



Let's talk about words today. Words are fascinating things. These, for example, by Anna Hempstead Branch, in her Songs for My Mother:

"God wove a web of loveliness,
"Of clouds and stars and birds,
"But made not anything at all
"So beautiful as words."

How do words get started? Let's take the case of the relatively modern, slightly slangy, word POSH.

United Press International, which uses a lot of words and therefore should be an authority of sorts, says it was coined more than a century ago aboard a P & O Orient liner from the first letters of the first four words in the Sailors Guide: "Port, Outboard; Starboard, Homeward-bound."

Like so: P O S H.
Webster, however, doesn't recognize POSH as a word — even in the New Twentieth Century Dictionary, published only seven years ago.

What does POSH mean to you? I put that question to our head proofreader, who deals in words, and she said it suggests to her something SOPHISTICATED — like the Kennedy party at which several of the immaculately clad guests fell into the swimming pool.

I listened in the other day on a discussion of a luncheon at which petits fours (pronounced pet-tay four) had been served. Webster recognizes "petits fours" as an English term derived from the French and defines it as "little spongecakes or poundcakes, usually ornamentally iced."

The "petits" offers no problem. It is the plural (masculine) of the French word meaning "little." But what about the "fours"? Where does that come in? What does it mean?

A little research in your French dictionary will provide the answer. "Four" is a French word meaning "oven." So the literal meaning of "petits fours" is "little ovens."

That suggests another word whose derivation is unclear — plus fours. Webster defines plus fours as "a style of loose knickerbockers, very long and baggy at the knees, worn in sports, such as golf." He fails to add that in these modern days no golfer would be caught dead in a pair of plus fours. That would date him, quite definitely — and no elderly golfer wanted to be dated.

So — Where did "plus fours" get started — back in the prehistoric days when they were worn. In this case, research in your French dictionary will offer no tips. In French, "plus fours" means MORE OVENS.

Still, as elderly golfers with good memories will probably recall, the darned things WERE HOT, as they were apt in those days to be made of Scotch tweed about a quarter of an inch thick — nothing to be worn when the temperature soars up toward 100.

So maybe they did impress their wearers as "more ovens."

Anyway — The study of words and their origins and derivations is interesting.

THANKS ITALY
ROME (UPI) — U.S. Treasury Secretary C. Douglas Dillon has thanked the Italian government for repayment of a \$188.1 million debt which would not have been paid due until 1987.
The debt was contracted between 1949 and 1952 under the Marshall Plan and was to be gradually repaid until 1987. Italy repaid the money early to help U.S. deficit of payments problems.

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EDITORIAL PAGE

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PLANS FORMULATED

By Charles V. Stanton

The long delayed program of the Roseburg Plaza Co. for its proposed downtown shopping center at last has begun to crystallize. If prompt approval is obtained on a plan to vacate the alleyway through the block bounded by Jackson, Rose, Douglas and Washington, there is a good prospect that work on a million dollar project will get underway in the very near future. On the other hand, if it takes too long to unwind red tape, or, if unexpected opposition should arise, there is a strong possibility we may go through another winter looking at an unsightly pile of rubbish.

One of the great troubles with this project is the vast amount of rumor, all of it disturbing and most of it unfounded, that surrounds it.

Roseburg Plaza Co. is made up of a group of Portland investors.

When Roseburg had its explosion Aug. 7, 1959, one of the property victims of that tragedy was the Central Junior High School building, located on the block bounded by Stephens, Douglas, Rose and Washington.

Envisioning the desirability of a downtown marketing center, a group of Portland men recognized the site as being ideal for their purpose. They bought the property with the intention of constructing a building to house several retail firms making up a complete market center.

Building Razed

Plans were strictly tentative. As such they underwent considerable change. Several prospects were considered for the site. But Safeway Stores were most insistent in their desires to occupy the whole block. The owners finally reached agreement with the huge food merchandising company for a one-store development. The store, planned to occupy the block, will have ample space for parking the cars of employees and customers.

