

IT SEEMS TO ME

By Charles A. Sprague

Last Wednesday the original manuscript of Lewis Carroll's "Alice in Wonderland" was sold at auction in New York. It brought \$50,000, the bid of Dr. A. S. W. Rosenbach of Philadelphia, famed collector of rare books. Oddly enough, it was Dr. Rosenbach who had bought the same manuscript when it was sold by Mrs. Reginald P. Hargreaves, at Sotheby's auction rooms in London in 1929. She was Alice Liddell, the original for whom the book was written and its leading character named. Then the manuscript brought \$15,400 or \$75,250, half again as much as in the late sale in New York.

As Alice exclaimed "Curiouser and curiouser!"—only she said that after she had eaten the small cake and her height was increasing. Perhaps the manuscript this last 77 years has been fanning itself with the White Rabbit's fan which made Alice shrink to a height of two feet. "She dropped it hastily, just in time to save herself from shrinking away altogether." Maybe the manuscript, which consists of 92 small pages done in hand print rather than cursive script, should imitate Alice just it lose its value completely.

It is more reasonable to conclude however that Dr. Rosenbach got a bargain, and that eventually the price will work its way up to the earlier figure. For "Alice in Wonderland" has attained a fame far beyond the imaginings of the bachelor lecturer in mathematics, the Rev. Charles Lutwidge Dodgson, whose alter ego as Lewis Carroll composed the book in the early 1860's as a Christmas gift to a dear child in memory of a summer day.

I must make a confession and that is I never read "Alice in Wonderland" during my childhood. I read it at it, but the (Continued on editorial page)

Delegates Pick Portland Boy to Lead State C.E.

Walter Fruittiger, Portland, was elected state president of the Oregon Christian Endeavor Union at the Saturday afternoon session of the annual convention here. Marjory Boon, Portland, was elected recording secretary, Joe Bates, Beaverton, treasurer, and Dorothy Howes, Forest Grove, past president, was elected to the position of executive advisor. Officers were installed by Dr. Walter Meyers, Beaverton, at the evening session which followed the annual banquet at the Salem high school.

The Columbia Union from eastern Oregon won the Youth March award for largest attendance at the convention and at the afternoon "Youth March" parade which proceeded through the state capital with most of the 1400 delegates.

The Marion Union of the organization won the Paul Brown cup which is awarded to the most efficient union.

The high school speaking contest was won by Charles Baker, Pendleton, who received as a prize a scholarship to the summer CE conference at Turner, in August. Second place winner was Elaine Budlong, Portland, and third place was won by Bob Marjory, Beaverton.

Morning sessions included conference periods and an address by Dr. Frank F. Warren on "Let's Look at Ourselves." Discussion groups on the subject of "Social Issues Facing Youth Today" were held in the afternoon.

"For Such a Time as This" is to be the subject of an address by Dr. Warren at the closing session of the conference Sunday afternoon. The convention communion service will be held in the morning at 8:15 at the First Presbyterian church, and delegates will attend the church of their choice.

(Additional details on page 2.)

Soviet Reported Fortifying Kuriles

LONDON, April 6-(AP)—A special dispatch to the Sunday newspaper, News of the World, under a Sapporo, Japan, dateline, said tonight that the Russians were fortifying the Kurile islands airfields and that "giant coastal guns" were pointed towards American-controlled Hokkaido. The dispatch by Correspondent A. Noyes Thomas said the information was gleaned from refugees.

Washington Ban On Wheat Export Ignored by C.C.C.

OLYMPIA, Wash., April 6-(AP)—Wheat began to move from Washington tonight as the commodity credit corporation resumed loadings after circumventing an embargo lowered by state agriculture director Fred Martin.

In a last-ditch effort to stop shipments until an inventory of state stocks is completed April 12, Martin last night asked Governor Wallgren to telephone Secretary of Agriculture Anderson to request CCC delay loadings until the end of next week.

"It would seem the corporation could respect our request until we complete an inventory," he said today.

CCC officials told Martin this morning they would edge around the embargo, enforced since Thursday night by his stoppage of wheat inspection, by sending their own inspectors into the state.

Since CCC handles foreign relief shipments, the order meant Martin had lost an important part of his battle to halt export of wheat. Martin had charged most wheat leaving the state was going into relief channels. This left Washington's \$200,000,000 poultry and livestock industry in a critical position, he had maintained.

