

IDLE WORKMEN PARADING IN BUDAPEST



One of the huge parades of idle workmen that mark the rule of the communists in Budapest, the capital of Hun-

Records Reveal Queer Ceremony

Lawyer Unearths Interesting Information About "Smock Marriages."

WERE COMMON CENTURY AGO

Brides Appeared in Scant Attire to Protect Husband From Liability for Her Debts—Various Expedients to Preserve Modesty.

Bangor, Maine.—A Bangor lawyer attending court in the ancient town of Wisasset, Lincoln county, recently went rummaging in the Colonial court records of the place and in the course of his reading came across the official registration of a "smock marriage."

Not knowing what a smock marriage was, the lawyer looked farther, and got considerable light upon a strange custom prevalent in England a century or more ago and also to some extent in the American colonies.

Smock marriages were weddings where the bride appeared dressed in a white sheet or chemise. The reason for such a garb was the belief that if a man married a woman who was in debt he could be held liable for her indebtedness if he received with her any of her property; and also, that if a woman married a man who was in debt, his creditors could not take her property to satisfy their claims if he had received nothing from her at marriage.

In England, says an antiquarian, there was at least one case where a bride was clothed in puris naturalibus while the ceremony was being performed in the great church at Birmingham. The minister at first refused to perform the ceremony, but, finding nothing in the rubric that would excuse him, he finally married the pair.

To carry out the law fully as the people understood it, the ceremony should always have been performed as it was in the church at Birmingham. In the case noted, but, modestly forbidding, various expedients were used to accomplish the desired end without the unpleasant features.

Sometimes the bride stood in a closet and put her hand through a hole in the door; sometimes she stood behind a cloth screen and put her hand out at one side; again, she wound about her a white sheet furnished by the bridegroom, and sometimes she stood in her chemise or smock. Eventually, in Essex county at least, all immodesty was avoided by the groom furnishing all the clothes worn by the

bride, retaining title to the same in himself. This he did in the presence of witnesses, that he might be able to prove the fact in case he was sued for any debts, she might have contracted.

A marriage of this kind occurred at Bradford in 1773, and the following is a true copy of the record of the same: Bradford, Dec. ye 24, 1773.

This may certify whomsoever it may concern that James Bailey of Bradford who was married to the widow Mary Bacon Nov. 22 last past by me ye subscriber then declared that he took said person without anything of estate and that Lydia the wife of Elizer Burbank & Mary the wife of Thomas Stickney and Margaret the wife of Caleb Burbank all of Bradford were witnesses that the clothes she then had on were of his providing and bestowed upon her.

It is noted by the same writer that in all cases of smock marriages that have come to his notice the brides have been widows.

It is thought that during the reign of George III there were many smock marriages in Maine, then a part of the province of Massachusetts Bay, chiefly in the counties of Lincoln and York,

or in the territory which is now so known.

Practice Died Before Revolution. There is nothing to show that the practice outlived the revolution. In Maine, up to 1852, a husband was liable for debts of his wife contracted before marriage, and no such subterfuge as the smock marriage could relieve him.

Smock marriages were frequently performed in Vermont about a century ago. They were entirely honorable to both the participants, for they put wholly aside all considerations of financial and selfish interest.

According to tradition, they all turned out happily, and well they might. The principle involved in them may be said to have triumphed in our social life—the great majority of marriages being now smock marriages in the sense that the parties are financially independent of each other.

By the way, one of the earliest and strongest arguments for woman suffrage was the necessity of relieving women from the financial bondage that they were under to their husbands 50 years ago. All that a woman had then practically belonged to her husband. Wendell Phillips, in his address at the first national woman suffrage convention, held at Worcester in October, 1851, called attention to a curious case that had lately occurred in this state. A man married a woman who had \$50,000 of her own, inherited from her father. Dying about a year after his marriage, this man left a remarkably generous and manly will—he left these \$50,000 to his wife, so long as she should remain a widow!

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STATE NEWS IN BRIEF.

Wheeler.—Frank Gustis and J. E. Parsons have purchased 1,000,000 feet of cedar timber at Haddon, near here, and will begin the construction of a shingle mill there at once.

Salem.—Plans for securing a new agricultural and horticultural exhibit in the Oregon building are maturing rapidly under the direction of Mrs. Winnie Braden, state exhibit agent, who passed a day in Salem recently, conferring with A. H. Lea, secretary of the fair board, and other officials.

Medford.—Without warning, a sugar embargo was placed on Medford last Wednesday, local grocers allowing only 50 cent purchases per customer. This action was necessitated by wholesale dealers curbing their sales because of a notice from coast sugar refiners that they had withdrawn from the market until January 14.

