Chinese Women "Bob" At Risk of Death or Fines

Shooting of Girls as Reds Recalls Laws Based on View That Shorn Locks Imperil Masculine Rule

FEMINISM GAINS SLOWLY

Wives of Interior Continue Virtual Slaves; "Flapper" in Rebellion at Ports

Death by torture is not so popular in China as it used to be. Medieval forms of punishment have not been entirely abandoned in the interior, but along the coast they are gradually giving way to the more modern way of shooting people down in the streets. The shooting process, practiced by the Nationalist troops, makes no exception in favor of girls and women. It is in fact particularly directed at women with bobbed hair.

"At least fourteen bobbed-haired girls and women," says an Associated Press dispatch from Canton, "have been shot down by antilted troops. Bobbed hair is considered to be the sign of a female Communist in China." Setting aside the questionable assumption that every Chinese woman who bobs her hair must necessarily be a Communist, it is interesting to contemplate the relation of bobbed hair to murder in the streets.

Shooting women has a long record of official atrocity behind it. Officials strained their imaginations to invent devilish tortures. Flogging was, and still is, a punishment inflicted in a public place where the populace may be warned of the consequences of crime. The flogging is performed with bamboo, rattan or whip. Its severity is measured by the number of blows ordered by a magistrate, and death may ensue.

Executioner Adjunct of Army

Of all forms of death a Chinese most abhors decapitation, because it presupposes that he will appear in the spirit world headless. I have seen in China ghastly evidence of the practice of beheading persons in the streets. A decapitating squad is no uncommon sight. It is a necessary adjunct to an army and the executioner with his broad blade marches through the streets and performs his duties with cynical indifference.

The less bothersome method of shooting was adopted when the Chinese soldiers learned to use foreign guns. The average Chinese woman was always more intelligent than the average Chinese man, and it therefore was natural that the Chinese soldier did not discriminate in favor of women when he wanted to shoot somebody. As women with bobbed hair are those who are not afraid to defy tradition and generally are a little smarter than their sisters, they aroused the contempt of the Chinese men who are inherently opposed to any kind of feminism.

It is true that radical women in China bob their hair, but it is not true that every woman with bobbed hair is radical. When The Associated Press say that any woman with bobbed hair is considered to be a Communist, it is stating what the Nationalist army thinks, although the Nationalist army, like the politicians at Canton and Peking, cannot be accused of doing much thinking.

Bobbing Forbidden by Law.

Masculine indignation against women bobbing their hair was aroused long before the Communists began fomenting trouble in China. Both North and South China have officially prohibited bobbing. The action of the Canton municipal Legislature is typical of the underlying tendencies of Chinese men. The gray-headed wiseacres of the Legislature convened one day to take cognizance of the growing menace of women. The wise men of the Far East believe that bobbed hair is a Western abomination and that in some mysterious fashion the woman who bobs her hair becomes forthwith endowed with the intelectual processes of men, a thing not to be tolerated, if the right of plundering the public is to be maintained.

"What," asked these Chinese gentlemen, "is to become of us if these Westernized women go on bobbing their hair? What is to become of the sacred rights of men?"

"It is moved and seconded and passed," said the chairman, "that a law be framed prohibiting the women of this province from bobbing." And so in the province of Kwantung, the province from which nationalism sprang, it is unlawful for a woman to bob. Happily the Cantonese women ignored the law.

Fines for Cutting Hair.

It was in the hope of checking feminism in north China that a group of militarists and politicians in Tientsin recently had passed by the Chihli Educational Bureau regulations forbidding women and girls to bob their hair. It is almost incredible that in modern times a group of so-called leaders should promulgate in the newspapers a set of regulations such as these, which now take the form of law, so far as the the women of Tientsin and Peking are concerned:

"A fine will be imposed on any girl above the age of fourteen who bobs her hair. Parents of girls under fourteen will be advised by the police that they must not cut the hair of their daughters.

"From the date of the issuance of this order, three months will be allowed for bobbed hair to grow. At the end of that time any girls found in the street with bobbed hair will be subject to a fine.

"The police will warn women during the three months that they must not bob their hair.