U.S. to Request End to Canada Wood Embargo

WASHINGTON, April 6-(AP)—Two western congressmen said today the state department has agreed to seek approval of Canadian embargoes on timber to increase supplies of housing materials in this country.

Senator Mitchell and Rep. Jackson, Washington state democrats, said in a statement they received the assurance from Assistant Secretary of State William Clayton at a conference earlier today.

"Peacetime continuation of (Canadian) wartime embargoes on log exports has meant that Pacific northwest mills, especially those producing plywood, had been operating on a part-time basis even though full-time production would not produce sufficient housing material," their statement said.

Mitchell and Jackson said congressional hearings on the housing shortage have shown a "dangerous" lack of plywood.

Death Claims Jasper Hewitt, State Pioneer

PORTLAND, Ore., April 6-(AP)—Dr. Jasper L. Hewitt, 86, president of the Oregon Pioneer association, died suddenly late this afternoon after suffering a heart attack at Laurelhurst park near his home.

He was a life long leader of the Methodist church in Oregon and active in state pioneer historical activity and the YMCA here.

He was born Nov. 5, 1859, on his father's land donation claim near Wheatland in Yamhill county. His parents, Henry and Elizabeth Hewitt, came to Oregon with the wagon train of 1843. He attended Willamette university while his father operated a river ferry at Salem.

A daughter and a son survive. Two brothers, Dr. L. L. Hewitt, Dayton, and Harry Hewitt, Salem, also survive.

The funeral service has not yet been arranged.

County Tax-Foreclosed Land Sold During Real Estate Boom

Practically all city and county tax-foreclosed lands have been sold in the current real estate boom in Salem and throughout the county, says County Recorder Herman W. Lanke, custodian of the bulky deeds and real property recordings that back him up.

Salem's well recognized property boom and expansion seems to be pushing city development in all directions, most noticeably to the northeast, Lanke's files of recorded subdivision plats show.

With the county's population now estimated at close to 100,000 the boom definitely is not confined to Salem alone, according to Lanke who points out that big development outside the city is taking place in the Niagara-Mill City area where the proposed

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Wilson Arrested At Depot

Escapee Came From Salem On Freight Train

Glenn Wilson, who escaped from the state penitentiary last Tuesday night, was arrested by Eugene city police as he got off a freight train there about 12:55 Sunday morning. He offered no resistance, the police said. He told the Eugene officers that he had come from Salem on the train. He was wearing a blue suit which state police said they were unable to account for as none had been reported as stolen.

There is still no report on the whereabouts of Byron Dyson, who escaped at the same time with Wilson and three other convicts who were apprehended by Salem city police.

Wilson, 21, was serving a 10-year sentence from Multnomah county on charges of larceny and rape. He was indicted with Dyson on a charge of knifing a fellow convict last January but was acquitted, when tried separately. Dyson was serving a life sentence on conviction of the knifing charge.

Escaped Before Wilson originally entered the pen in June 1942. He escaped from the institution in February 1945 and was returned shortly afterwards.

The five convicts pried the bars from a window while returning to their cells from a prison movie. They climbed out the window, ran across the grass and climbed a 12-foot steel fence. They were missed after a cell check was made following the movie at about 8:45 p. m.

The search switched to the Cottage Grove and Creswell areas early Saturday night after an unidentified woman driver told police at Cottage Grove that a man resembling one of the escapees asked for her car keys at Creswell.

The woman told Cottage Grove police that she was parked at a small cafe near Creswell when the man asked for her car keys, saying he wanted to move her car because it blocked his own. State police told him she would move her own car. No other cars were parked at the cafe, she told police.

When she arrived at Cottage Grove she identified the man as one of the escapees, state police said.

Sen. Mead Has One Less Tooth

BUFFALO, N. Y., April 6-(AP)—A 59-year-old man attacked U. S. Senator James M. Mead (D-NY) tonight in a crowded hotel lobby as the senator left the Erie county democratic committee's Grover Cleveland dinner at which he had just spoken.

Police Detective John Green, who was assigned to guard the senator, said he was walking just behind Mead when the man rose from a sofa and struck Mead in the face with his fist. Green said he grappled with the man and subdued him until a police car arrived.

Associates of the senator said he suffered a cut lip and lost a tooth in the affray, but quickly regained his composure.

Eastern Sugar Strike Delayed

A strike scheduled to begin last midnight at seven east coast sugar refineries which produce 70 per cent of the nation's cane sugar supply was postponed until at least late Monday pending outcome of further conciliation attempts in Washington.

