

# YELLOW SLAVES MUST GET OUT OF THE TRANSVAAL

## CHINESE MINERS WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO COME IN; NATIVES ARE INFERIOR AS UNDERGROUND WORKERS



BY FRANK G. CARPENTER.

JOHN CHINAMAN must get out of the Transvaal. General Botha's hand has written that decree on the industrial wall of South Africa. No more coolies are to be imported. The first shipment of 3000 back to China was made, now more than a year ago, and others will be exported at intervals until these yellow slaves, as they are called, are eliminated from the golden treasure vaults of the Rand.

### The Chinese and the World's Gold.

This movement will affect the whole world. It will, for a time, dam the enormous streams of the yellow metal which have been following out of these mines and will cut down the gold supply of the nations. Within the past 20 years South Africa has produced a billion dollars' worth of brilliant, and about half of this has been turned out since the Boer war. It has been mined largely by Chinese cheap labor, and now that the Chinese are to go the mining habits are in danger of being broken.

Gold mining in the Transvaal is a low-grade proposition, and it must be carried on at low wages. Out of the 65 or 70 mines now on the Rand more than one-third do not yield over \$1.50 worth of gold to the ton, and in some the yield is still less. The quantity of ore is practically inexhaustible, and the output is limited, almost entirely, by the amount of labor at hand. Last year it was about 4,000,000, or between one-third and one-fourth of the whole gold supply of the world. It could be doubled or tripled if the Rand had the labor, and it is believed that 50,000 Chinese here at work, and they form the best of the unskilled labor that the Rand has ever had.

### The Native Labor Supply.

But first let me tell you something about the native labor of South Africa. There are about 5,000,000 negroes in the British possessions of the equator, and there are perhaps 1,000,000 more in Portuguese East Africa over the way. Of this, however, a large number are comprised of old men, women and children. The men employed in the mines range in age from 15 to 40, and it is estimated that there are only something like 400,000 available employees in the whole population. Moreover, the natives will not work longer than six months at a time, so this cuts the constant supply down to a possible 200,000, which, even if it could be relied upon, is far less than the wants of the country.

Before the Boer war there were 111,000 natives employed in the gold mines. This number dropped to nothing during the war, and the high wages then paid by the armies and others so disorganized the industry that when the war closed and the mines began to work the shortage in the labor supply was 30,000 and more. It was then that the possibility of getting Chinese was discussed, and as a result the Celestials were brought here by the shipload.

### How the Chinese Came to Africa.

The importation began in 1864. The first shipment came by the way of the coast of that year 20,000 of these alien-eyed, pie-tailed workmen were getting out gold. Since then about 30 or more steamers have been brought, and the total invasion has amounted to 60,000 or more. This has been decreased by exportation and in other ways until at the first of last year there were about 55,000, and at present there are 50,000 or less.

The cost of bringing the Chinese was about \$3 per head. They came for terms of three years, with a possible extension to six years, but no longer; and they were to be paid at the start \$5 a month. It was provided that they were to live in compounds, or walled yards, during their stay in South Africa, and that no one could employ them except under license.

