

## CORN COBS ARE DIET OF HUNGRY CHINESE

Oregon Nurse Writes That Misery Stalks Through North China.

That a steady diet of ground-up corn cobs and sweet potato vines is not conducive to an ideal physical condition is attested by Miss Marie Rustin, graduate nurse, well known in Oregon, who is now in charge of the Taylor Memorial hospital, under the management of the American Presbyterian mission at Paotingfu, China.

In a letter written by Miss Rustin less than eight weeks ago to the members of the Sangrael Christian Endeavor society of the First Presbyterian church in Portland, Miss Rustin tells of the appalling conditions throughout North China, where 45,000,000 men, women and children are confronted with starvation and where 15,000 are dying daily. Miss Rustin has been at Paotingfu for about three years and for many months past, like all other mission attendants and relief workers in China, has been concentrating all efforts on the task of lessening the suffering of the famine victims.

While Paotingfu is on the outskirts of the great drought-ridden famine district, just south of Pekin, Miss Rustin writes that even there all the missions and relief stations are literally swamped with the supplicants of many thousands men, women and children who are half-clad in thin rags, weak from undernourishment and struggling desperately to keep alive on roots, bark or anything that offers sustenance. The situation in the heart of the famine section, she says, is simply beyond the imagination.

"We are doing all we can," writes Miss Rustin, "here in our hospital trying to build up the weakened bodies of famine sufferers who come to us in frightful condition. We are getting patients who have been trying to live on ground-up corn cobs and sweet potato vines. We have all been asked to give until it hurts, and now that it has grown so cold we do not dare to think of freezing, starving thousands right at our door. In going to a soup kitchen where we feed 870 people twice a day, I was surrounded so by the poor creatures that I thought they would crush the life out of me before I could get in and coming out it was the same way. They are so hungry and cold they are desperate. Personally I have gone without \$3 worth of milk a month that I used to use, do not eat butter at all and have only eaten bread once a day for the last three months, in order to give to the famine poor. Through this personal sacrifice I have the joy of knowing that three girls who might have been sold have been saved from a life of shame and misery and that one man will be kept alive for five months.

"A friend sent me a check the other day and I was able to save a girl from being sold and she will be put in school. Things are being started to help these poor souls, but there is a long, hard pull until the harvest time. You can all help by giving to the China famine fund and share in the great opportunities of saving life and opening the way for Christianity, for the Chinese people will surely be interested in what we have to tell them of the gospel if we are good to them now in their great trouble."

State Manager J. J. Handsaker, in charge of the executive work for Oregon for the combined China-Near

East campaign, 606 Stock Exchange building, Portland, says the situation is no less serious in the near east than in China, and liberal funds must be raised for both causes if wholesale death by starvation is to be prevented, or even lessened.

### Family of Seven Die Together.

Because they could no longer stand the agonies of starvation, a Chinese family of seven committed suicide. The father and mother first bound their five children together, then lashed themselves to the children, and all leaped into a river. The seven bodies, all bound together, were seen by L. V. Lewis of Portland, who recently returned from the famine section in North China.

"With 45,000,000 starving, the situation is a colossal tragedy," said Mr. Lewis, "and rather than see their children suffer any longer, parents all through the famine lands are killing their little ones and then themselves. There are millions of gaunt, emaciated, half-naked men, women and children roaming the famine lands, chewing roots and bark, and hanging tenaciously to life, in the effort to pull through until spring. The relief organizations are struggling against the overwhelming situation, and are saving some of those on the edge of the great famine district. Surely every man, woman and child in Oregon will want to give something towards the China Famine Fund."

### DIDN'T SHE KNOW?

Always interested in children, Miss Helen Gould recently contributed generously toward the maintenance of a summer school.

After it was established she paid the school a visit and ventured to question one of the kindergarten classes.

"Now, children," she said, "tell me what sort of clothes the puppy wears."

"Come, now," she repeated, determined to extract the right answer by naming everything that a dog didn't wear, "does he wear feathers?"

A pained expression crossed the face of a little boy in the front row.

"Please, ma'am," he said, pitifully, "ain't you never seen a dog?"

