Chung Hwa

English Mortnightly 中華英語半月刊

錢 歌 川 主 編

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THE POWER OF CUSTOMS

BY HENRY A. MESS

Custom is social habit. Groups of people do certain things in certain ways. How food is cooked, how clothes are washed, how houses are built, are matters of custom; anyone who has lived in several countries, or even in several parts of the same country, will know how different they can be:

Custom can be of enormous tenacity: men and women go on doing things just because they have been done in the past; and they do not inquire whether there is any longer a good reason, or whether there ever was one. The story is told of a Danish village church where it was a custom to bow when passing a certain spot in the wall. No one knew why, until someone scraped the whitewash away and found underneath a picture of the Madonna. Denmark has been Protestant, for over three hundred years, but the old custom had survived.

Customs are often very compelling.⁵ "Last night", wrote a newspaper correspondent from India, "I saw a just-married girl who was not a day over eight years old. She will *cohabit with her husband before she is thirteen and will have a child before she is fourteen. The families concerned were low class, and to remonstrance merely replied 'It is our custom'". Custom is most coercive? in *primitive and ignorant communities but its strength can be observed also in many a college common room.

Law arose out of the enforcement of custom by public opinion. Very often religious pressure is added; but the greatest strength of customs at any time consist in the fact that they are followed unconsciously. Why do men wear coats, waistcoats and trousers?

I. 演因不夢的性質。 2. 括光, 鏡灣。 3. 蜜母瑪利亞之像。 4. 某售新教教徒。 5. 墨有力的。 6. 同居。 7. 鑑制的。 3. 原始和無智能的社會。

Is it because after careful consideration they have come to the conclusion that coats, waistcoats and trousers make a convenient and agreeable costume? Not a bit of it; we wear them because it is the custom.

There are many *breaches of custom¹⁰ which are not condemned by law or by religion, but which are forbidden by public opinion and punished by the disapproval of the community. We all know the word "Taboo",¹¹ in the South Sea Islands many things are forbidden by law, religion and public opinion, you must not eat certain fruits or mention certain words because "It is taboo". The English equivalent for "taboo" is *"It isn't done".¹² Every school has its "taboo"; there are quite innocent things which you absolutely mustn't do, or else your school-fellows *will be down on you.¹³ At some of our universities you mustn't use a pair of sugar-tongs. It is not the custom; it isn't done; it is "taboo".

Customs in social intercourse are called "manners", 14 and there are all sorts of curious differences between different localities as to what are good manners. In this country it would be regarded as grossly bad table manners to pick up chicken bones with one's fingers; but there are European countries by no means backward or boorish, 15 where it is done in quite good society.

One form of imitation which we all know is what we call "fashion". Fashion is a short-lived custom, usually initiated by a few persons of great energy or social prestige, ¹⁶ and rapidly adopted by a large part of the community. We think of fashion first of all in connection with clothes, but of course it extends to many other things as well—obviously to tood and drink; the cocktail¹⁷ habit was unheard of a few years ago: but also to immaterial things, to ideas of all sorts.

Quite clearly there are fashions in political ideas. They spread by suggestion, they are received by imitation, and to a large extent they escape critical examination. This does not

⁹ 服式。 10 破壞風俗。 11. (社交習慣上之) 禁忌。 12. 要不得。 13. 不 客歌你, 貶摘你。 14. 職貌。 15. 無職貌的。 16. 鄰望。 17. 藥尾酒會。

prove that they are false—or true: each ought to be examined on its merits like any other proposition; but it should make us healthily sceptical¹⁸ about rapid movements of opinion.

Customs often last a very long time, but they do not last tor ever; and it is interesting to see how they get altered. Growth in the size of a community may weaken, and ultimately destroy, a custom. When a village has grown into a large town, it is no longer possible to greet everyone you meet. Upton Sinclair tells, in one of his novels of a Hungarian immigrant in Chicago, whose daughter is getting married. In the old village in the Carpathians it had been the custom to offer hospitality¹⁹ on the wedding day to every passer-by. You can imagine the result when he tried to do this in Chicago.

Contact with other civilisations does a great deal to break down the power of custom. The traveller learns that the ways of doing things with which he is familiar are not the only possible ways. The Englishman abroad for the first time discovers that stamps can be bought at a tobacconist's shop, that coffee and rolls²⁰ can be regarded as an adequate breakfast, that daily consumption of wine can be a matter of course for quite poor people, that good Christains may go to a theatre on a Sunday, and a hundred other divergences²¹ between English and foreign ways. He may return convinced of the superiority of English ways, or the reverse, but a least he knows that there are other ways. And it may set him thinking out why we do things as we do.

Much of our morality is customary, comparatively few persons think out for themselves why certain actions are right and other actions are wrong; the morality of most of us is either taken on authority or is an almost unconscious following of others. The majority of Christains would find it hard to state a logical case against incest. Nor could they give an intelligent explanation of the particular *Sunday observances²² which they follow. Sunday observance is a good example of the way in which customs vary

^{18.} 複性的。 19. 款待。 20. 麵包。 21. 差異。 22. 微體釋。

from place to place and from age to age. It has been more rigid in Scotland than in England, more rigid in England than in most Protestant countries, more rigid in Protestant countries than in Roman Catholic countries, but the majority of Church members have not thought of the observance of Sunday as something flexible and adaptable; they have thought that their particular form of it was prescribed²³ by God.

It is because so much of the morality of most good men is customary, because so little of it is based upon independent thought and resolve, that persons and groups of persons removed from their native communities are in special danger of deterioration.²⁴ European colonies in Eastern cities tend to fall below the average morality of the old country. Members of African tribes removed from their homes and aggregated in the new and strange surroundings of an industrial area *fall between two stools.²⁵ They have lost the stiffening of their old tribal morality; they have not acquired the morality of Western civilisation.

The strength of customs is increased by their being interwoven with sentiments; doing things in certain ways has a pleasure of its own. We like familiar food, familiar manners, familiar modes of thought, familiar routines, 26 partly because they are associated in our minds with familiar figures and tender memories. In religion, in politics, in business, in recreation, there are always many who like to go on doing things in the same old way year after year, and whose feelings are outraged²⁷ if it is proposed to make a change.

Is it a good thing or a bad thing to follow custom? Well, that depends. Custom and imitation have the great advantage that they enable us to economise energy. Our unconscious minds take over a number of necessary duties and leave our conscious minds free for other and perhaps new activities. We could not make any progress at all if we had to bother every day with hundreds of decisions which we now make automatically.

^{23.} 规定· 24. 製装· 25. (写想像全所者, 转录资操所成之器). 26. 日常 前做的工作· 47. 使犯, 被装.

