



"Me?" Says I.  
"Sheep B'long You," Said the Chink."

### Harmless, Necessary Sheep

By JAMES J. MONTAGUE  
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Through the pullman window, as the train stood in a prairie station, we could see car after slowly moving car, and at the side door of every one a dozen or more woolly heads thrust forth as far as the gate which confined them in their moving prison would permit.

The man sitting opposite me, an elderly man with a drooping white mustache and a slouch hat of the same hue, regarded them lazily. Then turning toward me he broke a silence which had existed since he entered the smoking compartment, and inquired: "Hope I don't hurt your feelin's by taking a chew," and I replied: "Not in the least."

"Never rode herd on them reptiles, hev' ye?"

"Never," I assured him. "Sheep," he said, "is misunderstood. I judge that 'Mary's lamb' story done it. Maybe one sheep can be made a pet of, but take 'em in the aggregate they're bad."

I regret that no form of written words will enable me to render the word "bad" as he pronounced it.

"Plumb bad," he continued. "Some say they ain't got sense, but they got sense enough to know where they want to go, and when they head that way they go, too. An' all the king's hosses an' all the king's men, can't head 'em off. J'yuh like me to tell you somethin' about what they kin do when they git started?"

I would like nothing better, and I said so.

"'Bout twenty years ago, thutty, maybe, I was workin' for a rancher over in eastern Oregon. He was a wheat rancher but somebody had persuaded him that they was money into sheep, an' he bought him a band an' turned it out on the range. While they was there they wasn't nothin' for the critters to do but eat. Fust they clumb up on the rim rocks to see if they could spy out some means to get loose an' but they couldn't see no way out, so they stayed around till a feller from Portland come along an' made the old man a offer for 'em. It was a good offer an' he took it up. They was to be delivered, on the hoof, at Portland in a week, an' I was appointed to go along with 'em an nuss 'em an' keer for 'em till they was reciepted for."

"They was a little trouble gittin' 'em into the cysars, but me an' a couple of brakemen managed all right, and a day later we was all on a siding in Portland, me in the caboose an' the sheep in their side-door pullmans."

"When I got off the train the next mornin' an' inquired around, I found out that the feller that was to take 'em off my hands hadn't showed up, but that they'd have to be got off the train somehow because the cysars they come in was needed for other work, an' would have to be made up in a east bound train right off."

"The railroad man said we could turn 'em into a stock yard up the line somewhere, an' he'd have the yardmaster tend to gettin' the cysars there. The way the yardmaster tended to it was to shift us on a

sidin' an' forget all about us. When I seen where we was, an' that the stock yard was just about a block away I got the fool idea into my head that I could drive 'em there, an' told a kid that was gawpin' at us I'd give him two bits to help me drive 'em."

"Down into the street we plied, the whole kit an' posse of 'em, an' was just headin' 'em in the right direction when along comes a stray dog an' begins talkin' to 'em in language they didn't cotton to. The ram that was nearest the dog starts up a side street, an' of course the whole gang follered after him. Comin' to the next street, with me tryin' to head 'em off, they shied at a street car an' swings into a wide avenue, an' down that they went, gettin' scarer an' scarer as kids an' cops yelled at 'em an' motormen banged their gongs at 'em and other dogs joined forces with the one that had started 'em off."

"Pretty soon somethin' shifted them into another street, an' in their hurry to turn the corner they bumped into the door of one of them big Chinese stores like they have in Portland—for they was right on Morrison street by this time. Of course the front door had to be open, an' into the place they loped, baatin' like lambs. The chinks in the store got all excited, an' pickin' up canes an' Chinese umbrellas out of big jars began beatin' 'em. But them sheep was not bein' scared of canes an' umbrellas. Six or seven fresh dogs had heard the rumpus an' come into the place, an' a fat cop was standin' outside, givin' orders but doin' nothin'."

