

**Mania for Gambling  
Decreasing in China**

Gambling is the dominating national passion of China, and every Chinese indulges in it, whatever his age, social position, or fortune. He bets on everything—the number of seeds in an orange, the number of persons who will pass by a given point in a given time.

In five minutes the coolie will lose all the money he has saved in a month. The petty employee will do the same with his salary, and the banker with his fortune. The Chinese gambles at all times and places—during his meals, at the theater, between the acts, in trains, and in offices.

Under the empire the favorite form of gambling took a singular shape. It was as if everyone in France bet on the most successful candidates entering our big schools of learning. All China would participate in these enormous wagers. In all prefectures and subprefectures the names of the competing candidates were announced, and as soon as the results were known extra rapid couriers carried the names of the winners to all parts of the empire.

Nowadays the people limit themselves to betting on who will be chosen ministerial functionaries, and the game does not enjoy the vogue it once did.—George B. Maybon in La Nouvelle Revue, Paris (Living Age).

**Ambergris in Demand  
for Use in Perfumes**

When you tramp the margin of the sea, along the line where the waves leave seaweeds, bottle corks, and the unconsidered flotsam and jetsam which none sees fit to take away, make sure that the piece of stuff you took to be mottled soap is not a lump of ambergris. This precious substance, of which whalemen dream in their ambitious wanderings about the seven seas, comes from the alimentary canal of the sperm whale or caelot.

A few years ago Norwegians fishing in Australian waters found in one whale ambergris weighing approximately 900 pounds. It was worth \$135,000. By contrast, the whole production of the United States in 1922 only amounted to 44 pounds, worth about \$11,500. And not so long ago a piece of good luck befell a Spanish ship, the crew of which found 248 pounds in an Atlantic whale.

In centuries forgotten, when sperm whales were more abundant, ambergris did service in sacramental rites. The Chinese administer it medicinally. But most that is found today finds its way to perfumers, who use it as a fixative for delicate scents.

**Old Water Power Site**

The first water power on this continent, it is said, was built on the Piscataqua river at South Berwick, Maine, on the site of the present Burleigh blanket mill. It was in 1620 that Ferdinando Gorges obtained a grant from the English crown giving him the right to settle and develop the territory from sea to sea lying between the fortieth and forty-eighth parallels north latitude.

The grant, however, required him to develop water power, and accordingly he constructed a log dam, erected a grist mill and sent the meal to England as proof that the terms of the contract were being respected. The water power site has been in continuous use ever since and has lately come into public notice when the property changed hands.

**Industrial By-Products**

A list of the principal by-products of the packing industry includes all kinds of leathers, artificial teeth, beef extract, buttons, candles, canned edible products formerly wasted, combs, crocheted needles, dice, drum snares, fertilizer, gelatin, glue, glycerin, hair for brushes, handles for knives, handles for razors, hair for upholstery, hairpins, imitation stag horn, inedible grease, laundry soaps, musical strings, napkin rings, neatsfoot oil, nursing rings, oleomargarine, pancreatin, pepsin, perfume, pipestems, rennet, stock feeds, suprarenal—worth more than \$4,000 a pound; tennis strings, thyroid tablets, toilet soaps, umbrella handles, wool.

**Didn't Work Right**

Two of my young friends, newly-weds from the city, moved on a farm to begin their married life. They decided to raise chickens. Ten hens were set carefully on fifteen eggs apiece in boxes side by side and as carefully nailed in.

At the end of three weeks the young bride eagerly undid the first hen, fully expecting to see a nest of fluffy chicks. To her horror the hen was dead and not an egg piped. Unbelieving, each hen was looked at, but all had met the same fate. It was a sad but wiser couple when the next hens were set.—Copper's Weekly.

**Just Vanity**

There are some who are hurt at the idea that we belong to the same family as the flea and the mouse; while others are insulted when a kinship with the gods and the angels is claimed. In both cases it is a matter of vanity.—Plain Talk Magazine.

**Why Opera Is Popular**

What motivates many an opera subscriber is the same childish delight in watching wheels go round that keeps him rooted before a subway excavation or a luncheon griddle-cake virtuoso.—Deems Taylor in Vanity Fair Magazine.