IT PAYS TO INCREASE YOUR WORD POWER

Successful men and women in every field know how important it is to develop a good vocabulary. They are able to express their ideas in clear and convincing language, and that skill has helped give them their leadership. Adding to your own vocabulary will give you added power which you will find useful wherever you are and whatever work you do. The following 20 words are not frequently seen. After each word there are four choices. Check the word or phrase, A, B, C or D, that you believe to be nearest in meaning to the key word. For the correct answers, turn to page 14.

- 1. rapacious (rə'peisəs)—A: starving. B: large and commodious. C: generous. D: predacious and grasping.
- 2. **optimum** ('optimem)—A: extremely cheerful. B: best. C: most philosophical. D: highest of all.
- 3. paean ('pi:ən)—A: a flattering speech. B: praise in general. C: a song of triumph or joy. D: a solemn song.
- 4. discomfit (dis'kamfit)—A: to put to rout or confusion. B: to make physically uneasy. C: to discourage. D: to criticize.
- 5. de facto ('di:'fæktou)—A: actually existing or done. B: temporary. C: evident. D: with full knowledge.
- 6. cogent (koudzent)—A: a term in mathematics. B: convincing and compelling. C: hurried. D: wise.
- 7. disaffect (disaffekt)—A: to dislike. B: to deny. C: to disable. D: to alienate the good will of.
- 8. fecund ('fekand or 'fi:k-)—A: fertile. B: decayed. C: strong D: fearful.

- 9. cosmos ('kɔzmɔs)—A: an orderly and harmonious system. B wisdom. C: confusion. D: social equality.
- 10. flaneur (flu:'nə:)—A: braggart. B: snob. C: social climber. D: idler or trifler.
- as a direction. C: to write an introduction to, D: to advise.
- 12. asoatic (ə'setik)—A: honest and fair. B: sarcastic. C: given to severe self-denial. D: gloomy.
- 13. plangent ('plændzent)—A: resounding. B: plunging. C: shining. D: foaming.
- 14. **apostate** (ə'pəstit)—A: an objector. B: one who forsakes the faith. C: a liar. D: a church official.
- 15. incandescent (inkæn'desnt)—A: exhibiting changing rainbow colors. B: giving off light apart from heat. C: possessing a play of pearly colors. D: luminous with intense heat.
- 16. masochism ('mæzəkizm)—A: a religious ritual as practiced by the followers of Mohammed. B: any pleasure in being abused or dominated. C: a political philosophy of the Orient. D: pleasure gained from cruelty to others.
- 17. prehensile (pri'hensail)—A: greedy. B: adapted for grasping and holding. C: capable of being understood. D: disquieted in mind.
- 18. fission ('fi∫ən)—A: a dispute. B: a pipe or tube. C: a fight with the fists. D: the act of splitting.
- 19. necromancy ('nekromænsi)—A: a dreaming, imaginative habit of mind. B: a roll of the dead. C: magic. D: vagueness.
- 20. nepotism ('nepotizm):—A: a disease that occurs in acute and chronic forms. B: anything causing oblivion. C: bribery. D: undue bestowal of patronage on relatives.

TURMOIL

SECOND PART OF THE ECLIPSE BY MAO TUN
TRANSLATED FROM THE CHINESE BY CHIEN GOCHUEN

動 搖—(續)

茅盾原著——錢歌川英譯

「呵,朱同志,久遠了,很忙吧?」 胡國光和這位少年相識,是最 近四五日內的事,也是陸慕遊的 介紹. 少年名朱民生,看去不過 二十二三,姿容秀美,是縣黨部 的候補委員,陸慕遊會在胡國光 前極力誇飾朱民生是一個好心熱 腸有擔當的人物,但在胡國光看 來,不過是一個『無所謂』的青年.

『今天不忙.你到那去?』朱民生回答. 他挽住女子的右臂, 放慢了脚步.

胡屬光覺得這是一個機會,捡前一步說:

"Hullo, comrade Chu; how are you? I suppose you're very busy?"

Hu Kuo-kwang had come to know the youth within the past week; Lu Mu-yu had introduced him. The youth, whose name was Chu Ming-sen, was about twenty years old and very handsome. He was one of the candidates for a committee of the town headquarters of the party. Lu Mu-yu greatly praised Chu Ming-sen to Hu Kuo-kwang for his compassion, enthusiasm and capacity for assuming responsibility, but in Hu's eyes, he was nothing but a youth without definite opinions of his own.

"No, today is not so busy. Where are you going?" replied Chu Ming-sen as he slowed down arm in arm with the girl.

Hu Kuo-kwang took it as a chance, so he advanced a step and said:

我要找陸基遊商量一件事,正 沒處去找呢. 朱同志, 你知道他 的踪跡麼?』

少年回眸看了女子一眼,微微一笑;他的紅噴噴的豐腴的面類上起了兩點笑渦,委實很妩媚動人,不愧為全城第一美男子.

陸基遊麼? 你不用找了,他今 天有事.』朱民生說. 還是帶着微 笑.『也許我們可以碰到他. 你有 什麼事? 要緊麼? 我替你轉達 罷.』

「事體並不算很緊要. 但我既然 知道了, 不能不告訴他.」

「哦,那麼,停一刻我看見他時, 就叫他先來找你罷.」

女子早已半面向左轉, 將一個 倒背形對着胡圖光; 她這不耐煩 的表示, 使得朱民生也提起時要 走了。 "I want to see Lu Mu-yu to consult him about a certain affair and cannot find him. Do you know where he is, comrade Chu?"

The youth looked round and smiled at the girl. The smile actually made two dimples on his ruddy cheeks. Certainly so charming and fascinating a youth that he did really deserve the title of the most handsome young man in the town.

"Do you want to see Lu Mu-yu? You won't be able to find him. He is engaged today," said Chu Ming-sen, smiling still. "Maybe we can meet him somewhere. What's the business? Is it important? I'll tell him for you."

"Not so very important, but I think I must tell him what I've heard."

"Oh, then I'll ask him to come and see you if I meet him later on."

The girl had turned away with her back toward Ho Kno-kwang. This was a sign of her impatience, which made Chu Ming-sen lift his foot to go.

胡國光科到朱民生他們和陸慕 遊一定有約, 說不定此去就是赴 約, 所以轉達一層, 倒很可靠; 但 他此時一轉念間又得了個新主 意, 他趕快掘上坐步低聲說:

了我聽得明天的商民協會選舉, 黨部已經指定了五個人叫大家通 過; 就恐怕陸慕遊沒有知道,我所 以要特地告訴他.

