

Here's a Merry Group of Bathers Enjoying a Refreshing Dip in Breakers on Oregon Beach



AMERICA'S CHANCES IN CHINA TOPIC OF AN INTERESTING BOOK

Commercial Pendulum Is Swinging Toward the Orient, Declares the Writer.

MINERAL WEALTH SHOWN

American Business Men Urged to First Master the Chinese Language and History.

American business men will find much valuable data on conditions in China by reading Paul Myron's new book, "Our Chinese Chances Through Europe's War." The author writes from personal observations gained on three trips to the celestial nation. He points out American business chiefs to be awakened to the great trade possibilities of this part of the Orient and gives pertinent suggestions on the best means of capturing this trade.

China is not a self-contained nation, according to the writer. The popular belief that her people are content to go on and on wholly dependent on their own native resources is a misconception of the real facts, he asserts. It is pointed out that nature's barriers of mountains, high mountains, and a "great influence in walling" up the great empire. Advent of modern means of transportation on the Pacific ocean has broken down these barriers and facilities within the confines of the country itself have brought on new conditions. The time is now ripe for trade and commerce.

China is not overpopulated, it is said. Hundreds of thousands of acres of land are lying idle because of the lack of sufficient means of handling the products. Special emphasis is made of the mineral wealth of the land. Untold millions of tons of iron and coal are said to be available. American capital is needed to develop these natural resources.

The author discusses at length social customs and personal traits of the Chinese. He predicts that the custom of secondary marriages will be done away with in the near future. He declares, will see a similar fate.

The Chinese are said to be good business men and their regard for the family tradition is remarkable. The Great Wall of Peace—the barrier of brick and stone erected long ago to keep the invading hordes—has been abandoned. This wall served its purpose. It was a substitute for a large and costly standing army, the author says.

Canadians Showing Interest in Novels

Novels which promise to be popular in Canada this winter are Mary Johnston's "The Fortunes of Garin," Sam Houston's "The Sunday Morning Grouch," Kate Douglas Wiggin's "Penelope's Postscript," and William MacLeod Rains' "Steve Yeager." For all of which the publisher, Lineberger Brothers, Chicago, has received substantial orders.

Reviewer Reviews Himself

Book Tarlington, whose new novel "The Turmoil" was reported by "The Bookman" four successive months as the best selling novel in the United States, had been reading some of the notices of "The Turmoil" when he said: "My feeling about reviews is that a reviewer reviews himself as well as the book he is estimating. Most reviewers seem to me to reveal more of the reviewer than of the book." And the great majority of the notices of "The Turmoil" were good.

Ford Taking Week Ends

James L. Ford, whose recently published novel, "The Great Mirage," good naturedly punctured the mythical "New York of the Sunday Supplement," is spending the summer at a cottage colony on Long Island. He is reversing the usual custom of the country into the city, so as to keep in touch with his editorial responsibilities.

Lawyer and Novelist

Maarten Maartens, whose novel "My Lady Nobody" gave to English readers a charming Dutch heroine, died this week in Zeist, Holland. His profession was the law and his real name was J. M. W. Van de Poorten-Schwartz. After writing "My Lady Nobody," which is still widely read, and other novels he came to this country in 1907 and spoke at the National Arbitration and Peace congress in New York.

New Books Announced

Harper & Brothers announce that within a month they will bring out, in addition to two volumes of fiction, the following books: "The Story of a P. S. Planet," by Elizabeth Jordan; "The Laughing Muse," by Arthur Guiterman; "Mark Tidd in Business," by Clarence B. Kelland.

POPULATION AND ITS RELATION TO SUPPLY OF FOOD IS THEME

Present Standard of Living Must Be Simplified or Rate of Increase Lowered.

FRANCE IS AN EXCEPTION

Population in That Republic Has Been Kept Well Within Means of Subsistence.

