

BY BECK
Husbands



SIPS FOR SUPPER

The First 100 Years

BY DON UPJOHN

It would be interesting to know who it was a hundred years ago this morning mailed the first letter at the first Salem post office, who it was bought the first stamp, where the letter was going, what it was about and such information in general as charm that superior and elect class of people know as philatelists.

What wouldn't our own Ed Payne up at the post office give, to own that particular letter and file it away in his collection of early Oregon philatelic gems. For Ed probably owns the outstanding collection of such rare pieces and to have the letter in question would just about top it all off. In fact, it would probably be of interest to know what sort of a postmark they had in the Salem post office that day, if any, and just what kind of a stamp was used to make it. As likely as not that first postmaster took a cork out of a bottle of some kind and used it to smear a cancellation of that first stamp. Sometimes the early postmaster carved weird designs on corks used for such purposes. It may be he simply wrote his initials on the stamp with a quill pen. But these are matters beclouded in the passage of years and probably mean nothing to any but that sacrocanon guild we referred to.

Maybe a lot of the customers are wondering who these philatelists are to whom we have referred. In common parlance they are stamp collectors. A group that many folk consider somewhat goofy, but they'll assure you if they're crazy, it's fun to be crazy.

We Knew It All the Time
Hollywood, Nov. 8 (AP)—A man can keep quiet longer than a woman. This age-old biological fact was proven scientifically yesterday by a radio show (People Are Funny). On Nov. 2 the show placed Mrs. Anna Santander, 48, Miami, Fla., housewife, and Seymour S. Klein, 35, Los Angeles salesman, in a store window to see who could do nothing the longest. They couldn't talk, read or listen to a radio. Their meals were brought in. After five days, three hours and 23 minutes, a guard claimed he saw Mrs. Santander talking to a stranger on the store's mezzanine. That wound up the contest. Klein won a \$3000 house trailer.

Advertising dodgers are appearing for the perennial turkey shoots which indicate there's a great day in the offing.

One Result of the Coal Strike

Des Moines, Ia. (AP)—Mrs. Sallie Cochran told police someone stole 500 pounds of coal from her basement.

MacKENZIE'S COLUMN

Red Crackdown on Czechs Explains U. S. Plant Embargo

By DeWITT MacKENZIE
(L.P. Foreign Affairs Analyst)

Monday was the 32nd anniversary of the Bolshevik revolution that overthrew the czarist government and established a Red regime which in the succeeding generation has extended its domination to almost a third of the globe.

It is one of history's most amazing conquests. Not only has Soviet Russia created the huge Red bloc of nations which owe allegiance to Moscow, but agents have penetrated even the uncivilized parts of the world to establish Bolshevik cells which pledge their fealty to Moscow.

The chief weapons employed in this "World revolution" have been ideological persuasion and outright force. Of these, the strong-arm method has been responsible for most of the success. World War, of course, assisted greatly, since numerous countries both in Asia and Europe were occupied by Soviet troops, thereby establishing immediate Russian control.

Britain's Socialist Prime Minister Attlee adds another weapon which must not be overlooked. He says Russia is using its United Nations veto as an "instrument of power politics and for furthering the imperialistic aims" of the Soviet Union.

Attlee made this charge in a speech in which he also cited Czechoslovakia's plight as an example of Russian methods. Czechoslovakia does indeed provide an excellent example of how Bolshevism works. She cannot, of course, be put in the same class with some of the Balkan states which still are primitive in many respects. The Czechoslovakia which was created at the end of World War I was a thriving, democratic country with an enlightened and peace-minded population.

Then came the second World War and Russian military occupation toward the close of the conflict. Since that time the country has been largely Sovietized.

In this manner has Czechoslovakia been made an unwilling member of the Soviet bloc. The communizing of this sturdy little is typical of Bolshevik methods which have operated with such efficiency in so many other countries.

With the foregoing background, it is easy to understand why the United States government last Friday imposed rigid controls on shipment of strategic goods to the whole world, excepting Canada, to prevent re-shipments to the Soviet bloc. The strategic goods concerned are largely industrial items which might contribute to the Soviet "war potential."

WASHINGTON MERRY-GO-ROUND

John L. Lewis Is Desperate Over Revolt in UMW Ranks

By DREW PEARSON

Washington—Inside reason why John L. Lewis is trying so desperately to settle with the coal operators is that his United Mine Workers union is torn with rank-and-file revolt.