**Jefferson Found His  
Letter Writing a Burden**

Thomas Jefferson liked to write letters and to receive them, but the burden became almost unendurable. He wrote John Adams in 1817 that from dinner to dark he was "drugging at the writing table."

"All this," he continued, "to answer letters into which neither interest nor inclination on my part enters; and often from persons whose names I have never before heard. Yet, writing civilly, it is hard to refuse them civil answers. This is the burden of my life, a very grievous one indeed, and one which I must get rid of."

He consented to write a few lines of introduction to one of Delaplaine's books that he might make there a public appeal for relief from this burden, but it does not appear to have been successful, for he wrote Adams in 1822 that he had received 1,267 letters the previous year and had answered all, though many of them had required long replies and some extensive investigation.

"Is this life?" he asked. "At best it is but the life of a mill horse that sees no end to his circle but in death. To such a life that of a cabbage is paradise." Since he had earlier described the life of a cabbage as "surely not worth a wish," he had evidently come close to the irreducible minimum in enjoyment of existence. At the time of his death he had 26,000 letters filed and had copies of 16,000 replies.—J. G. de Roulbac Hamilton, in Century Magazine.

**Even Finest Violins  
Must Have Exercise**

A violin, like a growing boy, according to the experts, is much better when kept busy. And dance tunes are just as good for "exercising" even a priceless Stradivarius as are the highest class concert numbers. A violin, bearing the date 1713 and believed to be a genuine "Strad," has been in the possession of the family of William McDonald of Rice Lake, Wis., says the Milwaukee Journal, for 175 years. Mr. McDonald, who owned the instrument for 53 years, has used it in old fiddlers' contests throughout this part of the state.

Inside the violin is this inscription: "Antonius Stradivarius Cremonensis. Faciebat Anno 1713" (Cremona of Antonio Stradivarius, made in the year 1713). The famous Cremona carver was at the height of his career as a violin maker in 1713, and all the evidence to be found in the family records leads the McDonalds to believe the instrument is an original of the noted maker.

**Daily Loss of Weight**

The loss of weight that we undergo every day has been the object of recent research, says Science. In the experiments, conducted by the Carnegie Institution at Washington, two sensitive balances were used. Both were strong enough to weigh a man, but delicate enough to register minute changes in weight. One of the balances would indicate a change of one-third of an ounce, and a person could sleep all night on its platform. The other was a hundred times as sensitive, but could be occupied only for an hour or so at a time. The total moisture losses through the lungs and skin of a woman of average weight averaged around 30 grams, or one ounce per hour; for a man the figure was about one-third higher.

**Forgetful**

The forgetful man got to the railroad station a few minutes before train time, but he felt he had forgotten something.

He looked over his baggage. It was all there. He felt in his pocket. His wallet was bulging pleasantly. Absently he reached in another pocket and pulled out two tickets to Niagara falls and a marriage license. So that was it!

He groaned and rushed for a telephone booth. But it was no use. He had forgotten the name and telephone number of the girl with whom he had intended to elope.—American Legion Monthly.

**Streams That "Meander"**

"Crooked as the River Jordan" is an old expression, but there are streams that meander Jordan look straight. In the old days when packet steamers were popular as transportation up and down the Mississippi, passengers used to get out at many of the sharp bends and walk across a narrow neck of land to rest from the tedious trip, the steamer arriving sometimes an hour later. The White river in Arkansas is another erratic stream. It travels 1,000 miles in traversing a distance of 30 miles.

**Preferences in Love**

When we are told that we are loved for our body, but not for our mind, we not only are easily consoled, but frequently quite delighted. We feel that we are loved "for ourselves," as we say. On the contrary, when we are told that we are loved for our mind only, we are generally insulted and hurt. We understand that we are loved for something that is really extrinsic and, in the final count, of slight merit.—Plain Talk Magazine.

**Loveless Millionaires**

In our secret hearts we don't tremendously admire the captains of industry and their kind, though we may envy them their power and wealth.—American Magazine.

