

# Capital Journal

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## MYSTERY OF TWO MEN

"Death Valley Scotty" has waved from the ridgetop and passed over to the other side. To some he was the Spirit of the Old West hovering over the desolate valley whose name he bore. Others say he was a fourflusher. A press story says bluntly that he fooled the world for more than 30 years.

Anyway he was colorful. But it isn't Death Valley Scotty the picturesque, the profligate spender and the teller of tall tales of hidden gold, who is so intriguing. What the world would like to know is the story behind the story.

What was the connection between Albert M. Johnson, the Chicago insurance executive, and Scotty, the lone wolf of Death Valley? Scotty seems to have made vague mention at times of his "pardner." Johnson was silent.

Then, after more than 30 years of fooling the world, Scotty seems to have admitted that Johnson, and not a hidden gold mine, was the source of his wealth. And Johnson, under duress of an oath in court, seems to have confirmed it.

But why? Scotty had once nursed Johnson back to health in the hills, it is said. So Johnson gave him millions, and built him a castle at the head of Death Valley. Hardly plausible.

"He had a great appetite for money, and I like to give it to him," said Johnson.

But when Johnson was hard pressed Scotty, too, could come through handsomely.

"I still got about \$700,000 in the rock," he said, and later admitted there was no rock.

So what is the story behind the story, the link between the insurance executive and the man in the desert? Was it a story of men's hatred, men's passions, greed, or—just the love of one good guy for another?

As the Mexicas would shrug and say, Quien sabe? Who knows?—S. A. S.

## ANOTHER 'FIVE AND TEN' CRISIS

When the matrimonial affairs of the very rich become public property they usually become dillies. Those of Barbara Hutton, the five and ten heiress, hit the nation's front pages with a resounding smack the other day when she wed her fifth, a Latin American playboy whose only claim to fame is that he has married two of the world's richest women. The guy must have something, at that.

With the ink scarcely dry on this romantic episode the newspaper reader is informed that affairs have reached some sort of a climax between Winthrop Rockefeller, and his estranged wife, Bobo, the ex-cinderella girl, who is the daughter of a miner.

This "rags to riches" romance made millions of hearts throb several years ago, but the hearts of the participants cooled, for some reason not as yet revealed, and now it has become a matter of money between them.

Actually it's another "five and ten" situation, but it doesn't refer to nickles and dimes as in the Hutton case. Winthrop Rockefeller is offering Bobo and their son a five million dollar divorce settlement, plus some fringe benefits of \$70,000 a year income.

But Bobo, having been exposed to the big money, is no piker herself and she wants a round ten million. Winthrop's hard working lawyer indicated that he was about to give up, because every time his client raised the ante Bobo raised her demands, leaving the two as far apart as ever. And we imagine a lawyer gets no fee unless there is something to claim a percentage of.

Today it is announced that Winthrop says it's got to be "five million, take it or leave it." We've a suspicion Bobo will take, once she gets the idea that a present generation Rockefeller can be tough, like his old grand daddy used to be. At least this is what most of us would do, confronted with such an ultimatum.

Gosh, if only we could be.

## NEW LIGHT ON THE 22 P.W.s

Return of Corporal Claude J. Batchelor, one of the 22 American war prisoners who refused repatriation following the Korean truce throws new light on what has become a mystery to most Americans here at home.

The assumption has been that any American prisoner was free to return to the U.S. lines by simply telling one of his Indian guards of his desire. Simple as that, the dispatches have suggested.

Batchelor, a Texan, suggests it wasn't and isn't quite that simple. He says the 22 got their orders not to listen to explanations of U.S. representatives and were probably afraid to disobey them. Once they had accepted the Communist way of thinking they more or less automatically accepted the principle of blind obedience to orders.

Batchelor finally mustered courage to speak to a guard and made his return to our forces. He suggests that others of the group would probably like to do the same thing.

We suspect that these 22 are far from the brightest ones in the army. The fact that they succumbed to Communist blandishments in the first place strongly suggests this. And they could now be held against their will, as Batchelor suggests.

If this is the case a further effort should be made to reach them before letting them be doomed to worse than death, for once their propaganda value to the Red cause has passed it will be death or slave labor camps for all of them. And this is a harsh penalty for ignorance.

## Pratt Buys Interest In Plant at Albany

Russell Pratt, Salem warehouse and transportation operator, who is one of four men to purchase the Harry Seavy interests in the Albany Ice and Cold Storage Company plant, states that plans for expansion are under consideration. However, no announcement will be made in this connection for some time.

Pratt, along with Harold Arnett, Rex Casey and Ken Edick, all of Albany, hold a minority interest in the Albany plant. Jess Savage, president, retains control of the stock.

The Albany property consists of the old Albany ice plant in the downtown area and a new cold storage warehouse located on 30 acres of land south of the city. A meeting of the organization is scheduled for January 16.

