



Woodburn Merchants Plan Gift Shower for Infants

Woodburn, Dec. 30—The first two babies born after the start of the New Year to parents residing in the Woodburn trading area will receive a host of gifts, ranging from a couple of bank accounts to a swing. The prizes are being offered in the second annual Woodburn Merchants' Baby Derby by 43 local concerns.

Handel Oratorio Edition Found

Johnstown, Pa., Dec. 30 (AP)—A first edition of Handel's famous Christmas oratorio, The Messiah, has been discovered in the Johnstown library where it went unnoticed for ten years. It is the only known copy extant in the United States.

David Griffith, 27-year-old graduate library science student who made the find, said the discovery has been substantiated by the Library of Congress and by William Smith of London, noted Handel biographer.

Heretofore, Griffith said, a 1787 edition of The Messiah owned by the Library of Congress and the Harvard University library was believed to be the first edition.

The battered leather bound volume in the Johnstown library is not dated but apparently was one of 129 printed around 1758. Griffith said the book was one of a hundred presented to the library in 1939 by Donald Davis of Johnstown. The books had belonged to Davis' father, a former Cambria county sheriff, who has since died.

Davis said he had no idea where his father got the book.

Dallas 'Baby Derby' Gift List Shows Wide Variety

Dallas, Ore., Dec. 30—Lucky, indeed, will be the parents of the first baby born in Dallas in 1950. Local merchants are contributing nearly 30 gifts for the new arrival, but the parents naturally will reap the benefit. The infant probably won't realize a thing about its good fortune for a few years yet.

Businessmen are cooperating with the Itemizer-Observer in this second annual Dallas "baby derby." The plan has been enlarged this year to take on some new features.

Whether it be on January 1 or July 4, the first pair of twins born in Dallas will be awarded a fine gift—an electric orange juicer. This was offered by Guy's hardware.

Bulk of the prizes will go to the first baby, but a number of gifts will be presented to the second and third arrivals, too. Parents will have some gifts of their own. Included will be free theater passes, cigars for dad, free subscription to the town paper, a shag rug, and five gallons of gasoline.

The first baby will receive a bottle warmer, \$5 savings account in the Dallas City bank, a baby arrangement of flowers in souvenir container, pair of shoes, birthday cake at age one, four dozen cans of baby food, baby blanket, dress, high chair pad, 15 quarts of milk, baby tray set, two dozen small cans of milk, six packages of Pabulum, a coin bank, two lullaby records, baby ring, free photographs at six months, a surprise gift and \$1.50 in merchandise.

The first girl born in Dallas will receive in addition six pairs of baby pants. Second and third babies will receive similar gifts, only about half as much.

Last year's winner was Penny

Embree, who born on January 2 in the Dallas hospital. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Norval Embree of route 2, Dallas, and is still receiving some of her gifts. She will have her first birthday cake Monday.

Selection of Queen Raises Ire of Rivals

Miami, Fla., Dec. 30 (AP)—Blonde LaDene Van Wagoner reigned as Orange Bowl queen today, but the committee which chose her had 17 angry contestants on its hands.

Seventeen of the unsuccessful candidates conferred with attorney Earl D. Waldin, Jr., last night. They said they would present the committee with a petition of protest today.

The petition lists six specific allegations, including claims that:

1. Miss Van Wagoner, 23-year-old air line stewardess from Salt Lake City, was fitted for the queen's wardrobe two weeks before the coronation Wednesday night.

2. The losers were "betrayed" in that they spent a lot of time in rehearsals and money on gowns thinking they had an even chance, which "was evidently not the truth."

3. Newspaper stories of the coronation were on the street simultaneously with announcement of the queen's selection.

Britain Sees End of Its Water Shortage—Looking like a miniature Niagara, millions of gallons of water cascade over the dam wall at Derwent reservoir after a heavy rain in the Derbyshire district of England. This is the first time the dam and adjoining reservoir have been full since last summer's drought, with ample supplies for next summer.

