



ALL PHOTOS BY KENNEL-ELLIOTT SALEM, ORE.

SUIFU, CHINA NOTE FROM MISSIONARIES

Oriental Feasts Pictured in Letter Sent by Mr. and Mrs. Randle

An extremely interesting letter coming from Mr. and Mrs. L. H. Randle, missionaries in SuiFu, China, and addressed to Mrs. Randle's sister and brother-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Wayne D. Henry of Route 1, tells in detail of the importance of the feast as celebrated in China. Says Mr. Randle:

A Chinese Feast

Feasts in China are anything but unusual. Every wedding must have its feast. Even funerals and births must be celebrated in this way. Then there are a large number of national feasts as well as the private feasts. A description of the festivals of China would require a very long manuscript but, interesting as such a description might be, we will confine ourselves to a description of an ordinary feast.

First, the guests are invited, the invitations being written on a large sheet of red paper and enclosed in an envelope of the same color. No note of acceptance is written for the host takes it for granted that no one would be so impolite as to spurn his request to partake of his "humble" food. Sometimes in inviting guests all the names are written on one piece of paper and sent around by a messenger. In this case the invited ones indicate their acceptance or refusal by writing under their name the one character which means "will come" or the character "thank you" which shows that the guest would like very much to attend but finds himself unable to do so.

It is not to be supposed that the feast will be served as early as the hour set so those who are otherwise engaged at that hour take their time about presenting themselves at the home of the guest. Therefore the host must send to their homes several times and renew his invitation. Those who come early spend their time visiting and drinking tea. In fact guests in China visit before the feast and not afterwards.

A word about the dining room may not be out of order. The floor is of beaten dirt or of stone slabs. It would be exceedingly natural to be on a board floor, and naturally rugs and carpets are out of the question. The guests throw the bones and undesirable portions of food on the floor and the ever present dog greatly appreciates the custom. However,

it is written that it is bad form to throw these "morsels" under the table. They should be thrown a little distance from the table. It is also poor taste for the host to have more than one dog in the dining room at one time for they might quarrel over the contributions right in the presence of the guests.

The table is about three feet square and seats eight people, two on each side. They sit on a bench which is about three feet long and five inches wide. To be exact; they are the same as the American carpenter uses in his shop and calls a "horse." Two people on each side of a three foot table may seem a bit crowded to the westerner or who is attending his first Chinese feast but as he has no big array of cutlery to handle and as it is perfectly good form to hold his rice bowl up in his hand he will find that eight people can get around this table quite easily. In fact, when he begins to dip into the bowls in the center of the table and to try to engineer a piece of meat from the bowl to his mouth with a pair of chopsticks he may be glad that he is removed from the center of the table and no further than he is. When inquiring as to the number of guests at a given feast we ask not as to the number of persons present but the number of tables that were set. Universally a table seats eight people.

When the guest first arrives he may be served a cup of tea or he may be served only when all are seated at the table. In no case would dram or ugar be added to this delightful and refreshing drink. The native tea cup does not have a handle but inasmuch as the foreign style cup is becoming very common it would not be at all surprising if a foreign style cup without a saucer were used. The tea is steeped in the kitchen and not in the individual cup which has a little "inverted saucer" for a cover. These latter are used only in tea shops or when receiving a chance caller.

After the tea a cup of native wine (white in color) and a plate with drop cakes or other form of dessert is placed in front of each guest. In the SuiFu district it is understood that these cakes will not be eaten by the guest. Instead, he will wrap them up in his napkin which he has brought with him for this purpose and take them home to his children. In some cases the host serves little packages of cakes already wrapped up in brown paper. In the center of the table are eight dishes containing watermelon seeds, peanuts, rock candy, sliced cold fowl or pork, or shrimps. These are called the "foundation" of the feast. Each guest helps himself to these using either his fingers or his chopsticks according to the kind of food.

After the table has been cleared of these eight dishes a large

bowl or deep platter of hot meat is served. This may be sea slug, fowl, pork or fish. It is the most important dish of the feast and it is from this dish that the feast gets its name. It is a sea slug, a chicken feast, a duck feast, a pork feast, or a fish feast. If the guests are many the host does not eat with the guests but at this time he comes in, apologizes for his "poor" food, invites all to eat and then goes to the kitchen to give personal supervision to the preparation of the food and to see that the wine is sufficient. If there is opportunity he may eat his food in some secluded spot.