### Mixing Metaphors.

"Don't you think our friend Crossum might loom up as a dark horse?" "No," declared Senator Sorghum; "record's too shabby. It would require a great deal of whitewashing to qualify him as a dark horse."



### A KICK.

Mr. Bird—You never have anything but cold worms for dinner. Why don't you have some nice hot fire flies?

### Talent.

Talent is what enables the man who writes you a letter about cord tires to make you think you need five new ones right away, though before you received his communication your heart had beat high with hope that the ones you had would last through the season.

## WORDS MADE BY ANIMALS

Many of Those in Common Use Can Be Traced to Domestic and Wild Beasts.

Monkey-tricks, a combination used nowadays to mean practical jokes, is quite new, but the prefix "monkey" is very old.

The boatmen on our canals call a small barge a monkey-charge, and the mechanic calls the adjustable spanner in his tool kit a monkey-wrench. The step of a bus on which the conductor stands is known as the monkey-board.

A bit-call is a tin whistle, and a cat's paw the medium who does another's dirty work. Catskins are the flowers of the willow, and cat-lap is weak tea.

Our friend the dog is rather badly used. We speak of dog-rose, dog-briar, dog-wheat, dog-grass, dog-eared, and each epithet implies inferiority.

The word "horse" is also used to imply inferiority, roughness, coarseness. A horse-laugh is a vulgar guffaw; a horse-chestnut is the poisonous acid root as distinguished from the sweet chestnut; while horse-play is rough play such as 'Arry and 'Arrlet indulge in.

The commonest use of the prefix "horse" is in connection with "power." It is commonly referred to as "h. p.," and is the universal unit of comparison between steamships, motorcars, locomotives, etc.

The fox enters a good deal into common speech. We call shambling "foxing," and a crafty man is "an old fox," but why a certain dance should be called a fox-trot one cannot say.

The fox suggests the hare, and that timid animal also has its use in language as well as in soup. A man who is as mad as a March hare is said to be "hare-brained." The harebell is one of our prettiest flowers, but the possession of a hare-lip is generally thought to be the result of the interference of some malicious spirit at birth.

Then we have the "calf-love" of the very young man, and the "sheep-eyes" of the very coy maiden, the pig-iron of the forge, and the pig-tail of the flapper.—London Tit-Bits.

### Locust Plague of 1915.

A very severe locust plague that visited Palestine and Syria in the spring of 1915 proved a blessing in disguise for the British armies. The locusts ravaged the country from the borders of Egypt to the Taurus mountains, consuming every green thing. Vegetables and fruit disappeared as if by magic.

The shortage of all kinds of fodder was a most serious matter and greatly operated against the movement of the Turkish forces on the Egyptian fronts. When the locusts were first seen in Jerusalem, attention was drawn to them by the sudden darkening of the bright sunshine. The destruction wrought by the pests was enormous, more especially as the Garden of Gethsemane was stripped.

The streets of Jerusalem were carpeted with masses of insects. When anything approached, says John W. Whiting, United States vice consul at Jerusalem, in the Wide World, it seemed as if the entire surface of the ground moved, producing a most curious effect on one's vision, and causing dizziness, which in some cases was so severe as to produce a sensation not unlike seasickness. When fall came the country was cropless, even olive groves having been destroyed.

## School for Belgian Farmers.

The Belgian government has hit upon a novel scheme of teaching the farmers of the country better methods of farming, says Motor. The idea of a school for farmers is not new, but the idea of taking the school to the farmer by means of a motor caravan is certainly novel. The school building consists of three units, one powered with a gasoline motor; in short a building section on a motor truck. With this powered unit go two trailers and the three rolled into position and joined together make the commodious and convenient class room.

### Gravity Labeler Useful.

The gravity labeler makes a wide departure from all previous belt machines as one of extreme simplicity, says the Scientific American. Starting from a receiving shelf, the cans roll down an inclined track, passing first over an open tray of adhesive and then over the label stack, picking up a label in their progress. The cans then pass under a battery of brushes, thus firmly affixing the labels. The machine will work at lightning speed, being limited only by the rate at which operatives can place cans on the inclined shelf.

## BOXES, OLD CHRISTMAS FAD

Ancient Custom at One Time Developed Into Demand as Right and Became Nuisance.

