

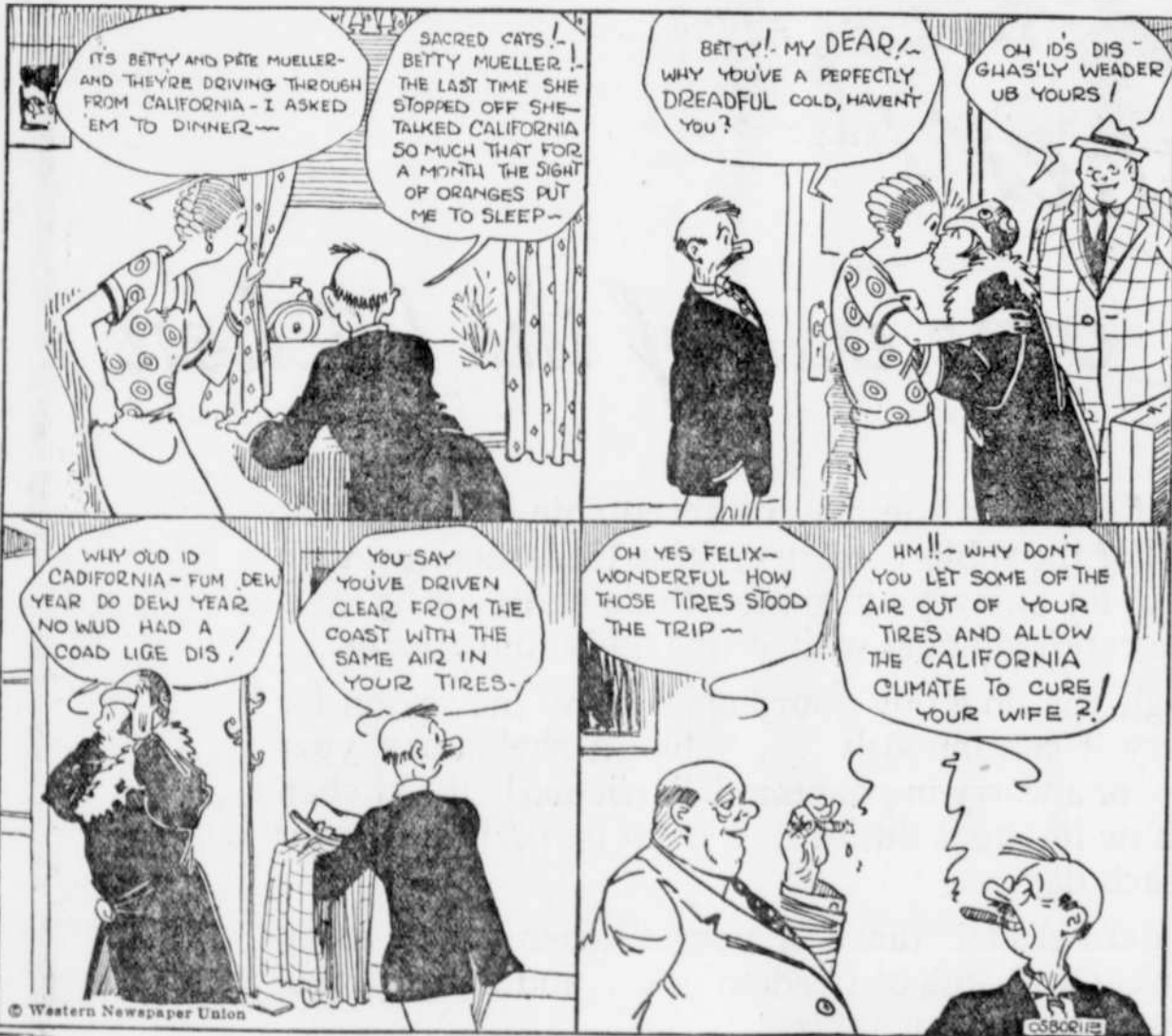
OUR COMIC SECTION

Along the Concrete



