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SIPS FOR SUPPER

Elusive

By DON UPJOHN

Maybe somebody has been catching some fish since the season began last Sunday and no doubt there has. But we have a considerable number of acquaintances who are ardent anglers and have been working in it pretty strenuously as time allowed and if any of them have caught any fish they've kept it strictly secret and this is not the general way of the angler. In fact, we haven't so far even heard of a big one that got away—or of a big one, period. It seems that so far fishing this year so far isn't a sport—it's just a delusion. But they all seem pretty sure come another Sunday or so and they'll be knocking 'em dead.



Don Upjohn

he resents having it jiggled around by the pushing of an hour hand. It struck us as we read Bob's findings in his Bulletin that the same thing applies pretty much to the Baldock plan and so far all the arguments for or against seem to be tied up rather closely to the particular individual's wants or preferences, regardless of how the flow of traffic is going to be maintained or the congestion eased. As a matter of fact, maybe that's the way democracy works—vote the way you get the most out of it and to heck with the rest of 'em.

Larry Boulter suggests that outlets be installed at the ball park seats in the grandstand so these evenings the fans can take along their electric blankets. Maybe if we had a Durocher around here things would get hot enough so artificial means wouldn't be needed.

Glad to see the courthouse building commission is taking some cognizance of the possible fate of the statue of justice on the tower of the old building. She must have been getting a little restive up there completely ignored in the new plans up-to-date. After all, she's a pretty solid citizen.

Menu: Duck-a-la-Shmoo

Vancouver, B. C. (AP)—Dinner was almost prepared in the nearby Lulu Island home of Mr. and Mrs. Victor Rees. There was a commotion in the chimney and a big, fat duck came fluttering down, right into the fire place. It was barbecued before either could say a word. Minutes later 50 guests walked in unexpectedly to surprise the Rees' on their wedding anniversary. Menu: Duck-a-la-shmoo.

MacKENZIE'S COLUMN

An Ex-Friend Asks Help

By DeWITT MacKENZIE

The Soviet proposal for ending the Berlin blockade continues to present a complicated study of wheels within wheels. The latest slant on the problem shows Moscow anxious to shelve the cold war for the purpose of easing the economic barriers between eastern and western Europe, besides ending the Berlin blockade.



DeWitt MacKenzie

The late President Woodrow Wilson had so much to do with the establishment of the Czechoslovakian republic after World War I that he might well be called its god-father. Relations between the two nations were close until the Iron Curtain descended.

Czechoslovakia has tumbled from pre-war prosperity to its present tough position. Early this year the communist government put into effect the full Red nationalization program under which all foreign trade is controlled by the state. A chaotic condition developed, and Dr. Skala told the Overseas Writers club in Washington that the government's foreign exchange resources have dropped from about \$400,000,000 to some \$28,000,000. He predicted that the situation would become serious unless the country gets help soon.

So the Moscow-controlled Prague government sends its envoys to Washington to ask for help. Dr. Hugo Skala, a member of the four-man Czech delegation to Washington, reports that Czechoslovakia is threatened with an early economic crisis. The doctor, a former top official in the Prague finance ministry, quit the delegation as soon as he reached America and asked the state department for asylum as a political refugee.

Edward E. Bomar, one of the A. P. diplomatic experts in Washington, reports that the request for aid from the communist-run Prague government seems destined for a final, flat "no." That's strong mustard for Uncle Sam to have to hand a former friend.

Washington—The Truman program continues to be slowed down in the senate. This is partly because the president's key leaders have been torn apart by personal feuds or mowed down by sickness and exhaustion. Majority Leader Scott Lucas of Illinois has been in the hospital, worn out by the gruelling grind of trying to keep democratic forces together.



Drew Pearson

and more schools to counteract the illiteracy that has resulted from that situation." Truman promised to consider legislation Bennett has introduced to provide additional school facilities for Negro students—if congress doesn't meet the need in the federal aid to education program.

