

Barrymores of Game Tables Know Their Chips and Cues

NEW YORK (AP)—You meet so many interesting people in a gambling house, and not all of them cost you money. The most fascinating, I think, are the shills, those delightful Barrymores of dice, roulette, blackjack or whatever game happens to be dragging and needs a shot in the arm.

As you may know, shills are the genial fakers who are paid to drum up trade by playing with the house's money, to appear to be having the time of their lives in the hope that their thrills will prove contagious.

On a recent trip to Puerto Rico, where gambling is legal, I studied the shills. You understand, of course, that the only reason I went to the casinos was to gather material for a column.

Shills are easy to recognize. They open and close the joint. When they run out of chips, they retire to the men's room, smoke a cigarette, and somehow always return with another (or maybe the same) \$20 bill for fresh chips.

When they win, their eyes flash with triumph, and their chips are piled prominently in front of them. When they lose, their eyes darken, but never to the blackness of real despair because, after all, real despair is contagious, too.

The kindly old banker always wore an understanding expression. As you paid for chips, his eyes seemed to wish you luck. When you lost, he looked sad but, still, encouraging. Always encouraging. When you won, he beamed. He couldn't have been more delighted that you were taking his dough.

Among the players, I noticed several types. CRUISE COUPLE There was the young couple just off the cruise ship. She seemed taut and breathless. He

die East headed the foreign origins division of the Citizens for Eisenhower group.

Ambassador James C. Dunn is vacating Madrid so that key post can go to John Davis Lodge, who was defeated for re-election as governor of Connecticut. Dunn, a veteran who won wide acclaim for his service as ambassador in Italy in the postwar years, is said to have written a letter of strong protest to the state department at the time of Davies' dismissal. He has been persuaded to go as ambassador to Brazil.

Shortly after the Eisenhower administration took office James S. Kemper, a Chicago insurance executive, was named ambassador to Rio de Janeiro. This was a reward to the Taft wing of the party. While Kemper seems to have liked being an ambassador so much that he wanted to stay on reports to the department indicate he had a habit of getting into hot water.

Some political ambassadors have done well, one case in point being Clare Boothe Luce, who overcame the initial prejudice against a woman ambassador in Italy to play an important role in the negotiations leading up to the Trieste settlement. Pests such as Rome, Paris and London are beyond the reach of career officers unless they have inherited wealth or a rich wife. To maintain the post at Rome is said to cost Mrs. Luce up to \$40,000 a year out of her own resources.

This is a situation which only Congress can and must eventually remedy. (Distributed by United Feature Syndicate, Inc.)

WASHINGTON—Even as you read this the Senate committee on post office and civil service is considering — gnahhh! — whether to give mailing privileges to live scorpions.

This is no minor matter. Sen. Barry Goldwater of Phoenix, Ariz., who would seem to hail from the edge of the scorpion country, introduced the bill, number 35 on a list that rapidly will climb into the thousands, giving scorpions the right to travel in mailbags.

The trouble seems to be that in the desert country too many youngsters tangle with scorpions, which are mean little beasts that inject a shot of poison into anybody who tries to pet them. This is no laughing matter. Scorpion poisoning is dangerous. It can result in death.

Only prevention, aside from avoiding scorpions, is an injection of serum prepared from live scorpions. Dead ones will not do. Sen. Goldwater's bill thus would allow scorpion trappers to mail their catches alive to the serum makers.

This makes sense and nobody objects, except maybe the Post Office Department, which is allergic to scorpions. The boss mailmen do not intend to get into any arguments with the gentleman from Arizona; neither do they like the idea of pasting postage stamps on scorpions, even when boxed.

What, they demand, would happen if a railway mail clerk dropped the package and 500 lively scorpions started scampering around the baggage car? What of the poor postman if a scorpion should gnaw his way through the bag on his back.

