

# CHINESE CAPTIVES TELL OF HORRORS

MEN AND GIRLS, STOWAWAYS ON  
THE MANCHURIA

LIVED TOGETHER IN ONE SMALL ROOM

Officials Hear Important Evidence of  
Great Smuggling Ring at  
Investigation

In referring to the recently discovered slave trade in San Francisco of Chinese men and women, mentioned so frequently in the telegraphic news of this paper, the San Francisco Chronicle has the following detailed story:

From the lips of the seven Chinese girls who were caught Sunday night after being smuggled from the steamship Manchuria, Assistant Commissioner of Immigration Harry Edsall heard a tale of horror which, he says, shows the inner workings of a plot more despicable than any similar crime he has had occasion to investigate during his work with the service.

Talking directly to the little Chinese girls in their own language, Edsall was able to secure from them a complete story of the smuggling plot so far as their knowledge goes. While he has not yet examined any of the eight men taken at the same time as the girls, he has already much information concerning the workings of the smuggling ring, and information that is being carefully guarded by the immigration officers.

Directly resulting from the attempt to land fifteen Chinese—seven women and eight men—at the China basin late Sunday night a series of investigations have been started that Federal officials declare will serve to probe to the bottom the existence of an organized smuggling ring. That employees of the customs service will be involved in the scandal before the investigations are completed is the belief freely expressed by officials in the customs service.

**Will Get at the Facts**  
Frederick S. Stratton, collector of customs, and Colonel C. H. Blinn, acting surveyor of the port, announced yesterday that when the investigation of the conduct of the four customs house inspectors, Freund, Kilemade, Gibbons and Rohrbacker, was started by them it would be thorough and wherever the blame lay, direct action would be taken.

Important facts were developed at the inquiry conducted at Angel Island by Assistant Commissioner of Immigration Harry Edsall, who has been detailed by Commissioner of Immigration Luther G. Stewart to handle the investigation for that department.

It has been definitely established that the fifteen Chinese captured by the customs inspectors, after they had been landed at China basin from rowboats by white men, arrived at this port on the Pacific Mail steamer Manchuria.

One of the women who was landed at China basin Sunday night attempted to land here last March, but was deported. The capture of the Chinese has developed the fact that the Chinese girls landed in Chinatown here are worth \$3,000 and more as slave girls.

The manner in which the girl and men were taken aboard and were taken from the Manchuria has been established.

The fact that an agent in Hongkong, acting for the smuggling ring, made all arrangements there and that other agents took charge here, was ascertained.

**Prisoners During the Voyage**  
Huddled together in a room aboard the Manchuria fourteen feet square and with low ceiling, the seven girls and eight men made the trip across the Pacific ocean from Hongkong. For twenty-five days they remained within those four walls, sleeping upon the floor or upon coils of rope in the little compartment. No one on board the ship appeared inside the room during that time. The door was locked, and there was no means of exit. Fearful of being caught, the stowaways made no outcry.

Inside the room when they entered was a supply of water, cold tea, crackers and dried fruit. Upon that fare the fifteen subsisted until they reached San Francisco.

When the stowaways were taken into the little room on board the great liner, they found besides the little supply of food and drink, male attire for the women and an extra supply of clothing.

When the gay crowds aboard the Pacific Mail liner made merry upon the decks of the big vessel during those twenty-five days the fifteen Chinese were spending days and nights of horror in that foul hole below. Little did Vice President and

General Manager R. P. Schwerin of the steamship company, who was a passenger on the vessel, realize the plight of the fifteen whose names failed to appear on the passenger list.

**Tell of Their Hardships**  
Their confidence won over by the man to whom they could talk in their own language, the Chinese girls told Assistant Commissioner of Immigration Harry Edsall the details of that trip. They told of having to sleep upon the hard floor of the steamship or upon the coils of rope, of being unable even to wash their hands or faces because every drop of the water that had been furnished must be saved for drinking purposes. They told of the last few days of the trip, when the room was reeking with filth; how they huddled together in a corner, possibly a bit cleaner than the others, and wished that the boat would sink and thus end their misery.

The Chinese girls questioned at Angel Island range in age from 14 to 20 years. They are orphans, and were picked up in Hongkong by an agent of the smuggling ring. That the agent is a white man is generally believed, but the immigration officials refuse to say whether he is a white man or a Chinese.

Some of the girls were told glowing tales of life in America, where rich husbands were awaiting them, in a land of freedom, where there would be only happiness for them. Their expenses were prepaid. They were merely to meet and marry a wealthy man of their race, amply able to provide them with the good things of life.

