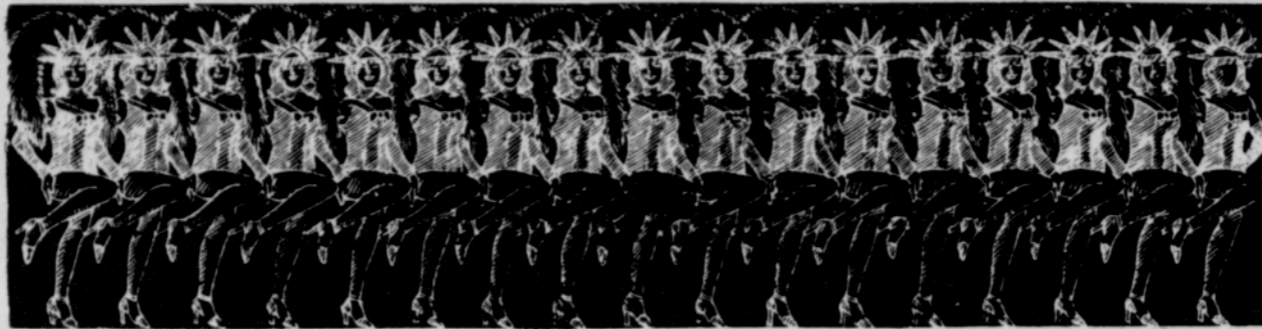
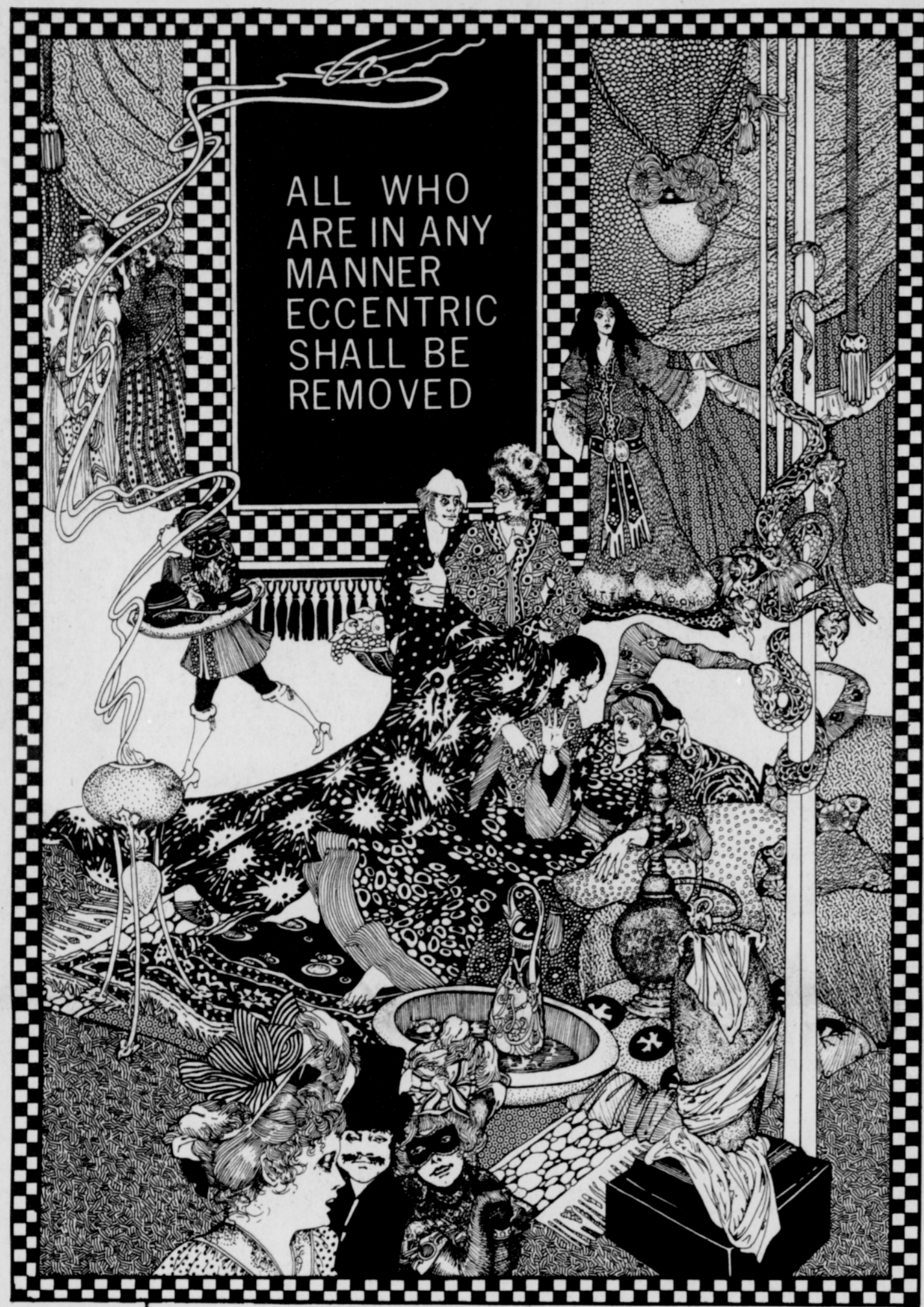