## Back Scratchers Deluxe

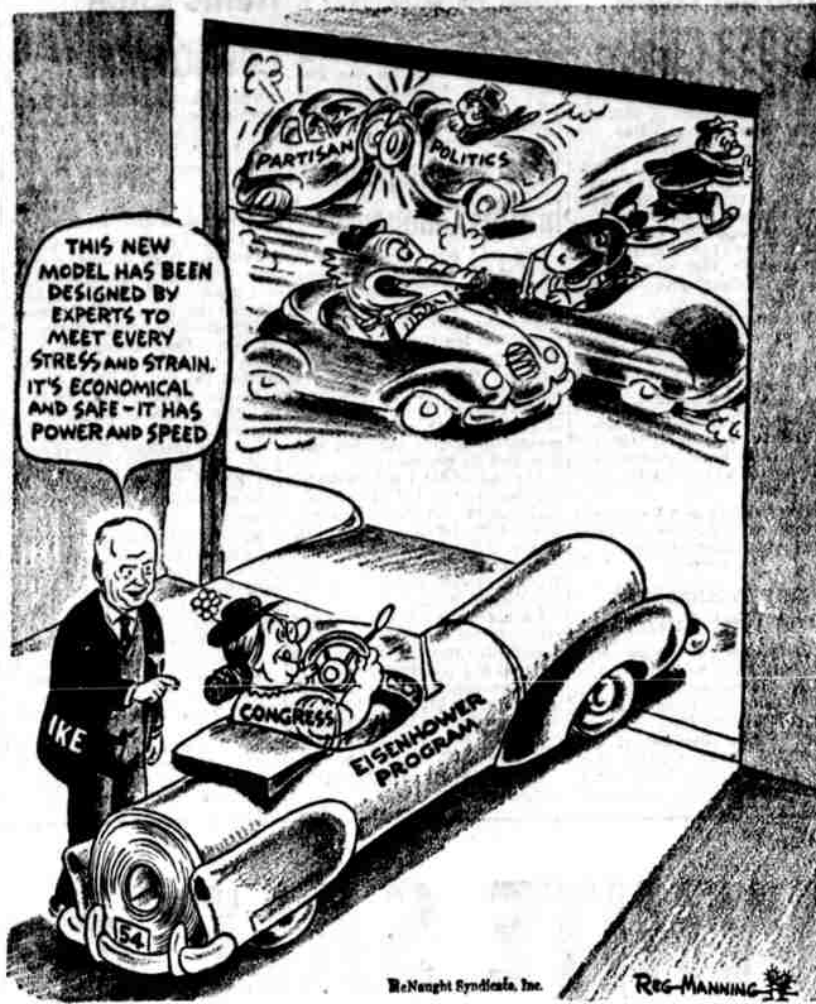
Pendleton East Oregon There's a man in the U.S. senate, and a democrat at that, who can criticize Sen. Joseph McCarthy without fear of being slandered. Last week Nevada's Sen. Pat McCarran said, "The senate investigations subcommittee headed by Sen. McCarthy in its far-flung Red hunts has stepped over into a field where it was not intended to function at all."

To which Sen. McCarthy replied, "I have no argument with Pat McCarran. Pat is one of the greatest senators we ever had and I have unlimited respect for him." There's a pair to draw to, men!

## GIVE 'EM BACK

Honest motorists gave a bonus of \$279 to the police department. They dropped nickels in parking meters which were not legally in use.

## NOW FOR THE TRAFFIC TEST



## WASHINGTON MERRY-GO-ROUND

### Ike's Mysterious Talk With Ambassador Was on—Golf

By DREW PEARSON

WASHINGTON — At a recent White House dinner for the diplomatic corps, ambassadors were curious over an animated conversation between President Eisenhower and Bolivian Ambassador Victor Andrade. The President huddled with Andrade longer than with any other diplomat.

Ambassador Andrade represents a country with plenty of problems, though many of them have been ironed out, thanks to his own astute diplomacy. However, Bolivia is still wooed by Dictator Peron and troubled by some communist agitators; so there was a lot of speculation among envoys as to what the two men talked about—especially when Andrade remained mysteriously mum.

However, the subject of their conversation was—golf.

The Bolivian ambassador, who plays in about the same 80-to-90 scoring range as the President, but plays at the Chevy Chase club, not Burning Tree, was asked whether he had ever played with Gen. Frank Allen, former commander of the 3rd armored division and European public-relations chief for Ike during the war—a member of Chevy Chase.

Then the President quizzed Andrade about golf in the upper altitude of La Paz, capital of Bolivia. One golf course in La Paz is about 14,000 feet above sea level. And in that rarefied atmosphere, the ball goes much farther. He said he had sometimes driven 400 yards on a shot which would have been around 250 yards in the U.S.A.

And that was what had other diplomats buzzing at the White House dinner.

Troops Out of Korea The order to withdraw 21,000 U.S. troops from Korea caused some backstage bitterness in the Pentagon, but is one of the most important policy steps the United States has ever taken in regard to future war.

It completely reverses the old State Department-Pentagon policy against using the atom bomb. It also marks the beginning of American reliance on atom bombs instead of land armies.