"Population: A Study in Malthusianism," by Warren S. Thompson, is a monograph in a series of studies in history, economics and public law, issued by Columbia University, New York city, and edited by the faculty of political science. It is the work of an instructor in the department of sociology of the University of Michigan, and is based on elaborate statistical studies of the leading nations of western Europe and the United States, with occasional references to Russia and the Argentine Republic. The appendices are elaborate and valuable and buttress the text.

The Malthusian doctrine, the author insists, too often has been stated in the original and not the final terms of its original author. In this monograph it is interpreted to be this: "Although at any normal time there is food enough to keep alive all members of the population, yet it is only actual pressure upon subsistence (operating in certain portions of the population) or fear of pressure (which subsistence would furnish) which causes population from multiplying more rapidly than it does."

Exception Made, for France. Contrary to some, but not a majority of, economists, the author, in discussing the validity of Malthusian theory, the author assents to it. He claims that with the exception of France, population does not increase with food supply. Population, he says, "cannot continue to increase at the present rate without being subjected to a really progressive population, providing the distribution of labor between agricultural and non-agricultural industries continues in its present proportions. Nor could a greater proportion of the population be devoted to agriculture and the present rate of increase continue without making a progressive standard of living. Either our present standard of living must be simplified as an increasing proportion of the population becomes rural or the present rate of increase must become lowered." Probably both must take place in order to have a really progressive population. To simplify standards of living does not necessarily mean a lowering of them. It means rather that a good many of the things of our civilization which we consider essential today may be found to be passing phases, induced by our rapid industrial development.

Countries Are Compared. In the United States, Great Britain and Germany, wages measured in terms of food are lower than in France. France is the only country where wages have kept ahead of prices since 1890, a fact due, in Professor Thompson's opinion, to the fact that population there has been kept well within the means of subsistence. In the United States, some of the increasing disparity between subsistence and population is probably due to immigration from foreign countries at a rate which counts adversely against traditional standards of living.

In this latter opinion the university economist agrees with organized labor in the United States in its support of immigration restriction.

Longmans, Green & Co., New York; P. S. King & Son, Ltd., London. \$1.75.

Knife Declared to Be Best Weapon

Today the defense stands pat on earthworks, wire and machine guns. The attack has tried gas, petrol, bayonets, siege artillery, tanks, armoured cars, grenades and mines, and has come out, generally speaking, second best. French mortars have not developed the requisite accuracy for the most effective destructive power. High explosive shells in sufficient quantities have accomplished the best offensive work, and the infantry is depending more and more on short-barreled trench knives, which is the best for work underground or in the dark. To sum up: killing the defenders of a position is the best weapon which should be developed.—The New Republic.

Double Barreled Story

Zane Grey's new novel, "The Rainbow Trail," which the Harpers published August 12, is what Mark Twain would call a double-barreled story. It is a story of adventure in the great southwest for those who may or may not have read Zane Grey before, and it also contains the outcome of the incidents on which the "Purple Sage," notably the ultimate fate of Lassiter. Some of the stirring parts of "The Rainbow Trail" are in the subject of the country which Zane Grey has been banished. He was notified, he says, in the most direct manner that there was a price on his head because of the frankness of his writings.

Road Toward Peace Proves Good Seller

"The Road Toward Peace" by Dr. Charles W. Eliot has been so well received in England that the London publishers, Messrs. Constable & Co. have been obliged to increase their supply of copies.

HISTORY OF ETHICAL ADVANCE TREATED BY BOSTON INSTRUCTOR

Chantier Dealing With Moral Evolution of Ancient Tribes of Israel Interesting.

Philip Van Ness Myers, formerly professor of history and political economy in the University of Cincinnati, needs no introduction to readers who are students of history. His reputation as an historian, whose graceful and well rounded diction characterizes his earlier works, will be all that is needed to induce an interest in his latest book, "History as Past Ethics." The motto of this book, intimated in its title, is well portrayed by one sentence of the preface. "The book," says Professor Myers, "is the outgrowth of a conviction that the philosophy of ethics, if it shall become a stimulus and guide to social service and humanitarian effort—especially if it shall bring reinforcement to that ethical idealism which so largely motivates the present day movement for a world peace—must be based on a knowledge of the facts of the moral life of the race in all the various stages of the historic evolution, and that to gather and systematize these facts is the best weapon of the historian. Indeed the most important part of his task."

