

## LETTER TO EDITOR

(Continued from last week)

After we had dug a number of post holes Mr. Johnson arrived on the scene and insisted that he would not allow the fence to be built where we had dug the holes. That the fence could only be built near the waters edge and that where ever the bank had sluffed off and a portion of the slide still remained, the fence would have to be built on the remaining portion of the slide even though it was only a feet or so above low water mark.

For more than four hours, we argued with Mr. Johnson about putting the fence at the waters edge and tried to convince him that if the fence was built where he wanted it there would not be much fence left after the first high water and our work would be wasted and all fence material lost. But since there was no alternative, the fence was built where Johnson wanted it with one

exception and after the freshets of the first winter the fence was so badly wrecked that his cattle and goats went through it most any where.

At one point where a slide about 30 ft. across and some ten feet wide occurred. Mr. Bolen and myself built the fence around the slide. When Mr. Johnson discovered the fence built around the gap he tore this piece of fence down and put it across the gap on the remaining portion of the slide which was only about a foot above low water mark. The floods of the second winter demolished the fence completely so now his cattle and goats can cross the river in a number of places over a distance of 200 yards.

During the course of the trial you were told by Mr. Johnson that I did not inform him as to the damage of the garden and that DeMartin would be the first one he would want to reimburse for damage of this kind. To this I need only say that I sent him a bill by registered mail (requesting a return receipt) covering the damage we incurred in 1950 by his hogs as well as his cattle and goats over a period of

years. He never paid this bill.

And you were told by Mr. Johnson that it is only during the dry period of the year that he has trouble controlling his stock and never in the winter. From the middle of December last to some time in March this year, a dozen of his goats and two of his white face cattle were on my property continuously and in the winter of 50-51 Mr. Wesley W. Smith who came to the ranch at my request to check on the fields that were badly rooted by Johnson's hogs, just about wore himself out helping Mr. Johnson drive two of his large boars out of my field and into the swollen waters of the Winchuck River.

You were also told by Mr. Johnson that he had a fence line brushed out on the hill side whereon, I had agreed to build a fence. This is not true and I repeat that it would be useless and stupid to build a fence on the hill side and across the creek channel (South Fork) and leave a 600 ft. gap on the flat along the Winchuck River unfenced.

I would appreciate it very much if you the jury in this trial of Sept. 3rd would come to my ranch and investigate these fence stories as well as the story Mr. Johnson told you about having no drinking water for his stock except in the Winchuck River. I feel that it would be to the best interest of Curry County if our District attorney would also investigate the water and fence stories as told to the jury during the trial. Such an investigation would quite likely save the county some expense in the future and serve to hold to the minimum, the circulation of fabulous stories which our state police sometimes have to investigate.

For your information, I wish to state that in the summer of 1951 one of our animals crossed the river and entered Johnson's property. It was a two year old bull which he promptly coralled. Since then none of our stock has been on his property. Over the same 4 year period, Mr. Johnson's goats and cattle have been in our fields time and again.

There is no feud existing between Mr. Johnson and myself

## Win Mixed Doubles

### Event At Lanes

In the regular open Mixed doubles last Supnday Bud McCourt and Mary Montgomery took first by a one pin margin over Marge and Whitey Matson, who placed second. Jeanne and Ed Samuel placed in the prize list for the third consecutive week by winding up in third place.

Merchant awards in league play are as follows:

Edith Houvila, nylons from Moore's; Don Nennmeyer, \$2 in trade a Azalea Larras; Marge Goldsberry, \$2 in trade at Hiway Mkt; Gordon Mitten, dinner at Shanghai Cafe; and Don Vaughn, \$5.00 cash from the Pete Lesmeister Agency.

as pointed out to you by Mr. Hall and refuted by Mr. Johnson.

The malicious newspaper headlines you were told about during the trial were no doubt printed at the investigation of a character assassin who lives in Brookings and whose propoganda at times in unfolded in very large batches.

Respectfully yours,  
M. L. DeMartin.

## ENROLLS AT CENTRAL

Raymond Westernen, Brookings, is listed as a new student at the Central Washington College of Education by a release from that school. A total of 540 new students from all over the West Coast have enrolled at the college, which is located in Ellensburg, Washington.

## LEAVE FOR NAVY

Richard Fred Newman, son of Mrs. Edna Newman, and Larry Farmer left Monday by plane to San Diego, where they will begin their recruit Naval training. The training will last about four months.

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## From where I sit ... by Joe Marsh

### Slugger Wins the "Home" Game

Slugger White, the home town's star hitter, dropped by the other day to talk baseball, and to "tell one" on himself.


Seems Slugger had been baby-sitting. "I was doing just fine," he said, "until it was time for a 'change.' I called Mom for advice. Still didn't get it right. Then Dad set me straight."