**One Girl Shambled**  
In the case of one girl 15 years of age, she was met on the street in Hongkong by the agent of the smuggling ring and lured to a cafe, where she was drugged. While insensible she was taken on board the Manchuria at Hongkong and awakened in the little fourteen-foot room with the six other girls and the eight men.

One girl, Ah Ying, is more sophisticated than the others, yet simple for a girl of her age in this country. She was brought here last March and an attempt was made to get her into the country, but she was deported.

When the Manchuria arrived at San Francisco the fifteen half-starved and sick stowaways awaited their deliverance from the wretched hole.

All the girls know is that men came and opened the door of their prison. Some of the girls and some of the men were lowered over the side of the ship into a rowboat. The girls were tied to the end of the rope and securely let down.

Those who went into the other boat were taken through an open port hole and handed down into a boat.

Just how many white men there were in the plot and who took part in it are details that are withheld by the immigration officers, but which, it is promised, will develop at later investigations that are expected.

**Must Not Discuss Affair**  
The first action resulting from the failure of the customs inspectors aboard the Manchuria to prevent the escape from that liner of the fifteen Chinese was taken when Colonel Blinn, acting surveyor of the port, issued an order that the four Manchuria guards—Charles Freund, John Kilemade, Edward Gibbons and William Rohrbacker—should be detailed at separate stations on the water front hereafter. No two of them will be allowed to work together guarding a single vessel.

Until the investigation by the surveyor of the port is started the order has gone out to the customs inspectors to refuse to discuss with any one the details of the break of the fifteen Chinese from the Pacific Mail liner. Neither the men who were guarding the vessel nor the four inspectors, Joseph Head, Samuel H. Sackett, C. J. Benninger and P. O. Huffaker, are permitted to discuss the affair until they are called upon to give their statement at the Federal inquiry.

Colonel P. H. Blinn yesterday dispatched a letter to Commissioner of Immigration Luther G. Stewart, requesting him to supply the surveyor of the port with a complete report of the investigation now in progress at Angel Island. Until that report is received no further action will be taken in the case of the four Manchuria guards than to separate them.

**Collusion Is Suspected**  
"My first idea was to suspend all of the inspectors on the Manchuria after I heard of the break," said Colonel Blinn. "It does not seem possible that those Chinese could have made their way from that vessel, or even from the wharf after they left the Manchuria, without the knowledge of some of the guards on board. The Chinese girls are little more than children. They are only about 15, 16 and 17 years of age. It is nonsense to think that they could be taken off the Manchuria over the stern or over the side of the vessel without the knowledge of some one on board."

"I have asked for a report of the

inquiry being conducted by the immigration officials. It was originally my intention to bring the four guards of the Manchuria before me Wednesday, but after consulting with Collector Stratton, I have decided to await the report of the commissioner of immigration.

"From the Chinese I believe valuable information will be secured as to the manner of removing the stowaways from the Manchuria, and the method of concealing them. When more of the facts are brought out at the Angel Island investigation there will be more for us to go on in the investigation that will be made here."

As a further indication that there is a concerted attempt being made to land Chinese in this country illegally immigration officials cite the fact that recently twenty-eight Chinese who had been landed illegally at Seattle were captured and twenty-six taken in the same way were caught at Portland.

## WEST IN LINE FOR HONOR

MAY BECOME INTERSTATE COMMERCE COMMISSIONER

Has Had the Necessary Experience  
For the Place and Party Affiliations Aid Him

SALEM, Or., Dec. 12.—Friends of Governor-elect West see ahead an opportunity for him to rise high in the public service and secure a National reputation, through the retirement in 1911 of Interstate Commerce Commissioner Cockrell of Missouri, who was formerly Democratic United States Senator from Missouri. The law creating the Interstate Commerce Commission requires that there shall be seven members of the Commission, no more than four of them to belong to one party. This means that Cockrell's successor must be a Democrat.

**West Has Experience**

It is understood to be the policy to select men for this position who have had some experience in connection with Railroad Commissions and there are but two or three Democrats in the country having those qualifications, one being West. The position carries with it a compensation of \$10,000 a year and the appointment lasts for seven years.

It is believed the prominence given the Interstate Commerce Commission and the salary attached, with the length of the term may prove tempting to West. The President makes this appointment and West's friends believe that Taft might be prevailed upon to give the Governor-elect's name serious consideration.

## WORKMEN BUSY REMODELING THE BALDWIN HOTEL

Room Occupied by the Hardware Store Is to Be Made Office Barber Shop and Lobby

Carpenters have begun work on enlarging and remodeling a portion of the Baldwin hotel. They are at work at present in building an enclosed stairway and entrance to the hotel and cafe. As soon as this is completed the carpenters will begin on the interior.

It is planned to divide the rear portion of the building so as to give twenty additional rooms to the hotel. Seven more private baths are to be installed and hot and cold water

will be placed in every room in the building.

