

## OUT OUR WAY

By J. R. Williams



## American Nickel Losing Face Faster Than Chiang Kai-Shek

By HAL BOYLE

NEW YORK.—(AP)—The vanishing American today is the Indian on the old-fashioned nickel.

He is losing face faster than Chiang Kai-Shek. No wonder he is looking west toward the sunset. He has had his day. He and the buffalo are going down together.

For the nickel is about as useful to the average man now as a golf ball is to a hen. Time was when the nickel delighted the childish heart. Give one to a kid today, and the little innocent is likely to inquire:

"What's it for?"

And it is a hard question to answer. The nickel, like the old grey mare, ain't what she used to be.

The coin originally was strictly an inflation product. Now it's a victim of inflation.

It was first minted in 1866 in the high price times following the Civil War. Before that the people had made small change with half cents, large cents, pennies, bronze two cents, nickel three cents, and silver three-cent and half-dime pieces.

The new five-cent nickel, which was actually only 25 per cent nickel and 75 per cent copper, quickly rivaled even the Indian head penny in popularity.

Help Build Fortunes

It had a mighty reign. For two generations of Americans it was a basic coin, although by statute it was legal tender only in the payment of debts of 25 cents or less.

It helped build fortunes for the Woolworths, the Dukes and many another clan.

What couldn't a man do with a nickel in the good old days? He could buy his wife a pair of earrings or a hair ribbon. He could belly up to a bar and get a stiff shot of stomach warmer or a tall glass of beer. It would finance him to a plug of chawin' tobacco, a small pack of coffin nails, or two of the darkest, strongest cigars this side of Cuba.

It would take him to the movies in the era of the silent flickers, when strong men fainted at the sight of pretty Pearl White, tied by villainy to the railroad tracks in the path of the speeding express train, 15 minutes out of Hoboken.

They thought so much of this

dear old coin that the worst thing you could say of a man was, "he ain't worth a plugged nickel."

## Value Vanishes

And today? It won't even buy the foam on a glass of beer. The only cigar it'll fetch is a skinny thing that looks like a cigarette with jaundice and evaporates in three strong puffs. It won't let you in to see a newsreel, let alone a double feature.

In many cities you have to team it up with some pennies to ride a bus or buy a newspaper, a pack of gum, or a bottle of soft drink, junior size. And the glass bottle is so thick the soda pop looks like the fluid in a thermometer.

The Democrats used to holler because the Republicans put Andrew Jackson's picture on the \$20 bill. They complained they were so poor they never got to see this picture of their hero. Now the Democrats are wondering if they haven't slighted the memory of

Thomas Jefferson by putting his profile on a nickel.

The blamed thing is plumb bent out of value. Today nobody would take the trouble of plugging a nickel.

## Former Mental Patient Admits Killing Baby

CHICAGO, Nov. 24.—(AP)—FBI agents yesterday arrested William Norris Pollard, 21, former mental patient who they said admitted orally that he killed an infant in St. Louis.

George B. McSwain, Chicago FBI chief, said Pollard, who was traced through the aid of the Red Cross and other service agencies, was unarmed and offered no resistance to capture.

He was held for arraignment before a federal commissioner on a charge of unlawful flight across state lines to avoid prosecution.

In running a spatula around the edge of a cake to loosen it before turning it out of the pan be sure that the spatula touches the bottom of the pan.

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## Reclamation Assn. Control Charge Draws Challenge

DENVER, Nov. 24.—(AP)—Director Michael W. Straus of the U. S. Bureau of Reclamation was asked yesterday to prove his statement that the National Reclamation Association is controlled by private power companies.

The challenge was made by Robert W. Sawyer, Bend, Ore. publisher and past president of the Association. It was released here through Clifford H. Stone, a director of the Association, because Sawyer was delayed in returning from the Association's convention in Oklahoma City.

In a speech at the convention, Straus referred to special interests which he said had moved into the Association. He identified them as "powerful corporations or corporate agents and employees who paid a good price for admission and claim the paymasters' privilege of calling the tune."

Sawyer said, "Let him now present his bill of particulars. I challenge him to do so."

Sawyer referred to a mention by Straus of 59 Association members who are affiliated with utility companies. He explained that the 59 were identified from among the some 3,500 Association members by their mailing list addresses and added that they paid the regular \$2 membership dues.

"If Mr. Straus has evidence that any of the 59 has sought to call any tune, let him produce it," Sawyer declared.

"He has directly, or by implication, made charges that reflect on each Association member and officer. Let him substantiate them. He has here a great oppor-

tunity. He can respond to this challenge and, if he has the goods, he can make a sale that will establish the sound quality of his merchandise. If there is no response all will know with what shoddy he deals."

Sawyer's remarks were in a letter to Harry E. Polk of Williston, N. D., the new president of the Association.

## Ceilings Off National Guard Enlistments

WASHINGTON, Nov. 24.—(AP)—The National Guard yesterday lifted state ceilings on enlistments.

This leaves the states free to enlist as many men as they can in the National Guard.

Ceilings, set last summer, will be put back on if the overall strength of the guard reaches 341,000. That is the maximum allowed by present funds.

The current strength of the

guard is 302,062.

Each state will now report its strength weekly and if the total guard strength gets up to the 341,000 limit, new ceilings will be put on.

For a Welsh rarebit add a cup of grated yellow cheese to a cup of thin white sauce and season with dry mustard, celery salt and paprika; serve over crackers or toast.

It is handy to remember that there are 4 cups of flour in one pound of flour and that 2 cups of granulated sugar weigh one pound.

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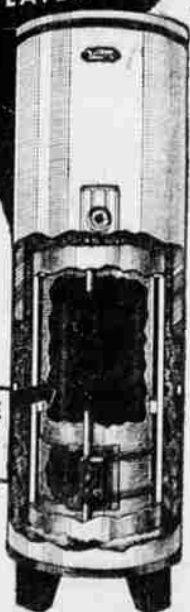
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## Thanks to many people for many things

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And there is much for which we can all be thankful in this great country of ours.

Certainly we are thankful for a bountiful harvest of grain and corn, for a high level of production and employment, for a standard of living that is the envy of the world.

Most of all, perhaps, we are grateful for our American heritage... freedom of opportunity, freedom of choice, freedom to think and worship according to our own beliefs.

\* \* \* \* \*

We Feel as a Chevrolet dealer it is an appropriate time to convey our sincere appreciation to the people of this community for their loyalty, patience and understanding.

For Despite Chevrolet's production of more cars and trucks during 1948 than any other manufacturer there is still a long "waiting list" for America's most-wanted cars and trucks.

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Thanks to Those Who Are Waiting for Orders to be Filled for your patience and understanding. You can be sure we are doing our best to treat all customers fairly... doing our best to speed the day when we can give you the good news, "Your waiting days are over!"

Thanks to Service Customers for the opportunity to keep your present cars in safe driving condition. We have tried to serve you well, and appreciate your patronage.

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