

WHY WAS COUNT BONI'S MARRIAGE TIES ANNULLED?

Reversal of Former Opinion Denying Decree Brings Speculation as to New China's Influence at Rome.

(United Press Leased Wire.) Rome, April 12.—The question just now most agitating the "black" circles of Rome is whether or not it was the friendship of the new president of China for Count Boni di Castellane that resulted in the recent decision of the Rota Tribunal that Castellane's marriage with Anna Gould, now the Duchess of Tallyrand, was invalid.

Just a year ago, the Rota, which is the great international tribunal of the Vatican, decided that the marriage was valid. Count Boni had contended that when Miss Gould accepted the Catholic religion as condition of her marriage with him, she made the mental reservation—and expressed it openly—that if the marriage did not suit her she would divorce him, notwithstanding the Catholic church does not countenance divorce. The Rota, however, in its first decision held that there was not sufficient evidence to show this alleged lack of full consent to the marriage on the part of Miss Gould, and upheld the marriage.

They Found a Way. As is the right in such cases, Count Boni at once provoked a rehearing of the case by the same tribunal. There then went the record of Rome the story of how the count hoped to get a reversal of the case. While no one ever thinks of impugning the integrity of the judges of the Rota yet even the most ardent "black" adherents at Rome who have had cause to be disappointed in the Rota's decision have found ways of enabling the judges to see matters a little more clearly than had at first been the case.

In the present instance, therefore, it is asserted that the Chinese high ecclesiastics and dignitaries at Rome that Count Boni had been an intimate friend of the new president of the Chinese republic when the latter was a student at Paris. It has also been known for a long time that China is one of the coveted missionary fields for the Catholic church, as it is also for the various Protestant sects. Naturally, it was the desire of the Vatican to secure as favorable conditions for its missionary work in China as possible, and it is declared to have been known at Rome that Count Boni would be very glad to lend his best efforts to this end and by means of his friendship for the new Chinese president, if the Rota Tribunal should happen to be convinced by the additional testimony which he intended to offer that Miss Gould accepted the Catholic religion merely as form, and with no intention that its provisions regarding matrimony should be binding on her.

Decision is Reversed. While this was and is the story at Rome, as a matter of fact the only thing actually known is that Count Boni produced additional witnesses who testified to declarations on the part of Miss Gould, made shortly after her marriage, that she would divorce Count Boni if the marriage was not happy. The evidence, evidently, was convincing, and the Rota reversed its former decision.

In such cases it is necessary for the tribunal to again rehear the case, and this third decision, whether in favor or against, is final. Unfortunately, it takes all of the year for the Rota to arrive at a decision, and that particular portion of the "black" aristocracy which takes seriously to the Boni Chinese influence theory is declared to be earnestly advising the former to devote his entire time during the coming year to preventing any serious political disturbance in China that might possibly remove his president friend from power.

PARISIAN DANDY IS AMERICAN ENTHUSIAST

(By the International News Service.) Paris, April 12.—A new service from the Paris Beau Brummel, speaking of his American visit, said:

"America is simply prodigious; every Frenchman should visit it. They say it is a country of business; I say it is a land of achievement. The adjective for them all is prodigious. Not excellent but prodigious, should be on the American banner. All the men there who amount to anything are kings of something."

"I have met kings of commerce and industry; have been the guest at a military review; had most flattering receptions in the universities. The adjective for them all is prodigious. Not excellent but prodigious, should be on the American banner. All the men there who amount to anything are kings of something."

"I ask myself if this is the reincarnation of the dead royalties of old Europe. Do the Bourbons and Stuarts live again in the kings of cotton and corn? Every man you meet in American society is president of this, that or the other trust; they beat even the number of colonels."

SOLDIER-SERVANTS ARE "NEWEST" IN AUSTRIA

(By the International News Service.) Vienna, April 12.—A new service manual for Austrian soldiers who act as servants to officers has just been issued, written "by one of us who has had long years of experience." It is laid down that a soldier-servant must know a housemaid's duties thoroughly and also have a complete knowledge of valeting. He must know how to wait on table and be an expert at opening champagne bottles. He must also have practice in washing dogs and cleaning out bird cages. These are his duties in times of peace.

When on campaign or at maneuver time he must, on arriving at a strange place, immediately forage for suitable furniture for the officers' quarters. He should then close the windows and kill all the mosquitoes, fleas and other vermin, and scatter insect powder on the floor. Such, says the *Arbeiter Zeitung*, are the duties of the brave defenders of our hearts and homes.

