

West of the Date Line

By Herbert H. Hilscher, F. R. G. S.—Explorers' Club



Photograph of Herbert H. Hilscher, author of this series of travels from the Far East, which start today and will be a new feature of the Sunday Mail Tribune.

TOKYO: The capital of Japan is twitter today! Everybody is talking about it. No one ever heard of such an occurrence before. And even the police—the ever present police—are puzzled, for one of the AI Capones of Japan, upon completing twenty years on the "inside looking out," officially called on all the police stations at which he had been arrested. He presented flowers, his respects and money, and amid much bowing tendered his profuse apologies for all the trouble he had caused.

Zenkichi Nakagawa who had been convicted of 22 major crimes and 48 minor infractions, such as burglary, forgery and general "sticky fingers" gave the chief of the Sanjo station a five yen note and said, "Give the boys a feed, Chief."

To do up the job in proper style, he went to the plaza in front of the imperial palace and bowed low toward the gates. That was his promise to the emperor that he'd stay good! So for the next month ex-Convict Nakagawa will be very busy clipping pictures and stories of himself from every newspaper in Japan and pasting them into a scrap book.

As he posed for news photographers he was heard to say, "If AI Capone and Clara Bow can make the first page, so can I."

Tokyo is the tourist's paradise. Although the capital of Japan is as expansive as Los Angeles, you can ride anywhere in a taxi for 50 sen—15c in our money. A story has been making the rounds that a tourist came here six months ago with a pair of shoes that needed half a sole badly. Taxi fares are so cheap that he hasn't bothered yet.

Yokohama the major port of Japan is 18 miles from Tokyo and a taxi right to the gangplank of the trans-Pacific liners costs 75c. "Why walk" means something out here.

The Japanese have a great relish for dramatic suicides. When the huge Tokyo department stores were first built it became the rage to ride the elevators to the roof, look around a bit and then jump. That became so popular—and rather messy—that the roofs of all buildings are fenced in now.

Then the rage became hopping off from the top of Egon Falls at Nikko, 330 feet high. Now that location is fenced in and policed.

But the most popular spot today is the crater of Mt. Mihara just a short distance from Tokyo by steamer. Last year 900 (nine hundred) people paid steamer fare to the island of Oshima, walked three miles up the slope of this active volcano to toss themselves into the fiery pit. The first "landing" is nearly a thousand feet down.

Business is so good to Mt. Mihara that a Tokyo syndicate is now building an aerial tram from the steamer landing to the rim of the crater to ease the way of the "One-way passage customers" and the sightseers.

The popularity of Mt. Mihara has risen so rapidly that the Tokyo Bay Steamship company has announced that it will lend its support to stopping all passengers to buy a round trip ticket. The dividend rate of the steamship company has been increased as a result.

The other morning I was awakened out of a very sound sleep by a wheezy organ pealing forth with

"Shall we gather at the river,
The beautiful, beautiful river..."

It completely filled my apartment and for a hectic moment I doubted my residence at Tokyo. But soon I became aware that the music came from the government primary school yard below me. Three hundred youngsters were marching into the building to the strains of a Christian revival hymn! Two hours later a huge, grotesque parade of Shinto priests carrying banners, symbolical images, shrines and a tub of Saki came to give the school its annual blessing. So I guess the score is even for another year!

Yesterday my best wrist watch refused to tick. No amount of gentle

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PRESIDENT GIVES PLEDGE COLUMBIA FISH PROTECTED

PORTLAND, Ore., Aug. 4.—(AP)—The Columbia river fishing industry must be adequately safeguarded. This is the attitude of President Roosevelt.

In train conferences yesterday, it was said by Marshall N. Dana, advisor to the public works administration, President Roosevelt said plainly that despite the great power development on the wide Columbia, the \$10,000,000 salmon fishing industry must be preserved at all cost. Fear had been expressed in several quarters that the big dams would block the annual migrations of spawning salmon.

Frank T. Bell, United States commissioner of fisheries, was aboard the presidential special train. He said he intends to recommend every precaution be taken at the Bonneville dam to insure continuation of the migrations of salmon—migrations that have occurred for many centuries, and have caused the Columbia to be known as one of the greatest fishing streams in the world.

Commissioner Bell indicated he believes salmon will be unable to pass the Grand Coulee dam, and he pointed out to the probability that hatchery facilities may be established at Grand Coulee.

At Bonneville, Bell expects to urge the use of fish ways, as well as hydraulic lifts. "I'm going to recommend everything," he said, "that promises to prevent damage to the salmon industry."

EVOLUTION TRIAL JUDGE LOSES OUT

JASPER, Tenn., Aug. 4.—(AP)—Former Circuit Judge John T. Raulston, who presided at the Scopes evolution trial in Dayton in 1925, failed in his attempt to be elected to the bench in Thursday's balloting.

Returns today from the 18th judicial circuit showed that Judge Leslie Darr, a democrat, was re-elected for an eight-year term over Raulston, a republican. Darr went to the judgeship in 1926.

Raulston lost six of the seven counties in the circuit, but carried Rhea, where the evolution trial was held, by a majority of 327. Judge Darr's majority was 2,494.

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(To be continued.)

Magicians Spoil Hotel Manager's Attempted Hoax

OAKLAND, Cal., Aug. 4.—(UP)—Seven magicians en route to attend the Pacific Coast Magicians' convention were in an elevator today which stopped abruptly between the third and fourth floors of a hotel.

"Let's see them get out of there," laughed Jimmy Muir, hotel manager, perpetrator of the joke.