Broncho Charley, Almost 100, Still Can Whip Cigaret in Two

New York, Dec. 30 (AP)—Julius Mortimer Miller, the last of the Pony Express riders, was a happy man this day. He still had his health, he still sported his iron-gray, shoulder-length frontiersman's hair-do, he could still take a whip and cut a cigarette in two while it was in a man's mouth 30 feet away, and on New Year's day he will be 100 years old.

For 92 years Miller has been known simply as "Broncho Charley." He got that name when he began riding wild horses at the age of eight.

Today, the Community Service society, in whose Tompkins Square house he lives, honored him by making him chairman of the Society's children fund for 1950.

Broncho Charley responded by presenting the Society a large wood carving he made himself of the whole block in which the Tompkins Square house is located. Then he indulged in a little reminiscence.

"I rode the Pony Express in 1861 for five months from Sacramento, (Cal.), to Carson City, Nevada," he said. "I was eleven and a half years old, youngest boy they ever put on. Made the run in a day, morn to dark, 172 miles. Made 18 changes of horses between stations, took me two minutes to change horses; every other 24 hours I took off."

Broncho Charley has been an Indian fighter, Texas Ranger for four years, ranch hand, and performer in Buffalo Bill's Wild West show.

He was wounded twice by the Indians on the Pony Express, arrowed in the wrist and over the eye. He was gassed twice and wounded twice with shrapnel while serving with the Canadian cavalry in the first

world war. He also was wounded twice in barroom fights, but Charley says he, personally, didn't drink after some early sad experiences.

"I quit drinking, I tell you," he said. "I rode wild horses. When I got so my head went one way and the horse the other, I quit."

Broncho Charley has very steady hands. He always wears his wild west outfit, including a wide red sash.

"Remember once I performed before Queen Victoria," he said. "That was in London in '87. Rode a bucking horse called 'Dynamite.' We almost went into her box seat. She gave me a signed picture of herself."

Charley was insulted when close to 90 years old, he was turned down for enlistment in World War II. He volunteered as a war bond salesman, performing with his whip and cigarette act.

Asked his recipe for long life, Broncho Charley laughed. "People always ask me that I can only answer: 'Ask God, He'll tell you.' I smoke cigars. Some nights I don't go to bed at all till one or two o'clock. I rise up every morning at half past six. If I only have one hour's sleep that's enough."

Although television sets of direct view type put the picture on the flat end of a cone-shaped tube, it still is called a "screen."



Tasty Job—F. P. Morris (left) and C. Wiggins perform job of ale testing, traditionally known as ale conners during ancient ceremony outside London tavern.

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Fire-Hit Pennsylvania Town Gets Excited About Future

Hyndman, Pa., Dec. 30 (AP)—There's a bright future in the cards today for Hyndman—scene of a million-dollar fire that wiped out the town's business district.

The blaze last Sunday night was just the climax to a run of bad luck this year that knocked the props out from under the economy of this southwestern Pennsylvania community.

Many of Hyndman's residents formerly were employed at the plant of the Celanese Corporation of America near Cumberland, Md., 15 miles south of here. In recent months the plant laid off nearly half its labor force.

Hyndman's biggest industry was the Pennsylvania Lumber and Post Co. A week ago the lumber yard burned down. And three days later another fire wiped out the other major source of revenue—the business firms which made the town a trading center for farmers in the area.

But the nation-wide attention Hyndman gained as it burned, brought more than sympathy. As the citizens moved to rebuild their fire-swept community, Pennsylvania's Governor James H. Duff ordered all departments of the commonwealth to cooperate in providing immediate aid.

As a result, representatives of the state departments of forests and waters, commerce, military affairs, highway and public instruction, and the state public school building authority met with the town officials at the high school.

Among subjects discussed was the possibility of getting state aid to rebuild the town under the new federal housing law. The statute provides Pennsylvania with \$15,000,000 for slum clearance and housing.

Private industry is looking to Hyndman too. Members of the local Lions club excitedly showed representatives of a furniture manufacturing company around town. The name of the furniture maker can't be disclosed yet, they said, but the firm is interested in all the unused manpower located right in town.

In telling of the latest developments in Hyndman's reborn economy, Acting Mayor Lloyd Christner declared: "Unquestionably, the fire has made Hyndman's economic future better than ever before."

