

A Universal Language Would Strengthen World's Peace.

By WU TING FANG, Chinese Minister to the United States.



ESPERANTO has in recent years been offered as an idiom for communication between different nations. I do not know if it would suit our purposes, but I would be glad if it could be adopted and agreed to BY ALL NATIONS AS A UNIVERSAL LANGUAGE. It would especially help Asiatic peoples, who now have to learn English, French, German, Italian, and so on.

Of course I would like to see Chinese adopted universally, for I think our language is the philosophical language, but I do not think there is much chance of it, and so if Esperanto can be agreed upon I should be glad. Life is too short to learn so many foreign languages. If Esperanto is not adopted, then I think we must come back to the English language. It is now well known in Asia and in the greater part of Europe, but I would like to see some improvement in the way of spelling and pronunciation.

I THINK THAT IF THE DIFFERENT NATIONS ONLY UNDERSTOOD EACH OTHER'S LANGUAGE ALL DIFFERENCES OF OPINIONS COULD EASILY BE SETTLED. CHINA, I KNOW, IS NOT SEEKING TROUBLE WITH ANY OTHER NATION. IN NINETY-NINE CASES OUT OF A HUNDRED WHERE THERE HAS BEEN TROUBLE IT HAS ARISEN FROM MISUNDERSTANDING. IF YOU WANT PERPETUAL PEACE I THINK A COMMON LANGUAGE WOULD BE A GREAT FACTOR TO THAT END.

Graft Permeates Our Government.

By Dr. G. FRANK LYBOSTON of Chicago.

GRAFT IS AN ANCIENT INSTITUTION. IT WAS RECOGNIZED AS SUCH IN ABYSSINIA TWO THOUSAND YEARS BEFORE THE CHRISTIAN ERA. THE BEGINNING OF GRAFT IN POLITICS WAS COINCIDENT WITH THE BEGINNING OF GOVERNMENT.

The degree and kinds of graft and the quantity of blood drawn from nations and individuals have varied, but the psychic principles underlying the graft, whether in the bureaucracy of Russia or the political system of America, are of the same kidney.

Greed and ambition were components of human psychology then as now. From the day of our nation's dawn corruption in our political system has steadily grown until it has TAINTED ALL THE DEPARTMENTS OF GOVERNMENT and has attained the dignity of a system from which has sprung the trust, corporation and insurance grafter, with the venal political backing of the voting lambs.

GOVERNMENT SAVORS STRONGLY OF THE GRAFT SYNDICATE PERPETUALLY CONTROLLING EASY JOBS AND UNEARNED SALARIES. OUR GOVERNMENT HAS BEEN LARGELY A GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE BY THE GRAFTER FOR THE GRAFTER.

Under the cloak of Christianity, civilized and enlightened savagery, real or alleged insults, almost every government has at one time or another dipped its fingers in the FLESHPOTS OF GRAFT. It is well to remember that political corruption is the rock of ages to which all subsidiary grafters fondly cling—Uncle Sam is supposed to be the champion of liberty and fair dealing, but he himself is pretty handy at the game of graft. The history of the annexation of Hawaii and the establishment of the republic of Panama would make excellent subjects for comic operas.

American Children Are Too Clean, Too Vain And Too Puffed Up.

By Professor FRITZ KOCH of the Lake Geneva New School, Switzerland.

AERICAN CHILDREN ARE TOO CLEAN, TOO VAIN AND TOO PUFFED UP. AMERICAN SCHOOLTEACHERS ARE TOO MUCH INCLINED TO BE FASHIONABLE. AMERICAN PARENTS ARE TOO ANXIOUS TO EARN MONEY.

Not least among the detriments to a natural development of children is fashion, a forced culture of vanity and extravagance. Not only do the parents, but also the teachers, set the example. To follow SLAVISHLY all the extravagances of fashion appears to be a far stronger tendency than the desire to be refined and simple.

