Child Wives India's Curse Will Be No More

An Indian View of the New and We Trust, Enforceable Legislation Makes Cheerful Reading

NO MORE "SLAVES"

The horrible era of India's "Slaves of the Gods," as Katherine Mayo has called child wives, is brought to an end with the passage of a bill penalizing marriage for girls under fourteen and boys under sixteen. If the bill is vigorously enforced, say its supporters, it will "make for a healthier happier India." An audacious step has been taken, according to some Indian writers, but it means the beginning of a new age in social reform. The law will soon take effect, we are told, and meanwhile it is being anathematized by old-fashioned people who regard it as an unwarranted interference with religion and custom. While some British and Indians in the country congratulate the Government of India for throwing its weight on the right side of the argument other Indians deplore the Government's actions in giving their whole-hearted support to "so wanton an outrage on Hindu as well as Moslem feeling." These discordant views echo and re-echo in both Indian-edited and British-edited journals. The enthusiasm of the reformers is reflected in The People (Lahore), whose observations are here presented in a slightly condensed form:

"The social reformer has reason to rejoice over the work of the Indian Legislative Assembly just concluded at Simla. The Sarda bill to abolish child marriage is perhaps of greater importance than all previous social reform legislation. The passage of the bill by sixty-seven votes against [illegible] inaugurates a new epoch in [illegible] reform in this country.

[illegible]

"The Sarda bill will [illegible] the [illegible] Mr. Mayo [illegible] India [illegible] enhance India's prestige in the eyes of all civilized nations. It will beyond doubt add a [illegible] to the national efficiency of [illegible]. In its train will come a re[illegible] aspects of marriage [illegible] of sex [illegible] have to be replaced by [illegible] of the two sexes. The [illegible] from too early marriage [illegible] merely wasting time. They will [illegible] themselves for a [illegible] life, and their influence is bound to be felt in social political and cultural fields."

It is inevitable the orthodox Hindus regard the new legislation may be [illegible] from the [illegible] that meetings of protest against it are being held all over the country. These orthodox Hindus maintain that child marriage is enjoined by their religion. So they regard the new law as "infringing the elementary rights and privileges of a large section of his Imperial Majesty's Indian subjects." Resolutions condemning the action of the Indian Legislative Assembly were passed at a meeting at Tinnevelly in southern India, which are recorded in the Madras Hindu:

"This public meeting holds that [illegible] is a religious Samskara (obligatory institution) for the Dwijas (twice-born) or the three higher castes, Brahmans, Kshatriyas, and Vaishyas; that it should, therefore, continue to be performed according to the spiritual texts; that no temporal legislative body of the State is competent to make innovations in the said Samskara; that the Sarda marriage bill is a direct violation of the religious and the spiritual conception of the marriage dharma (religion) of the Dwijas; and that it should, therefore, be opposed by all legitimate and peaceful means."

The orthodox among the Moslems also regard the measure as an unwarranted "intrusion upon the customary law" applicable to them. Authorities on the Sheriat (Islamic law) cried themselves hoarse, but without effect. Finding opposition of no avail, Sir Abdul Qayum, a Moslem member of the Indian Legislative Assembly, declared that "various discordant parties" in the Legislature had collaborated to secure its passage. That remark is taken as a text by the British-owned and British-edited Madras Mail for an editorial pointing out the danger of such tactics. To quote:

"It must be conceded that in different conditions the collaboration which has made the passage of the Sarda bill possible may be employed to wreck like measures, or to impose rules and methods of life and conduct repugnant to the religion of important communities. Fortunately the voting on the Sarda bill revealed no class or communal bias. Members of each community were to be found in each division lobby various communities were represented among the 'ayes' and the 'noes.'

"Democracy is [illegible] fickle, and democracy needs then to be saved from itself by the application of the brake of caution. Sir Abdul Qayum appreciated the danger of joint majorities. [illegible] be able to communicate his fear to those entrusted with the framing of India's future constitution, we may be spared the worst dangers of such majorities, and assured that every attack on custom and social habit shall be as fully considered and as elaborately discussed as the raising of the age of marriage has been. We may, too, see a little more kindly consideration shown to those defenders of orthodoxy who [illegible] as sincere in their beliefs as the [illegible] of reform."