Before going to the hospital he had wrangled with Sen. Howard McGrath, chairman of the democratic national committee. McGrath, according to a complaint Senator Lucas made to the White House, was trying to steal the spotlight as senate spokesman. And this in turn brought some sour private comments from McGrath about Lucas.

Meanwhile, two other senate figures have been in the hospital—senate Secretary Biffle and majority Secretary "Skeeter" Johnson. The democrats have leaned heavily upon Biffle to keep peace between the senate and the White House, and Biffle's office has been a rendezvous where democratic troubles were patched up over a glass of bourbon.

Before going to the hospital, Biffle himself clashed with the senate's president pro tem, Senator McKellar of Tennessee.

On the more optimistic side, however, many democratic committee chairmen have plugged ahead with legislation, and several key measures, such as federal aid to education, are all set for debate.

Secretary of State Acheson has been doing some quiet conferring with the British as to how to meet this problem, and they have now decided that the western allies will counter Russia's proposal with one of their own. They will demand that eastern Germany be merged with the free western zones into a new German state.

The western zones, they believe, are now sufficiently strong to dominate eastern Germany, once the Red army evacuates. But in any case they believe their proposal would never be accepted by the Russians and hence the troops of neither side would be withdrawn.

NORWAY: 'A BRITISH DOMINION'?

British Foreign Minister Ernie Bevin is a lot more pleased than Trygve "Trigger" Lie over the inclusion of Norway in the Atlantic pact—and Lie told him so when Bevin was in this country for the pact signing.

Bevin was jubilant over what he called the "brave stand" taken by Norway in joining the pact despite the persistent neutrality of Sweden.

Meeting Lie, who is now secretary general of the United Nations, Bevin said: "By this act you have moved closer to us. We feel toward you as we would toward one of our own dominions."

To which Trygve Lie, with heavy sarcasm, replied, "Thank you!"

NOTE—Lie says privately he would not have come running to Washington, if he had been Norwegian foreign minister—as he was once. He would have waited for the possible common action of all three Scandinavian countries.

SOUTHERNER CHAMPIONS NEGRO

President Truman heard some straight from the shoulder advice on the question of Negro education the other day from a southern congressman who gets around in a wheelchair. The White House visitor was 38-year-old Congressman Charles Bennett of Florida.

Bennett served 58 months as an infantryman, won the coveted silver star for bravery, came out a captain, his legs crippled by polio contracted while fighting with Philippine guerrillas.

However, this doesn't interfere with Bennett's legislative interests, one of which is a burning zeal to improve educational opportunities for southern Negroes.

"The federal government can't be proud of the way it has failed to deal with illiteracy among the Negroes," the young Floridian told Truman. "What many people forget is that the government countenanced slavery before the Civil war. In fact, a lot of the slave trade was carried on by northerners.

"Then, when slavery was abolished by fire and sword—" "You remind me of my mother," broke in the president, who comes from Confederate stock on his maternal side.

"Well, I don't mean to be waving the Confederate flag," explained Bennett, "but it's none-the-less a fact that the government left Negro ex-slaves and their families to shift for themselves after the Civil war was over. The very best we can do now is to provide better



Send your "Odds" questions on any subject to "The Wizard of Odds," care of the Capital Journal, Salem, Oregon

TO BE CALM, STAY YOUNG! IT'S 3 TO 1 YOU'LL BE MORE IRRITATED IN YOUR FIFTIES THAN IN YOUR TWENTIES. (PAUL ROLL, MINNEAPOLIS, MINN., REQUESTED THESE ODDS)

ODDS ARE HIGH THAT YOU MEN CRITICISE WOMEN DRIVERS—BUT THE FACT IS, WOMEN REACT 1/10 QUICKER BEHIND THE WHEEL.

POOR MAN'S PHILOSOPHER

Happy Rule by Children

By HAL BOYLE

New York (AP)—Since this is National Boys and Girls Week, it's a good time to do something for the boys and girls. But what to do? Well, one thing we could do is ask congress to pass a bill of rights for childhood.