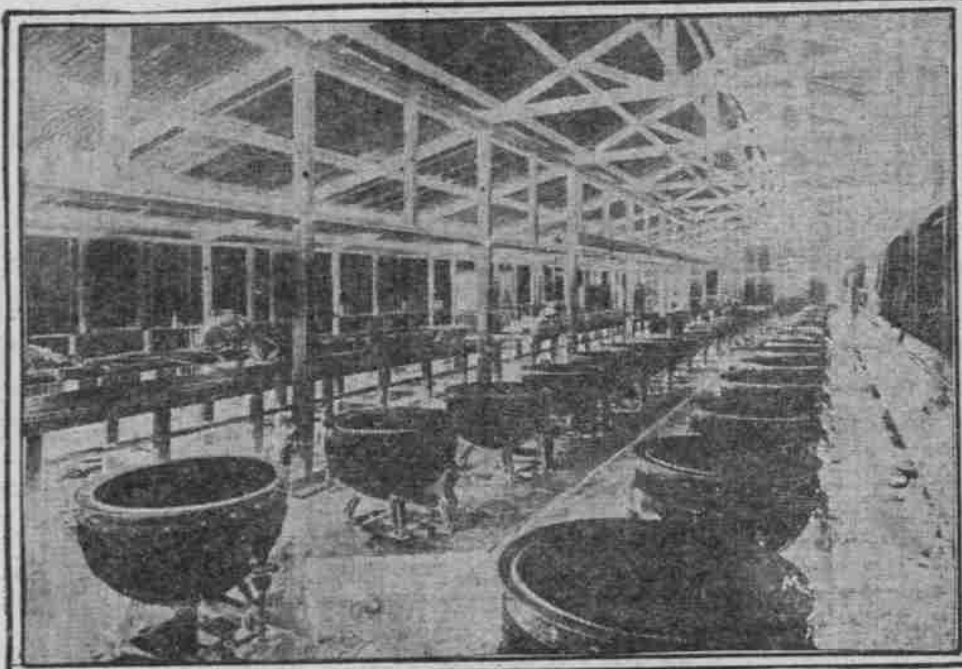
The most of them came from North China, and more than half were shipped from Tien-Tsin. They were brought in on a contract between the British and Chinese governments, and they were all scrubbed, vaccinated and photographed and medically examined before leaving. They got two months' pay at the start, and they were all cared for that very few died on the way. It was a part of the agreement that they were to be carried back home, and the Transvaal was assured that the Chinese would not be allowed to obtain a foothold in the land.

### With the Chinese Miners.

During my stay here I have gone through the mines and watched these Chinese at work. They are far more industrious than the negroes and form a much better labor supply. While going through the underground workings of the Simmer and Jack, the greatest producing mine of South Africa, I was



CHINESE WITH WHITE OVERSEER



I WENT INTO THE KITCHEN.

told by Mr. Seagraves, the manager, that the Chinese will do at least one-third more work than the native Africans. Said he:

"We have increased our output that much with 10 per cent less men, than when we worked negroes only. It is only a few years since that we had 5000 native Africans. We have now 400 Chinese to take their places and our product is one-third greater and the work more satisfactory. The Chinese are more easily handled and are more reliable."

Speaking of the teachability of the Chinese as we watched them drilling the holes for blasting and loading the ore Mr. Seagraves said:

"Those men came to us green. Their homes are not far from the Chinese wall, and they probably never heard of dynamite until they reached here. Notwithstanding that they were doing efficient work within two months after their arrival, and at the end of six months they were equal to our best white miners at home. To give you an idea of their reliability in comparison with our ordinary labor supply we had to have white overseers who every negro strike and we have them still. The Chinese could get along by themselves. I have something like 60 white men employed in these underground workings and I could, if necessary, dismiss them all."

### Do Not Like Native Miners.

"How will you get along without the Chinese?" I asked.

"I really do not know," was the reply. "You see, it takes some time to teach the native how to work, and he will not contrast for more than a few months. Half of his term is spent in learning, and as soon as we have made him thoroughly efficient he wants to leave. The negroes here will not work more than one-third of the year, and we cannot be sure of more than three or four months from any of them. The Chinese works right along year in and year out. The native when he has four months' wages ahead, like as not, goes home and buys a wife, and we see him no more. It would take 150,000 or 200,000 negroes, supposing each man worked only four months, to equal the steady

work of the Chinese, who are now to be shipped back home."

### In the Chinese Compounds.

During my visit to the various mines I have gone through many of the Chinese compounds and have watched the men both at work and at play. They are healthy looking fellows, taller and more muscular than the Chinese of the United States, and, as a rule, better citizens. The compounds are walled inclosures, entered only through turnstiles, so that every man who comes in or goes out leaves a record. Each Chinaman has his number, and this is taken when he comes in. He is paid by his number, and by it he gets his food and supplies. In fact, the 4000-odd Celestials in the Simmer and Jack mine are not known to their employers by name. Each individual is only a number. He may have been Wun Lung before he came in, but now he is 1535 or something like that. It is by these that he gets his bed, his clothes, and, strange for a Chinese, his bath.

### In the Bathrooms.

I understand that many of these Celestials never had a bath until they were shipped naked and scoured at Tien-Tsin before they took ship for South Africa. Since then they have enjoyed this luxury regularly, and they now wash themselves quite as much as the whites. The bathrooms of the Simmer and Jack must cover about a quarter of an acre. It is filled with great tubs and vats, and during my visit to it I saw at least 50 of these yellow-skinned men splashing about in the water.

