May 23 at the Chinese Athletic Club.

BOY SCOUT NOTES

The First Chinese Boy Scout Troop continues to hold meetings at the Chinese Public School on Wednesday afternoons commencing at 4.30 p.m. Applications for membership of boys who have reached their eleventh birthday, may be addressed to the Scoutmaster, c/o the Chinese Public School.

At the recent Athletic Sports Senior Patrol Leader Albert Lyn was awarded three certificates of

Merit for placing in three of the races. There will be a court of honour meeting at the Chinese School on Sunday morning at 9.00 to discuss the third quarter's programme which includes a Hike, a Troop Camp, Proficiency badge training, and a public Campfire.

We are pleased to announce the appointment of Assistant Scoutmaster Y. Lenworth Chang as a District Scouter for Kingston; and that of ASM Noel Lyn as Treasurer of the newly revived Catholic Scouters' and Guiders' Conference.

We congratulate ASM Lyn also on his splendid job of re-organizing the St. Aloysius Group, of which he is an old boy. Parents interested in the re-formation of the Cub pack which takes boys from the age of 9 years, are asked to communicate with Akela Y. Lenworth Chang, c/o the Chinese Public School, or with the Scoutmaster.

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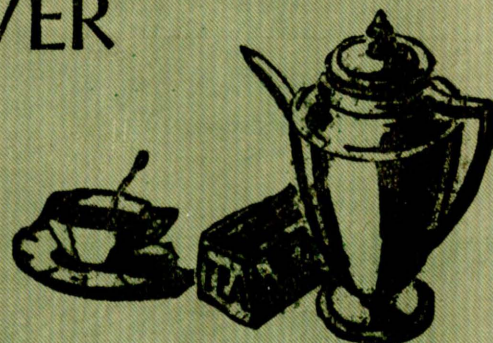
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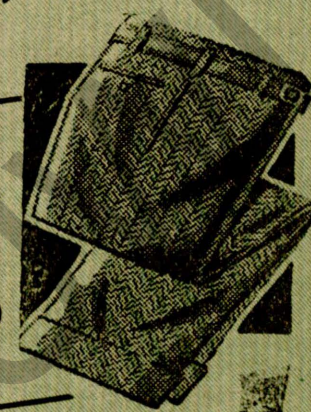


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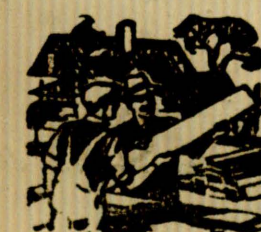
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Persons, Places, Things

(Continued from Page 13)

is, St. James of the Plains), to distinguish it from Sta. de Cuba, St. James being the patron saint of Spain. It is now called Spanish Town

The people of St. Catherine are proud of their ancient tradition but all interests seem to centre in their capital city of Spanish Town. The head of the island resided there. Here also was the Honourable House of Assembly until the building was destroyed by fire some years ago. The Government Training College for the education of Elementary School Teachers was stationed at Spanish Town. The Registrar Offices and the Record Offices for the storing and safe-keeping of important documents occupy massive and substantial buildings in the Square. The parish is noted also for the mal-administration of its affairs. On more than one occasion it was brought under Government scrutiny and investigation; and having been found wanting, the Parochial Board was dissolved. The last time was towards the end of last year, when Mr. G. C. Gunter was appointed to administer the affairs of the parish. On the former occasion the late Hon. Geo. McGrath, Custos of St. Catherine, was the administrator.

