

Not a Lazy Man's Game

Nut growers of the northwest at their 35th annual meeting now in session at Portland, have again heard a lot of good advice from pathologists and horticultural scientists on the necessity of timely and repeated spraying, fertilization and pruning to mature good and disease-free crops.

California long ago learned these lessons, but Oregonians have been slower to realize their necessity, because in earlier happy-go-lucky days their nut and fruit trees were comparatively free from infestation and the virgin soil had not been exhausted.

Bacteria causing blight and other bacterial diseases spread with lightning rapidity as do some destructive insect pests. But there are preventatives for both if taken in time.

The time will come, as it has in some horticultural areas already, when infested trees must be either cleaned up or cut down by the authorities. That is why neither nut nor fruit trees should be planted in back yards or along street curbs, for few are cared for by their owners and their wormy or blighted fruit unfit to eat and good only for infecting other trees.

Only the finest quality of fruit or nuts can hold their own in the markets of the world and create their own demand. Unless our orchards get scientific care, they had better be cut down for they are a liability, for markets will vanish for inferior fruit as they have for some of our once sought for Oregon products.

Efforts to Preserve Historical Sites

Another attempt to save a historical building in the Salem area is being made. This time it is by David Duniway, state archivist. His efforts are directed toward preserving the old Holman building on Commercial street, site of state legislative activities from 1857 to 1876.

A small group in the city also is trying to keep the old court house building as an example of the architecture of a past period. The structure has been suggested as a museum.

There are other historical sites still in existence in Salem. There is the original Jason Lee house or Mission House, 960 Broadway. It dates back to 1841. There is the old pioneer cemetery off South Commercial that has aroused interest from time to time toward seeing that it is preserved and kept in good shape.

All of these efforts at preserving bits of the past receive little encouragement, except spasmodically. Every once in a while one group or another will rally to the cause. So long as there remain those persons with an interest in the history of the area and of the state, drives will develop to save historic landmarks.

Someday a museum will be established in Salem. Then the little personal objects of a historical nature can be gathered under one roof. Donations to such a historical museum would be readily forthcoming. Only when enough interest can be aroused in such a project, however, will the drive be rewarded with success.

Menacing 'Identical Twins'

Speaking before 3000 American industrialists at the annual meeting in New York of the National Association of Manufacturers, Cecil Palmer, a leading British publisher, described the British government's nationalization of industry as a short cut to ruin that may end in communism.

Palmer called social security "socialism's greatest racket for it seduces the people into allowing the state to do for them the very things they should do for themselves."

Socialism, Palmer said, was "the proper appellation for nationalization," and he termed socialism and communism "identical twins." They have certainly proved so in Europe.

Another speaker before the NAM was Raymond Moley, chief adviser of the late FDR in early days of the New Deal, who talked on big business. Moley said:

"The trend toward big government, with its tentacles on every aspect of business, has been a constant enemy of small business. Large and small business exist side by side with no real threat to either. Rather, they complement each other in the complex life of the nation's economy.

'Fred' Sounded Better to Him

Detroit, Dec. 9 (AP)—Orange Francis Lashbrook was just plain "Fred" today. Lashbrook, 32, told the judge that his name was "very embarrassing to me, my wife, and our two kids."

"Everyone calls me Fred," he said. "I'd like to make that my permanent name." The sympathetic judge granted his request.

BY BECK

Discouraging



SIPS FOR SUPPER

Fast Movers

By DON UPJOHN

Looks like quite a marathon contest may be worked out as to whether Messrs Pinson and Benson, who escaped from the Oregon State penitentiary some months ago, got around the country faster and were in more places at once, than the two escapees from the criminal insane ward at the state hospital who are now being sought frantically hither and yon.



But maybe give the latest escapees a little more time and they can do some catching up. As a matter of fact the latest escapees didn't seem to move around very fast until there was some comment in the papers about lack of such reports, and then the reports began coming in.

At any rate, there's no two smaller places in the country that have caused more talk than those two in the past few weeks. The one's up the canyon, of course.

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Noise of Kids Annoy Neighbors

Dallas, Texas, Dec. 8 (AP)—Mr. and Mrs. Rea B. Mosley are going to court to try to get some peace and quiet—from neighbor kids.