『是指定三個,選舉二個.』朱 民生「無所謂」的說,『就是遺點 事麼? 我告訴他就是了.』

胡國光的眼前突然亮起來。『選舉兩個!』還有希望,但也不無可慮,因為只有兩個! 朱民生和那女子走離十多步遠,胡國光方權從半喜半憂的情緒中回復回來。他方義嗅到一股甜香。他很後悔,竟不會招呼朱民生的女件,請介

Hu Kuo-kwang thought they must have an appointment with Lu Mu-yu, and maybe were now on their way to it, so that they would be sure to convey his words, but on second thoughts he came to a fresh decision. He hurried forward and said under his breath:

"I have heard the headquarters of the party has nominated five persons for election to the trade association tomorrow. I wondered if Lu knew already, so I wanted to tell him specially."

"Only nominated three, and left two for free election," said Chu Ming-sen indifferently. "Is that all your business? Then let me tell him."

Things looked brighter to Hu Kuo-kwang. "Left two for free election!" There was still hope for him. But it was still anxious work, because there were only two left! He had mastered the emotion of half anxiety, half delight when Chu Ming-sen and his girl had gone some yards away. He suddenly smelled a trace of sweet fragrance, and repented not having greeted

紹; 甚至連面稅服裝也沒看清. 失智張皇一至於此,真是何等的可 笑呵!

他禁不住獨自微笑了. 究竟胡 國光是自笑其張皇失措呢, 抑是 為了『還有希望』, 作者還不大弄 得明白; 總之, 他確是掛着微笑, 又走進了清風閣.

 the girl as well as not asking Chu Ming-sen to introduce him; even her face and attire had not been seen clearly by him. It was really ridiculous to be flurried like that.

He could not but smile to himself, but whether because of his recent distraction or his present brighter hopes, none could tell. Anyhow, he went into the Tower of Fresh Winds again with a smile on his face.

An hour later, Hu Kuo-kwang went home against the cutting north-west wind. As a result of his stay in the tea house, he had added another vote to his total There were altogether amount. eighteen votes for him. Eighteen votes! It was not a great number, but not small either. What a pity that there were only vacancies for two, or he would certainly succeed. But he was still hoping for the best. He knew how to persevere, how to keep on. thought in his high spirits that even if he should fail by eighteen votes this time, it would qualify him and enable him to come back 奮鬥; 只要你肯幹, 耐煩的幹, 遺 世界上難道還少了機會麼?

胡國光是如此的高興,回家後 竟允許給金鳳姐做一件新羊皮襖 過年;並且因為前天金鳳姐擅自 拿了太太的一付鞋面椴去自己做 了鞋子,又惹起一場爭吵,便當 着太太的面,命令金鳳姐照樣做 一雙價還太太,却暗中給金鳳姐 願塊錢,算是補貼.

陸基遊是第二天一早機來.他 已經有廿一票.他們又相約互投 一票.

『我已經打聽明白,互選是不犯 法的。』 陸慕遊很得意的說.

下午縣商民協會第一屆執行 委員選舉會就在縣議會舊址的縣 黨部褒開幕了. 縣黨部提出的三 to the world again. He could find another chance, and struggle. There are plenty of chances waiting for those who work hard and patiently.

Hu Kuo-kwang was so delighted that he allowed Chin Feng-chieh to have a new sheepskin jacket for the new year. Besides he secretly gave her two dollars as compensation for the loss she had sustained when he ordered her, in the presence of Madam Hu, to make that lady a pair of satin uppers for shoes as good as those that she had dared to take for her own use from madam the day before yesterday, where-upon a noisy quarrel had arisen.

Early the next day Lu Mu-yu came. He had twenty-one votes. He asked Hu Kuo-kwang to exchange a vote.

"I have already found out that we're allowed to exchange votes in the election," said he in high spirits.

The first election of the executive committee of the town trade association took place in the afternoon at the town headquarters of the party, which had been the old town 個人照例通過後,會員便投票,結

果是:

陸慕遊二十一票,胡國光二十 票: 當選.

陸慕遊還只廿一票,大概是逃走了一票;胡國光多一票,是他臨時弄來的.

縣黨部代表林子沖正跨上講 臺, 要致訓詞, 忽然會員中一個 人站起來喊:

『胡國光就是胡園輔,是本縣劣

种——! 劣紳! 取消他的委員.』

(未 完)

hall. The three people nominated by the town headquarters of the party were passed without exception, and afterwards began the free voting, which resulted thus:

Lu Mu-yu was elected by 21 votes, and Hu Kuo-kwang by 20 votes.

The former had only got 21 votes, for he had unluckily lost one; Hu Kuo-kwang had got another vote just before the election.

Lin Tzu-chung, the representative of the town headquarters of the party, had hardly stepped on to the platform and was about to give instructions, when a voice came from the assemblage.

"Hu Kuo-kwang, another name of Hu Kuo-fu, is one of the debased gentry of our town! One of the debased gentry! Cance his membership of the committee!"

OUIZ

- 1. Which is correct, milk cow or milch cow?
- 2. What is the Flying Dutchman?
- 3. Does dickens refer to Charles Dickens?
- 4. May the President and Vice President of the U.S. be from the same State?
- 5. Why is an old joke called a Hoe Miller?

(Answers will be found on page 15)

MALTREATED IDIOMS AND WRONG CONSTRUCTIONS

Careless Constructions

From mere want of thought a writer or a speaker will often fall into carelessness of expression. The passer-by who was heard to say. "This house was hardly entered before it was finished," meant of course that the house was hardly finished before it was entered. Note the jumble of ideas in the following:

- I. Incorrect: He is grateful to me for a heavy loss that I saved him from.
 - Correct: He is grateful to me for saving him from a heavy loss.
- 2. Incorrect: The proverb says that before you look do not leap.

 Correct: The proverb says that you should not leap till you have looked. (You should look before you leap.)
- 3. Incorrect: This door is requested to be kept shut.

 Correct: It is requested that this door be kept shut.
- 4. Incorrect: You must do it the same as I did it.

 Correct: You must do it in the same way as I did it.
- 5. Incorrect: Dorothy's absence was required to look after her sick mother.
 - Correct: Dorothy was absent because she was required to look after her sick mother.

6. Incorrect: I think it may benefit your health by taking a glass of water before meals.

Correct: I think it may benefit your health to take a glass of water before meals.

7. Incorrect: The wife's disloyalty was strongly suspected by the husband.

Correct: The wife's loyalty was strongly suspected by the husband; or

The wife was strongly suspected of disloyalty by the husband.

8. Incorrect: This popular author has never failed to create a story without interest.

Correct: This popular author has never created a story without interest.

9. Incorrect: The committee requests subscriptions to be paid to the treasurer.

Correct: The committee requested that subscription be paid to the treasurer.

10. Incorrect: The greater the crowd, the larger space is required.

Correct: The greater the crowd, the larger the space that is required.

