

WONDERS OF THE WORLD

The MING TOMBS

"Habitations of the Immortal Dead"



HUGE ANIMAL IMAGES
FORM AN AVENUE TWO
MILES LONG LEADING
TO THE MING TOMBS



THIS FIVE-ARCHED MARBLE
GATEWAY WAS ERECTED
IN 1541 - THE PRINCIPAL
ENTRANCE TO THE TOMBS

In a peaceful valley some thirty miles northwest of Peking, the sacred remains of thirteen out of sixteen monarchs of the Ming Dynasty are interred. The thirteen tombs are merely huge mounds of earth with apparently no entrances, each with a twenty-foot retaining wall around the half-mile circuit of its base.

Leading to the tombs is a magnificent gateway of white marble and red tile, with five openings. It is fifty feet high and eighty feet wide, perhaps the finest in China. This stands at the head of an avenue two miles long which is guarded by colossal stone figures of weird beasts. These marble effigies represent, as it were, all the animals of the world mourning the death of the Mings. There are four images of each animal, two standing and two sitting.

The Ming Dynasty was founded by a farm boy, Choo, too delicate for hard work, who had been placed in a monastery to become a monk. He did not aspire to the priesthood, however, and left to join the army, where he rose rapidly. After marrying a rich widow and becoming still more ambitious, he headed a successful insurrection. Leading a dissatisfied rebel army, Choo seized the imperial throne. He and his descendants then ruled China for three hundred years.

Nothing but the Truth

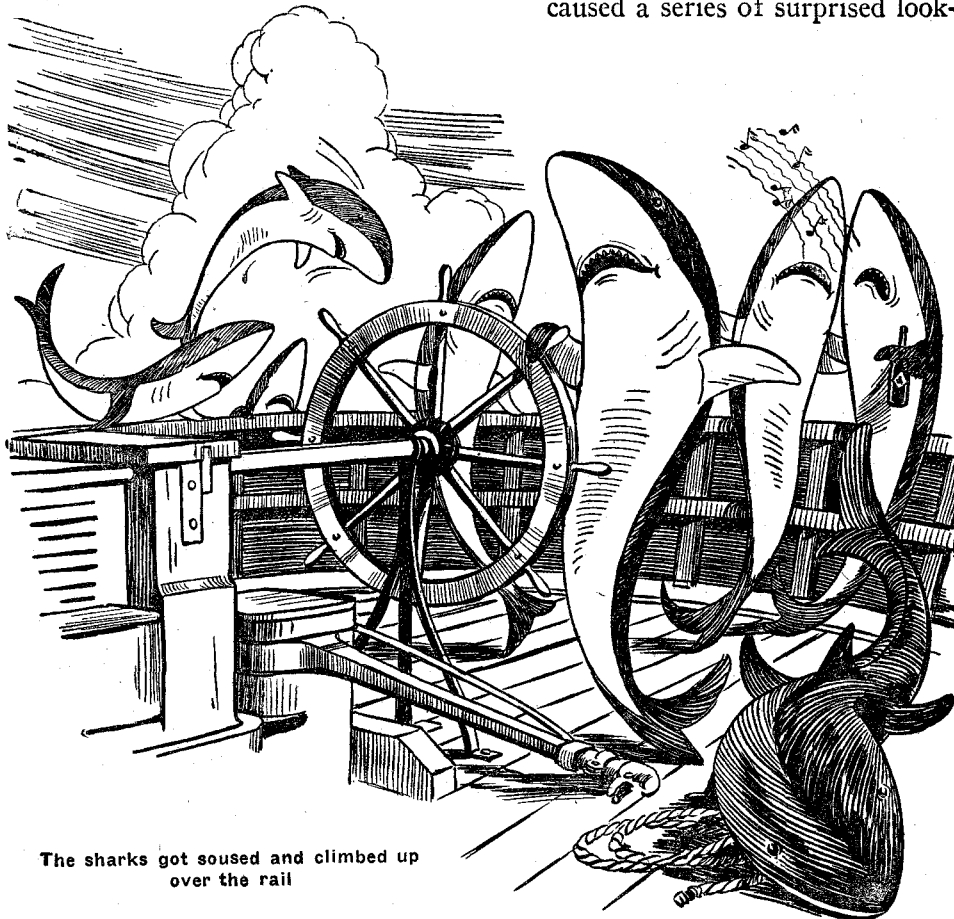
By ALBERT RICHARD WETJEN

*Meet Swivel tongue Saunders, the seafaring prevaricator
—in other words, the biggest liar unhung!*

SWIVELTONGUE SAUNDERS, basking in the tropical sunset, came suddenly erect as clear to the fo'c's'le-head of the freighter Ainault (Lagos to Beira) reached the noise of argument in the galley, profanely and emphatically disturbing the peace of the second dog watch. Others

might raise on one elbow from their mattress, or even get up to peer midships and mutter inquiries back and forth. Swivel tongue Saunders only smiled and allowed his faded blue eyes to grow wide and innocent.

His toothless gums clamped the more kindly on the stem of his short clay pipe, while benevolence lifted his fringe of white whiskers and caused a series of surprised look-



The sharks got soused and climbed up over the rail