REPORT THREE CASES OF SELF-IMMOLATION

(By the International News Service.) Calcutta, April 12.—Three cases of "suttee"—self immolation of a faithful Hindu wife after the death of her husband, have occurred here recently. In one case a woman threw herself on the funeral pyre of her husband and was seriously burned. Two other women both saturated their clothes with oil and set fire to themselves, with fatal results. The practice of "suttee" is forbidden by the British government.

LIFE CAREER REACHES TO EARLY FORMATIVE PERIOD



P. X. Matthieu, hale and hearty at 95 years, who recalls his active part in movement that resulted in Oregon becoming a part of the United States.

By Fred Lockley.

Twenty-two years ago Ernest Hofer, then editor of the Salem Capital Journal, said to me, "There is a very interesting old man near Champeong by the name of E. X. Matthieu. The first time you are in Champeong I wish you could see him and get an interview for the paper, as he is a pretty old man now and might not live much longer."

At that time I was making trips on horseback all over the valley and coast counties taking subscriptions for the Capital Journal and writing up the various districts visited. I purposely arrived at Mr. Matthieu's house about dusk and asked if I could stay all night. Mr. Matthieu gave me a hearty welcome. After supper we sat in front of the fireplace and, prompted by an occasional question, Mr. Matthieu told me of his early life and of his early experiences on French Prairie.

On the occasion of his ninety-fifth birthday, recently, I visited Mr. Matthieu again at the home of his daughter in Portland, with whom he is living.

Many years ago Mr. Matthieu became snowblind. This resulted in the permanent injury of one of his eyes, but aside from this, he is as alert, as interested in what is going on, as ready to crack a joke as he was when I visited him 22 years ago, and I hope to be privileged to congratulate him on his hundredth birthday.

"I was born in Montreal," said Mr. Matthieu, "at a little place called Terrebonne. That means 'good land.' My people were from France, my father coming from Normandy, while my mother was born in Brittany. The year 1818 is a long while ago, but that was the year I was born. In the days when I was young England did not treat the French residents of Canada fairly. There was not justice. My school teacher was a great man to study the governments of different countries. He liked the government of the United States best of all. He told us that in the United States there was a free gov-

ernment and that French and English were treated with equal justice. That gave me a great liking for this country. "When I was a young man I joined the Sons of Liberty. The government learned of our organization and arrested the prime movers. They hung some of the young men of our organization in the public square as an example. They had me on the list, also, but I got away. I went to my home and hid."

"While at home, I met a Scotchman named Dr. Fraser. He had a nephew named Dr. McLoughlin. He advised me to go to the United States. I went to Albany, N. Y. From there I went to different places and in the fall of 1839 I was in St. Louis. In those days St. Louis was the outfitting point for the fur traders. Most of the officers of the American Fur company were French people so I was able to get a job with them. They sent me out to Fort Pierre. That was out on the Missouri river. In those days there were many Sioux Indians in that country. I learned to speak their language. I spent the winter of 1839 and the spring of 1840 there and next spring went back with the furs to St. Louis."

"Preferring to work for myself I outfit as a free trader. I went out to the Arkansas river country near Bent's Fort. In 1842 I was at Fort Laramie. This was in the spring. A party of emigrants came there who were bound for Oregon. Captain Hastings was in charge of the party and a man named Pitpatrick, who had been in this country for a long time and had been guide for Wyeth, was acting as their guide. Some of my friends and myself, after talking to Pitpatrick, decided to join the party. We stayed with the emigrants until they reached Fort Hall. They traveled very slowly, so we decided to go ahead. We went on with the Hudson's Bay company express, crossing the Blue mountains and following the Lemhi valley down to the lowlands. We went to Walla Walla mission. We stayed there for perhaps two weeks waiting for the rest of the emigrants to catch up with us. I got well acquainted with Dr. Whitman. He was a good man and I liked him. He made us welcome. He was very generous."

Arrived in Oregon.

"When I reached Oregon City, I heard from the Hudson's Bay men that there was a big settlement of my people on French Prairie so I went up there. There was an old man living there by the name of Etienne Lucier. He was about 60 years old. He had been in this country for a long while. I stayed with him all winter. We had many discussions about the government. He told me that the Americans would probably control the country south of the Columbia river. He was afraid they would tax him heavily because he was French. I told him what my old teacher had told me. That this was the land of freedom and that all would be treated alike. I told him about how the English had treated us at Montreal and that rather than have England get control of this country I would do everything possible to help the United States get it."

"I got work with the Hudson's Bay company. This company paid the Russian government 15,000 bushels of wheat a year for the privilege of trading with the Indians in Alaska and also for allowing their men to trap around Sitka and that territory. Most of the French settlers there raised some wheat. There was Joseph Gervais, Andre La Chappelle, Etienne Gregoire, Michael La Framboise, Baptiste Desguire and many others."

