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Salem, Oregon, Thursday, July 21, 1949

BY BECK

Actions You Regret



SIPS FOR SUPPER

Gallant Lads

By DON UPJOHN

The public's conception of a fireman's job is divided into two general categories, i.e., viz., (a) putting out fires; (b) rescuing distracted kitties from the tops of telephone poles. But this week the field for the local fire ladders broadened into a more pleasant prospective which didn't require the chemical or hose carts to get into play but did need the use of the hook and ladder. A fair lady with an apartment in the second story of a Court street building forgot to take her key with her and locked herself out. So she appealed to the firemen and let nobody say an appeal from a fair lady ever found a fireman asleep at the switch. The department turned over its hook and ladder truck in one of the quickest runs on record. A ladder went up to the alley window of the apartment house. The lady thought it was meant for her and started to skip up the ladder. But one of the fire boys decided this was too risky so he scooped up the ladder instead, unlocked the apartment from the inside and the lady found herself safe at home again at last.



Don Upjohn

Mistaken Identity

Albany (P)—The disabled American veterans here have renamed Oscar, rechristening their mascot duck Lulu Belle. The duck has been handed from member to member, each of whom had to care for the fowl until he had recruited a new DAV member. The rechristening resulted when one DAV was startled by an egg laid by "Oscar." More eggs were laid—so the name was changed.

The county court has received a special invitation from Justice of the Peace Ed Vickers of Breitenbush precinct to attend the dedication ceremonies for the North Santiam highway Sunday August 14. After telling all the plans, winding up with a mouth-watering request that they attend a picnic lunch, he waxed poetic and finishes with a flourish by saying, "Come where the trees and flowers murmur sweet nothings into the women's ears, and the fish jump out of the water and bite the men." If the court members go, as no doubt they will, probably their wives will wear ear plugs and the men their levis in face of the possibilities suggested.

Canine Vet Shows Rescuers How

Colville, Wash. (P)—Sandra, a former Coast Guard rescue dog in the war, is the toast of the town. The six-year-old German shepherd found two-year-old Daryl Wembley in less than an hour after a 100-man search party had failed to find a trace of him during a six-hour search. The youngster was sitting on a log, crying and wearing only an undershirt and one shoe when the rescue party arrived. He was scratched and frightened but not seriously hurt. Sandra owned by a Spokane kennel operator, T. D. Burger, picked up Daryl's trail after having been given the scent from a piece of the clothing. Burger said it was the first rescue work Sandra had done since her war duty.

MacKENZIE'S COLUMN

Salute to Jackie Robinson For Inspiring Declaration

By DeWITT MacKENZIE

A salute to Jackie Robinson, former noted college athlete and now the Brooklyn Dodgers' star second baseman, for his inspiring declaration of faith in our country before the un-American activities committee of the house of representatives.



DeWitt MacKenzie

That declaration constitutes a moving human document—a notable chapter in the history of our troubled times. It was a difficult task for this young Negro to take the stand and voice an opinion regarding Paul Robeson's statement in Paris that American Negroes wouldn't fight against Russia because they love that country so much. Robinson had been urged by many people, mostly communists, not to comply with the committee's request that he appear before it.

Why then did he do it? In his straight-forward way he told the congressmen it wasn't easy to find the answer; but he guessed "it boils down to a sense of responsibility." Jackie said that if Robeson made the statement attributed to him, it sounded "very silly." The witness declared that "most Negroes—and Italians and Irish and Jews and Swedes and Slavs and other Americans—would act as all these groups did in the last war. They'd do their best to help their country stay out of the war; if unsuccessful, they'd do their best to help their country win the war—against Russia or any other enemy that threatened us."

But this declaration of loyalty was by no means all to be got out of Jackie's testimony. Under it all appeared to be an undercurrent of faith that America's internal racial problems were on the way to solution. He didn't evade this delicate issue in his testimony. For instance: "I don't pretend to be an expert on communism or any other kind of a political im... But you can put me down as an expert on being a colored American, with thirty years' experience at it."

"And just like any other colored person with sense enough to look around and understand what he sees, I know that life in these United States can be a little different for people who are in their skin, color or the way that they worship their God, or the way they spell their names." That stated the issue plainly enough, but Robinson went on to relate how he had been used as "the laboratory specimen" in introducing Negro players into organized baseball. Since then some six other colored players have been signed up—"a start has been made, and progress goes on." And then: "We're going to make progress in other American fields besides baseball if we can get rid of some of the misunderstandings and confusion that the public still suffers from..." "I can't speak for any 15,000,000 people any more than any other person can, but I know that I've got too much invested for my wife and child and myself in the future of this country, and I and other Americans of many races and faiths have too much invested in our country's welfare, for any of us to throw it away because of a siren song sung in bass."

WASHINGTON MERRY-GO-ROUND

Lewis' Reason Reversing Self on Work Policy

By DREW PEARSON

Washington—Some people, including John L. Lewis, seem to have forgotten his all-too-familiar refrain: "No contract, no work." For today, John L. and the miners are doing what they vowed could not be done in the past. They have no contract, yet they are working.