THINGS

Gambling In Jamaica

I have my doubts whether there are today any professional gamblers in this island as there were some 40 or 50 years ago. "Black Tom," for instance, was not a gambler by chance. He studied and practised the technique of the art. Few men, perhaps, then living in Jamaica, were as proficient in throwing "six" and "three" on the dice as this gambler. He never believed in loaded dice, and never used them. He owed half his skill to practice. For regular hours every day he kept practising, with the result, that, at the nightly bouts, he carried all before him. Another famous dice thrower, who was also a coloured man, of quiet demeanour, was Mr. X, who I remember, having cleaned up Savanna-la-Mar and Kingston, directed his attention to the notorious Morant Bay. His achievement at this eastern town was outstanding. It was the night after a race meeting. Mr. X found himself among the frequenters of a certain haunt, and after much persistence, was initiated into the select ring. Before they broke up, his winnings were £400, and every other man was out of pocket. Mr. X's great

asset was his coolness. His movements were free from excitement or fuss; but he was King of the Dice all right. Next morning, he went back, as though by accident, to the haunt. Everybody had drinks at his expense—the usual preliminary. He urged this upon the company, "as I did so well last night, gentlemen." Then they drifted into throwing the dice once more, and in a short time £200 was added to the visitor's winnings of the previous night.

FISHERMEN

By R. Carl Rattray.

One dark blot on the blue
One native-wood canoe
Riding waves,

One corded net outspread
Enclosing silvery dead —
Corded grave.

Two hands perhaps or more
Will dump this wealth on shore
Fishermen,

Strange there should rise in me
Deep thoughts of Galilee —
And its men.

Strange that my mind be fraught
Of that miraculous draught
Of silvery fish,

That Jesus one did make
To show that human faith —
Must be rich.

Strange, here on Carib Shore,
This ancient Bible lore,
Be revived,

Strange, with two fishes dead
Five thousand Jesus fed —
When he lived.

One dark blot on the blue
One native-wood canoe
Carib Sea,

One corded net outspread
Enclose my thoughts not dead —
Of Galilee.

TALKING IT OVER

(Continued from page 14)

give him and when should I give it.

June Bride.

Dear June Bride,

It is not incorrect for a girl to give her fiancé an engagement present. Personally, I think it is a nice idea, but it is entirely up to you.

If you wish to give him a present by all means do so. In the years to come it will be a nice little reminder to him of a special occasion.

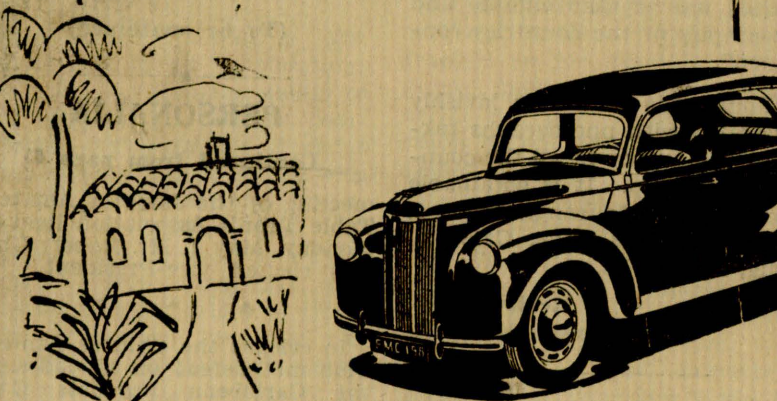
If I were you I would choose something lasting and to his taste. A silver pencil, cuff links (if he wears them) a tie clip a five-year diary with lock and key, a good wallet — any of these are suitable.

E. M.

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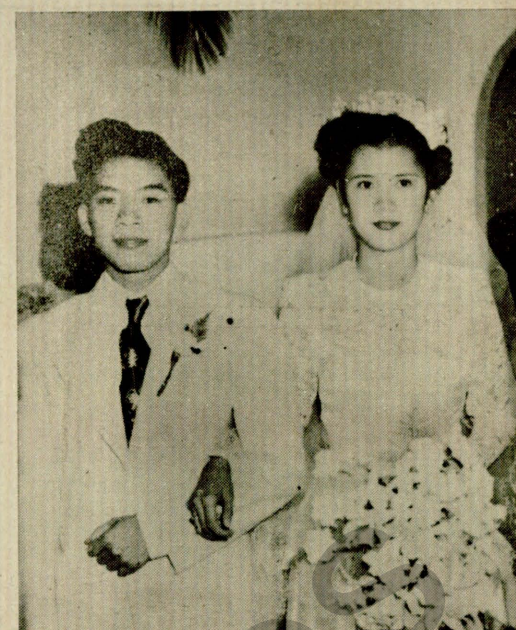