AMERICAN



GRAFFITI



THE LATEST GOSSIP

by an Eccentric

In Cannon Beach, where gossip travels more quickly than the weather, one learns to qualify rumors as mere probabilities, usually having nothing to do with anything. However, a certain rumor is circulating and cannot be cast aside without mention. Have you heard that "They" are going to rid the town of all eccentrics?

"They" (identities yet to be established) have not given full consideration to the impact of such an undertaking. For to remove the eccentrics from Cannon Beach is to remove all but half a dozen of its residents. Assuming the eccentrics would then be replaced with "normal" people, Cannon Beach would undergo major change:

- 1) Shops would be open from eight-to-five, and declaring a holiday because the sun is shining would be unheard of.

- 2) Costumes that establish individuals in Cannon Beach would be replaced by what "They" are wearing this season. The locals would look like tourists, and no one could tell each other apart.

- 3) No more formal names. Michaels would be replaced with Mikes, Donalds would make room for Dons, and Cynthias would just be Cindys.

- 4) April Fool's Day would be just another day.

- 5) No parties at the bank when our beloved tellers turn forty. (Normal banks don't celebrate anything.)

- 6) The chief of police would not have time to play Wonder Woman in local movies because normal people need lots of policing.

- 7) Everyone would have 1.4 children, and there are not enough video games in town to support that many children.

- 8) No more potlucks to decide when to have another potluck. Normal people do not make decisions.

- 9) There would be no more of that heart-warming laughter bellowing in restaurants, on the streets, and in the shops. Normal people take this all very seriously.

You could say goodbye to the artists, the musicians, the politicians, the editors, the shop keepers, the historians, the actors, the writers, and most important, you could say goodbye to the gossip. Then how would the normal people know if "They" were going to be replaced?

No, "They", you haven't thought this one out.

Eccentric is a nom de plume of a well known Oregon coastal eccentric.

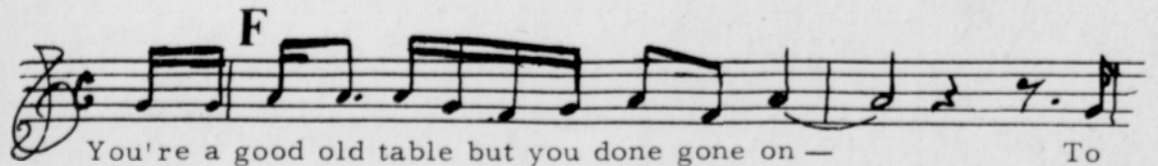
THE ROUND TABLE RESTAURANT

Words and music by Bob Poulsen

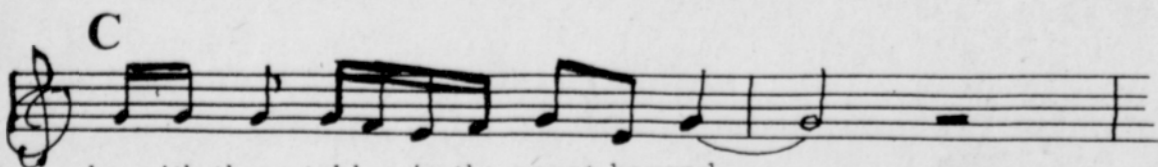
Several people have told me they enjoyed recently hearing me sing a song I wrote about the Round Table Restaurant, so here is the music to it. The chorus is fully written out; I didn't write out the music for the verses, but they all have a lot of C's, F's, and G's. This song in not copywrited, and I hereby offer it to the world for free forever.