"After the expiration of three months any girl found with bobbed hair will be arrested and taken to the yamen (headquarters). Her parents will be notified and the fine imposed. The parents must then sign a document promising that neither their daughters nor daughters-in-law will be permitted to bob their hair in the future.

"Policemen will not be allowed to collect the fines. The cases will be handled at the yamen." That is, the court officials and not the policemen pocket the money.

Feminism Spread Slowly.

Feminism, or the recognition that women have rights equal to those of men, is progressing slowly in China. Back in the interior woman is still abysmally ignorant so far as book learning is concerned. She is the slave of medieval tradition. Her feet are bound and crippled for the same reason that a horse is hobbled—to hamper her freedom. When she marries she must literally abandon the home of her youth and become the slave of her mother-in-law.

Regarded as the inferior of every man in the household, particularly her husband and her husband's father, she is debarred from participation in any social event that her husband arranges. She eats apart from her husband and if she accompanies him on the street she must walk behind him. In Shanghai it is common to see a woman walking behind her husband with the humility of a whipped dog. If her husband chooses to have a secondary wife that is none of her business.

But there are hopeful signs, however meager. Feminism is at work in the treaty ports and is slowly spreading into the interior. In Shanghai there are Chinese women pharmacists, doctors, nurses, superintendents of hospitals, teachers, lawyers, writers and stenographers, and there are banks, clubs, publications and political organizations managed by women. Recently, the Shanghai Municipal Council, in deference to the demands of women who wished to share in the prosperity of the stage, passed an ordinance permitting Chinese actresses to perform, which formerly had been prohibited as unmoral.

"Among Chinese women the flapper is the glory of her sex. She has adopted Western manners without losing her racial characteristics. In physical appearance she is slender, quick in movement, dainty and feminine, and she has a broad forehead betokening intelligence, and bright, mirthful eyes. She bobs her hair, uses a lipstick, rouges her cheeks, dresses smartly in her native costume, drives an automobile, Charlestons, smokes cigarettes, plays golf and tennis, generally speaks English and comports herself with a snappiness and confidence that seems to suggest she is the intellectual peer of men. In politics she is defiant of tradition, reads modern books in preference to the classics and allies herself with the movement known as Young China. Converse with a Chinese flapper and she will express her opinions in impeccable English on topics kindred to to those that interest her Occidental prototype."

It is not much to the glory of the Nationalist armies that they should find it necessary to shoot this type of women in order to promote democracy in China.

AN ATTRACTIVE NEW FROCK

This dainty frock for the Junior Miss will be found quite simple for the home modiste to fashion. There are two gathered ruffles attached to a straight foundation, and the square neck and short kimono sleeves may be bound with matching or contrasting material. No. 1722 is in sizes 6, 8, 10, 12 and 14 years. Size 10 requires 2¾ yards 36-inch, or 1⅞ yards 54-inch material. Price 20c the pattern.

Our Fashion Book, illustrating the newest and most practical style, will be of interest to every home dressmaker. Price of the book 10c the copy.

HOW TO ORDER PATTERNS.

Write your name and address plainly, giving number and size of such patterns as you want. Enclose 20c in stamps or coin (coin preferred; wrap it carefully) for each number and address your order to Pattern Dept., Wilson Publishing Co., 73 West Adelaide St., Toronto.

A well-known comedian is exceedingly proud of his three lovely and talented daughters. One day an admirer of the comedian was talking about the family. "Have you nothing but girls?" he asked. "Nothing but girls!" was the reply. "Why, man alive, we have everything but boys!"

A very thin full-back was annoyed by the attentions of a small dog during a rugby match. At last, when play had moved to the other end, the back turned and shouted to the spectators, "Whoever owns this dog might call him off." A voice responded, "Come here, Spot. Them ain't bones, boy—them's legs."

All Children Like Skates

FOUR NATIONALITES COMPETE AT SUVRETTA

An Alpine resort that have special arrangements to entertain the youngsters.

Sunday School Lesson

February 12. Lesson VII,—Jesus Pictures the Kingdom of God. Mark 4: 26-34. Golden Text—Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done, in earth, as it is in heaven.—Matt. 6: 10.

ANALYSIS.