A [illegible] of [illegible] for everyone;
A heap of heart-with-people [illegible] mixed up with laughter fun.
The glow of kindly patience in life's little frets and [illegible],
With brightness of unselfishness along the common ways.
The pluck that comes from healthy minds, not looking out for gloom.
The hearts which are so full of love for hate they haven't room.
Go mix this happy medley up, and you'll be well repaid,
For nothing is so full of cheer as sunshine that's home made!

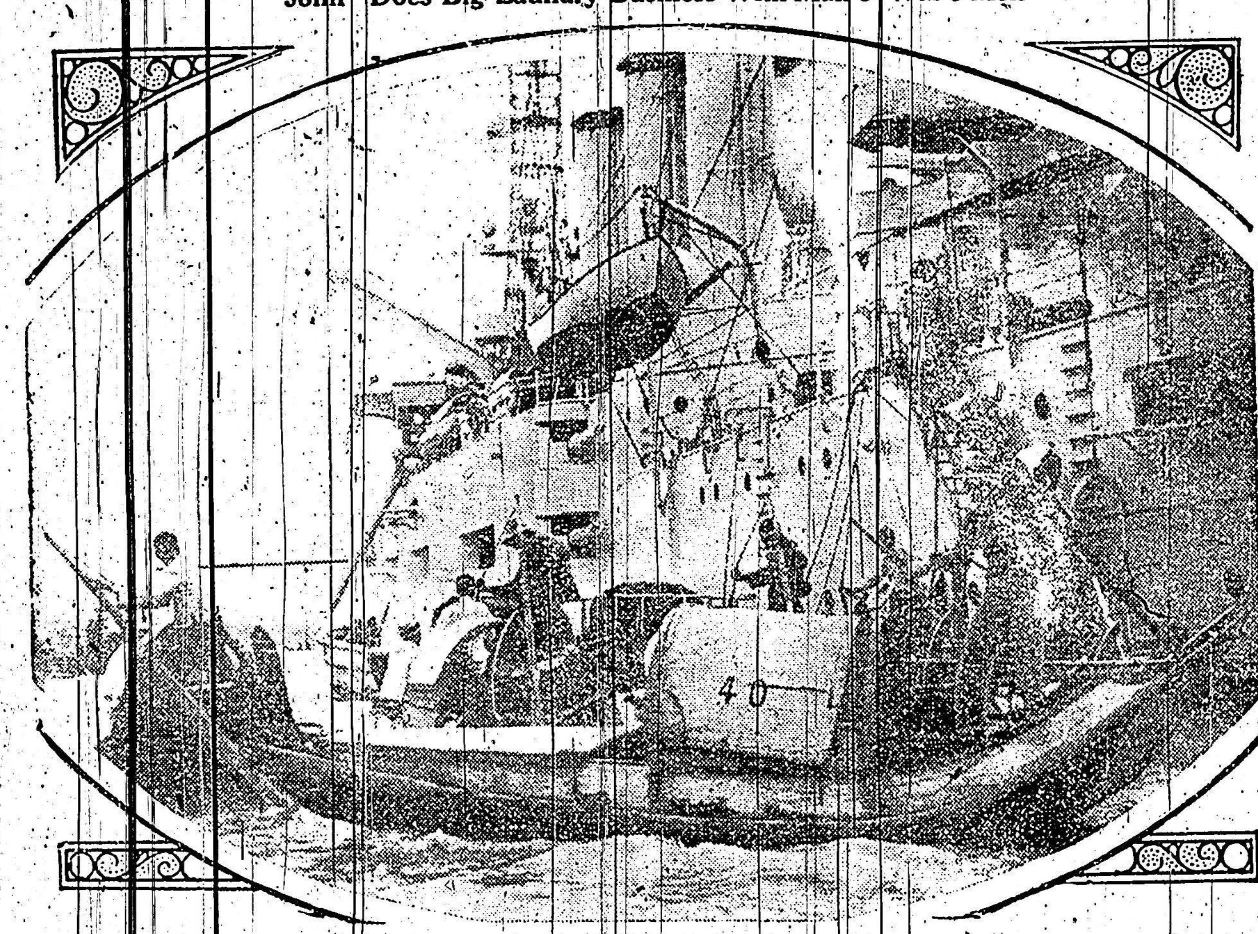
"Do you like the roses in my cheeks?"