I then went on to the kitchen, where hundreds of great kettles of steaming beef stew were ready for distribution. Each kettle contained about as much as a soldier's ration, and the aroma was appetizing. There were also great pots of rice and vegetables, the whole comprising the rations for about 600 men. As I looked the Chinese came in to get their food. They marched in in regular order, each being known by his number. I saw many of them eating and observed that they used knives and forks, and that they would eat with nothing but chop-sticks. Now many are adopting Western clothes and Western ways. The rations allowed each man are one and one-half pounds of rice, one pound of meat, one pound of white bread and one-half pound of vegetables per day. They drink a great deal of tea, and the managers supply them with all the lime juice they will consume.

The men sleep in bunks, in rooms about 40 feet square and 20 feet high, with nothing but a zinc roof overhead. Such a room is supposed to accommodate 60 Chinese, although it has seldom more than 45.

### Daily Life of a Chinese Miner.

The daily life of one of these Chinese may interest you. He wakes about 4 o'clock in the morning at the sound of the bugle, and takes his place in a gang of 30, which is in charge of a boss boy,



DOWN IN THE MINES



A HOLIDAY GROUP IN THE COMPOUND

out gang by gang. The roll is then called and it is ascertained just exactly what coolies are working, and the reason for the absence of those who are not in the gang. Then the boss boy blows again and the Chinese move off to the shafts and go down underground. Each takes a half loaf of white bread along for his luncheon at midday.

As to the time the men stay in the mine this depends on their skill and on the jobs on which they are working. If on piecework they can depart when they have done a certain amount. For instance, the hammer boys, who drill holes for the blasting, are supposed to make one cent per inch for all above that rate in three or four hours, they are at liberty to return to the surface, or they can stay and work on at the rate of one cent per inch for all above that rate. The most ever made by any one in a day is 75 inches, and one of the Chinese gangs here has an average of 54 inches

per man, which means that they make about 55 cents per day in addition to their board and lodging. As a rule the men work on until 5 o'clock, when they march back to the compound for dinner, thus closing the day.

### The New Labor Supply.

The question as to how the loss of the Chinese is to be repaired is discussed everywhere in the Transvaal. At present there are in the mines about 35,000 whites, 60,000 natives and in the neighborhood of 50,000 Chinese. The number of mining companies employing Chinese is over 20, and these companies produced in 1907 more than \$20,000,000 worth of gold. They paid out in wages and salaries something like \$5,000,000, and in addition considerable in the way of food supplies and other stores. Their dividends were between \$7,000,000 and \$8,000,000.

When the Chinese have gone it is supposed that their places will have been

filled by natives. There is a great prejudice here against the Hindu, and it is hardly probable that he will be imported. As to the negro labor supply, a large part of that now in the mines is from Portuguese East Africa. It was brought here by contractors, who pay the Portuguese government \$1.25 per head and agree to give the natives good wages and good treatment. Indeed, it is said that before the Chinese came more than 80 per cent of the colored labor was brought in from outside the Transvaal.

On my way down the Coast I met the agent of a labor organization who had been drumming British Central Africa for labor. He had contracted for a large number of negroes of various tribes, whom he marched down to the port of Chinde and there loaded them on the steamers. Central Africa is not thickly populated, but I am told here that about 10,000 natives can be annually brought from there to the Rand if the proper inducements are offered. At present the wages in that part of the world are about 3 or 4 cents a day, so that the 10 cents or a dollar paid in the mines seems rich.