Hitherto, Secretary of State Acheson was dead opposed to using the A-bomb in Korea or in neighboring China. So was Gen. Omar Bradley and the joint chiefs of staff. So were our western allies. And when President Truman once let drop in a press conference the idea that he was even considering the use of the A-bomb in Korea, Clement Attlee, Prime Minister of England came rushing across the Atlantic to stop him.

Today, however, it is Secretary of State Dulles and the civilian chiefs of the Defense Department who have reversed this policy.

U. S. military leaders are decidedly doubtful. Adm. Arthur Radford, chairman of the joint chiefs of staff, has held a private debate with Secretary Dulles, arguing that if it becomes necessary to stop aggression we should try to confine ourselves to little, limited wars. We should not let war spread.

This is a reversal of position for Admiral Radford. Now in the No. 1 military spot of the nation, Admiral Radford of late has been arguing for "conventional weapons" and for outlawing the atom bomb. Skeptical Ridgway Gen. Matt Ridgway, army chief

## Salem 40 Years Ago

By BEN MAXWELL

January 7, 1911

A Salem wife of an itinerant minister of faith called "Religion of the Golden Tongues" had started divorce proceedings against that preacher on grounds of non-support. Food for her babies and herself had gotten down to one cup of rice.

President of Portland's defunct Title Guarantee & Trust company, convicted of stealing \$288,428.87 of the state's educational fund, had a strong delegation appearing in his behalf before Acting Governor Bowerman.

Taxpayers in the Donald, Hubbard, Aurora and Champog area to the number of 400 had signed a petition asking for a Willamette river bridge near Butteville.

As the result of a boxing match for 35c.

## POOR MAN'S PHILOSOPHER

### Trellis Mae Puts Crimp in Wilbur's Lunch Allowance

By HAL BOYLE

Hometown, U.S.A. (AP)—"What makes men hold on to their money so?" demanded Trellis Mae Peeble, America's most average housewife.

Wilbur lowered his morning newspaper until their eyes met across the breakfast table.

"Dear," he said, "a wife's conversation is like a jigsaw puzzle—it takes a fellow some time to make any kind of pattern out of it. What are you trying to get at? I don't know any man who is holding on to his money."

"Well, Winthrop Rockefeller is. I read it in the newspaper before you got up."

"Is he? How does he do it?"

"By refusing to give it to Bobo."

"What's a bobo?"

"Oh, don't act so dumb. Bobo is Winthrop's wife."

"Why won't he give it to Bobo?"

"Why?" replied Wilbur, who was trying to read an article about the electric power problem in India.

"Well, they are separated, and Winthrop moved to Arkansas to forget it all. Now he wants to settle six million dollars on her, but his lawyer says Bobo is holding out for ten million dollars. Isn't that a silly thing to quarrel over?"

"It could be a matter of principle," said Wilbur.

"What's a principle?"

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## Wire Tap and Radar Evidence

Albany Democrat-Herald

Wire-tapping for the most part is, as Supreme Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes once called it, "dirty business," but we think it ought not to be barred as a means of obtaining evidence for use in the trial of capital felony cases, such as murder, kidnaping and treason.

Ordinary eavesdropping, motivated by raw curiosity or some narrow personal reason, is contemptible. The case is different, however, when authorities, on the trail of a suspect in a capital crime, could use the content of conversations in which a suspect participates.

As things now stand, no evidence obtained through the tapping of wires can be used in a federal court. Not only should this rule not be extended to state courts, but we believe it should be abrogated in courts of federal scope. The rule is another instance of leaning backward to give every advantage to an accused person; perhaps this sort of thing can be overdone.

We feel somewhat the same way about the use of radar to trap violators of traffic laws. A driver going 27 miles an hour in a 25-mile zone, where there is no apparent danger to other drivers or to pedestrians, is getting pretty severe treatment if convicted by the impersonal evidence of radar; but in such case a court might be expected to use judgment or, after conviction, to suspend a sentence. In many cases, however, the radar evidence might be all that would stand between a reckless speeder and undeserved acquittal. Much depends on the seriousness of the particular offense, and to decide on this is a primary function of the courts.

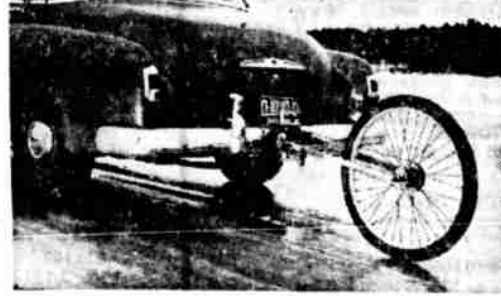
It has been said, repeatedly, that law enforcement is not just a game of wits between a suspected offender and the authorities—a game in which anything an individual can get away with is O.K. We think that fact ought to be even more generally kept in mind. The safety of society needs to be remembered as well as the rights of individuals.

## BLOWOUT DIDN'T STOP MOTORIST

CHANDLER, Ariz. — A little thing like a tire blowout didn't stop Al Martin as he drove home yesterday. Didn't even slow him down, in fact. The tire was his spare.

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