

TOBACCO IN THE PHILIPPINES

HOW THE CROP IS RAISED AND PREPARED FOR THE MARKET & THE CHEAPEST CIGARS OF THE WORLD.

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 7.—Take a smoke with me this morning while we look into one of the biggest industries of the Philippine Islands. We shall suppose ourselves in Manila, and we need not be afraid of leading others astray by using the word. This is no Sunday-school country. Here the men smoke like chimneys and the women go about with cigarettes in their mouths. The boys begin to puff nicotine before they can talk, and girls of 10 and 12 puff for their daily allowance of black cigarettes.

Look out there on the street! See the girls riding by in their cars. They are smoking cigars! Those boys on their way to school are puffing away, and there on the opposite side of the street is a child playing marbles with a cigarette balanced over each ear.

These Filipinos smoke everywhere, and no one thinks of asking permission. They puff between their courses at meals. Your hostess offers you a smoke as soon as you enter the house, and if you invite her she will probably join you. The priests smoke on the streets, the ladies smoke in their parlors, and there is not a Government office in which the clerks, both native and American, do not smoke while at work. It is the same in the banks, in the stores, and, in fact, everywhere.

The Cheapest Cigars of the World.

What kind of a cigar will you take? Here is one wrapped in tin foil. That cigar in the United States would sell for 25 cents. It is the most expensive thing of the kind in the islands, and it costs \$4 per hundred, or just 4 cents apiece. Think of getting a quarter cigar for less than a nickel! That is the price at which they sell here, and I venture you can buy a good smoke in Manila for less money than anywhere else in the world. Cigars equal to our nickel cigars are sold for 1 cent in silver or half a cent gold. Our "ten cent" would bring less than 2 cents in Manila, and a fair cigar can be had for a cent. Our soldiers usually buy their cigars by the thousand, and but few of them, including the officers, pay more than 1 cent a smoke.

Filipino Cigarettes.

Cigarettes are fully as cheap. They are put up in packages of 20, and the lowest priced package sells for a cent. The very best is worth 4 cents American, so that seven of the best "toffin pipes" cost you only 1 cent.

The Filipino cigarettes are manufactured almost exclusively for the native trade. Many are hand-made, one factory turning out 24,000,000 cigarettes every week, or so many that within a month it could give a smoke to every man, woman and child in our country and have 2,000,000 to spare.

The Filipino tobacco is darker than ours and the cigarette tobacco is almost black. It is a pure tobacco and not doctored with sweets and flavoring extracts, so that it is said it can be smoked with less injury to the nerves. The cigarettes of both countries are of the same size and shape, save that only one end of the Filipino cigarette is open, the white paper at the other end being turned in. You always light the closed end.

Among the Cigar Girls of Manila.

Manila exports about 20,000,000 cigars every year. It has enormous factories, employing thousands of hands, and it is said to have the most expert cigarmakers of the world. The best of these are girls. Our Filipino cousins have long, slender fingers, which they use with a swiftness and skill which our best cigarmakers have not. They roll all cigars by hand, and the greatest care is taken in making and classifying the three or four grades.

Let us visit one of the large cigar factories. We find them all over Manila. They are situated even in the heart of the city, and one of the biggest is just next door to the meeting hotel. The buildings are three stories, with oyster-shell windows and with floors which could be used for making pianos, the wood is so fine. The factory covers three or four acres. It has many large rooms, some of which are 300 feet long. These rooms are filled with workmen. The factory employs 3000 hands,



and the most of the 3000 are of the feminine gender.

We enter the building and walk up the stairs. The rich smell of the tobacco floats down, and a titillating dust comes into our nostrils. We pass through a wide door and find ourselves right in the midst of an acre of women. About 1000 Filipinos of all ages are sitting about us handling tobacco with their long, yellow fingers. They are dressed in white, and their dark faces shine out over the snowy handkerchiefs they have pinned around their shoulders. All wear décolleté dresses, and those who have thrown off their neck coverings are dressed for a ball. Here and there a dress has been pulled to one side, and a mahogany shoulder shines out. All are in their bare feet, and we can see the shape of their ankles and the upturned soles of those of those who are working about us. They



wants something he can feel, and I doubt if our people will ever care to use the mild cigars of the Philippine Islands."