Meanwhile, a six-day bus and trolley car strike against Detroit's municipally-owned system was settled yesterday, subject to union mass and file approval, and union men said service might be restored by tonight.

The sugar walkout was postponed at the request of government conciliators who proposed a fact finding board be employed. The unions have asked a 15-cent hourly wage increase.

TRUMAN ASKS STRONG U.S. TO ASSURE PEACE

Britain To Back Big 4 Meet Plan

WASHINGTON, April 6-(AP)—In an effort to break a deadlock blocking peace pacts for five European countries, the United States was reported today ready to dump the future of Italy's pre-war colonies into the lap of the United Nations.

This disclosure came from responsible diplomatic officials on the heels of a London announcement that Britain will back Secretary of State Byrnes' surprise appeal for a spadework meeting of the council of foreign ministers in Paris April 25.

There were indications, too, that France would endorse the proposal for the meeting—one openly acknowledged by Byrnes as designed to cut through the stalemate surrounding a final wartime accounting for Italy, Finland, Hungary, Romania and Bulgaria.

Russia thus far has remained silent on the plan. Previously, the soviet union had urged postponement of a 21 member nation conference on treaties for the five countries on the ground that insufficient progress has been made by the four western powers toward agreement on the issues involved.

Geisha House Tip Leads to Jap Treasure

TOKYO, April 6-(AP)—A geisha house tip which found its way into American military government circles led today to the discovery of a large hoard of precious metals hidden in the mud beneath Tokyo bay.

An informant who saw two truckloads of ingots dumped into the bay last July to conceal them from occupation forces said that Japanese army officers supervising the job had estimated there was 30,000,000,000 yen (\$2,000,000,000) worth of gold, silver and platinum in the lot.

Lt. E. V. Nielsen of Stamford, Conn., an officer in the 32d military government, located the hidden hoard and himself brought up the first ingot, a 75-pound hunk of platinum.

"They are so locked together in the mud that we could not get any more up today, but we will resume operations Monday with diving suits and modern equipment," Nielsen said.

The dock area meanwhile has been taken over by armed guards of the 1st cavalry division who are keeping a close watch until recovery is completed.

Jets Set Coast Speed Record

LOS ANGELES, April 6-(AP)—Two P-80 jet fighter planes set new speed marks from Seattle to Los Angeles and Burbank today, completing the 950-mile flight in two hours and seven minutes and two hours and 14 minutes.

Lt. Col. Robert L. Pettit, who left Seattle at 11:31:34 a. m., made an emergency landing at Lockheed air terminal at 1:38 p. m. Capt. Mack A. Mitchell, in the other plane, continued on to the Los Angeles municipal airport, where both had been scheduled to land. He arrived at 1:51 p. m., after leaving Seattle at 11:37:59.

The fastest previous Seattle-Los Angeles flight was made last Dec. 11 by a B-29 plane which landed at Burbank in two hours and 53 minutes.

Weather
Salem Max. 57 Min. 35 Trace
Eugene " 57 " 35 Trace
Portland " 55 " 32 " 00
Seattle " 58 " 36 Trace
San Francisco " 58 " 45 " 00
Willamette river 11 ft.
FORECAST (from U.S. weather bureau, McNary field, Salem): Increasing cloudiness today, followed by light rains this evening. Highest temperature 55 degrees.

Tremendous Power of Tidal Wave Graphically Described By Former Salem Resident

The great tidal wave in the Pacific, which cost the lives of at least 100 persons in the Hawaiian islands alone, was graphically described in a letter received here from Harold C. Lottis of Hilo, former Salem resident, who now manages the S. H. Kress store in that stricken city.

The letter, written to his mother, Mrs. Martha Lottis of 460 Bush st., described April 1 as "about the most awful birthday I ever had" and said "it (the wave) couldn't have been an April Fool's joke."

Lottis related that he was at the store early on the eventful day, and that he was just sweeping out the remains of a sudden small wave when "police came by requesting everyone to move back as another wave might come on." He said he then went to the roof of the store, three floors in height and overlooking Hilo bay, and noticed that the ocean had moved far out—exposing the bottom of the bay which ordinarily was deep enough to accommodate ships.