"No, never did care for artificial flowers."

A bird-lover laments that the rooks are being driven out of London. Somebody ought to defend their caws.

The car entered a one-way road at the wrong end. "Hi, miss," a policeman shouted, 'do you know that this is only one-way traffic?" "How many ways am I going, then, officer?" she replied.

"John" Does Big Laundry Business With Man o' War's Men



AS USUAL—NO CHECKEE NO LAUNDEE

Chinese laundrymen storm a Man of War in the Orient with the weekly laundry for the sailors. They charge two cents for every item, and, of course, patrons must have their checks.

Volcano Heated!

New Attraction Which May Bring Many Customers

Pele, traditional native goddess of the Hawaiian volcanoes, is to have a job as janitress and chambermaid, says Dr. E. E. Free, in his Week's Science (New York). We read:

"In a new hotel, near the Kilauea volcanic crater, a plan is under consideration, it is disclosed by Dr. T. A. Jaggar of the Hawaiian Volcano Observatory, to heat the rooms by volcanic steam which escapes from four wells drilled into the hot rocks underneath. In Iceland, Japan, and New Zealand, Dr. Jaggar states in his report to the 'Hawaiian Volcano Research Association, volcanic steam is now used to heat houses and in laundries. Electric power is being made from volcanic steam in California and in Italy.

"On the island of Ischia, near Naples, gardeners use volcanic heat to warm the soil of their vegetable beds, and thus to raise hothouse products without needing a hothouse. One trouble with using the volcanic steam in the ordinary kinds of engines, turbines, or other machinery, Dr. Jaggar states, is that the steam usually contains corrosive acid gases which it has taken up from the highly heated rocks. In the proposed plan for heating the Hawaiian hotel, this difficulty will be avoided by using the natural steam merely to heat the circulating water of a hot-water heating plant, just as a fire in a furnace is used in ordinary plants of this type. The combined volcanic fire-box and boiler will be made of non-corrosive metal so that the acid steam can do the heating and still not harm the heating plant."

Stanley Bruce

Melbourne Argus: Mr. Bruce stands before Australia a beaten man, leader of a beaten party—beaten by compound of self-opinionated folly and self-interest. "Who breaks, pays," has never been truer than it will be of those who have sacrificed the plain vision of obvious facts to the chimera of hopeless expectations. Fallen from his great position, cast out of Parliament itself, Mr. Bruce shines more brightly in his determined and selfless following of the path of duty and the nation's true development than any of those who are now celebrating the victory. He leaves behind him a magnificent record of service and of achievement, but nothing in his career has more become him than his cheerful and unfaltering courage in facing facts and presenting them to ears however unwilling. "Hail and farewell," is all that can now be said to him. He is down, but he is right; and, being right, he and his cause shall rise again.

SIGNAL CAR BEHIND

Remember to signal the car behind when stopping suddenly, either night or day.

Mrs. Flatbush—"Where have you been till this late hour?" Mr. Flatbush—"To the lecture as I told you before I went." Mrs. Flatbush—"But you couldn't be at a lecture as late as this." Mr. Flatbush—"Oh, yes, I could. You see, the lecturer stuttered."

Black Cat

Don't never cross a road what a black cat cross—
'T ain't nothin' but sorrow, 't ain't nothin' but loss.
Brindle cat, spotted cat, dem's all right;
Safety in a yaller cat, blessin' in a white;
But de black cat [illegible], wid a bris-tle in his tail,
He fotchin' for de Debble, and he bet-ter not fail.
De black cat [illegible] wid [illegible] in de dus';
He gwine what he gwine, and he gwine kase he mus'.
Black cat, black cat—when [illegible] cross yo' track,
No matter whar you gwine,
To a dippin' er a dyin',
No matter what you [illegible],
To a marryin' or a buryin'—
You better turn back!

By Nancy Byrd Turner.

The Duke of Connaught

On May 1 [illegible] the Duke of Connaught will be eighty years of age and it is therefore particularly appropriate that what is described as an official biography should appear within a few months of that anniversary. His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught and Strathearn has been written by Major-General Sir George Aston, and it is a very complete record of his life from birth to the present day.