Many coal miners deeply resented Lewis' offer to contribute funds to CIO Steelworkers from the UMW treasury at a time when the miners themselves are destitute and hungry. Also, there is widespread rank-and-file bitterness over Lewis' dissipation of the miners' pension and welfare fund.

The rebellion against Lewis is strongest in Virginia and West Virginia, where several local mine unions have voted by secret ballot to go back to work. However, the operators refused to reopen, fearing possible violence and bloodshed by Lewis' strong-arm squads.

Other miners, rather than have their families go hungry in the prolonged strike, have actually gone to work in non-union mines in Virginia and western Kentucky.

ROW OVER CHINA
The hottest diplomatic row between the United States and Great Britain in recent years is taking place backstage over the touchy subject of China.

President Truman and Secretary Acheson got wind of the fact that a large British diplomatic delegation has been secretly conferring in Peking with the Chinese communists in order to negotiate British recognition of the Red government. This is a direct violation of the Bevin-Acheson agreement made in New York a month ago in which both agreed that no deals would be made with the Chinese Reds without first consulting each other, together with France, Holland and Belgium.

When the state department learned that this agreement had been violated, Secretary Acheson and the other foreign ministers sent a scorching joint note secretly to British Foreign Minister Bevin denouncing his government for trafficking with the Chinese Reds.

Bevin, replying, admitted his country's guilt but brazenly stated that the move was necessary. However, Britain, he contended to say, would keep its allies informed of its activities from here on in.

Acheson and Truman are still boiling.

SERVANTS OF BROTHERHOOD
Southern race disturbances or KKK floggings make sensational headlines, while the little acts of kindness between white and colored people seldom get in the newspapers.

In Florence, South Carolina, for instance, a Negro Western Union messenger, James E. Jones, has spent his extra time and energy in recent years collecting money for the march of dimes. James Jones has been so energetic and so devoted that he has won the admiration of all citizens in his community and last year this columnist nominated him as a Servant of Brotherhood.

The other day, however, the man who had been helping others, himself was taken sick. He was sent to the hospital with a complication of various ailments, leaving a wife and seven children without funds.

Promptly the white citizens of Florence started a campaign to help him. Last January, Jones collected \$2576 to help the March of Dimes. Now his friends are trying to top this mark to help him.

BULLS ARE TOO TAME
In the battle against hoof-and-mouth disease, the agriculture department is getting more belittled from Mexico's bull fighters than from the bulls. For the bull fighters blame the U.S. agriculture department for breaking the spirit of their fighting bulls.

It seems that the agriculture department, working with Mexican authorities, has insisted that fighting bulls be vaccinated every four months as well as all other beef on the hoof. But the bull fighters complain that this takes the fighting spirit out of their bulls.

Replies the agriculture department: "Unless the vaccinations continue, there won't be any bulls—with or without fighting spirit." As a compromise, the authorities have agreed not to vaccinate a fighting bull 30 days prior to his appearance in an arena.

GOP CUPBOARD BARE
National Chairman Guy Gabrielson has a fire 25 employees off the payroll of the republican national committee in an effort to put the committee on a pay-as-you-go basis. He will fire still more later.

Gabrielson found GOP finances in a terrible state when he recently took over. Former National Chairman Hugh Scott had been spending at the rate of \$70,000 a month for payroll and other expenses, while practically no money was coming in from the big-money boys.

BY GUILD
Wizard of Odds



POOR MAN'S PHILOSOPHER

'You Can't Give People Advice—You Have to Charge Them'

By HAL BOYLE

New York (AP)—"I grew up," said Morey Amsterdam, "the day I discovered you can't give people good advice—you have to charge them for it."

Amsterdam is one of the top funny men of television and radio. This is the new Amsterdam. The old Amsterdam was just a gag writer for other comics.

As a youthful vaudeville performer he joked and played a cello—used to try to suggest to the stars he hero-worshipped ways they could improve their routine.

"They just laughed me off," he said. "Then I went into professional gag writing. And five years later they were paying me \$3,000 to \$5,000 for the same material I had tried to give them for nothing."

He himself got an excellent bit of advice from one star for whom he wrote movie dialogue—Will Rogers.