I. THE CERTAINTY OF THE COMING OF THE KINGDOM, 26-29.

II. THE VAST SIGNIFICANCE OF PRESENT BEGINNINGS, 30-34.

INTRODUCTION — How are we to understand the phrase "kingdom of God," which was so often on the lips of Jesus, and which, as we have seen, marked the central theme of his teaching The Jewish people, as we know, looked forward to a coming age when God would institute his righteous reign on earth; indeed, all their hopes of God and all their thoughts of religion were bound up with the realization of this dream. Nevertheless, they conceived this reign of God for the most part after a very worldly and materialistic fashion. It signifies for them the overthrow of their enemies, and the triumph of the chosen nation over the peoples of the world.

Now Jesus, while sharing with his people the same thought of the kingdom of God as the goal of history, gave it an entirely other character. He did not mean the coming glorification of Israel, but God's immediate will to establish his blessed reign upon condition of human faith and repentance. The dark clouds which came between men and the face of the Father in heaven did not exist for Jesus. He had seen the heavens opened, and knew that blessed life of communion with himself which God desired for all men. In all his teaching he sought to make men partakers of the same knowledge.

So, in speaking of the kingdom, Jesus emphasized, first of all, the realization in human hearts of God's presence and his holy will. He called men to quit selfishness and sin, and to give themselves to God. But, as we have seen, he encountered opposition and misunderstanding in many quarters. This is the situation in which he speaks the parables which form our present lesson. The hope of the coming of God's kingdom seems retarded by the unbelief and indifference of many. Nevertheless, it will yet be an accomplished fact. Jesus says that the kingdom will come with the same certainty with which the harvest follows upon the seedtime. He preaches the message, like seed cast into the ground. The rest is in the hands of God. Thus, Jesus sought to encourage a brave and active faith on the part of his believing followers. They were not to be discouraged by present opposition or by present seeming failure. God's will would yet be done on earth, even as in heaven.

I. THE CERTAINTY OF THE COMING OF THE KINGDOM, 26-29.

Vs. 26-28. Jesus, using an illustration which would appeal to all who knew country life in Galilee, compares the preaching of the message of the kingdom with the sowing of seed by a farmer. The farmer sows in hope. When he has put the seed in the field he has done all that, humanly speaking, can be done. The event must be left to the mysterious operations of nature and to time. So he sleeps in hope, and meantime, as the days pass, the seed sprouts and grows. The farmer does not understand the process of growth. He only knows that, as he sows, so he shall reap.

V. 29. The harvest day arrives, and then the farmer realizes the reward of his toil and of his long patience. He now knows that his sowing and his waiting were not in vain. Thus, Jesus illustrates the mystery of his own fortunes as the Preacher of the kingdom. He reaches the Word, and in spite of opposition and unbelief, the word will prove its divine character as a power subduing human life to God, and producing the results towards which prophets and saints had looked when they spoke of God's kingdom.

In other words, Jesus nows that in his teaching about God he has the divine solution for the problems of human life, and he can await the result with confidence.

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II. THE VAST SIGNIFICANCE OF PRESENT BEGINNINGS 30-34.

V. 30. In the similitude or parable which now follows, Jesus draws attention not so much to the final issues of his reaching as to the tremendous significance of the results which had been already achieved. Think of those whom Jesus had already brought from a life of sin to a life clean, upright, and renewed in every part. Such effects of his preaching are as yet few, but they are prophetic of vaster results to follow.

Vs. 31, 32. Jesus takes the illustration of the tiny seed of mustard which grows into strong and vigorous plant, almost a tree, large enough to provide a resting-place for the hedgerow birds. The wonderful thought of so great a plant from so small a seed should give the disciples heart as they consider what results have already been achieved since Jesus began to proclaim his message.

Vs. 33, 34. These verses make it plain that Jesus chose pictures or illustrations from nature in order to impart to his hearers a livelier sense of npiritual things. Jesus found God in nature as well as in the soul of man; and basing his teaching on natural processes, he says that if men receive into their hearts one single thought of what God is like, or of what he wills, it will, if really believed and loved and acted upon, fill the whole soul with the divine goodness and in the end bring everlasting life.