There is a secret, but excellent reason for this. John L. is not above making a deal with the mine owners, and has made one now. It was no accident that he recently declared that the coal industry needed a czar. In fact, such a czar has been agreed upon by Lewis and the northern operators.



Drew Pearson

He is George Moses of the Frick company. And after his appointment is formally announced, the mine workers will get either a raise or an increase in the welfare fund. This has been agreed upon in advance, and that is the reason John L. is violating his old adage: "No contract, no work."

NOTE—The justice department is investigating another angle of Lewis' cooperation with the mine owners—the three-day week. For the mine owners to declare a three-day week would be a violation of the anti-trust laws, but since labor unions are immune from the anti-trust laws, it is suspected that Lewis has put the three-day week across for the operators.

WALL STREET'S BONER

It was not Ben Fairless who really dictated U.S. Steel policy regarding the strike—but Wall Street.

The J. P. Morgan firm, which finances U.S. Steel, dictated every move from backstage, with Enders Voorhes, chairman of the finance committee, acting as chief dictator.

The J. P. Morgan boys even dictated the telegram which Ben Fairless sent the White House. The wire was written in New York and phoned to Pittsburgh. All Fairless did was sign his name.

It was this remote Wall Street control that caused U.S. Steel to make one of the most stupid blunders in the entire negotiation. The Wall streeters did not realize that the union wanted no strike, that Phil Murray might have difficulty obtaining a favorable strike vote.

But when U.S. Steel sent its first abrupt telegram to Truman turning down a fact-finding board and demanding action under the Taft-Hartley act, it swung the steelworkers overwhelmingly in favor of a strike. Later, U.S. Steel had to reverse its position.

BRITISH AND A-BOMB

Real fact about the British atomic-bomb negotiations is that Britain has never had any A-bombs stored on her territory. Two years ago it was planned to send six bombs to Scotland without the trigger mechanisms—the most secret part of the bomb and without which it cannot explode.

However, publication of the plans to ship the bombs brought a flood of protests and the shipment was called off. Meanwhile, we have received the lion's share of uranium from the Belgian Congo, with Britain getting only a drivel. Naturally this has rankled.

Furthermore, the British stopped working on the A-bomb when we started joint develop-

ment during the war. They gave all their know-how to us, and were working with American scientists when the first bomb was exploded.

Since January 1948, however, we have not been exchanging military atomic secrets with the British—only information about peacetime uses of atomic energy. The British now realize—as do our scientists—that peacetime uses of atomic energy are 10 or 15 years off, and its main current importance is military.

Consequently they want to develop the atomic bomb, and have notified us that they want their share of Belgian uranium when the Belgian agreement expires shortly.

Uranium is still one of the scarcest metals in the world. The Russians have been searching frantically for it, have German slave labor combing southern Germany.

The British, meanwhile, are blessed with a virtual monopoly of uranium, first through Canada, second through their financial and political hold over Belgium. The British claim they've made considerable progress in making the A-bomb, though they still probably lack the secret trigger mechanism.

President Truman, in outlining the British position at the secret Blair house meeting last week, was sympathetic. He felt that national pride was involved, that we must put ourselves in Britain's shoes. Nevertheless, because of England's close juxtaposition to Europe, and easy bombing range from Russia, he and the others—did not want A-bombs manufactured in England.

The solution may be more exchange of information, plus joint production in Canada.

NOTE—Some critics inside the Truman cabinet point out that we armed Britain during the war, financed her after the war, and now face Britain's desire to manufacture bombs and at the same time conduct one-sided trade with Russia and Argentina. In brief, we finance an ally over whose policies we have no influence.

CAPITAL NEWS CAPSULES

Firing Across Atlantic—Dr. Karl Compton, chairman of the research and development board, gave a secret briefing to brass hats recently at which he reported the first guided missile, capable of shooting across the Atlantic, will be completed in four or five years.

Compton warned that our worst bottleneck is a shortage of physicists—needed to work on the atomic bomb, chemical warfare, and ordnance research. The U.S. won't be able to train enough physicists until 1958, he said.

Compton bluntly told the brass that he is working to increase the nation's fire power so that "hordes of soldiers" won't be necessary.

Censoring Michigan Scandals—In the secrecy of the senate elections committee, Senator Knowland of California has gone to bat for his friend, Senator Ferguson of Michigan, by watering down the senate report on vote frauds in Michigan. Senator Knowland doesn't want anything said about illegal campaign contributions from Michigan auto dealers, or about Ferguson's relations with Chrysler.

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POOR MAN'S PHILOSOPHER

Men's Vanity Gave Yankee Idea That Clicked

By HAL BOYLE

New York (P)—There is one sure and simple formula for making a profit in America.

It is to ask a large number of people what they want—and then mass produce it and sell it to them at a price they can afford.

I would be very rich myself by following this easy formula except for one thing. Every time I ask people what they would most like to have they all say:

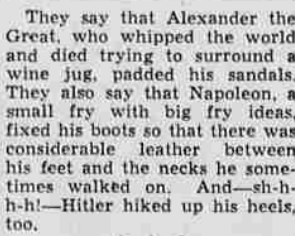
"Money!"

