

# LIFE IN BEAUTIFUL BURMA

**B**URMA, with its lovely women, its emancipated ideas, and yet with its many primitive ideas, is one of the most entrancing of the eastern countries, declares Mrs. Henry M. Phillips, who has just returned from an extended trip, according to the Springfield (Mass.) Republican. The life there is quaintly idyllic, with something of the romantic left in it, although the life of the women is more free there than in any other eastern country.

In Burma a woman is allowed to pick out her own husband if she chooses, to keep her own name after marriage, to manage her own domestic affairs, to engage in business, the husband doing the serving for the family, carrying the heavy bundles and the children and doing work that in other countries is left to the women.

There is something deeply fascinating about Burma and, although Mrs. Phillips remained there but a few days, she regrets that she could not have stayed longer to know more of it and of its interesting people. Burma was approached through tangled forests, verdured heights and plains, and, like an Arabian Nights' pageant passed before the wondering eyes of the travelers the glorious varied scenery of the eastern countries. They came later to the waterways again, and followed the sluggish river to the blue laughing sea, crossing the bay of Bengal to the wide mud flats of the Irrawaddy, where they found its shimmering heat, the fabulous city of Rangoon with its ancient monument, another wonder of the world, the golden pagoda of Burma, its golden umbrella set with real jewels swaying and glittering at its very top.

Attractive sights in Burma. When the tourists had landed in the city they passed walking in the street by twos and threes the daintiest little bits of femininity, their swaying

of the girls, however, and in the country villages they receive no education except what they learn at home. In the large cities there are schools where the boys and girls are educated together. The boys have many festivals during their youth, but the girls only one, and that is the festival of ennobling when a girl makes her formal debut into native society. This is the great fete and is held with feasting and rejoicing, myriads of little boats and miniature pagodas being launched on the river, if the girl's home is near the stream.

Once their ears are prepared for the dainty ear ornament, they may sit upon the house veranda and receive their suitors. The marriage is quickly arranged, when the right lover comes, there being no church or civil ceremony. Instead friends are called to the wedding, a ribbon is stretched around the couple and their hands are clasped. They then eat together out of the same dish, and for the first time, and the ceremony is complete. The honeymoon is spent in the forest, should the couple be of humble circumstances, while if they are wealthy they go immediately to a new home.

The love songs of the Burmese are remarkable for their beautiful poetry, and are much translated into the English language. One of the songs follows: "The moon wooed the lotus, in the night the lotus wooed by the moon, and my sweetheart is their child. The blossom opened in the night and she came forth, the petals moved and she was born. Her face is as delicate as the dusk; her hair is as night falling over the hills; her skin as bright as the diamond. She is full of health, no sickness can come to her. When the wind blows, I am afraid, when the breezes move I fear, I fear lest the south wind take her, I tremble lest the breath of evening woo her from me—so light she is and graceful. Her dress is of gold, even



TEMPLE IN BURMA

figures clad in the softest silk of rose pink, sea green or violet, a white silk bolero with flowing sleeves and a gauze scarf completing their exquisite costumes. Their smiling alert faces were crowned by the smoothest black hair dressed in a coil, with a flower at the side, always lighter than a Japanese maiden would wear it. Often the Burmese wore jewels, although they were not worn as prominently and profusely as in India, perhaps because they so often sacrifice their jewels for the decoration of the temples. These comely damsels came to the temples with their husbands, the latter carrying the children, all the family, even to the baby, smoking cheroots. Imagine a cigar as big as a candle protruding from these cherry lips, and the babies with a smaller sized cigar.

It is interesting that every boy in Burma must become a monk for a few years, many receiving their only education in the monastery if circumstances force them to work instead of allowing them to attend the native school. There are few nunneries for

of silk and gold, and her bracelets are of fine gold. She hath precious stones in her ears, but her eyes, what jewels can compare to them? She is proud, my mistress—she is very proud, and all men are afraid of her—in the whole world none can compare with her."

**Woman Free Though Married.**  
In marriage this delicate young creature keeps her own name, but there is no confusion over her married state. She enters into business partnership with her husband, or undertakes a business venture on her own account. If she opens a shop in the bazaar, it does not take her from her household duties for long, since the bazaars are open only three hours in the day. She wears her silk at home, her clothes need little or no sewing, her children no clothes at all. She is absolutely mistress of her time and of herself. The husband here, as elsewhere, however, is head of the household, the rule being one of love and not of fear.

The Burmese laws against intoxication and the taking of life are very stringent.