The best Philippine tobacco comes from the island of Luzon and the very choicest from the valley of the Rio Grande River in the northeastern end of that island. The Rio Grande River is a large stream, navigable for small boats for many miles. Its valley north and south is over 100 miles long, with a width of from five to 20 miles. The river is subject to annual floods, during which quantities of rich silt are brought down from the mountains and spread over the valley. This fertilizes it as the Nile does Egypt and gives it a soil which can be used for tobacco culture year after year without other fertilization.

There are four large provinces in this valley, in which it is raised in tobacco and Indian corn are grown.

In addition to this territory there is a strip of land in Northwestern Luzon which has many plantations. The tobacco there is not so good nor is it raised in such quantities. Many of the farmers are Igorrote Indians. There are also other small plantations in the other islands of the archipelago. Panay raises quite a good deal, and portions are grown in Mindoro, Marinduque and Mindanao. Outside Luzon the most of the crop is consumed at home, very little being exported.

How the Tobacco is Grown.

The tobacco of the Philippines is grown in small patches, although one of the Manila tobacco companies has one plantation on which are several thousand hands. The average tobacco farm consists of but three or four acres, and its owner produces but three or four bales of tobacco a year. The seed is first sown in beds, just as in the United States. After the plants have well sprouted they are set out about two or three feet apart, so close, indeed, that it is said, there are sometimes 10,000 tobacco plants to one acre. The planting is done late in the Fall, and by March and April the leaves are ready for harvest. The crop must be kept weeded, and every morning the plants must be gone over for worms. This work is done entirely by women and girls. The tobacco leaves are cut in strips and then allowed to ferment, with our leaf as beer does with whisky. When ready for market they are put up

in bundles of 100 leaves each, tied with strings of rattan. Forty such bundles make a bale, so that there are just 6000 leaves to the bale. The bales are wrapped in mats of banana leaves, and tied with rattan. The packages are opened as soon as they come in, and the leaves carefully sorted and graded, being kept as far as possible in the original bundles. After sorting they are laid one on top of another in the shape of a bale about four feet long and two feet square. This bale is wrapped in rattan made of banana leaves and then pressed.

The pressing is done by a screw worked on the principle of a letter press. The leaves are moved around by a screw of iron, who push upon levers attached to a wheel in which the screw is fastened. After the bale has been pressed to the desired dimensions it is again bound with rattan and marked for shipment to Europe.

The work of handling the tobacco is done

WHAT THE COURTS DECIDE

RECENT FINDINGS OF INTEREST TO THE LAITY AND LAWYERS.

IN Texas a person may be convicted of betting for playing "crackdoo," a game played by throwing coin at a crack in the floor, holds the Court of Criminal Appeals of Texas in the case of *Donahay vs. State* (65 S. W. Rep., 781).

Can't Climb Through Window.

An officer, in order to execute civil process, cannot climb through an open window of the defendant's dwelling, if that is an unusual place of entry, holds the Court of Civil Appeals of Texas in the case of *Hillman vs. Edwards* (65 S. W. Rep., 788).

Duty of Notary Public.

Giving notice of dishonor of protested paper is, in the absence of contrary instructions, an official duty of a notary public, in Nebraska, for neglect of which an action is maintainable by the party injured, upon his official bond, holds the Supreme Court of Nebraska in the case of *Dartmouth Sav. Bank vs. Foley* (83 N. W. Rep., 357).

Police Chief Liable.

Where a woman was unlawfully arrested by a policeman, and locked up at the police station, and was confined there more than 50 hours after the Chief of Police had knowledge thereof, and was then discharged by his order, no complaint being made against her, and she not being taken before any court, the Chief of Police having the authority to say whether she should be kept there, and when she should be released, the Supreme Judicial Court of Massachusetts in the case of *Martin vs. Golden* (62 N. E. Rep., 877) holds that a verdict against both the policeman who made the arrest and the Chief of Police for damages for false imprisonment is justified.

Island Belongs to State.