Answers to "It Pays to Increase Your Word Power"

ıD	强 奪.	8—A	豐饒.	15D	白熱的.
2—B	最適合的.	9A	秩序和諧.	16—B	被虐淫亂症
3C	凱歌.	10—D	閱散者.	17B	適於捕捉的。
4A	使喪氣.	11—A	放逐;禁止	18 —D	裂阱.
5A	事實上的。	12-C	禁慾主義.	19-C	魔術.
6-B	使舊青。	13А	陽響.	20—D	引用私人。
7—D	離間 。	14-B	省信者.	•	•

ANSWERS TO QUIZ on page 12

- Although milk cow is widely used, especially by farmers and farm writers, dictionaries usually do not recognize milk in the sense of the adjective milch, which means giving milk or kept for milking purposes. There is a difference in usage even in the departments of the Government. In 1926 A. B. Nystrom, dairy husbandman in the Department of Agriculture, wrote: "Concerning the use of the words milk and milch, I wish to state that so far as I am able to ascertain the word milk is used in place of milch in all Department publications. This change dates back about six or seven years, and while it has not been officially adopted, so far as can be determined, it is now generally understood that milk is to be used in preference to the adjective milch". In 1926 the Government Printing Office wrote: "This office has not adopted milk to the exclusion of milch where the form is milch cow, and as a matter of fact we do not know of any authority for the use of milk cow. Milch is used in Government Printing Office publications unless specific instructions are given to the contrary."
- This is the name of a legendary phantom ship which was formerly believed to haunt the seas around the Cape of Good Hope. It was regarded as an ill omen to see this specter ship. There are many versions of the legend. Sir Walter Scott says that originally the Flying Dutchman was laden with a cargo of precious metals. A foul murder was committed on board and a plague broke out among the sailors, after which no port would allow the vessel to enter, thus condemning it to be tossed upon the waves forever like a ghost. The most usual version of the legend, however, is as follows: The vessel started to round the Cape of Good Hope during one of those terrific storms for which that region of the earth is notorious. The crew begged the Dutch captain, half crazed by drink, determined to proceed. A mutiny followed, but he suppressed it by putting the ringleaders to death. Then the Holy Ghost, in the form of the light of St. Eimo, appeared at the masthead and warned him to desist. He drew his pistol and fired at the light. The pistol exploded, shattering his hand and paralyzing his arm. Wild with rage the captain cursed the Creator and swore that he would continue to round the cape against the wind if it took until the crack of doom. Providence, says the

Tegend, took the blasphemous captain at his word, and to this day the phantom ship may be seen sailing against the wind in a vain effort to couble the Cape of Good Hope. The Dutch, German and English versions of the legend are substantially the same, except that each country identifies the captain of the Flying Dutchman as a different person.

- 3. The word dickens, used as an interjectional expression signifying astonishment, impatience or irritation, is in no way related to the name of Charles Dickens the famous novelist. It was used by Shakespeare more than two centuries before Dickens was born. In The Merry Wives of Windsor Mrs Page says: "I cannot tell what the dickens his name is my husband had him of." Dickens is probably no more than a euphimism for dence or devil, which have the same initial letter.
- 4. It is not true, as often supposed, that the President and the Vice President of the United States cannot Constitutionally be residents of the same State. The Twelfth Amendment to the Constitution says in part: "The electors shall meet in their respective State, and vote by ballot for President and Vice President, one of whom, at least, shall not be an inhabitant of the same State with themselves." No party has ever nominated candidates for President and Vice President from the same State, and obviously it would be unwise to do so, because the electors from that State could vote for only one of them, even if the party carried the State. But the electors from all the other States could vote for both born in Virginia, were elected President and Vice President, respectively, but Harrison was at that time a resident of Ohio.
- Josias) Miller, an English actor who was born in 1692. It is said that among the habitues of the coffeehouses which Miller frequented he was famous for his jokes and witty sayings. Although so far as known Miller never wrote a single joke, the year after his death—1739—an actor named John Mottley brought out a book entitled Joe Miller's Jests, or Wits Vade Mecum. It consisted of a collection of old and contemporary jokes and witticisms, many if which were rather crude and coarse. Only three stories in the entire collection were told of Miller. His name was used in the title merely because it was thought that his reputation as a humorist would make the book popular. Thus it came about, somewhat unjustly, that Joe Miller's name became associated with stale jokes.

BELINDA

(An April Folly in Three Acis)
By A. A. MILNE

春到人間

ACT III

BELINDA and TREMAYNE come in from the library. 白珠達和崔麥茵從圖書館來.

BELINDA (as he opens the door). Thank you. I don't think it's unkind to leave him, do you? He seemed quite happy.

白琳達(當他開門時說). 謝謝你. 我想我們把他一個人丢在那裏,不算不客氣吧? 他好像很快樂的樣子.

TREMAYNE. I shouldn't have been happy if we'd stayed.

崔麥茵. 假若我們要是不走開的話,我一定覺得不快活的.

BELINDA (going to the sofa and putting her feet up). Yes, but I was really thinking of Mr. BAXTER.

白琳達 (走到沙發那裏, 把脚放上去)。 是的, 不過我確實有點爲獨克思特先生着想。

TREMAYNE. Not of me?

崔麥茵. 不想我?

BELINDA. Well, I thought it was Mr. BAXTER'S turn. Poor man, he's had a disappointment lately.

白**琳速**。 唉,我適才想到遺愿該是輪到蜀先生才對。 可憐的人,他最近 碰了一件失弦的事情。

TREMAYNE (eagerly). A disappointment?

崔麥茵 (迫切地). 一件失望的事情?

BELINDA. Yes, he thought I was younger than I was.

白琳递. 是的, 他以爲我是—— 比我實在的年紀要整得多。

TREMAYNE (smiling to himself). How old are you, Belinda?

崔麥茵(自家微笑)。 你多少歲了? 白琳逵?

BELINDA (dropping her eyes). Twenty-two. (After a pause) He thought I was eighteen. Such a disappointment!

白琳逮 (眼簾低垂). 二十二歲 (稍停) 他以為我才十八歲呢. 多麼失望的一件事啊。

TREMAYNE (smiling openly at her). BELINDA, how old are you?

崔麥茵(公開地對她笑着說)。 白琳達, 你多少歲了?

BELINDA. Just about the right age, Mr. ROBINSON.

白琳達。 正好是那麼一個適合的歲數, 魯濱遜先生.

TREMAYNE. The right age for what?

崔麥茵. 一個適合於什麼的歲數呢?

BELINDA. For this sort of conversation.

白琳達, 適合於這類談話的蒙數,

TREMAYNE. Shall I tell you how old you are?

崔麥茵. 要不要我來告訴你的年紀呢?

Belinda. Do you mean in figures or—poetically?

白琳逵. 你的意思是按數目字算,還是詩意的?

