

Imaginary Visit To Mars Discloses Inhabitants Resembling Circus Freaks

By HAL BOYLE

NEW YORK—(AP)—Want to know what life is like on the planet Mars?

Well, it's a place where: The women rule, but husbands sometimes win their way by going on a sex strike. The inhabitants live 3,000 to 5,000 years, and one wife just got her 129th divorce.

The population is limited to two billion scientifically bred Martians, and the ladies must await their turn to have children. A famous Martian actress recently gave birth to her first child at the age of 2,500 years.

Martians live in a vast underground city a mile below the cold surface of the planet. There are no traffic jams. Travel is by transparent vehicles that neutralize gravitation.

There has been no crime for 950 million years. Water is the most precious commodity, and the last criminal was a man who violated the planet rule against taking more than one bath in a month. His punishment: He was disintegrated.

This picture of life on Mars is given in a tabloid Christmas magazine issued every year—all in fun—by Dr. Hugo Gernsback, publisher of science fiction.

What People Like

The 1949 edition, called "Quip," chronicles the adventures of a mythical explorer named Grego Bannhuck, who landed on Mars last October in a space ship.

You don't have to believe in explorer Bannhuck any more than you believe in Santa Claus, but it's some world he says he found on Mars.

The people there are 10 feet tall. Because of the low gravity and thin air of the red planet, they have big flat webbed feet, thin and fragile arms and legs, a barrel chest and a huge head with a brain 9 1/2 times that of a human being.

They communicate by thought instead of by voice. Because the air doesn't carry sound well they have developed a long nose like the trunk of an elephant.

Their thoughts are exchanged by long telepathic antennas, growing from their heads. A male has two, a female four.

The double antennas allow her to double-talk better, a Martian quipped to the explorer. "This confuses the male better too."

Males Win Sex Strike
Sometimes the Martian male rebels against being lady-bossed. "The males go on strike en masse—millions of them refuse to make love to their wives," reported Bannhuck.

"The last sex strike" 14 years ago, involving over 2,500,000 males, lasted five-and-one-half years. The males won!"

But Mars is no place for a bachelor. The girls do the courting there—what's so different about that?—And the man of her choice can't refuse her unless he is already married.

The explorer said the inhabitants of the red planet don't like or trust the human race and regard them as culturally and intellectually retarded.

"The earthlings have the rat's instincts," one Martian columnist remarked.

It is doubtful whether the average man of earth, however, would want to trade places. Mar-

Cleveland Transit System Tied By Strike

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town area and Traffic Commissioner John R. Sammon estimated that 50,000 more automobiles than usual were on the streets.

The vote was 496 to 287 against deferring the walkout until Jan. 16. This meant complying with a midnight strike deadline.

In making this decision, the unionists ignored: (1) A plea by their local president, Thomas P. Meany, to hold off until the Jan. 16 date; and (2) the Ferguson act, an Ohio law that provides heavy penalties for public employees who strike.

Apparently, said Meany, "these men are not disturbed about that bit of legislation."

Pledge Violation Charged
The strike of the main means of public transportation in the nation's sixth largest city—with more than 1,000,000 residents—came as such a surprise that Mayor Thomas A. Burke had to be roused from bed.

Obviously angry, Burke hustled down to city hall and opened a meeting with Meany and Harry C. Lang, local secretary. He called the strike a "complete violation" of a promise by Meany, Lang and the union's international representative, Robert Slack of Detroit.

This pledge, he continued, was that there would be no strike until they conferred with him again. Burke also claimed that the union should have received sanction from its parent group, the Cleveland federation of labor.

Dispute of Long Standing
The CTS says its 1,600 vehicles provide more than 1,000,000 rides daily. The last time Cleveland had a public transportation strike was April 29, 1943. That one lasted 18 hours.

The cause of the strike dates back to last July when David Ralph Hertz, umpire for CTS labor disputes, ruled on vacations.

He set forth a formula stating that vacation pay for hourly paid operating employees should be 1/25th of the number of hours actually worked in the 50 weeks preceding vacations.

However, unionists claimed that in many cases that would be less than the 96-hour paid vacations they have been receiving.

CAT CAUSES BLACKOUT
LAS CRUCES, N. M.—(AP)—Las Cruces homes were blacked out for 35 minutes—by a cat.

The cat crawled on the wires atop an electric company substation and absorbed 24,000 volts of electricity.

Workmen, arriving to repair the damage, found the cat lying on the ground. They said it jumped up and ran away—minus all its hair and one foot.

FUMES FELL FIREMEN
PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 22.—(AP)—At least 50 firemen were felled by smoke and acrid fumes today as they attempted to locate a fire in a compartmented experimental building at the Frankford arsenal.

An arsenal spokesman said ammunition was stored in the building but declined to say what sort of experiments were carried on in the structure.

tians, according to Bannhuck, eat synthetic food, never sleep, and are put to death—all except the great leaders—at the age of 3,000.