The former school building was razed in an operation that ended in an unexpected and undesired incident. After the walls had been torn down, and the rubbish piled for removal, the material caught fire and created a blaze that did moderate damage to surrounding buildings and scattered embers over a considerable area.

Masonry from the old structure has been left on the property, causing an unsightly condition, soon to be remedied the owners report.

The Pay Less Drug Co., now operating at 613 N.E. Jackson, also sought a site for expansion of this flourishing business. The company contacted Roseburg Plaza in its search for a location for a larger operation.

This led the Portland group to buy the property facing Jackson Street north from the intersection with Washington to, and including, the power company office building. Aside from the power company building, the property was in the estate of the late L. R. Chambers.

Development Planned

The proposal is to construct a building fronting on Jackson and Washington, with a setback on Rose, but extending across the existing alley. The building would have a basement. Excavation would provide material to fill the hole formerly occupied by the basement of the junior high school building.

The northwest corner of the block would be used for parking purposes.

The plan has been complicated by the fact that a project has been under consideration for a parking mall from Douglas through to Cass Ave. in the western half of the block between Rose and Jackson. This project would interfere with plans for the building desired by Pay Less.

Vacation of the alleyway would not materially affect space for parking, as plans for both the Safeway and Pay Less buildings would provide as much parking in that area as would the proposed mall.

The conflict, which formerly was quite strenuous, seemingly has now been resolved and the committee studying the parking project has joined in the petition filed with the City Council seeking the vacation. A further complication has resulted from a great deal of wild rumor and misinformation concerning uses of the property. Because of the great amount of technical and detailed negotiation involved, and the various changes of plan, the Portland group has delayed official announcements pending definite determination. But the delay has caused a great deal of idle talk and speculation.

Plans as now formulated are for the construction of only two buildings. Both the Safeway and Pay Less operations are to be greatly expanded and will, in combination, make up a complete downtown shopping center, it is announced.

DEAR ABBY

Abigail Van Buren
Up To Her Neck!

DEAR ABBY: There is a girl who works where I work. She is very pretty, has a good figure and dresses well. There is only one thing the matter with her and nobody has the courage to tell her. Her neck is dirty!

You can see the line where she has washed her face but not her neck. The other employees laugh behind her back. I like her a lot and am the best friend she has here but, Abby, how can you walk up to a person and tell her her neck is dirty? Would an anonymous note be okay?

HATES TO TELL HER
DEAR HATES: An anonymous note would be cruel. Stick your neck out (in the spirit of friendship) and tell her to wash hers. She'll probably thank you. And if she doesn't — well it's HER neck.

DEAR ABBY: I am 15 and hate my parents more and more every day. You see, I have an air-conditioner in my bedroom, which means my 12-year-old sister sleeps in my room all summer. I have

no privacy at all and it is very crowded. My father slapped my face tonight for complaining about it. I want to run away and stay at one of my friends' houses, but everyone I know has a dog and I'm allergic to dog hair, among other things. Can you help me?

CROWDED AND ALLERGIC
DEAR C AND A: If your parents insist on "forcing" the luxury of an air-conditioned room on you, don't argue. Relax and enjoy it. And you can't blame them for putting your sister's comfort before your "privacy." Your parents are doing the best they can. Stay home.

DEAR ABBY: Do you think it is necessary for a hostess to recite the guest list when extending an invitation? I have a sister-in-law who isn't on speaking terms with a lot of people. When I invite her to a party, she always asks, "Who else will be there?" I got mad last time and told her to come and find out. She slammed the receiver down on my ear and I haven't heard from her since. (She didn't come to the party.) My husband (her brother) said I was wrong. I say SHE was wrong. What do you and your readers say?

NO SIGNATURE
DEAR NO: I say you were wrong. Knowing that your sister-in-law is not on speaking terms with many people, you should have told her who was coming. The poor woman appears to have her problems. Why compound them?

For Abby's booklet, "How To Have A Lovely Wedding," send 50c to Abby, Box 3363, Beverly Hills, Calif.

