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Salem, Oregon, Wednesday, August 31, 1949

BY BECK

Life's Little Lessons



SIPS FOR SUPPER

Getting Nosey

By DON UPJOHN

We've been sniffed at by a lot of people around town the past few days and we believe there should be some explanation to the visitors pouring through town from day to day that just because they are sniffed at by the local folks is no reason for them to think we have an impolite brood in these parts. Far from it. This sniffing is not caused by boorishness, it's just the advent of a sort of epidemic of the summer cold. It seems to have been more or less running riot around all parts of the town and so if somebody sniffs at you, think nothing of it. The chances are you'll be sniffing back at him in a few days and not having any fun out of it, either.



Don Upjohn

Playing Safe

Detroit (AP)—After 26 years, Mrs. Sophie Nichols has decided that, minus a husband, a marriage isn't a marriage. Yesterday the former Detroit school teacher officially shucked herself of Walter Nichols, who has not been heard from since he bolted their wedding reception Dec. 23, 1923. She told Circuit Judge Chester P. O'Hara: Nichols left after picking up the wedding presents and the contents of ladies' pocketbooks while the others feasted. It was the climax to a whirlwind court-

ship. Judge O'Hara agreed that it sounded pretty much like abandonment and annulled the marriage. "I stayed married because I didn't want to be fooled twice," Mrs. Nichols said.

The chances are that around 10,000 or so piggy banks will be cracked and emptied over the coming week-end to be ransacked for the pennies, nickels, dimes and quarters saved up for the state fair.

We haven't heard any official notification as yet as to what the state fair will operate on, daylight savings or standard time. But it probably won't make much difference as most all of the folks who go will go early and stay late and they won't care about an hour one way or another.

There's still a chance left that this afternoon will produce enough marriage licenses at the county clerk's office to set up an all time record this month for any month in the country's history. As it is it is the runner-up for August, 1946. Which abates the old myth about June being the month for brides.

Battered Piano Saves Her Life

Sturgis, S. D. (AP)—A battered upright piano is credited with saving the life of Mrs. Eileen Wilcox. Just before a high wind collapsed the roof of her home, Mrs. Wilcox huddled under the old music box and escaped with only cuts and bruises.

MacKENZIE'S COLUMN

Shaking of Stalin's Hold On Satellites Not Surprising

By DeWITT MacKENZIE

(AP Foreign Affairs Analyst)

One of the hottest pieces of current news out of Europe is the report reaching Washington that Stalin's hold on the Red satellite states has been badly shaken by Moscow's row with Marshal Tito of Yugoslavia.

John M. Hightower, AP diplomatic expert in Washington, says this information is contained in highly responsible reports from eastern Europe.

These reports are expected to play an important part in the forthcoming meetings in the American capital among Secretary of State Acheson, British Foreign Secretary Bevin and French Foreign Minister Schuman.

"Western diplomats," says Hightower, "force in these meetings a three-power preview of the grand strategy of the cold war with Russia, followed by a determined effort to devise new moves against the Kremlin."

Sensational as this news is, it isn't surprising. This column numerous times has pointed out that the trend in eastern Europe, and especially the Kremlin-Tito fight, might be expected to weaken Russia's hold on the satellites. Czechoslovakia, Poland and Hungary all have powerful elements of opposition to Red rule. And Finland has refused to bow to Moscow.

The Yugoslav dictator's defiance, in refusing to surrender his country's sovereignty to Moscow, has placed Russia in the difficult position of having to make him eat crow—and quickly—unless she is to sustain a disastrous loss of face among the satellites.

But how to get at the recalcitrant and imperturbable Tito, who refuses to budge from his position? Of course, mighty Russia could handle Yugoslavia by force handily enough if there weren't outside interference. But there



DeWitt Mackenzie

might be outside interference. There might be another world war going full tilt overnight. Troop movements in neighboring Bulgaria and Romania have led to speculation that war might be developing between them and Yugoslavia. That could be, but here again Moscow would be running a great risk in letting such a conflict develop, because it could grow into world conflict.

That leaves the Muscovites with the alternative of trying to smash Tito economically, or of inspiring a revolt against him among his own people.