An island was formed in a navigable stream, and by reason of its accretions gradually joined the mainland. In an action of ejectment to determine the ownership of the island, the Supreme Court of California in the case of *Glassell vs. Hansen* (67 Pac. Rep., 964) holds that the island, with the accretions, belonged to the state and its grantees, and not to the owner of the mainland.

Victim Not Negligent.

A pedestrian who falls into a hole in a sidewalk cannot, as a matter of law, be held negligent because she was at the time talking to a companion, holds the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania in the case of *Butcher vs. City of Philadelphia* (61 At. Rep., 329).

Question of Delinquent.

On the issue of insane delusions, the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, in *Re Bennett's Estate* (61 At. Rep., 336), holds

that it is never a question of soundness of view, but the proper inquiry always is whether the party imagined or conceived something to exist which did not in fact exist, and which no rational person, in the absence of evidence, would have believed to exist.

Divorced Wife is Beneficiary.

The divorced wife of a member of a fraternal order, who was named as the beneficiary in the benefit certificate while she was the member's wife, was held by the Supreme Court of California, in the case of *Courtney vs. Grand Lodge, etc.* (67 Pac. Rep., 929), to be entitled to the benefit fund on the death of the member, who died without in any way changing the beneficiary.

Passenger Assumes Risk.

A passenger standing on the side steps of an open street-car, when there is a room inside, is held by the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania in the case of *Woodruff vs. Roxborough, etc.*, company (61 At. Rep., 334), to assume the risk of his being struck by a pole supporting the electric wires.

Bondholder Entitled to Payment.

Under an act authorizing a town to issue bonds and use the proceeds to pay other bonds legally issued and remaining unpaid, the Court of Errors and Appeals of New Jersey (61 At. Rep., 274) holds that the holder of such unpaid bonds is entitled to payment of them, even though judgments have been recovered upon the coupons taken from said bonds after the bonds became due, when the proper municipal authorities refused to pay.

Must Have a License.

A person advertising himself as a doctor and practicing osteopathy is held by the Supreme Court of Illinois, in the case of *People, etc., vs. Gordon* (82 N. E. Rep., 359), to be engaged in the practice of medicine, though he does not use drugs, medicines or instruments in his treatment, and is subject to penalty for practicing without a license.

Rights of Religious Society.

The refusal of a Bishop of the Roman Catholic Church to recognize a society organized as a Roman Catholic Church society is held by the Supreme Judicial Court of Massachusetts in the case of *Canadian Religious Association vs. Parmenter* (62 N. E. Rep., 740) not to prevent the society and its officers exercising the powers of a religious corporation conferred by law, nor prohibits members from maintaining their religious worship.

Ruling on Suicide Clause.

Where, in an action on a life insurance policy, providing that the "policy is void in case of death by suicide," the insured

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GEORGE ADE'S MODERN FABLE

HOW MRS. JUMP HAD HER ANNUAL ATTACK OF HOUSE HUNTING.

ONCE there was a Family called Jump that had sampled every Ward within the Corporation Limits. The Jumped did a Caravan Specialty every time the Frost went out of the Ground.

When the Sarsaparilla Adde began to bloom, and the Peach Crop had been ruined by the late Cold Snap and the Kids were universal in Flies in the Lot back of the Universalist Church, and a Barred Organ down Street was tearing the Soul out of "Troxy"—these were the Cases for Mrs. Jump to get her Nose into the Air and begin to tramp at the Bit.

Mother was a House-Hunter from away back. She claimed to be an Invalid 15 months out of the Year and took Nerve Medicine that cost \$3 a Bottle. Just the same, when April hove into view and Dame Nature began to stretch herself, then Mother put on her Short Skirt and a pair of Shoes intended for a Man and did a Fall France.

She was good for 12 hours a Day on any kind of Pavements. With her Reticule loaded full of "To Let" Clippings, she hopped from Street to Street. Every time she struck a Fresh Trail she broke into a Run.

Mother was looking for a House that had twice as many Closets as Rooms and a Southern Exposure on all four sides. She had conned herself into the Belief that some day she would run down a Queen Anne Shack that would be O. K. in All Particulars.

In the Magazine that came every Month she had seen these Dream-Pictures of Palaces that can be put up for \$150, if you steal your Materials.

