

THE UNITED American

A MAGAZINE OF GOOD CITIZENSHIP

Devoted to the Cause of

Americanization, Assimilation and Group Elimination; Pointing the way to a Constitutional Americanism, to Equality in Citizenship, and a better understanding between Native born and Foreign born.

Vol. 3 Continuous
Volume 21

August, 1925

Number 11

A GIANT PLEADING FOR JUSTICE THE STRANGE WORKINGS OF THE LAW OF RETRIBUTION

By H. J. LANGOE

THE CURRENT political upheavals in China are furnishing many strange sidelights and while there may not be any sequential order in the drama enacted, scene after scene, there are traces of a consequential and orderly functioning of a law no man ever wrote, over which no mortal has any control, mandates against which the injunction servers are powerless.

The outrages perpetrated by the Chinese bandits and soldiers against the English girl missionaries in China are deplorable. The beatings and other abuses administered to them by the hordes of villains are reprehensible and the victims are indeed to be pitted for the cruel fate that has led them into this cataclysm while on their errand of mercy, charity and good will out in the world. But, though these girls may not know much about it, broad humanitarians may little blame the Chinese for being rather suspicious of the kind of "salvation" offered them by England, in view of the thorough knowledge the Chinese possess of what havoc there has been created in China through the "commercial benefits" England brought them when it brought them OPIUM.

No curse has ever been visited upon a people with such telling effects as the curse of opium upon the Chinese. Even the flower of youth faded in China after opium began to still the senses of the Chinaman and made him a victim of his own folly—a craven, a spineless fool, content with his opium and his pipe, his lamp and his utensils, his cot and his ill smelling hovel.

Generation after generation of will-less, senile men, decrepit in youth, due to poisoned senses, have passed in China, the land victimized by opium—a source of large revenue for a pretentious civilized nation. The poison has actually gone into the blood of the Chinese and, if opium was barred from China, it would take at least another generation before the purification of the blood in China could be accomplished to an extent

permitting the development of a natural vitality, capable of throwing off the shackles of a habit, a disease, so frightful as the addiction to narcotics, that has been visited upon China, a land so fertile and of such profuse vegetation that it has been given the name "The Flowery Land"—a reference to China now applied as a term indicating ridicule.

A narcosis victim in America is sufficient to stir a community into action to help in delivering the addict from his afflictions, if that be possible, as for instance in the earliest stages of addiction. The comparison should help us visualize the picture of a NATION suffering in the advanced stages of narcosis; staggering, reeling, mind and body benumbed, deprived of clear consciousness, narcotized to the marrow of its very bones.

Such is the present mental and physical picture we have of China, a country comprising almost a square, with an area of 1,537,590 square miles in the so-called table lands of Central Asia. Including its broad states of Manchuria, Mongolia, Jungaria, East Turkestan, and Tibet, China covers an estimated area of 4,218,400 square miles. The inhabitants of neutral China, including its eighteen provinces (Shih-pa-Shang), numbered 386,000,000, in 1900, while that of the whole country, including the dependencies, in 1903 was estimated to be 426,447,000.

Into this vast area, to every nook and cranny, the nerve-raking, blood-curdling, morality devouring opium—produced from a plant that is native of India and in some parts of Egypt, finds its way under conditions that are too well inscribed in the records of history to permit of concealment. Here is an American Encyclopedia reference to the "opium traffic" that is just as full of "understanding" as the proverbial apple Eve picked, only that we can understand much more by reading between the lines:

Opium traffic, in China, India, Turkey, and other parts of the East, and, to a small extent in the West, opium is used