

MAN STILL CHIEF BEAST OF BURDEN IN ORIENT DESPITE THE AUTO

(By Dorothy Gould in the Detroit News).

Keljo, Chosen.—Although thousands of American and European automobiles have been exported to the Orient in recent years, man still is the chief beast of burden in China, Japan and Chosen today.

But although they have had centuries in which to experiment with this task, the men of these three nations still are undecided as to which is the easiest and most economical method of carrying their loads.

A Chinese coolie carries two equally weighed baskets hung from a pole which rests on his shoulders, and if the load is too heavy for one porter to carry in this fashion, two men support a pole with the burden swinging on it between them.

In Chosen, the men carry truly amazing loads on their backs and they have devised several styles of hods in which to pack their burdens. In digging the soil, it is not uncommon for three Koreans to handle one shovel, but when it comes to transporting freight, each man carries his own separate load.

Korean women, however, carry only their babies on their backs, all other burdens being on their heads. Even little girls are taught to hold heavy loads on their bare heads, and the custom has developed a curious but graceful method of walking among all the women of this country.

In Japan nearly every coolie has a cart either because, as one observer has put it, the Japanese are several centuries ahead of the rest of the Orient and so have discovered the wheel, or because Japanese men are not so strong as their brothers in nearby countries.

Carts are used in Chosen also, but they are pulled by huge red bulls. It is only very recent times that the people here have begun to realize that gasoline is cheaper than beans, and that it may be more economical to feed a motor truck than a red bull.

The good roads building program which the government inaugurated 20 years ago, when Korea was annexed by Japan, has encouraged greatly the use of motor cars in this country. Before that time, even the "grand highway" from Seoul to the border of China barely was grand enough to admit a cart being driven along it.

The Royal Korean government did appropriate certain sums of money from time to time for road repair work, but most of the funds went into the pockets of magistrates along the line and practically nothing was done to the roads.

The present program of the government calls for the building of a network of roads of three classes, the classes being determined by width, those of the first being more than 24 feet wide, those of the second 18 feet, and those of the third 12 feet.

Under the old regime, compulsory service was demanded in roadbuilding and land often was confiscated for new highways. This practice still is resorted to in the making of roads for purely local use, but everything is now paid for in connection with the construction of national highways.

From 1910, the year of the annexation, until 1917, new roads totalling 1,700 miles in length were built in Chosen at a cost of \$5,000,000. In that year a second road-building program was undertaken to include frontier roads and bridges, and in the 10 years which followed more than \$13,000,000 was spent in the construction of 6,000 miles of highways of the first and second classes and 5,000 miles of third-class roads.

An additional appropriation of nearly \$3,000,000 was made in 1926 to complete the program by 1935. With all this inducement, automobile services in country districts have very rapidly increased in Chosen.

Sixty per cent of all the automobiles imported into Chosen last year were trucks, and it is expected that the percentage will be even larger this year because the Chosen Expedition held in Keljo caused an artificial boom in taxicab sales.

In addition to new motor highways, 1,500 miles of new railroads have been laid in this country in the past two decades and motor bus service from the villages to the railroad stations is now nearly universal here. Nowadays nearly all of these bus bodies are being built locally on truck chassis, and almost all of the trucks are of American manufacture.

Freight companies, which haul silk cocoons and rice and other crops to market, are being organized with increasing frequency in farming districts and it is only a question of time before their trucks entirely replace the famous Korean bull.

WAS PACKED AWAY IN LINGERIE

The bell-captain of the suburban hotel assigned the pet belboy of his efficient staff to deliver the enormous paper-box that had been left for one of the hotel's pet guests.

The expectant bell boy could not have been more careful had he been treading on eggs. It took him ages to get the package delivered, and he wondered that it was so light. It was marked in great letters, "Glass, Handle With Care." It was from a big New York department store.

The next day the bellboy learned from the maid in the apartment that the huge package contained a large assortment of lingerie and such stuff, and, in the dead center of the package, the only piece of glass in all the lot—a little half-pint bottle of skin freshener.

ALL JAZZ FLOPS ELIMINATED BY DREAMY TANGO RHYTHM SAYS EMINENT DANCE MASTER

(New York Sun)

This winter New Yorkers may dance without wrecking the ceiling of the apartment below. In fact, to be in fashion, all hopping, jumping—everything that is jazzy and undignified—must be eliminated. To show the country what's considered new and smart in dancing the Dancing Masters of America will meet in New York next week.

As a preliminary, Ramon and Rosita, of stage and night club fame, demonstrated their new dance, the Silboney Rumba, which has been officially indorsed by the Dancing Masters' Association as an expression of the new trend in ballroom dancing at the Hotel Astor yesterday afternoon.

To begin with, all tapping and undignified hopping about to the broken beats of fast jazz is definitely out, a statement which elderly gentlemen should welcome. But, contrary to general expectations, the mid-Victorian waltz is not likely to be reinstated.

In fact the new dances are so "smooth and soothing," to use Ramon's expression, that they will prove restful to the spirit and inoffensive to the eye. Even the portly may undertake them without making themselves ludicrous. Moreover, says Ramon, they are romantic, and he adds:

"They accord beautifully with the new fashions in women's dress. The music is sweet and dreamy, but not insipid. They should be danced under soft lights, and they produce a romantic mood in the dancers. The new dances will do much toward restoring real old-fashioned romance to a people grown cynical about love. Dancing is the outward expression of a people's feelings; it is also a subtle influence on thought and emotion."