Next comes a bowl of vegetable or meat which is followed by a bowl of soup or mixture which must be eaten with a china spoon. These dishes are alternated until there have been four of each kind, each dish having been removed from the table before the next one is served. After these eight dishes four others are served, all of these being placed in the center of the table at the same time. Each guest is served an individ-

ual bowl of fluffy rice which he eats along with the vegetables which have just been served. It is understood that all at the table put the chopsticks which they have had in their mouth right into the common bowls of vegetables and without the slightest idea that this is unsanitary or that disease might be spread in this way. In fact bashful folks are often helped by well meaning friends who, using their own chopsticks, pile daily morsels on the bowl of the slower eater.

After this course steaming towels are passed for each guest to wash his hands and face. Tea is served and the feast is ended. The host comes out to escort each guest to the street where with many bows he bids them "walk slowly." If there are lady guests they sit at separate tables and are escorted to the street by the host.

MEDFORD.—Growing of franquette walnuts held to be industry of greatest promise.

WATCH YOUR CHILD'S

(Continued from page 1.)
to guard and guide." Annual physical examinations will help us to determine the load each young person is fitted to bear, but, in addition it is recommended that parents, guardians and others in whose care the training of our youth is entrusted, take care that "no student is allowed to carry more than a normal study load, or do strenuous team work of any kind without a physician's certificate of physical fitness, to be renewed upon demand of the school principal at any time that signs of strain begin to appear."

Besides the study load, let us look after the "recreation load" and this is a responsibility that rests particularly upon parents. At high school age our young people are "just getting ready to live." May they not be getting ready to live for years under the perpetual handicap of damaged health? It is a big responsibility for those to whose keeping these young lives are entrusted.



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Society Continued to News Section

Mrs. Rice of Chicago Is Honored on Friday

Mrs. Harry E. Rice (Ruth Boyer) of Chicago, was the inspiration for one of the most delightful parties of the week when Mrs. U. G. Boyer entertained on Friday evening for her daughter's pleasure. The guest group included girlhood friends of Mrs. Rice, many having been her classmates in Willamette University and in high school. Mrs. Rice plans to be in Salem until after the Christmas holidays. She has been the guest of her parents for the past six weeks.

The rooms of the Boyer home on Friday evening were attractively in keeping with the season with small decorated Christmas trees and baskets of holly about the rooms. At a late hour delicious refreshments, carrying out the Christmas motif, were served. Assisting Mrs. Boyer were Mrs. H. H. Kloopping and Miss Dorothy Kloopping.

Piano numbers by Miss Dorothy Pearce added to the pleasure of the evening which was devoted, for the most part, to Christmas needwork and congenial conversation.

The guests at the Boyer home included Mrs. Harry E. Rice, the honor guest, Miss Dorothy Pearce, Mrs. R. E. Dillon, Mrs. Ola Clark, Mrs. Brazier C. Small, Mrs. Beryl Holt, Mrs. Ross Miles, Mrs. Ada Miller Harris, Miss Mary Findley, Miss Ada Ross, Miss Lucille Ross, Mrs. LaVerne Winkler, Mrs. Lyra Miles Dann, Mrs. Richard Robertson, Mrs. Charles L. Sherman, Mrs. Ivan Bellinger, Mrs. Waldo Q. Mills, Mrs. Ralph Mercer, Mrs. D. R. Ross, Mrs. G. F. Chambers, Miss Loretta Ford, Mrs. Kenneth Lezgo, Ava McMahan Barnes and Helen Westell Winters.

Professor Zane's Class

The last lesson in Professor N. B. Zane's stimulating first course in design will be held on Thursday evening in the city library. The second course will open immediately following the holidays when Professor Zane will open a series of 12 lessons on "Home Decorating and Block Printing." The first lesson will be held at the city library on January 7. Those interested may register either with Professor Zane, himself, or with Dr. Mary C. Rowland. The new course, as well as the earlier course which will be completed this week, is under the sponsorship of the Salem Arts' League.