TREMAYNE. I meant—

植麥茵. 我的意思是說---

Belinda. Mr. Devenish said I was as old as the—now, I must get this the right way round—as old as the—

白琳達. 戴文尼思說過我是老得和——現在我必得把這個記字——老得和——

TREMAYNE. I don't want to talk about Mr. DEVENISH.

植麥茵. 我不顧意在我們談話中提到數文尼思先生.

BELINDA (with a sigh). Nobody ever does—except Mr. DEVENISH. As old as the stars, and as young as the dawn. (Settling herself cosily) I think that's rather a nice age to be, don't you?

白琳遊(嘆氣). 沒有人願意提到他——除了藏文尼思先生他自己。他說我 與婺星齊譯, 黎明同青(舒服的坐機)我覺得道倒是一個很有意思的年 紀,你說是不是? TREMAYNE. A very nice age to be.

崔麥茵. 的確是一個有意思的年齡.

BELINDA. It's a pity he's thrown me over for Delia; I shall miss that sort of thing rather. You don't say those sort of things about your aunt-in-law—not so often.

白琳達. 他為了黨例網,把我拋棄掉,還實在是一件可惜的事,我有點懷念那一類的話. 你當然不會對一個岳家的姨媽講那一類的話了——至少不會常常遺樣講的.

Tremayne (eagerly). He really is in love with Miss Robinson? 崔麥茵 (迫切地). 他真的愛上魯濱遜小姐了嗎?

Belinda. Oh yes. I expect he is out in the moonlight with her now, comparing her to Diana.

自琳逵. 哦,是的. 我想他現在正和她在月光下,拿她比做滴安娜吧.

TREMAYNE. Well, that accounts for him. Now what about Baxter.

崔麥茵. 不錯,那適足以說明他. 關於覇克思特又怎樣呢?

Belinda. I thought I told you. Deeply disappointed to find that I was four years older than he expected, Mr. Baxter hurried from the drawing-room and buried himself in a column of the "Encyclopaedia Britannica."

白珠達,我覺得我已告訴過你了, 獨克思特先生發現了我比他所希冀的 年齡要大四歲的時候,不由深深地失望了, 他急忙離開了客廳, 把自己 埋到一部大英百科全書的字裏行間去了。

TREMAYNE. Well, that settles BAXTER. Are there any more men in the neighbourhood?

祖参茵、好的, 那算把蜀克思特安顿了。 在鄰近還在別的男人嗎?

Belinda (shaking her head). Isn't it awful? I've only had those two for the last three weeks.

白珠速 (搖頭). 這多麼情例? 在過去三臟彈中,我只有這們隔個人。

(TREMAYNE sits on the back of the sofa and books down at her.)

(崔麥茵坐在沙發背上, 朝下看她。)

TREMAYNE. BELINDA.

崔麥茵. 白珠達.

BELINDA. Yes, Henry?

白珠達. 什麼, 亨利?

TREMAYNE. My name is John.

崔麥茵, 我的名字叫約翰.

BELINDA. Well, you never told me. I had to guess. Everybody thinks they can call me Belinda without giving me the least idea what their own names are. You were saying, John?

白琳達. 唉,你從來沒有告訴過我. 我只好去瞎猜. 每一個人都想着他們可以隨便叫我的名字白琳達,但從未顧到要告訴我他們的名字是什麼. 你剛說什麼,約翰?

TREMAYNE. My friends call me Jack.

崔麥茵. 我的朋友叫我傑克.

BELINDA. Jack ROBINSON. That's the man who always goes away so quickly. I hope you're making more of a stay?

白珠達。傑克魯濱遜,他是一個動不動就邁開步子高飛遠走的人啊。希望你能默長久些就好。

TREMAYNE. Oh, you maddening, maddening woman!

崔麥茵。 戰你道神經病神經病的女人!

BELINDA. Well, I have to keep the conversation going. You do nothing but say "BELINDA."

白琳達. 唉,我希望我們的談話能權積下去. 你除了喊了「「白琳達」」之外, 沒有涉及過別的事啊。

TREMAYNE (taking her hand). Have you ever loved anybody seriously, Belinda?

崔麥茵(崔了她的手)。 你是否認其受過任何人?

BELINDA. I don't ever do anything very seriously. The late Mr. TREMAYNE, my first husband—Jack—Isn't it funny, his name was Jack—he used to complain about it too sometimes.

白琳述, 我對於任何事情都沒有認過質, 那死去的崔麥茵先生, 我的第一個丈夫——傑克——這眞滑稽, 他的名字也就叫傑克——他從前就不時和我爭執這一點。

TREMAYNE (with conviction). Silly ass!

崔麥茵(負罪的設). 牽豬!

BELINDA. I think you are a little hard on the late Mr. TREMAYNE.

白琳達. 我想你對於死去的崔麥茵先生, 責備得太過了。

TREMAYNE. Has he been dead long?

崔麥茵. 是不是他已經死去很久了?

BELINDA. Dead to me.

白珠達. 對於我, 他是死了.

TREMAYNE. You quarrelled?

崔麥茵. 你們吵了嘴?

BELINDA. Yes. It was his fault entirely.

白珠達. 是的. 那完全是他的過錯.

TREMAYNE. I'm sure it was.

崔麥茵. 我敢斷定那必是他的錯.

BELINDA. How sweet of you to say that!

白琳達. 你這樣說足見你為人眞好.

TREMAYNE. BELINDA, I want you to marry me and forget about him.

崔麥茵. 白琳達,我要求你嫁給我,而把他忘了.

BELINDA (happily to herself). This is the proposal that those lamb cutlets interrupted this morning.

白珠達(快活的自語着)這正是他要向我求婚的話,早晨,不幸被那些小羊排的事截斷了。

TREMAYNE. BELINDA, I love you-do you understand?

崔麥茵. 白琳達, 我爱你——你明白嗎?

Belinda. Suppose my first husband turns up suddenly like—like E. A.?

白琳達. 假設我的第一個丈夫忽然間像——像 E. A. 一樣, 憑空出面了呢? Tremayne. Like who?

崔麥茵. 像誰?

BELINDA. Well, like anybody.

白珠達。 唉,像随便什麼人。

TREMAYNE. He won't—I know he won't. Don't you love me enough to risk it, Belinda?

准麥茵. 他不至於——我知道他不至於. 難道你愛我的心,不够使你冒一下險嗎,白琳達?

BELINDA. Thaven't really said I love you as all yet.

白琳達、我還沒有真正說過我是愛你的啊。

TREMAYNE. Well, say it now. (BELINDA looks at him, and then down again.) You do! Well, I'm going to have a kiss, anyway. (He comes round the sofa and kisses her quickly.) There!

祖麥茵. 那麼, 現在說吧. (白琳達看看他, 又將眼光掉開) 你說啊! 唉, 不管他, 我先要吻你一下. (他走到沙陵那裏, 很快的親她) 哼!

