Dime a Day Top Pay for China Workers

Rapid Disappearance of Handicrafts Before Advance of Machine-Made Goods Indicated by Economic Investigation of Conditions in Peiping

Peiping (Peking)—Perhaps never in the whole history of China have the occupations of her people been so disturbed as at present, declares Prof. L. K. Tao, after an eight-months' study of handicraft workers in Peiping for the China Foundation, an institution established with some of the money returned under the American Boxer indemnity.

Dr. Tao and his assistants selected 500 representative families, engaged in artificial flower-making, crocheting, making match-boxes, toy-manufacture and other occupations which can be done in the homes, or in small factories. He discovered that in most cases it is impossible for families so engaged to support themselves, even when the small children work. Of the 500 families, 299 are receiving charity in some form or other.

This study was undertaken before the capital was removed from the North to Nanking, so that the conditions incidental to removel of the government offices do not affect the survey. The picture which Dr. Tao draws is that of a disappearing group—the handicraft workers of China. Since the appearance of machine-made goods in the Orient, they have fought a losing fight, Dr. Tao points out, and disturbed political and economic conditions have hastened their defeat in competition with the machines from the West.

Unpaid or unemployed workers trained for one occupation, have turned to others as a last resort, said Dr. Tao. In consequences, he found unpaid policemen working as house servants, shop assistants who have lost their jobs becoming jinrikisha pullers, and workers in some handicrafts which have been almost destroyed turning to others, increasing the competition and lowering the prices.

Dr. Tao found that the average total earning of the 500 households was only $157 Mexican, a little more than $75 gold per year for an average of more than four persons. Living in the simplest possible manner, the investigators found that the 500 families spent about $1 gold per year on food for the family, the remaining $25 gold having to cover everything.

Of the 5157 Mexican, which represents the yearly earnings of a family, only $68 Mexican (about $35 gold) is derived from handicrafts, the rest coming from other work. In the 500 families studied, there were 934 handicraft workers skilled in some form of handwork. Their daily earnings ranged from 2½ to 11 cents gold, the highest paid not receiving enough for 10 or 12 hours of work to live on.

Dr. Tao believes it will not be long before the handicraft worker will entirely disappear.

Woman Doctor on Keeping Young

Mental "Muscles" Need Exercise and Stimulation, She Says

So much time and trouble are spent in maintaining a youthful aspect physically that it is sometimes forgotten that the mental make-up is at least as important, writes a woman doctor in the London Daily Express.

Victorian women became stout and elderly at thirty through exercise, quite often relapsing into a state of semi-invalidism which is practically unknown in these days. Modern women have not a retinue of servants, but labor-saving devices and smaller households combine to give them a considerable amount of spare time.

Letting Mentality "Sag"

It is fatally easy to let mental "muscles" run to fat. They need exercise and stimulation like the rest of the body. Too often the reading done, the plays and films seen, even the concerts attended are less stimulants than narcotics.

How many of us must plead guilty to the accusation—recently levelled at us—of allowing music to drift past our ears as stream of sound, without making the slightest effort to understand it. Similarly "easy" novels are selected. "Something light for the week-end," the librarian is asked for, and someone else is allowed to choose our mental diet.

It has been suggested that education be left till minds have matured; that the young be urged to "do," and the older in order to be able to think to any purpose, and once one loses the reins and lets one's intellectual processes drift, it requires a real effort to get the upper hand again.

A Stimulating Tonic

The brain can be kept in training alert, youthful, open to new ideas, and attuned to catch the best output from other brains, either by pursuing some special branch with real enthusiasm, filling those spare hours with definite work at a particular object outside one's ordinary concerns, or in maintaining a certain standard of what can only be called "culture" in all the arts, taking literature, drama, music, in whatever form, as small tonic doses, not as sleeping draughts.

Those who complain they are not "brainy" can turn their practical gifts into new channels, developing arts and crafts that will astonish them. The joy and enthusiasm in finding a new job or hobby, however one regards it, and the first glorious flush of success has to be experienced to be appreciated.

There can be no doubt as to its rejuvenating effect.

CHINA'S FINANCE KING

T. V. Soong, minister of finance for China, who has tackled the difficult job of balancing a Chinese budget, stabilizing her currency and establishing the nation's credit abroad.