### Men From Rhodesia.

Another possible source of labor is Rhodesia. There are now many negroes from Basutoland and Bechuanaland here. During my stay in Rhodesia I was told that the negroes of that country make fairly good workmen, and that if rightly superintended they will form an efficient labor supply. They more brought, but they work steadily and do not "blow on the job." The ordinary working day is about 11 hours long, and the wages in the mines here is \$10 per month, including the cost of food. On railroad construction ordinary workmen are paid \$3 a month, and receive their food in addition. The extension of the Cape to Cairo railroad is being constructed with native labor, and I am told that these negroes can lay track almost as fast as the best track-laying machines of the United States when manipulated by our white labor. During the last stretch of the railroad which ends at Broken Hill they laid 5 1/2 miles in 11 hours and on the average they laid more than a mile of track per day for something like 400 miles. In this work the rails and steel ties were brought along on the cars as took the rails from the cars and carried them to the ties. About 15 men were required to each rail, and the amount of carted material was about 100,000 tons of light to dark. I doubt not they could do equally well in the mines. Johannesburg, South Africa.

who leads them into the dining hall for breakfast. He sits under the electric light, sitting at a table. At the close of the meal a bugle again sounds and the men march

## How Disease Germs Spread and Are Killed

Some Simple Directions for Protection Exposed Persons From Contact With Deadly Bacilli.

BY CHARLES WILLIAMS, M. D.

THE demonstration of the germs as being the causative agent in many of the ailments to which the human family is subject, has enabled scientists to provide means of protection in most instances.

These measures are grouped under the head of prophylaxis, and include quarantine, vaccination for smallpox, antitoxin injections for diphtheria, disinfection and other protective measures. All have witnessed the growth of the yeast plant in starch. Under favorable conditions, with a proper amount of heat and moisture, the yeast plants rapidly increase in numbers and general manifestations until they reach a maximum, after which evidences of their existence become fewer and fainter, and they rapidly die in the very substances their own existence has produced.

Several germs by their growth produce a substance that limits their time of activity. These substances, because of their opposition to germ life, are called antitoxins. They manifest themselves in typhoid fever, measles, smallpox, diphtheria and other diseases, by inhibiting the germ activity after a definite period, and thus terminating the disease. Unfortunately this is not true of the bacillus tuberculosis in the human body.

The object of the quarantine is generally accomplished when the infected person is isolated and precautions taken to destroy the germs thrown off by him. In yellow fever and malaria, where the mosquito is the carrier, it is necessary to screen the infected person from becoming infected by biting them, and in turn infecting others by a second bite. Like measures are taken for protection against the bubonic plague where the flea is the intermediate host of the germ. The flea is assisted in his migration by the rat, who may himself be infected, or may be only a carrier for the flea that may have become infected by biting another infected rat or person.

Vaccination and diphtheritic anti-toxin need no defense. Disinfection in practical terms means nothing more than killing the germs. How easiest to kill them depends on where they are found. Those on walls, furniture and other things not washable are easiest killed by formaldehyde vapors. All surfaces of articles to be disinfected should be freely exposed in a tightly-closed room. One-half pint of a solution of formaldehyde is sufficient for a room 10x10x8, or 800 cubic feet; for larger rooms use a proportionate amount. The solution should

be placed in a pan on a hot stove or over an alcohol lamp, and the room left closed for at least six hours. For persons afraid of the fire, one-fourth the weight of permanganate of potash may be added to the solution of formaldehyde. It will be necessary to make a rapid exit as the gas is liberated very rapidly. Clothing and other articles that can be boiled should be boiled at least 15 minutes.

For the hands, body and floors, a solution of bichloride of mercury 1 to 7 grains to the pint, or carbolic acid one teaspoonful to the pint, should be used freely and vigorously as a wash. Solutions of mercury will corrode metals. They should be used in granite ware, earthen or glass containers. Three-fourths of the streptococcal infections commonly known as blood poison might be prevented if scratches and abrasions were well cleansed with the carbolic solution and a cloth wet with the same, bound on the injury shortly after the accident.

Let us for a few minutes consider whether it is worth while to attempt to apply some scientific facts to some everyday horrors. With a single germ the Death Angel slays, in the United States alone, each year 150,000. That germ is the tubercle bacillus, and the result of its invasion is named consumption, or tuberculosis. The bacillus of tuberculosis is a red-shaped germ, about 1-1/4,000 of an inch in length and very slender. They are so small that if they were cows and the head of a pin the pasture, a thousand of them might have abundant range. A dozen might ride on a small particle of dust that we so indifferently inhale. An infected person may at a single expectoration throw off millions. A careful estimate for an ordinary advanced case places the number of bacilli at 1,000,000 daily. These bacilli are colorless and invisible even with a microscope unless stained. They are very difficult to stain and only visible with the higher power lenses.

