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Salem, Oregon, Monday, March 6, 1950

BY H. T. WEBSTER
The Timid Soul



WARNING TO ALL MOTORISTS—THE ROADS ARE VERY SLIPPERY. IF YOU MUST DRIVE TODAY, DRIVE WITH EXTREME CAUTION.

KRISS-KROSS
Salem Man Identifies Sea Monster; 'It's a Manatee'

By CHRIS KOWITZ, Jr.
Among the hundreds of curious-minded folks who flocked to DeLake Sunday to view the mysterious mass of sea life which had washed upon the beach there was Lewis McDaniel of 1821 Cross street, Salem.



McDaniel, like every person who gazed upon the hideous creature, went away muttering to himself, "What is it?"

But instead of just wondering about the gigantic thing which others have dubbed the "sea monster," McDaniel decided to do something about identifying it.

Arriving home early Sunday evening, McDaniel got out a set of encyclopedias and started wading through the volumes in search of something which fits the description of the DeLake monster.

After several hours of tedious page-scanning, McDaniel thinks he has the answer. "It's a manatee," McDaniel was convinced this morning.

McDaniel said the 20-foot monster somewhat resembled a sea cow, and that it had "hog bristles" all over it. He memorized a vivid description of the monster as he looked it over, then compared every detail with the encyclopedia's explanation of a manatee.

"It checks from every angle," said McDaniel. "The thing is a manatee."

With the introduction of ladies' spring styles scheduled soon, it will be interesting to note the length of hiplines. Typographical error? No. We borrowed the idea from an anonymous reader who writes:

"This hemline work you see discussed so often... shouldn't it be hipline? ... It is the hipline hemlines are supposed to please... so here's to more attractive hiplines as spring blossoms and festers into summer."

Those petitions, being circulated locally, urging Oregon's congressional delegation to get TV for Portland, are sponsored by a group of radio and electric stores in Portland. Their purpose in boosting TV isn't to sell television sets... it's to sell radios.

People in the Portland area are being educated by their friends to not buy radios now, because television will be along soon, forcing radio prices to skid. Radio dealers aren't promising any such drop in prices, but they're anxious for TV to appear so people will start buying radios again.

Tiny Odle, the city cop who was stricken with illness while on duty a few months ago, is now back at work with a "new look." Tiny, still giant sized, lost about 30 pounds during his recent illness...

With the introduction of ladies' spring styles scheduled soon, it will be interesting to note the length of hiplines. Typographical error? No. We borrowed the idea from an anonymous reader who writes:

WASHINGTON MERRY-GO-ROUND
Lack of Cooperation of State Officers Hurts Narcotics Case

By DREW PEARSON
Washington—Abe Davidian, a narcotics runner, was found lying on a couch in his mother's home in Fresno, Calif., last week, a bullet hole in his head.



Behind his murder were ramifications extending to the New Jersey palisades, probably down to Miami, Fla., where a narcotics grand jury has been in session, and apparently up to enforcement officers in the state of California.

In fact, Davidson's murderer illustrates the amazing interstate network of organized crime. As they were picked up, members of the ring told U.S. agents they knew exactly who was going to be arrested.

As they were picked up, members of the ring told U.S. agents they knew exactly who was going to be arrested. Federal agents, incidentally, had let the state agents see their confidential files. It is also interesting that Crime Commissioner Olney announced that a phone call was traced from Sica's office to Robert Franklin in Fresno, one of Howser's campaign managers.

"No Jurisdiction" Kills Cooperation
That ends chapter 1 of the story of the California narcotics ring. Chapter 2 began about two weeks ago when the U. S. attorney's office in Los Angeles got a tip that eastern gangsters were being imported to bump off Davidian.

The FBI was notified. But Davidian was a narcotics witness for the treasury department. He was not a justice department witness and, without consulting J. Edgar Hoover, the west coast FBI took no interest.

A few weeks before this the FBI had been asked by the U.S. attorney in Los Angeles to help when another federal witness, Ralph Allen, was almost beaten to death in Long Beach, Calif. Allen had been a witness before a federal grand jury against Attorney General Howser, and shortly thereafter was pistol-whipped to within an inch of his life.

But when the FBI was asked to help protect Allen as a witness before a federal grand jury, the FBI replied that he was a witness in an income-tax case. This was under the treasury department, not the justice, so the FBI didn't cooperate.