BELINDA. O-oh! The late Mr. TREMAYNE never did that.

崔麥茵、哦! 那死去的崔麥茵先生,從來沒有這樣做過.

TREMAYNE.—I have already told you that he was a silly ass. (Sitting down on the sofa) Belinda—

崔麥茵、我已經告訴過你, 他是一個十足的臺灣. (坐在沙發上) 白珠達——BELINDA. Yes, Henry—I mean, Jack?

白琳逵. 什麼, 亨利——我是說, 傑克?

TREMAYNE. Do you know who I am? (He is thoroughly enjoying the surprise he is about to give her.)

崔麥茵. 你知道我是誰嗎? (他澈底地在颌會他將給她驚訝.)

(To be concluded)

ABANDONED

BY SHOLOM ASCH

潰 棄 建 譯 註

When Burih awoke he heard the baby crying, so with eyes still closed he called to his wife: "Golda! the · 睜開, 便向他的妻子叫道:『葛爾 brat1 is bawling."

Golda did not answer. He looked around and noticed that she wasn't in the house. He was rather surprised, but he thought: She must have gone to wash herself. He took a piece of linen and stuck it into the infant's mouth to stop its wailing.2 Then he started to dress.

While thus occupied,³ he began to figure how much he'd be able to "land"5 for the silver candlesticks he had "lifted" from the Zhobliner house. On *the impulse of the moment, he climbed up into the attic to examine "the goods". They were gone! He rummaged8 about everywhere...Gone!

Quickly clambering down again he hastened over to where his wife's things hung, and tore away the

當伯利醒來的時候,他聽到孩 子在哭,所以眼睛還沒有來得及 達! 小傢伙在叫啦.』

萬爾達沒有回答. 他睜開眼睛 四處一望,發覺他的妻子已不在 屋子裏,他頗爲驚異,但是他想: 她一定是洗臉去了. 他拿起一塊 亞麻布塞在孩子的嘴裏使孩子不 哭, 然後起身穿衣服.

在忙着穿衣起床的時候,他開 始計算他從左布來拉家裏輸來的 銀燭台可以弄得多少錢。剛好想 到遺屈事,他便爬到頂樓上去察 看他的贓物. 它們不見了! 他到處 搜奪……不見了!

他又迅速地爬下來,急忙走到 他的妻子掛衣服用品的地方,扯

^{4. =} he would. 5. (無震) 得, 取. 6. (個語) 像, 驗. /7. 由於一時的衡勤. 8. 被案.

sheet covering them. They too were gone!...Only then did it begin to dawn⁹ on him that she had run away.

With whom?...

With Shloima Shlosser?....or Hayim'll Goob?...

"Well...let her run,—and be damned to her!...Who *th' hell¹o cares?" he said to himself with forced¹¹ unconcern, spitting on the walls "That's a nice how-d-yedo!¹²...Ha-ha-ha-ha..."

He glanced at the baby.

"But what's¹³ to be done with the damned brat?" he murmured to himself reflectively. "If I only knew where she is I'd¹⁴ leave it right in front of her door...Take it!...it's yours!"

An evil thought suddenly flashed through his mind, causing him to grow pale, and bite his upper lip, while his hands trembled. He approached the infant, which lay uncovered, its dirty rag of a blanket kicked aside, its hands stuffed into its mouth, smiling vaguely into empty space...The shape of its

開蓋在上面的罩布. 它們也不見了!......這時候他才明白她已接物產逃了.

和誰一起逃走的呢?...

和史諾馬史諾塞逃走的?...還是和哈伊麥哥布逃走的呢?.....

他自言自語地唸道,「可是把這個該死的小傢伙怎麼辦呢?如果我獎得她在什麼地方,我一定把孩子正丢在她的門口.....拿去吧!..... 這是你生的!!

他的腦中忽然閃起一個惡念, 使他臉色發白,他咬住他的上嘴 唇,他的手發抖了.他走近孩子, 孩子毫無遮蓋地躺在床上,骯髒 的破毛毯被踢到一邊,一雙小手 塞在嘴裏, 限望着空處變變地在 微笑,...孩子的嘴的形狀使他想

^{9.} 测新男白. 10. = the hell (加重語氣之俗語). 11. 勉强的: 12. = how do you do. 13. = what is. 14. = I would.

mouth reminded him of some one...
was it an old acquaintance?...He
couldn't rightly remember...

He turned away from the child, put on his hat hurriedly, and went out, locking the door behind him. He walked on aimlessly, but *with no peace of mind¹⁵...The baby's cries kept ringing in his ears, as if it were calling to him...In fancy he could see it before him, kicking its little legs about, wailing frantically...No! he must turn back... "Oh! if I could *get a-hold¹6 of her now!" he thought to himself, "I'd nab her by the throat and choke her!...choke her till her tongue stuck out, damn her!"

He entered a bakery, bought a roll, 17 and went back to the house. The baby lay as before, uncovered, but smiling.

"Devil take the brat! he looks comfortable enough, the little cuss." 18... And he left the house again. But he couldn't make himself walk on. All the time 19 he fancied he heard the little one wailing ... and it made him feel such a gnawing anguish at heart...

起某一個人,...是一個老熟人吧? ...他可記不清楚了......

他走進一家麵包店,買了一排 麵包,回到家裏去.孩子仍然毫無 遮蓋地躺在床上,但是在微笑着.

「這個倒露的小傢伙! 他好像很安遇,這個小混蛋.」.....於是他又走出來. 但是他不能够再向前走, 他總是想像到他聽見孩子在哭...使他感覺到心如刀割的痛苦.....

^{15.} 心神不孝。 16. = get hold of. 17. 超包接。 18. (銀蓋) 混豪。 19. 常常.

He clinched²⁰ his fists and returned to the house. Now the baby was crying with a prolonged²¹ wail, "Mam-m-ma!...Mam-m-m-ma!..."

"Your mamma, eh? The brat!... Go and look for your precious mamma—plague²² take her!"

He took the child in his arms. It nestled²³ up to him, seeking something eagerly with its little lips.

"Blast her ugly soul," he kept on cursing, while he patted the infant's cheek and body. "Don't cry, Shloimal...be quiet now...be quiet, I beg you."

The baby continued to seek with its little mouth, waved its hands about, and nodded its head, as if on the point of speaking. He drew it closer to him, at the same time looking about for some milk. He found a little on the stove, and soaked some of the roll in it. Then he began to feed the baby with a spoon, talking to it meanwhile, in a gentle voice... Eat, sonny, eat... Your mother—devil take her

他握緊拳頭,又回到家裏. 這時候孩子以拖長的哭聲在叫喊, 「姆——姆——姆——媽!———姆 姆——姆——姆……

「你的媽媽, 呃? 小傢伙!...去 找你的寶貝媽媽去——她該遭瘟 的!」

他抱起孩子.孩子.假近他,用 小嘴迫切地在找什麼.