She had gazed at the Bunco Illustration of the swell Structure with bushy Trees dotting the Lawn and a little Girl rolling a Hoop along the Cement Sidewalk and she had set her Heart on that kind of a Home.

His Apartment loved to study the Plans and count the Bath-Rooms and figure on Windows Seats and what kind of Curtains to put in the Guest Chamber.

Every Spring she found the Place she had been seeking and gave a Grand Signal to the Law and the Railway Girl rolling a Hoop along the Cement Sidewalk, so that the whole Outfit to begin packing up. Those were the bright vernal Days when Mr. Jump got all that was coming to him. Mr. Jump was a Man, therefore any old kind of a Hut suited him. For eight years before starting on his continuous Tour with Mother, he had roomed over a Drug Store.

His Apartment had been one of those delectable Man-Joints where women never butted in to hide things and give the whole Place a Soapy Smell.

The Sweatings went under the Bed, so as not to litter the Hallway.

Once a Year he had a House-Cleaning.

That is to say, he employed a Colored Man to beat the rugs, which had to be separated from the Floor by means of a Shovel. Inasmuch as Mrs. Jump never came in to straighten up, he knew where to find everything. He knew it was somewhere in the Room and all he had to do was to excavate until he found it.

Then he looked up with Laura as so to get a real Home and she gave him a new one every Year.

Mr. Jump soon discovered that although "Jury Man" is the Architect of his own Fortune, the Wife usually superintends the Construction.

When Mrs. Jump made her Spring Announcement that they would move to another House, he did a deal of kicking, but he always went into the Wood Shed to do it. He sneezed her inwardly, but not so that she could hear.

She was a Wonder at framing up Reasons for hurrying the Lease back at the Landlord.

One Year she quit because the Owner paped the Upstairs with a Jay Pattern. Inasmuch as Mrs. Jump was a Bolt, another time the Family next door kept Chickens. Usually the Children across the Alley were not at Associates for their own little Brood.

One Time she quit on account of a Cockroach. She saw it scoot across the Partry and that afternoon she headed for a Renting Agency.

Father suggested that instead of vacating in favor of the Cockroach, they offer a reward of \$100 for its capture, dead or alive, and thereby save a little Money, but she refused to listen.

If the Plumbing wasn't out of Whack, the Furnace required too much Kicking or else the Woman across the Street had been divorced too many times.

If they squatted in a low-down Neighborhood, Mrs. Jump was ashamed to give her Address to Friends in the Congregation.

If they got into a Nest of the New Rich, then Laura had the freeze-out worked on her, because Mr. Jump was on a Salary and she had to ride on the Trolley. So she began looking for a Street in which Intellect would successfully stand up against the good, old Colateral. And, of course, that meant a long Search.

Therefore, every May list something Back and about the size of a Caboose backed up to the Jumps. Several husky Boys began throwing Things out of the Windows.

Father did a Vanishing Act. When it came to lifting one corner of a Piano or hanging pictures he was a sad Bluff and he Faw it.

"How about Paradise?" he asked one day. "I understand that inside of the Pearly Gates each Family has Permanent Quarters. There are no Folding Beds to juggle down Back Stairways, no Picture Cords to Shorten, no Curtain Poles

to saw off, no Book Cases to get jammed in Stairways. I am sure there will be no Piano-Movers, for I have heard her Language. Do you think you can be happy in the Promised Land?"

"It will depend entirely on whether or not the Rugs fit," she replied.

"Let us hope for the Best," said Mr. Jump.

Moral—The Queen of the May is usually a Woman.

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Fuel Was Very Spicy.

Cleveland Plain Dealer.

First tourist—Isn't this lovely? Just think! Pharaoh lived here, and—end—Cheops, and—end—Moses! It makes your head swim, doesn't it?"

Second tourist—I guess it's the bad air. It hurts my head, too. Is that the Nile over there?"

"Mercy, I suppose so. Isn't it dirty? It doesn't seem as if Cleopatra could have ridden in her barge to meet Marc Antony down that horrid stream, does it?"

"No, it doesn't. But that was a long time ago, wasn't it?"