Peter Edson

Here's How Social Security Income — Outgo Stacks Up

WASHINGTON — (NEA) — As the Senate considers child welfare, public assistance and medical care for the aged amendments to the Social Security system, it is worth a look to see where this business is going.

DON OAKLEY

AN ATOM OF HOPE

It is just possible that Russia's breaking of the informal ban on nuclear tests last year, followed up by America's current series of tests in the Pacific and in Nevada, may result in some good.

While the tests have enabled both sides to come closer to perfecting weapons that were already capable of annihilating continents, and while Russia may hold yet another series this year, the result may be greater confidence and trust between East and West, rather than heightened likelihood of war.

One of the stumbling blocks that stalled the long-running Geneva talks on disarmament was the question of on-site inspection of suspected "underground" nuclear tests. It has now been found that such tests can be monitored remotely better than had been believed.

The new experience gained from the recent tests, plus the development of new instruments and techniques, indicates, at least tentatively, that both sides may be able to get their way.

If the West can be reasonably certain that any underground tests inside Russia can be detected by instruments outside the Soviet Union, the Kremlin's charge that inspection is merely a cloak for Western espionage will become meaningless.

Agreement on an unexpected test ban could then be urged by the West and recalcitrance on the part of the Communists would be exceedingly embarrassing to them in view of their highly publicized desire for such agreement.

Unfortunately, the Communists have not been afraid to ignore world opinion when they saw fit. Indeed, the relatively mild outcry against their breaking of the ban last year gave them no reason to fear it in the future. Thus, a formal nuclear treaty is far from a sure thing.

There has been much talk about using nuclear explosions for mining, harbor-building, etc. It is hoped to think that the first peaceful explosive use of nuclear energy may already have been made — that the tests in Novaya Zemlya and Nevada may have blasted away the impasse preventing East-West accord.

Seattle Fair Reaches Midpoint, Debt-Free And Well-Received

SEATTLE (UPI) — The Seattle World's Fair zoomed past its halfway mark Saturday, debt free and soaring along with all the earmarks of financial success.

Despite rumors of inadequate housing and price gouging, thousands upon thousands of visitors have been coming to the fair daily. Few have left believing the city and its fair were a pair of slickers, waiting to pick the fair-goer's pocket.

The first 92 days of the 184-day fair resulted in greater attendance and less housing and traffic trouble than had been anticipated. The more than 4.5 million first-half attendance topped estimates of a highly regarded research firm by a quarter million. At the same time, the feared crush of housing problems and traffic jams failed to show.

Airlines, railways and bus companies showed continued heavy reservations and bookings of tours through August with no sharp drop after Labor Day. Fair officials look to August as their biggest month.

"Seeing is believing," said Ewan Dingwall, general manager of the fair. "We could tell the world every day that we do have good housing, good parking, reasonable prices, but they won't believe it until the fellow next door tells them—the fellow who has been here."

The Almanac

By United Press International
Today is Monday, July 23, the 204th day of 1962 with 161 to follow.

The moon is approaching its last quarter.
The morning stars are Jupiter, Mars and Saturn.

The evening stars are Venus and Saturn.
On this day in history:
In 1803, Irish patriot Robert Emmett led an insurrection against the British in Ireland.
In 1829, William Burt of Mount Vernon, Mich., received a patent for what many said was the first typewriter.

In 1886, Steve Brodie claimed he jumped off the Brooklyn Bridge into the East River earlier in the day.
In 1904, the ice cream cone was invented in St. Louis.

A thought for the day: The American novelist, O. Henry, said: "If men knew how women pass the time when they are alone, they'd never marry."

Soviet Premier Was Talking Recently When He Should Have Been Listening

By WILLIAM D. LAFFLER
United Press International
Khrushchev again was talking when he should have been listening.

He told a group of American editors at a Kremlin news conference that the Soviet Union had an anti-missile missile that could hit a fly in the sky. But he didn't back it up.

This week the United States hit a fly in the sky. It was done with a Nike-Zeus rocket which intercepted an Atlas intercontinental ballistic missile's nose cone over the Pacific Ocean.