**SOUTH WILL ALWAYS  
DENY NEGRO A VOTE**

**Says South Will Never Become a Haiti or a Santo Domingo. Upholds Disfranchisement**

Washington—In open defiance to the threats of republicans to instigate a probe of alleged "wholesale" disfranchisement of Negroes in the South, Senator Swanson and Senator Glass, both democrats from Virginia gave heated addresses in the senate Monday in which they emphasized the fact that the South intended to stick by its voting laws "despite threats of universal Negro suffrage."

Senator Swanson in his speech made what observing colored citizens considered a scurrilous and pernicious attack upon their rights.

"Exercising their clear, legal and constitutional right," said the senator, "the Southern states have enacted suffrage laws which are necessary to obtain clean, economical, and capable governments. The South is resolved and determined that no part of that section shall ever become a Haiti or Santo Domingo and the dark, festering sores of reconstruction shall never reappear to afflict her. Suffrage laws, legal and constitutional, are and always will be invoked to save the happiest and fairest portion of this nation from being again blighted by the rule of ignorance and corruption."

**UNITED STATES SENATE  
VOTES DONATION TO  
PICKETT'S WIDOW**

Washington, D. C. —(ANP)—A bill which was a slight indication of the esteem in which the late Charles J. Pickett was held by the members of the United States senate was passed by that body last week. It called for the payment to his widow of \$750, a sum equal to six months' compensation. It was but a gesture which gave his many friends in the upper legislative body an opportunity to do a gracious thing for the kin of one whom they all had known, admired and respected. The bill had been introduced by Senator Charles S. Dennen, in whose office he was assistant at the time of his death.

Mr. Pickett had the reputation not only of being "one of the most useful men in the senate building," but of knowing more men in public life than most attaches in the service of the government. His widow is residing on the farm which he had bought just across the district line in Maryland.

**MARCH CRISIS ANNOUNCES  
1928 KRIGWA PRIZES OF \$1,350**

New York, N. Y.—The March number of The Crisis Magazine, out shortly, announces \$1,350 in prizes to be awarded for articles and for drawings accepted and published as illustrations for covers.

This issue of The Crisis publishes the third installment in the series exposing the peonage and flood relief maladministration in the Mississippi area last spring. The red tape which wasted provisions and allowed them to spoil near points where they were badly needed and the discrimination against Negro flood sufferers are illustrated by a recital of individual cases.

The March Crisis also publishes "Bathesda of Sinners Run," a story by Maude Irwin Owens; a sharp editorial protest against the annual "effort to canonize" Robert E. Lee; a page of verse and other editorial and news features.

**NEGRO MEMBER OF  
CONFEDERACY DEAD AT 106**

Huntsville, Ala.—(Special)—One of the few remaining ante bellum types of Negroes of this section passed away to "the great beyond" recently. He was Essex Lewis, Confederate veteran, and had lived to attain the ripe age of 106 years.

Lewis was born a slave in Morgan county. He went to Virginia during the Civil War and was finally taken into the Confederate service. He had attended every Confederate reunion for the past 30 years.

After the Civil War Lewis returned to Alabama and settled down near this town where he operated a truck garden for many years. During the latter days of his life he was hired as a janitor in the postoffice here. His son took him home with him to Birmingham recently where the fatal attack occurred.

**HALF OF FRENCHMEN  
ARE UNFIT FOR ARMY**

Paris—More than half the young Frenchmen called each year to do their 18 months' military service are found to be unfit. The proportion of rejected men has been growing each year since the war. Officials and medical men are anxious to learn why.

**LINCOLN, NEBRASKA**

Miss Erma Tuggle of Kansas City, Mo., is visiting friends here. Miss Tuggle was formerly of Lincoln.

Mrs. Lamasters of St. Joseph, Mo., is visiting her sister, Mrs. Anna Christman, who is yet sick.

Mr. Earl McWilliams is home on account of his sister, Mrs. Lillie Richards' illness.

The funeral of Samuel R. Sampson was held in Morey's chapel last Friday morning. Rev. H. W. Botts preached.

Mrs. Henry Harris is reported on the mend from a recent stroke.