Outstanding Martians are allowed to live to 5,000.

One feature of Martian life, on the other hand, might appeal to earthly bureaucrats. Bannhuck discovered the planet is ruled by a conclave of five women, each of whom is elected at the age of 2,000 and remains in power until death.

This gives her 1,000 years in public office!

Lutheran Church, Sutherland, Plans 2 Yule Services

St. John's Lutheran church of Sutherland is planning to observe the Christmas season with two special services. The principal Christmas service will be held Sunday morning, Dec. 25, at 10:30 at the Legion hall.

Rev. Richard E. Graef, pastor, will preach the sermon, entitled "Permanent Values from Christmas." St. John's Lutheran choir will join in Pietro Yon's anthem, "Gesu Bambino," the Infant Jesus.

A service featuring many of the favorite Christmas carols will be substituted for the usual liturgical service. Special recorded Christmas music has also been scheduled for this service, notably, "And the glory of the Lord," "Unto us a Child is born," and the "Hallelujah" chorus, all excerpts from Handel's oratorio, "The Messiah."

The children's Christmas service is scheduled for Christmas Eve at 7:30 at the Legion hall. At this service the children will conduct the service by presenting recitations and a brief pageant. For a half hour preceding, this service only candles and the Christmas tree will be lit and the Christmas portion of Handel's "Messiah" will be performed by the Hutterfield Choral society under the direction of Sir Malcolm Sargent.

St. John's choir is also planning on Christmas caroling this Friday night. This will be followed by a Christmas party at which Mrs. Arthur Stefferud will be hostess. The choir is under the direction of Mrs. Graef. The committees for decoration of the hall are headed by Mrs. Walter Anderson and Keith Dies. The children's program has been prepared by Mrs. Paul Urban, Mrs. Keith Dies, Mary Lynn Dies and Mrs. Graef. Friends of St. John's are invited to attend all services.

M'Arthur Raps Russians For Their "Hypocrisy"
(Continued From Page One)

letter charging "oppression" by the Japanese government which Lt. Gen. Beresnyanko, head of the Soviet mission, addressed to General MacArthur.

MacArthur said the letter showed "a callousness of hypocrisy I can not fail to denounce." He termed it a smokescreen to distract attention from the repatriation issue.

W. J. Sebald, head of the occupation diplomatic section, earlier had termed the letter "unadulterated twaddle."

The Japanese crowd around the Soviet mission became clamorous at times. Once Russian guards pushed them back when they attempted to enter the compound.

The delegation went to the embassy to keep what its leaders said was an appointment made last week with Soviet officials who promised answers to questions on repatriation.

Later, however, eight members of the delegation were admitted. They reappeared in about 30 minutes and said they had been told to return again on Dec. 28 by an unidentified Soviet official.

Sebald told the council yesterday, after the Russian walkout, that probably 374,041 of the missing Japanese prisoners had died in Soviet prison camps. He read a lengthy account of the Russians treating prisoners brutally in "disregard for humanity."

MacArthur's comment bitter. "I can well understand the reluctance of the Soviet member yesterday to listen to so gruesome and savage a story in all its harrowing barbarity. It could well chill and sicken even a hardened old soldier."

MacArthur's statement said in part: "The Soviet member to the council has now given to the press a letter containing charges of oppression by the Japanese government. These moths eaten charges have been so often made by the Soviets and so often irrefutably shown to be completely prejudiced, if not actually false. That their continued repetition could well be ignored under normal circumstances as merely blatant propaganda. But when, as at this moment, they are again taken from the shelf and freshly dusted off to act as a smoke screen to distract attention from the investigation of the dreadful

Compromise Offered In Milk Price Dispute

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ing, but merely an attempt to reach an understanding.

He said the purpose of the board was to stabilize the market. The board cannot guarantee anyone a profit in the milk business, he said. While realizing that prices for farm products are now down, while feed and production costs are up, the condition is seasonal, he explained.

If the producers cannot produce at the present price, and think the consumer price must be raised, it is up to them to take the responsibility of telling the public of the raise, he said.

State milk control board officials met this morning with milk distributors and producers in the Douglas county courthouse in an effort to settle a three-day dispute over prices.

Ormond J. Feldkamp, co-owner of Umpqua dairy, one of three principal Douglas county dairies involved, denied that Roseburg's milk supply was "cut off."

"Our normal supply of milk is cut off," he agreed, "but we are still receiving milk for Thursday delivery."

He expressed hope that additional milk supplies would be obtained from dairymen who do not normally market their milk here.

The dispute began Tuesday when producers arrived at local distributing plants, asking for a ten cent increase in prices paid for butterfat and raw milk. Producers claim they are operating in a "high cost area," thus making the price increase a necessity. They also charge the three principal inland county distributors—Umpqua, Myrtle Creek and Roseburg dairies—with keeping the price of milk to consumers at the same level, while cutting the price to producers, in line with the reduced minimum prices set seven weeks ago by the milk control board.