"Sherlock Holmes" Fooled for Once

Conan Doyle, Noted Spiritualist is Victim of Hoax Revelation

Nairobi, East Africa.—Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, famous author of the Sherlock Holmes detective stories and more recently prominent as an advocate of spiritualism was the victim here of a hoax revelation.

Sir Arthur, who is touring and lecturing on spiritualism, was exhibiting "ghost pictures" which he had accepted as authentic physical manifestations of spirit existence. One in particular he had pointed out, a dim figure which he asserted was a spirit which had inhabited a local haunted house. He called attention to the "hard, wicked face" of the apparition and suggested that it perhaps was the spirit of a clergyman "earth-bound because of his sins."

At this point Spencer Halmer, a dentist well-known hereabouts, arose and announced: "That's me!" He explained that the picture was taken 15 years ago at Nottingham, England, 100 miles northwest of London. After he and friends had unsuccessfully watched all night at a haunted house for signs of a ghost, he said he had dressed in a night shirt and a friend had made the photograph.

Relief Work for Unemployed

Spectator (London): Germany in the days of her profoundest depression gave the whole world an example by setting her house in order. She freely scrapped old industrial plant, and set up modern industrial plant against the day when her trade should revive. What are the unemployed but a standing warning that we now have the same opportunity? Trade seems to be slowly reviving, and there may never again be such a surplus of labor that could be turned on to put our house in order.

Poison Gas

London Daily Chronicle (Lib.): The authorities dare not count upon an enemy refraining from the use of this deadly weapon for slaughtering civilians in their homes. We are inclined to agree with Lord Halsbury, who has said that if there is to be panic about gas attacks, let us have the panic before the event.

Alaskans Explore Yukon Searching for Mastodon

Eagle, Alaska,—Seeking prehistoric animal remains Orin Wicks and Abe Miller have started down the Yukon Siver ice watching intensity along the shores for signs where the action of frost may have uncovered tusks or other evidences of buried mammoths. There is a fortune awaiting the finders of a mastodon frozen solid in the ago-old ice, for up to $50,000 has been offered by several eastern museums.

The last well preserved carcass was found near Dawson in 1904. It is now mounted in the National Huseum. Each spring remains of the ancient monsters are found along the Yukon especially where avalanches from clay bluffs expose old glacial strata.

Marriage and Divorce

Dean Inge in the London Evening Standard (Ind. Cons.) When a man and woman have pledged their vows of life-long fidelity to each other "in the sight of God and this congregation" they have made the most solemn covenant which they will sign in the whole course of their lives. To break this vow is, in my opinion, one of the most disgraceful acts of which a human being can be guilty, and those who have broken it have no right to expect to be received into the society of decent people.

These Attractive Girls Should Know England

THEY HAVE TO TOUR 2,000 MILES FOR NOTHING

Misses Nancy and Betty Debennam will make a 2,000-mile tour of England at a cost of nothing on a wager with Kaye Don, the famous motorist. The girls will make their expenses writing and carrying parcels.

Breeding Enemies of Our Insect Foes

"Beneficial" Parasites — that is, beneficial to man, are those that infest and kill pests that injure our domestic animals and cultivated trees and plants. These beneficial parasites are now being bred and exported in large quantities to points where their services are needed to war against local pests.

"A laboratory for breeding beneficial parasites, established by the British Empire Marketing Board, has now been at work for rather more than a year. Consignments of insects have been sent out in response to requests from Canada, New Zealand, Australia, South Africa, Kenya, the Falkland Islands, and different parts of England. Between 20,000 and 30,000 larvae of the pine tortrix, 90 per cent. infected with a parasite that attacks it in its larval stage, were recently collected (largely from Brandon, in Suffolk) for Ontario. Ontario also received 20,000 parsites of the greenhouse white fly, which was exported on whole tomato sprigs and sent over in cold storage.

"Adult parasites of a scale insect that attacks fruit were sent over in small sealed test-tubes to Vancoucer and provided with raisins for nourishment in transit. The wood wasp Sirex infests most timber-growing countries. Its larvae bore their way into tree trunks, leaving behind them neat circular tunnels in the wood. The Sirex parasite is another fly, Rhyssa, with a long ovipositor which it thrusts right through the grain of the wood until it penetrates the body of the wood wasp larva, on which it lays its egg. Three hundred and fifty of these Rhyssa larvae have been collected in Devon and shipped to the Cawthron Institute in New Zealand.