CLEANLINESS IS A VIRTUE NOT DEMANDED FROM THE FACTORY HAND WHILE AT WORK, BUT CHILDREN WHILE AT PLAY ARE CONSTANTLY REPRIMANDED BECAUSE OF THEIR DIRTY HANDS, SPOTS ON THEIR CLOTHES, ETC.

So frequently are they called away from their REAL LIFE because of this, and so dressed up are many of them—because the father can afford it and the mother likes it—that natural, intense, wild play is gradually replaced by OCCUPATIONS OF LESSER VALUE or by systematic games, like tennis, basket ball and baseball.

Real boys and girls are rovers in field and forest, in alleys and dangerous places.

American Audiences Appreciate Good Acting.

By Mme. ALLA NAZIMOVA, Russian Actress.

AERICAN audiences are particularly sensitive to the slightest false note in a performance. The moment the play or acting fails to ring true THEY LOSE INTEREST.

AMERICANS, WHO ARE THE MOST NERVOUS PEOPLE IN THE WORLD, BETRAY VERY LITTLE NERVOUSNESS IN A THEATER. THEY ARE QUICK TO APPRECIATE AND ENCOURAGE THE ACTORS, AT EVERY STEP, YET THEY ARE VERY UNDEMONSTRATIVE.

The French are very enthusiastic, but one feels they are superficial. One does not feel that way about the Americans. Sometimes they keep what they feel to themselves and when the curtain falls they are quiet. It shows that the impression has been made. SILENCE SOMETIMES SPEAKS LOUDER THAN CURTAIN CALLS.

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An Unlucky Hat.

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"I don't believe in ghosts," said the veteran, "nor nothin' like that, but I do believe in—well, what shall I call it?—luck. There's certain gambler's combinations in which there's millions of chances agin their happenin', and yet they have happened. They say the lightnin' don't strike twice in the same place. I kin show you't in Mulligan county an old oak that's been struck to my knowledge three times.

"The curiousest thing that ever happened in my experience was when we was fightin' around Atlanta. Some Georgia troops come so near the temporary breastworks we'd throwed up that when they went back they left several dead right under our noses. One of 'em had on a good felt hat. The reason I noticed it was because my hat had become unserviceable, and I couldn't get another in the regular way. Besides, it was rainin'. I was startin' to go out and get the dead man's hat when I saw Bill Struthers of our company jump down on 'other side of the breastworks, pick up the hat and put it on his head. But he took it off ag'in to wipe on the blood, for the Johnny had been shot through it in the head. Struthers swabbed it with the sleeve of his coat and put it back on to his head.

"There was more or less fightin' that day, and we in the breastworks generally laid low, 'cause our line was a stray shot would come along our way. Struthers was showin' his hat to some of the boys, nor seemin' to keer about his head bein' above the parapet. He took the hat off and poked his finger through the bullet hole in it, then put it on ag'in. He hadn't more'n got it on when he pitched forward. They picked him up and found another bullet hole in the hat close beside the one he'd been a showin' 'em. The bullet had made a hole in Struthers' head.

"Well, Jim O'Keefe of Company G, next on our left, was wearin' a cap. A cap out in the rain is the worst sort of headgear, for when it gets soaked a stiddy stream runs right down a man's backbone. O'Keefe he pressed the hat into his own special service. My hat was nothin' more'n a stopover without the 'other end stopped up and ketchin' all the rain there was. I was feelin' sorry that I hadn't got ahead of Bill Struthers, the man that first got the hat, when I saw O'Keefe throw up his hands and tumble in a heap. I run up to him, and what do you think? There was a third hole in the hat and a bullet through O'Keefe's brain.

"Countin' the Johnny, this made three men that had lost their lives wearin' that hat. I was just goin' to pick it up and throw away my stopover when I remembered this and stopped. It was rainin' harder every minute, and the hat would be a fine perfection. Bargin' the bullet holes it was sound every-where. Howsomever, I didn't like makin' the fourth man to repose my weary limbs on Confederate soil, and I concluded to let the hat alone. I saw one or two men pick it up, look it over, throw down their own hats and goin' to put it on when I halted 'em and told 'em that three men had been killed wearin' it. Mostly they dropped it like a hot coal, but purty soon a lieutenant of Company B come along. He hadn't any head coverin' at all. He'd been on the skirmish line and been driven in in a hurry—such a big hurry that he'd dropped his hat and didn't calculate to stop to pick it up.