Not only did the United States answer Khrushchev's boast with deeds instead of words but the timing was perfect.

The Nike-Zeus triumph occurred on the eve of Dean Rusk's departure to Europe for another round of talks with the Russians on disarmament and Berlin. It was expected to strengthen Rusk's hand at the Geneva conference table.

Norstad—A Big Loss
Most Western observers regarded the successful demonstration of Nike-Zeus as a clear indication that the United States was more capable than ever in defending itself against nuclear aggression.

But while the United States had taken a giant step forward in the anti-missile race, it suffered a loss that could be considered staggering.

Gen. Lauris Norstad, the boyish-looking supreme commander

of NATO, decided he had enough. In a letter to the President, Norstad noted he had served 12 years with NATO, six of them as supreme commander. He wanted to retire.

Norstad's service to NATO had been nothing less than brilliant and he was greatly admired by all of the United States allies. Some felt that Norstad's retirement might be the beginning of the end of NATO.

In accepting Norstad's retirement, President Kennedy praised him for his work. He appointed Gen. Lyman L. Lemnitzer, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and a smooth diplomat, to succeed Norstad.

Medicare Beaten
On the home front, the expected happened. The Senate killed the President's Medicare legislation by a vote of 52-48. Kennedy blamed the Republicans for jettisoning a program that would benefit the nation's aged, and told the GOP it would become an issue in the November elections. The Republicans accepted the President's challenge.

Also in Washington, Sen. John J. Williams, R-Del., said a shortage of 60,000 bushels in Billie Sol Estes' grain elevators had been discovered. Sen. Karl E. Mundt of South Dakota said Senate investigators should look into Williams' charges.

In another development which at this time is remotely connected with Estes, Texas Ranger Capt. Clint Peoples said the case of Henry Marshall never would be closed until his slayer is found. Marshall, the first Agriculture Department official to take note of Estes' operations, was shot five times and he received numerous body bruises. His death first was ruled a suicide but after the Estes case exploded the evidence was examined again. The Rangers now are searching for a man

who asked for directions to Marshall's home shortly before Marshall died.

Other noteworthy news:
X15—Air Force Maj. Robert White flew the 15 rocket ship more than 58 miles into space, higher than any man has gone in a pilot-controlled plane. White thus became America's first "winged astronaut."

Peru—A military junta took over the Peruvian government in a bloodless coup and placed President Manuel Prado in jail. Prado still had 10 days to serve and for this reason the United States cut off aid to the new regime. The coup was the result of the apparent victory of Victor Haya de la Torre in Peru's recent presidential election. The military bitterly opposes Haya. Even though Haya agreed to step down in favor of former president Manuel Odria, the army staged the coup because it suspected a deal had been made.

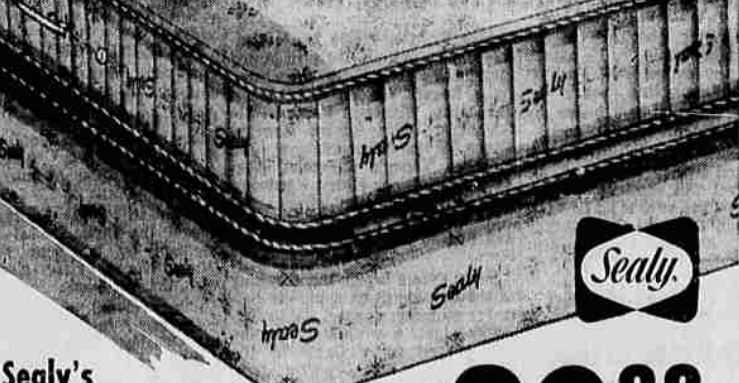
Farm — President Kennedy's farm bill was killed and Secretary of Agriculture Orville L. Freeman called the Republicans "totally irresponsible." He said the farm situation had been left in a mess by the Eisenhower administration and the Republicans wanted to keep it that way. The Republicans, in turn, demanded Freeman's resignation but the secretary said he would remain on the job.

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