Their filed suit for a temporary injunction against eight neighbors, all with one or more children. A hearing has been set for Dec. 28 in district court.

The couple says the children have "destroyed the peace and quiet of the neighborhood... with horns, whistles, cowbells and especially screaming at the top of their lungs, in a manner not normal to usual play by said children."

POOR MAN'S PHILOSOPHER

Might Get Less Yakkity-Yak If Delegates Lived Like People

By ED CREGGH

New York (AP)—"The trouble with the United Nations," said William J. (Boxer) Sheridan, taxi-driver, Brooklyn booster and student of world affairs, "is limousines."

"I mean those big, long, black, expensive limousines that the delegates ride in, with the little flag of their country fluttering on the right front fender, and the liveried chauffeur, and the white-wall tires.

"You mean," I said, "that a diplomat runs the risk of losing the common touch?" "Right on the button pal. All by himself in the back seat of a limousine, a guy is a big shot. He's got to think in big terms—so big that pretty soon they don't mean anything.

"I can sympathize with the problem of our public servants in making some extra money, but there are other ways of making it. I remember when William Jennings Bryan was Secretary of State. Your Grandfather Pearson invited him to speak on the Swarthmore Chautauquas which were then in Maryland, Virginia and Pennsylvania.

"I'd go farther. I'd take these delegates out of their fancy hotels suites and put them up, say, in a fleabag over on Eighth avenue. I'd snatch the seven-course dinners right out from under their noses and show them the way to the automat.

"I thought it over while the cab whizzed through a three-inch gap between two Fifth avenue buses.

'Tell-it-to' Gadget Installed

Hollywood, Dec. 9 (AP)—An enterprising department store has installed a wire recording gadget which enables late hour window shoppers to order merchandise for home delivery during the Christmas season.

Called a "Tell-it-to," the device operates 24 hours a day at two entrances to the Broadway-Hollywood store. A customer may order through the thing by depositing a quarter which is later refunded.

Store officials said the only other machines in use in the United States are at San Francisco's emporium and at Macy's in New York.

WASHINGTON MERRY-GO-ROUND

Congressmen Owe It to The Country to Be Honest

(Ed. Note—Drew Pearson's column today takes the form of a letter to his daughter, Mrs. George L. Arnold of Los Angeles.)

By DREW PEARSON

Washington, D. C., Dec. 5, 1949

DEAR DAUGHTER:

The other day I went down to the trial of Congressman J. Parnell Thomas and sat in the courtroom while the jury was being picked. He was there making a show of being unconcerned and confident, but somehow or other I felt sorry for him. I felt almost sorry that I had brought out all the stuff about his kickbacks.

Thomas was a lot different in the courtroom than when he blustered over witnesses in his own un-American activities committee. He had sent a dozen or so witnesses to jail himself chiefly for refusal to answer questions. And he had denied them the right of counsel and had hauled them before his committee from as far away as California at any time of the day or week that suited him.

In contrast he now enjoyed all the carefully built-up American privileges of a free trial. He was represented by a good lawyer. He sat before a good judge, Judge Holtzoff, who was very fair. And he had the right to exclude certain jurors—though a witness before his committee had no right to exclude any committee members.

Furthermore, the justice department had given Thomas one year's delay in his trial, and had sent him to an army hospital at government expense to get his health completely restored.

So perhaps I shouldn't feel sorry. Nevertheless, as he sat there, one little guy in the crowded courtroom facing certain conviction, I did. After all, there isn't any fun in sending a man to jail.

Morality Between Wars In retrospect, however, there are a lot more important considerations in our lives and in our nation than pity and the discomfiture of one man.

A military commander in time of war sometimes has to sacrifice whole companies and regiments of fine men in order to save the rest of his army. And in peacetime we have to make an example of one in high position who betrays a public trust—if we are to save our democratic system.

Some people forget that our morality and respect for clean government between wars is just as important as our ability to win wars. If that wasn't so, then wars wouldn't be worth winning.

