

Ancient China Yet Much Like America

Countries Alike, Similarity Noted in Traits and Habits

Chinese and Americans
Because the Chinese live on the other side of the globe; because they wear white instead of black for mourning; because their books begin on what would be the last page of ours; because their family names come first, instead of their given names — as if they said "Smith Jehn" instead of "John Smith" — they used to be regarded as people who stood on their heads. Lately we have learned that in many essential ways Americans are like the Chinese and they are like Americans.

The Chinese live in a temperate country the size of our own. Among themselves they differ as much as a Wyoming rancher differs from a Yankee mechanic or a Mississippi plantation owner, but fundamentally their culture is as unified as our own; they speak many dialects, but their written language is the same everywhere.

Practical, ingenious, and resourceful, they are the best businessmen in the East. Like Americans, they are fundamentally democratic, and they conceive democracy not as an equality of wealth but as an equal opportunity to rise. They keep their ties with the land, even when living in cities. Just as American political and business leaders used to boast of having been born in log cabins, Chinese generals and statesmen have the tradition of the grass hut.

The story of American relations with China goes back to 1784, the year after the Revolution ended, when the first Yankee merchantman anchored in Canton harbor. It was an American soldier of fortune, Frederick Townsend Ward, who first taught Chinese soldiers to fight in the Western fashion. A shrine near Shanghai still honors this "wonderful hero from beyond the seas who sprinkled China with his azure blood."

In this war the two generals most feared by the Japanese have been an American and a Chinese—Douglas MacArthur and Chiang Kai-shek.

The Land the the People

China proper has an area of 2,903,000 square miles. Outer China—Manchuria, Mongolia, and Tibet — has an area of 1,577,000 square miles. The total is nearly 4½ million square miles — more than a quarter of all Asia.

In China proper there were 422,700,000 people in 1936, according to an estimate made by the Ministry of the Interior. Outer China had 35,100,000 people. The total 457,800,000 was more than a fifth of the human race.

The War

"We are fighting on the same

side as the brave people of China," President Roosevelt said in his January 6 address, "who for four and a half long years have withstood bombs and starvation and have whipped the invaders time and again in spite of superior Japanese equipment and arms."

China has 2 million or more front-line troops, reserves of 2 to 4 million, and at least a million irregulars and guerrilla fighters. The front-line troops, chiefly consisting of infantry, hold a shifting front of perhaps 3,000 miles. Besides its ground troops, China in the beginning had a small but effective air force. The Chinese were ably assisted by the famous American Volunteer Group.

In the course of 30 years' struggle to free and unify his nation, Chiang Kai-shek has come to be the symbol of China's unity and her will to survive. When the fortunes of his country were at their lowest ebb, he said to his councilors: "Let the Japanese come, let them drive us back into Tibet. In five years we will be back here and will wrest all China from the enemy again."

Free China includes: All Western China. All the South except for a few coastal cities. Central China, north of the Yangtze valley. Its total population is between 200 and 250 million people.

Occupied China includes: The coastal plain. Most of the river valleys. Most of the big eastern cities. The principal railroads and land adjacent to them. It is said that occupied China is like a coat, of which the Japanese hold only the buttons and the seams. Even in the northeast, Chinese guerrillas control the back country away from the railroads.

Outside of Manchuria, not more than 40 or 50 million Chinese are actually living under Japanese rule.

The Oldest Nation

China has an uninterrupted history of more than 4,000 years, a record no other country in the world can match.

The Chinese invented or discovered silk, porcelain, tea, printing, gunpowder.

Long before Europeans, the Chinese had great cities, good roads, a canal that is still the longest in the world.

They mined coal; they issued paper money; they had a public relief system and a civil service.

China is famous for: Her philosophers: Confucius, Mencius, Lao-tse. Her poets: Li Tao-po and Tu Fu. Her landscape painting, her architecture, her gardens, her porcelains, her silk brocades. Her cooking; the good humor and cour-

What's Hayworth?



