

The News-Review

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SIGNS OF SPRING

By Charles V. Stanton

The groundhog reportedly saw his shadow on groundhog day, so, according to tradition, dodged back into his hole and we will have more winter weather.

Do I hear someone ask "what winter?" But while the groundhog was ducking the sunshine, all animal life wasn't so easily frightened and there is evidence of differences of opinion in the animal kingdom concerning the early coming of spring.

Russ Briggs, who operates the highball logging show in the Diamond Lake region, reports that some of the men at his camp, near the summit of the Cascade Mountains, last week end saw a she bear and her cub out for a stroll in the sun.

If bears have emerged from hibernation in the high mountains, spring can't be far off, say the weatherwise.

But out here in the "banana belt" of the Pacific Coast we deserted long ago the groundhog tradition. He may be a weather prophet in the midwest, but predicting weather in the Umpqua Valley gives even the very efficient U.S. Weather Bureau a pain-in-the-neck at times.

It's true that we have a little spell of inclement weather at times, and, occasionally, we get enough of a flood to wash stagnant water out of a few of our sluggish streams, but otherwise, year in and year out, we get a mighty good brand of weather; especially when we compare it with some of our neighboring communities.

Bear Good For Lumber Business

Lumbermen aren't averse to seeing bears emerging from their long sleep early in the season. They make for more lumber business.

The U.S. Forest Service used to mark its roads and trails with nice, shiny, black and white wooden signs, erected on fairly high, white wooden posts.

As bears came out of hibernation, their claws were overly long and blunt, and their muscles stiff. Nothing served better to sharpen claws and stretch muscles than the pretty little white signs on their tall, white posts. So each year the Forest Service has had to buy lumber to make signs to replace those clawed to pieces by bears.

Nowadays you're seeing more Forest Service signs on duller colored shields, mounted low, where they do not provide an exercise bar for the awakening bear.

Of course, I'll probably get a dozen or so letters in a few days telling me that bears don't hibernate in this area. And I'm not one to argue the point. I've heard "experts" on the subject put up a real debate about it.

But the preponderance of opinion seems to be that while bears in the lowlands don't go into full hibernation and frequently emerge from their beds during the winter, they more nearly approach full hibernation in the high mountains where Russ Briggs' crew saw the she and her cub. Thus there is evidence from the animal kingdom that spring is just around the corner.

Waiting For Lamb's Tongue

Although the groundhog and the bear may not be conclusive and dependable weather prophets, the Umpqua Valley has one sure harbinger of spring.

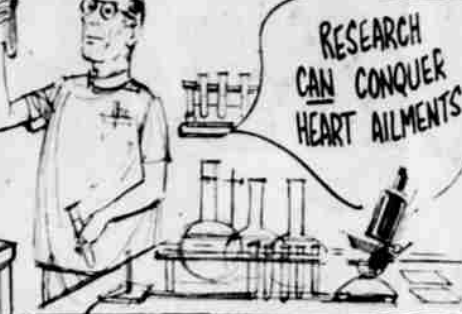
The infallible omen is the lamb's tongue, the delicate creamy flower which lifts itself on long stem, often through snow, to announce the coming season. Though storms may rage above its brave petals, one who sees the sturdy flower knows that storms are but the farewell gesture of winter and that soon the warm sun will dispel chill and fog.

It will be only a few more days until someone passing along the south slope of an exposed hillside will see the nodding, creamy violet, rising from its bed of broad green spikes and will be able to carry the news that spring is at hand.

Already there have been reports of spring beauties and other of the flowers of late winter. They, like the groundhog and the bear, are unreliable. But we will have proof positive with the first lamb's tongue and we will then know that the wild trillium will be close behind.

The Inside Story

GIVE TO THE



HEART FUND

—Hal Boyle—

NEW YORK — A former boy evangelist has conquered Broadway in his first role.

Lonnie Sattin, son of an itinerant Negro minister, is being hailed by critics as the "discovery-of-the-year" for his surprise success in the musical, "Body Beautiful" in which he plays a professional boxer.

His dramatic concert-trained voice steals the show.

"I came up singing," said Lonnie. "I can't remember a time when I didn't sing. You know how it is with a minister's boy. You get put in a choir as soon as you can toddle."

A bright future as an entertainment star of the first magnitude now appears certain for Lonnie. But he worked hard to get where he is, and the prospect of quick fame now doesn't overwhelm him.

Before undertaking any new venture, he prays long and earnestly, and this is what he prays for:

"I pray for happiness not merely success. I ask God whether, if I am successful, I can handle it humbly and graciously. If not, I don't want it."

Sattin, one of nine children, was born in Jacksonville, Fla., but moved as a child to Philadelphia. He earned his way through Temple University by working as a barber, house painter, and door-to-door salesman.

Interested In Theology

His childhood interests were theology and law but for a brief time he thought of becoming a priest. Then he worked out with Honeychile Johnson.

"He clipped me a good one on the chin," said Lonnie, "and I decided right then in favor of theology."

Following the example of his father, a Church of God pastor, Lonnie toured the Eastern seaboard from New York to North Carolina as an evangelist.

"In the ministry I always sang," he recalled. "I found that music would often reach people's spirit in a way that words couldn't."

After winning a singing contest sponsored by the National Freedom Day Assn., Sattin gave a series of concerts that won attention. Soon he had to face a choice—to stay in the ministry or to seek a musical career. It took him four months to make up his mind.