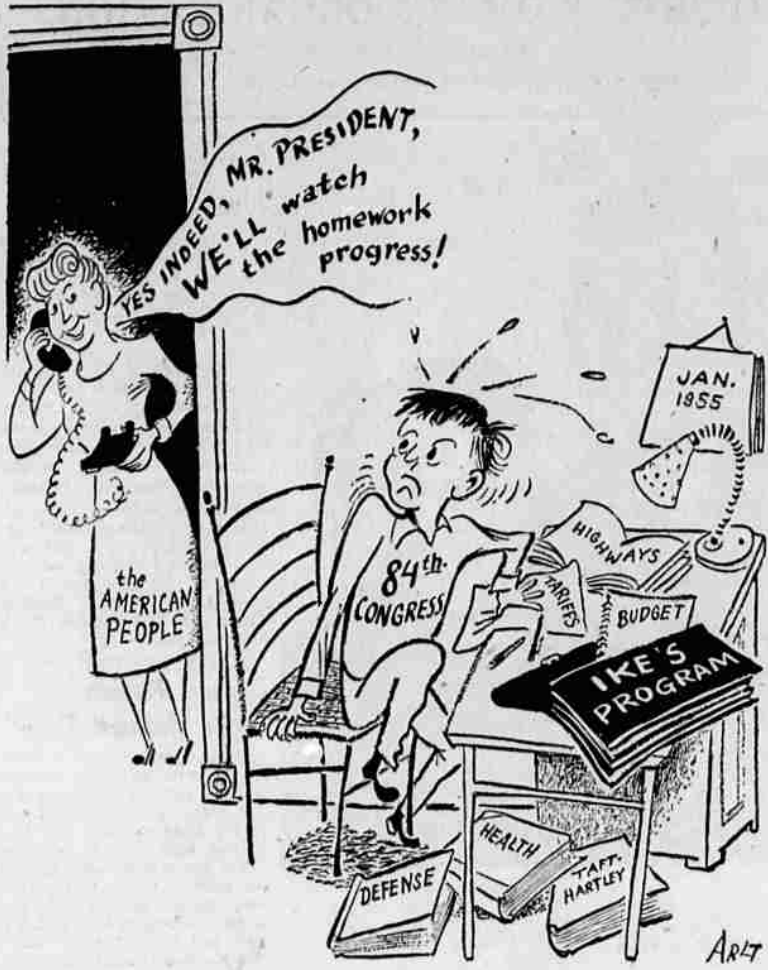
Having looked up scorpions in the encyclopedia beforehand, I assured my man that they are not by nature gnawers. They're more inclined to bite. My postal informant said that was what he meant. Gnaw, bite, or drill. He does not

OTHER EDITORS' VIEWS There Are Some People Who Somehow Stay Honest (From the Christian Science Monitor)

A New York eight-year-old found two broken parking meters, took out the money, and, by way of his mother, turned it in to the city. Apparently he has been taught some very good rules about right and wrong. We congratulate the youngster, his parents, the Mayor (who had the wisdom and courtesy to thank both), the famous New York paper which put the story on its front page and the radio news services which also gave it prominence.

Sadly enough, we are more likely to hear about some youth who broke into meters and stole the money. Which prompts us to extend a few additional congratulations to people who may never get into the news.

To the autoist who puts his nickel into the meter even though in a few minutes restricted parking will be over for the day.



MARQUIS CHILDS Career Service Needs Looking After

WASHINGTON—As one of his last acts the retiring chairman of the Senate foreign relations committee, Sen. Alexander Wiley of Wisconsin, issued a report pointing to the demoralization of the foreign service.



The conscientious Childs was inclined at first to make the report much stronger, since he knew from his firsthand observations that the low state of morale in the foreign service could scarcely be exaggerated. But about the time he was preparing his report, Secretary of State John Foster Dulles dismissed John Paton Davies Jr. for bad judgment after Davies had been cleared by nine different security processes. This obviously was bound to have such serious repercussions in terms of morale that, short of direct criticism of the secretary of state, which Wiley as a good party man would not indulge in, it seemed a bit futile to dwell on other causes of demoralization.