"Don't offend anyone," the genial cowboy wrote on one of about 100 postal cards he mailed Morey over the years. "I get

Morey likes ridiculous humor—but humor that also carries a thought behind it. His best gag? "Like one I wrote for a Bob Benchley movie short. Benchley picks up a phone and says: 'Hello, Honey. Get the kids off the street—I'm driving home.'"

Morey has a theory that what defeats most comedians is lack of confidence in their own jokes. "You have to tell them like you think they're funny yourself," he said.

"Old material alone never really killed a comedian. No matter what joke you tell—it's new to a large part of your audience."

Amsterdam is a song writer as well as a comic. Among his best known are "Why, Oh Why, Did I Ever Leave Wyoming?" "Rum and Coca Cola," and the current "Yuk a Puk."

"The first thing I ever sold was a song to Sophie Tucker when I was 14 years old," he recalled. "She was in San Francisco. I went backstage and sang the song to her—My Brother Played Piano—and she bought it on the spot for \$50."

Morey says it is foolish for an amateur to try to heckle a professional performer, as the performer keeps about 100 gags ready for just such an emergency. Once he was sued over the authorship of one of his songs. When Morey took the stand, the plaintiff's lawyer sneered:

"So you're a comedian! Make laugh." "I will if you'll lend me your face," said Morey. The lawyer went back to law-ing.

Once Amsterdam was a guest at the White House, and President Roosevelt asked for a few gags he could tell his visitors. "Slip my name into one of those fireside chats," said Morey, "and I'll write you a whole routine."

A coin was flipped for choice of start. Winning, we chose a standing start. Right then, we figured the race was ours. We knew that the "Rat" would be on his way long before the Gray Horse got started. And so it turned out.

It was the heyday of the "quarter horse." French Prairie could boast of two: Gray Dick and the Lemery Mare. Gray Dick, a beautiful dappled gray, was the pride of the Prairie, and our outfit, from early in the spring, had been measuring racing possibilities. A horse that could "take" Gray Dick could bring home some real bacon for the West family.

So, Pappy and my older brothers began to scout for a speedy "short horse." They found one in the hands of the McKnights, Linn county horsemen. He was called "Sage Rat," bred and born in Montana. A deal being made, this "Quarter Horse" became one of our family possessions.

Sage Rat, as a sprinter, could show a world of speed; and as a "stand-and-starter" he was in a class by himself. We had around three months in which to ready him for the Gervais Fourth and Gray Dick. In color Sage Rat was a bright bay.

It was the day of the "quarter horse." French Prairie could boast of two: Gray Dick and the Lemery Mare. Gray Dick, a beautiful dappled gray, was the pride of the Prairie, and our outfit, from early in the spring, had been measuring racing possibilities. A horse that could "take" Gray Dick could bring home some real bacon for the West family.

So, Pappy and my older brothers began to scout for a speedy "short horse." They found one in the hands of the McKnights, Linn county horsemen. He was called "Sage Rat," bred and born in Montana. A deal being made, this "Quarter Horse" became one of our family possessions.

Sage Rat, as a sprinter, could show a world of speed; and as a "stand-and-starter" he was in a class by himself. We had around three months in which to ready him for the Gervais Fourth and Gray Dick. In color Sage Rat was a bright bay.

It was drawn up in the city clerk's office at Hominy—maybe it's recorded and legal," he said. "And I haven't heard from Paul but once in 21 years. I don't have any idea where he is."

It would be kind of expensive, Miller added, for him to trek off to Washington just for that. But, on the other hand, "suppose he's counting on hooking me for the thousand bucks?"

But, on the other hand, "suppose he's counting on hooking me for the thousand bucks?"

Three Top Programs for the Chamber

Another set of Chamber of Commerce directors has been chosen. Nine of the directors will be old board members, while five will be new to the board. When they take office in early December, their assignment will be to formulate a development program for Salem for the coming year. This is an annual undertaking.

Problems created by the rapid growth of the area are mounting, so the board will have before it a development program that gradually increases in scope. A start has been made on some of the problems. None of them has been solved.

There are three major problems the board should put high on its list for consideration for the coming year.

The first one is the problem of traffic and parking in the city. The traffic aspect of the problem will be taken care of, generally speaking, by the carrying out of the Baldock plan. But the state and city governments will need the cooperation of the chamber in bringing about full realization of the possibilities for better traffic flow as conceived in the plan. As for the parking problem, that will also call for general city-wide cooperation in finding lots. Mayor Elfstrom has already suggested a plan to secure parking lots throughout the city, but no definite steps have been taken yet.