"By an' by along comes the Chinaman that owned the place, an' the fust thing he done was to yell in Chinese at the elevator man to run his cage upstairs. Then he opens the doors of the shaft, grabs a sheep an' throws him down into it, an' inside of six seconds every critter in the bunch follers where the fust sheep had gone an' was piled about eighteen deep in the shaft, with all the others beatin' an' strugglin' to git down there too."

"Boy, it was a mess. They was customers perched up on the counters enjoyin' the show. They was chinks yellin' in their own talk an' wayin' anything they could grab, an' they was that river of sheep pourin' like a woolly Niagara falls into the elevator shaft, loud baa's comin' from the new comers an' muffled ones from the ones that got down there fust."

"When all was in the shaft that could get in an' the front door was slammed on as many of the others as the store, includin' the counters they'd hopped up on could hold, the main Chink comes over to me an' says:

"'Now I keechum sheepee. How much you pay for bloke china?"

"'Me?' says I."

"'Sheep b'long you,' said the Chink."

"'You got it all wrong, friend,' I tells him. 'I never seen them sheep before I got caught in among 'em

an' was pulled into this here store.' "I started to find a back door, but everywhere I went there was some kind of a Chinaman, an' all of 'em had a mean look in his eye an' a knife or some kind of a club in his hand. So I stayed."

"An' then pretty soon comes a big Irish cop an' invites me to go down an' see the chief with him."

"I never knew just how they got that band together, an' out of the place an' down to the city pound, but they done it, I know, for when I'd telegraphed from the police station to the old man an' he answered back, he said that the sheep was took care of an' I was fired. I seen him about five years afterward, when he got over his huff, an' he said it had cost him three hundred dollars, an' had the nerve to ask me to come back an' work it out. But when I allowed I was a careless sort of a feller an' might let a bunch of steers break away on me when I was takin' 'em to town, he thought better of it."

"Him an' me is friends now, but we ain't exactly like Damon an' Pythias."

### Makes It Simple to Adjust Light

When you raise your eyes from a brilliantly lighted page, or piece of sewing, to look across a room in semi-darkness, you make your eyes shift gears too suddenly and wear them out. With a warning to check up on the distribution and balance of light in your room, The Parents' Magazine heralds science's latest invention, an amazing little meter that gauges light as a thermometer records the temperature in the home. This meter, which anyone can read, takes all the guesswork out of lighting arrangements and indicates exactly how to place light correctly and adjust it to the task in hand.

Marvelous as the eye is, it has not been able to meet the demands placed upon it. In spite of the fact that most persons are born with normal vision, science offers statistical proof that 20 per cent of school grade children are more or less retarded in advancement by damaged eyesight; that 40 per cent of college students do not see as well as they should; that 60 per cent of men and women in their forties have trouble with their eyes; that at sixty years of age 95 per cent of the population have acute eye strain.

The article goes on to reveal that eye strain was almost unknown when man went to bed when the sun went down, and used his eyes mainly for outdoor tasks. Science places the blame for today's widespread faulty sight upon civilization, which causes our day to last long into the night and necessitates close seeing at low levels of lighting. There is one thing, and one only, to do about it—regulate lighting to individual need and the manner of living.

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## Long List of Swindles Compiled by Professor

That old saw credited to Phineas T. Barnum, of circus fame, to the effect that "there's a sucker born every minute" is more or less upheld by a huge volume on "Hoaxes, Forgeries, Swindles, and Impositions" which now rests in the library of the University of Wisconsin.

Compiled and written by Curtis D. MacDougall as partial fulfillment of his work for the degree of doctor of philosophy from the university, the 596-page book lists and contains information on some 400 hoaxes, forgeries, and swindles which have been "pulled" on the human race during the past 2,500 years.

Among the more modern hoaxes reviewed in the book is the Drake estate swindle. This swindle has been worked by many different individuals. In every case the victim is informed that he is the lawful heir to the ill-gained wealth of the notorious buccaneer, Sir Francis Drake, of the Sixteenth century. The magnanimous exponent of the news, of course, has to be reimbursed for his legal activities, and the litigation which follows is likely to become as expensive as the purse of the victimized "heir" permits.