The economic approach already has been tried without the desired success. On orders from the Kremlin, neighboring satellites cut Yugoslavia off from essential supplies.

The unexpected result was that Tito promptly turned to the west for aid—and got it. Washington approved his purchase of equipment for a big steel mill, and the indications are that he also will get a large loan from the world bank.

So that seems to reduce the possibilities to the one of inspiring within Yugoslavia a revolt which might be assisted surreptitiously and unofficially by neighboring Red satellites. Observers recognize that this may be what Russia now is maneuvering for.

In any event there is no doubt that heavy pressure is being brought to arouse discontent among the Yugoslavs with their government.

Should anything untoward happen to Tito personally, Moscow's way likely would be greatly smoothed, since the marshal dominates his country. And, as observed in a previous column, he isn't a particularly good insurance risk.

WASHINGTON MERRY-GO-ROUND

Iran Puts Backstage Squeeze on for Big Loan

(Ed. Note—While Drew Pearson is on vacation, the Washington Merry-Go-Round is being written by his old partner, Robert S. Allen.)

By ROBERT S. ALLEN

Washington—The Iranian government is attempting a new backstage squeeze for a big U. S. hand-out. It is a demand for a \$25,000,000 World bank loan.

The proposal was sprung by A. H. Ebtehaj, head of the Iranian State bank and a governor of the World bank. He is due here next month for a meeting of bank governors.

Mean while, Ebtehaj is trying to put on the heat in Teheran. He has told U. S. officials there that Iran is entitled to the same kind of monetary and military aid the U. S. is giving Turkey and Greece.

He concluded one conversation with the haughty observation that if such assistance is not forthcoming "the U. S. can go to hell."

Actually, a large flow of U. S. dollars is pouring into Iran. American oil interests are paying out millions monthly, and the U. S. government is spending large sums. It has just completed a \$500,000 engineering survey for Iran.

Behind-the-scenes, diplomatic relations between the U. S. and Iran are at the lowest ebb since the '20's, when the state department deported a member of the Iranian legation for smuggling opium.

Curious aspect of the current strained relations is that Shah Mohammed Riza Pahlevi is making a state visit to Washington this fall. His mother and several other members of his family already are in the U. S. Authorities are at loss as to the reason for Iranian gruffness.

Iran put on a huff last month at the turndown of an opium scheme.

Famine conditions exist in Azerbaijan, northwest Iranian province. Despite large oil royalties, Iran asked the U. S. for 200,000 tons of free grain. When that was refused, Iran proposed to swap opium for the wheat.

U. S. Narcotics Commissioner Harry Anslinger vehemently objected.

He cited the fact that Iran is the most flagrant exporter of illegal opium in the world, and has persistently defied United Nations attempts to curb this vicious traffic. Also, that due to these notorious violations, the U. S. ceased buying medicinal opium from Iran.

Anslinger's forthright protests blocked the swap scheme.

PICKETS

Rep. Arthur Klein (D-NY) telephoned the District of Columbia corporation counsel for information about local picketing laws.

"This is the first time in five years we have had a query about that," was the answer. "The last time a member of congress called us on this subject it was the late Senator Bilbo of Mississippi."

"What did he want to know?" asked Klein.

"He called early one morning and said, 'There's a bunch of pickets outside my apartment."

Here's the Latest Alibi

Oklahoma City, Aug. 31 (AP)—Motorcycle Policeman C. C. Cole thought he had heard all the alibies.

But the motorist weaving back and forth across the street had a new one.

"Believe it or not officer, I was trying to keep from running out of gasoline," he driver said. "I was sloshing the gas back and forth in my tank so I could get it all in my carburetor."

GRUB-STAKED FOR HUNT

'Hank's Lost Mine' Lures Prospector in Desert Again

El Centro, Cal. (AP)—A dogged prospector, Don Freer, 42, has returned to the Superstition Mountains, this time hoping to write a final successful chapter in his years-long search for "Hank's Lost Mine."

Hampered by lack of supplies, his most recent expedition nearly ended in disaster when he staggered out of the desert and collapsed at a highway filling station.

