

Why Americans Should Study Chinese

By FRIEDRICH HIRSH,

Professor of Chinese at Columbia. (Columbia is the first American university to endow a regular chair of Chinese.)



But few people seriously consider the proposition to teach the Chinese language in our American colleges. Yet there is much in Chinese literature and history that would prove valuable to the western world—especially now that China is being developed and European and American influences are creeping in.

Why study Chinese?

It would be well for us to understand the mysteries of modern government life in China. To do so we must know the native literature.

It would be well for us to be familiar with the documents of the Chinese emperor concerning trade restrictions, in view of our increasing commerce with his nation. At present we possess mere abstracts. Authorities upon these subjects have proved of great importance in recent times.

To those interested in national life the Chinese language abounds with interest.

Chinese literature is practically the only source of information concerning the history, geography and language of the nations east of Persia and north of India.

Chinese records open up to us the history of the commerce carried on in ancient and medieval times between western and eastern Asia. In vain do we look to the literature of eastern Asia for information regarding this commerce.

The Huns and other hosts of wanderers who swept from the heart of Asia to Europe—who were they? What of the Turks and the history of their migrations? These facts lie buried in Chinese literature.

The history and geography of India, during the centuries of its development, would be a blank but for the industry of Chinese pilgrims who traveled through central Asia, the Holy Land of the Buddhists, and wrote elaborate accounts of what they saw and heard.

Scholars interested in Asia are excited over the remains of buried cities found in eastern Turkestan by Russian, English and Swedish travelers. Manuscripts written in languages long forgotten are being collected and sent to the museums of the west. Stone inscriptions are so numerous that it is difficult to decipher them. A CLEAR INSIGHT INTO ALL THESE PROBLEMS CAN BE BROUGHT ABOUT ONLY BY A CAREFUL PERUSAL OF CHINESE LITERATURE.

Wanted a Professor of Professions

By MRS. ANNA GARLIN SPENCER,
Noted Lecturer on Philanthropy.

SOMETIMES think our women's colleges need a Professor of Professions.

Year by year, in response to a new social consciousness in the community, there are being created new forms of social organization calling for personal service in a score of new professions.

Organized charity is offering women positions as agents, investigators and managers of departments. More and more women are being drafted into factory and tenement house and sanitary inspection. The medical inspection of schools is drawing women physicians, as the inspection of foods will draw chemists and diet-physicians.

As the indeterminate sentence system is extended, parole and probation officers are being sought among women. Women truant officers are common, and women are being appointed as superintendents of truant schools. Women superintendents of women's reformatories must soon supersede mere keepers of jails.

Every police building in enlightened communities now has its matron, and women officers are needed to time, train and raise the standard of these matrons.

The social secretary is a new official established in the department store to stand between employer and employes. Executive secretaries have become a necessity to numberless volunteer associations for civic work, the details of which are peculiarly suited to educated, able women.

All these new professions require training which is as yet in most cases hardly outlined. The work has developed before workers are ready for it, and the call is to-day for women to fit themselves for these new duties. In order to prepare students for the practical art of personal service our colleges need special elective courses in social economics. They need, too, a new department to be headed by a Professor of Professions.

Anna Garlin Spencer.

Remedy for Modern Pessimism

By REV. CHARLES L. KLOSS,
Pastor Webster Grove Congregational Church, St. Louis.

THE American is an unqualified boaster. There is much to justify him. He has the figures. What nation has such tall buildings, such export trade, such mechanical ingenuity, such comforts of living? We are the biggest nation out of doors, but we have commensurate problems.

The total number of murders and homicides of various kinds for 1902 was 8,834, about a thousand more than that of the preceding year, with only 144 legal executions. There has been also, despite our growing facilities, a rapid increase in suicide, insanity and other forms of abnormal disease.

Whatever we may say of the country's greatness, however much we may boast of our achievements and progress, it is nevertheless true that there has loomed over the horizon of our prosperity the specter of an overshadowing menace. Our very success is breeding the problem. The high pressure of modern civilization is placing a great strain upon nervous energy. Nerve exhaustion produces depression, and depression is the mother of pessimism.