**"The Wide and Winding Rhine."**  
The Rhine, a boundary stone of the German history, is only and solely of its kind. On its banks one meets the vestiges of past civilization, we find traces of its regeneration and of the modern civilization of which children we are. Various impressions make arise in us so many different sensations, so that a profound enthusiasm gets place in us. On the one hand the works of the hand of art, and on the other the imposing curiosities of nature, combine themselves on the banks of the Rhine, crowned by vineyards, to an admirable symphony, in which we are touched all accents shuddering the heart and the powerful accents of the profoundest emotion. Therefore, one cannot be astonished about it, that the Rhine has always given inspiration to many poets to their most celebrated works.—From a Guidebook Published in Frankfurt-on-the-Main.

**Haunted Library.**  
One of the most curious "hauntings" occurs in a northern castle of great antiquity, where Mary, queen of Scots,

rested when she was being conveyed a prisoner through England. It is manifested in the library and takes the form that the books cannot be kept in order. They move about or are moved about from shelf to shelf. If you arrange the books of Shakespeare in correct order on one shelf, by next morning the volumes are scattered anyhow on different shelves. This has gone on for years. At different times the library has been searched and locked, watches have been set all night, servants have come and gone, but the mysterious occurrence goes on and is vouchered for, not by the family, but by the guests who have stayed in the house. There is no legend to account for it—London Mail.

**The Immortals.**  
Mrs. Partridge and Mrs. Malprop are still with us in the flesh. Recently a woman at the opera in Chicago complained that her seat was too far back. She said she could hear the music all right, but the performers on the stage "looked like minnows."

## YOUNG PLAYERS EXCEL.

### REASON WHY AMERICAN LEAGUE LEADS OLDER RIVAL.

Sentiment Seems to Cause Nationals to Keep Old Stars in Regular Lineup—Comparison of Roster Is Quite Interesting.

(By FRANK G. MENKE.)  
Because they persist in hanging on to their veterans long after their real usefulness is gone—that's the reason why the National league, once the classiest organization in baseball has had to yield first place to the American league.

There has been no denying of the fact that for the past four years the American league teams have had it "on" their National rivals. The American leaguers have been triumphant in the last four world series combats, and in the majority of post-season games between the Americans and Nationals the teams of the younger organization have been triumphant. In 1913 the American leaguers were winners in every series in which they were engaged with the Nationals.

A glance through the baseball records shows the reason. The American league keeps a star player as long as he performs in major league style—but not one day longer. They cut him admit when he starts to skid and supplant him with new blood—bring to the fore some youngsters who soon shine just as brightly as did the stars of old.

With the National league it is different. Sentiment seems to cause them to keep in the regular lineup many old stars long after they have slumped over—long after added years has robbed them of their former prowess and made them inferior to the youngsters who are camping on the benches waiting to break in.

Looking over the 1904 records of the American league, and comparing the rosters of those days with that of 1914, shows that only five men of the 100 odd, then in that league, are still in American league harness. Those men are Lajoie and Turner of the Naps, Crawford of the Tigers, Bender and Plank of the Athletics.

Stovall, who joined the Naps back in 1904, was with the St. Louis Browns until last fall, and now is with the Federals. Harry Davis, a star in 1904, is still on the Athletic payroll, but he plays no longer. Jimmy Callahan,



Nap Lajoie

now manager of the White Sox; Clark Griffith, now manager of the Senators, and Nick Altrock, coacher, are the only players who played in 1904 who still are drawing salaries from the American league.

But it's a bit different with the National league, which carried and played regularly in 1913 nearly 35 men who were in the game in 1904, and even earlier than that date. Included in this list are Wagner, Brenahan, Mathewson, Ames, Gannitt, Huggins, Evers, McCormick, Wittas, Needham, Doolin and McLean.

Glancing over the 1909 rosters of the American and National leagues, and comparing them with the present ones, shows that the Nationals still have nearly 70 men in their lineups who were there in 1909, while the Americans have only about 40. This means that the American Leaguers have weeded out the slipping stars of the other days, and that the National Leaguers have hung onto them—and lost considerable prestige thereby.

The result of these conflicting policies has been shown in the inter-league clashes in the past few years. The American league outfits, composed mostly of kids, have been able to sweep everything before them; the National league, with its heavy membership of slipping veterans, have slumped up and have had to yield before the onslaught of the younger organization.

It seems to be up to the National Leaguers to weed out the veterans and let the bench-warming kids ooze out into the spotlight if they want to save themselves from slipping to a minor league status when compared with the speed boys of the American league. The new organization has forged ahead so rapidly in the past few years, has so closely outclassed the Nationals, that many skeptical fans are declaring that the Nationals today, despite their galaxy of stars, do not rank superior to those of the first division teams in the class AA minor leagues.

