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EDITORIAL PAGE

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WEDDING CUSTOMS

By Charles V. Stanton

June being the month of weddings, the modern American bride must feel very happy that she isn't forced to judge her worth by the animals offered for her.

If the bride, in many areas, is worth a water buffalo, she must be quite convinced she has "it." On the other hand, the dame that can't raise an offer of more than a couple of skinny lambs must feel she's a sharp-angled, knock-kneed hag.

Some of our wedding customs are backed by tradition extending into long-gone centuries, according to a compilation by The World Book Encyclopedia.

Today's bride sweeps down the aisle in a gorgeous gown, dragging a reluctant father, meeting a swain about ready to swoon.

But it wasn't always thus. In the "good ol' days" the young man watched until the gal friend was a few steps away from home. Then he knocked her over the bean, tossed her across his shoulders, and took off.

Best Man Proved Himself

In those days the "best man" had to prove he was "best." He had his work cut out for him.

Usually the gal managed to get off a scream before her lover's club rapped her on the noggin. Her relatives poured out of their cave. The best man had to stand off the multitude. He took it upon himself to give battle and hold the irate kinsmen until the bride and groom had made their escape.

The happy couple, of course, had to hide out until the search died down, which gave rise to our modern honeymoon.

Maybe, too, that's the reason for the continuing stories of lasting hostility between the husband and his mother-in-law.

But, as time went on, some mercenary father must have decided his daughters could be used for trading stock. Instead of waiting for them to be rapped with a freshly-cut club, he offered a trade. As a result, a lot of time and trouble was saved by swapping an ox, a few sheep, or something else of more or less value, for the dame. The gal probably had fewer bruises, and wasn't treated so roughly, but her pride must have been hurt when the bridegroom haggled out a particularly good bargain.

Many fathers today, I imagine, look upon the old practice with jealous eyes. Sitting in a church pew, trying to calculate by the process of mental arithmetic the cost of the wedding, gifts, reception, etc., father probably wishes he had something coming in, even an ox, rather than so much going out.

Bargain Acknowledged

But, because the ancient father, as still is true in some parts of the world, haggled with the prospective son-in-law, taking advantage of the young man's infatuation, had to "take the bride away," so today papa must walk down the aisle, stumbling over his feet in an exaggerated dance step to mumble a few words at the preacher's direction and then get out of sight as quickly as possible until the bills come in.

But now, instead of the father getting paid off, presents go to the bride and groom. Dad must pay the bills. He'd rather they'd elope and save him all the cost, "fuss and feathers."

But instead the bride gets all the glory. She's the center of attraction. The groom is just simply another man who was there.

The couple has a reception. Rice is tossed after them, because that's the way evil spirits were placated centuries ago. She leads the young man into captivity, instead of him dragging her off to a cave.

Thus times have changed.

Ed Creagh

Murgie's Wife Changes Tune About 'Poor' Apes

WASHINGTON (AP)—"I don't care what you say," said Mrs. Murgatroyd, over her husband's newspaper, "I think it's a shame what they did with those monkeys."

"If you don't care what I say," responded her husband mildly, "I don't see why I should say anything."

"Oh, you know what I mean," said Mrs. Murgatroyd. "I mean it's awful, sending them 'way out into space. Think how the poor things must have felt. And then one of them died, and—"

"Do I have to think about it right now?" asked Murgatroyd, with dangerous mildness. "I'm trying to read about the Yankees and catch up on the comics and you keep—"

"I know, Yacking. All the time yak-yak. Why did you marry me if I talk too much?"

Murgatroyd absent-mindedly soothed her. Just then the children descended. There were only two of them but it seemed like more. Murgatroyd kissed them both dutifully and left for work.

"I wasn't nice to Alice," he mourned.

Alice Troubled Him
He dithered, as men will. He dictated meaningless memoranda. Then he couldn't stand it any longer.

"Alice," he moaned, over the telephone, "about those monkeys." "What in heaven's name are you babbling about?" asked Mrs. Murgatroyd. "Here I am up to my apron strings in children. I am baking Girl Scout cookies. I have been trying to balance the bank account. The car won't start and I think Esmerelda is coming down with measles. And you talk to me about monkeys!"