"Wheat was worth 75 cents a bushel. They gave me a bushel of wheat a day for my work. In those days we always took our pay in wheat. Furs or wheat were the same as money then. There was very little money in the country."

I remember going to Oregon City once to get some goods. I went to Douglas and he said my credit was exhausted. Then I went to McLoughlin and he told me that he would give me credit and I could pay him later. He sent me to his son, who was in the store room. His son invited me into the trading room. This was a great honor. Usually he handed things out over the counter, but I had met this young man in Canada and I knew his father's uncle, so he treated me very fine. Dr. McLoughlin understood handling trade much better than the Americans. The Americans did not know how to handle Indians at all. Dr. McLoughlin would only let a few come in at a time and he was always perfectly just—never easy-going. Indians must keep their part of the bargain and he would keep his."

"Dr. McLoughlin's son said to me, 'What do you want?' I told him I wanted a coat, a pair of shoes and some socks. All of the coats were too big for me. I am not a big man. I wear a No. 8 shoe, but all of the middling sized shoes were sold—all they had left were some that were too small and the next size was No. 12. He told me they were too big—I could not wear them."

"I said, 'I am almost barefoot. I don't care if they are No. 24. I will wear them somehow.' In those days they had a sort of a winter stocking. They came up above your knee and were very thick, so I bought some of these and put on. I wanted socks, but Dr. McLoughlin's son laughed and told me these would be just the thing. 'When you wear a hole in the toe you can cut it off, sew it up and keep cutting it off as it wears out until it is the regular size of a sock.' It was true, too, for those socks lasted me nearly a year."

The Champeong Meeting.

"The Americans held two or three meetings about the government but in May of 1843 they called a meeting to discuss bounties on wolves. This was at Champeong. Champeong used to be the head of navigation. There was very little in those days, of going further up the river."

"When the question of different government came up the French-Canadians didn't know just what to do. They looked to Dr. McLoughlin for protection for most of them had worked for the Hudson's Bay company and knew and trusted Dr. McLoughlin. There was lots of talk but there seemed to be two or three different parties. Some wanted to have American government. Some wanted to let it stay as it was and some didn't think they should cut themselves off from the protection of Dr. McLoughlin."

"A man named W. H. Gray was one that was anxious to have the new government. He made a talk about it and then talked to different ones and wanted to have us decide for the American government. Finally Joe Meek said, 'All in favor of organization come to the right.' The group began separating and pretty soon there were 50 men, counting Joe Meek, with him, and there were 50 who hadn't taken action. Before the count could be made, however, said to the other French-Canadians with me, 'I know the English government. You say they will give us a section of land. I wouldn't be under the English government if they gave me 10 sections of land. I am going with the Americans.' Lucier said, 'I will go with you, so he and I stepped over where Joe Meek and the others were standing. That made 52 for organization to 50 against it, so they organized an American government. They apportioned me justice of the peace of Champeong."

"I worked on French Prairie, making wagons and doing other work. In 1846 I got married. I took up a section of land a mile from the butte there. I married Rose, the daughter of Louis

Gaunt. Her father was one of the best trappers the Hudson's Bay company had. In 1849 I went to California to mine, but I didn't like that, so I came back. I like to talk about the old times. Most of those men like Whitman, and Abernathy and Gray and all those others you read about I knew well, but best of all, I knew and liked Dr. McLoughlin. He was a fine man, though he was not treated fairly. Or all the people at the wolf meeting in 1843, I am the only one now alive."

WOMAN KILLS GIRL IN QUARREL OVER DEBT

(By the International News Service.) Paris, April 12.—A railway employee named Emile Roumau, going home for his midday meal, found his 13-year-old daughter shot dead. The child's stepmother and the latter's 19-year-old daughter had disappeared carrying off Roumau's savings. The woman left behind the following confession: Roumau, I have killed your daughter. As there is no more happiness possible for me, I am going to kill myself, but I beseech you to repay to my daughter what you owe her."

Roumau married the woman, then a widow of about 18 months, but they had quarreled about money matters. The woman recently bought a revolver and told her husband she would use it unless he repaid to her daughter some money which she declared he owed her.