Though a soldier by profession, the Duke of Connaught has served his country well in other capacities, notably as Governor-General of Canada. His term of office was a difficult one, for it covered the early years of the war, but of its success there was never any doubt. As Sir George Aston says, "The Duke's geniality, his serenity of temper, often under very trying circumstances, his strict sense of justice, his love of fair play, and the entire absence of the social reserve which some Canadians had expected, all these attributes contributed to make him a general favorite wherever he went." The biography is eminently readable and is a worthy record of a great disinterested career.

Square Deals at Round Tables

Hong Kong Weekly Press: (Sir Robert Ho Tung has appealed to Chiang Kai Shek, Yen Hsi Shan, Feng Yu Hsiang, and Chang Hsueh Liang to discuss their differences at a round-table conference). We fear there is little foundation for Sir Robert Ho Tung's optimism concerning a round-table settlement of the differences between the Big Four men, who appear to have nothing in common but mutual dislike and jealousy. The alternative is not necessarily war—at least not on a really serious scale. There are other ways of patching-up differences, and China may—we earnestly hope will—be spared another disruptive outbreak of civil war. True, such a settlement will leave the real cause of the trouble precisely where it was before. Until the armies are brought completely under civil control, the unhappy people of China appear doomed to be helpless pawns in the hands of rival War Lords. But how those without power are to wrest authority from those who have force at their command is a problem as yet unsolved.

New Theories On Earth Power

The earth is a huge electric dynamo, generating enough current to supply light, heat and other electrical needs to the ten largest cities in the United States for at least one million years. Recent researches on the internal heat of the earth, conducted by Dr. Ross Gunn of the Naval Research Laboratories, indicate that the earth is the greatest known electrical wonder in the universe. We read:

"Dr. Gunn's treatise on his studies, printed in The Physical Review, shows that the currents generated inside the earth amount to more than 200,000,000 amperes. This tremendous source of energy is unavailable for use by man. Like atomic energy, it will be kept in nature's storehouse for the use of the generations of perhaps a million years in the future.

"According to Dr. Gunn, the tremendous electrical currents inside the earth arise from the motions of the tiny electrical charges known as electrons due to the very high temperatures existing well inside the earth's crust.

"Due to a peculiar and complicated type of interaction the electrons are caused to drift around the earth's axis of rotation. This drift constitutes an electric current which is so large that if it were sent through the huge cables supporting Brooklyn Bridge, it would melt them in less than a thousandth of a second.

"The study pursued by Dr. Gunn sheds much light on the manner in which the earth was originally formed. His work and known facts relating to the earth's magnetic field indicate that the earth was part of the sun or some other liquid star millions of years ago.

"The earth was thrown off in such a manner that the hemisphere now embraced by the continents was made up of relatively cool surface-material having a mean temperature of perhaps 30,000 degrees, while the hemisphere embraced by the Pacific Ocean came from deeper and much hotter layers. This unsymmetrical temperature distribution of the earth's interior is said to account for the volcanic activity and earthquakes in the countries in and adjacent to the Pacific Ocean."

Prosperity for the Highlands

London Daily Express (Ind. Cons.): Scotsmen of vision and experience will welcome the Government's scheme to boom the Highlands as a great holiday ground. If this vast and devitalized area of Britain is to know the meaning of real prosperity something more is necessary than the resentment of crofters or the letting of shooting and fishing rights to a few rich men. Even if sufficient farmers of the right type returned to the glens the Highlands could never become prosperous farm land. They can never be industrial. They must either, therefore, continue to be the preserve of the deer stalker and the salmon-fisher, or they must be thrown open to the world.

"Couldn't the villain shoot himself in the final scene, instead of taking poison?" asked the producer. "Why?" said the author. "The audience will need waking up so that they can go home."

The Submarine

By D. P. McQuire.

One topic of the Anglo-American conversations promises an unpleasant sequel. In al the talk of disarmament there was only one suggestion towards its practice; that the submarine should be renounced as a weapon.

It is evident that the British and American authorities have decided that they can do without the submarine, as they cannot do without the cruiser or the battleship; and a public proposal has been made that the other Powers should do without it too. That proposal may do more harm to the cause of peace than two "plain men in rough old clothes—sitting on a log beside a laughing river." (I am indebted to The Observer's inspired American correspondent) could repair if they sat there till the log rotted and the river turned to tears from sheer boredom; for it will rouse a distrust of our motives in the minds of those peoples to whom the submarine remains a necessity, and who are now called upon to make a public avowal of their reluctance to surrender it.

