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CHINA'S BOY EMPEROR NOW KNOWS PENURY

Is Dependent on Old Manchu Retainers for Living.

BY D. C. BESS,

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Peiping, August 24.—The "Boy Emperor," once the ruler of all China, has moved into a small house in Tientsin with his wife and single concubine, because he can no longer afford to live in a large house.

With his fortune almost gone, the former emperor is now dependent for support on the kindness of his old Manchu retainers. But they, too, are suffering from falling incomes, and are not able to spare him enough to keep up anything resembling an imperial menage.

The Boy Emperor, now approaching the age of 30, is not prepared to do anything to earn his living. He is not ambitious, and his friends say he has no hopes whatever of recovering his lost power. He is content to live quietly with his two women and a few Manchus who have remained with him since his abdication.

Income Cut Off.

When the emperor abdicated, an agreement was made to leave him possessor of his landed property and a large part of his jewels and curios. But succeeding so-called republican governments have ruled against this agreement, and the ex-emperor's property has gradually been confiscated and sold. It is said that all of his income from property has now been cut off.

The young ex-emperor also made an unfortunate investment. He put \$250,000, almost all of his ready money, into the Exchange Bank of China, a joint Japanese-Chinese institution. A few months ago this bank failed because of the deterioration in value of its investments in Chinese government bonds. The young emperor's money was lost together with that of thousands of other unfortunate Chinese depositors.

The ex-emperor felt his poverty most keenly when the news was reported to him that the tombs of his immediate ancestors, the Manchu emperors, had been broken into by Chinese soldiers and desecrated and robbed.

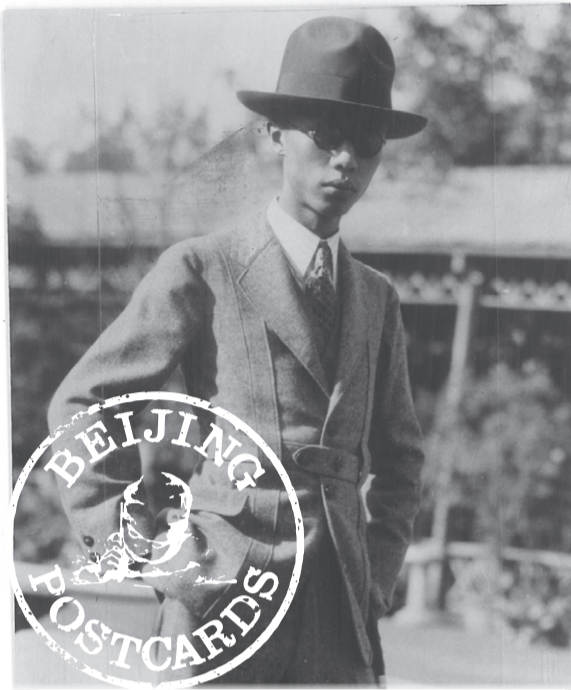
Scraping together all the money he could, by the sale of some treasures, he managed to get \$1,000 to contribute to a fund for re-embalming and re-burying the bodies of the Empress Dowager and other royal personages which had been taken out of their coffins, stripped of their ornaments, and thrown on the floors of their tombs. Other Manchus, once rich and powerful, were able to contribute only an additional \$4,000, and with this very simple burial rites were held.

Kept 100 Servants.

The ex-emperor has been living for the past two years in the Changyuan garden in Tientsin, located in the Japanese concession. Although the rent was given him free, by the divisional commander in charge of Tientsin, the place was so large that he had to keep more than 100 servants and other expenses were in proportion.

Seeing the young man's plight, an old Chinese friend, Lu Chung-yu, offered him the use of one of his houses, also in the Japanese concession, and the ex-emperor decided at once to move with his household.

It is estimated that the ex-emperor, his wife and his concubine, are now living on about \$300 silver a month, or about \$150 gold.



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Boy Emperor Tires of Old Chinese Ways; Wants to Cut Off Pigtail and See the World

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PARIS, Sept. 5.—The former Emperor of China wants to cut off his pigtail. This momentous news has leaked out from the Imperial Palace at Peking and reached Paris. Suen Tong is now 18 years old, and he is beginning to be bored with being Emperor in name and nothing else. So at least runs the story told in Excelsior by Albert Nachbaur, from Peking. He has begun to get tired of his company of wives, his grandfather and such other companions as imperial etiquette allows him, and his desire to cut off his pigtail is but the outward symbol of his revolt.