Well, you certainly were round
I guess that was known about all over town
How you used to be able to walk in the door and find a seat and sit down
Well you're a good old table but you done gone on

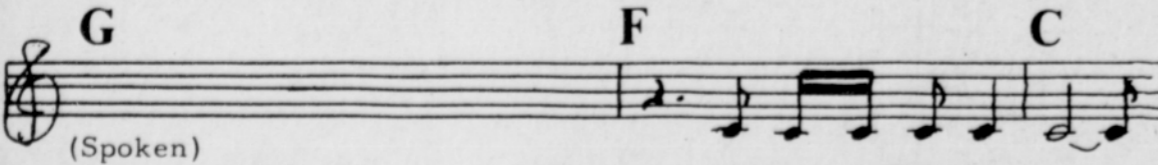
(Chorus)



You're a good old table but you done gone on — To



be with them tables in the great beyond —



(Spoken)

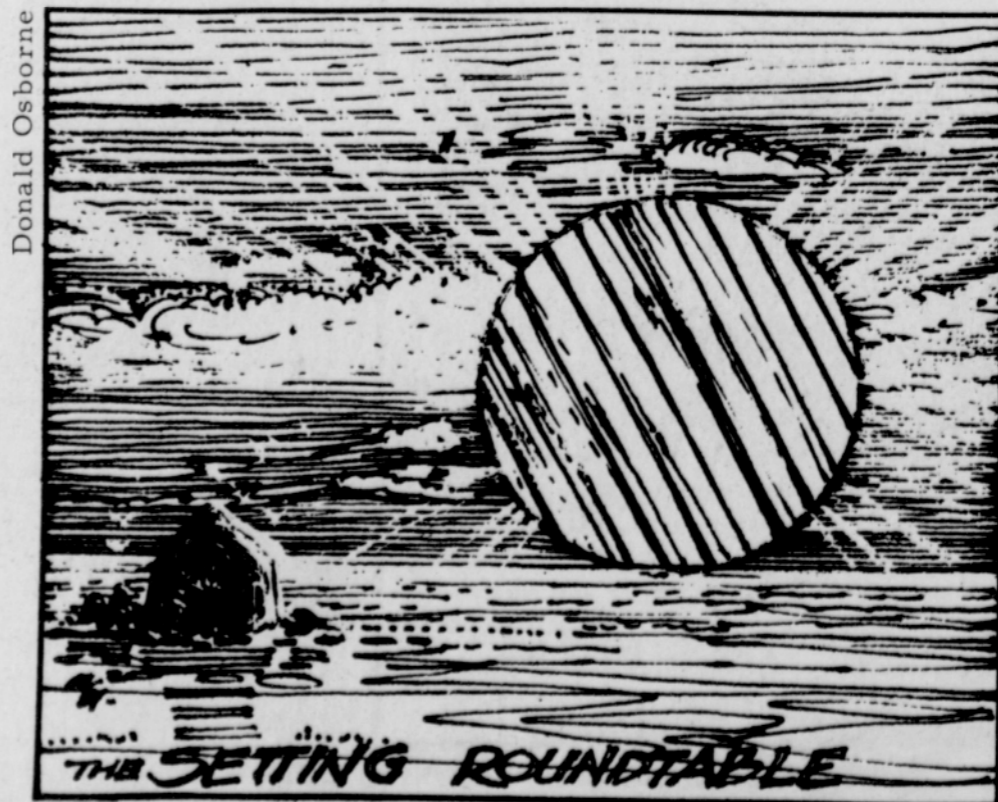
And as far as tables are concerned you certainly were round

Well, you never did have to have any kind of a special kind of a sale
Because people would always go there and read their mail
And you could have a cup of coffee, or two cups of coffee, or three or four cups of coffee, or hash browns, or sausage and eggs, or anything else that breakfast does entail

And you're a good old table but you done gone on
(Chorus)

Well, hey, wasn't it really great how you could just walk in and sit down anywhere
All you had to do was find a chair
And you could read a newspaper, or smoke a cigarette, or have breakfast or have a cup of coffee or you could just sit there and stare
And you could talk about everybody else in town, you could even talk about people who were there (if you didn't talk too loud)
And you're a good old table but you done gone on
(Chorus)

Bob Poulsen is a Cannon Beach musician.



Donald Osborne