Judge Baldwin is to move his stock of hardware from the lower floor to the building to the west formerly occupied by the Hardware Company. He has completed a large warehouse in the rear of this building in which he will store his wagons, machinery and heavy stock. It is expected that the hardware stock will be moved early in January. When this is done the lower floor is to be converted into a lobby and rooms for a barber shop and other necessary adjuncts to a modern hotel.

Mrs. J. L. Vose and daughter, Mrs. J. H. Cornelison, and daughter-in-law Mrs. A. A. Vose, came down from their home at Fort Klamath Sunday and next morning left for Central Point, where they will spend the winter. The boys have a sawmill there and will operate it this winter.

## MINE EXPLOSION IS FATAL

TEN MEN ARE TAKEN OUT DEAD AND OTHERS INJURED

Survivors Are Fearfully Burned—Little Hope of Rescuing the Remainder

CALBERTA, Alberta, Dec. 10.—Thirty of the forty-five miners who were entombed in the explosion in the Western Canada collieries at Crows Nest Pass were removed at daybreak. Ten of them are dead and the remainder were severely burned, several fatally. There is no hope of reaching the others alive. The trapped men are Italians and Swedes. The cause of the explosion is not known.

VANCOUVER, B. C., Dec. 10.—Rescuers are endeavoring to reach the sixty miners who are entombed in the Blue Bear colliery at Frankfort, Alberta by an explosion which occurred in that mine yesterday. Two bodies were recovered at the first level at midnight. The officials believe that owing to the peculiar windings of the lower levels many men will be found alive. The rescuers are working in relays.

## CHARLES LISKEY AND ALF WALLIS ARE PARDONED

Chas. Liskey and Alf Wallis, who were sentenced by Judge Nolan two years ago, were pardoned by the governor on Wednesday of last week. The pardon was made on the condition that the two men leave and do not return to the state of Oregon.

After leaving the penitentiary Liskey and Wallis came to Dorris, arriving there Saturday night. It is reported that some of their relatives in this county have gone to Dorris to meet the two men and probably provide them with funds to get out of the country.

## FOOD COMMANDS HIGH PRICES IN IDITAROD

Values Would Make Living Prohibitive But For the Big Wages Paid Miners.

SEATTLE, Wash., Dec. 12.—Men who just arrived from Alaska say that prices of food in the Iditarod country would be prohibitive but for

the big wages paid to miners. Sugar is 20 cents a pound, and bacon, ham and flour in proportion. Horses are in great demand, and \$5 an hour is the price of a team. On account of the number of stampedes dogs are in steady demand and any first-class dog will bring \$100. There is a constant stream of travel between the Iditarod and the Kuskokwim. Claims on the Takotna are exceeding expectations. Half a ton of Iditarod gold is on the way to Seattle, shipped on dog sledges by Iditarod banks.

Prospectors continue to strike rich quartz near Valdez, and much development work is being done in spite of the deep snow. Much ground available for dredging and hydraulic work is also being found.

If a man 84 years old could have retained an individual blood corpuscle all his life it would have traveled nearly 7,000,000 miles through his veins.

## FRUIT MEN OPPOSE THE JAPS

WANT LAWS TO PROHIBIT THEIR OWNING LAND

California Horticulturalists Seek the Passage of Stringent Measures Against Orientals.

STOCKTON, Dec. 10.—Strong resolutions asking that a law prohibiting aliens from owning land in California be passed was adopted at the session of the fruit growers. The action is taken in an attempt to check the inroad of Japanese on the fruit industry. A committee was appointed to secure other legislation needed by fruit growers. Among the laws recommended is one making an agricultural branch of the public schools in the rural districts compulsory.

## Closing Out Entire Stock

at the

## GOODRICH Cash Store

Crackers (canton), regular 85c	75c
Flake Oats and Wheat, regular 45c	35c
Table Fruit, regular 25c	20c
Table Fruit, per dozen, assorted	\$2.25
Cream, nine cans	95c
Spices, regular 15c cans	10c
Trilled Oats, 16 pounds for	\$1.00
Pearls of Wheat, per package	15c
Regular 60c Tea, per pound	40c

## Men's and Boys' Clothing

Regular \$20 and \$22.50 Suits	\$14.00
Regular \$17 Suits	\$11.00
Regular \$3.50 Pants	\$2.25

Other Prices in Proportion

## CROCKERY Agateware Glassware

A Large Line to Select From at Your Own Price

Produce and Eggs Taken at Market Prices  
Same as Cash. No Goods Delivered

## ASK YOUR NEIGHBOR

If he takes the Republican. If he does not urge him to do it, so as to lend a hand in the fight for his rights