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WOULD BAR INSANITY PLEA

Pleas of Insanity Should Not Be Permitted to Go Before Juries in Criminal Trials, Declares Dr. Pearce Bailey; Question of Responsibility Could Be Settled After Main Issue is Determined.

Dr. Pearce Bailey argues in The New Republic that the plea of insanity should be barred as a defense in criminal trials, and juries should bring in a verdict merely on the facts. "No jury would send an insane man to his death. But with the death penalty abolished, and this is another argument for the abolition of it, juries might be counted on to find true verdicts, if they knew that some exemption by reason of insanity would be provided for later. The question of responsibility could be raised after the main issue had been settled, and would be best decided by the court, helped by a commission of three alienists—appointed by the court to advise its conscience.

THE AUDACIOUS WAR CREATES SENSATION

The European Journalist and author, Dr. E. J. Dillon, writing from Italy to C. W. Barron, says: "Your book 'The Audacious War' has created a tremendous sensation. I have had letters from people all over the world, who, not knowing that I know you, recommended me to read it. I have read notices of it in various languages. I have received numerous copies of it from several friends and acquaintances of mine in England. It is going to be translated into several languages. Has this been done yet? Please tell me whether this has been done yet as I should like to send copies of it in French and Italian, and if possible, in Russian."

WEATHER INDORSERD

The Alibi desires at this time to indorse the present weather, which as we go to bed only five months in the year. The weather, day in and day out, is more talked about than anything else except the neighbors.

TOWN TALES

The drought out at Oak Grove continued, and rain is still deferred. Jim Sawyer has given up the idea of an escalator for Bancroft and is looking for a job. Rev. Frank Gorman is anything but a Pantages star. You can never tell what will happen, if you have a voice. Look at Anna Held.

WEEKLY AIF ITEM

Air Cridge says he still continues to go through the motions of parting his hair on the left side because trained that way in boyhood, although the hair has fallen out of the part. AIF says that the atrocity called a music in movie shows has a purpose, and he knows what it is.

WELL WAITING, JOE

Joe Levinson promised to call us up whenever he gets an idea for this paper.

GUIDE BOOK SERVES PERTINENT NEED OF TOURIST IN GENERAL

"The Overland Route" Is Entertainingly Written; Tells Story of West.

"The Overland Route" is one of a series of four guide books covering four of the older railroad routes west of the Mississippi, issued this year by the specialists employed by the government for the benefit of 1915 tourists between eastern and interior centers of population and the Pacific coast. In short, it is the geological survey's contribution to the "seeing America first" campaign, the object being educational; and the method, as Director George Otis Smith says, being to enthrall the traveler by making more interesting what he sees from the car window." Messrs. Willis Lee, Ralph W. Stone, Hoyt S. Gale and other officials of the bureau, who have compiled the data, written and edited by a romanticist and a statistician collaborating. Years of pioneering work by civil engineers, geologists, geographers and other men in government service here, for the first time, have something like coordinated presentation for the benefit of a traveling public that now rides in palace cars over the prairie deserts, mountain ranges and bridged valleys once the abodes of races of aborigines and gigantic reptiles.

POEM

It is with regret, temporarily, that we are compelled to bring to a close "The Alibi" next Tuesday. Every lawyer will need one of the other parts of the "Alibi" series.

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SATURDAY EVE ALIBI. PORTLAND, OR., U. S. A., AUGUST 21, 1915. No. 23. This is NOT a Moving Picture. (It was before the censor board sat on it.)

SAT. EVE ALIBI. Rex Lampan, Ed. and Pub. Sub. Price, One Jitney. AUG. 21, 1915. EDITORIAL.

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