La Grande.—One of the biggest land deals of the county this year has been consummated with the sale of the Charles Playle wheat ranch of nearly 700 acres, near Alicel, for \$115,000, to Grover Grimmit. Mr. Grimmit, who is 26, already owns enough wheat land to make him one of the biggest wheat producers of Union county.

Tuesday, September 23, will be dairy day at the state fair at Salem this year and the Oregon Dairy council has been invited to arrange the program for the day. In addition to the speed events there will be speakers and music. Madame Cow will be especially honored that day. A. H. Lea, secretary-manager of the fair, hopes to make the day a big success.

Eugene.—The Eugene Chamber of Commerce has indorsed the plan that has been set forth by different organizations in the state to make of the Pacific highway from one end of the state to the other, by the planting of shrubs and trees on each side its entire length, a memorial to the soldiers of Oregon who gave up their lives during the great war.

Salem.—Papers in connection with the case brought by S. H. Rockhill of Riddle, Douglas county, to enjoin members of the state highway commission, Governor Olcott and State Treasurer Hoff and others, from changing the present route of the Pacific highway between Myrtle creek and Canyonville, were served on the respective state officials here recently.

Salem.—H. S. Bosshard, employed in the state printing office here since 1914, was Thursday appointed state printer to succeed Arthur W. Lawrence, who will leave soon for Corvallis, where he has purchased a printing establishment. Before coming to Oregon Mr. Bosshard was for 15 years employed in Milwaukee, Wis., and other eastern cities.

Medford.—With firewood selling at from \$9 to \$10 a cord, two coal mines have been opened in the Roxy Anne district and are now selling coal to Medford householders for \$10 per ton. A thousand tons have been sold and contracted for during the year, and practically all the large office buildings, hotels and postoffice use the local coal exclusively.

Bend.—As the result of correspondence carried on by the roads committee of the Bend Commercial club, the committee has received an offer from the state highway commission to lay a macadam surfacing at a cost of approximately \$175,000, on that portion of the Dalles-California highway lying between Bend and Redmond, providing the county will first prepare the grade.

Banks.—Threshing is over around the Banks grain belt. Wheat, though averaging 35 bushels to the acre, in some cases ran quite high. In one instance the record was 52½ bushels. Oats were well topped and heavy, averaging 65 bushels. Of enormous yields the community boasts of a record so far not known to be excelled here of 114 bushels to the acre, machine measure, 38 pounds to the bushel.

Tillamook.—Persons from all parts of Tillamook county attended the opening of the sixth annual Tillamook county fair Thursday night. The county school superintendent's office worked hard to make the school exhibit one of the best attractions of the fair. The display of pure-bred dairy stock was large. The sports and amusement committee, with A. C. Everson as chairman, furnished much entertainment.

Salem.—Complete census of all irrigation projects in Oregon, together with data regarding the amount of water power in the state and its availability for electrifying rail lines, is sought in letters received by Percy Cupper, state engineer, from R. P. Teel of the federal department of agriculture, and the United States railroad administration. The data are now being assembled and will be sent to the respective government departments within the next few days.

Airships for Commercial Use

British Experts Agree That It Is to the Craft of Rigid Construction We Must Look for Usefulness in Business

British experts, seeking to forecast the future potentialities of airship, seem to agree that it is to the airship of rigid construction, not to the airplane, that one must look for the maximum of commercial usefulness, writes a foreign correspondent of the Ohio State Journal.

The limitations of airplanes designed on present principles are definitely known. Technically it is an accepted fact that an airplane cannot be produced which is capable of transporting a commercially adequate load for a longer nonstop flight than 1,000 miles. For practical purposes 500 to 800 miles are regarded as the workable limits.

But the prospects of airships are much less easy to diagnose. It is recognized that rigid airships can fly for distances of 2,500 miles carrying a commercial load of approximately fifteen tons, and that they are enabled to undertake long flights now believed to be impossible of attainment by airplanes.

Every increase in the size of airships is accompanied by greater relative efficiency, but the medium-sized airships have greater advantages, it is said, than is generally supposed. For example the "North Sea" class of 500-horse power is capable of transporting a load of more than three tons, whereas the four-engined giant airplane of 1,100-horse power is able to lift less than four tons and burns twice as much gasoline.

Deadly Mosquito

Female Does All Deadly Work of Fever Propagation

The male mosquito does not bite; his bill is so blunt that he could not be a bloodsucker if he wished. It is the female mosquito that does all the deadly work of fever propagation, according to a writer in the Scientific American.