"As soon as he saw the hat I was talkin' about he'n on the ground he made a dive for it. I called out to him, 'Lieutenant, don't wear that hat,' says I. 'What's the matter with it?' says he. 'There's three men been shot a-wearin' it.' 'Well,' he says, 'if it has been struck three times there's a thousand chances to one it won't be struck ag'in—not just now, anyway.' And he clapped it on his head.

"Now, that's just the way these men who make up systems to beat gambler's banks get fooled. Howsomever, it's mighty good reasonin' all the same. It's good reasonin' and it's bad reasonin' 'n. There's some would argue that the hat was fated, others that the spirit of the original Confederate owner had swore that no cursed Yankee should wear it. I don't believe in any of these superstitions. There's only one thing I do believe in—luck; jist luck and nothin' else.

"'About this time of day the fight got purty hot. The bullets was singin' gayly jist 'a if it was less 'n fun to plug a Yankee, some of 'em cuttin' the tuzig of the overhangin' branches spiteful. I saw the lieutenant with the hat on—the hat I was tellin' you about—standin' on the breastwork tryin' to get his men out to make a charge—they bein' short o' ammunition jist thin. I believe when sudden I saw him collapse.

"His comrades picked him up, and I saw one of 'em take off his hat and poke his finger through four different bullet holes in the crown.

"Well, by this time it was pretty well understood that the hat had a streak of bad luck in it. It lay on the ground, and not a man would touch it. A good hat gittin' a wide berth with men all about wantin' it! It wa'n't superstition. No one could argue that there was any more chance of gittin' hit in it than in any other hat, and yet no map dared wear it. I've thought about it often since and wondered what that thing we call luck is, anyway. I don't believe the biggest science man that ever lived would 'a dared, after seein' what I seen, to take up that hat and wear it same 's he had been wearin' his own.

"Cur'us, ain't it?"

ANDREW C. EWING.

Humor and Philosophy

By MURKIN M. SMITH

THE FOLLOW UP.

After Thanking Cometh the hash, Saver of labor, Pleasant and wholesome, Yet you must feel Sore if you find it There every meal.

Served in the morning, Heated at noon, Dished up for supper— That is the tune, If you are hungry, 'Twixt meals a hunch Makes you feel certain Hash will be lunch.

Table so proudly Greens with the weight, Heaviest turkey Kept for the date, White meat or gizzard, Dark meat or wing, Pass up your platter, Turkey is king.

Strictest injunction Says that you must Obey the tune, Eat all you bust, Every one gorging, How can there be Anything over? Just wait and see.

Wait till tomorrow, Wait for the night, Hash to the left of you, Hash to the right, Hash there in front of you, Greatly I fear It will be worse, Till it's hash in the rear.

Too Bad.
"What do you call your cook?"
"Folly. But that is not what my husband calls her."
"What does he call her?"
"I am ashamed to tell you."



No Cage.
"But don't you want to catch a husband?"
"What! Me?"
"Yes, you."
"Not I."
"Why?"
"I should not know what to do with him."

My Christmas Girl.
She's a winsome little fairy With her manners light and airy And her fluffy hair a-curl, She's as pretty as a picture, In my heart she's sure a fixture, She's my dainty Christmas girl.

She is graceful, she is merry, But of course she is wary, And she sets his head a-whirl, So she's somehow caught my fancy, She's my dainty little Nancy, She's my crinkly Christmas girl.

I am happy 'cause I've caught her, Morn and even I bemoan her, In my heart she's sure a fixture, 'Cause she's just as sweet and sunny As the golden, luscious honey, She's my crispy Christmas girl.

When He Is at Home.
"He is a heavy weight fighter."
"Yes, it is a pity."
"What is a pity?"
"That he is such a lightweight husband."