Naval Competition

New York World: It is with a sense of horror that one realizes that after all they have suffered and after all they have professed the two English speaking nations are repeating once again the tragic errors of the past. Can it be that these two civilized nations are fatally doomed to forget all the lessons of experience? It cannot be. And it must not be. Within these two nations there are qualities of mind and soul sufficient to avert a tragedy if they are aroused in time to the danger which impends. Thoughtlessness and superficial people may sit back complacently because the danger of collision between the United States and Great Britain is not a matter of weeks, or months, or even a few years. In these matters one has to think in terms of decades, and in time of tranquility prevent what will otherwise become unpreventable.

Man's Death Bears Out Superstition

Natives of West Africa are superstitious and a recent incident in which their predictions were borne out has served to conform them in their belief. Thirteen native women were struck and killed by lightning while under a galvanized iron shelter. The natives, including the driver of a motor truck sent to remove the bodies to a mortuary, firmly refused to enter the shelter, because of a belief that anyone removing the bodies before the "ju-ju" had been appeased by a ceremony of purification by the "thunder women" would die within a week. However, the European manager of the local transport company took the bodies to the mortuary despite the warnings he received. Three days later he was admitted to the European hospital at Accra and died from yellow fever after three days' illness.

Uruguayan Favors a League Of Latin Republics to Curb Us

Montevideo, Uruguay—Dr. Terra, President of the Chamber of Deputies, said recently that no American fraternity such as envisaged by President Coolidge was possible as long as the United States was firing guns against "defenseless people."

He referred to the Sandino forces in Nicaragua as "defenseless" since they were insignificant in numbers and armament when compared with the American forces.

Dr. Terra suggested that the Pan American Conference bring the Nicaraguan situation up at the first opportunity and urged that all delegates, if hindered, should withdraw.

Dr. Terra also suggested the formation of a Latin American League because North America would exercise greater care if confronted by an all American bloc.

"How's your football star at office work?" "He wants to save the day in the last three minutes of play."

Barn is No Place For Lighting Up

Smoking and the Carrying of Loose Matches Should Be Banned

Enormous losses to barns and contents are reported each year, according to the Ontario Fire Marshal, as the result of some careless person smoking or dropping a match. In the winter, when more time is spent about the barns and stables than usual, there is more danger of this sort of thing unless the suggestion of the Fire Marshal that all smoking be absolutely banned is heeded. Signs to this effect, he urges, should be put up prominently and the government is prepared to co-operate with the barn owner by supplying such signs for the asking. All forms of smoking are almost equally dangerous in such inflammable buildings as barns, which are usually stored with easily ignited hay and straw. A pipe may be dumped out by an absent-minded man with the red hot ashes setting fire to loose straw or hay. Cigar and cigarette butts are a blaze. In the summer, when the buildings are empty, the loss is serious enough, but just now, with roads impassable as far as fire fighting equipment is concerned, if this were available, and the mows stored with grain, seed and hay and the stables filled with stock, a conflagration of this sort is a major disaster to the farmer.

Matches, the Fire Marshal points out, should not be carried loosely in the pocket. Even if the no-smoking rule is rigidly enforced, a man may pull a match out of his pocket with a knife or handkerchief and the same falling on the floor will ignite if some one tramps on it. Storing these useful friends but dangerous foes in a tin box and taking the double precaution only to use safety matches will eliminate any chance of a fire starting from this source.

CLEVER RETORT

The recent marriage of Dr. Alfred Noyes, the well-known poet, recalls an amusing little tale I once heard him tell.

It concerned a young woman, the wife of a poet, and a certain publisher who is not noted for liberality in dealing with the writers whose books he publishes.

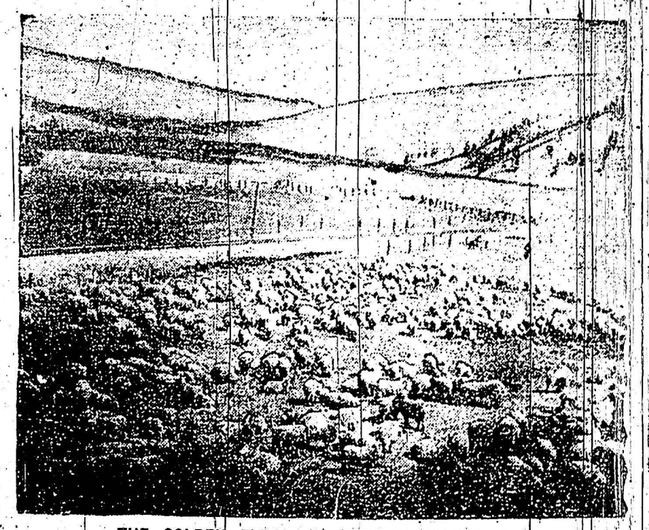
"Isn't it awful to be married to a poet?" he asked her banteringly.