Replies to the questionnaires also made plain that low morale was due in part to highly publicized attacks on American foreign service officers led by the junior senator from Wisconsin, Joseph McCarthy. In undertaking to do a thorough and nonpartisan

CHANGE AT MADRID More and more, as the demand for political appointments has built up, career officers have made way for deserving Republicans. In the new Arab state of Libya, where America has a large air base and where relations have often been tense, an able career man, Henry S. Villard, was taken out of the No. 1 spot so that the job could be given to John L. Tappin. Tappin, a ski expert and mountain climber with no experience in the Mid-

Safety Record GRAND ISLAND, Neb. (To the Editor)—We just read in the Omaha World-Herald that the "Safety-Council" has given a special award to the City of Eugene, Ore. for not having had a single traffic fatality in 1954.

Such an achievement would be impossible without the cooperation and watchfulness of every single driver in and around Eugene, and the honor of the award belongs to every one of these drivers.

We salute and congratulate Eugene and its citizens. Yours, DAVID & MADELINE KAUFMANN

Editor's Note: David Kaufmann is the brother of Ludwig Kaufmann of Eugene who received this letter and brought it to the newspaper.

The Why of It EUGENE (To the Editor)—In 1954 Bethel-Danebo district voted down a partial annexation to the city of Eugene. Why did they do this? I'll tell you why. How would you like to have your home cut right in two? That's what this partial annexation meant to the people in Danebo and Bethel.

Over a period of years they have built up one of the Number One communities in the State of Oregon. They have built this community by hard work, sweat and tears. Everything had been done the hard way. This community means something to us because we built it. The people of Bethel-Danebo could never favor any plan that would split their communities in half. It would be just like taking a chicken and chopping its head off and letting the blood spurt all over—the body kicking around here—the head kicking around somewhere else. And too, secondly, our money and work has gone in to building this thing and we do not want to

Let's Develop Mahlon Sweet Field

Leigh Fisher, airport consultant, has apparently convinced the aviation committee of the Eugene City Council, the Chamber's aviation committee and private fliers that their hope for adequate airport facilities lies in the development of Mahlon Sweet Field.

We heartily agree with this viewpoint and can imagine that a great many people who reside north of the Willamette River will heave a deep sigh of relief that no private airport will be constructed there. The one big point that proponents of an airport north of the river had was the central location between Eugene and Springfield. In itself that is not too strong when you consider that it would be only a few transient or business fliers who would gain extra time by a "close-in" field.

Fisher, in his report to the Eugene Council, makes a convincing case for the revamping of Mahlon Sweet. We hope when the full council gets his report that it will react favorably, at least in the basic outline, as the council aviation committee has done already. Fisher says that this area is "way behind" others of comparable size in meeting airport needs and blames this on "too many airports and not enough service..."

The report lists several stages of development for Mahlon Sweet, the first one being replacement of facilities for small planes that have been taken away by the vote against the Airpark. Funds for this stage should come from the sale, at full market value, of the Airpark, according to Fisher. We agree with this. However, we strongly feel that School District 4 should have first call on the land if it is desired for school purposes.

One thing about Mahlon Sweet that we believe needs urgent attention is the zoning of the area to protect the field. It can be done now with little damage to anyone's feelings, since there is relatively little structural development near the field. But, the metropolitan area is moving north rapidly and it would be a shame to see the airport surrounded on all sides by urban development, as has happened to so many other fine airports. The City of Eugene has forwarded a request to the County Board of Commissioners requesting action on zoning. It should be done without delay.

We, as a community, cannot ignore the need for development of adequate facilities for all types of aircraft. With the Fisher report as a blueprint and the enthusiasm of local fliers and other interested parties this area can make a first class facility of Mahlon Sweet Field.

'Creeping' Socialism

In the morning mail is an issue of News of Norway, a Norwegian government publication with a piece entitled, "Growing Demand for Norway's Housewife Relief Service."

It poses an interesting idea. In that highly socialized country they now have a municipally operated baby-sitting service although they call it a housewife relief service. Women are employed by the government to go into homes where the housewife is sick and there are children to take care of. They may stay up to three weeks or more doing the household chores, including meal preparation and even handling the family budget.