THE bestowal of Christmas boxes is of great antiquity, and was formerly the bounty of well disposed persons who were willing to contribute something toward the industrious. Later the gift came to be denuded as a right and became somewhat of a nuisance. Long ago the Roman Catholic priests had masses for everything, and if a ship went to the West Indies they had a box in her under the protection of some patron saint. Into which the sailors put money or other valuables in order to secure the prayers of the church. At Christmas these boxes were opened and were then called Christmas boxes. In England the day after Christmas is known as "Boxing day," from the Christmas boxes which used to be in circulation, and in the British museum can be seen boxes covered with green glaze with a slit in the side for money and presents.

## CHRISTMAS BAG FOR GUESTS

Container for Presents Attached to Backs of Chairs With Bow of Red Satin Ribbon.

THE Christmas bag is an innovation planned by one housekeeper. The breakfast table is to be decorated with a mirror in the center, outlined as a star by holly sprigs, and with a slender cut glass vase in the center holding red chrysanthemums. Long-stemmed flowers also radiate from the central star with the blossoms toward the plates of those for whom the flowers are intended. Every napkin lies beneath a Christmas card with a sprig of holly tied upon it with red ribbon, and to the back of every chair is tied a bag with a big red satin bow. The bags are of all sizes, and each is full of individual gifts. One is an opera bag, another a shopping bag in black and gold, still another is brown leather and gold nailheads, another a bag for collars and cuffs, another a gay laundry bag, one is suggestive of the scraps grandmother will put into it, and the other of books that a small girl will carry to school. All are as dainty and fine as careful workmanship and good materials can make them, and there will be fun emptying the materials out of the various bags.

## Differ on Christ's Birthday

THE early Christmas were divided as to the date on which the nativity of Christ should be celebrated. Some of these celebrated it on the first or sixth of January, other groups observed September 29 and still another March 20. As early as the fourth century, however, the period of the new year had been generally accepted as the time for celebrating Christ's birth. The Western branch of the church observed December 25 and the Eastern church January 6. Finally it was decided that all should celebrate December 25. Pope Julius I, who presided in the first half of the fourth century, is credited with having set the date.

### Roses at Christmas.

The fact that we can get flowers out of doors at Christmas time is in itself a sufficient justification for growing the Christmas rose, but besides that it is worth growing for itself, says Country Life in America. Its large white flowers, fully two inches across, resembling those of a giant single rose, although as a matter of fact it belongs to the same family as the buttercups, never fail to excite enthusiasm in the season of snow and ice. The plant itself grows only six to eight inches high, and the large, greenish-white flowers are borne in clusters and nestle closely among the dark green leaves.

## APE-MAN'S REIGN OF TERROR ENDS

Maniac Captured After He Had Terrorized Whole Country for More Than Two Weeks.

Pittsburgh, Pa.—The "ape-man" who has terrorized the countryside between Greensburg and Homestead for two weeks was captured in a heavily wooded thicket in Baldwin township and lodged in the Hays police station. His body, nearly nude, a fearsome, grimy sight, and the matted hair on his face and head six inches long, the ape-man so closely resembled his simian ancestors that the officers who came on him unawares were in doubt for several minutes whether he was man or beast.

When captured the ape-man was sleeping beside a fire. On being awakened he sprang at Constable



Resembled Simian Ancestors.

Risenbath and attempted to sink his fangs in the officer's throat. He was subdued after a struggle lasting several minutes.

Apparently unable or unwilling to speak, the ape-man, who in actions and looks is the primordial male, sits moaning in his cell in the Hays police station, occasionally uttering deep guttural sounds resembling the croaking of a huge frog.

The first appearance which the giant monkey made was in Homestead and Mifflin townships, where he suddenly invaded the blackberry patches in the neighborhood which daily attract large numbers of women and children. The ape's taste for fruit suddenly caused a hurried exodus from the patches, which are now quite deserted.

Indignant citizens formed themselves into bands and decided to hunt down Mr. Monk without delay. They got down their shotguns and rifles and started a monkey hunt through the surrounding marshes and thickets.

One farmer complained that some unknown individual had milked eight of his best cows and declared that he found tracks of a peculiar shape in the fields, where his cows had been grazing.