"It has its disadvantages, I'll admit," promptly replied the lady, "but there is, at all events, one compensating advantage. Nobody can accuse my husband of being a profiteer. His publisher sees to that."

"Also," added Noyes thoughtfully, in telling the story, "no doubt she was right. Nowadays there is more truth than ever in the saying poets are born, not paid!"

A delightful story of a certain Cabinet Minister's amiability comes from a colleague. It appears that an admirer of the great man had begged an autographed photograph. The Minister began writing cross it, "To my very dear friend." Then he paused and asked in the charming manner familiar to all his friends: "What name did you say?"

Not Australia But Alberta



THE GOLDEN FLEECE IN WESTERN CANADA

In the foothills of the Rockies the fostering of the breeding of Merino crossbred sheep for their production is one of the keen interests of the government of Alberta. This scene was taken on a ranch near Calgary.

Claim for Seizure of Ship Settled After 115 Years

The United States Pays Canada $23,644.38 on Original $5,000 for 125 Heirs

An international claim arising over a period of 115 years and finally amounting to $5,000 has been terminated. The United States Government has paid $23,644.38 to the Canadian Government for distribution among 125 heirs of a claim which was based on the seizure on Lake Erie of the schooner Lord Nelson, the property of Messrs. James and William Crooks of Niagara, thirteen days before war of 1812 officially began. The settlement was made recently at Minneapolis by agreement of the litigants.

Along the Niagara frontier there had been tense feeling for several years before 1812 and had led to acts of violence on the part of both American and Canadian citizens, though the respective Governments of the United States and Great Britain had not formally announced a state of war. The schooner Lord Nelson was seized while carrying a cargo of lumber for British settlements along the Canadian shore of Lake Erie, was sighted by an American vessel commanded by Lieutenant Wolsey and was pursued and captured.

The crew of the schooner, taken to Buffalo aboard the Nelson, was released at the American port to make their way through the Indian country back to their homes in Toronto, while the Lord Nelson was laid up two weeks in Buffalo and then converted into an armed vessel.

Adam Crooks, prominent Toronto barrister and later Minister of Education in Parliament, nephew of the brothers who owned the Lord Nelson, filed the first claim against the United States Government in 1815 for $5,000. At various times the claim received the approval of the President of the United States and in several sessions of Congress either the Senate or the House voted approval. It was twice recommended for favorable consideration by Presidents first President Monroe in 1819 and then by President Cleveland in 1886.

The courts eventually established the illegality of the seizure.

Farm Notes

Feeds of Fertility and Quality of Eggs.

In view of the fact that a ration of eggs has been sought for throughout Canada during years experiments have been carried at the Central Farm at Ottawa at most of the branch farms to find out if better hatches may be obtained by supplying mineral and vitamin feeds. Experiments have not been long enough to allow of definite conclusions being drawn but at six branch farms indications of fertility and hatchability increased by the feeding of feeds to breeding pens in each case but one the feeding of cod liver oil gave a higher fertility than where it was not in all cases but two the feeding of raw liver also gave a greater percentage of fertility than the only the basal ration, and of bone meal also gave favorable results. All in a greater extent, with hatchability as indicated by use of fertile eggs hatched same time, in comparing fertility of chicks to three weeks there was no advantage for the peps receiving vitamin. The experiments are described in the latest report of the Dominion Husbandman, available at publications Branch, Department of Agriculture, Ottawa.