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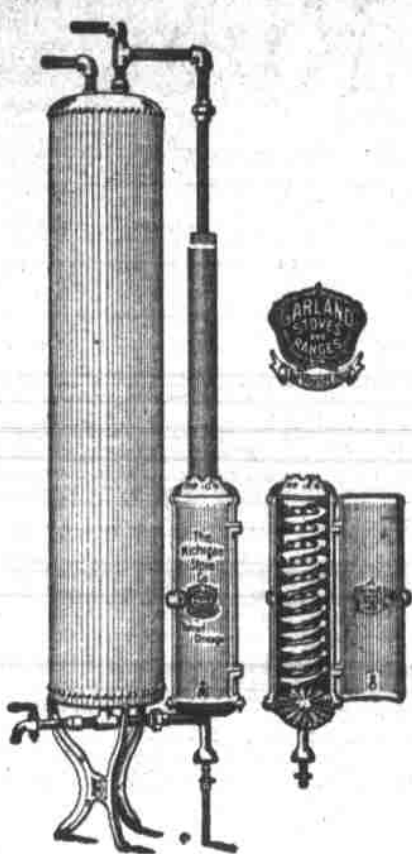
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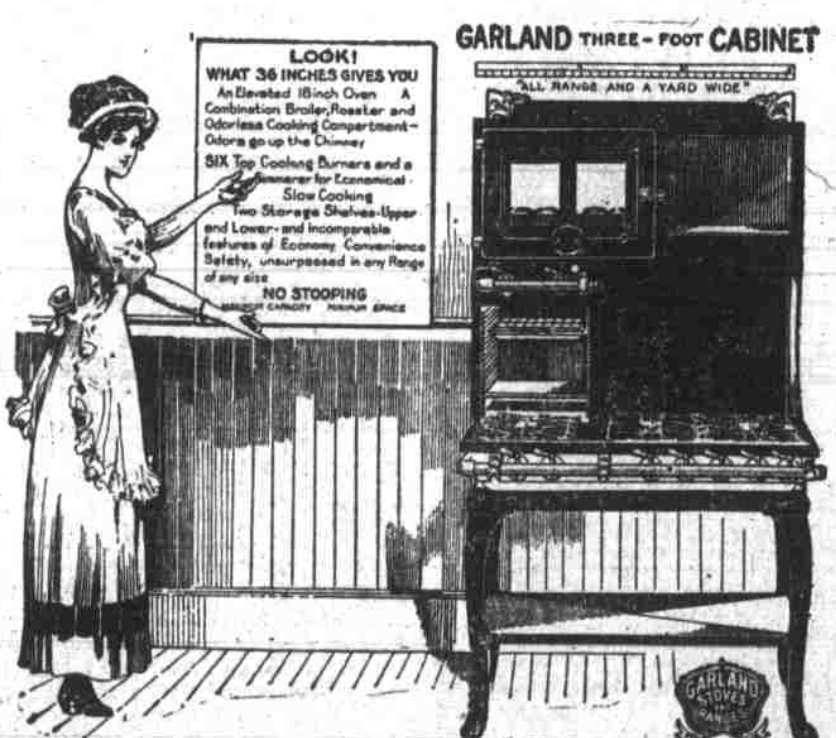
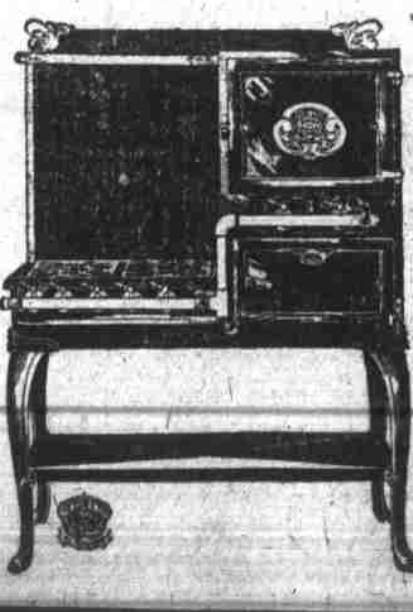
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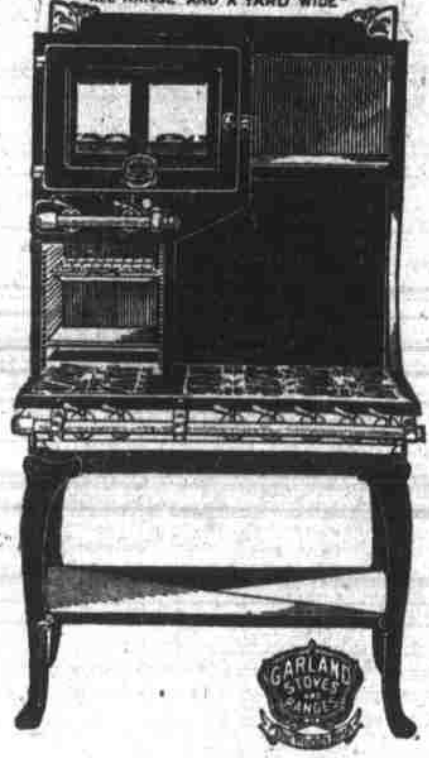
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