"I believe so. I've seen the play, but I don't remember just when it was."

"See that crocodile basking in the sun!"

"Is he basking? Oh, Maud, that reminds me. How are you going to have your new basque trimmed?"

"Mercy, there's the Sphinx!"

"What's the Sphinx?"

"Why, it's a thing that asked riddles, you know. Bear me, I'm not sure whether that's the Sphinx or one of the pyramids. Just look at those children! They must be going in swimming."

"Look there! That must be the desert. But I can't see any caravans. Perhaps it isn't a desert. Maybe it's a mirage."

"What's a mirage, dear?"

"Oh, it's something they see in deserts. Everything is upside down, you know."

"Isn't that just awful! Oh, see that handsome native! What a picture! He's playing on the concertina and passing his hat."

"What a shame! My, isn't it nice to travel on a railroad where they don't have any smoke or cinders?"

"Yes; and do you notice what a balmy odor comes in the window?"

"Yes, isn't it fragrant? So spicy. Can't you smell the cloves? Ah-a-a. I like to breathe it in."

"So do I. I'll ask the conductor what it is. There he is. Conductor, please!"

The conductor—Well, ma'am?

"Conductor, where does that spicy smell come from?"

"From the locomotive, ma'am. We use nothing butummies for fuel on this line, ma'am."

Ground for a New Trial.

Peremptorily forcing one indicted for a criminal offense to trial, immediately after the appointment of counsel to defend him, without giving to such counsel an opportunity to make an investigation of the case or prepare for the defense, is held by the Supreme Court of Georgia, in the case of *McArver vs. Webb* (40 S. E. Rep., 770) to be ground for a new trial.

Principal Is Not Liable.

If an agent whose authority is limited to purchasing with cash furnished him by his principal buys on credit, the Supreme Court of Georgia, in the case of *the American Oil Company* (40 S. E. Rep., 780), holds that the principal is not liable for the price of things so bought, and one who deals with such a special agent is bound to inform himself as to the extent of the agent's authority.

Straightening a Theological Kink.

Passengers in an uptown car one afternoon last week were very much entertained and amused by a discussion of things spiritual by two colored passengers. As the debate waxed warmer the voices of the debaters grew louder until what was said was plainly audible to all in the car. After each had made a confession of faith and given his views of the means whereby mortal man could gain salvation, one of the pair blurted out in a tone that implied that all his hope for the next world was embodied in the words:

"Well, sah, I b'lieve dat what's gwine to be is sholy gwine to be."

"Huh!" grunted his companion, contemptuously. "Den yo' b'lieves in premeditation."—Baltimore Sun.

Irresistible Temptation.

Representative McCleary, of Minnesota, tells a story of the man who was running blind in that country as a "blind pig." In the East the establishment would be known as a "speak-easy."

According to Mr. McCleary, the man was arrested, tried, convicted and fined. He went back and again engaged in the business. He was again arrested, again tried, again convicted and again fined. He returned to the establishment, and the performance had been repeated several times. The Magistrate questioned him: "How long is that country as a 'blind pig'?" In the East the establishment would be known as a "speak-easy."

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Credibility of Expert Witness.

An expert medical witness cannot be discredited by reading an opposite opinion from a textbook in the presence of the jury, and asking whether it is correct, where he has in no way referred to the book to sustain his opinion, or otherwise relied on it, holds the Supreme Court of North Carolina, in the case of *Butler vs. South Carolina*, etc. (40 S. E. Rep., 770).

Judge Interrogating Witnesses.

While it is the right of a trial judge to interrogate witnesses, when essential to the administration of justice, holds the Supreme Court of Nebraska, in the case of *Lee vs. State* (83 N. W. Rep., 303), yet the practice of so doing except when absolutely necessary, should be discouraged.

Shipowners Are Liable.

The owners of a ship are liable for an injury to a carpenter, employed by a firm which had been hired to make re-

pairs or changes in the interior of the ship to fit it for cargo, and who was sent to work during the night, and who fell through a hatchway in a dark and unusual place which had been negligently left open, without notification of warning to those who were doing the work, (W. E. Rep., 189, United States Circuit Court of Appeals.)