Planting Plum Trees

The best time to plant trees is in the spring and should be done as early as possible. The process of planting is given in detail in a bulletin on fruit which may be obtained free from the Publications Branch of the Department of Agriculture at Ottawa. It is highly stressed that great care should be taken to prevent the roots of young trees from becoming dry before planting, for if this happens trees are almost sure to die. As a rule it is necessary to prune somewhat larger than would be indicated by the roots spread on account. It should be cut back inches deep, after which it should be loosened a few inches but not removed. In digging the surface soil should be separate from the subsoil for better quality. The roots should be covered because if they are exposed the tree may die from bruised roots should be avoided in planting. After the tree is in right and the roots spread out surface soil should be worked in them, by hand, if necessary. It is important to have the soil in close contact with the roots. When the roots are well covered the hole is about half full it is well tramped, after which it should be filled level with the surface, continuing the trampling as the hole is being filled. The surface should be left loose.

Fertilizers for Burley Tobacco

Experiments have been carried on for ten years at the Harrow Experimental Station to determine the best fertilizer formula for growing Burley tobacco from the point of both yield and quality, also to determine the best proportions of nitrogen and potash. The results of this series of experiments, which is described in a Dominion Department of Agriculture bulletin on Tobacco Growing in Southwestern Ontario, indicate that the best formula for the general run of soils contains for each plant food equivalent of 300 pounds of sulphate of ammonia, 100 pounds of acid phosphate and 196 pounds of sulphate of potash per acre.

In dry seasons, supplying all the nitrogen from sulphate of ammonia was superior to supplying a portion of it from organic sources such as dried blood, tankage and cotton seed meal. In seasons of normal rainfall, however, nitrogen from organic sources proved satisfactory. The results go to show that dried blood is the most satisfactory organic source of nitrogen with tankage second, and that the combination of sulphate of ammonia and nitrate of soda, or sulphate of ammonia and phosphate of ammonia. Carbonate of potash is apparently as good a source of potash as sulphate. Burley is said to be sulphate of potash, sulphate of potash proved superior to chloride sulphate of potash. Generally speaking it proved very profitable to use fertilizer on Burley tobacco. During ten years the net profit from the use of fertilizer on the Harrow Station ranged from $17 to $223 per acre, or $1.26 to $8.56 for every dollar spent on fertilizer, as stated by the Director of Publicity, Dominion Department of Agriculture, Ottawa.

Radio Warns Of Icebergs in North Atlantic

Experts Are Developing New Wireless Equipment for Coast Guard Cutters for Broadcasting Danger News

Washington. To help maintain a record of not a life lost by ship collision with icebergs since starting its North Atlantic patrol, the United States Coast Guard is improving radio equipment for its cutters.

As radio is both traffic cop and life guard in the ice fields off the Grand Banks of Newfoundland, it is essential that the apparatus be of the most modern type and kept in perfect condition, Coast Guard officers declare.

Radio experts of the Coast Guard and engineers of the Naval Research Laboratory here are working on the refinement of the 500 watt high frequency transmitter built at the laboratory which communicates from the Grand Banks directly with Arlington. They are also perfecting the 2 kilowatt transmitter which broadcasts on long waves, information to ships regarding the location of icebergs and weather conditions.

Each ship sailing through the ice infested areas by night or in fog plays a game of chance. The patrol ship minimizes the danger by giving each vessel all possible information in regard to the set and drift of currents, the set and drift of the ice and its location at all times. To obtain this information requires considerable cruising in search of bergs and after finding, trailing them to determine their movements.

By means of radio information from ships passing through the ice regions the area under surveillance of the patrol has been greatly enlarged. The patrol vessel assumes the role of a radio clearing house and disseminates a digested report for the entire region. Merchant vessels, Canadian direction finding stations and United States shore stations aid the patrol.

Radio contact with the patrol usually is made by ships at distance of about 150 miles and west of the Grand Banks. During 1927 there were 5,548 reports received from passing steamers concerning their position, course, survey of the radio work for the year speed and sea water temperatures. A shows that schedules between the naval radio stations and the patrol ships were maintained more consistently than ever before. This is attributed to the higher power used by naval stations and the personal cooperation of individual operators both shore and afloat.

The ice patrol was inaugurated following the sinking of the Titanic.

Useless Attack.

Paul Poiret's attack upon the American knee has had no visible effect. At any rate there was no rush of shorts to cover.

"I like this frock," said the famous dress designer, "but it's too tight here, here, and here. You could alter it?" "No, madam; but if you care to visit our beauty department on the second floor they'll gladly alter you to fit the frock."