The Ever-Ready club of which Guy Wiley is captain, gave a literary and musical program in Zion Baptist church Monday night. Miss Goldstein gave a series of reading which was followed by a series of musical numbers by our young talent, which won much applause from the good audience present.

The program rendered by the Semper Fidelis club at Mount Zion Baptist church last Thursday night was said to have been fine, but not well patronized.

Mother Margaret Brown is yet confined to her bed at the home of her daughter, 1335 Rose street.

The services at all churches were conducted as usual Sunday. The pastors gave their congregations good sermons.

The university students were entertained Monday night at the home of Mrs. O. W. Ferguson by Omicron chapter of the Delta Sigma Theta sorority. A charming evening was spent by dancing and playing five hundred and whist. The very popular playing and singing of Mr. Harold Jones was a special feature.

**TEXAS EDUCATOR  
SEEKS FINANCIAL  
HELP IN NEW YORK**

New York City—Miss A. Bowden, principal of St. Philip's Junior college, San Antonio, Texas, is now in New York soliciting funds for the completion of the Bishop J. S. Johnson Memorial building, the first unit of which has already been erected with funds contributed by the people of San Antonio and the West Texas diocese of the Episcopal Church. An additional \$25,000 is needed to complete the other two units. This sum Miss Bowden hopes to get in the east.

St. Philip's Junior college was established in 1889 by Bishop J. S. Johnson, and though non-sectarian, has been conducted under the auspices of the Episcopal Church. Last spring Dr. Rolfe Crum, rector of St. Mark's Parish, San Antonio, started a drive for \$40,000 for the erection of the new building needed, of which \$16,000 was to be raised locally. This amount was over-subscribed in three days. The school is now accredited as a high school by the Texas department of education and also gives two years of junior college work, which it hopes soon to have accredited also. There are 75 girls enrolled in the high school and junior college and 25 in the primary grades. In the faculty of seven there are three A. B. college graduates and one M. A. graduate.

(Miss Gladys E. Brown, M. A. daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jasper E. Brown, 2883 Miami street, Omaha, is dean of the faculty. She is a graduate of Central High, the University of Nebraska and Howard University.—Editor, The Monitor.)

**N. A. A. C. P. SUPPORTS  
BILLS TO COMMISSION  
NEGRO BANDMASTERS**

New York, N. Y.—At the request of Warrant Officer Wade Hammand, band leader of the 10th United States Cavalry, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People is supporting two bills introduced in congress, H. R. 481 in the House and Senate 750, known as the "Army Band acts," which would authorize making commissioned officers of the bandmasters. These bills, if enacted, would make possible the granting of commissions to the four Negro band leaders now in the U. S. army.

The N. A. A. C. P. has written to Representative John J. Boylan and Senator Robert F. Wagner, of New York, and has already received a reply from Senator Wagner assuring of his "friendly consideration" for the matter.

The N. A. A. C. P. has also sent to its branches a list of the House and Senate committees on military affairs, urging them to write their senators and representatives in support of the bills.

**PROBATE NOTICE**

Ed F. Morearty, Attorney

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF PETER CHRISTENSEN, also known as PETER JOHN CHRISTENSEN, deceased.

Notice is Hereby Given: That the creditors of said deceased will meet the administrator of said estate, before me, county judge of Douglas county, Nebraska, at the county court room, in said county, on the 6th day of April, 1928, and on the 6th day of June, 1928, at 9 o'clock A. M., each day, for the purpose of presenting their claims for examination, adjustment and allowance. Three months are allowed for the creditors to present their claims, from the 3rd day of March, 1928.

BRYCE CRAWFORD,  
4t-2-3-28 County Judge.

**PROBATE NOTICE**

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF JOHN Q. GREER, deceased.

Notice is Hereby Given: That the creditors of said deceased will meet the administrator of said estate, before me, county judge of Douglas county, Nebraska, at the county court room, in said county, on the 28th day of March, 1928, and on the 28th day of May, 1928, at 9 o'clock, A. M., each day, for the purpose of presenting their claims for examination, adjustment and allowance. Three months are allowed for the creditors to present their claims, from the 25th day of February, 1928.

BRYCE CRAWFORD,  
4t-1-27-28 County Judge.

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