STRANGE CUSTOMS OF THE ORIENT

WAYS OF THE EAST STRANGE TO OCCIDENTAL EYES

Persians Object to Type-Setting and Employ Lithography for Production of Books.

Mohammedanism is as much a social system as a religion. The mosque is no more like a church than it is like a clubhouse. People do not consider it improper to eat or sleep in it, to discuss secular matters, or to read books or newspapers. It serves as a refuge for homeless strangers and as a meeting place for the folk of the town.

Sometimes the mosque sees even stranger sights. In this relation an American tells of a curious incident.

On the last day of Ramadan, or the period of fasting, a tumult arose in the town where he was stopping. It might have had a serious consequence, though the cause of the disturbance was absurdly trivial.

A man who belonged to the heretical Wahabi sect was in the mosque while some persons were visiting the tomb of a prophet who is supposed to be buried there. These visitations consist in standing in front of the vault and reciting a long salutation. By the Wahabis they are held to be idolatrous.

A Strange Riot.

This man started to declaim against the custom and attracted a considerable audience, one of whom, a Meccan Arab, a learned man, put an end to the sermon by hitting the preacher on the head. The governor of the city, who happened to be in the mosque at the time, observed these indecorous proceedings and ordered the arrest of the Arab without troubling to make inquiries.

Nothing further happened until evening, when a crowd began to gather in front of the Government offices and demanded that the prisoner be released. When the crowd began to assemble the American was under the impression that they had seen the new moon, which marks the end of the fast and is always an occasion for rejoicing.

He at once sallied forth to see what might be going on, and so got mixed up with the crowd just as the row began. The crowd broke open the door and rushed into the building, from the balcony of which a strong lunged orator addressed them.

The arrival of several companies of infantry put an end to his speech; the soldiers retook the building and drove the intruders out. Reenforcements coming up charged the crowd. The people retaliated with sticks, stones and anything else that came handy. Several were injured, but none seriously.

The troops threatened to fire, but fortunately for the crowd, did not do so. At midnight, the whole place being in an uproar, the Governor gave way and released the prisoner, who was carried home in triumph and amid general enthusiasm. The American had been rather roughly handled during the scuffle, in which he could not avoid taking part.

Lithography in Persia.

Type printing is unpopular in Persia. The straightness of the lines offends the Persian's artistic sense, and he feels that in printed books the character of the letters is entirely lost.

Persia is to-day largely dependent upon lithography for its own production of books. Naturally these are very scarce. At the beginning of the nineteenth century a press with movable types was set up in Tabriz, and a certain number of books was printed. The effort met with no encouragement, however, and had shortly to be abandoned.

The same taste which makes a Persian esteem so highly the great calligraphists makes him deplore the absence of character in a type printed book. What delights him most in this relation is a well written manuscript, and he takes the same delight in the copyist's work that we take in the touch of an old master. Failing this, he contents himself with a lithograph, which is usually a facsimile of the writing of some fairly good scribe, and has, at any rate, a human element in it.

It is hard for us to credit the vast amount of attention that is paid to calligraphy in the East, where men of learning devote years to its acquirement and their best days to making artistic copies of classical works. Although this art is to a certain extent dying out, owing to the cheapening of lithography, a man may even yet in Persia become as famous for his writing as a poet is for his verses.

A curious contrast is thus presented by the Persians, who cling to written books, while elsewhere in the East there is a rapid spread of type printed books, printing, bookselling and journalism in the Orient in the last twenty years or so having developed to a comparatively high degree. Both Cairo and Constantinople possess excellent printing presses, which turn out numberless books and journals.

Gambling in India.

An odd form of gambling has developed in India, for which the New York cotton market is indirectly responsible. Five quotations from the New York market are cabled to India every day, and the natives conceived this to be a direct invitation to them to establish a simple but none the less absorbing form of gambling.

The gambling consists in guessing what the five figures would amount to and the persons most nearly approximating the right amount wins. So fascinating did this game prove that the authorities became greatly worried over the indulgence of the poorer class of natives in it. Efforts have been made to lessen it, and it is believed that at last some success has been attained by those who are unwilling that the poorer people should squander their scanty funds in this pastime.

"Trust men and they will be true to you; treat them greatly and they will show themselves great, though they make an exception in your favor to all their rules of trade."—Emerson.

When making plea for a change, fill a pie plate with sliced apples seasoned as usual, or apple prepared as for frying, then pour over it a thin corn or johnnycake batter, and bake.

Minard's Liniment Cures Diphtheria.

Over 100,000,000 People in Europe Face Starvation

Reliable Experimental Station tests show that Fertilizers have increased yields of grain, potatoes, etc., 25% to 130%.

The 1917 Report of the Board of Agriculture, England, records the fact that in a general report from English farmers who undertook to grow more food, 40% of the farmers made special mention of the great service rendered by fertilizers.