Explained.
"He isn't worth much, is he?"
"No. That's the reason."
"What reason?"
"He costs so much."

Good For.
"I never have any doubts."
"Is that so?"
"Yes, I let my neighbors entertain all such things."

PART PARAGRAPHS.

Sometimes a woman belongs to a woman's club, and sometimes a woman's club belongs to a woman.

If you find it hard work to keep your temper, you would better employ a man to keep it for you.

It seems to make some people positively angry if one insinuates that this world is not wholly a wilderness of woe.

When your conscience wakes up sometimes it is only to let you know that you are being cheated.

Beware of temptation. It might not be the brand you think it is.

It is easy enough to have a good time in this world if you have a stand-in with the people who keep good times on tap.

The best way to reform some men is to send them back to the factory and order a new lot in their stead.

The trouble with one's neighbors is usually this: They are usually either bored or scandalized at our behavior.

WANTS

ARE YOU AWARE that we can keep your clothes looking neat and presentable? \$1 month, three months \$2.50 Quick Service Pressing Club, 39 Patton ave. Phone 984.

CHRISTMAS PRESENTS. Christmas is close at hand. Why should not a sewing machine be a most acceptable present? The Singer and Wheeler & Wilson machines are acknowledged to be the lightest running and most durable. Call and make your selection. Sold on easy terms or for cash. Look for the red S. Singer Sewing Machine Company, 7 West Pack square. 254-277

WANTED—Your Notary Public Work. Phone 24. Jas. W. Albright. 96-17

WANTED—Ladies to see the handsome imported pieces of china we have just received for Christmas giving. Priced about half their value. 1 X L Dept. Store, 22 Patton avenue.

CREASMAN & OWNEY, contractors and builders. Repair work a specialty. Also all kinds of wire and iron fencing. Office in Cates building subway. Phone 218. 17

WANTED—You to know that we will deliver your packages, messages, etc., and do it right now. Quick Delivery Co. Phone 782. 174-47

NOTHING WILL PLEASE the madam more than a Cameron Range for the kitchen and a nice sideboard for the dining room. Very cheap at W. L. Moore's, No. 11 and 13 Pack Square. 17

WANTED—100 tons scrap cast iron Asheville Supply & Foundry Co. 17

I WANT \$1,000 for three years, six per cent security. First mortgage on Asheville real estate rented at \$900 per year. Address P. F. Morse, General Delivery, city. 255-17

KNIVES, SAWS AND MEAT CLEAVERS SHARPENED—You will want your cutlery good and sharp now that Christmas draws nigh. We have recently installed four large grinders and can give your cutlery that fine high steel polish that it has when new. Send us your work. J. M. Mearns & Co., Battery Park Place, near postoffice, phone 448.

WANTED—Position first of year by young married man with unlimited character, as real estate agent or show, dry goods, or grocery; must have work; references furnished. Apply Dr. care Gazette-News. 271-eod-31

BOARDERS WANTED.

BOARDERS WANTED—Six blocks from square; large, pleasant rooms; good table, home cooking, steam and grate heating. 22 Orange street Phone 798. 174-47

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SOUTHERN HOTEL, No. 15 1/2 South Main street. Board and rooms \$6 to \$8 per week. 17

BOARDERS WANTED—Large sunny rooms, furnished and refitted; excellent table. Mrs. F. J. Carolina Rock Lodge, 42 Haywood street. 25-47

THE COLONIAL—58 N. Main street one block from Pack square, up-to-date, large airy rooms, good table. Mrs. O. L. Neville. 204-47

TABLE BOARD—A few table boarders can be accommodated at No. 4 Astor Place. Convenient for business people; excellent fare. Miss Tempe Harris. 261-17

LOST.

LOST—Gold pendant with monogram N. M. B. engraved on it. Reward for return to Gazette-News office. 272-31

We have a very Attractive Proposi- tion to offer every wide-awake man in this section that has the ability to handle a good paying business (with-out capital) and is willing to work. Call at our office or write

Brown & Logan, 14 North Pack Square.