To protect him, Davidian was hidden in Arizona by U.S. narcotic agents, but last week he returned to Los Angeles for arraignment and slipped up to his mother's home in Fresno. There, lying on a couch with a bullet hole in his head, Davidian was found dead.

Joe Sica and his 15 indicted colleagues were considered the biggest narcotics haul in the history of the United States. This was the first time the federal government got real inside information regarding the sources of heroin now flooding the U.S.A.

But with no witness alive to testify against them, the case against the Sica gang has now blown up higher than a kite.

Should Have Known Better
San Francisco, March 6 (AP)—Mrs. Catherine Kane, who says she should know better, left her diamond ring on a wash basin. When she went back to get it, it was gone.

The wash basin was in the ladies' room at City prison, where Mrs. Kane is a matron. The ring was recovered later from an inmate.

Worn Out as a Burglar
Ketchikan, Alaska, March 6 (AP)—Burglary was apparently too strenuous for Harold A. Dyar. Police reported today they found him blissfully asleep on a bed in a house he had broken into, his pockets filled with jewelry.

Chinese Communist Rulers Split on Reconstruction Issue
The Chinese communist government is severely split on the policy issue of the reconstruction of industrial China.

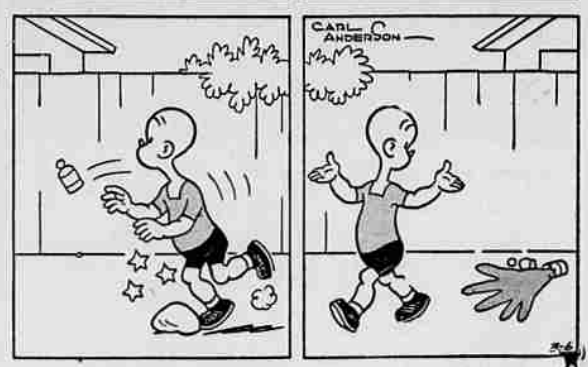
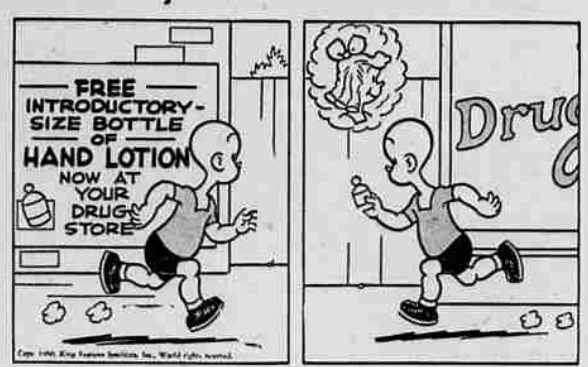
This schism in Red China was revealed today by foreign correspondent Michael Keon in the March American Mercury. Keon, who left the Red China capital, Peking, last August, states that this policy issue has caused a dangerous clash between the two leaders most powerful after Chairman Mao Tse-tung.

General Chou En-lai, premier of the new communist national government, is the spokesman for the moderate, pragmatic approach to reconstruction. Bleak-faced Liu Shao-ch'i, the machine boss of the party and its chief theoretician, is the leader of the radicals and doctrinaires.

Chou En-lai believes that the immediate task of the new government is to enlist the abilities of all "non-reactionaries" in a cooperative effort to get the exhausted and paralyzed country into working shape.

Liu Shao-ch'i is concerned chiefly with the problem of incorporating China quickly into the Russian-based communist empire. Liu Shao-ch'i, the radical, has the backing of Moscow and some army commanders. General Chou, who has immense personal prestige with the masses, is strongly supported by the Red commander in central China, Lin Piao, whose military power

BY CARL ANDERSON
Henry



MacKENZIE'S COLUMN
Battle in Which Men Roasted To Death in Devil's Oven

By DeWITT MacKENZIE
(UP Foreign Affairs Analyst)
Your columnist has been ruminating over strange strange battles he encountered in two wars.

What set me thinking along this line was the recent American and Canadian joint army-airforce maneuvers in Alaska's currently frozen wastes, where the boys had to evict an invading enemy.

They were operating with skis, snowshoes and sledges in temperatures of 20 to 60 degrees below zero, and when it's that cold it is easy to get frost bites, as some of the gallant troops found out.