It is a remarkable fact that when a nation is overstimulated that succeeding generations pay for the sins of the fathers. It is unquestionably true that the increase of nervous tension is chiefly accountable for the increase in crime and insanity. There is a club in New York called the "Restless club," whose motto is, "Anywhere but where we are." About nine Americans out of every ten evidently belong to this club.

The man who goes around sniffing for evil, who discounts his neighbors' actions and misinterprets his motives, is the pessimist in real life who gives trouble.

The remedy is to be found in health; healthy mindedness. This is to be secured by a return to the simplicities of life. If we could be content with smaller incomes, get back to the soil and live out of doors, we could remove many of the causes of pessimism on the physical side.

NO TINKERING OF THE TARIFF.

Secretary Root Protests Against Revision at Any Time Unless Absolutely Needed.

Elihu Root, secretary of war, spoke before the Home Market club, of Boston, against the proposition that revision of the tariff be undertaken at this time, or at any time unless the need of it was clearly shown, says the Albany Journal.

He began with the statement that revision is favored by that class which is always opposed to whatever is, by some who sincerely believe that a revised tariff would produce even better results than that which is now in force, and by the democrats who desire a change in the administration, and see no better way to attempt to bring it about than to clamor for a change in the tariff system.

Mr. Root then proceeded to direct attention to the certainty that this country has become phenomenally prosperous under the protective system, and assumed that the people of the United States wanted prosperity to continue. The question whether under another tariff law than that which is in force the country might not have prospered, or the question whether in the future the country might not prosper under another law, is not one that presses for consideration.

The fact to be considered is that at its very inception any step toward revision of the tariff would bring doubt and dread to every citizen having material interests at stake. Through groping after vague possibilities of improvement the good that we have would be jeopardized.

Moreover, if the tariff were revised, it would not be uniformly satisfactory. No tariff law ever can be that. The interests of the different sections of this country are too various.

"The question is," said the speaker, "whether there are really existing evils to be cured as great as the evil to be endured from the long and difficult process of revision."

Whenever it may appear clearly that changes in the tariff are advisable, then changes will be made, but at the proper time and in the proper manner.

Revision, if undertaken at all, should be undertaken only when the congress is free from the influence of a political campaign and the task should be entrusted only to the friends of protection, so that the essential principle may not be disturbed. In conclusion, Mr. Root said:

"If the American people are ready to abandon the principle of protection and face the crash and downfall of our present prosperity, which would immediately result, then they should hand the revision over to the democratic party, and that is the meaning of the men who are crying: 'Revise the tariff, in order to destroy the trusts.' What they really mean is, abandon the principle of protection, in order to destroy the trusts, and make all American producers take their stand on an equal footing with foreign competition."

Secretary Root's utterances are of special importance, since it is generally understood that they express the views of the administration and foreshadow firm resistance to any and all attempts to bring about resumption of tariff-tinkering during the sessions of the next congress.

PARAGRAPHIC POINTERS.

Mr. Bryan is being earnestly asked to revise his own opinions. But he is still young enough to be principally concerned about the mistakes of other people.—Washington Star.

Mr. Bryan is willing to concede that it might be well to give second place on the next democratic national ticket to some good man from Illinois or Ohio.—Chicago Record-Herald.

The democrats of the country generally are watching the Watterson-Bryan rough and tumble from as far off as possible and fervently hoping that when it is over there won't be enough of either combatant found to fill a tin dipper.—Philadelphia Press.

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Some democrats never seem to know just how to do things. It is now proposed to have a joint debate in Brooklyn between William J. Bryan and Edward M. Shepard "in the interest of democratic harmony." But why stop there? Why not include Grover Cleveland, Henry Watterson, "Golden Rule" Jones, David B. Hill and Richard Olney? To be sure, however, after the scrimmage there might not be much of the democratic party left. Good idea. Make it a fight to a finish, so that there could be no doubt as to where the cyclone struck.—Troy Times.