That's a lousy pun, but Rita is such a flaky morsal and we've used her so many times, pictorially, that her sponsors shouldn't object. By the way, what is hayworth?

CACE

Camp Adair Civilian Employees Column

(Camp Adair Civilian Employees)

As an additional feature of the counseling services available to civilian employees, "Cacey" will give answers on all matters of nonsensical unimportance that are brought to her attention. The first group of questions, and the answers thereto are given herewith. Send in your questions, boys and girls; Cacey sees all, tells all, knows nothing.

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Dear Cacey:

Last week I put in an application for a four-room apartment in Corvallis. When can I move in? Homeless.

Dear Homeless: July 4, 1948. Cacey.

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Dear Cacey: I have been riding to work with a fellow who is so patriotic he takes 7 passengers in a 5-passenger car. I have been sitting on another fellow's lap, but he is getting tired of it, and wants me to change places with him. He weighs 225 pounds. I weigh 140. Should I change? B. L.

Dear B. L.: If you do, you will.

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Buzz me, Miss Blue!

O you luckless one, who has never set on the waiting bench and witnessed the tactics of the would-be caller at the front gate in the Post Engineer's office. Soldier and civilian alike confront the obstacle with the same difficulty: How to get through the d--- thing?

First you see them swagger up to it with a smile on their face, and confidence in their heart, and give it the light touch. When it doesn't give way, they stand back and eye it in surprise. "I'll try again," you can almost hear them say, as they advance once more, this time to push their way through if need be. Then "Miss Blue" pushes the buzzer, and the assail-

ant jumps back startled. There is nothing to do but try again, and you can see the glint in their eye slowly smoulder. Shake it loose is the attitude and the rattling re-sounds throughout the office. Again the buzzer—but to no avail.

In the process of the shaking, something on the inside of the gate has caught the eye. Ah! The solution! The lock! SOOOO-O, draped over the gate in the most glorious position they fumble with the lock but accomplish nothing except to lock the gate so not even the buzzer has any effect.

Then it is 'Miss Blue's' turn to jump up and unlock it and running back to her desk she pushes the buzzer quickly before the desperate one has a chance to lock himself out again. Hand on the buzzer, 'Miss Blue' sings out time and time again "Push it" but not one seems to figure out just when to push. With fancy muttered undertones we have even had some withdraw and crouch—ready for the leap!

By this time 'Miss Blue' is the desperate one and breathing a prayer she sighs "Once again," and in weary, jerking accent she manages a command— "When I press the buzzer—YOU push." And would you believe it—at long last—the gate flies open. Objective reached, in struts the victim with all the nonchalance of a Junior Commando, no less.

We, of the Post Engineer, have not yet figured out who was allowed to plant a device so conducive to ill-manners and bad language on our door step, but since it is part of the furnishings, the best that we can do is to impart a bit of sound advice to all of you who may have occasion to come our way. At the sound of the buzzer, it's the PUSH that counts.

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When a soldier gets a furlough, the personnel office throws up its hand at the problem of trying to keep his wife at her typewriter. However, we're glad to see the girls have a chance at a vacation, too. Honore Farley returned Tuesday from St. Joseph, Missouri, and Dot Jezuit left with her husband, Sgt. Walter Jezuit, for Chicago Wednesday.

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Members of the Post Engineer organization were sorry to see their Executive Officer, Joseph O. Craig, leave Thursday, April 15, to take over the duties of Post Engineer at the Yakima Field Artillery Range, Yakima, Washington.

It's Captain Now Congrats Chaplain

It's two bars now for Chaplain Victor E. Newman. He entered the Army as a First Lieutenant and for a time conducted services in the Station Hospital. His ability as a preacher was soon recognized; therefore he was made assistant to Major Lloyd V. Harmon. The Sentry congratulates you, Captain Newman!

Male Call

by Milton Caniff, Creator of "Terry and the Pirates"

Blanket Roll