It was subsequently found that two sheep, apparently strangled to death, and two hounds used to trail the ape, had been killed, and the Mifflin township authorities realized that they were dealing with a dangerous beast.

The posses had received word that the carcass of a sheep had been found at the entry to an abandoned mine pit, and the theory was advanced that the gorilla was using the mine for his headquarters. A guard of West Homestead individuals armed with shotguns took up a position at all the entrances to the pit, and announced that it was going to drive the simian manufacturer out by use of sulphur candles.

The decision to adopt this plan was reached after a squad led by Constable Walter Griggs had returned from an excursion into the main entry of the pit and reported that a careful examination of the ground, moistened by recent rains, disclosed many footprints, which Constable Griggs declares were those of an ape of no small dimensions.

## Baby, Attacked by Rat in Mother's Arms, Dies

Bitten on the right hand by a large rat as she lay sleeping in her mother's arms Stessa Wolzen, seven weeks' old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Pedro Wolzen, died at Syracuse, N. Y., of blood poisoning.

Mrs. Wolzen was awakened by the screaming of the infant and found the rat crouched on her own chest. She screamed to her husband and he attempted to kill the rat, but it escaped.

The baby's hand was bleeding, and although it was given prompt medical attention it became infected and death resulted.

## MURDERER LEAVES PRISON RICH MAN

Made Rich by Oil Lands While Serving Term in Texas Penitentiary.

Eastland, Tex.—"Uncle Bill" Edwards, who was sentenced to the penitentiary about ten years ago for the murder of a neighbor, G. A. Rogers, entered upon his term of 36 years of imprisonment a poor farmer. He was released a few days ago, upon pardon of Gov. W. P. Hobby, and finds himself a millionaire, all due to the discovery of oil upon his 320-acre hillside farm.

Edwards was pardoned on his seventieth birthday, the pardon coming



He Was Released.

as a birthday gift. He had served a few months short of ten years in prison.

Edwards was offered a pardon by Governor Colquitt several years ago, and again by Governor Ferguson, upon petition of his relatives. In both instances Edwards refused the pardon, on the ground that he had not yet suffered enough for the crime he had committed. It was only a few days ago that he arrived at the conclusion that he had atoned for the deed, and he thereupon wrote Governor Hobby, who granted the pardon.

During the time that Edwards was in prison his farm and other interests were looked after by relatives, who leased the land for a big price when oil was discovered. The fortune of the aged man began piling up and it was all held for him, pending his release from prison.

"Uncle Bill" does not know what he will do with all his wealth, but he is considering plans for using a part of it for the benefit of humanity.

## 'MONEY MAKER' GETS \$37,000

Machine Proves Profitable for Two Swindlers Till Law Steps In.

New York.—Stanley Waitkas, twenty-five, and Martin Koleja, forty, were held in \$10,000 bail each for examination on charges of grand larceny.

The affidavits allege that on May 18 the men swindled Joseph Norwich of 676 Wales avenue, out of \$2,250, by selling him what they told him was a money-making machine.

Since August 3, 1919, the detectives say, the two men are believed to have obtained not less than \$37,000 from various victims in this city, Boston, Bridgeport, Bayonne, Philadelphia, Newark, Arlington, Mass., and Bangor, Me., through selling "money-making machines" to 24 persons, mostly foreigners. The schemers, according to the police, first made it their business to find out how much money the prospective victim had saved up, and to make their price for the money machine approximate this amount.

## Love for Mother-in-Law Leads to Man's Arrest

Some men like to feel their mothers-in-law are about a million miles away. But Robert Dawson of Louisville, Ky., isn't in that class. He and his mother-in-law, Mrs. Christine Tepper, were arrested in Fort Wayne, Ind., Dawson being accused of leaving his family in Louisville. His only excuse was his infatuation for his wife's mother.

## Pinned Fifteen Hours by Horse.

Concrete, N. D.—Al Olson, a rancher, spent 15 hours under a horse which fell with him into a gully near here, and was caught under some brush. The horse was unable to rise and Olson's legs were caught under the animal in such a manner that he could not extricate himself. The horse struggled to his feet, and during the effort bruised Olson considerably. The man dug a hole in the earth with a pocket knife in which to bury his head when the horse attempted to get up.

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