

JAPANESE GIVE UP HARAKIRI AS SUICIDE METHOD

By Glenn Babb, (Associated Press Correspondent) TOKYO—(AP)—The modern Japanese youth whose life has been blighted jumps from the roof of a business block instead of invoking the honorable rite of harakiri, which figures so prominently in the legends and history of Japan.

Because of the earthquake danger there are no real skyscrapers in Japan, but Tokyo's new department stores, six, seven or eight stories high, are lofty enough for the youth who has been jilted, fails in his examinations or just becomes tired. Within recent weeks a dozen young men and girls have leaped from the roofs of the Matsuya or Matsuzakaya department stores.

Suicide has an honorable place in the Japanese code, quite at variance with occidental ideas. When defeat or dishonor loomed it was the only way out for the samurai; loyal retainers killed themselves to follow their lords in death; patriots died to emphasize a truth they believed vital to the national welfare.

Lovers threatened with separation sought to enter Elysium together by the romantic double suicide known as shinju ("the inner heart"), for which for centuries they have favored such beauty spots as the Kezon waterfall near Nikko, the center of the active volcano Aso in Kyushu, the rocky seashore near Atami. These romantic places still claim their toll of disappointed lovers.

The outstanding example of harakiri in modern Japan, and almost the last, was the death in 1912 of General Count Nogi, the captor of Port Arthur. He killed himself in the classical manner the night he buried his sovereign, the Emperor Meiji. His wife, like a heroine of a feudal romance, killed herself at the same time.

Nogi did not merely follow his lord in death, but also, he said, to recall the nation from its modern slackness to the old discipline and loyalty. Nogi has been deified and a shrine built for his worship.

In the furor of 1924 over the passage of the American immigration law which excluded Japanese, an obscure "patriot" killed himself near the American Embassy, cutting himself across the abdomen in a crude attempt to perform the classical rite of harakiri.

CIRCUS WONDERS ATTRACT CROWDS IN LOCAL STAND

Up to the average of past performances and perhaps a bit better due to the addition of new acts, Al G. Barnes' circus played before 12,500 people here yesterday at afternoon and evening shows. The absence of the usual long bill of wild animal acts, cut down since the show was purchased last year by the Ringling Brothers' circus combine, was noted and when the big attraction makes its annual visit here next year, it is probable that the animal acts will be eliminated entirely.

From the opening pageant to the closing spectacle, circus performers went through routines with clock-like regularity. Mabel Stucke, announced as the world's greatest wild animal trainer, was a feature of the animal acts and attracted rapt attention when she appeared in the cage with 15 Bengal tigers, all of which went through their short performance to the command of their blonde mistress, who completed the acts in a wrestling match with a tiger.

Direct from Germany, the Great Gretchen, a high wire performer, brought thrills to all spectators, especially in closing their act when five members of the youthful troupe walked across the wire three deep. Dancing horses supplied the usual good entertainment and a small army of clowns that were really funny did their bit to add to the success of the big show. Tusko, the giant elephant, did not make its appearance on the hippodrome track, but remained chained to stakes in the menagerie. Many had the impression that Tusko was chained because he was a "killer," but, while deemed dangerous, Tusko has never been the cause of a death.

Baby tigers, born last March, and a baby camel, also born last March, were other interesting attractions of the menagerie, which filled up a large tent with cages and roped off lots.

The circus has been on the road for two months and will continue to show until the latter part of October, seeking warmer climes when that season arrives.

SERVICE STATION MAN INJURED THROUGH FALL

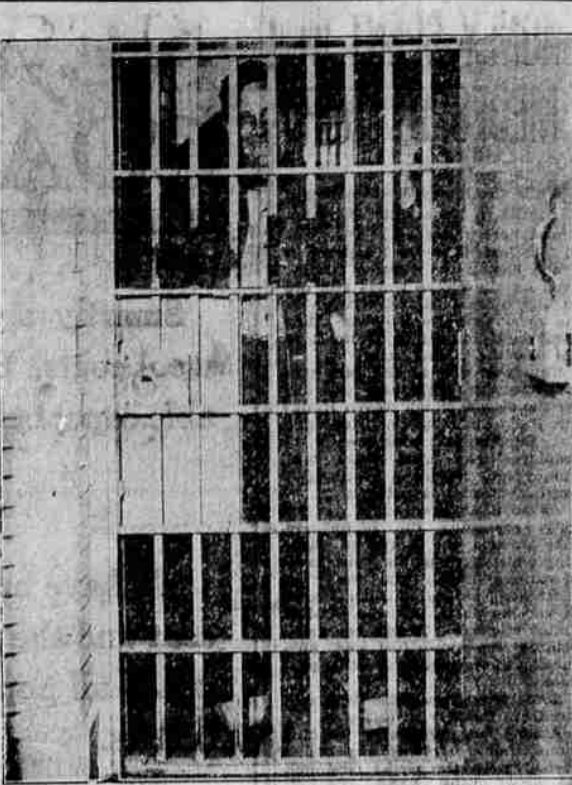
Frank Howard, operator of a service station at the corner of North Riverside and Fifth street, was taken to the Sacred Heart hospital this afternoon to receive treatment for a fractured knee, sustained in a fall into the grease pit, while working on an auto, according to report.