The report says the service is free to those who cannot pay, the cost being shared by the municipal and national governments. There are about 1,400 women doing this type of work now in all but 150 of Norway's 746 municipalities. The demand for this idea is so great now that consideration is being given to recruiting 19-year-old girls directly from schools to take training and make a profession of the municipal housewife relief service. Housewife reliefs are municipal servants and the salaries are fixed by each municipal government.

There are probably a lot of housewives around here right now who think it would be a great idea if they have a few sick youngsters on their hands, but we can see drawbacks. In Norway the women who are doing this are on a 48-hour week. Problems arising from sickness in a family are, at least from our experience, a round-the-clock proposition. And then there are the baby sitter organizations. They would probably look upon such a plan as a usurper of their jobs, and just another form of "creeping socialism." And think what it would do to the relationship of husband and wife. The Little Woman wouldn't be able to run Hubby around the way she does now!

Streets Again

The Eugene City Council has placed itself in quite a pickle on street assessment. For some time now the city has been charging abutting property owners the cost of extra paving thickness on arterial streets. Monday night the city ran into strong opposition from property owners on West 18th who object to paying for the heavier paving.

As a matter of principle we must align our support with the protesters for it only seems prudent reasoning that any construction over and above the normal residential street, whether it be extra width or thickness of pavement, should be borne by the city. The arterial is built to carry a heavy volume of traffic while the neighborhood street is mainly for the benefit of the abutting property owners. The legal and ethical problems, involved in the fact that some property owners have already paid for

heavier construction, are the "toughies" that the council must decide in fairness to all concerned. We searched through files for stories on the street improvement levy approved in 1950 and, although we can find no direct mention that the policy would be for the city to pay for extra paving thickness, the intent appears several times. Speakers who appeared in behalf of the plan, including members of a special committee of the City Planning Commission who developed the arterial program, noted that "arterials should be wider than ordinary neighborhood streets and should be built to heavier specifications." John McGinty, chairman of that special committee in 1950 appeared before the council Monday to emphasize this point.

The pamphlet printed by the Citizen's Street Planning Committee before the 1950 election notes that "owners of abutting property will pay for cost of a standard street to serve the particular type of district." The city has a policy of paving residential streets 3 1/2 inches but one of paving arterials with 5 1/2 inches of thickness to support the heavier volume of traffic.

There is plenty of room for argument on who should pay for extra paving thickness, if the charter amendment for the 2 1/2 mill levy is the basis for a decision, but fairness and common sense says that the city should pay for heavier construction in residential areas.

Mr. Crookham Retires

One of the great figures in Oregon journalism, although he was almost unknown outside the newspaper fraternity, retired Jan. 1 in Portland. He is Arthur L. Crookham, known as "Mr. Crookham" to his news staff, as "Arthur" to his friends, and as "Crook" behind his back. At 65, he's off to tour the Mediterranean and, we trust, to read dozens of books about the Civil War—if there be that many which Mr. Crookham has not yet read.

Streets Again

For 20 years he was the Journal's city editor, an exacting task-master who would rant and rail over a misplaced initial or a sloppy sentence, only to sit down the next minute and with great patience show a new man how the job should be done. More recently he's been writing editorials, drawing upon his great knowledge of almost everything.

In his city editing days he seemed to play the role of the frustrated reporter—a man with all sorts of stories bottled up inside him and just busting to come out. As an editorial writer, he always had more to say than the Journal had room to print. His excess opinions and stories and bits of fact were offered freely at the drop of an editorial eyeshade.

We hope he has a wonderful time in the Mediterranean, and we regret that more of his kind don't stick around to show the others how the job should be done.

There Are Some People Who Somehow Stay Honest

To the one who stops at a red light and at a stop sign late at night when his is the only car in sight.

To the restaurant diner who corrects his meal check even when the error is to his advantage.

To the taxpayer who lists exactly what he gave to church and charity and chooses to remember to report those small items of income that "nobody can check up on."

To the woman who returns the article more expensive than the one she ordered which the department store had delivered by mistake.

And to the many others of like character.

SIDEGLANCES By Galbraith



"Here comes Mrs. Jones with some hot soup—when she finds out Dr. Brown only called today to borrow our camera, she'll be disappointed!"