

EVIL OF OPIUM HARD TO CRUSH AMONG CHINESE

'Smoke Joints' Still Easy To Find Despite Government Ban—Scribe Tells of Experience With Poppy

By Earl H. Lear
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SHANGHAI (UP)—The Chinese government is trying to eradicate the opium evil in old Cathay, but it's still about as easy to find a "smoke joint" in any Chinese city today as it was to find a speakeasy in any American city during prohibition.

The Chinese populace is taking the opium eradication campaign just about as seriously as Americans took the Federal Government's efforts to stamp out needed beer and bathtub gin.

Having, in days of yore, tasted of the "stolen sweets" of a well-stocked cellar in the United States, we decided to forget our trials and tribulations with China's favorite illicit pastime and indulge in a few fanciful poppy dreams.

Sing Song House
We selected for the scene of our experiment a sing-song house in "Wei Loh Li," the most celebrated passageway of its kind in the world, off Poochow Road, the great pleasure boulevard of the Chinese in Shanghai. "Wei Loh Li" boasts of probably a hundred sing-song houses within its narrow confines and is the goal of every ambitious sing-song girl in the Flower Kingdom.

Presenting our letters of introduction to the master of the "Small Two Pearls" a sing-song house of some fame itself, we explained our wishes in our best Shanghai dialect and were admitted into the sacred precincts. Three of four Chinese clients were playing mah jong, stuffing themselves with everything from bean curds to shark's fins, making walla-walla and listening enraptured to the high screaming, the wild barbaric songs of the sing-song girls.

Opium Room
At the far end of the dim-lit, smoke-filled, extravagantly-furnished room could be seen several couches on which opium lamps were burning and trays of smoking paraphernalia were ready for use. After concluding a ritual of polite palaver with the miter, we were at last introduced to Mrs. Koo, Ah-kong, slender, exotic, wide-eyed, parchment-skinned Chinese beauty who was to preside over the opium lamp and aid the ally foreigner in ascending the ladder to the seventh heaven of poppy-land.

She commenced to work immediately. With a long silver instrument she picked up a bit of the opium—thick, black syrupy stuff—"black rice" the Chinese fondly call it—twisting and turning and spiraling it over the thin steady flame of the opium lamp until it was in her opinion properly cooked, then inserted the sticky mass into the tiny aperture of the pipe bowl, while we sucked on the jeweled tip of the stem.

First Attempt a Flop
The first pipful was a flop, Ah-kong said, because I didn't inhale deeply enough. On our second and third pipes we inhaled from the bottom of our detestable toes with all the force and violence our lungs could muster. The opium spluttered and congealed, spluttered and melted, burst into flame, smoldered—acted up generally. Ah-kong worked tirelessly, diligently, and was so concentrated on her task as a great surgeon performing some momentous operation.

The fourth pipe gave us a sensation of relaxation, as if the muscles in our body had been tensed for life and were now for the first time finding complete relaxation. But it was only a passing sensation, perhaps even a product of imagination, and we decided we would never emulate De Quincey's "Confessions of an Opium Eater." In fact, this story is about the best we could do.

BRITISHERS' DESERTING FARMS FOR CITY SAYS DEPARTMENTAL REPORT

LONDON (UP)—British farm workers are going "off the land."

The latest returns published by the Department of Agriculture show that 21,500 less regular and casual male workers were employed on farms during the 1933-34 period, while women and girl workers dropped by 6,400.

Agriculture in this country has not yet been put into a position where it could assist materially in the reduction of unemployment. Actually, unemployment figures are raised by nearly 28,000, due to the decrease in farm workers, which is not included in the ordinary unemployment total.

Corn Pops on Stalk in Fall
CONNEAUT, O. (UP)—During moderate early fall weather here, popcorn popped on the stalk at C. C. Bennett's farm. Farmers puzzled over where the heat came from, finally realizing it was stored from summer.

Huge State Lake Went Dry
JAMESTOWN, Kan. (UP)—The big state lake, which formerly covered a large area in the Great Salt Marsh near here, has gone dry and thousands of fish with which it was stocked have perished.

Sleeping Sickness Toll 12
TOLEDO, O. (UP)—Toledo's sleeping sickness toll has mounted to 12 deaths of two more victims on successive days. Forty-five cases of the disease have been reported here since Aug. 1.

Woman Burned in Can Blast
CADIZ, O. (UP)—Her supply of cans exhausted, Mrs. Charles Dickerson turned to a molasses can for preserving some tomatoes. The container blew up, burning her severely with the hot fruit.

Would Not Be Constables
STONINGTON, Conn. (UP)—Certain jobs have no appeal to the unemployed. During the textile strike the warden and burgesses appointed 40 special constables for duty at the mills. All refused to serve.

Married in Morgue
OLYMPIA, Wash. (UP)—Not exactly the most cheerful place for a wedding, but O. H. Mittelstadt, mortician, and Miss Dorothy Thomson, both of Seattle, were married in a local morgue.