Mrs. Beatrice Houdini, widow of the famed magician, whispered briefly to William Harkness, Vancouver, B. C., member of the elevator party. Harkness slipped through the roof of the elevator, opened the fourth floor and released his six fellow craftsmen. Gravelly, the seven magicians stalked downstairs past Muir.

NEW DEAL CHIEFS BACK JOHNSON IN CALIFORNIA VOTE

WASHINGTON, Aug. 4.—(AP)—National democratic leaders, officially keeping their hands off primary contests, are manifesting preferences for senate candidates believed to be favorable to the "new deal."

The administration and the democratic national committee, so far as open pronouncements go, are avoiding pre-primary matters—with one exception.

The full weight of the administration and committee is behind Senator Hiram Johnson, seeking nomination in California on the democratic, republican and two minor tickets. Johnson, an independent republican, supported President Roosevelt in the 1932 campaign and in the last congress.

This has met generally with the approval of California democrats, observers here said. But in other states where preferences have been made known considerable intra-party strife is reported developing.

The situation in West Virginia, where Postmaster General Farley has snubbed the candidacy of Glen Shaaver, former democratic national committee chairman, is understood to have raised the ire of democrats supporting former Senator William L. Chilton.

Seamen, who during the last three years have retired to other employment, are reported again flocking to the water front as indications point to an increase in shipping.

DRIED FRUIT PAY SCHEDULE HIT BY OREGON PACKERS

WASHINGTON, Aug. 4.—(AP)—The Pacific coast dried fruit industry formally presented to the National Recovery-administration today a proposed code of fair competition designed to govern wages and hours for 15,000 employers and to set up an industry committee.

Dwight K. Grady, vice president of the Dried Fruit association of California, presented the code for the proponents. His association, he said, handled 80 per cent of dried fruits in California, Oregon, Washington and Idaho.

"In our opinion," Grady said, "it is a good code, eminently fair to labor. The minimums provided in the code will represent a substantial increase in wages in an industry which is noted for its fair treatment, there never having been a strike in its 50 years of history."

Two appearances were made in opposition to sections of the code.

Robert C. Paulus, of Salem, Ore., appeared on behalf of the Northwest Dried Fruit association, which has as members most of the packers of Oregon, Washington and Idaho, to protest that the wage provisions were too high for application in those three states. He suggested that labor commissions of the three northwestern states be allowed to regulate wages and hours within their jurisdiction.

Paul Fishback, secretary of the National Food Brokers association, of Indianapolis, attacked the proposed code on the grounds it failed to prohibit such unfair competitive practices as secret rebates.

WESLEY LEAGUE MEETS TONIGHT

Mrs. Luella Corn will lead discussion at the Wesley League meeting this evening, for which the topic is "Your Church and Mine." There has been much preparation for the meeting by several of the leaguers who will endeavor to explain the differences between the various churches. At the beginning of the meeting a well worked-out worship service will be led by Miss Mildred Walker. As a part of the service a duet will be sung by Luella Corn and Florence Neuman.

A few weeks ago at the First M. E. church the Wesley league was organized expressly for young people of college age. The league meets every Sunday evening at 7:30 in the auditorium. So far very interesting discussions have been held and they promise to be even more interesting. All young people of college age are cordially invited and urged to attend.

Texas Plant Damaged
DALLAS, Aug. 4.—(AP)—Although brought under control within thirty minutes from the time it started a fire which broke out Friday afternoon at the Dallas machine and locomotive works here ran wild during that short time and damaged buildings and equipment to the extent of several thousand dollars, it was estimated.

The snout fish has a snout extending almost as far in front of its eyes as the body extends behind.

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Fan Dancers Don Pants On Orders Of Chicago Cops

CHICAGO, Aug. 4.—(AP)—Fan dancers wore pants again today at the world's fair.

Declaring "the lid is not off," police squads last night raided five villages and "The Bowery," seized gambling wheels in each place, closed an exhibition, and on their way out ordered pants placed on Faith Bacon, a fan dancer.

Officials said they would not permit abuses of their new liberalized policy, adopted at the insistence of disgruntled concessionaires.

LUMBER NEEDS OF HOUSING PROGRAM CHEERS MILLMEN

WASHINGTON, Aug. 4.—(AP)—A cheerful future for the lumber industry was depicted today by a national lumber manufacturers association report which said that at least 36,000,000 feet of lumber, about four times the 1932 production, would be needed for repairs of frame buildings under the housing program.

Statistics prepared by the association from department of commerce surveys indicated that 92 per cent of urban dwellings and farm structures are of lumber. Based on that figure the association estimated that wood-built city dwellings would require at least 34,000,000 feet of lumber "merely for urgently needed repairs." This estimate would give 1,000 feet for each of the 24,000,000 wood-built city dwellings reported by the commerce department.

It also was estimated that 6,000,000 farms in the United States would require 2,000 feet of lumber each, or a total of 12,000,000,000 feet.

The association pointed out that "some idea of what 36,000,000,000 feet of lumber means may be inferred from the fact that 12,000 feet

GOTHAM PARADERS SING 'RED' SONGS

NEW YORK, Aug. 4.—(AP)—An anti-war parade and demonstration in which police estimated 15,000 persons took part was held today with 77 organizations represented.

The demonstration was under the auspices of the American League against war and fascism. William S. Tallentire, chairman of the New York central committee of the league, said it was the largest demonstration against war ever held in the city.

The paraders formed at Columbus circle and marched to Madison Square park. The marchers sang "Solidarity Forever" and a communist song, and shouted "free the Scottsboro boys."

The demonstrators included about 3,000 negroes.

DONT FORGET!—Speedboat races next Sunday, Aug. 5th, Savage Rapids Dam, north of Medford on Pacific highway.

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