Besides the more modern swindles and hoaxes, the book also contains lists and descriptions of ancient forgeries and hoaxes, and religious and literary hoaxes and forgeries. It describes the make-believe impostures of the ages, historical fakes, political tricks, scientific hoaxes, art fakes, journalistic hoaxes, swindles, and various kinds of puffery.

In discussing the importance of hoaxes, MacDougall points out that his survey seemed to show that people feel it is not disagreeable to be fooled provided one does not discover what has happened.

"But once started, a hoax is difficult to stop," he explains. "Some intended to achieve only a temporary result cause furies of popular excitement far beyond the anticipations of the originators. Others, even though exposed, through ignorance or intention, continue to spread. When the truth finally becomes generally known, the "damage" wrought by the falsity has become institutionalized and is impossible to change."

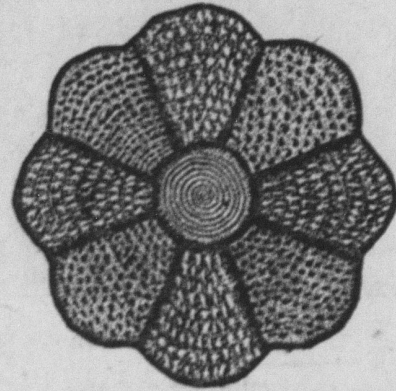
"Crowds have milled and rioted, governments have been threatened and overthrown, both peacefully and by violence, international relations have been strained, and wars have been fought as the result of hoaxes," he continues. "Scholars have met in serious convulse, or have traveled to all parts of the earth, navigators have sailed the seas, audiences have filled halls, the stock market has risen and fallen, newspaper offices have been raided and closed, court trials have dragged on for months, merely because some individual or individuals had to have his or their joke."

But the hoaxes themselves remain virtually unaffected. MacDougall points out. A few have gone to prison or in some other way have been made to regret their actions. The vast majority, however, never have been brought to trial, either

because of indifference toward them or because of the absence of any legal means by which they could be indicted. Many have been honored and respected even after their actions have been exposed, while others enjoy posthumous reputations, he maintains.

### "DRESDEN PLATE" CROCHETED RUG

By GRANDMOTHER CLARK



In Colonial days patchwork quilts and rag rugs were very popular. During the past 3 or 4 years patchwork quilts have been the leading item of interest for home art needleworkers. In 1933, when the crocheted rag rug in quilt design appeared, women all over the country took great interest in this new and beautiful way of making rag rugs. The old rugs were either round or oval, crocheted row after row until desired size was obtained. Changing of colors was the only variation. In quilt design rugs many beautiful combinations are possible and the work is really interesting.

Illustration above shows the "Dresden Plate" rug, named after the Dresden Plate or Friendship quilt, a pattern that every woman knows. This rug is another popular pattern, measures 34 inches and can be made from 40 oz. of Grandmother Clark's rag rug strips or 32 oz. of

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### Progress of Mankind Shown in Odd Manner

The faltering line of the forward progress of a man was recently brought out in sharp detail by the discovery of a village dating back 6,000 years. It is made more interesting by its proximity to the ancient Persian city, Persepolis. Hiding to magnificent heights with the rise of the Persian empire the latter city with its beautiful marble buildings magnifies the ugliness of the streets of its ancient neighbor. Lying side by side they give a clear picture of the strides made by man over a 5,000-year period.

Very little, of course, is yet known of the recently discovered village. Persepolis, on the other hand, is quite well known. Beginning its existence about 2000 B. C., it reached its height about the Fourth century B. C., when Alexander the Great descended upon it and partly destroyed it. It did not end there, however, but lingered on until about 1000 A. D. Absorbing much of the splendor of the age the city shows the heights to which man at that time had risen. —Pathfinder Magazine.

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