Christner is acting as Hyndman's chief executive in the temporary absence of Mayor Earnest Harden. Mr. and Mrs. Harden and Mrs. Helen Turner, the courageous telephone operator who stayed at her post while the fire raged 35 feet away, left for New York to appear on a Friday night radio broadcast (We the People).

Another new development may make Hyndman a mecca for tourists. Admiral Milo F. Draemel, Pennsylvania secretary of forests and waters, yesterday gave top priority to the acquisition of lands at the Shawnee dam recreational project 20 miles from Hyndman. The state plans a road near Hyndman to the project.

The dam already is under construction. The road building doubtless will give jobs to townfolk.

A separate postoffice building may also be in the works. Christner said Congressman Simpson (R., Pa.), representative for the district, is trying to get that project approved.

Washington, Dec. 30 (AP)—The commerce department Thursday freed 23 items, mostly seeds, from export control. This means they can be shipped anywhere in the world without a government license.

The chief effect is to permit purchase of the items here by Russia and her satellites—if those countries want them.

The decontrolled items include the following type of seed: vetch, Kentucky bluegrass, alfalfa, timothy, red clover, crimson clover, alsike clover, red top, and fescue grass.

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Ward Sets Foot On US Soil Again

Honolulu, T.H., Dec. 30 (AP)—Consul-General Angus Ward, who was held captive by the Chinese communists at Mukden for more than a year, set foot on American soil again Thursday when he arrived from Japan aboard the American President Lines' President Wilson.

Ward appeared healthy and rested after his ocean voyage from Yokohama. With him were 13 other members of the U.S. Mukden consulate who were detained with the diplomat.

"The trip was excellent and exactly what we needed," Ward said. He refused to talk about his detention and said, "Let's talk about something pleasant, instead."

Vice-consul William N. Stokes of Staten Island, N.Y., who is returning to his home to see his eight-month old son for the first time, said the outstanding thing he remembers about his incarceration is "it's all over."

Tate of Sublimity to Head PMA Here Again
W. M. Tate, Sublimity, will again head the Marion county production and marketing administration committee during the coming year.

Tate was elected chairman of the

Gold Coast Royalty—This is K. O. Darko, 25, the grandson of the Golden Stool of Ashanti, the ruling and most powerful tribe in West Africa, and cousin of the present Ashanti ruler, Sir Osei Agyeman Prempeh II, K.B.C. Young K. O. is en route to Detroit, where he will study electrical engineering for next two years.

New York, Dec. 30 (AP)—Henry Fonda, Hollywood actor and star of the Broadway hit, "Mister Roberts," will be divorced by his wealthy wife early next year, it was learned today.

The lanky, angular actor and his wife agreed to a divorce after numerous but futile attempts for a long time, they stayed together because of a mutual desire to provide a home for their children, it was said.

Fonda had been living in an apartment in town while his wife remained at their Greenwich, Conn., home with their children Jane Seymour, 12, Peter Henry, 9, and Mrs. Fonda's daughter by a previous marriage, Frances, 19.

The handsome 44-year-old actor frequently had been seen with blond actress Susan Blanchard, stepdaughter of Oscar Hammerstein, 11, the lyricist and producer. Reports of an impending marriage between Fonda and Miss Blanchard could not be confirmed.

Miss Blanchard, a Broadway and Hollywood actress, first met Fonda when he stayed overnight at the Hammerstein home. They have since lunched and dined together but have not yet been called an "item" by gossip columnists.

Mrs. Fonda was dropped from the social register when she married the actor in September 1936. Formerly the wife of the late George T. Brokaw, a socially prominent lawyer, Mrs. Fonda was left an estate of over \$2,000,000 when he died in 1935. Their daughter, Frances, became one of the nation's wealthiest girls when the estate of her grandfather, Isaac Brokaw, was settled in 1945.

Fonda previously was married to film star Margaret Sullivan. One of his associates said that since their divorce, they have remained friends.

One of his associates said the Fonda divorce "has been brewing for a long time." "Whenever it appeared proceedings would begin, they would make up temporarily," he said.

Accidental Shot Kills 8-Year Boy

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