"The sheep blow-fly, a big greenbottle, lays its eggs in dirty and matted wool on living sheep, and the maggots that hatch out eat their way into the animal's body. There is, however, a parasite which in turn lays its eggs in the blow-fly maggot and eventually kills it. Hundreds of thousands of these maggots, with their appropriate parasites, are being bred at the laboratories, and some have already been exported in the chrysalis stage to Australia, South Africa, and the Falkland Islands, where the blow-fly causes enormous loss of sheep life. Other recent exports include parasites of the woolly aphis of the apple, sent to India and Kenya Colony, and of the earwig, sent to New Zealand and Canada. Three Australian scientific men from the Commonwealth Department of Entomology are carrying out research at the laboratories under the superintendent, Dr. Thompson, who is himself a Canadian. One is working on the sheep maggot, or blow-fly, already mentioned; one on a parasite of the apple-ravaging codling-moth, and one on an insect that attacks a troublesome weed, Saint-John's-wort. Dr. Myers, of the Farnham Royal staff, has gone to the West Indies to deal with tropical parasites, and he will organize shipments of beneficial insects between the various islands and British Guiana."

Island Which Britain Ceded to Norway Now Reported to Be Only an Iceberg

London Paper Declares Many Mythical Islands Have Been Charted—Alleged Land Located 15,000 Miles South of Cape of Good Hope

London—"A year ago the peace of the world was shattered by the news that Norway was claiming an island 15,000 miles south of the Cape of Good Hope which Great Britain maintained was hers," says the Daily Telegraph. It continues: "Last November we breathed again. With wonted magnanimity our Foreign Office waived all and any British claim to Bouvet Island. And now comes the news that it is not an island at all but an iceberg. The magnanimity of the Fireign Office thus appears less than the original estimate, though its wisdom shines brighter than ever.

"But we take this iceberg story with every kind of suspicion, though even if it would not be unique of its kind. Many mythical islands have been put on maps. In the far Antarctic Sir James Ross charted one by the name of "Doubtful Island" because he could not make out whether it was land or an iceberg. It turned out to be mere ice. These remote linely southern seas provided navigators with many imaginary landfalls.

"Close to Bouvet Island itself another has been reported and called by the name of 'Thompson.' Captain Norris, in 1825, saw a second island to the northeast and a cluster of others. But nobody else can find them. Shall we believe Bouvet Island a myth or an iceberg? It cannot be. In 1898 a German oceanographic expedition landed. They reported it a volcanic cone 3,000 feet high, coming down to the sea in steep cliffs pentagonal in shape and five miles across. How can it have become an iceberg? How do these tales of the sea get told?"—Christian Science Monitor.

LONG DISTANCE PHOTO

Mars only about 35,000,000 miles away when this photo was made through a very high powered telescope at the Yerkes Observatory. Note the alleged mountains and valleys.

Canada's Mining Industry

The variety of Canada's mineral deposits, the large scale on which operations are conducted, and the great extent of its mining lands, make it evident that the Dominion is a country of great mineral possibilities, that it is undergoing rapid development, and that it offers an attractive field for exploration and development companies.

I do not like to get into a discussion about Mussolini.—Senator Claude A. Swanson of Virginia.

The Scope of Canada's Mineral Field

Among the evidence of Canadian progress in 1928, none is more gratifying than that which again reveals, in stronger light than ever, the real worth of the Dominion as a field for mineral industry. The preliminary figures for the value of the country's mineral output, recently issued by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, reach a peak well above any previous level.

There are two physical facts that carry a broad and special interest in connection with the steady ascent of Canada's mineral production in late years.

One is to be found in the sheer variety of minerals that enter into our annual output. In financial circles the wisdom of "diversity of investment' is a byword, and it may well be said that Canada's strength as a mining field likewise lies largely in 'diversity'—in the fundamental fact that Nature has invested the Dominion with mineral assets which, in variety, are matched by few, if any, countries. It is to this wide range of resources that the Canadian mining industry mainly owes both its enjoyment of present prosperity and its assurance of stable, well-sustained growth.