「她眞罪該萬死,」當他拍着孩子的面鷹和身體的時候,他繼續地咒駡着.『不要哭了,史諾美... 安靜一點...我求你,安靜一點.」

那孩子繼續用他的小嘴到處專 找,亂揮着他的一雙手,點點頭, 好像正要說話的樣子. 他將孩子 抱得更貼近些, 一面四處找專牛 奶. 他在爐子上找到了一點, 浸 一塊麵包在牛奶裏. 然後他開始 用一隻湯匙去喂給孩子吃, 同時 以溫和的聲調向孩子說......「吃 吧, 小乖乖, 吃吧...... 你的媽媽 一一該死的——表開你走啦...甚

^{20.} 振聚 21. 拉長的。 22. 疫癘。 23. 保近。 24. 养婴。 25. 興 隐。

—has deserted you...Even a dog doesn't abandon its young...She's worse than a dog...Don't cry...

No, I won't²⁶⁻²abandon you...*on my word of honor,²⁷ I won't."

When the baby had quieted down, he wrapped it in a cloth, and took it into the street.

His presence in the market-place created quite a stir. Burih Kulock with a baby!...From his "stand",28 Kradnick called out: "Hey, Kulock! where did you get the kid?"

Kradnick's wife got up excitedly, and hurried up to the baby with open arms. She wiped her face with her apron several times out of sheer gladness...laughed, and slapped the tiny urchin²⁹ on the buttocks.³⁰

"Is he yours, Kulock? Well, I never!...Look at his little eyes,... if he don't look just like Marina!... her nose—exactly! as I live! What a jewel of a lad!...Give him to me!..." She took the baby from him, and bounced it *up and down. "There!...there!...You little rascal." (To be concluded)

至一隻狗也不丢掉它的孩子的... 她此一隻狗還要壞...不要哭啦... 不會的,我不會丢掉你的...設實 話,我不會丢掉你的...

當孩子安靜下來了, 他將孩子 用布包着, 帶到街上去.

他在市集上出現,起了相當的 紛擾,们利古洛克帶了一個孩子!克乃得利克在他的店子裏喊 道:「喂,古洛克!那孩子你從哪 裏弄來的?」

克乃得利克的妻子與奮地站起來,伸出兩手很快地走近孩子去. 她完全是由於快樂的緣故,幾次 用圍裙揩逸的臉......她笑,而且 拍那孩子的屁股......

這孩子是你的嗎? 古洛克. 哎,我不相信! 讓他那一對小眼睛...他不是風像瑪利娜嗎! ...她的鼻子——像極了! 確實的! 這孩兒真是一個寶貝! ...把他給我吧!」她從古洛克的手裏接過孩子,上下地搖弄着. 「呵! ... 呵! 你這個小混蛋.」 (未完)

^{26. =} would not. 27. 實點, 無關條之言. 28. 店, 報告. 29. 小孩. 30. 臂 越 (常用複數). 31. 一上一下地. 32. (保险) 强有力的.

HOW I LEARN MY ENGLISH

By Wang I-TING

It is 36 years since I began to learn my English. As I look back these 36 years, which have passed like a watch in the night, a flood of memories come to my mind. First and foremost, I must confess that I did not make much progress, partly owing to my stupidity and partly owing to the manner in which I was taught. It is perhaps not too much for me to say that at least half of my time at middle school had been wasted in memorizing the rules of grammar and in trying to diagrammatizing the sentences. It is of course useless for me to weep over the spilt milk, and I must let the by-gones be by-gones.

This is a memorable event. I remember one bright December Sunday morning when I was crossing the *Yung River¹ in a ferry boat with the Bible under my arm, I met a Dr. Sugg, a *Church Mission Society² doctor. As he and I were the only passengers on the boat, we began to fall into conversation, in the course of which he dropped this remark: "We British do not regard American English as English", seeing that I was a graduate and teacher of *Ningpo Middle School,³ a school run by American Baptist and Presbyterian Missions. That remark of his had a dramatic effect on me, for from that time onward I decided to drop the English I learned from my American teachers, and to learn everywhere I can, English.

The book that has helped me most is the Authorised Version of the English Bible, which is a well of pure English undefiled.

I have been reading, marking, and learning the Book of books, for the last 20 years, though the process of my inward digestion will require many years to come.

^{1.} 南江。 2. 英國產公會。 3. 國與中學、

Next to the Bible, Fowler's *Concise Oxford Dictionary* and Modern English Usage have been of infinite help to me. I often say to myself that these three books have taught me much more English than my four and half a years of college education at Nanking.

I read the English periodicals that I can lay hands on. Whenever I come across a good passage, I usually read it more than twice and copy it down. Whenever I come across a Biblical phrase, quotation, or allusion, I must try to find the references in the Concordance. That has been my hobby for the last 16 or 17 years.

I am an early riser. If I do not *get out of bed on the wrong side, I often read slowly and loudly the *Book of Common Prayer and the Holy Bible, in order to get the rhythm out of my readings. Dear Readers, I do not count myself to have mastered the English language; nay, I have a very long, long way to go to. *"But one thing I do, forgetting the things which are behind, and stretching forth to the things which are before."

ASK AND IT SHALL BE GIVEN!

When one of his favorite servants announced wedding plans, Alfred B. Nobel, the fabulously wealthy Swedish chemist, asked her what she would like for a wedding present. "I have decided on what I would like, sir," she replied, "but I doubt whether I can get it."

"Nonsense," said Nobel. "Tell me what it is. I told you to ask for whatever you wished."

"Well, sir," stammered the servant, "will you give me your income for one day?"

Alfred B. Nobel did. And the check he made out was for \$28,000!

— John N. Markis

^{4.} 簡明牛津字典· 5. 整經字彙· 6. 脾氣不好· 7. 公轉文· 8. 忘記背 後, 努力向前(新約腓力比三章十三節).

WORLD AFFAIRS

Molotov Ready To Reveal Disposition Of Troops

The Soviet Union is ready to accept the American proposal¹ stipulating² that every country should supply information³ regarding foreign troops stationed on its own territory, *Soviet Foreign Minister Vyacheslav M. Molotov⁴ declared in the *U.N. Political and Security Committee⁵ on November 20.

The Soviet delegation moved⁶ a resolution slightly different from that of the American delegation, but similar on the essential points.