This time he has a fully equipped pack train and promise of a four-year "grubstake."

Freer found a sympathetic audience in Sol and Mose Gullet, El Centro grocers, when he told them of a legendary "Hank" who used to go into the desert in the western part of Imperial Valley and come back after six weeks with enough gold to live on for a year.

Freer says a personal friend of the original Hank gave him some first-hand information on the location of his goal several years ago.

The Gullet brothers, members of a pioneer valley family, gave

117 Days to Christmas

Patchogue, N. Y., Aug. 31 (AP)—Members of the Elks lodge said today the 117 days remaining to Christmas will give them plenty of time to recoup their losses to a sneak thief. The Elks recently started their annual drive for a Christmas basket fund. A thief broke into their club house yesterday and carted off a three-gallon bottle which contained an unknown amount of coin contributions.

BY GUILD

Wizard of Odds



LEATHERNECKS EVEN BETTER THAN BEFORE

Marines Put On Mock Atomic War Maneuvers

(Editor's Note—The author of the following dispatch was a war correspondent in both the European and Pacific theaters. He hit the Guadalcanal beaches with the first U. S. Marines. (Now he just has completed an assignment covering the peace-time air-ground maneuvers of the same Marine outfit that staged the Guadalcanal operation. He reports the leathernecks' first division improved in every respect with better weapons in their hands and more experience between their ears.)

By ROBERT C. MILLER

Camp Pendleton, Calif., Aug. 31 (AP)—The atomic war will be fought over steeper hills, under a hotter sun, in dirtier dirt and with shorter breath than any previous war.

We know. We just fought a mock one with the marines at Camp Pendleton.

The combined air-ground maneuvers involving the First Marine Division and some two hundred marine reserve aviators showed what would happen after the atomic bombs were dropped and the footsloggers moved in.

The maneuvers proved that, as in previous wars, the "buzz boys" will get the glory and the infantry will catch the hell.

Today's objective was a sun-baked ridge defended by radioactive areas, artillery, mortars, rattlesnakes, tarantulas and cacti.

Able Baker and Charlie companies "captured" their objective, using equipment and training that makes them the most lethal infantrymen in the world.

The superiority of today's first marine division over the Guadalcanal defenders was apparent everywhere in the operation.

Squad leaders like Tech. Sgt. Frank Lawson, Oceanside, Cal., and Charlie Kent, Pasadena, had better weapons in their hands and more experience between their ears.

They had flame throwers, bazookas and secret infantry weapons.

POOR MAN'S PHILOSOPHER

No Time for Bickering While Changing the World

By ED CREAUGH

(Substituting for Columnist Hal Boyle)

New York, Aug. 31 (AP)—When James Keller says he's out to change the world, a lot of people listen.

For one thing, he's a big, quietly persuasive Catholic priest with a non-nonsense air about him. He resembles his friend Spencer Tracy.

For another thing, he's a best-selling author whose books have banded more than 1,000,000 Catholics, Protestants and Jews into a movement called the Christophers.

Their aim, in their own words: To change the world.

"The U. S.," Father Keller says, "is being undermined by a fanatical group of men and women who hate God and sneer at the Declaration of Independence, with its stress on our God-given rights."

"We want to stop this. And we hope to do it by putting men and women of good will into jobs where they can be a force for good and order."

"There has been too much shouting against 'subversives.' The time is here for action— for offering something better than the subversives can offer."

The Christophers are in the news on several fronts.

A novel which won the \$15,000 first prize in their literary contest has just been published. Its title is "Call It Treason."

The author, George Howe, is a Protestant.

The Christophers are trying to establish training schools in all parts of the country, to guide "men and women of good will" into key jobs where they can make their influence felt.

And Father Keller himself is reading final proofs on a new book, "Three Minutes a Day," to be published by Doubleday in October. His last book, "You Can Change the World," sold 200,000 copies.

I asked a couple of questions that a Protestant friend of mine had suggested: Is there opposition to the Christophers because their founder is a priest? Any suspicion that its aims are sectarian?

Father Keller smiled. "Why don't you look over some of our correspondence?" he said.