In the autumn the males die, and the females seek winter quarters. They hibernate in dark corners of cellar and garret, and on the first warm day of spring are out laying their eggs. Save when extended by the arrival of this hibernating period, the life of the female is one or two months; the male, on the other hand, lives but a few days. The food of the mosquito is the juice and nectar of plants and, of course, blood—though not necessarily that of man; animals, reptiles and even caterpillars are bitten with the same freedom.

The female mosquito lays from 50 to 100 eggs at a time, on any quiet bit of water. In about three days they hatch, and though at first the larva is very small, it grows rapidly and attains full development in a few days. We have then the familiar wrigglers of the old-time rain barrel and the uncovered cistern.

During the larval stage, which lasts from seven to fourteen days, the malarial variety can be distinguished from all others by the curiously inclined, by virtue of the fact that it lies with its body parallel to the surface of the water while the other species hang with their heads downward.

Pigmies Are Suspected to Be More Ancient Than Any Other Race on Globe

A most interesting puzzle to anthropologists are the pigmies. Apparently of a single racial stock, they are scattered over many parts of the world, and nobody gives a plausible guess as to how their distribution was accomplished.

Wherever found they seem to be the earliest people—veritable aborigines—and all of them are much alike physically, though different somewhat in complexion. They are suspected to be more ancient than any other race now surviving on the globe.

To this race belong the so-called "monkey men" of the mountainous interior of India. Likewise the pot-bellied natives of the Andaman islands, in the Bengal gulf, who are said to "look like babies all their life." These latter wear their hair in frizzly tufts and adorn themselves with necklaces made from the bones and teeth of defunct relatives.

In Madagascar are the Behosy, black dwarfs, who when pursued jump from tree to tree like monkeys. They are so timid that sometimes they die of fright when captured.

WORDS OF WISE MEN.

Consideration gets as many victories as rashness loses. Consistency, thou art a jewel. Conspiracies no sooner should be formed than executed.—Addison.

Constancy is the foundation of the virtues. He keeps watch over a good castle who has guarded his own constitution.

Grease Spots on Wallpaper.

To remove grease spots from wallpaper, put powdered French chalk, wetted with cold water, over the places and let it remain for 12 hours. When you brush off the chalk, if the grease spots have not disappeared, put on more chalk, place a piece of coarse brown paper or blotting paper on this and press for a few minutes with a warm iron.

Electric Light for Aquariums.

An inventor has patented an aquarium that can be lighted with electric lamps supported above it within a shade that directs their rays into the water.

Lavan Proves Big Help to Cards as Shortstop—An Aggressive Player

Johnny Lavan has been a big help to the Cards since joining the team. The shuffle of the infield which shifted Hornsby to third, Stock to second and Miller to first, with Lavan at shortstop, improved the St. Louis club considerably, and if the pitching had held up, the Cards doubtless would be higher up than they are today. Lavan is an aggressive player, a fine infielder, and his batting is hard and timely. He and



Johnny Lavan.

Branch Rickey, manager of the Cards, have long been intimate and when Lavan grew weary of pastiming with the Senators, Rickey arranged for him to join the Cards. He was to have figured in a three-cornered deal, also involving Davey Robertson and Mike Gonzales, but the transaction was blocked by Barney Dreyfuss.

Magnetic Eyes Needed to Make a Good Impression

A winking, blinking, and wandering eye will never influence people; therefore it is of great importance that these organs should be trained to their best condition. The person who would use the power of fascination, says G. H. Brately, in "The Art of Fascination," must acquire a determined look. An empty stare should be avoided, for it can never carry any influence; neither will a fierce and impudent one fascinate, though it may repel. The magnetic gaze must be steady, quiet, penetrating, and determined. In conversation, look into the eyes of the person calmly and steadily, or fix your eyes on the organ of individuality, which is between the eyebrows. Speak all your thoughts clearly and distinctly. Think them as well as speak them.

Physician Gave Up Work to Become Wood Engraver

The first engraver of wood in America, Alexander Anderson, was born in New York 144 years ago. His father was a Scotchman, the publisher of a newspaper. Anderson first became a physician, but in 1789, after having performed many deeds of heroism fighting the yellow fever epidemic of that year, he abandoned medicine and made engraving his life profession. He died in Jersey City at the age of ninety-four, and a vast number of books illustrated by Anderson vouch for the ability and industry of the pioneer in the art of wood engraving in the new world.

YOUTHFUL STREET CLEANER



They have rather young street cleaners in Salonika (in the Balkans), youngsters who wield ungainly brooms, yet manage to keep the roughly cobble thoroughfares in moderately tidy condition. Our photo shows a typical street urchin who has adopted the "white winged" profession.