"But this morning at breakfast," said Murgatroyd feebly, "you made quite a point about

those space monkeys, and I guess I was a little unreasonable." "Wait a minute. There's somebody at the door." Long pause, then a scream: "It's a monkey!" "Get him out of there." "He won't go."

Monkeys Said Harmless
"Well, now I'll tell you about monkeys. They're entirely harmless. It's true that they will bite you and give you all sorts of diseases, but basically—"

"Are you a man or a monkey?" Come and get this creature out of here! Never mind the fancy talk. Get this monkey out of here!"

"But only this morning you were saying—"

"Never mind this morning. Get rid of this hairy beast. Yaaaaahh! He's eating me. He's nibbling my fingers. Yeeek! There go my toes!"

"Alice! Alice! Speak to me! 'Ah, well, that's the space age for you.'"

Portland Recommended For Resident Composer

PORTLAND (AP)—A full-time resident composer to create music for student productions may join the Portland school system, it was reported unofficially here.

Jaacob Avshalomov, Portland Junior Symphony Orchestra conductor, said Portland is on the recommended list of cities to gain a composer. He is the committee to select 12 school systems in cities under 600,000 persons for the award.

The project announced earlier by the Fund for Advancement of Education is an operation of the Ford Foundation.

In The Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

This screwball world note:

A Florida segregation leader leveled a blast the other day at the children's story classic The Three Little Pigs, asserting that clever "integrationists" have taken over the tale and are trying to "brain wash American youngsters with a version of it that pictures a black pig as superior to a white pig."

He wants the Three Little Pigs books taken off all the shelves.

Let's see.

The story concerns three little pigs that started out in the world to make their fortunes. Their first task was to build houses that would shelter them from the storms and fend off the big bad wolf.

The first little pig built his house of straw . . . and . . . in the course of time . . . along came the big bad wolf and demanded to be let in. The little pig responded: "No, no, by the hair on my chinny-chin-chin!" Whereupon the big bad wolf huffed and he puffed and he blew the house in . . . and ate the little pig all up.

And so with the second little pig. He built his house of sticks . . . and along came the big bad wolf and he huffed and he puffed and he blew the house in . . . and ate the little pig all up.

The third little pig was the WISE one. HE built his house of BRICKS . . . all tight and strong. And when the big bad wolf came along and got the word that the wise little pig wouldn't let him in he huffed and he puffed but he

COULDN'T blow the house down. He had to be stouilly and built by the third little pig.

The upshot of it was . . . the third little pig . . . out and smart one . . . over him and boiled a kettle . . . over the fire and the big bad fell into it and was COOKED and the third little pig ate the WOLF all up.

Hmmmmmmmmmmmmmm.

Was the third little pig . . . the wise one . . . the shrewd one . . . the SUPERIOR one . . . a BLACK pig?

I swear I wouldn't know. Yet . . . as a youngster . . . I read the tale hundreds of times . . . and adored it. Later on, I told it to my children thousands of times. Much later still, I told it to my grandchildren as often, I reckon, as a MILLION times.

And yet— In all these readings and all these tellings and all these listenings it never occurred to me, or to my children, or to my grandchildren, to wonder about the COLOR of the little pigs.

But now—

In these screwball days— Along comes a PROPAGANDIST and seeks to turn this charming little folk tale that has put millions upon millions of little children upon millions of little children to sleep into a vile and poisonous propaganda weapon designed to turn human beings against each other.

How silly can the world get?

James Marlow

Ike, Khrush Use Elbows To Realize Objectives

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Eisenhower and Premier Nikita Khrushchev are talking to each other with their elbows.

Now, after months of nudging and little progress, each man says: Get your elbow out of my eye.

The Soviet premier started it with his threat last November that the West pull its troops out of Berlin—or else.

Why had he created this crisis? For various reasons, maybe.

The West thought this was one of them: To jimmy his way into a summit meeting with Eisenhower, which he had long wanted.

Khrushchev made it plain that he was in his mind.

He said the only way to settle the Berlin and other issues was at a meeting of the top men.