Carl B. Binder of Elkton, president of the Umpqua Valley Milk Producers association, said milk is still being offered to county creameries but with "an increased price tag" on it. Until their price demands are met, Binder said, producers are sending grade A milk to a Grants Pass cheese-making concern. However, the association has agreed to offer 400 gallons of milk at the present price for delivery to local schools and hospitals.

Distributors say they will not increase the price to producers, but will stick to the minimum set by the state control board. The present price is 90 cents and \$1.90 for butterfat and milk.

AUTO BLOW FATAL
SEATTLE, Dec. 22.—(AP)—Knut Tellefson, 62, president of the Chatham Strait Fish company in southeastern Alaska, was fatally injured by an automobile here last night.

He died two hours after being struck down. The driver of the car was booked at the city jail on a negligent driving charge.

fate of hundreds of thousands of Japanese prisoners probably dead on Soviet soil, they represent a callousness of hypocrisy I can not fail to denounce."

New York City Water Shortage Growing Worse

NEW YORK, Dec. 22.—(AP)—New York's drought-ridden reservoirs continued to drop today as state and city officials prepared for a debate on who's to blame for the water shortage.

Water in the reservoirs went down 242,000,000 gallons in the last 24 hours to a level of 87,245,000,000 gallons, 34.5 percent of capacity.

On this date last year, which itself was below normal, there were 125,201,000,000 gallons in the reservoirs, 49.5 percent of capacity.

Gov. Thomas E. Dewey and city officials were to argue at an afternoon session about where the responsibility for the situation lies—and also what can be done about it.

Meanwhile, a conservation authority reported that New York's troubles were only a counterpart of those facing many other sections of the nation.

Leslie A. Miller, former Wyoming governor and recent chairman of the national resources task force for the Hoover commission, wrote in the 1950 Book of Knowledge annual that the country should take a complete stock of its water supply.

Several areas are using more water than their natural watersheds can ever replenish, he said. Miller cited California, Illinois, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Texas and Arizona as states in which water shortages are looming.

There is one estimate that use of ground water nearly doubled in the nation between 1935 and 1945, he wrote.

Dewey charges present and past city administrations—both Democratic and Fusion—with neglect of the water problem for many years.

C. A. Ricketts Resigns As Director Of School Band
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band during appearances of the last two years. Fame of the high school's fast-stepping marching band spread to California this year, resulting in an invitation to become one of the few high school bands in the nation asked to participate in Pasadena's Tournament of Roses. This invitation was declined because of lack of funds. Also inaugurated during Ricketts' leadership was the Roseburg Band Parents association.

Another Change Announced
Elliott also announced the appointment of Leonard Kimbrell to succeed Mrs. Louise Helleck, who is resigning for reasons of health.

Mrs. Helleck's classes will be assumed until Jan. 23 by Kimbrell and Miss Marie DiLoreto, hired at the beginning of the school year. After that date, new teaching assignments for the new school term will be announced by the school board.

Kimbrell returns to the Roseburg high school faculty following an absence of two years while studying at the University of Ore-

Army Forced To Halt Pay For Enlistees' Drills

(Continued From Page One)

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22.—(AP)—The army is cutting off all drill pay for 78,464 enlisted men and officers in 2,866 of its reserve training units.

The order goes into effect Jan. 1 for at least six months. Army officials disclosed the action today. They said a tremendous jump in the number entering the paid drill program has left the army without enough money to continue the payments.

The order affects 57,705 officers and 20,759 enlisted men. They are in units which would be used as "fillers" in army groups in event of mobilization.

The reservists can continue drilling, but without pay, the officials said.

CRASH KILLS MOTORIST
PORTLAND, Dec. 22.—(AP)—Charles L. Wetzell, 62, Boring, was killed today when his car spun from the road into a power pole on north Columbia boulevard here.

His son, Charles H. Wetzell, 26, was treated for shock.

gon for his master's degree in art and English. He taught here from 1946-48 and instituted fine art courses now offered at the senior high school. He is a graduate of State Teachers college at Natchitoches, La., and of the University of Oregon.

The Weather

U. S. Weather Bureau Office Roseburg, Oregon

Partly cloudy today, tonight, and Friday.

Highest temp. for any Dec. 70
Lowest temp. for any Dec. 5
Highest temp. yesterday 48
Lowest temp. last 24 hrs. 38
Precipitation last 24 hrs. .3
Precipitation from Dec. 1 2.96
Precipitation from Sept. 1 10.60
Deficiency from Dec. 1 .43

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Candied PINEAPPLE lb.	69c	Fancy 150 Size ORANGES 1/2 box	2.49
Swansdown CAKE FLOUR pkg.	37c	SQUASH lb.	2c
HI-HO CRACKERS lb.	29c	GRAPEFRUIT, pinks . . . each	10c
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