According to the Soviet proposal, the *U.N. Assembly⁷ should recommend to the *Security Council,⁸ that the U.N. be asked to supply within one month all information regarding the strength and position of U.N. forces stationed in *non-enemy territories.⁹

M. Meletov declared furthermore that the presence of Soviet troops in Poland was necessary to preserve communications with Germany. "Great Britain and the United States, on the contrary," he said "keep troops throughout the world and some nations are now said to be *coveting the Arctic." 10

Anglo-U.S. Agreement For Economic Zone Merger

Britain and the United States today signed a bilateral¹¹ pact for *an economic merger¹² of their *zones of occupation¹³ in Germany designed to make the territory *self-sustaining¹⁴ within three years.

The action came at the end of prolonged negotiations in Germany, Washington and New York. The agreement was signed by *U.S. Secretary of State James F. Byrnes and British Foreign Minister Ernest Bevin.¹⁵

Details were kept secret pending the presentation of the terms to the *British House of Commons¹⁶ on December 4 afternoon.

^{1.} 提案. 2. 藏定. 3. 報告, 消息. 4. 蘇聯外交部長英洛托夫. 5. 聯合國政治繁安全委員會. 6. 提供. 7. 聯合國會員大會. 8. 安全理事會. 9. 崇徽國領土. 10. 劉銀北極. 11. 雙方同意的, 雙方有效的. 12. 一體經濟的合併. 13. 佔領地帶. 14. 自輸, 自立. 15. 美國務得貝爾納斯與英外相貝文. 16. 英下難除.

UN Showdown On Franco Spain Near

The United Nations neared a showdawn¹⁷ on Spain, as speaker after speaker denounced *Gen. Francisco Franco as a fascist dicfrom tator and demanded action to help remove his regime¹⁹ power.

It was agreed Franco must go. The issue²⁰ is how best to do it, as the Political Security Committee neared a vote on a resolution for submission to the General Assembly.

Netherlands Five Point Programme

A five point foreign policy programme of the *Netherlands Government²⁰ was described by *well-informed quarters²² on November 30:

1—The Netherlands *are opposed to²³ the division of Europe into two *opposing blocs²¹ which would deepen present divergences.²⁵

- 2—Germany must be disarmed for 25 years in accordance with the U.S. plan but her economy must be restored in the meantime so as to promote the well-being²⁶ of Europe, in general, and the Netherlands in particular.
- 3—Close cooperation should be established with Belgium²⁷ including a customs union and contacts kept regarding the German problem.
- 4—The Netherlands should participate in *the occupation of Germany²⁸ in 1947 provided that they have sufficient forces available.
- 5—Diplomatic relations should not be broken off with Franco Spain, as such a step would be contrary to Dutch²⁹ interests.

Belgain Elections

Five and a half million Belgians³⁰ are going to the polls³¹ on November 24 in the first Belgian municipal elections since 1938.

Belgian women voters, who *out-number men by 150,000,32 are having their first say in the *country's affairs33 since the war—they are not enfranchised34 for general elections.

^{17.} 撰牌。 18. 法西斯獨教者傳解等。 19. 統治, 收體。 20. 問題。 21. 青 開政府。 22. 消息臺灣方面。 23. 反對。 24. 對抗的集團。 25. 被異, 分裂, 26. 脳利, 安寧。 27. 此利時。 28. 佔領德國。 29. 青蘭的。 30. 比利時人民。 31. 逐举格。 32. 較男子數目超出 150,000 人。 33. 國是。 34. 提與市民可當區 含代表資格的推利

Legislative Yuan Ratifies Draft Constitution

China's much-discussed draft constitution, revised in accordance with the *P.C.C.35 resolutions and approved by the *Standing Committees of the Kuomintang Party36 and of the *Supreme National Defence Council37 last Wednesday, was passed on November afternoon by the *Legislative Yuan38 without a single change in the text.

In the course of its meeting the Legislative Yuan also approved, after two readings, the law on the *reorganization of the Executive Yuan.* This law, likewise passed by the two standing committees last Wednesd y, brings the total number of Yuan ministries to 18, and provides in addition for 5 to 7 ministers without portfolio40 within the framework of the Executive Yuan.

Although the Legislative Yuan regulations stipulate the necessity of two readings, the draft constitution was passed after the first reading by unanimous acclamation⁴¹ of the 60 legislators, present.

Propose New Currency For China

More than 100 delegates of the *National Assembly, 42 including influential Kuomintang member *Liang Han-chou⁴³ *(Minister of Information⁴⁴ during the war), *Chen Kuo-fu, Chang Chi and Tsou Lu, 45 submitted a *written proposall 46 to the National Assembly on November 29 for the addition of one more article of the draft constitution stipulating that China adopts a *monetary system⁴⁷ on the basis of Dr. Sun Yat-sen's doctrine on currency.

They advanced48 three reasons to support the proposal:

1. Dr. Sun, in a telegram to the nation in the first year of the Chinese Republic, said that China's financial difficulties can be dissolved only through a "monetary revolution."

^{35.} P.C.C. = Political Consultation Conference, 政治協商會議. 36. 國民黨 常務委員會. 37. 最高國防委員會. 38. 立法院. 39. 改組行政院. 40. 部長職位. 41. 觀許. 頁意. 42. 國民大會. 43. 梁塞操. 44. 中黨部長. 45. 類果夫, 張龍和都鲁. 46. 書面職業. 47. 幣制. 48. 提出.

- 2. Important factors of economics are commodities, labour and money. While the first two factors were dealth with in the draft constitution, the problem of currency was not touched upon.
- 3. To meet actual requirements in present day China's economic field.

They proposed an adoption of a new national currency which would be based neither on gold nor silver but would be backed up by government property and individual income as reserve.⁴⁹

Dr. Sun's proposal urged "the depreciation of gold and silver to the status of ordinary commodities." He argued that the supply of gold and silver is limited and if the nation's currency is based on either of the two metals, their demand, and supply will inevitably effect the currency's purchasing power and consequently the stability of the market."

49. 儲備金.

更正:—本刊六卷七期四頁註七"社會服務"為"文官職務"之誤。

CHUNG HWA ENGLISH FORTNIGHTLY 不 許 半 月 錢 歌 川 中華 暋 局 股 份 有 限 公 司 代表人 願樹森 華 暋 局 永 寧 印 刷 廠 上海澳門路四六九號 上海河南路中華書局定書處 毎月二 每册實價四百元 預定以半年為限 十二冊實價四千八百元 國內平寄免收 掛號每冊一百五十元 中華民國三十五年十二月五日出版

中華書局發行

要學會一國的語言文字,決不是一回輕要學會一國的語言文字,決不是一回輕要與 會一國的語言文字,決不是一回輕要與 會一國的語言文字,決不是一回輕要 學會一國的語言文字,決不是一回輕要 學會一國的語言文字,決不是一回輕要 學會一國的語言文字,決不是一回輕要 學會一國的語言文字,決不是一回輕要 學會一國的語言文字,決不是一回輕要 學會一國的語言文字,決不是一回輕

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