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Moro Laws

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Some of the party discovered that cliffs do not remain as stationary as formerly was thought.

Barbara Clark, while precariously perched on the back bumper of Walt Taylor's car, substantiated current rumors by proclaiming to several witnesses, "I am not very well balanced."

Girls, keep your eyes on Lehmer and Hayes who proved themselves diamonds in the rough when they showed undreamed of abilities in the kitchen. Give them a few cans, and you'll be surprised at what they can do. Honorable mention goes to Doug for Saturday night's meal.

Much to the dismay of the others concerned, Wes Bliss collected on two bets. Such luck must be deserved.

We found that Otto Hammersmith was on the level -- after he lost both heels . . .

Motto for the road into the Chaco Canyon: One good turn deserves another.

Dr. Brand and Bittany were taken down a few pegs when, in a game of horseshoes, Bill Witkind, a dark horse, hit his stride and carried himself and his partner to a decisive victory by laying in one ringer after another. We dare you to do it again, Bill!

Scanlan, Mig Bliss, and Lehmer, unsung heroes, spent a very stuffy night in Laguna when their car broke down.

Spuhler and Taylor wipe a mean dish, as they exhibited when on K. P. duty.

The Crown-ing Point of the week-end saw us well Thoreau. Everybody Grants us that . . .

MORO LAWS

It may be that justice is blind in our country; but in other lands she is wide awake and is caring for the least needs of those over whom she holds her sway. The Lawarn Code of Mohammedan Law of the Moros of Mindanao and the Sulu Islands does not fall where even Napoleon or Justinian might have had lapses. Witness Article Eight:

If a person enter the house of another at night without the consent of the owner thereof, and the said owner complain of the offense, the person entering shall be fined four spittoons.

and Nine: If a man enter the house of another . . . he shall be fined four spittoons or shall suffer from twenty to thirty-nine lashes or shall be slapped on his face, at the discretion of the judge.

There is justice. Whoever saw a police court that was not liberally besprinkled (no pun intended) with spittoons; try to imagine the spittoon paved floor of the Police Court in Zamboanga. See in your mind's eye the seasoned offender, utterly bereft of spittoons, groveling his way toward the bench to get his face slapped for house-breaking. Surely the ways of Justice are strange and wonderful in far Moroland.

They have deer season accidents there too. Witness this.

Article Fifty-two: If a man order another man to shoot a deer, and the person shoots, believing that he is shooting a deer, but hits a man, neither the shooter nor the man who ordered him to shoot shall be liable to punishment but shall pay only a slight fine in blood money.

It is too bad that we cannot have a similar recognition of the difficulties attendant upon deer hunting in our culture.

One might quarrel with the evaluation that the Moros have seen fit to give their various classes for payment of blood money.

Article 58 says: If the blood money for life of a woman of hermaphrodite shall be half that of a man so shall the fine for wounding a woman be rated as half that for a man.

This requirement smacks of some of our Reno-Movies mix-ups:

Article 59: If a man divorce his wife three times, or a slave divorce his wife twice, it shall not be lawful for any of them to marry the same wife again before the divorced woman is married to another man.

I find myself in something of a quandry trying to follow this through; seems that it might be better to allow them to marry the same wife again as often as they wish, a la Hollywood, rather than try to keep tab on the various unions.

Here is one that shows that the Moros knew how to deal with the great modern problem of the banana-skin-under-foot.

Article 61: If a person throw the sweepings of the house or the parings of fruit on the road and a person carrying certain articles and passing on the road steps on them and thereby slips and falls and loses his property, the person who threw the sweepings or fruit parings in the road shall pay for the lost property. He shall also be responsible for any injury resulting from the fall.

That is caring for details in life. We need more of the kind of lawgivers that made the Lawarn Code.

MUSEUM NEWS

The fine exhibit of Peruvian textiles that was in the large Mimbres-Chihuahua pottery case has been passed on to the next museum in the series. This was a traveling loan exhibit made up by the American Museum of Natural History and sponsored by the Taylor Art Museum of Colorado Springs.

Since the opening of the museum some two weeks ago, approximate a thousand people have visited it. Five hundred of the booklet on Peruvian weaving and explanatory of the Peruvian Textile Exhibit were given away.