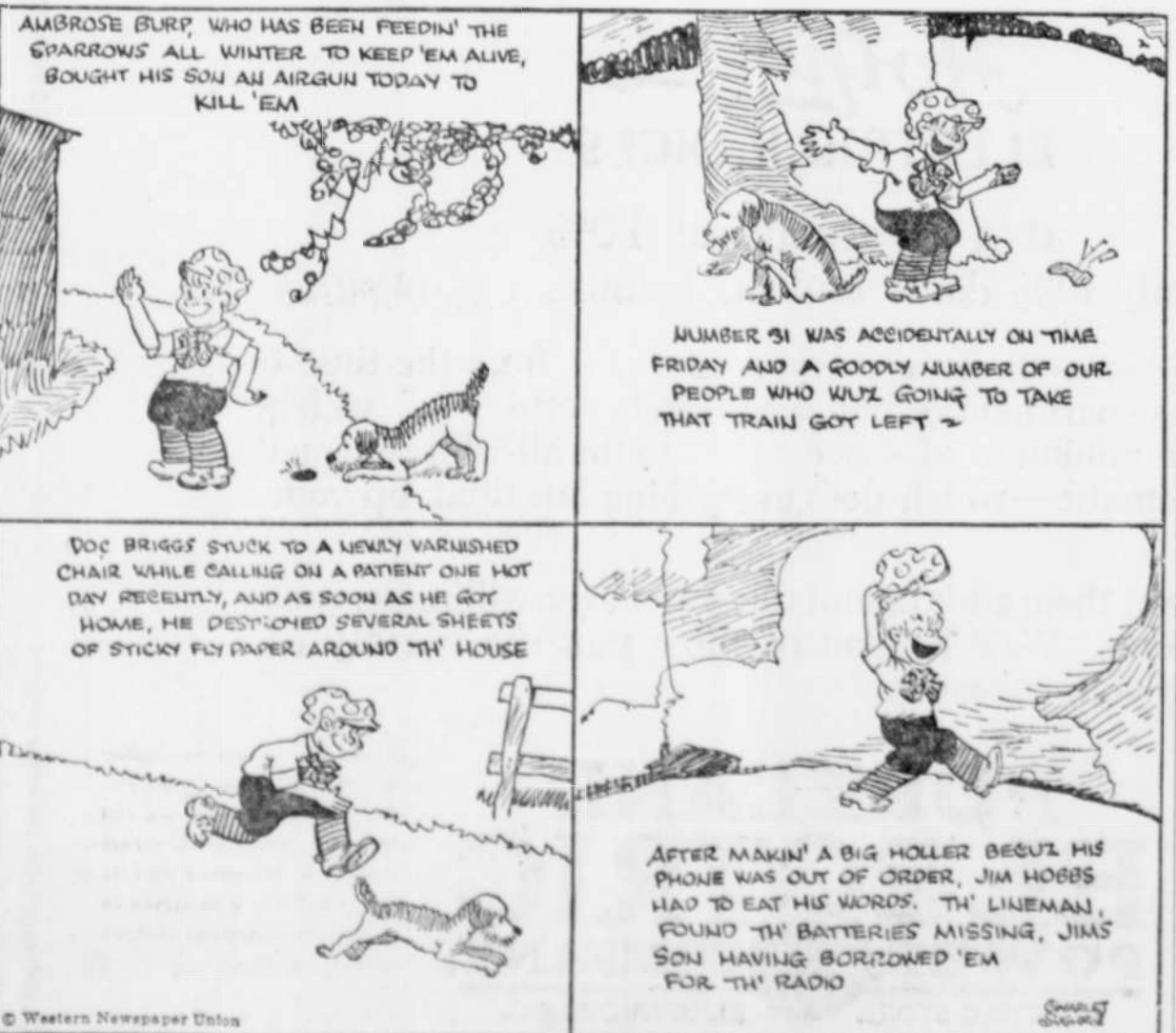
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THE FEATHERHEADS