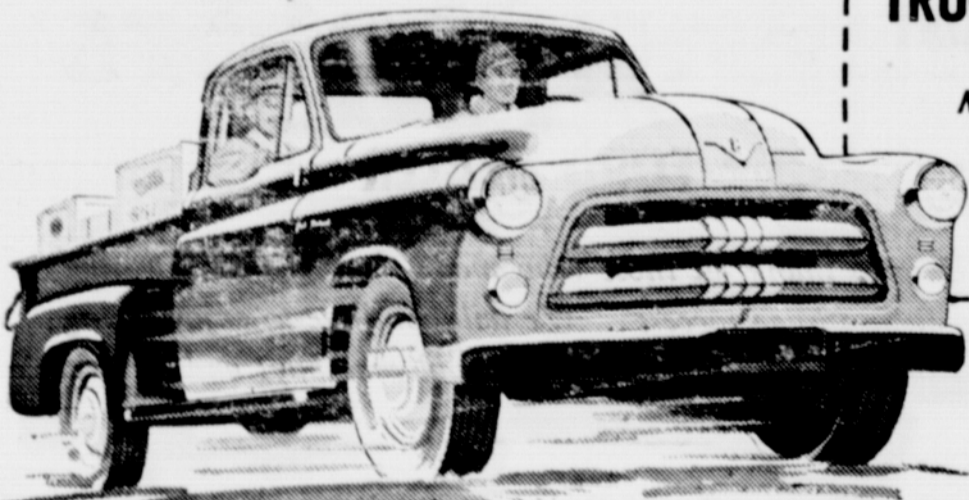
"Place the diaper like a baseball diamond with you at bat," he said. "Fold second base over home plate, and pin first and third base on home plate." That did it—with no errors!

From where I sit, Slugger's Dad had the idea. Often, like his Mom, a lot of us tend to give advice in our terms without considering the other fellow's way of doing things. Even in choosing your favorite beverage, it's best to think of your neighbor. If you like tea, and I prefer a temperate glass of beer, we should both "play the game" and try to understand each other's point of view.

Joe Marsh

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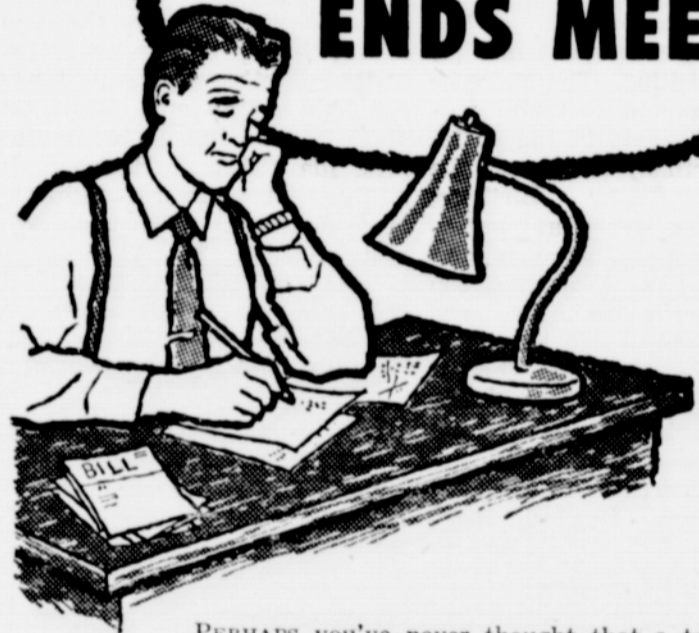
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PERHAPS you've never thought that a telephone company, just like everybody else, has to make its budget balance.

FIRST, of course, we have to pay all the day-to-day and month-by-month costs of keeping our system in operation. Our annual payroll alone now totals more than five million dollars a year.

THEN we must find a place in our budget to replace equipment as it wears out, and to take advantage of every possible labor, time and money-saving device in order to make our service as efficient and as economical as possible.

WE pay our full share of taxes, too. In 1953, our Federal, state and local tax payments were \$1,667,849. This figure does not include the Federal excise taxes which are added every month to your telephone bill and which last year were more than one million six hundred thousand dollars.

AND, to make telephone services available to the thousands and thousands of new residents in our area, we must continue to invest more and more capital. Our plant in service has tripled in the past eight years, and this year, 1954, we have budgeted \$6,300,000 for additional new construction.

Just like yourselves, we too must make ends meet, in order to provide you with the efficient telephone service you expect. Reluctantly, therefore, we have found it necessary to request modest increases in your telephone rates. Without these increases, it will be impossible to continue our improvement and expansion programs, designed to bring you the finest possible telephone service at the lowest possible rates.

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