

The Bookworm

(Continued from Page Two)

are considered a desirable gift. Silk scarves are exchanged when meeting important strangers.

Fishing, hunting, and mining are forbidden for religious reasons. The killing of any living thing is not allowed except that necessity has forced the raising of sheep and yak for food. The cold mountain environment requires meat.

Religion, a modified form of Buddhism, is the outstanding characteristic of the people. The prayer OM MANI PADME HUM meaning "Hail to the Jewel in the Lotus" is heard everywhere. It is written on slips of paper and stirred in by water wheels, written on flags fluttering in the breeze, and on cylindrical wheels rotated by hand and wind in immense numbers. At one point the prayer wheels set in greased spindles rumbled like a roller coaster. Every home has its shrine.

About a quarter of all males become priests. There are hundreds of thousands of monks and some nuns, and perhaps a thousand incarnate Lamas. The big monasteries own about a third of the land and receive gifts in addition to their own income. For every important government job two men are assigned, a civilian and a Lama and the latter is the boss.

Rosaries with 108 beads, one for each book of their scriptures, are used for devotions, also for counting and for adornment. Demons and oracles and a few other carry overs from ancient beliefs are considered of equal importance with the more spiritual Buddhist teachings.

The good Buddhist everywhere believes in the "Noble Eightfold Pathright views, right aspirations, right speech, right conduct, right livelihood, right effort, right mindfulness and right rapture. They also accept wholly the four Noble Truths: suffering, the cause of suffering, the cessation of suffering, and the Eightfold Path leading to the end of suffering. In all events the Tibetan realizes in addition to all the good practices and ceremonies he himself must lead a good and generous life, one of brotherly love, in order to be reincarnated on a higher level at death".

Thomas really gets enthusiastic in describing the Potala built in 1641 with 1000 rooms, the residence of the Dalai Lama, and the monasteries.

This is a good book.

Have Baby Boy

Mr. and Mrs. Albert Kanon of Nanticoke announce the birth of a son, Wednesday night March 7 at Nanticoke Hospital. Mrs. Kanon is the former Hildreth Fritz, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Fritz of Idetown.

Alfred Rogowski Now Recovered from Accident

Alfred Rogowski, Pike's Creek, who received a deep cut on his ankle when he stepped through a glass window in his garage March 2 is home from the hospital but not yet able to be back at work.

Mr. Rogowski, a mason contractor, was standing on a board on top of his truck when his foot slipped and he incurred the three inch deep wound. Treated immediately by Dr. Luther Thomas of Lake Silkworth, infection from concealed glass and torn sock did not set in until several days later.

He was then taken to Nesbitt Hospital where X-Rays were taken and minor surgery performed.

Back From Korea

Pfc. George A. Rogers, Harveys Lake, First Division Marines, returned from Korea to the United States on Monday.



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