"The fact that even in our rosiest jazziest night clubs patrons are ask-

ing for a different mood in their music and are gradually changing the spirit of their dances shows that a definite change has come over the people of this country. The war madness and restlessness is over. People are once more seeking something deeper, more satisfying and permanent in their emotional lives. And the new dances express this feeling."

But to get down to facts, Ramon and Rosita, who have been married five years are still very much in love, demonstrated. First the Rumba, which, like all the new dances, has the South American and Spanish influence. Since Havana became the mecca of thirsty Americans, Havana is gradually influencing American ideas of entertainment and amusement.

Rumba Is Langorous

"The Rumba," Ramon explained, after he had demonstrated its long, rhythmic swing, "is really an adaptation of native Cuban jazz. But this is different from the jazz which has influenced the United States, since the war. Your jazz was the pure African savage tom-tom stuff, without melody. Cuban jazz is more

langorous, slower, with real rhythm and melody, but it retains some of the primitive quality of your jazz."

"Ours is largely an exhibition dance, but you will notice that the steps are not difficult, that you naturally adapt yourself to them when you listen to the music. You can't dance ungracefully to the new music. You see, it's sweet dreamy, romantic, with a much slower tempo. That's it—all the new dances are to a slow tempo. The steps, as you will notice, are something on the order of the real Argentine tango."

Mexico, South America and Spain will influence this winter's dancing, and Africa is ruled out, Ramon summoned it up. The partners also will demonstrate the real Argentine tango, which, in its simplified form, is well adapted to ballroom dancing. In addition to these, the dancing masters are predicting that a slow one-step, various adaptations of the two-step, and, of course, some fox trots will predominate in next winter's balls and public amusement places.

And as a result, if the dancing masters are correct, everybody will once more go sweet and romantic.

RUBBERNECKING LEADS AMERICAN OUTDOOR SPORTS

New York, July 27—A hole in the earth, if it is big enough, seems to have a strange hypnotic influence on a vast number of American people. Bridge bouts, conferences, ovens, judges, in fact every cause for an engagement can go hang while folks have their fling at being human watch towers.

"If there is one sport which we Americans go in for wholeheartedly it is the grand old outdoor exercise of "watching," writes Robert Benchley in Liberty Magazine. "The most common watching-fields are found around cellar excavations."

"Just dig a hole in the ground big enough for a donkey engine to chug in, surround it with a fence to keep people from dropping in, and in three minutes you will have a crowd of busy Americans (oh, the rush and bustle of this money mad land!). settled along the railing, who will follow the project through to the bitter end."

"If the hole is big enough and you set some compressed-air drills to work, you will have half the population of the town fascinated to the point of stupor. A watcher after a certain period of time seems to have crossed the border between human and plant life and becomes a form of fungus."

"Once I became so enthralled by the spectacle that I allowed my top hat to fall off into the abyss, where naturally it was lost and will probably turn up in a hundred years or so embedded in the wall of the foundations. This will cause no end of speculation among archeologists, for it had my initials in it and they will know that I never went in much for building, even in my hey-day."

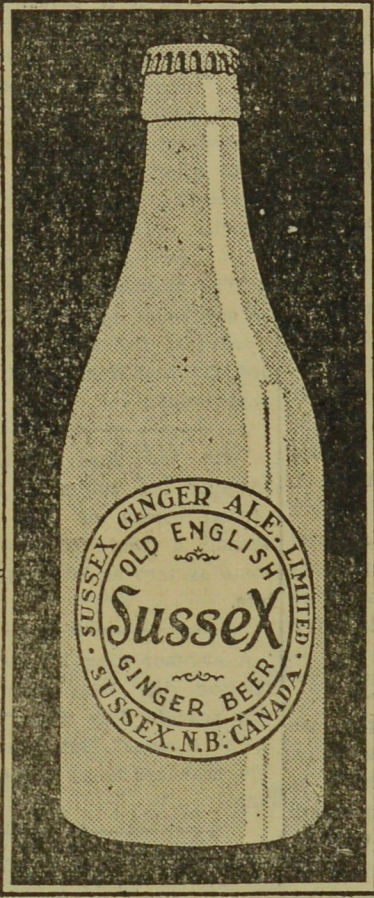
"Jack of all trades and master of none, will probably be the sobriquet under which I shall go down in history as a result of this little incident. And even then they won't understand what I was doing laying foundations in a silk hat!"

EXPLAINS WHY IT RAINS FISH IN AUSTRALIA

Brisbane, Queensland, July 24—The mystery of rainfalls in which tiny fish, crabs and shrimps fall on the farms near Toowoomba in southern Queensland has been explained.

Government authorities have discovered that the summer monsoons of the Queensland coast cause huge whirlwinds. Waterspouts are formed and in a natural vacuum water, fish, crabs, seaweed and even young sea birds are sucked into the upper air, to be blown ashore and deposited with the rain.

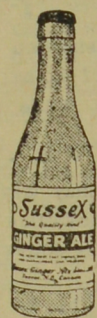
One farmer, whose fields will be well fertilized by the millions of rotting sea creatures estimates the visitation as worth several thousand dollars to him.



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LONDON'S SILVERSMITH-VICAR

Recalling the ancient craft of the silversmith, the Rev. C. G. Langdon, vicar of St. Matthew's Church, London, finds much pleasure in producing hand-beaten silver pieces of great beauty at his modest work bench. Following lessons in the craft, the vicar is now regarded as an expert, and is here seen working upon two chalices for a church at Chelmsford, to replace sacred vessels stolen some weeks ago.