No other injuries have as yet been reported from the hospital, where he was undergoing an examination this afternoon.

AGRICULTURAL FUND APPROVED IN HOUSE

WASHINGTON, May 20.—(AP)—The conference report on the \$155,397,770 agricultural appropriation bill, adjusting differences over senate amendments to the measure, was approved unanimously today by the house, a short time after similar action had been taken by the senate. The bill now goes to the president.

Prison Doors Open For Preacher



LOS ANGELES, May 20.—(AP)—The Rev. R. P. (Bob) Schuler, released from the county jail on a state supreme court writ of habeas corpus, left Los Angeles at 4 a. m. today by passenger airplane for Dallas, Texas. He expects to reach his destination at 7:30 p. m. to attend the closing sessions of the annual conference of his religious denomination, the Methodist Episcopal.

The preacher who walked out of jail late yesterday, had served fifteen days of a twenty day sentence for contempt of court. He posted \$500 bail pending a hearing on the writ, which is scheduled for June 3.

An pastor of Trinity Methodist Episcopal church, South, Schuler operates a radio broadcasting station. Criticism, made in radio speeches, of the actions of two superior court judges in the Julian Petroleum Corporation criminal cases, was the basis of the charges upon which he was convicted.

SISKIYOU FIRE ON STATE LINE NEAR CONTROL

GRANTS PASS, Ore., May 20.—(AP)—Fire fighters under the direction of Forester C. D. Cameron today were believed to be bringing under control a forest fire that broke out yesterday in the Siskiyou national forest, just over the California state line. Difficulties in establishing communication with outside stations left many details of the fire incomplete.

The first forest fire of the season, it was said by the forestry department here to have started from explosion of a drum of gasoline.

Spreading rapidly under pressure of a seaward wind, the flames moved rapidly into adjoining national forest land after destroying a small sawmill.

Incomplete reports reaching the Grants Pass office of the forestry bureau indicated that several workmen barely escaped with their lives when the gasoline exploded.

These reports said the gasoline can had been standing near a donkey engine used in the logging camp. The force of the explosion knocked several workmen down. The logging camp was saved.

Loss will not exceed \$10,000, the forestry office here believes. Rain was today reported falling in the vicinity of the fire.

English Aviatrix Says Java Sea Crossing Dreadful Experience — Continues Australia Hop.

SAMARANG, Java, May 20.—(AP)—A pretty golden-haired girl of 23, as directly from London as an airplane could bring her, dropped in here today and over a cup of coffee at the alldrome restaurant told the British colony gathered around her how she crossed the Java sea.

Her name, Amy Johnson, meant almost nothing to the English rubber growers and sugar planters who live side by side with Hollanders here, but the apparition of a girl in a flying suit striving to beat Bert Hinkler's 15-day record from England to Australia excited their admiration and curiosity.

She looked tired but she smiled cheerfully as she described the Java sea crossing from Singapore as "dreadful! dreadful! I thought I would never make it." Heavy tropical storms made her change her direction and height, and long distances were flown only a few feet above sea level.

"I want so very much to rest," she said.

She headed for Soutabaya, which she reached at 1:20 p. m. She left Croydon May 5.

Favorable industrial and financial conditions prevailed in the Saar territory last year.

BACCARAT CASE IS RECALLED BY VICTIM'S DEATH

ALTYRE, Forres, Scotland, May 20.—(AP)—Sir William Gordon Gordon-Cummings, 81, died here today.

His death recalls the famous Baccarat case and the law suit in connection with a house party in 1896 at Tranby Croft attended by King Edward, who was then Prince of Wales.

Sir William, who was the guest of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Wilson at Tranby Croft, was accused of cheating at cards.

The fact that the then Prince of Wales was a member of the party was revealed when Sir William vigorously denied the charge of cheating, bringing action against Mrs. Wilson and four others for alleged slander. The prince testified at the trial.

The hearing, which created a great sensation in America as well as England, lasted several days and resulted in a verdict for the defendants.

Sir William's wife, whom he married in 1891, was Florence Josephine Garner, daughter of the late Commodore Garner of the New York Yacht club. She died in 1922.

Sir William and Miss Garner were married the day after the verdict was given. She had never lost faith in him.

Norblad Sends Congratulations to Geo. Joseph

SALEM, Ore., May 20.—(AP)—Governor Norblad late yesterday sent the following telegram to George W. Joseph of Portland, who was the successful candidate for the republican nomination for governor in Friday's election:

"Now that practically all the votes have been counted, it is apparent that you are the republican nominee for governor. Please accept my congratulations."