As the last war showed the submarine is a great danger to Britain, a danger that cannot be met or balanced by any increase in her own strength in the kind. The prime object of British naval policy must be the maintenance of her food supplies, and that implies a sufficient security on her long sea routes. Now the submarine is of little use as a convoy for merchantmen; it has neither range nor speed nor armament enough for a job that is truly the cruiser's. A score of them would hardly serve our major aim so well as half-a-dozen cruisers.

On the other hand the submarine, in enemy hands, is the most dangerous risk we run on the sea trail; and in short it would be amazingly good business for us if we could persuade all our potential opponents to renounce the submarine.

With France and Italy and Japan, though, the case is different. The principal naval problem of each is to provide against a superior battle-force that would almost certainly have to be met in home waters and that would quit probably cover the landing of military forces. Japan, for instance, would have no chance, in the absence of a [illegible] of carrying a naval war home to America or Britain, for she has no considerable bases on which she could conveniently operate. Both Britain and America, though could conduct a campaign on the Japanese coast, for they have bases in Asia, Malaya, and the islands of the Pacific. And with any naval war that the Italian and the French authorities have to contemplate, they are not in a situation where their surface ship may be ineffective, neither battle-fleet could hope, for example, to challenge the British or American [illegible] them one [illegible].

It seems fairly obvious that, that in asking them to give up the weapon, we are asking for something that would be greatly to our advantage and not at all to theirs; and the very terms of the suggestion implied that neither Mr. MacDonald nor Mr. Hoover expected that it would be acceptable. Why then, did they offer it at all? It is difficult not to believe, and it will be more difficult for a Frenchman or a Japanese or an Italian not to believe, that there was a deliberate intention to force them to a public refusal.

But whether it was deliberately done or not, the effects will be equally bad. To the English and American public, France and Italy and Japan will appear as the obstacles to a general disarmament—for we need not expect that their case for the submarine will be fairly stated by our Press—and America and Britain will seem the only true friends of the Cause. And a further and graver effect will rise from this attitude, and from the necessity that has been imposed on these Powers of making common cause in the controversy; the already visible movement towards an anti-Anglo-American bloc will be quickened.

The raising of the submarine matter was, at the best, a useless and foolish gesture; it may have been the throwing of a spanner into the machinery of international relation. — G.K.'s Weekly.

Mrs. Newpop: "What are you going to give baby on her first birthday?" Newpop: "How about a nice sleeping powder?"

Kingsand Standards

By Henry [illegible]

There have been arguments about monarchy and arguments about democracy. In order to [illegible] their objection to royalty, some [illegible] have sung "The Red Flag," [illegible] counter-blast, others have sung "[illegible] Save the King." And between these [illegible] stood the men who believe [illegible] popular mandate; who may [illegible] half the world is [illegible] but who leap for joy [illegible] preponderance of voters gives [illegible] political group. Consistency [illegible] much to ask of the crowd [illegible]. That must be why all these [illegible] and disbelievers fail to [illegible] they are battling about [illegible].

Eventually, monarchy [illegible] democracy are entwined [illegible] king rules alone and gathers [illegible] standard. If the [illegible] want him, they revolt [illegible] remains, if not in one [illegible] another. The danger [illegible] sometimes come to [illegible] the king or the standard [illegible] they fail to come [illegible] compromise. When [illegible] tled, a nation will [illegible] chaos; then struggle [illegible] again and fill the [illegible] people try to make [illegible] their throne a [illegible] too much about [illegible] probably proceed [illegible] of their king.

There is a national [illegible] thinking at the moment [illegible] three parties are playing [illegible] in the Government of the [illegible]. The rulers of that country [illegible] stated or unstated [illegible] them is set a king [illegible] kissed by the leaders [illegible] candidates, while [illegible] in the realm is [illegible] the politics [illegible] that while one party [illegible] loudly of its loyalty [illegible] more voluble about [illegible] the king. [illegible] closes its [illegible] a strip of [illegible] party does [illegible] Everything [illegible] or the simplicity [illegible] mass of the people [illegible] [illegible] when [illegible] such a striking [illegible] supposed [illegible] the parties.