Round-up Club Entertained

Mrs. J. T. Whittig entertained the members of the Round-Up club in a delightful manner at their meeting early last week. The Christmas season was suggested in the lovely decorations, holly, poinsettias, and red candles in silver holders, here and there about the room. At the tea hour Mrs. Joseph Albert assisted the hostess.

Invited guests of the group included Mrs. Max Duren, Mrs. F. G. Bowersox, and Mrs. Asel Eoff. Mrs. John L. Rand won the prize of the afternoon.

The personnel of the club includes the following prominent matrons: Mrs. Joseph Albert, Mrs. C. J. Griffith, Mrs. R. E. Downing, Mrs. W. C. Allen, Mrs. John L. Rand, Mrs. Edgar Hartley, Mrs. John Scott, Mrs. S. P. Kimball, Mrs. John Albert, Mrs. E. Cooke Patton, Mrs. C. K. Spaulding, Mrs. C. H. Robertson, Mrs. Lenta Was-tacott, Mrs. T. B. Kay and the hostess, Mrs. J. T. Whittig.

The club plans a recess until after the holidays.

Chicken Dinner at Church

The women of St. Vincent's Du Paul Catholic church will hold a chicken dinner today in St. Joseph's auditorium, from 11:30 to 2 o'clock. Mrs. F. A. English, Mrs. E. A. Pruitt, and Mrs. Marie Smith are in charge of the various arrangements.

Sacred Christmas Concert

Lovers of sacred music, and particularly that appropriate to the Christmas season, will be happy to be in the audience tonight for which the members of the First Methodist church choir will render at 7:30 o'clock tonight. Professor E. W. Hobson is director of the choir and Professor T. S. Roberts the organist.

Solos and incidental solo parts will be given this evening by Miss Gladys McIntyre, Professor T. S. Roberts, Ronald Glover, Mrs. Treval Powers, Miss Josephine Bross, R. D. Barton and Miss Aldeane Smith.

Barbara Fritchie Tent Elects

Officers for the new year were elected at the regular meeting during the past week at Barbara Fritchie Tent, No. 2, Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War. Louisa Kezar was elected president of the tent, with the other officers as follows: Made-line Nash, senior vice president; Laura Arpe, junior vice president; chaplain, Neva Johnson; treasurer, Julia K. Webster; council member number one, Florence Ship; council member number

two, Mabel Lockwood; council member number three, Frances Gourlie; and patriotic instructor, Bertha Bergman.

The following appointive offices will be filled by the president in the near future—secretary, press correspondent, guide, musician, inner and outer guards, and four color bearers.

Barbara Fritchie tent was first established in Salem on July 16, 1919, with forty-eight charter members. One hundred and sixteen is the present enrollment. Marguerite Elliott was the first president of the tent.

The installation of officers will take place early in January.

Oregonians in California

Mr. Eldon Frink and Harold Thompson of Falls City have been the guests of the F. L. Purvine's in Long Beach for the past week, left for San Diego Dec. 7. They expect to visit Tia Juana and Imperial Valley before returning to Long Beach on the 12th. They may decide to remain until spring as they are delighted with the climate.

Mrs. Claudius Thayer and Miss Genevieve Junk are at home after spending a fortnight in San Francisco.

The Yomarc class of the First Methodist church is looking forward to the annual Christmas party which will be an event of Tuesday, December 15, at the home of Professor and Mrs. T. S. Roberts at 505 N. Summer street. Assisting Mrs. Roberts will be the following committee of which Mrs. Barton is chairman—Mrs. R. D. Barton, Mrs. Roscoe Van Orsdal, and Mrs. Cecil Hawley.

Each member is asked to bring a gift for the Christmas tree. These will be given to the Associated Charities for holiday distribution.

Notable Film at Church

The notable film, "The Man Who Played God," will be an outstanding feature among the attractions offered by the local churches when it will show at 7:30 o'clock tomorrow night at the First Congregational church. The film is based on a play by Jules Eckert Goodman, founded on Gouverneur Morris' story of the same name.

The part of John Arden will be George Arliss while the supporting roles will be filled by Anne Forrest, Ivan Simpson, Edward Earle, Effie Shannon, Miriam Battista, Mickey Bennett, Mary Astor, Pierre Gendron, Margaret Seddon and J. D. Welsh.