A lot of boys died to defend our democratic system only four short years ago; and we are still spending billions in the cold war to uphold it. So if the man at the head of a committee supposed to be an example of good Americanism practices cheap, tawdry and illegal Americanism, then I suppose I should not, in a weak moment, feel sorry for him.

However, I couldn't help thinking of some of these things as I sat in the courtroom.

How Bryan Augmented Salary

Thomas's excuse, of course, is that he had to augment his congressman's salary. But there can be no excuse for helping soldiers escape combat duty in wartime and then collecting cash from their parents afterward.

Nor is there any excuse for putting a charwoman and a girl who never came near the office on the secretarial payroll and then pocketing the money. It's bad enough putting a wife, a daughter-in-law and a bedridden aunt on the payroll.

I can sympathize with the problem of our public servants in making some extra money, but there are other ways of making it. I remember when William Jennings Bryan was Secretary of State. Your Grandfather Pearson invited him to speak on the Swarthmore Chautauquas which were then in Maryland, Virginia and Pennsylvania.

Bryan, not a wealthy man, accepted, and filled about twenty speaking engagements at \$250 each. Your father was a tent crew boy at the time and used to carry water for "The Great Commoner." I remember that for most lecturers, I only supplied a bucket and dipper, but for Bryan I borrowed a glass pitcher.

Well, the Republican newspapers let out a terrific howl—not about the bucket and dipper but about the Secretary of State appearing on the same platform with Tyrolean Alpine yodelers, which was not exactly true. However, I still think it was a good idea for the smaller towns of the U.S.A., which seldom see a secretary of state in person, to learn about our foreign affairs from the man who runs them.

And compared with the lecture fees of today, Bryan's \$250 a lecture was chicken feed. In fact, Parnell Thomas used to collect much more than this himself as a lecturer; and, as chairman, of the un-American activities, he was in big demand—a perfectly legitimate way to increase his income.

Most Congressmen Don't Cheat Contrary to general gossip, I don't think that there are many congressmen who resort to Parnell Thomas's cheap and tawdry way of making money. I pride myself on knowing congress pretty well, and I am convinced that the great majority of both houses are honest, sincere and have the welfare of their country pretty much at heart. They recognize that the money allotted them for secretarial help comes not from their own pockets but from the taxpayers' and that it has to be spent as a public trust.

When you look around the world today, there are not many democratic legislative bodies left. Ours is one of the few. And sometimes we forget that the rights of the people to govern themselves is something your great-grandfathers have been fighting for ever since the 1700's. And we've got to preserve the integrity of what they won.

Congress is merely the medium by which people exercise the right to govern themselves. Some day I want it to be governing for, with and by my grandsons, and in the interim I don't want a Parnell Thomas or anyone else to destroy its good name. Love, FROM THE OLD MAN. (Copyright 1949)

BY CLARE BARNES, JR.

White Collar Zoo



"You tell him this for him and his rush jobs!"

MacKENZIE'S COLUMN

Hundreds of Millions Today Still Live in the Dark Ages

By DeWITT MacKENZIE

We pride ourselves mightily on our twentieth century civilization, until along comes some development to remind us that, while humanity has indeed made fair progress, literally hundreds of millions still are living in the dark ages.

What set me off on this unhappy line of thought was a news dispatch from Johannesburg, South Africa, saying that ritual murders in Basutoland are presenting the British authorities with a difficult problem in African administration.



And Basutoland isn't the only part of the dark continent where primitive practices are found. Now if that were the whole story we might dismiss it as a hangover peculiar to Africa. But the fact is that in many other countries, of both hemispheres, one finds astonishing examples of barbarism and even savagery. I've encountered a lot myself.

Getting back to Basutoland, the bodies of 293 victims of ritual murder have been found by police in the past seven years. And there is reason to believe that twice as many cases have gone undiscovered. The gold coast is another area where this horror still persists.

These present day ritual murders in Africa frequently consist of cutting the victim to pieces while he still is alive. The sacrifice is made to ward off evils or bring good fortune, and in that sense are religious.

And, of course, such practices aren't confined to Africa. Voodooism involving human sacrifices, is found in some isolated parts of the West Indies, and other rites involving the taking of human life are carried out in primitive parts of the Far East.