[illegible]

It yet [illegible] a dependent [illegible] flag. The [illegible] who [illegible] appointed [illegible] really, [illegible] dignity [illegible] mass of the people [illegible] not so much with [illegible] with the flag [illegible] ed by him [illegible] is raised [illegible] rejoicing or [illegible].

Again, a [illegible] by an absolute [illegible] passed through [illegible] arch was dethroned [illegible] reins of government [illegible] opportunist [illegible] to speak of [illegible] is significant [illegible] dead, his person [illegible] body receiving [illegible] ed to loyalty [illegible] ple is symbolized [illegible] voting and [illegible].

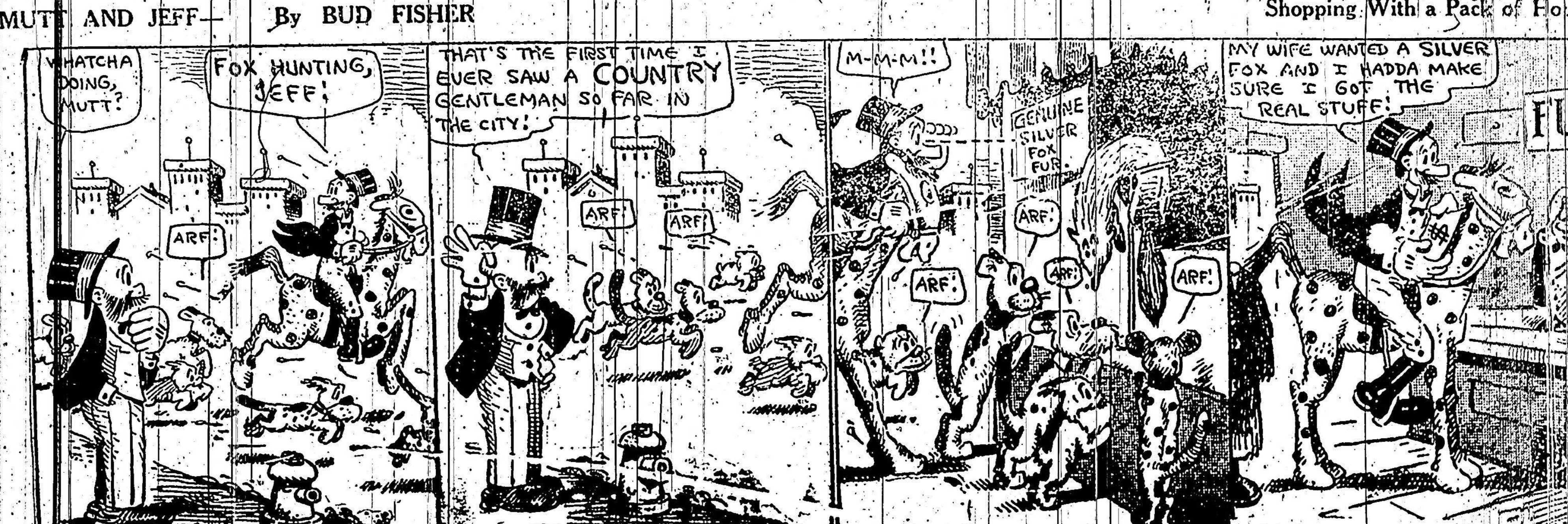
In past ages, kings [illegible] and lost the [illegible] cause democracy [illegible] Other kings [illegible] which stood for [illegible] the ancient [illegible] few have [illegible] the people [illegible] cayed. Yet always [illegible] been filled either [illegible] or by a symbol. There is [illegible] may be realized [illegible] "The king is dead [illegible] the king!"

Monarchy cannot [illegible] without democracy, which can [illegible] without monarchy. There [illegible] argument. A king [illegible] every country actually or by [illegible]. And if I may be allowed to [illegible] personal preference, I [illegible] is better that the king should [illegible] man, than a graven image or a [illegible] of cloth.—G.K.'s Weekly.

What we think [illegible] we will depend upon what we [illegible], not what we say we believe.

MUTT AND JEFF— By BUD FISHER

Shopping With a Pack of Hounds



Further History Of Passchendaele

Latest Discussion of C[illegible] Offensive Revives O[illegible] Dissensions

STORY FROM [illegible]

Director of [illegible] Operations [illegible] Entire Mov[illegible]

[illegible]