The breath of a tubercular person carries but few if any bacilli, but the small particles of sputum that are thrown out in coughing are often full of them. They are further scattered by drying and moving about on particles of dust. When inhaled, they frequently find conditions favorable for their growth, and manifest their success by marking another victim for the great white plague.

Fortunately for most persons, those white blood corpuscles that are designated as phagocytes destroy the germs that gain entrance into the lungs. Since post-mortem examinations have become more common, it has been proven that many cases with a former

pulmonary tubercular infection bear no evidence of the invader.

There are tubercular infections of many other parts of the body, but for the present purpose they do not need mention.

The whole world was horrified at the great loss of life during the Civil War; yet the annual death loss to both the Confederate and Union Armies was not equal to the present annual death loss to the great white plague.

All that is done in most cases to prevent its horrid repetition is to pin on a piece of crape and fearfully wait the next victim.

The loss in the United States in earnings and by expense for caring for the sick of tuberculosis reaches the enormous total of \$1,250,000,000 annually. It would take the total wages of an army of 125,000 teachers at \$600 per year to pay 6 per cent interest on the death loss for a single year.

No estimate is possible of the sorrow, and the social loss caused by the great white plague.

In spite of the enormous loss not 1 cent has been expended by Congress to exterminate the cause. Millions have been spent fighting potato blight, beetles, tuberculosis in cattle, cotton weevil, and hog cholera, but to save annually 150,000 lives, not 1 cent.

An organization of some of the ablest persons in the United States known as the Committee of One Hundred, with headquarters in New York, are doing much to secure influence and legislation for a National Department of Public Health for the proper supervision of all diseases. To get rid of thistles we only need to get rid of the seed and their source of supply. To get rid of tuberculosis, we need only to provide suitable sanatoria for the care of the infected and destroy the germs from the same. Such an expenditure by the United States Government would save more to the people for the amount invested than any appropriation save that for quarantine. With the Department of Public Health given prominent mention in the platform of both parties, let us hope that the time is not far distant when the annual death loss to the great white plague of 150,000 lives shall be a matter of history. Let us hope for the time and batten the day when the air we breathe in the school and church and theater shall be

free, from this most destructive of germs, the most powerful ally of death. M'Minnville, Or.

### A Pair of Sheets.

Every good housewife is interested in the care of sheets and many of them will like to hear a few suggestions made by an economical and clever woman.

She says: "I never have my sheets made with a small hem on one end. There is always a three-inch hem on both ends—so there is not top or bottom—and the sheets were just twice as long as they otherwise would. It is not difficult to do, for I always have my sheets made in the home by a seamstress, so they will be the right size. And, speaking of size, do you know what to do when ready-made linen sheets are too short for the bed? I have a trick. Of course I did not, so she told me that a false hem might be added, and either fagoted or hemstitched to the one already on the sheet. In this way the sheet could be easily made as long as desired and the embroidery only added to the beauty of the sheet.

This is certainly very useful information, for many a mother has a tall boy who is constantly complaining that the sheets are too short. The addition of the false hem is quickly done and the extra material required does not form a very large item in the family expense account.

### Diems of the Directoire.

Chicago Evening Post. Bring me my new felt hat, mamma, for I want to put it on— It is wider than the widest hats we wore in years ago. It is three feet wide and the brim is thick and it has lots of weight, and And it makes me wear three heads of hair just to keep it sitting straight.

My shoes? Ah, yes, I have put them on, and the heels are tender and high. And they press against my feet till they hurt. For I wear them so as I come and go and I force a pleasant smile. For one has to be in style, mamma, and has to be in style.

And how my directoire gown, mamma; I've managed to do my stay; You will have to slip me into it, for my arms cannot raise. And I'm wifely so as I come and go, and I force a pleasant smile. For one has to be in style, mamma, and has to be in style.

And now I go for a little stroll, and I go to make a call— And I shall not sit upon a chair, but shall lean against the wall. For I can't sit down in my nice new gown, for I know that if I do so, I'll be certain to break in two, mamma, I'll certainly break in two!

The answer to the question: "Are we a beef-eating nation?" is given in the fact that Swift & Co. of Chicago, in 1907, sold 2,000,000,000, and others \$250,000,000, bringing the total to \$770,000,000 for beef alone.