And I'll be darned if I can think up a way to manufacture money cheaper than the government.

But up in Brockton, Mass., there is a plain-spoken, 53-year-old Yankee who was cagey enough ten years ago to ask this innocent question: "Would you like to be taller?" And one out of eight men said "yes."

So Ben Stone did something for the "little man." He put a height-increasing shoe on the market. Now he helps grown-up people grow up more—about two inches more.

It really wasn't a new idea.



Hal Boyle

They say that Alexander the Great, who whipped the world and died trying to surround a wine jug, padded his sandals. They also say that Napoleon, a small fry with big fry ideas, fixed his boots so that there was considerable leather between his feet and the necks he sometimes walked on. And—sh-h-h-h!—Hitler hiked up his heels, too.

"But, of course, we don't like to mention Hitler were height-increasing shoes," said Stone. "We'd rather mention George Raft, Frank Sinatra, Bing Crosby, Al Jolson, Billy Rose, Humphrey Bogart, Rudy Vallee and Dick Powell."

Stone says he has put his "elevators" on these gentlemen, and some 1,000,000 others in the last decade. He did it by perfecting a shoe which looks like normal footwear but has a thick cork heel that makes a midget feel like calling Primo Carnera "Sonny."

was pleasantly surprised to find they had more than Hollywood and Broadway appeal. "It is purely a matter of vanity—but to them it is important."

BY GUILD

Wizard of Odds



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

THE BENES STORY

Benes Was Bewildered At Reception After Escape

By DR. BOHUS BENES

(Visiting Professor at Willamette University)

CHAPTER II

When we left Ruzyně Airfield (at Prague) at eight-thirty on the misty morning of October 22, 1938, the airfield employees—and especially the German military authorities at the frontier—were certain the old Douglas plane was a so-called "Jewish plane" the Germans allowed to fly daily over Germany to Rotterdam.

I will never forget our arrival in England; it was something like arriving at a cemetery.

Mr. Chamberlain's England had been very much responsible for the Munich betrayal. The English were shamed and silent, and they welcomed our plane at Croydon airport with much restraint.

That is, no one welcomed us. Our good friend, Jan Masaryk, was in London, but had not been notified of our coming, and we left the airport ill-at-ease and alone for a gloomy automobile ride through London to my house in Putney.

In a week Edward Benes started to work for the second liberation of his people. Soon after the news of Edward Benes' landing in Croydon reached the capitals of Europe, the extraordinary and varied reaction of the governments and the people came back to us. The impact on Uncle Edward was one of bewildered surprise. Czech workers sent fresh flowers by air mail to Madame Hana Benes, Joseph Goebbels' radio and press raged at Edward Benes, calling him a coward and worse names.

Much later we learned from Munich and Berlin (through Colonel Frantisek Moravec's Czechoslovakia military intelligence) that soon after his resignation the Gestapo had been preparing to arrest Edward Benes.

From Holland several thousand teachers and professors sent Dr. Benes a huge box containing their individually signed visiting cards and a beautifully written expression of admiration. From all over the world hundreds of telegrams and letters reached our house in Putney in a single day, congratulating Edward Benes on his escape.

Still remembering his stand in the European crisis, many thanked him for saving peace. Our house was virtually besieged by journalists and photographers who wanted a picture and Hanna and Edward Benes and news about the ex-President's plans for the future. But the taking of pictures was postponed for a few days.

And Edward Benes' "Story of Munich," which every newspaper wished to get from him, was flatly refused by the ex-President, the most discreet statesman and diplomat I have ever met.

Declining a very high offer from one British and one American publisher for a book about the Munich crisis, Uncle Edward told me: "Munich does not mean the end for me. It was a beginning. Our people will have to be liberated again. Therefore, I am not going to publish any sensational story about Munich. At least, not before we return home again..."

When his health improved, and we would walk after dark in the streets of Putney, I learned astonishing details of the Czechoslovak tragedy of that year.

"Yes, there is some truth in the suggestion that I was betrayed by my own people," Dr. Benes once told me, with visible effort.

"It was when the negotiations were completely concentrated in my hands, and I had to face the threats of the French and British Ministers that Czechoslovakia would be left alone against Germany.

"Was I to allow the situation to degenerate into a war?" "I was stunned when I learned that behind my back Mr. Milan Hodza, our Prime Minister, had secretly negotiated with the French Minister of Foreign Affairs, George Bonnet. Hodza had urged the French government to threaten us and thus facilitate our capitulation. When I was told about it, I felt betrayed."

(CONTINUED TOMORROW)

He Had No Snake-Appeal

Lewistown, Mont. (P)—Montana Rancher Martin Norman said he had the shakes after this experience with rattlesnake: Norman and Ted Langford were out trailing cattle in the Missouri brakes near here. They stopped for a rest and stretched out in the grass to cool off. A noise attracted their attention and when they looked up, there was a rattlesnake between them.

Norman rolled out of the snake's range, but Langford froze and lay still. The rattler slithered up to Langford, looked him over and turned and went away.