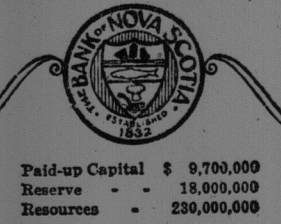


A Night's Lodging In New York Underworld

Incognito Exploration of Cheap Sleeping Quarters for Men Reveals Appalling Squalor and Misery—Chinese Keep Cleanest "Hotels"

(New York Evening Post.)
Chinese men's lodgings are on top. It is hideously crowded, but quiet and reasonably clean. It seemed probable that the bedclothes were washed every few months.
And clean, comparatively, was the big Chinese boarding house at High and Water streets, which accommodates five hundred men on four floors. The proprietor heard of our quest for Zambos Jim, and we proceeded down cellar, where they were playing—well, dominoes, with solemn absorption. In all Chinatown, of both boroughs. Indeed, we encountered nothing but politeness and attempted sanitation. The Chinese accommodations for the down-and-out are pretty good.
The "Dead House."
We had a look at the "dead house" on Pell street, into whose cellar cave those who no longer had need of lodgings were sometimes thrown in days less orderly. We went into a drug emporium and found only tea and cigars. Up in a joss house they were enjoying a lecture about Confucius! So we proceeded to see where the dregs of society lay their heads when they are not Chinese.
There is a place on Third avenue, near Twenty-third street, that is as far gone in dirt and misery as any night lodging in fiction or reality that you could name, not barring Russian novels. Here, too, there are four floors, with a couple of hundred men sleeping on each in narrow wooden cubicles. A gas flame splitters out a little light, but the air—we might have been twenty feet under ground. The sleepers were negroes mostly. The manner of our reception was suspicious and threatening. Many were not asleep.
Chinese Lodgings.
It was about midnight when we went into the place on Sands street, Brooklyn, climbing up four flights of a most respectable-seeming business building with a dentist's name on the door. The



A Start in the Right Direction.

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"Well, there are other places—down on Hyers street, on South street—where we might go. But the air is better up-town. Suppose we run up to Pleasant avenue, over on the East Side, where the good shots try their luck about this hour? Or would you rather pass a few minutes in Harlem's Notorious Murder Stable?"

"People don't sleep there!"
"No, but there's plenty to see these after dark. Let's go."
Harlem's notorious murder stable is always mentioned thus, by its full title, for it commands respect. Sixteen men have been picked off as they passed by or else dragged in to be dispatched among its vast shadows. It is on the southwest corner of First avenue and 108th street. We walked through, but it was as silent as the graves it had helped to fill. The custom is to use a shotgun from behind a grocery wagon or a pile of boards.

"A sort of lonesome beat," we said to the policeman who had kept his eye on our car.
"Well, I have my amusements," he reflected, "that you can't appreciate unless you come over and look through this knot hole. I often stroll by here for company myself."

"There is another stable cross the street that is kept lighted all night, and grain is stored inside. Stopping to the knot hole you could see parading with assured police a company of rats a little smaller than the horses. We shouted to scare them, and they came slowly across the floor to the door sniffing.
"Don't be afraid," soothed the officer. "They're the best thing in the block."

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Incriminating Evidence.

An amusing incident in the career of the late Chief Justice White is related in The New York Times. As a young lawyer he was called upon to defend a man who was accused of stealing a pair of "pants." The man was seated with his legs under a large table, when Mr. White sat down and asked him some-

thing about the case. The man was most reticent. Finally, the lawyer for the other side called the accused to take the stand. The prisoner turned to Mr. White and said:—
"Judge, I don't want to take the stand."
"Why not?" asked Mr. White. "You're perfectly innocent, aren't you?"

"Yes, sir. I'm perfectly innocent as long as I sit with my feet under the table, but if I get up on the stand—Judge the trouble is I've got them pants on!"
Lovers of light literature will be glad to know that, following after Leacock, the lady detective may now take her eyelashes from the eyelash stand.

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MUTT AND JEFF—JEFF EVIDENTLY FIGURES THAT EITHER JACK OR GEORGES WILL KISS THE CANVAS - - By "BUD" FISHER
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