You can help stave off famine and make profit yourself by preparing to fertilize your spring crops, and to top-dress your fall wheat next spring.

Write for our Free Bulletins on Crop Increase.

THE SOIL AND CROP IMPROVEMENT BUREAU
OF THE CANADIAN FERTILIZER ASSOCIATION.
1111 Temple Building - - - - Toronto

Belgium Starving

Under Allied Flags

Immediate Help Needed to Relieve Starvation and Suffering—Cannot Hold Germany Responsible NOW!

There is pressing need for our help in Belgium today, and there will be for many months to come.

As our troops occupy the evacuated territory, untold misery stares them in the face. Emaciated children, hollow-cheeked women, roofless homes, clothing so worn it offers no protection from winter's terrors—miseries that cannot wait but MUST be relieved at once to avert DEATH!

Need you be reminded how Belgium was the first to jump into the breach and so make our Victorious Peace possible?

Don't let it be said WE let Belgium starve. Let us cable over your offering to the mothers and children of Brave Little Belgium AT ONCE!

Make cheques payable and send contributions to

Belgian Relief Fund

(Registered under the War Charities Act) 127

to your Local Committee, or to

Ontario Branch—Belgian Relief Fund—95 King St. W., Toronto

The Weekly Fashions

What a fascinating little design for the kiddie! The fulness at either side of front and back may be smocked, shirred or tiny tucks used as illustrated. McCall Pattern No. 8656, Child's Dress. In 5 sizes, 6 months to 6 years. Price, 15 cents.

An entirely new idea for a house dress. The belt and pockets are in one, being connected with the back belt. McCall Pattern No. 8637, Ladies' House Dress. In 3 sizes, small, 34 to 36; medium, 38 to 40; large, 42 to 44 bust. Price, 25 cents.

These patterns may be obtained from your local McCall dealer, or from the McCall Co., 70 Bond St., Toronto, Dept. W.

Nothing finer has come out of this war than this line from an epitaph in a British graveyard in France: "For your to-morrow they gave their to-day."

I was cured of Rheumatic Gout by MINARD'S LINIMENT.
Halifax. ANDREW KING.

I was cured of Acute Bronchitis by MINARD'S LINIMENT.
LT.-COL. C. CREWE READ.
Sussex.

I was cured of Acute Rheumatism by MINARD'S LINIMENT.
Markham, Ont. C. S. BILLING.
Lakefield, Que., Oct. 9, 1907.

"Heroism is the brilliant triumph of the soul over the flesh—that is to say, over fear; fear of poverty, of suffering, of calumny, of sickness, of isolation and death. There is no serious piety without heroism. Heroim is the dazzling and glorious concentration of courage."—Amiel.

Minard's Liniment Cures Colds, &c.

Canada is a land of motor cars, holding third place in the number of automobiles in use. In 1917 there were 199,302 cars registered in Canada, an increase of 47,705 over 1916, while the number of new cars registered in that year was nearly 76,000. The increase for 1918 is expected to be on a proportionate scale. One Canadian in every 40 owns a car, and roughly speaking, there is one automobile for every eight families.

Keep your shoes neat

2 IN 1

SHOE POLISHES

LIQUIDS and PASTES

for BLACK, WHITE, TAN, DARK BROWN OR OX-BLOOD SHOES

PRESERVE the LEATHER

THE F. F. DALLEY CORPORATIONS Ltd., HAMILTON, CANADA.

ROYAL YEAST

Has been Canada's favorite yeast for over a quarter of a century. Bread baked with Royal Yeast will keep fresh and moist longer than that made with any other, so that a full week's supply can easily be made at one baking, and the last loaf will be just as good as the first.

MADE IN CANADA

E.W.GILLETT COMPANY LIMITED
WINNIPEG TORONTO, ONT. MONTREAL

To the Sleeping Heroes.

For you who answered duty's call
We deeply grieve to-day.
You, who went forth to win or fall,
Yours was the warrior's way.

Where'er you lie 'tis honored dust.
Of you be truly said:
Our comfort is the old-time trust,
God rests his own brave dead.

And now at last the dove of peace
O'er us her pinions spread.
Our thanks to you shall never cease,
'Twas victory's fires you fed.

Minard's Liniment Cures Garget in Cows

Quite a Feat.

A sergeant was drilling an awkward squad.

"Company! Attention, company; lift up your left leg and hold it straight out in front of you!"

One of the squad held out his right leg by mistake. This brought his right-hand companion's left leg and his own right leg close together. The officer, seeing this, exclaimed angrily:

"And who is that blooming galoot over there holding up both legs?"

A double boiler should have a good large base, so that the water will not boil away quickly.

The Hospital for Sick Children

TORONTO

War Laid Heavy Hand on Children's Charity.

Dear Mr. Editor:—

The annual report of the Hospital for Sick Children, Toronto, marks a new record, despite the heavy handicap the war placed upon its work.