Much more common than the horrors of ritual murders are practices involving the supernatural, and I have encountered these in many parts of the world. For instance, a lot of weird beliefs center in the Hindu Sadhus, or spirit doctors, who are found not only in the Orient but in the West Indies.

I ran into some amazing examples of these spirit doctors in Trinidad a few years ago. They operated in secret in the jungle districts, because the police were hunting them, but I managed to visit some of them through the assistance of an Indian college professor who believed in them.

These Sadhus treat disease with incantations. They drive out evil spirits which are plaguing folk, and they invoke disaster against your enemy—for a cash consideration, of course. I was told by educated folk that these things actually work, though you can't prove it by me.

The entire district where I found the Sadhus was reeking with the supernatural. Not only the doctors but every native I talked with was wrapped up in it. Ghosts, evil spirits and good spirits were all over the place.

Here is one typical story I was told: The father of several sons had enemies whom he wished to punish. He believed—and it was common belief—that if you bury a body face downward, its spirit will return and start lashing people with a whip. He desired a spirit he could control and so he killed one of his sons and buried him face down.

The boy's spirit came back all right and started to lash out, but it got out of the father's control. The result was that the spirit was visiting the old home daily and flogging the father, mother and other sons unmercifully. This, mind you, was a "fact" and "common knowledge," so I was told.

So the stories went—dozens of them. And I encountered these things not only in the West Indies but in the Far East where the lives of untold millions are controlled by the spirit doctors. Actually many of these Sadhus are men of much ability and considerable learning. Do they believe what they teach? I think some of them undoubtedly do.

Small Boys Share With Jesus

Dayton, O., Dec. 9 (AP)—The sexton of Christ Episcopal church in downtown Dayton repeatedly found pieces of hard candy, or chocolate bars, or fruit on the church altar.

Who put them there was a mystery to everyone, even Dr. Phil Porter, the rector. Though a watch was kept, tasty bits would appear.

One day last week Dr. and Mrs. Porter found two school boys looking about the church.

"Were you ever on the altar?" Mrs. Porter asked one, a fourth grader. (The altar is high, and is directly below a full-length portrait of Jesus.)

"Yes," he replied shyly. "My friend and I were." His companion was a first grader.

"We come to church and kneel before the chancel to say our prayers. Then we give our offerings to Jesus," he said. "We want to share what we have with him."

Mrs. Porter explained offerings are used to teach people about Jesus. And besides, she pointed out, candy is perishable. Next day Dr. Porter found a nickel on the church altar.

Truman Regards Eisenhower As Contender for Presidency

By ERNEST B. VACCARO

Key West, Fla., Dec. 9 (AP)—Intimates said today that President Truman regards General Dwight D. Eisenhower as an active candidate for the presidency.

They added that he regards Eisenhower's recent "hot dogs and beer" speech as part of the for the republican presidential nomination.

In a recent speech in New York, Eisenhower said that a great many Americans have lost their traditional respect for the virtue of thrift and independence and are seeking the "illusion called security."

He added: "We want to wear fine shirts, have caviar and champagne when we should be eating hot dogs and beer."

The president, intimates, he continued, will answer Eisenhower in his "state of the union" message to congress in January.

Charles G. Ross, the president's press secretary, said that speech will "fully expound the president's philosophies of government."

Ross would not even discuss recent speeches of Eisenhower, now president of Columbia university.

Mr. Truman's long-time feeling of admiration for Eisenhower as an army man and a builder of morale was emphasized by those who are close to him. But these same persons say the president regards the ex-soldier turned educator as strictly an amateur at politics.

Wife's Face as Painter's Palette

Milwaukee, Dec. 9 (AP)—A Milwaukee wife says she's willing to forgive and forget if her husband promises not to use her face as a painter's palette.

With traces of white paint in her hair, Mrs. Dorothy Grace, 22, came before Judge Harvey Neelen here and charged that her husband James slapped paint in her face.

She said the incident occurred when she asked him to stop painting woodwork. He had been drinking, she explained, and she feared he'd splatter the walls. Mrs. Grace said she planned divorce action. But she agreed to give her husband another chance.