The story I have in mind is about a unique and awful conflict under conditions exactly the reverse of those in ice-bound Alaska. That was the Battle of Romani on the blazing Sinai desert just east of the Suez Canal in August of 1916. And if you find this a twice told tale, you can skip it.

At that time the Suez Canal, Britain's lifeline to the Far East, was being guarded with utmost caution by General Sir Archibald Murray, commander in chief for the Near East at whose headquarters I spent some time. East of the canal lay the Sinai desert hell which formed a national barrier against a Turkish advance across the peninsula.

At least most military men thought the desert was impassable to an army. The battle raged on into the white heat of the day. Wounded Turks and Arabs cooked to death on the blazing sands under that terrific sun. Others ran out of drinking water and perished from thirst.

Human flesh could stand only so much. After twenty hours the Turks gave up and the British interned close to 9,000 prisoners. The rest of the army lay among the dunes.

I have seen some weird and fearful battle fields, but never anything like Romani. A host of dead in native garb lay close together over the shifting sands—roasting in this devil's oven formed by the dunes. Interspersed were camels and donkeys. Empty water bottles told their own grim story.

With the battle over the British set about to solve the mystery of that artillery, and I was there when the puzzle finally was exposed to an amazed general staff. Here is what happened:

There grows on the Sinai peninsula a shrub which is tough and very wiry. That was the key to the trick—for trick it was.

The Turks, perhaps at the instigation of German engineers, dug little parallel trenches just far enough apart so that the wheels of a gun carriage would fit into them. These trenches were filled with the spring-like shrubs which formed a perfect track along which the guns ran well.

It was one of the smartest bits of engineering in the war. Collie, with \$25,000 Legacy, Dies
Liberty, Mo., March 6 (AP)—Duke, a Collie dog that received a \$25,000 legacy, is dead.

The 16-year-old animal died Saturday night. Three years ago Duke's mistress, Mrs. Martha M. Benson, a widow died leaving her estate to Duke. He had been her constant companion since she found him as a puppy.

Mrs. Benson's will stated that after the dog's death the estate was to be divided between two Kansas City institutions, The Catherine Hale home for blind women and Mercy hospital. Duke had been living at the home of Edwin R. Stroeter, of Smithville, Mo., the estate administrator, since Mrs. Benson's death.

Maybe Goethe Was Right

Johanne Wolfgang von Goethe, finding that men were becoming wiser but in no way better, told Johann Peter Eckerman, his private secretary, in the latter's "Conversations with Goethe":

"I foresee a time when God will be disgusted with humanity and He will destroy everything in preparation for a new creation."

The prediction of the scientists of the possibility that a hydrogen bomb would exterminate the human race may be right and all may be destined to die from the effects of radio-active cobalt dust. On the other hand, the prophecy of the 8th Chapter of Genesis when the waters of the flood subsided:

"And the Lord said in his heart, I will not again curse the ground any more for man's sake; for the imagination of man's heart is evil from his youth; neither will I again smite any more every thing living, as I have done.

"While the earth remaineth, seed time and harvest, and cold and heat, and summer and winter, and day and night shall not cease."

But the menace to humanity of the atomic, hydrogen, and other yet to be invented bombs, of radar guided death missiles which menace life on the globe are not the work of God or of nature, but of mankind itself. Certainly every effort of science and humanity seems bent on destruction of life with the progressive increasing terribleness of the means of mass production and destruction for ruin and death until all organized life on the globe is wiped out.

At brief intervals come announcements of new devices of winged death. The U. S. army announces that a guided missile with a ground-to-ground range of nearly 1000 miles is possible with present American knowledge and experience, but an immediate program for it would mean "freezing design" at the present stage of development and concentrating on production rather than research.

Given time they probably would devise a 10,000-mile missile. The V-2 German rockets inaugurated the guided missile program. Some 100 were brought to this country after the war and have led to a number of highly efficient surface-to-surface and surface-to-air missiles, one of Hitler's legacies of death to the world.

In the perfection of the hydrogen bombs and these long-range guided missiles perhaps lie future peace—for they are such terrible weapons of mass human suicide that their use must be eventually banned and peace, other than that of the grave, preserved.

The House FEPC Bill

Copies of the amended and revised Fair Employment Practice Commission bill passed by the house and sent to the senate, where it will probably be filibustered to death by southern democrats, reveals that while the despatches described it as a voluntary measure with its enforcement penalties removed and so "toothless," it is in reality drastic legislation taking away the inherent right of individuals to hire whom they want, with social and economic effects on the nation.

