

## **Professor Gives Up U.S. Citizenship to Marry His Pretty Chinese Student**

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Percy Trip Explains "He Loves America, but Hazards All for Love of Girl Like Lafcadio Hearn."

*(Under caption: East is West and West is East.)*

The marriage of Prof. P. B. Tripp, formerly of Virginia, and Ho Su Hsien, one of his Chinese pupils, is one of the most daring marital adventures ever undertaken. *(note: the article shows Prof. Tripp, his wife and son John upon their arrival from the Orient.)*

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On his conviction that patriarchal and scientific preachments against marriage outside the race are ill founded, Professor Percy B. Tripp, minister and teacher at Tien Tsin University, is wagering his American birthright.

In his marriage three years ago to one of his Chinese students, he had already hazarded all those other considerations which only a daring few have braved through miscegenation.

Now love of country and its privileges have been added to the sacrifices for love of his alien wife and to his faith in its lasting quality.

### **To Be Chinese Citizen**

Professor Tripp is going to become a Chinese citizen-the first American, so far as known, who has ever taken this step.

Duplicating the domestic adventure of Lafcadio Hearn in Japan, he explains this action on the ground that it will bolster his family happiness and forfend his wife and child against the ostracism he dared when he married Ho Su Hsien.

Convinced that love, surmounting the "bar sinister", is stronger and more lasting than any other reality, this former Virginian who has donned the dress and habits of the Orient, is burning his last bridges.

Professor Tripp went to China 11 years ago. While teaching in Tien Tsin he married the sister of one of his student associates. Two years ago a son was born. Together with his family he recently arrived in San Francisco to prepare text books for Chinese schools and to work out a new curriculum for Celestial colleges.

### **Cast Life in China**

Legal considerations will prevent him claiming final Chinese citizenship until after conclusion of the war.

"I have cast my life in China," he explained. "I expect to spend practically the remainder of it there. My American citizenship does me no good in my adopted land, where I hope to participate in Governmental affairs.

"I am not un-American. I love America, and during my years in the Orient I have tried zealously to live up to the ideals and inspirations of my nativity. But we in America do not think well of the immigrant who refuses to take out citizenship papers here when he intends to live. I feel that the reverse of this is equally unwise and intolerable.

"Inter-racial marriage may not be safe, satisfactory or desirable as the rule, but in our case love and marriage have proven everything that a sacred lasting union should be. My wife was a Christian even before our marriage, and so our love is anchored in the most lasting of human fundamentals."

"East is East and West is West, but never the twain shall meet!"

Professor Tripp and his Chinese wife who have defied the call of the blood and the warning of the ages, do not believe it.

Love, they say, can bridge and has bridged this greatest of chasms.