There were letters of support from Catholics: from Methodist ministerial students in Georgetown, Texas; from an Episcopal rector in Beverly Hills, Calif.; from a Jewish television executive in Chicago.

I read the letters and others like them.

"Father," I asked, "are you going to get a million Christophers? Are they really going to change the world?"

"With God's help," said Father Keller promptly, "Yes."

Passing Up a Necessity

Nearly all counties in Oregon are woefully short of hospital beds and the people of many of them are conducting drives for new hospitals or expansion of old ones, like Salem. The costs of building and equipping hospitals are higher than other buildings, and all building costs are naturally much higher than in the pre-war period.

The United States Public Health Service shows that the average construction costs of hospitals built in the last year have been running \$13,000 per bed—not counting site costs. On 105 general hospital jobs, the costs per bed have averaged \$12,910.

The Eugene Register-Guard in answering queries as to why hospitals cost more than hotels quotes from the American Hospital Association magazine "Trustee" the following answer:

- 1. Hotels and hospitals exist for entirely different purposes.
2. Bed space in a hospital occupies only 20 to 25 percent of total space; in a hotel the bed space will be at least 50 percent of total.
3. In the best hotel, the ratio will never exceed one employee per guest; in the poorest hospital it will be 2 for 1.
4. Percentage of high-skilled and professional help in a hospital is very high.
5. Hotels have many sources of income; hospitals one.
6. Hotels do not have to supply operating rooms, laboratories, X-ray, special dieticians and a vast array of special and technical services imperative for hospitals.

The Eugene paper also quotes from the U. S. Public Health Service figures on costs in hospitals now under construction as follows:

"It requires 604 to 639 square feet of overall space in relation to each bed. In a hospital ward or room the actual space occupied by a bed is very small, but for each bed throughout the institution there must be a space equivalent to a room 20 feet wide and 30 or 32 feet long—equivalent to a whale of a big living room. Furthermore, the modern hospital should be fireproof, and for fireproof construction the costs are running \$15.61 to \$19.43 per square foot. Add in equipment costs (but not sites) and your overall costs jump to \$18.56 and \$21.36 per square foot. Translated into costs per bed they are running from \$11,256 to \$14,475 with the average at \$12,910."

It is recognized that for general hospital purpose maximum efficiency cannot be achieved with less than 200 beds. Operating costs throughout the United States averaged \$11.78 per day. Unless the people of the Salem area come through more generously than they have so far and unless they all cooperate for hospital facilities which a large percentage have not so far done, the prospects for adequate facilities are not bright. Somehow or other, this area is miffing its opportunity—as is daily being demonstrated at our hospitals and will continue to be, as the non-cooperatives will find out when their own emergency arrives.

Aviation Day at McNary Field

With interest keen these days on what will happen to the commercial air transportation picture at McNary field, Salem's Aviation Day, Sunday, came at an appropriate time.

Events of the past two years have been leading toward special recognition of what goes on at the airport.

In the first place, the dispute over a master plan for the field was settled in favor of development of the west side. This meant that civilian flying gradually would be concentrated on that side of the field opposite United Air Lines' present station.

The master plan was a fundamental step toward planned development of aviation in Salem. It called for a new road to give proper access to the west side. It also permitted a basis for accepting a Navy bid to establish air reserve flying here. Since the decision already had been made to move civilian flying to the west side, the Navy could be accommodated in the big hangar on the east side. As a result, Navy planes will soon be flying regularly out of here on training flights.

This, in turn, happened to lead to the re-establishment of the control tower. The tower was essential to control of the airways into and out of the city, if Salem was to develop aviation locally.

The city is now planning an administration building on the west side in line with its plans for developing that side of the field. When allotted federal funds become available, construction of the building can then go ahead. That is, when the threat to United Air Lines' serving the city is withdrawn by the Civil Aeronautics Board.

Special notice should be given the private operators on the field who have all now moved over to the west side. Those individuals have constantly worked for improvement of the field and are really the motivating force for the special day.

Aviation Day this year amounted to general recognition of the "coming of age" of development of McNary field.

CAPITAL CARTOON