Made Songs His Ministry

"I hated to turn my back on my father, who had wanted me to follow in his footsteps," said Lonnie. "My father knew the spiritual content I was going through. I finally decided to make song my ministry when he told me, 'You have to live with yourself, son. You can't preach with a divided mind.'"

Lonnie, a star for Capitol Records, seasoned himself for several years as a band singer and supper club entertainer before making his Broadway debut. He always included at least one religious song in his performances.

"I still want to help people spiritually," he said earnestly. "I want to inspire as well as entertain. Even singing in night clubs you can have some religious effect on people—people who may never go to church."

Lonnie and his wife, Tina, a former law student, have two children. She acts as his personal business manager.

Still in his mid-twenties, Lonnie neither smokes nor drinks. Every now and then accepts an invitation to preach or give Sunday school talks to boys' clubs.

"Sometimes," said his wife, "I wonder whether Lonnie is as far away from the ministry as he thinks he is."

When the fighting ended and the holders were taken off, we began to spend our money. When we had spent what we had accumulated, we still wanted more things—especially the things we hadn't been able to buy while the war was on. So we began to buy them on the cuff—so much down and so much a month.

Those were the years when we were piling up debts twice as fast as we were piling up savings. We were pushed farther in the spending direction by the fact that prices were rising steadily.

When we went to the store to buy a shirt, we were apt to wind up buying two shirts on the theory that when we got around to needing another shirt the PRICE WOULD BE HIGHER.

One of the things steadily rising in inflation and steadily rising prices always do is to stimulate buying to beat higher prices later.

There came then, at the end of those postwar years, the year of our Lord 1937, with its accompanying "recession"—which was probably more of a catching-up period than anything else.

SO—

We slowed down our buying. We began to wear our old clothes longer. We began to drive our old cars longer. We began to use some of the things we had bought and stashed away to beat higher prices later.

And—

We began to pay up our installment debts faster than we took on new ones. The result of all this was an INCREASE IN SAVINGS.

All in all, what happened in 1937 was a healthy development.

Americans are often accused of being a reckless lot. But what happened in 1937 indicates that they have more basic common sense than they are generally accredited with.

Reader Opinions

Jay-C-Ettes Express Thanks For Polio Effort

The Roseburg Jay-C-Ettes wish to take this opportunity to express their thanks to the wonderful people of Roseburg and the surrounding areas covered recently in the Mother's March on Polio.

We feel that much of the success of the march came from the wonderful support given us by the newspaper, the three local radio stations, the TV station, and many local merchants and public service organizations. Our thanks also go to the many captains and marching mothers who gave up their dinner hour to canvass their neighborhoods for funds to help those less fortunate than ourselves.

The final total collected for the Roseburg area was close to \$3,575.00 and again we thank those who helped to make the march a success.

Mrs. Don Croucher
Mrs. Bob Raffenberger
Co-Chairmen, Jay-C-Ettes
Mother's March on Polio

Every so often I get so filled up with the ignorant, selfish, greedy practices of the dumb human race that I have to spill over.

Almost from the first white man on down to now he has preached, taught, ranted and raved about brotherly love. But what has been his practice? It has been hate and torture. He has preached love, but he held a Bible in one hand and a gun in the other.

Here in the United States it is more evident than any other place on earth. Why? Because here we brag about equality, about our great freedom, the great opportunities and wonderful wealth. True, the wealth is here, but only for the white man.

The true American, the Indian, was first to feel the press of brotherly love. By the preachings of the white man, the Indian was led to believe that here was a good man. That faith brought to the noble red man death and degradation, misery and starvation. Today, this once proud race is a despised part of our great brotherly love. And the Mexican is another sad example of it.

Now comes the poor Negro. The Negro didn't come here of his own free will. He was brought here in chains. Then the white man fought a war over him. The winners told him he was free, but only unprintable language can describe this sort of freedom. The poor Negro was told he was free, then he was left to starve without land, home or a job; free to die, or steal, kill or be killed.

Now our lawmakers are all getting hot and bothered about race segregation in the South. The constitutional rights of a state have been violated to enforce the law. What does it do for the Negro? It makes him a target for more abuse. It doesn't give him a job or a decent wage. It doesn't give him a home. It doesn't put him up to where he can honestly hold up his head. It only humiliates him more. It makes him hate the white race more. It makes the whites who have him as a neighbor hate him more. In short, it only makes a very sad and bad matter worse.

Why not let's begin at home—my home, your home? Let's one and all make our own hearts stop hating. Let's one and all first clean up our own souls. Let's start practicing some brotherly love one to the other. Then let's start teaching our children that an Indian is a human to be loved, not hated, and so on to the Mexican and Negro.

Now I am really going to dig into this anti-hill. Let's try teaching ourselves and our children that just because we have more money, a better home, a better car, better education, better clothing, it doesn't mean that we are superior to the Jones family which does not have all those things. Unless we teach ourselves first not to hate, and then pass this teaching on to our children, there isn't an army on earth big enough to protect one man or one child from this terribly unjust, inhuman, unchristian habit of hating those not as fortunate as the Browns, the DuPonts or others of more wealth.

I am going to ask how many of you, that read this, will write me a letter pledging your support in helping, by yourself, getting rid of the race hatred you hold in your own heart. I am just curious to see if there are any real really believe in it.

ALBERT LEE
1811 1st St.
Roseburg, Ore.

WASHINGTON — A military court has taken life sentences in 40 conspirators in the abortive plot to overthrow the government.

Four other defendants were acquitted in the mass trial at Naval Yard and were given 10 years.

Twenty of the defendants had fled the country and were tried in absentia. Nineteen of these were given life terms and one was acquitted.

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