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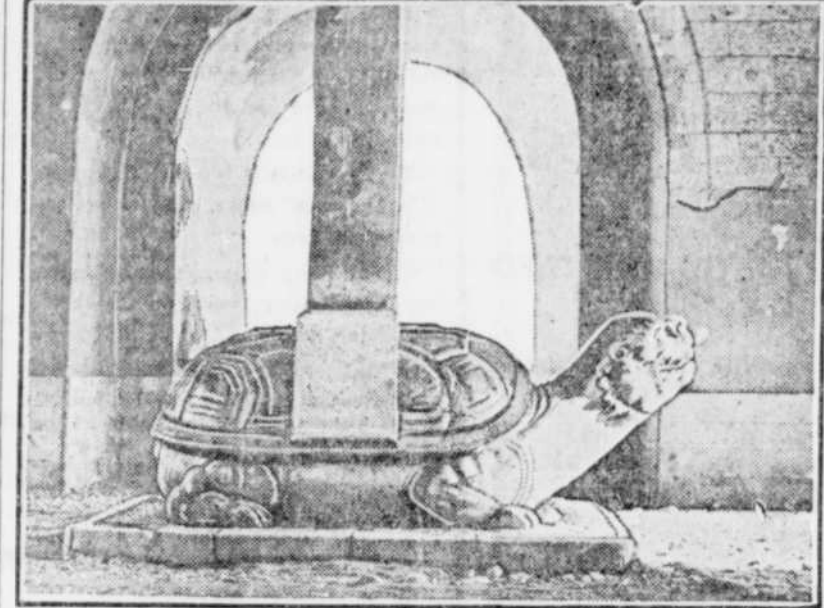
MICKIE, THE PRINTER'S DEVIL



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Climate by the Pound

About Shanghai



Stone Turtle at the Ming Tombs, Nanking.

(Prepared by the National Geographic Society, Washington, D. C.)

WHILE the eyes of the western world have been turned during recent weeks toward Shanghai, headquarters for white soldiers and sailors and marines in China, the footsteps of thousands of refugees, white and yellow, have been directed toward that same city, their hope of safety. Kiangsu, the province in which Shanghai lies, is one of the most densely populated political units in the world. It is only slightly larger than Indiana, and even under normal conditions ten times as many people live there as inhabit the Hoosier state. Chinese from all parts of the republic, speaking half a dozen different dialects, and foreigners from all corners of the globe make up the conglomerate mass of humanity.

Even the country districts are so congested that the largest farms in the province are little more than small family truck gardens to the American farmer. They seldom cover more than three or four acres.

Kiangsu is the pioneer province of railroading in the Celestial empire. The first road was built in 1876 from Shanghai to Woosung, a distance of 12 miles. But Kiangsu owes much of its development to its water routes before the railroad came, particularly to the Yangtze river and the Grand canal that flows nearly the entire length of the province.

For hundreds of years the canal was filled with shipping and was the only means of communication between the north and the south; but today much of the canal is in ruins, due largely to the construction of a railroad along the route and the development of Kiangsu river for navigation. Hundreds of small canals branch off into the back country. They are used to irrigate farms and as highways, for most of the roads outside the large cities are wheelbarrow tracks.

Shanghai Is Big and Busy.

Nearly 2,000,000 of Kiangsu's people live in Shanghai. Thousands of the population are employed in the city's thriving industries. There are more than fifty cotton mills and numerous silk, rice and flour mills, and hundreds of large factories producing matches, cigarettes, jewelry, pottery and many other articles.

Lying in a protected location 12 miles up the Whangpoo river, Shanghai is one of the finest commercial ports in China. As one approaches the harbor he sees nearly ten miles of docks stretching along the river front. Huge ocean-going vessels from all parts of the world come and go almost in a steady stream, fast motor boats dart here and there through the harbor, and the shipping industry and factories along the river front roar with activity. One could easily imagine himself entering a busy New England port if it were not for the singing chatter of orientals emanating from Chinese junks and sampans that dot the water and cluster about the docks.

This hybrid city of the East and West is normally what many a traveler finds Paris is supposed to be but isn't—perpetually gay and carefree, Europeans and Americans, forced by business or government assignments to live there on the other side of the world in a none too kindly climate, seem with one accord to have determined to make the experience as pleasant as possible. White men's working hours might have been framed by a visionary Socialist for the year 2000. In the piping times of peace many offices open at ten o'clock, grant a rest period from twelve to two, and close at four so that the harassed merchant and banker and clerk may hurry away to club or casino or tennis court, golf links or houseboat for what Robert Louis Stevenson called "the real business of life."