The task of ministering to the suffering youngsters of this province was no light one in view of the Hospital's splendid response to the national call 25 doctors and 43 nurses from its forces have seen service overseas.

Yet the number of patients treated is 5,048, or 1,308 more than last year. Of these in-patients, 759 were from 266 places outside of Toronto.

The tireless efforts of the staff made possible also a reduction in the average length of stay necessary for the little patients from 24 days in 1914 to 14 this year.

These results show that the Hospital has again paid to the children rich dividends of health upon the invested kindness of its supporters.

There has been careful stewardship of the funds entrusted to the Hospital. There has been saving—almost scrimping—in every direction except where it would prevent the Hospital's soothing the suffering or shortening the sickness of one child. The daily cost of operation was held at the lowest point which would still allow the children entrusted to the Hospital to get the best medicine and the best of care.

And yet so high has risen the cost of every item in the Hospital's budget—in labor, in fuel, in food, and, above all, in medical supplies—that the minimum expense of taking care of one child for one day has risen from $2.34 back in 1914 to $3.21¾ in 1918. Of that, $1.66¾—the amount per patient per day that the official Government grants do not cover—must come from voluntary contributions.

During the past four years debts were incurred to the extent of $100,000, which the Trustees felt assured would be wiped out by the public as soon as the war drew to its close, and those heavy demands cease which have been made upon the generosity of the loyal people of this province. The time has now come when it is necessary to make known the Hospital's dire need of financial assistance.

If this 43rd Christmas appeal fails to rally the friends of this Charity to its support, it will be necessary to mortgage its land, buildings and plant. By the bounty of the late John Ross Robertson that property has just been cleared of debt for the first time since it began its ministry of healing mercy.

Little children have lost a big-hearted friend, and the province a noble benefactor. It is for the public to decide whether his life-work shall be shadowed with a mortgage within less than a year of his passing.

What think you?

Send your answer as soon as possible to the Secretary-Treasurer, Hospital for Sick Children, College Street, Toronto. Meanwhile the Charity will "Carry on," trusting in your support.

IRVING E. ROBERTSON,
Chairman of Appeal Committee

Tonnage Lost During War.

The world's total losses of merchant tonnage from the beginning of the war to the end of October, 1918, by enemy action and marine risk was 15,053,786 gross tons, according to official announcement issued in London on Dec. 6th.

During the same period vessels totalling 10,849,527 tons were constructed, and enemy tonnage totalling 2,392,675 was captured, making a net loss of tonnage during the war of 1,811,584.

Minard's Liniment Cures Distemper.

"A true friend embraces our objects as his own. We feel another mind bent on the same end, enjoying it, insuring it, reflecting it, and delighting in our devotion to it."—Channing.

MONEY ORDERS.
The safe way to send money by mail is by Dominion Express Money Order.

Mix salt and pepper ten to one in a large bottel for kitchen use.

FOR SALE

WELL EQUIPPED NEWSPAPER and job printing plant in Eastern Ontario. Insurance carried $1,500. Will go for $1,200 on quick sale. Box 69, Wilson Publishing Co. Ltd. Toronto.

WEEKLY NEWSPAPER FOR SALE in New Ontario. Owner going to France. Will sell $2,000. Worth double that amount. Apply J. H., c/o Wilson Publishing Co., Limited, Toronto.

STORM WINDOWS FOR SALE.

GET OUR PRICE LIST SHOWING cost of windows glazed complete, any size. Halliday Company, Box B. 61, Hamilton

MISCELLANEOUS

CANCER, TUMORS, LUMPS, ETC., internal and external, cured without pain by our home treatment. Write us before too late. Dr. Bellman Medical Co., Limited, Collingwood, Ont.

ACHES AND PAINS QUICKLY RELIEVED

You'll find Sloan's Liniment softens the severe rheumatic ache

Put it on freely. Don't *rub* it in. Just let it *penetrate* naturally. What a sense of soothing relief soon follows!

External aches, stiffness, soreness, cramped muscles, strained sinews, back "cricks"—those ailments can't fight off the relieving qualities of Sloan's Liniment. Clean, convenient, economical. Made in Canada. Ask any druggist for it.

Sloan's Liniment Kills Pain

30c., 60c., $1.20.

Cuticura Promotes Beauty Of Hair and Skin

If the Soap is used for every-day toilet purposes assisted by occasional touches of Cuticura Ointment to first signs of pimples, redness, roughness or dandruff. Do not confound these fragrant super-creamy emollients with coarsely medicated, often dangerous preparations urged as substitutes.

Sample Each Free by Mail. Address postcard: "Cuticura, Dept. N, Boston, U. S. A." Sold by dealers throughout the world.

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Coronado Beach, California

Where the balmy yet invigorating climate makes possible the enjoyment of outdoor sports throughout the Winter months.

POLO, GOLF, TENNIS, MOTORING, FISHING, BAY AND SURF BATHING

Write for Winter Folder and Golf Program.

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