Tossed in a Heap "In about five minutes (the sea) started to move in, not as a wave exactly but in one body like water in a flat large pan, and then in a few minutes half of the Hilo business district just broke up and moved away before my eyes. Stores across the street were just lifted up and tossed in a heap on top of stores on our side of the street."

When the wave receded, Lottis found his store full of "mud, rocks, fish and merchandise," much of the latter damaged. His was one of the few structures to remain standing. Most of the lives lost, he said, were of people living along the beach. "Many people lost everything except what they had on."

Dispel Fears Lottis, the brother of Walter Lottis and the son-in-law of Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Foster, all of Salem, concluded with: "Don't worry about us; there probably won't be another tidal wave for many years."

Bus Walkout Scene Quiet

It was still "Whose move next?" in the Salem bus strike scene as the new week dawned with no negotiations started in either Salem or Portland.

"It's still a deadlock," said R. J. Davidson, company superintendent here. He said that people had apparently learned of the strike because phone calls that had swamped the offices Friday had slackened off Saturday.

Downtown parking problems were relieved somewhat with the order by Police Chief Frank Minto that motorists might park in the unused downtown bus loading zones. Taxicab owners reported about a one-third increase in daytime business, Saturday, as a result of the tie-up.

Salem Suburban lines and the West Salem bus continued to operate and pick up local passengers along their lines.

German Occupation to Cost U.S. Taxpayers \$200 Million Yearly

Berlin, April 6-(AP)—The continued decentralized rule of Germany by the Allies is likely to cost American taxpayers \$200,000,000 a year in the judgment of authorities here.

The figure is the estimated budget cost of supplying the American zone with food and oil sufficient to maintain a subsistence standard of living.

France is the chief opponent of centralization, and there is no sign that she is receding from her position.

Lt. Gen. Lucius D. Clay and his military government staff have been making the utmost effort to slash this U.S.-zone budget, pruning such essentials as school books, films, etc., for reducing the

Universal Foreign Policy Set

By Ernest B. Vaccaro
CHICAGO, April 6-(AP)—President Truman today called upon the nation to keep itself militarily strong in order to preserve the peace and protect the weak from "coercion or penetration."

Climaxing the nation's greatest Army day celebration, witnessed by an estimated 1,000,000 persons, the president spoke at Soldier field with General of the Army Dwight D. Eisenhower, chief of staff, and Secretary of War Robert P. Patterson beside him.

Proclaiming a new "universal" foreign policy, he declared that the United States will insist upon its right to project itself in any situation where outside rivalries might endanger the peace and security of any nation.

In the strongest language he has ever used as Franklin D. Roosevelt's successor as democracy's spokesman, the gray-haired Missourian told thousands in Chicago's Soldier field:

"We cannot one day proclaim our intention to prevent unjust aggression and oppression in the world and the next day call for immediate scrapping of our military might."

Naming names, he declared that the United States would expect Great Britain, Soviet Russia and other countries to pursue peaceful objectives in the orient in return for United States recognition of their "important" economic interests in that area.

The United States will have to be dealt in in the orient, he emphasized, because of its own interest in peace and security there.

Our "universal" foreign policy, Mr. Truman asserted, must guide our relations with every country, no matter how remote it is from our shores.

The United Nations, which he said the United States would back "to the utmost," have a right, he declared flatly, to insist that the sovereignty and integrity of the near and middle east countries must not be threatened "by coercion and penetration" through outside rivalries which might "erupt into conflict."

Chiang Cracks China Red Line

MUKDEN, April 6-(AP)—China's new U. S. equipped first army, breaking through Chinese communist lines after a two-day battle, have driven within 70 miles of Changchun, Manchuria's capital, pro-government reports here said today.

There was no indication of future resistance which the battle-hardened first army must hurdle quickly if it expects to reach Changchun before the scheduled departure of the Russians April 14.

Delayed dispatches said, however, that the first real battle between the rival government and communist forces in Manchuria had been fought earlier this week at Kayuan, 45 miles south of Szeppingka, and was a victory for the first army.

Smallpox Hits Seattle Jail

SEATTLE, April 6-(AP)—Coroner John P. Brill, Jr., tonight ordered an immediate investigation of the city jail following the small pox death of James Carroll, 63, this morning in King county hospital.

Brill said records showed Carroll was booked as drunk and disorderly April 3 and was transferred to the hospital 18 hours before his death.

"We are going to find out why a man, who is ill with small pox is booked as drunk and disorderly," said Chief Deputy Coroner C. L. Harris.