The Bund, the water-front thoroughfare of occidental Shanghai, is normally crowded with prosperous, unburied Westerners; and Bubbling Spring road of an afternoon is thronged with stylishly dressed men and women of leisure and fashionable equipages that would do credit to Fifth avenue. The Champs Elysee or the Ring strasse in the days of Vienna's glory. The city is thoroughly cosmopolitan. Perhaps no other city of the world surpasses it in this respect except Calcutta.

The Foreign Settlements.

There are two Shanghaies: the native city, and the foreign concessions. Shanghai was one of the first Chinese

cities to be thrown open to western trade, one of the five "treaty ports" established in 1842. British merchants who moved in during the next few years obtained a concession to manage their municipal affairs in their settlement. The French and American residents joined in the arrangement, but later the French set up a municipality of their own which is maintained separately today. Residents of other nationalities have thrown in their lot with the British and Americans, and today about 20 nations have arrangements with China in connection with trade and extraterritorial rights in Shanghai.

By far the larger part of the population of the entire urban group—Chinese, French and international—that bears the name "Shanghai," is Chinese, but the concentration is not greatest in the narrow-streets, dirty, smelly native city. So well have the foreigners governed their concessions that Chinese have flocked to those sections. The international city is especially a favorite residence for retired Chinese officials from other parts of the country. It has become a model, too, in the matter of street pavements, sanitation and police methods, and since the revolution has been copied extensively by Chinese cities in other parts of the country.

After riding two hours north of Shanghai by railroad, through fertile, flat country to the Grand canal, one finds himself among five million more people of Kiangsu within a radius of 40 miles of Soochow. Many of the people in the outlying districts are engaged in poultry raising and even the city people take pride in their flocks, particularly ducks. Millions of Kiangsu eggs that are not locally consumed or shipped fresh are dried or frozen, and shipped all over the world.

On the west of the city are a hundred beautiful lakes and the Great lake—sixty miles wide in some places—is just over the beautiful low ridge of hills on the east, one of the few hilly spots in fertile, flat Kiangsu.

Other Large Cities Near By.

For centuries Soochow has been the principal Chinese silk market. But its business is not confined to silk and poultry, for in the bazaars that line the streets and even surround the temple of Buddha, one can buy anything from a bird cage to an outdoor haircut, or a good-for-everything pill.

Nearly all Soochow streets that are not Venetian style are narrow and are monopolized by rickshaws and wheelbarrows. If one does not ride, one is apt to get poked by the bars of a rickshaw.

Nanking, Wushu, Chinkiang and Yangchow are also thickly populated districts. Except Nanking these cities are all on the Grand canal. Each of them boast more than 100,000 inhabitants. Nanking is the capital of Kiangsu and was capital of the empire in the Ming dynasty. It is the largest walled city in the world, but only a small portion of the city is now within the 21-mile barrier.

Nanking is not comparable to Shanghai as a commercial center, but it boasts its educational facilities and the development of Chinese scholars. Public and private graded schools, and the Nanking university, supported by three American religious denominations, have offered courses in all branches of education. A naval college is also located there. Scholars of Nanking were holding civil service tests several hundred years before Columbus sailed for the West.

Visitors to Nanking are at once attracted to the tomb of the first emperor of the Ming dynasty. An avenue, a mile long, approaching the tomb, commands a splendid view of the city. At one end of the avenue is a tower containing a large black marble turtle, the Chinese symbol of long life. On its back is a marble tablet eulogizing the emperor who is buried at the other end of the avenue. Between the tower and the tomb the avenue is lined on both side with sculptures of elephants, camels, lions and tigers, facing one another, and now and then one sees an enormous statue of a great warrior standing as a sentinel guarding the funeral way. The tomb and avenue are decaying and the marble statues present a peculiar sight standing in a row in the middle of a field. Stones are piled high on the elephants' backs, thrown there by Chinese who believe if the stones thrown remain on the elephant, they will bring good luck.