At first the West suggested—without strings—that the Western and Soviet foreign ministers meet to discuss Berlin and other German problems.

A score of deaths during the past few months have resulted from misuse of the plastic bags.

The placards will go to almost 9,000 members of the National Institute of Dyeing.

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The warning will read: "Thin film can cause suffocation if brought into contact with a child's face so as to cover nose and mouth. Just as you don't permit children to play with matches, sharp objects, or medicine, take away plastic film wrappings from them. Destroy film wrappings when they have served their purpose."

Sen. J. William Fulbright this week questioned Eisenhower's wisdom in using progress at Geneva as a reason for meeting Khrushchev or the lack of it as a reason for not meeting him.

The Arkansas democrat, chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, took this stand: "If a summit conference doesn't hold some prospect of benefit to the Western world, I wouldn't go. I think it is possible and logical to argue that the complete lack of accomplishment at the foreign ministers level might justify a summit meeting."

He said maybe this was not the right time for a summit meeting after all, and he could wait for the right time.

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negotiation (meaning a foreign ministers meeting).

2. And—this has a big string attached—unless the foreign ministers showed progress.

For then to show progress— from the Western viewpoint— meant the Soviets would have to make concessions.

This could be interpreted as the stick and carrot technique used on a donkey. Khrushchev, who doesn't consider his ears long at all nevertheless agreed to a foreign ministers meeting at Geneva.

That meeting, which started almost a month ago, has shown no results.

But Eisenhower, having won his point on the foreign ministers conference, continued to insist there could be no summit meeting unless the ministers made progress (which would require Soviet concessions).

Maybe Khrushchev got fed up on the repetition. Or maybe he doesn't like carrots. At any rate, he nudged Eisenhower back by announcing there was no reason why the Soviet Union should make any concessions.

Khrush Ready To Wait
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Rangeland Trouble Appears Again On Western Ranches

BOISE, Idaho (AP)—Rangeland disputes which provoked gunfights in pioneer days, again are stirring Western ranchers.

In the past trouble stemmed from arguments between individual stockmen over range ownership and usage. Now the arguments involve ranchers and federal agencies.

The issue today is how many sheep and cattle will be permitted to graze on vast tracts of land which the federal government leases to ranchers.

When Dave Little took over his father's sprawling southwestern Idaho livestock operation in 1942, he grazed sheep on 18,000 acres of the Boise National Forest.

This year, the Forest Service announced it is cutting his allotment to 1,050 acres because the land is being overgrazed.

"That puts me out of the sheep business," Little told a reporter.

Stockmen Up in Arms
The Emmett, Idaho, rancher is one of many stockmen who are up in arms about recent cuts in grazing allotments by the Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management.

The federal agencies say the cuts are necessary for proper use of the land.

"Certainly grazing is a desirable thing, but we can't let one use destroy another," says Howard E.

Lamakers thought they had fixed three per cent as the tax rate to apply to the first \$1,000 of taxable income but state officials learned Wednesday that the rate appears as 3 1/2 per cent in the officially recorded bill. They called it a typographical error.

State Tax Collector P. G. Neill, who is preparing the forms to be used to report the income tax, said he will rely on a ruling from the attorney general's office as to the course to follow.

Atty. Gen. Frank L. Benson said there are at least two possibilities: 1. A ruling by the Idaho Supreme Court.

2. Calling of a special session of the Idaho Legislature.

Mrs. Ruth Moon, state treasurer, said no one person could be blamed for the error. "It's a result of the last minute pressure" in the legislature, she said.

Tax experts estimated the one-half per cent extra tax at the minimum level would bring in one million dollars a year.

Cottage Grove Chief In Dutch
COTTAGE GROVE (AP)—The City Council here this week demanded the resignation of Police Chief Ed Jones, head of the city's six-man police department since 1950.

The action came at a special council meeting, called by Mayor Wilbur Workman, following publication of statements made Wednesday by Jones.

The police chief here told a news reporter he had been asked to resign by the chairman of the City Council's police committee, Clarence Espeseth. Jones said Espeseth's request stemmed from a "personal dislike" for him.