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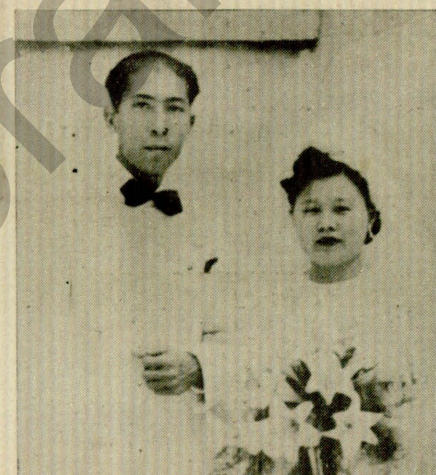
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Mr. and Mrs. Ken Austin Lee of Spanish Town who were married on Easter Sunday. The bride was the former Valerie Kow, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Allan Thompson Kow of Spanish Town.

Photo by Lloyd A. Chin,
Monarch Photo Studio.



LEFT

Mr. and Mrs. Eric Lyn of Clarendon after their wedding at the Holy Trinity Cathedral on Sunday, April 16. The bride was the former Jean Ho, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charley Ho Fong.

RIGHT

The Basketball team of the Montego Bay Social and Athletic Club are pictured here on the grounds of the Chinese Public School, Kingston when they came here to play an Exhibition match against the C.A.C. Standing (from left to right) are: Herbert Wong Shiu, Bobbie-Chin, Arnold Chin, Rex Hew, Lipton Chin. Kneeling: David B. Wong, Hubert Hugh, Benjamin Chin.

PICTURES OF INTEREST



Mr. and Mrs. William Chung cut their wedding cake at their home on Deanery Road. In the picture also is Fr. Fox, S.J. who performed the ceremony.

Photo by Lloyd A. Chin,
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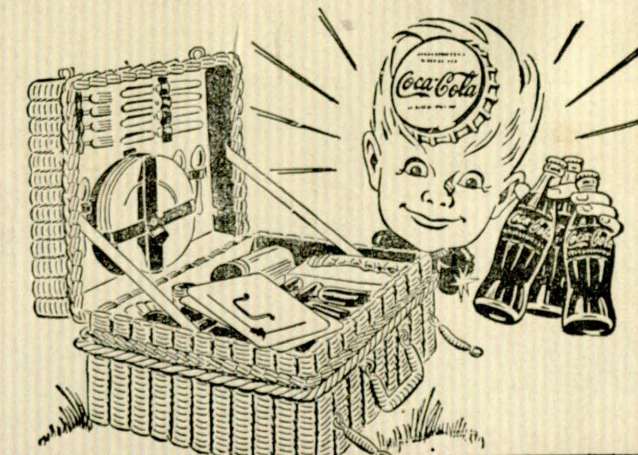
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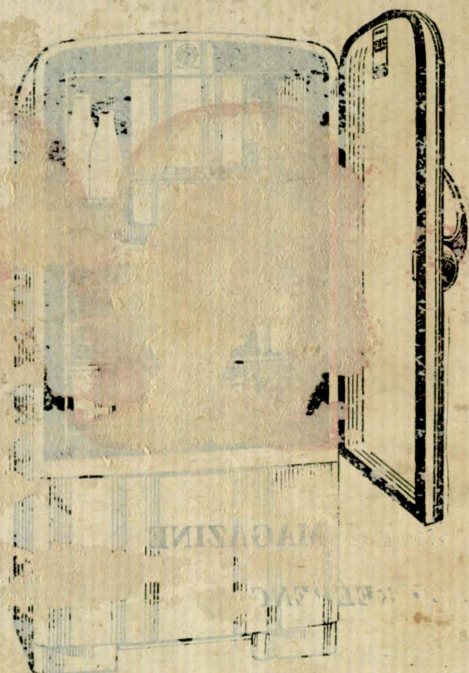


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