Second on the list of problems is that of encouraging the selective location in this area of business firms that will help build the community. Some in Salem don't want to see the city change, but the latest figures indicate that Oregon and the Willamette valley will continue to grow like no other section of the country, whether some people want it that way or not. So the logical move for the chamber is to do the "inviting" and ground-work necessary to bring sound businesses and industries here that will contribute toward the building of the area.

On any list that is drawn up should be the matter, neglected so long, of adequate highways to and from Salem. The Baldock plan will take traffic flow only to the outskirts of the city. From there, the problem is completely unsolved. The road to Portland is a disgrace for the amount of traffic it is forced to carry. The new highway over the Cascades needs attention, too.

There, obviously, are other problems that confront the community, in which the chamber is concerned. In fact, the list is long. But the three problems above are deserving of the new board's earnest and prompt attention because of their long range effect on developing the business and commerce of the Greater Salem area.

The Interior Northwest Program

C. Girard Davidson, assistant secretary of the interior, in announcing his department's proposed six-year \$1.5 billion program for the Pacific Northwest was careful to state that it is no substitute for a Columbia Valley Administration, for which he has been campaigning. He stated:

"Undoubtedly, people will argue that, just as they argued that the joint engineer-reclamation report was a good substitute for CVA. This is not in any way a substitute. We are merely recognizing the need for integrating this department's activities in the area. To inter-related activities of the engineers, federal power commission, agriculture department and commerce department as a CVA would, requires a chance of basic law."

The six-year program includes only the functions of interior's various agencies, and if it gets included in the budget, it would presumably have to be lived up to if a CVA was created and thus insure perpetuation of the interior's control of expenditures and construction under the CVA. The bureau chiefs evidently don't want to be purged for opposing a CVA, an administration measure, but keep control of reclamation.

Davidson said that using a one-program budget for all interior department activities in the northwest would give congress a better idea of the job to be done there. "When congress can really get a good look at the whole picture," he said, "they will do an intelligent job of appropriating money. But if the agencies don't present an intelligent picture then it is our fault."

Davidson said the new program would bring about a considerable expansion of the rate of federal resource work in the northwest. In addition to stepping up work on major water and power facilities, he said it would include provision for wildlife safeguards, recreational facilities, mineral studies, and Indian-owned resource development.

The question arises, if all this development can be efficiently done under the present agencies, interior and army engineers with state co-operation, what is the use of a CVA to transfer the gigantic task to three politicians, presumably like many of the Truman appointees, lame ducks?

Seasonal Fashions Note

Perpetual changing, revolutionary, rather than evolutionary, in women's fashions are always mystifying and a subject of amazement and amusement as to why and wherefore to mere man—excepting of course, to creators and sellers profiting thereby. Since recorded and at least illustrated history began there has been an undisguised borrowing from long forgotten generations and more or less repetition, in the garb of the fair sex from the simplicity of the ancient Egyptians and Greeks to the confusing absurdities of feudal times. And the present day has gone even further back in time to revive the G-string of the aborigine—at least in bathing suits.

Commenting on the subject the anonymous "Topics" columnist of the New York Times says:

"The ways of women may be inscrutable, but periodically there takes place in their world an upheaval which gives the thoughtful man cause to wonder. The revolution is universal, seasonal, and insidious in its inception. It usually begins with the sad and somewhat bitter comment, 'I haven't a thing to wear.' Why not? Because suddenly long skirts should be short, or short ones long, or shoulders that looked good enough yesterday are today impossible for the unique reason that they are wearing dropped shoulders now." The most dreadful mistake the uninformed male can make is to ask who "they" are. "What, queries the puzzled male (silently, if he is wise), makes women act that way? Why must they constantly be changing the vital proportions of their garments; and further from whence springs the seed of each year's new look? (The very expression, as the avant-garde knows, is by now old hat).

The columnist concludes that the art of dress, though functional, is none the less art, and consequently some of it is good and some bad. If it is following the trend of modern art, it is mostly the latter and merely a symptom of decadence. However, vanity, the keeping up with the Joneses and copy-cat tendencies to play their parts. It is indeed fortunate that women can't see themselves as others see them or many of fashion's foibles would die aborning.