The City Council has instructed the city recorder to write a letter to Chief Jones demanding his resignation within forty-eight hours from receipt of the letter.

Jones said Thursday morning that the letter was on his desk but that he had not yet read it.

He said he has not decided whether to resign.

"I have been advised not to say anything," he added, "but I will make a statement tomorrow."

The council has not made public its reasons for asking for Jones' resignation.

Idaho Views Differ On Fish Transport
BOISE, Idaho (AP)—Whether young salmon and other fish headed downstream on the Snake River will get by Idaho Power Co. dams remains undecided.

The power company and Forest Service, expressed differing views Wednesday over the fish transportation facilities which Idaho Power says cost six million dollars, with annual maintenance costs of possibly a million more.

Said R. E. Gale, Idaho Power vice president: "All the evidence indicates our facility is successful. x x x The fish are making the trip through the complicated maze of screens, tanks and piping with very minor losses."

But Hauck said 50,000 marked fish were released about May 1 and it appears there has been an "unexpected delay" in migration downstream.

Hauck also said there could be severe losses if the fish fail to find outlets provided for them and remain in the reservoir above Brownlee Dam throughout the summer, under attack by predatory fish.

State School Director Suffers Heart Attack
SALEM (AP)—Rex Putnam, state superintendent of public instruction, was reported in good condition in a Salem hospital today. He suffered a heart attack Wednesday.

The 68-year-old veteran of 22 years as head of the state Department of Education is expected to be away from his work for at least two months. Deputy Supt. James L. Turnball will be in charge of the department during his absence.

Editorial Comment

JOB PICTURE BRIGHT FOR '59 GRADS

Corvallis Gazette-Times

Qualified 1959 college graduates will find no trouble in securing a job with business on a slight upsurge after the recession scare a year ago, Oregon State College placement officials have reported.

Average starting pay for the 1959 graduates varies from \$4,000 to \$6,000 a year with the low in home economics and education and the high in physics, engineering, and mathematics.

Agriculture: Even with the number of farmers decreasing, the number of people working in agriculture is steadily increasing. Demand for the agriculture graduate will exceed supply by about two to one. Graduates are needed in sales, processing and research. Starting pay: \$4,200 to \$5,000.

Business and Technology: Hiring quotas for business administration graduates are up over last year. Sales and accounting opportunities are most numerous. Starting salaries in accounting at \$375 to \$400. Sales jobs in larger concerns bring \$400 to \$425. Banking and merchandising firms are offering about \$375.

Education: Starting pay for OSC education graduates this year will vary from \$4,000 to \$5,650. Shortage fields are girls physical education, elementary education taught by young men, women English teachers, industrial arts (metal and auto mechanics) and special education for teaching mentally retarded and handicapped children. Need greatest for high school librarians.

Engineering: Demand for engineers is up from last year's "depression scare." Shortage areas are electrical engineers for the air and space, mechanical and civil engineers for U.S. road building program.

Data processing has brought a shortage for electrical engineers and mathematics majors. Chemical engineers in biggest demand the past several years have dropped in the bottom because the "oil industry is hurting." Geologists have also felt the oil industry cut-back.

Forestry: All June forestry graduates have been placed with beginning pay between \$4,500 to \$5,000. Greatest shortage is in forest engineering and forest products.

Home Economics: The market for home economics graduates is always kept open because 70 per cent of the Oregon home economics teachers are married. The home ec women usually stop teaching after a few years to get married and raise a family.

Home economics teaching jobs pay from \$4,000 to \$5,200. Businesses take students with experience in extension or teaching.

Shortage in the home economics field is greatest in college teaching, especially in household life and foods and nutrition. For a masters and doctorate graduate, pay can be \$4,200 to \$6,000. Interesting jobs open on magazines.

Pharmacy: In pharmacy, demand far exceeds supply. Jobs as medical service representatives are going unanswerable. A few graduates have not accepted employment because they are looking for better offers. Lowest acceptance has been \$400 a month, highest \$675, with the average \$485.

changes in recreational boating in 34 years. Modern boats, motors and equipment have made boating a popular sport, within reach of folk of moderate means. In 1925 only the wealthy could afford maritime recreation.