The bill, if passed, will place all private employment procedures under federal control. It calls for the appointment of five federal commissioners, with offices at Washington and in the regions, states and localities with a bureaucracy of employees to hear and initiate complaints of discriminations against persons seeking work, who would investigate charges and make community or industry studies of their own, with or without formal representations.

The FEPC members would have power of subpoena and place witnesses under oath. Reports from the commission and attendant publicity of their specific recommendations for the removal of conditions they protested would prejudice the public and injure individuals and businesses. Moreover, persons denounced for "contumacy" and obstruction could be fined \$500 in federal court for contempt for any one of the six discriminations charged. Advocates of the original bill declare it ineffectual without additional penalties.

The bill is a continuation of the do-gooders' efforts to make people good by passing a law to regulate and regiment human nature along the lines the Puritans attempted in their New England theocracy and really belongs to bureaucratic statism—through a public supervision of private employment.

Arthur Krock of the New York Times, speaking of its alleged toothlessness, relates the follow anecdote: "Once an animal-tamer with a circus approached a member of the staring crowd on the lot and offered him \$10 if he would insert his head twice a day in the mouth of the circus lion. Persuasion being clearly required, the animal-tamer offered assurance that this lion had no teeth. 'No sir,' was the reply. 'I don't want to be gummed by no lion!'"

If the Gas Station Is Permitted

Will there or won't there be a gas station on the corner of Center and North Capitol streets across from the expanding capitol group of buildings? Salem's city council will decide next Monday night at its regular meeting. The city planning and zoning commission acted favorably on the permit, despite a plea from the capitol planning commission that the "fringe" area around the zone set aside for present and future state buildings be restricted to institutional, apartment house, school or special public service use.

POOR MAN'S PHILOSOPHER
Laughton Finds He Likes Writings of Gertrude Stein

By HAL BOYLE
New York (AP)—"Gosh!" cried Captain Bligh boyishly, "Gertrude Stein is a beautiful writer!"

Pacing his hotel room as if it were a deck of H.M.S. Bounty, the captain—who prefers to be known as Charles Laughton—told of how he had come to fall in love with Miss Stein's literary efforts.

"It's an extraordinary thing how you go through life!" the actor exclaimed. "Ten years ago I couldn't understand Gertrude Stein. It was all bosh to me. 'But recently I sat down and read her aloud. It was delightful! That's how it is with great writings of that kind. You can't tell it unless you hear it.'"

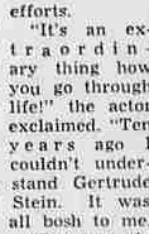
Laughton then undertook to defend the famous passage that has caused considerable ridicule of Miss Stein by the Philistines: "A rose is a rose is a rose is a rose" etc.

"I'll admit it doesn't seem to make much sense read in cold print," he said. "But if you take it as a child might say it—"

And Laughton, his hair awry, threw himself in a chair, let his face and eyes wander aimlessly as he chanted in ten different treble inflections: "A rose is a rose is a rose is a rose is a rose."

Then Laughton looked up with an air of victory, and I couldn't think of anything to say. He had given a wonderful picture of a chanting child, but I never have felt privy to Miss Stein's inner aims, so I couldn't feel sure that was what she had meant or not when she said "a rose is a rose" and so forth.

Laughton, however, intends to take the issue to the people. Recently he completed a 52-city tour during which he gave a one-man show consisting of readings ranging from limericks to Lincoln's Gettysburg address.



"Gertrude Stein's literary style is built on repetition, and so are parts of the Bible," he said. "I have been thinking of reading a piece of hers side by side with a selection from the Bible that's in the same style."

The actor plans to make an annual tour, giving his readings, and says it is the best fun he's ever had.

"It isn't new," he said. "Charles Dickens and Mark Twain used to do it. I just revived it—the reading of classics aloud. It has a nostalgic appeal. And it's an extraordinarily friendly exchange—a nice warm feeling for them and for me."

But I think another reason is that Laughton, one of the most versatile actors of our time, has had a lifelong dread of being typecast. And by reading from a dozen books in a single evening he can play dozens of roles that show the real range of his talent.

"Actually, I know them all by heart," he said. "But the book in my hand lets me be any age or personality I want. It gives me the freedom of the universe."