There is a lobby in Washington for every other group in America, from the Marijuana Growers Protective Association to the society against the importation of foreign-made manhole covers.

Yes, they all have a voice—all except the children. So why not a lobby of, by and for the kids?

A good children's lobby might be able to break up the worst cartel in the world—the cartel of parenthood. As it is now, adults tell children how to be, but children have no way in which to compel hare-brained adults to live in a responsible manner.

Congress could end this nonsense by setting up a national system of parents' courts—with children sitting as judges.

At present, junior has no recourse from the stupidity of his parents. But if he could call the cops, and haul them into court to be tried by a child's stern sense of justice—oh, boy!

"Listen, pop," says junior, "I want you to tell the judge here whom you was boozing with the night you said you was going to the baseball game. And quit

smirking, now. You tell the judge about that freckle-faced salesman you're so palsy-walsy with.

"You see, judge, I got problems with both my parents. They're all mixed up. You gotta help me straighten 'em out."

And don't think the kid on the bench wouldn't make junior's parents start behaving like parents.

Congress might endow some schools for parents, too. It wouldn't hurt many parents to go to school one day a week, sit side by side with their own children—and learn about the world together.

Too many children are torn between two worlds—the world of deals and fair play at school, the world of tension, bitterness and opportunism at home.

Personally, I think it would be a good thing if children gradually took over control of the world. If they weren't so kind-hearted, they would have long ago.

And why shouldn't they? Who commits most of the sins and crimes against mankind—children or grownups?

Well, then, shouldn't children rule adults, since adults are the most dangerous troublemakers?

Good men would be foolish if they all went to jail and turned the criminals free. And children have been foolish all these centuries to let themselves be tyrannized by adults—adults added by their own children's frustrations.

Why do we say youngsters are the hope of tomorrow unless their parents are the despair of today?

Come, little children. Take the lead. And the world will follow.

Cleansing the Augean Stable of Bureaucracy

As important a domestic issue as there is before the president and congress is the re-organization of the federal government aimed at eliminating unnecessary agencies and bureaus and wasteful expenditure essential to a balanced budget. Though the non-partisan Hoover commission made its report and recommendations a month ago after a two-year investigation by experts—and the report has received earnest support throughout the nation and lip tribute has been paid by both the president and congress, nothing has been done to carry it out, instead there is a constant addition to bureaucracy and the payroll.

In the May issue of the American magazine, U. S. Comptroller General Lindsay C. Warren in a signed article, warns that "we have reached a crisis in government." As head of the general accounting office, Warren directs the biggest auditing job in the world for it is his duty to see that money is spent solely for the purposes for which congress appropriates. Too many administrators, he says, believe the appropriations belong to them and they must and do spend every cent. Warren warns as follows:

"If congress and the president are now unable to put through an honest, widespread and effective re-organization, they and the taxpayers might as well surrender unconditionally. If the bureaucrats win again, as they have before, we might as well concede that we are through.

"We shall be forced to confess that government affairs cannot be conducted on a businesslike basis, that we cannot set up clean-cut operational systems, eliminate red tape, or promptly discharge department heads who put their own interests above those of the taxpayers. It will be proved that shocking government extravagance is as much a part of democracy, and as indestructible, as the supreme court."

The president is evidently too busy with his long range reform plans for carrying out the "mandate" of the people for perpetuating the power of labor bosses, for his civil rights program, his extension of social security, his increase in already exorbitant taxation on top of a national debt of \$242 billion to bother about extravagance and incompetence in bureaucracy.

Mr. Truman is, however, a minority elected president, and how can a minority of the people issue a "mandate" that must be obeyed? Mr. Truman would do more to establish his place in history if he turned his attention to cleaning up the Augean stable of bureaucracy that like that which Hercules tackled, has not been cleansed for 30 years or more. It is truly a Herculean labor.