In the Milwaukee speech President Roosevelt simply showed that congress faithfully redeemed the pledges made in the last campaign relative to trusts, and the work the administration has done under existing laws to break up unjust discriminations by railroads to a class of shippers and to put an end to the conspiracy of the packing houses to control the meat trade, and to check dangerous combinations of railroads. It is the president's policy and achievement combined. Put forth in the spirit of candor it will receive candid consideration.—Indianapolis Journal.

DEMOCRATIC POLITICS.

Some Inside Facts Regarding Probabilities by a Leading Member of the Party.

Senator Teller has been interviewed in New York on the political situation, and he tells some new things which may or may not be welcome to his democratic friends. Parker, he says, is stronger in the west than he is in his own state or in the east in general. Cleveland, he declares, is an impossibility, which will be bad news for the clique which is trying to start a boom for him. Bryan, so Teller says, is not an aspirant for a renomination, but "he will continue as a national democratic leader, and will be a big factor in the convention." This is something which will not please the section of the democracy to which he imparted this information, says the St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

Perhaps the senator is out of touch with politics. This will possibly be the explanation which the Clevelandites will give to his poor opinion of the ex-president's chances. There is no doubt at all, however, that he is right in saying that Bryan will be a big factor in the convention of 1904. Whether he goes there as a delegate or not, his influence will be potent in that gathering. The man who rolled up 1,000,000 more votes than did his immediate predecessor on the ticket, and that predecessor Cleveland, is too great a figure to be cast aside because he was beaten twice in succession in his canvass for president. Any other man whom the democrats would have nominated would have been beaten in those years. Bryan got more votes in 1894 and 1900 than could have been obtained by any other democrats in the country.

Bryan will be the ghost at every feast of the democratic reorganizers between now and the day of the election in 1904. The Cleveland, Hill, Gorham, Parker and Olney factions of the democracy know that Bryan is against all of them. They are aware that he would rather see Roosevelt or any other republican elected than see the aspirant of any one of those factions win. Bryan himself makes this pretty plain in all his interviews, and in all his leaders in the Commoner. The democracy for which he stands is entirely different from that represented by any of those elements. Senator Teller knows this, and so does every other sensible democrat in the country. There will be halcyon and vociferous times in the democratic convention and canvass of 1904.

NEGRO IN THE NORTH.

Figures Show That the Colored Vote Is to Become an Important Factor.

Those who have so much to say about the political and social equality of the southern negro, should remember that the "black belt" is a somewhat elastic term, in every sense of the word, and that the black population of this country laps over Mason and Dixon's line to an extent not commonly recognized by a certain class of uncertain observers, says the Florida Times-Union. As a matter of fact the black vote is a subject of more than passing interest in many of the states of the north, as may readily be seen by the subjoined table:

State or Territory.	Persons of negro descent.	Negroes of voting age.
Missouri	161,224	190,000
Pennsylvania	156,845	48,418
New York	90,232	51,208
Ohio	96,901	31,235
District of Columbia	36,732	29,073
Illinois	35,973	27,732
New Jersey	29,814	21,274
Indiana	52,000	14,695
Kansas	52,000	14,695
West Virginia	43,409	14,796
Indian Territory	36,833	9,146
Massachusetts	31,794	19,436
Delaware	30,627	8,374
Oklahoma	18,821	4,827
Michigan	15,816	6,193
Connecticut	15,228	4,575
Iowa	12,093	4,441
California	11,045	3,711
Rhode Island	9,962	2,706
Colorado	8,579	3,212
Nebraska	6,296	2,298
Minnesota	4,965	2,133
Wisconsin	2,542	1,098
Washington	2,514	1,239
Arizona	1,848	1,084

It goes without saying that the great majority of those northern negroes vote the republican ticket—and it is more than probable that in some favored localities they obey the time-honored political injunction, and "vote early and often." But education of any sort is the most uncertain of hand-maids; and no man can forecast with any degree of accuracy the nature of her current contributions to the moral and intellectual equipment of the "brother in black." One thing, at least, is certain, the "thinking ballot" is an uncertain ballot; and the moment the negro, whether in the north or in the south, learns how to operate his own mental machinery and to think for himself, that moment he will begin to distribute his political patronage among the two great parties of the country.

