

## AS MARS SEES US

Being just a little glimpse of ourselves as seen from a planet of supermen.

By ELIZABETH FIELD YARDLEY

HIS brow wrinkling anxiously, the Chief Doctor of the School for Universal Research up in Mars handed the binoculars to a student at his side.

"Observe," quoth he, "and tabulate accurately the progress of events in that queer looking little body down yonder."

Swiftly the student brought forth the Encyclopædia of Minor Bodies. As he ran his finger through the index, his lip curled disdainfully.

"That, Doctor," he said finally, "we have classified as 'The Little Egotist.' Continuing, he read from the reference book: "Inhabitants, a primitive race; lived until recently in caves and jungles; still truculent and barbaric; depend for existence upon the physical consumption and digestion of matter called 'food.' The race has attained but meagre understanding of the metaphysical consciousness; planet is called The Earth; and they are just outgrowing the theory that it is the centre of the universe."

Being descended from many generations of supermen, the Chief Doctor smiled indulgently.

"It is in evolution," he said, "that we see the history of the universe. For some time past I have detected signs of change in an inhabitant of The Little Egotist called 'Woman.' Observe this creature closely."

The student sighed, for he had been in deep contemplation of the soul's progress in Sirius. Still, being a superman also, he undertook the appointed task without remonstrance.

Before the school closed its doors for the day, he had appended to his note book this data:

"Interesting evolution noted in specie called 'Woman,' found on The Little Egotist. Alleged 'scientific' theory that it was evolved from protoplasm; queer religious tradition that it was made from rib of specie called 'Man' led to its subordination to 'Man.'"

"Customary for each 'Man' to own at least one 'Woman.' Creature named Solomon said to have owned a thousand."

"Originally two classes of 'Woman'—slaves and ornaments. 'Slaves' work, drudge, toil, for owners. 'Ornaments' dance, sing, entertain, paint and attire themselves brilliantly, to please 'Man.'"

"First upheaval threatened by 'Woman' about a thousand years ago. Arrangement called 'law' undertook to protect specie from physical violence."

"Second upheaval about a hundred years ago. Arrangement called 'divorce' enabled 'Woman' to escape from owner, and select new proprietor."

"Third upheaval, thirty years ago. General fermentation ever since. 'Colleges' founded for 'Woman.' Incessant talk about 'clubs,' 'rights,' 'votes,' 'higher education,' becoming ever more clamorous and aggressive."

"Modern developments most extraordinary. 'Man' fighting everywhere. More barbarism and bloodshed than ever known before in the history of The Little Egotist. Much talk about 'extermination of the race,' and 'end of the world.'"

"'Woman,' meanwhile, acting as 'Man's' substitute in all vocations. Manages and works 'factories,' 'laboratories,' 'mines,' 'farms,' operates 'automobiles,' 'cars,' 'aeroplanes,' and other pieces of machinery. 'Woman' occupied as 'letter carriers,' 'boot-blacks,' 'barbers,' 'jewellers.' Impossible to find any work of 'Man' which 'Woman' has been unable to duplicate successfully."

Said the Chief Doctor when he glanced through the student's note book:

"For the next twenty years watch The Little Egotist carefully. Be constantly on the alert to detect the ultimate outcome of the specie called 'Man.'"

## THE TRAGEDY OF THE YELLOW YAPOSHA

(Continued from page 40)

picture in the paper—a lurid thing, drawn with a careful study to express the horrible; and it called itself the picture of the girl assassin shot at Tsing-tau. It showed the nude body of a woman, with distorted limbs and bullet-mangled breasts, lying in a dead, huddled heap beside a newly dug pit—and the face was the face of Hoshi, his wife.

Hayashi Daimyo smiled as he walked down the Benton Dori, where English and Nipponese flags waved everywhere, to celebrate the first victories of the Allies in the War—Tsing-tau had been captured on that sixth of November, 1914.

"The old ways of torture were so unnecessary," smiled Hayashi Daimyo to himself. "With a little care and skill criminals can always be made to torture themselves."

Hayashi smiled again, knowing that in that most civilized and humanely managed prison Pedro Carter had gone mad.



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