PENNSYLVANIANS GO TO POLLS IN STATE'S PRIMARY

PHILADELPHIA, May 20.—(AP)—Early balloting on today's primary for United States senator, governor and other offices was heavy in spots, reports from different parts of the state indicated.

The weather was cloudy with a threat of rain in some parts, but the temperature was mild.

One of the important developments was the announcement by Senator Joseph R. Grindy, candidate for the senate seat he now holds by appointment, that he had voted for Gifford Pinchot for the Republican nomination for governor. The senator made the announcement at his home polling place in Bristol, where he was holding the window book, checking off voters as they went to the polls, a job he has been doing for 47 years.

In Philadelphia, voting was quiet and fairly heavy in some districts. There was an army of watchers on duty.

Dies On Gallows



SYDNEY, N. S., May 20.—(AP)—INGVALD (HING) ANDERSON of Berlin, N. H., former eastern ski-jumping champion, was hanged here today for the slaying of Dublin Rehberg, a hotel night clerk.

He walked steadily from his cell to the gallows, protesting his innocence to the last.

The trap was sprung at 1:12 a. m., and after an inquest the body was turned over to a local minister for burial.

Tobbery was said to have been the motive for the crime. Before he died Rehberg said that "Ermet Sloane could tell all about it." The man known as Sloane was identified as Anderson.

BATTLE FLEET ON PARADE FOR HOOVER REVIEW

Proud Ships Pass Chief As Fighting Planes Roar Above—Crews Line Rail for Honor.

BOARD U. S. S. SARATOGA, Off Virginia Capes, May 20.—(AP)—Its flags whipping in a smart breeze as it ploughed into foam a calm blue sea, the United States fleet passed in review today before its commander in chief, President Hoover.

Standing uncovered at the rail of the new cruiser Salt Lake City, the president saw a great modern armada of the sea and air pass in line and circle in maneuver.

Overhead the giant dirigible Los Angeles floated in silvery majesty, the center of a roaring squadron of the skies. All about her were the fighting planes loosed from their lives on the aircraft carriers Saratoga and Lexington.

On the surface the passing line included the proudest of the battle-ships, cruisers, destroyers and half-submerged submarines.

As the surface craft passed the Salt Lake City, their crews lined the rail while the ships' bands played the national anthem.

NEW YORK, May 20.—(AP)—Now comes the motored parachute. Henry Bushmeyer, professional jumper, is working on a device that he hopes will enable him to fly 20 miles or so after leaping from a plane.

Albany.—Plans completed for construction of new stage terminal building on Hamilton property at cost of approximately \$15,000.

GERMS IN ROGUE NO ACCIDENT IS COURT DECISION

SALEM, Ore., May 20.—(AP)—Typhoid fever contracted from drinking untreated water furnished by the employing company, was not an accident, says the supreme court. Therefore, Alberta Blair, whose husband, Horace Newton Blair, died from typhoid as a result of drinking Rogue river water, cannot get compensation from the state industrial accident commission.

The court made this decision today, reversing Judge Percy R. Kelly of the circuit court for Marion county.

Blair was employed by O. N. Pierce & Co., in the construction of a bridge across Rogue river at Gold Hill. Although the company had arranged for the workmen to get treated water, three of them preferred to drink from a hose that brought water directly from the river. All three became ill with typhoid and Blair died.

Judge Kelly ruled that "his contracting the disease while so employed was an accidental injury which arose out of and in the course of his employment."

The supreme court does not hold.

Other opinions included: H. F. Whetstone vs. Rogue River Valley Canal company, appellant; appeal from judgment for damages; decree of Judge C. M. Thomas modified.

Gotham Barbers Stage a Strike to Shorten Day

NEW YORK, May 20.—(AP)—Obtaining a shave or a haircut in downtown Manhattan was a matter of some difficulty today with 600 of the approximately 1000 barbers in that section on strike.

The strikers, who are members of the Journeymen Barbers' International Union, are seeking to enforce the closing of shops at 9 p. m. on Saturdays, instead of 10.

MR. AND MRS. LAWTON TODAY CELEBRATE 55 YEARS MARRIED LIFE

Today is their fifty-fifth wedding anniversary. Mr. and Mrs. D. T. Lawton of 321 Apple street, informed their friends this morning that is, Mr. Lawton told the news to the Scottish Rite Masons, attending the spring reunion in this city, and Mrs. Lawton says it is true.

Married to Estherville, Emmet county, Iowa, in 1875, they came to Medford 12 years ago and have been living here ever since. Although they have added five years to a golden wedding anniversary they aren't tired of matrimony.

Their three children also live in southern Oregon. They are Mrs. Myrtle Forbes of Jacksonville, Mrs. Grace Pankey and Leon Lawton of Medford.

Coquille.—Knapp & Goss received contract for improving the reservoir.

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