A second physical fact of no less importance exhibits itself in the breadth of territory afforded by the Dominion as a fair ground for more intensive prospecting. A major portion of Canada has so far been subjected only to cursory study, but even so, ample information has been gained as to the potential mineral wealth of the less known regions of the country to confirm the Canadian mining industry in its title to an ample field for further development.

English Raise Stonehenge Fund

Premier Heads Effort to Preserve Majestic Isolation of the Ancient Monoliths

A new and vigorous effort is being made to preserve the setting and surroundings of Stonehenge, that mysterious legacy from early British civilization. Prominent Britons, among whom are Premier Stanley Baldwin, ex-Premier J. Ramsay MacDonald and Lord Grey, fear lest the vicinity of the ring of huge hanging stones take on the aspects of a popular holiday resort and the monoliths lose their majestic isolation on the Salisbury Plain. To purchase the land surrounding the stones, a fund of about $225,000 is being raised and must be made up before March 31.

About ten years ago the Stonehenge circle was presented to the nation by Sir Cecil Chubb. The land surrounding the stones, however, is still private property, and there is danger lest the erection of unsightly buildings on the Plain spoil the setting. During the war the military authorities erected an airdrome on the Plain and rows of huts near the circle, many of which are still standing. A cafe has been erected near the stones, and it is feared lest other commercial buildings rise to mar the solitude of the unique monument.

The total area under consideration is 1,444 acres, all of which might be called "the Stonehenge skyline." Options have been obtained on the plots; two of the three have already been purchased, and demolition of their buildings undertaken. There remains one plot of 650 acres to the north of Stonehenge. Unless this, too, is secured, the members of the Stonehenge Protection Committee feel their previous work will have been in vain. Co-operating in the project are representatives of the National Trust, the Wiltshire Archaeological Society and the Society of Antiquaries, acting with the approval of the Office of Works.

Many theories have been advanced regarding the period and purpose of the ring of stones, situated about seven miles north of Salisbury in Wiltshire, in a bare field containing a series of prehistoric barrows of the Bronze Age. Nennius believed that they were built to commemorate the treacherous slaying of 400 nobles by Hengest in 472. The stones have been thought also to be the remains of a Roman temple. Wealth bards had a legend that Stonehenge was erected by the successor of Vortigern, aided by the Magician, Merlin, who moved the huge stones from Ireland, whither they had been brought from Africa by giants.

Other stories relate that Stonehenge was a temple of the Druids and a place where human sacrifices were made; that it was a temple to the sun; that it was a temple of the Bronze Age 1500-1000 B.C.

Stonehenge is composed of a series of circles of large hanging stones, many of which have long since toppled from their places. They are located within a circular earthwork about 300 feet in diameter. The outside circle of stones is about 100 feet in diameter, and originally contained, it is believed, thirty great monoliths. The circle within consisted of approximately forty stones. The other circles, of ten and nineteen stones respectively, completed the monument.

The circles were open at one ned, making a great horseshoe, the open part facing the sunrise at the summer solstice.

Salisbury Plain is considered one of the most important archaeological sites. Here is also Old Sarum, fortress of the early Britons, where Cedric, who founded the West Saxon Kingdom in the sixth century, established his headquarters. Alarm is widely felt lest the Plain lose any of its historical value, and contributons to aid the effort to preserve its setting may be sent to the Stonehenge Protection Committee, 7 Buckingham Palace Gardens, S.W., London.

The Barriers of Class

Viscount Knebworth in the Saturday Review (London): It is an indisputable truth that the real interests of the worker are bound up with the interests of the concern for which he works. It is equally a truth that this fact has so far been concealed from him. Any policy which tends towards lifting the curtain and enabling the worker to see in what direction his real interests lie must strike at the very heart of organized class.

The New Art

Willison's Monthly. When new ideas are invented, it usually happens that they strike the public mind, first, as being silly, and next, as being dangerous. So it was with the new art. At first the paintings seemed to be the crude productions of childish minds, and then they seemed to be menaces to all that was sacred in the orderly tradition of painting. Finally they became recognized and now even the staidest museums and galleries are paying high prices for Cezannes and Van Goghs.

What the poets refer to as the touches of spring aren't a marker to the touches of the Christmas season. —Chicago Post.