The trouble began, it seems, three years ago, when Suen Tong decided that he wanted to learn English. Up till then his tutor, the august mandarin Tcheng Pao-cheng, had instructed him in everything a Chinese Emperor ought to know. But Tcheng could not supply that accurate knowledge of the English tongue which Suen Tong wanted and so, against the tutor's advice, an English teacher was imported into the Imperial Palace.

With a zeal which might with profit be emulated by less august persons, the

youthful Emperor began to devote two hours a day to the study of English with his master. And even worse, in the opinion of his preceptor, he began to study geography as it is taught in foreign countries, paying no attention to the Chinese conception of how the world should be divided. From that stage his descent was rapid, and it was with tears in his eyes that the tutor recounted to M. Nachbaur the designs of his pupil. "Now, the Emperor can no longer resist the desire to visit your countries," he said. "He wants to travel in an automobile and train and it is the dream of his life to fly in an airplane."

And there is something else that is worrying the little Emperor. According to the terms of settlement between the imperial house and the new republic some \$4,000,000 ought to be paid each year for the Emperor's maintenance. But somehow this \$4,000,000 does not seem to arrive with the regularity which is desired by the student of geography. So he wants to cut off his pigtail and go out and see the world. When he does so the last stronghold of royal exclusiveness will have fallen and Tcheng Pao-cheng will be ready, he declares, for death.

Boy Emperor's Wedding Regal

Oriental splendor marks wedding rites

[BY CABLE AND ASSOCIATED PRESS.]

PEKING, Saturday, Dec. 2.—Fifty thousand presents from all parts of China were showered on Hsuan Tung, China's Democratic ex-Emperor and his bride, the Princess Kuo Chin-Si, whose wedding yesterday brought forth a pageant of color and light that revived memories of the olden, gorgeous Manchu regime.

No political significance is attached to the marriage of the deposed "Boy Emperor," which was carried out under the auspices of the Republic and with the official sanction of President Li Yuan Hung, who sent felicitations on behalf of the nation.

Owing to the youth of the couple and the romantic nature of their union, crowds thronged the streets of the capital throughout the night to witness the gorgeous procession which attended the bride's progress outside the Forbidden City to the palace, where Hsuan Tung awaited the wife on whose face he had never looked.

HIDDEN FROM VIEW

The Princess was carried from her home concealed in a curtained, golden sedan chair, borne by twenty men garbed in the imperial yellow livery. Her pathway was illuminated by yellow lanterns and the five miles of streets through which she passed were strewn with fresh sand.

The gilded chair entered the Forbidden City through the gateway formerly used only by the Empress Dowager. Only a few Mandarins of the old order, wearing the royal peacock feathers, were present at the first meeting of the bride and groom, which took place a few minutes before the wedding ceremony.

Complying with the Chinese custom, Hsuan Tung had previously refrained from meeting his bride-to-be, although they had been betrothed for several months. He chose her from photographs of twenty marriageable princesses, his only other knowledge of the young woman who was to be his wife, having come from the newspaper.

GUARD OF HONOR

While the young ex-Emperor waited just within the gates of the palace, the progress of the Princess through the city was announced to him by the sounding of bugles along the route followed by the colorful array of bearers with streamers ornamented with the imperial dragon.

Within the Forbidden City, 500,000 soldiers of the Republic formed a guard of honor. When the Princess' sedan chair reached the castle gates, Hsuan Tung fell in to step beside it, still however, refraining from lifting the curtains that concealed the face of his bride-to-be. This ceremony was performed only within the inner temple where the final marriage vows were pledged in the presence of Chinese officials. Foreigners invited to the wedding, numbering about forty, remained in the outer court.

The wedding was the culmination of months of preparation. Astrologers consulted the stars and decided that the early morning hours would be the most propitious, so the ceremony was set for that time. The bride's journey began at 2 a.m. and ended two hours later in the inner temple of the Forbidden City.

GROOM "HARD UP"

Although an almost fabulous sum is represented in the 50,000 present showered on the bride, the groom's, which has not been publicly described, is said to have cost only \$4000 for the reason that Hsuan Tung, once ruler of 400,000,000 persons, is "hard up."

Under the terms of his retirement from the dragon throne, the Republic was to pay him \$4,000,000 annually. Recently his guardian called the government's attention to the fact that instead of the \$40,000,000 which was due during the last ten years, only \$200,000 had been paid.