WANTED

You to see our rent list, and we can also interest you in some good homes, cheap.

Canaday-Brehm Realty Co. 207-208 Oates Building. Phone 974.

For Sale

10 room house, close in, modern Price \$2,250, \$650 cash, balance \$25 per month.

For Sale—5 room house, Woolsey Price \$1,600, \$200 cash, balance \$25 per month.

DONNAHOE & BLEDSOE, Reed Bldg. Phone 649

Moore & Rich Real Estate and Insurance 21 N. Main St. Phone 900

FOR RENT—3-room house, city water and electric lights, \$16.67 per mo.; 6-room house, city water, \$11. See us at once.

MAKE yourself or some one of your family a present of a home this Christmas, and let us sell it to you. Phone 396.

Asheville Real Estate Co. OVER CITIZENS BANK, On the Square.

I WANT \$1,000 for three years, six per cent. Security, first mortgage on Asheville real estate rented at

NOTICE

Robert K. Reynolds has reopened his offices in the Harkins Building, Patton avenue, for the general practice of law. 270-12L

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We have from the cheapest to the best Guns and Rifles of all makes. We also make a specialty of Leather Goods and Trunks, Shaguns and rifles to rent by the day or week, at

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The Southern Railway will sell tickets from points in North Carolina to Havana, Cuba, and return at rate of one fare plus \$2.00 for the round trip. Tickets will be sold January 17, 1909, with final return January 27, 1909. The rate from Asheville, N. C., will be \$28.10, and other points in this territory will be approximately the same. Stop-overs will be allowed south of Jacksonville, Fla., at St. Augustine, Palm Beach, and other points. For further information address the undersigned.
J. H. WOOD, District Passenger Agt. 262-24

ASHEVILLE PRODUCE

The retail price of produce as reported by Van Lindsey, City Market:

Apples, 25 to 30 peck.
Bell Peppers, 200 dozen.
Bananas, 20 to 2500.
Beets, 50 bunches.
Beans, 140 quart.
Carrots, 50 bunch.
Cauliflower, 100 to 250 each.
Celery, 100 stalks; \$ for 25.
Chickens, 20 to 250 each.
Cabbage, 50 to 100 head.
Red Cabbage, 40 pound.
Country Butter, 25 to 30 lb.
Chickens, 250 quart.
Cranberries, 250 quart.
Dried Beans, 10 and 150 quart.
Ducks, 400 to 500 each.
Eggs, 500 doz.
Egg Plant, 10 to 20 each.
Grape Fruit, 10 to 20 each.
Garrils, 200 pound.
Goesa, 750 each.
Honey, 25 lb.
Horse Radish, 100 pound.
Hubbard Squash, 200 to 400.
Lemons, 20 to 250 dozen.
Lettuce, 5 to 150 head.
Lima Beans, dried, 150 quart.
Mango Grapes, 200 pound.
Mint, 50 lb.
Mustard Greens, 200 peck.
Onions, 400 peck.
Oranges, 20 to 500 dozen.
Pears, 40 and 500 pt.
Pumpkins, 50 bunch.
Popcorn, 100 doz.
Parsley, 50 bunch.
Potatoes, 250 pt.
Pumpkins, 100 to 200 each.
Radishes, 50 bunch.
Salsify, 50 bunch.
Spanish Onions, 400 dozen.
Sicily Pears, 250 quart.
Sweet Potatoes, 250 pt.
Spinach, 250 peck.
Squash, 25 to 300 each.
Tomatoes, 200 pound.
Turnips, 50 bunch.
Turnip Greens, 200 peck.

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CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS WAGONS
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Desirable Residence
IN FIRST-CLASS CONDITION
3 stories, 12 rooms, 2 bathrooms, also large sun parlor. Broad piazzas. Well heated. Good stable. Servants' quarters and kitchen garden. Attractively situated. Corner of Cumberland avenue and Soco street. Perfect title. Price \$12,000.

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