

## Romance Dating Back 56 Years Revived; Ends in Marriage

Olympia, Wash., March 10 (AP)—It was spring, 1894, in Middleton, Mich., when a 17-year-old coquette told a shy 19-year-old farm lad that someone else had asked to take her home from a church social.

Nearly 56 years later, a pert eye said, "I'll never disappoint him again," and boarded a train in Olympia, Wash., to marry "my man" in Lansing, Mich.

Mrs. Ampter B. Otto, 73, telegraphed friends yesterday from Lansing that she wasn't the widowed Mrs. Belle Van Dusen any more.

Romance, dormant for more

than five decades, had blossomed into marriage.

It was the climax of a whirlwind courtship by mail only six weeks earlier. "Belle" and "Ampter" hadn't seen each other since that night in Middleton, nor had they exchanged one letter.

"I married a school teacher

because . . . well, he just beat Ampter's time," said the little white-haired lady before she left Olympia.

Otto also had married and continued to farm outside Lansing. His wife died about three years ago, and Mrs. Van Dusen had been a widow since 1906, four years after she and her husband moved to Washington state.

Mrs. Van Dusen heard about the death of Otto's wife through mutual friends in an exchange of 1949 Christmas cards.

"I finally got up enough nerve to write him," she said, "and soon we were writing every day. He told me in one of his letters he had wondered, 'Is she free? If she is, she's mine.'"

Otto gave a final word of warning to his bride-to-be before she left Olympia that he had been in an automobile accident and "I'm just a white-haired, scarred old farmer."

"I wrote right back and told him I wasn't marrying him for his beauty," the sprightly widow said. "I'm looking for love and companionship and that's what people our age ought to be looking for."

## Senator Taylor Loses Appeal in Alabama

Montgomery, Ala., Mar. 10 (AP)—The Alabama supreme court

denied Sen. Glen H. Taylor, (D., Idaho), petition for certiorari to be court of appeals today.

Taylor was convicted of disorderly conduct after an arrest on May 1, 1949.

The denial upheld earlier findings of the state court of appeals and the Jefferson Circuit court.

Lawyers for Taylor have indicated they may take the case to the U. S. supreme court.

Taylor was arrested for refusing to use a door designated for whites when he made an appearance at a Negro church in Birmingham for a progressive party rally. He was seeking the vice presidency on the progressive ticket.

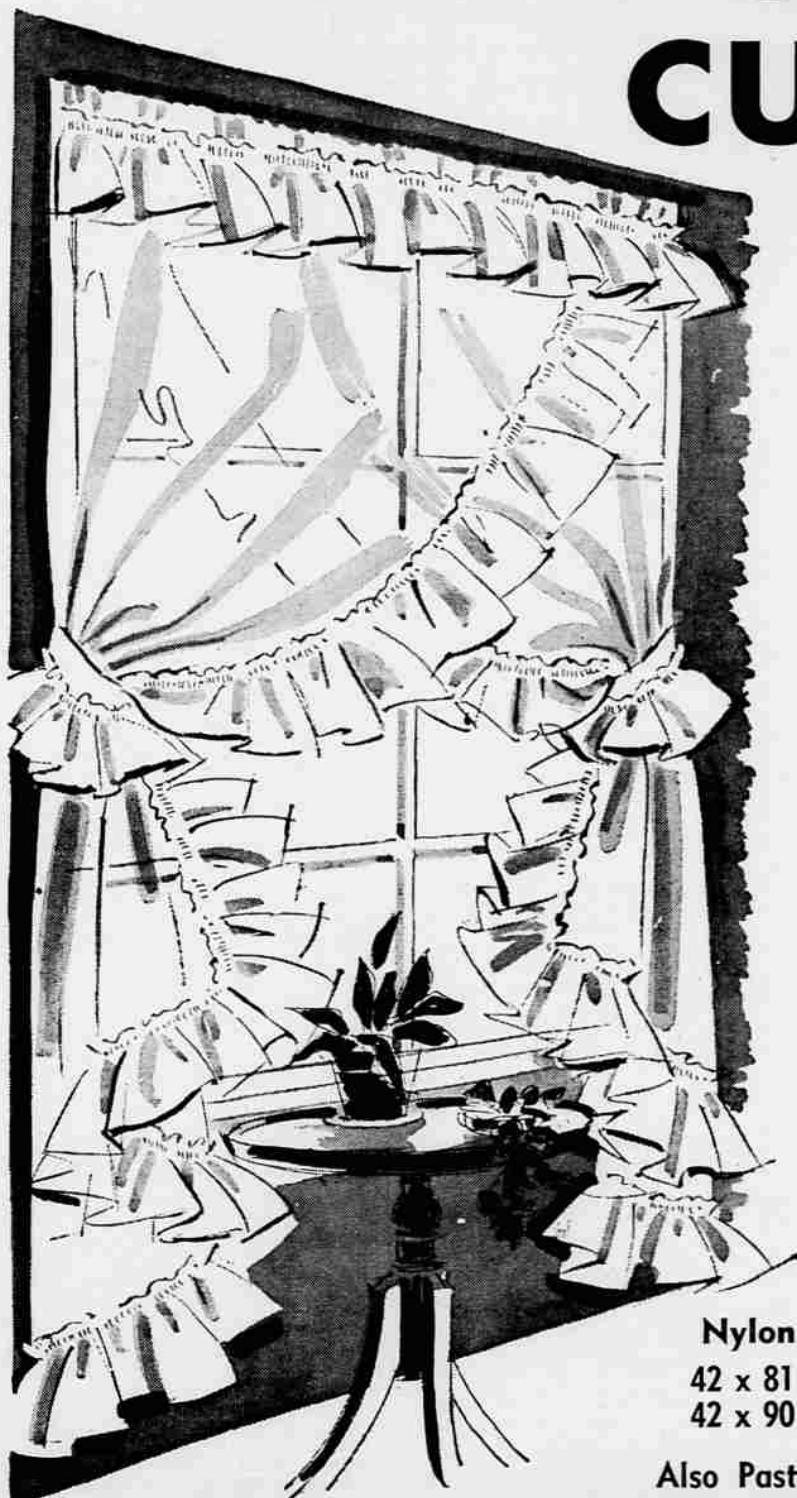
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