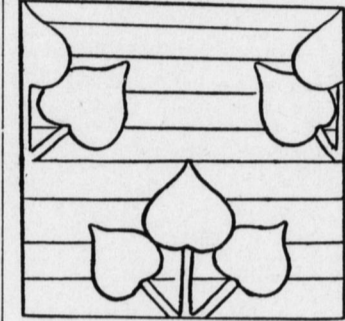
Mr. Bryan, Senator Carmack and Senator Stone declare that the next democratic nominee for president must be a man who supported the demo-populist or populist-demo ticket, both in 1896 and in 1900. That is interesting, considering the probability that no nominee who did that can be elected, in 1904.—Brooklyn Eagle.

Mr. Bryan is still in doubt whether the "prodigals have repented." As the leader of a band who went into "a far country" and fed for two presidential seasons upon husks, Mr. Bryan ought to be able to answer for one of the "prodigals" at least.—N. Y. World (dem.).

Mr. Bryan thinks the reorganization of the democratic party would mean certain defeat. The democrats are so accustomed to victory under Mr. Bryan's leadership that this is likely to end all talk of reorganization.—Detroit Free Press (dem.).

Revival of Quilting Bee; Patterns New and Old.

The quilting bee is likely to become an accepted social function, not only of the rural districts, but among city dwellers. The advantages of the old-fashioned "pieced quilt" are again being recognized and the handwork involved in the quilting is receiving ardent appreciation. Indeed it is the quilting rather than the piecing which is receiving marked attention, although the designer of log cabins and



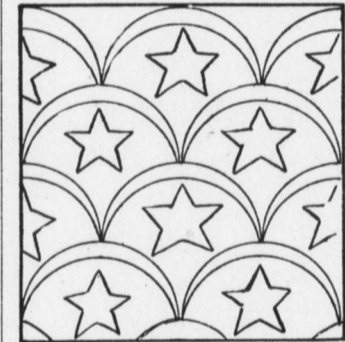
EGYPTIAN PATTERN.

star patterns is perhaps only a step removed in popularity.

So widely spread is the interest in quilts that the art embroidery houses now issue perforated stamping patterns of quilting designs and lists of several hundred patterns for piecing. Some of the modern designs for quilting are elaborate; others, no less so, are a return to the style of our grandmothers. Essentially new in effect are the Egyptian pattern and the ivy leaf, while among the old time patterns are the star and crescent and the shell.

In our grandmothers' day, when there were no patterns to be purchased—and it is doubtful if our thrifty grandmothers would have bought them if there had been—designs were cut from cardboard and were loaned or exchanged in a spirit of mutual helpfulness. Many of the old quilts were made from white muslin. An elaborate pattern was drawn and the parts were stuffed as the work progressed, leaving the finished design in prominent relief. No outer spreads were used in those days, and the elaborate pattern of such a quilt was not hidden from view.

All sorts of devices were resorted to for designs. A flower center was encircled by rows of stitching marked by means of plates of various sizes. The shell pattern was made by using a piece of string doubled and tied with three knots at equal distances. Starting at one corner of the quilt a pencil was placed in the end loop, the first



STAR AND CRESCENT.

knot was held firmly on the corner with the thumb, and a quarter circle marked. Then the second knot was held at the corner and a second quarter circle marked, and this was repeated with the third knot. The first knot was then placed at the upper edge of the third circle and the process repeated, continuing the entire length of one side and following one row with another.

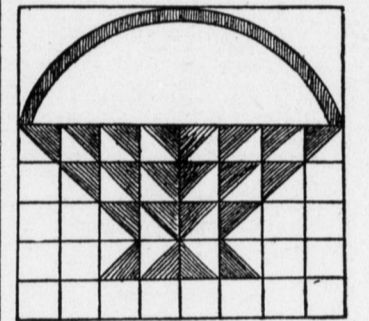
The marking was usually done after the quilt was placed upon the frames, working a short distance ahead, as the quilt was rolled. At some of the modern bees, however, it has been found that more accurate marking can be done, and the time of the quilters saved, if the entire cover is marked before it is placed upon the frames.

If one of the modern stamping patterns is used the same rule holds good, and the entire surface is stamped by repeating the pattern before the quilting is begun.