On to Klamath Falls

When first considered, the idea of sending the Salem high school band and orchestra to Klamath Falls for the state competition was too big. The cost of the trip for the two musical organizations, involving over 110 students, seemed out of reach. About \$1500 would be needed to cover costs of participating in southern Oregon May 12.

But parents of the students didn't think the figure was too high. They encouraged the students to raise the money. So the band and orchestra drive started. After all, a superior rating had been won in the recent district contest. This top position would qualify the Salem high units to enter 29 different state contests at the competition next week.

So far, \$700 has been raised already. Donald Jessop who directs the band, and Victor Palmason who leads the orchestra, feel that the remaining \$800 can be raised in time.

A tag day Saturday should put more money in the fund. Members of the two hopeful music organizations will sell tags on the city's streets that day—from a nickel, dime, and up. Because band members will be raising money, they will not march in the parade. But they will be playing Saturday night at the Scout circus.

Salem is proud of the band and orchestra. Their members bring credit to the city. Therefore, their request for support should not go unheeded. They deserve support in their drive.

NOTHER COW PROBLEM

Mr. Anthony, What About It?

Columbus, O. (AP)—Dairy husbandry men of Ohio State University and the Ohio agricultural experiment station had a problem today.

It revolved about a cow—but it wasn't one of those simple problems such as getting the animal out of a silo or a hay loft. This was a mental affair.

An Ohio farm wife posed the problem in a letter, to wit: "Dear Sirs:

"Please write and tell me what you can do with a cow that has all the grass she can eat, all the water she wants to drink, and is bred, that just stands and bawls and bawls until she just about drives you nuts.

"She doesn't have a thing to bawl about that I can see."

Until they look deeper into the matter, the scientists are reluctant to offer a suggestion. One suggested waggishly, as a preliminary diagnosis of the cow's trouble:

"Maybe she is just in the moo-o-d!"

Mr. Yum Yum Smith's Trick

Pasadena, Calif. (AP)—Mr. Yum Yum Smith likes his vanilla ice cream well enough to go to the curb every day and buy a carton from a vendor.

This is unusual because Mr. Yum Yum Smith is a cocker spaniel. When he hears the gaily-painted little auto's music box playing "Yankee Doodle" or "The Crazy Waltz," Mr. Yum Yum Smith begins barking.

The dog's mistress, Mrs. David Smith, counts out the change, places it in an envelope, and the little cocker fairly flies to the curb, where he wags his tail until Bill Ennis, the vendor, drives up, takes the envelope and deposits a carton in the little cocker's mouth.

Stolen Still Stirs Chief's Wrath

Yelm, Wash. (AP)—Local Police Chief Dan Carew was hopping mad.

Carew recently found a 85-gallon copper still in nearby hills. He brought the 100-pound "distillery" here, had it polished and was going to present it to the state historical society.

Then the still was gone. Someone, Carew said, broke into the City hall and carted it away, coils and all.

He led a search party into nearby hills to run down every suspicious wisp of smoke.

"I've got a lead on one man," Carew said. "When I get him, I'll have him tossed into federal jail. When he's sentenced, I'll personally row him over to McNeil Island (federal penitentiary)."

STORIES IN LIFE

Auld Acquaintance Not Forgot

Oklahoma City (AP)—Should auld acquaintance be forgot, and never brought to mind?

Absolutely not, thought vice squad officer Ray Feddicord when he saw an old familiar face behind a steering wheel here.

"There's a bootlegger I haven't seen for years," he explained to a fellow vice squader.

The two coppers pulled over in their prowler car for a friendly chat with 51-year-old Allison Shadrick. Allison said he'd been out in California for a while, where the laws aren't so dry.

Just for Aid Lang Syne, the two officers decided to see if Shadrick was taking any cups of friendship anywhere.

He was—452 pints of it.

Advertisement for William Penn Blended Whiskey, featuring a bottle and a man with a hat. Price: \$3.35 4/5 QUART, \$2.10 FULL PINT.

Advertisement for McCallum Stockings, featuring a woman's legs and the text 'Remember MOTHER with beautiful Stockings'.