Improved Uniform International Sunday School Lesson

(By REV. F. B. FITZWATER, D.D., Dean, Moody Bible Institute of Chicago, 183, 137, Western Newspaper Union.)

Lesson for April 10

PETER'S LESSON IN TRUST

LESSON TEXT—Matt. 14:22-33.
 GOLDEN TEXT—Be of good cheer. It is I; be not afraid.
 PRIMARY TOPIC—Peter Trusts Jesus.
 JUNIOR TOPIC—A Helping Savior.
 INTERMEDIATE AND SENIOR TOPIC—Why Peter Failed.
 YOUNG PEOPLE AND ADULT TOPIC—Christ the Ever-Present Helper.

The storm-tossed disciples on the sea at night are an example of the struggling followers of the Lord in the darkness of the present age, as they are tossed by the tempests of the evil one.

I. The Disciples on the Storm-Tossed Sea (vv. 22-24).

1. They are sent across the sea by Christ (v. 22).

"Jesus constrained His disciples to get into a ship." Doubtless His reason for this was to keep them from entanglement in the movement of the people to make Him King, for in John 6:14, 15, it is shown that the people were so excited by the feeding of the 5,000 that they were about to make Him King by force.

2. Christ dismisses the multitudes (v. 22).

This may be taken as typical of His rejection by the nation whose rulers had already rejected Him.

3. Christ praying alone in the mountain (v. 23).

Temptation to earthly honor and power had come to Him, therefore He went to the Father in prayer for relief and strength. The need of prayer is greatest at such times. According to Mark 6:48 He saw from the mountain the disciples toiling on the storm-tossed sea.

II. Jesus Walking on the Sea (vv. 25-27).

1. It was in the fourth watch of the night (v. 25).

He did not come to them immediately, but waited till almost dawn. However, it was the darkest part of the night. Their physical danger was great, but no doubt their mental perplexity was greater. They knew that the Lord had sent them, but why should they be in such straits if He sent them? The stormy sea is no evidence that the disciple is not in the Lord's appointed way.

2. The disciples alarmed at His coming (v. 26).

At the sight of Him they cried out for fear. They said: "It is a spirit." It was the coming of their best friend to deliver them from danger.

3. Jesus' words of comfort and good cheer (v. 27).

In the midst of their distress they heard the Master's words, "Be of good cheer, it is I, be not afraid." This changed their fear to joy.

III. Peter Walking on the Sea (vv. 28, 29).

1. Peter's request.

As soon as Peter recognized the voice of Jesus he cried: "Bid me come to thee on the water" (v. 28).

2. Jesus' response (v. 29).

At the Lord's "come," Peter left the ship and walked on the water. While he kept his eyes on the Lord he walked on the waves. His faith linked him with the divine power and was thus upheld. Vital faith in Jesus Christ will enable the disciple to outride the storms of life.

IV. Peter Sinking (v. 30).

He took his eyes off the Lord and placed them upon the raging sea. This separated him from the divine power. We should learn to fix our eyes upon the Lord instead of upon our circumstances. Failure will surely follow if we give consideration to our circumstances and our own ability to master them.

V. Christ Rescuing Peter (v. 31).

When Peter began to sink he did the sensible thing. He cried out: "Lord, save me." Immediately Jesus stretched forth His hand and caught him. His salvation from death at the bottom of the sea was the result of the Lord taking hold of him. Jesus Christ in the incarnation was the divine hand reaching forth to rescue a sinking world. The significance of the expression "caught him" is made clear in Hebrews 2:16. It is there declared that Jesus took not upon Himself the nature of angels but took upon Himself the seed of Abraham. The same Greek word occurs in verse 31 of this lesson. We should understand from this that the eternal Son of God did not come in the form of a man in order to show man the way to God, but identified Himself with man through incorporation with Him. He came, not as an example, but as a Savior.

Battle and Victory

The battle with the powers of darkness may be long and hard but the victory is possible.—Echoes.

The Comeliest Ornament

The gentleness of Christ is the comeliest ornament that a Christian can wear.—William Arnot.

Be Not Discouraged

Let us not be discouraged when the hand of God layeth heavy woes upon us.—Echoes.