**Harvard Opens With Colgate.**  
Harvard's first baseball game at home this season will be with Colgate on April 8.

## LEADING PITCHER IN NATIONAL LEAGUE



Christy Mathewson, Veteran of Giants' Staff.

Christopher Mathewson, veteran of the Giants' pitching staff and one of the greatest heavers the game has ever known, was born in Factoryville, Pa., Aug. 12, 1878. He first attracted attention by his work for the Keystone academy team of Factoryville. In 1897 he pitched for the Y. M. C. A. team of Scranton. The next year he pitched for the Bucknell college nine, finishing the season without a single defeat. At this time he was also the best full back that had ever played on the Bucknell eleven. After the col-

## Among the Baseball Players

Frank Chance looks for the Athletics to repeat this year.

Fred Snodgrass has signed a three-year contract with the Giants.

If the dates don't conflict, maybe King Cole will play in both leagues.

Hugh Bradley, ex-Red Sox, who is said to have jumped to the Feds, takes with him a reputation as a singer.

Vincent Campbell, former Pirate player, and now a Boston Brave, will play with the Indianapolis Feds this season.

George Moriarty is spoken of as the next manager of the Detroit Tigers. What's to become of Hughey Jennings?

Bad news for the batters. Joe Wood is recovering rapidly and may be able to pitch with all his old strength about July 1.

Clarke Griffith is willing to pay \$100,000 for T. R. Cobb, but Frank Navin says his lowest cash price is \$100,050.

The Giants are said to have the tallest battery in either league. Rube Marquard and Larry McLean are called the Eiffel tower twins.

Fred Toney is on the Cleveland roster in an attempt to get back in the majors. The former Cub is doing his best to make the Nap team.

Sam Agnew, St. Louis Browns catcher, says that the recruits with the Browns this spring are the best lot of youngsters he has seen together in a long time.

"Chief" Myers will help coach the Giants' young pitchers. McGraw believes that the Indian is as good a coach of young heavers as there is in the league today.

Umpire Jack Sheridan was lost in Egypt, one of the worst countries in the world to be lost in. Besides, Jack doesn't smoke cigarettes, can't read hieroglyphics, and cares nothing for the Nile.

Jimmy Williams, former Oriole and Brown, is said to be the only player to get six hits in one game. And there are not very many who made as many as five, either.

Even Connie Mack got so excited over the Murphy-Evers episode that he boldly broke into print with the statement "Murphy should be chased out of baseball."

Tiller Cavet, the young Detroit hurler, wears a shade when he is on the slab. He'll have to have a little more than a shade to stick in the big tent.

Fritz Maisel, the third sacker for the Yankees, says that he signed with Farrell because he had promised to do so after he heard from the Players' Fraternity. That is why the Federals lost him.

The veteran Charley McCafferty, a pitcher who has worked a score of leagues from the majors down to Class D, has been named a member of the Western league staff of umpires.

## WHY JAKE STAHL DECLINED

Former Boston Leader Persuaded by Business Associates to Remain in Banking Business.

It was announced that Jake Stahl will not manage the Brooklyn Federal league team, neither will he manage any other Federal team or be connected with the league in any way. This decision on the part of Stahl came as a result of a meeting of the board of directors of the Englewood bank, with which Stahl has been connected. The bank officials hastily met, and as a result of the conference, Stahl was persuaded that his



Jake Stahl.

place was with the bank and that he should not return to baseball at this time, if at all. Stahl declared that he was not influenced in his decision by the threats of Ban Johnson to expose him and force him out of baseball. If he joined the Federals, asserting that there was nothing in his past that he was afraid to have made public.

**Parker Was Too Good.**  
The University of Chicago has a new one in athletics. Charles Parker, captain of the track team, has been dropped because of excellence in his studies. Sounds funny, but true. Parker is taking a six-year course toward an LL. D., but has already made the major credits, which entitle him automatically to a bachelor degree. The western conference bars degree holders, so Parker must step down and out. "Kinder rough" on athletes when they get socked on both ends.

**Emulates McGraw.**  
Following the innovation set by John McGraw of the Giants last season, when he quartered his Giants in a fashionable family hotel during their stays in St. Louis, it is announced that Manager Herzog of the Reds will also have his team stop at the same hotel—the Buckingham, which first came into baseball notice when Roger Bresnahan stirred society guests there by punching the nose of a clerk who had called him too early.

**Binghamton Buys Backstop.**  
The Binghamton club, champions of the New York State league have purchased Catcher Mike Konick from Vancouver of the Northwestern league. Fans of Binghamton are joyous over his acquisition, as he is said to be one of the most thrifty receivers in the minors.

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