Left Case of Whisky
VANCOUVER, Wash. (UP)—Candidate for the year's most forgetful man—the Portlander who bought a case of high-priced Scotch whisky, then forgot to take it with him when he left the state liquor store.

When all America goes Shopping! WARD WEEK

WARD WEEK Special



\$1.88 Pair

← AT THIS PRICE FOR ← WARD WEEK ← ONLY!

WOMEN'S FALL SHOES

Wards tremendous buying power has made this an exceptional WARD WEEK! A Week of extra special shoe values! Fall footwear in the right, rich leathers! Highly styled for 1934-35... finely made for wear. Buy now during this Special Event!

- Come Early!
- All New Styles!
- All Super-Values!

Pail Value

Low-Priced for Ward Week Only!

10-quart capacity. Galvanized steel. Won't rust.

19c

Separator

Priced Low for Ward Week!

Skims 225 lbs. per hr. Handy size for small dairies.

\$19.95

Europe! 7 Tubes

\$39.95

\$4 Down, \$5 Monthly, Plus Carrying Charge

1935! Newest improvements. World range. Handsome cabinet. 8-Feature Instant Dial. Buy now at this price! Save!

SILK HOSE

Only **49c** Pr.

New Fall shades! Full fashioned, pure silk chiffon and service hose! Priced exceptionally low during Ward Week. Buy now! SAVE!

Newest Sylvania

Prints 12 1/2c Yard

Crisp, tub-fast cottons with new colors and patterns! Plaids! Checks! Stripes! 36 inches wide!

Ironing Board

Ward Week Price Only!

Steady! Will not creep. Folds flat in small space.

79c

Roofing

Reduced for Ward Week!

Weather-proof! Ideal for temporary use. 35-lb. roll.

\$1.00

Riverside Motor Oil

100% Pure Pennsylvania Reduced for Ward Week!

55c

Gal. inc. tax. In your container.

Finest Bradford District 100% Pure Pennsylvania oil at a Ward Week price you will never forget! Bring your container.

Rayon Lingerie

19c

Ward Week savings on bloomers, shorties, panties! In regular sizes only. SAVE!

Wide Sheets

Special for WARD WEEK!

"Longwear" quality! 81 x 99 full-bed size. Value!

88c Each

Bath Towels

Priced Lower for WARD WEEK!

Cannon quality. Large 22 x 44 size! Pastel edges!

10c

Pillow Cases

Special for WARD WEEK!

"Longwear" quality! 42 x 36 inches. Real values!

23c Each

Sheeting

Priced Lower for WARD WEEK!

"Longwear" quality! 81 inches wide! Bleached too!

33c Yard

Muslin

Priced Low for WARD WEEK!

Bleached! 36 inches wide! Slightly starched.

10c Yard

Flannel

Special Price for Ward Week!

Outing flannel in several patterns! 36 inches wide! Save!

12 1/2c Yard

Mattress

Ward Week Special!

40 lbs. of felted cotton; fluffy cotton center. Only

\$6.88

Bed Spring

Ward Week Special!

90 deep coils for comfort. Single deck style. Only.

\$5.88

13-Plate Battery

Save in Ward Week!

\$2.97 With Old Battery

The rock bottom price is only half the story! You get 12 months' satisfaction or you get a new battery paying only for months used.

2-Piece Suite

Buy Now! Save in Ward Week!

Price goes up after Ward Week! Davenport, chair covered in home-spun tapestry.

\$38.88

\$4 Down, \$5 Monthly. Small carrying charge

Wardoleum 9x12 Rugs

Reg. \$7.45 Grade!

\$6.79

3,000,000 Footsteps Couldn't Wear It Out!

Super-Servicel! Wards extra heavy Wardoleum Rugs—at extra saving for Ward Week only! Stain and waterproof.

Wood Heater

\$41.95

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Only in Ward Week at this sensational price! Steel and cast iron! Cooking grill! Burns wood. See it!

Washer Reduced!

For Ward Week! Only **\$38.88**

\$4 Down \$5 Monthly

Small Carrying Charge

Maybe never again a chance like this! Wards reliable quality. 14 famous features. Ward Week price so low it's hard to believe it!

Wash Dresses

Priced! Ward Week Priced!

Prints, plaids stripes! 14 to 52. Short sleeves. Save!

59c

Dress Shirts

Extra Savings in Ward Week!

Men's, flannel. Good broadcloth! Sizes 14 to 12.

69c

Overalls

Extra Ward Week Savings!

Rugged 22oz. wt. denim. Triple stitched. Buy Now!

88c

Axe Handle

Well-Seasoned...

Kirby 30-inch single bit hickory!

19c

.22 Shorts

This Price for Ward Week Only!

Copper-coated. Equal best known in power, uniformity!

25c For 100

Bike Tire

This Price in Ward Week Only!

Big black stud tread, white sides, 2 1/2" heavy fabric.

88c

Skates

Ball Bearing Ward Week Special!

Thick steel wheels, rubber cushioned! Save extra!

98c Pr.

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