Patterns for piecing quilts, like those for quilting, are sometimes borrowed from old time models. The album pattern has been revived by church societies. This has a center piece of white in each block, on which the name of the maker is outlined or written. A member of a church or of a society will often pay a high price for one of these autograph quilts. They are also used for gifts or presentations.

Church societies find profitable employment for the weekly or fortnightly meetings in piecing or quilting, as well as in tying comforters. The quilts are usually individual orders, while the orders for comforters often come from large dry goods houses. One society has a record of tying 25 comforters in a day. To save time in marking each one, they hit upon an ingenious plan. An old sheet was marked in diagonal lines. At each intersection of these lines a hole as large around as a five-cent piece was cut. The sheet was then pinned on over a comforter and the tying was done through the holes thus prepared. The sheet could be used again and again.

Frequently a bride-elect holds a quilting bee, to which her intimate friends are invited. Each one writes her name in a block, and the quilting



OLD BASKET PATTERN.

then proceeds. But it is the matrons who more frequently are found intent upon quilting, while the piecing is done by the younger folks, for quilting means work, even when done among friends and relieved by an occasional sip of Russian tea.—N. Y. Herald.

The Care of the Hair.

French women wash their hair much less often than English or American women, and probably for this reason they have finer heads of hair as a rule. Whatever there may be to say in favor of the good old English shampoo, as far as cleanliness is concerned, it is preeminently not a good thing for the hygiene of the hair. Hair dries much less quickly than one thinks, and is often dressed and put up too soon after being shampooed, with the result that the damp remains in it still longer than is supposed. The very best dressing for hair is sunlight and fresh air; it cannot be aired too much or too long.

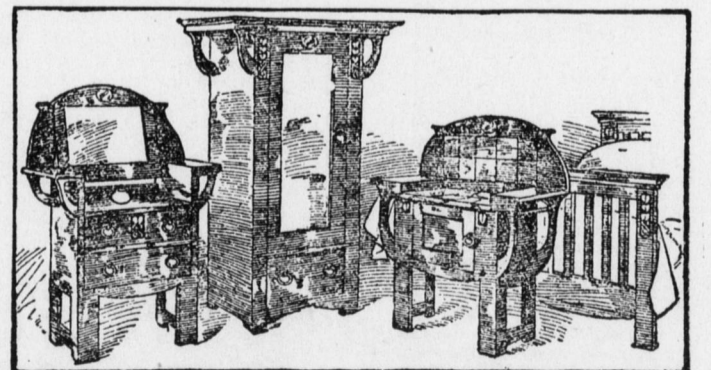
To Keep Mirrors Bright.

Do not clean plate-glass mirrors with soap and water, which sooner or later dim the surface. Alcohol and water is safe, but unless the mirror is actually dirty, rubbing with a soft cloth cleans it perfectly. It is best not to use soap on table glass, much of which is rather soft and easily scratched. For this reason avoid the many patent polishing powders and cloths advertised to give a high polish to good glass.

Delicacy for a Luncheon.

For a frozen cheese salad, beat a cream cheese to a smooth paste with one-fourth of a cupful of cream. Season with salt, paprika and a little lemon juice. Turn the mixture into the freezer and freeze slightly. Then remove it and pack it in a brick mold in salt and ice for an hour. Cut in slices and serve in lettuce leaves with a French dressing.

NEW STYLE BEDROOM SET MADE IN FUMED OAK



The Norseman is the rather stirring name given to a new style of bedroom furniture which has just made its appearance, in keeping with its title, its characteristics are a sturdy simplicity and strong, massive build. The straight lines of the pieces are relieved by the addition of curved parts, which give the furniture its Norse effect. Fumed oak and ash stained green are the woods best suited to this style, the hinges and handles of copper,

adding a decorative touch to an otherwise plain design. A double row of tiles adorns the washstand back, serving the purpose of utility as well as beauty. The chairs accompanying the set have rush bottoms. While there are many more beautiful styles in bedroom sets, there are few novelties in this line, and doubtless the new candidate for popularity will find favor among those who are in the search of something new.