

Where else will a nickel buy so much? Post Office offers nation's 'best buy'

By Harry Ferguson
UPI Staff Writer

WASHINGTON (UPI) — The U. S. Post Office Department would like for you to believe that the best buy in the nation today in terms of value received is a five-cent stamp. It supports the argument by citing the fact that a letter going from one state to another passes through 16 separate processes and the address on the envelope must be correctly read by at least eight persons.

Unless each of the eight persons is operating at 100 per cent efficiency, there is going to be a snafu. Every human being is fallible at some time and that is why it occasionally takes a week for a letter from New York City to be delivered across the Hudson River in Jersey City.

When you drop a letter into a mail box, you set in motion this intricate process: A truck rushes the letter to the central post office. It is run through what is called a "stacker" which turns all the envelopes right side up and post marks them. Then the mail is "cased" by states.

Then it is "cased" by cities, meaning that all the mail destined for one city is placed in the same case. This is where trouble can occur. If a Milwaukee letter gets in the Minneapolis case, it may take a week to straighten things out.

Mail for each city then is "tied out"—put into a big bundle and then into a huge pouch. It goes to the appropriate trains or airplanes and here, too, a slight error can cause chaos.

Trucks are waiting at the destination city to carry the mail to the central post office. There takes place a "primary separation"—letters are sorted according to postal sub-stations. Then there is a "secondary separation," meaning the same letters are sorted according to carrier routes.

Trucks carry the mail to the appropriate sub-station post offices where the letters are sorted again according to individual addresses. Then the postman picks up the letters and delivers them.

This is a cumbersome process, subject to human error, and the Post Office Department is seeking short cuts. One of them is the ZIP code, which works like this — you address a letter as follows:

Mr. John Doe
3300 North Dinwiddie Street
Arlington, Va. 22207.

The five numbers are the ZIP code. The 7 indicates the postal zone. The first 2 identifies the national postal area, which in this case consists of six states. The second 2 indicates the subdivision postal area, northern Virginia. The third 2 identifies the post office, Arlington. The 07 points out the sub-station from which the mail is to be delivered to North Dinwiddie Street.

With the ZIP code a postal clerk can tell at a glance precisely where the letter is going. It also opens up the possibility that eventually mail can be sorted by machines capable of reading code numbers. The ZIP code originally was designed for corporations with heavy mailing lists, but anybody can get a number by applying to his postmaster.

The Post Office Department says 80 per cent of the letters reacting to the ZIP code have been favorable. But an angry minority has been writing to newspapers and magazines protesting that if this keeps up we are all going to become numbers rather than persons.

"ZIP, schmp" wrote J. Paul Hunter of Williamstown, Mass., to Time magazine in an angry letter, which he signed:

"208-24-6254 (Social Security), 413-4583569 (telephone), 319 (college), 92167 (ZIP).

Time's editors replied sympathetically, but said they were honor bound to tell Hunter that on

their subscription list he was 0000711342014. That ended the correspondence and time marches on.

A large headache to the Post Office Department is that 80 per cent of the day's mail is deposited after 5 p.m. In New York City alone seven million pieces of mail — more than the daily mail volume of all Canada — goes into the slots after 5 p.m. The Post Office Department is fighting this bottle-neck by trying to persuade big corporations to deposit their mail at intervals throughout the day.

Another device for speeding delivery is called ABCD (accelerated business collection and delivery). It works only inside the business districts of cities. If you drop a letter in a box marked ABCD before 11 a.m., the Post Office Department will guarantee to deliver it by 3 p.m. of the same day. This was tried out last year in Lansing, Mich., worked well and is now used in more than 40 cities.

Postmaster General J. Edward Day, who has just resigned to return to private business, is an imaginative fellow and he kept coming up with ideas for speeding up the mails. One day he got to thinking about the plight of the postman who has to deliver mail in tall buildings and he came up with VIM (vertical improved mail). It is now being tried in the 29-story Crown-Zellerbach building in San Francisco.

VIM is a system of dumb waiters operating from the building's central mail room. Each tenant has a big locked box which is sent up periodically to his floor. He opens the box with his key, takes out the mail and puts in the outgoing letters. You can have as many deliveries per day as you choose and get rid of the outgoing mail at the same time.

Tomorrow: Problems of the postmen — biting dogs and amorous women.

U.S.-Soviet accord has raised question of Red China's course

By Phil Newsom
UPI Staff Writer

Just as the nuclear test ban agreement has aroused speculation over possible new areas of agreement between the United States and the Soviet Union, so there also is room for legitimate speculation over the course now to be followed by Red China.

President Kennedy pirated it in somber tones when he said at his Aug. 1 news conference that a continuation of present Red Chinese policies into the 1970's could create a situation potentially more dangerous than any since the end of World War II.

The failure of the two Communist giants to settle their dispute in last month's Moscow meetings effectively isolated Peking from Moscow, and the nuclear agreement simply added to Red Chinese frustration.

This is a frustration of long-standing, having its roots in steadfast U. S. opposition to Red Chinese expansions and now abetted by Soviet refusal to help the Chinese develop a nuclear arsenal of their own.

It may be expected that Red China will move strongly now to consolidate her influence over the Communist parties of Asia, and to extend it over similar parties in Africa and South America, using the color line as one of her weapons.

She also may be expected to continue boring from within tactics. She has denounced the leadership of the World Federation of Trade Unions, the International Union of Students and the World Federation of Democratic Youth for supporting the Nuclear Treaty. But she has made no move to withdraw membership in such Communist organizations. Militarily she is able to pose a threat in Korea, in southeast Asia and against India.

But reckless as the Red Chinese leadership has been with words, it has shown no real desire to take on a fight it is certain to lose.

With the U. S. 7th Fleet patrol-

ling the Straits of Formosa, she has made no real move against the Chiang Kai-Shek stronghold or even against the off-shore islands of Quemoy or the Matsus.

When shooting broke out along the Korean truce line and three Americans died there last month, there was a flurry of speculation that this might be the start of a new Chinese-directed attempt to start something.

South Korean Elections

Finally, more than to anything else, it was attributed to the season and to a desire to disrupt approaching South Korean elections.

The chance that Red China, with an obsolete air force and without nuclear weapons, would start a major action against such a lineup seems increasingly remote.

But, meanwhile, the nuclear reactor given to Peking by the Russians in 1958 continues to cook its bomb-making material and in 10 years the picture could be different.

Active season for political 'balloons' ahead

By Dick West
UPI Staff Writer

WASHINGTON (UPI) — In politics, it is important to be able to distinguish between a trial balloon and a lead balloon.

Many a politician has turned loose what he thought was a trial balloon only to have it drop on his foot and fracture a couple of toes.

Others have been known to rupture their lungs trying to blow air into the uninflatable variety.

Despite such hazards, however, it appears that we are in for a rather active balloon season during the next few months. The 1964 national conventions are still about a year away and already a couple of exploratory gasbags have appeared on the horizon.

When last seen they were losing altitude fast. Apparently the launchers were unable to get all the lead out.

Trial balloons have one thing in common — a certain amount of flatulence. Beyond that they may vary widely in shape and size.

Possibly there are a number of children, and maybe a few under-privileged adults, who have never seen a trial balloon. For their benefit, and for others who may need a refresher course in trial balloon recognition, I shall undertake to list the identifying features of some of the more familiar types.

"Friends of Sen. Lungbuser are quietly working behind the scenes in an effort to obtain the presidential nomination for him next year. . ."

The key word there, the one that stamps it as the work of a trial balloonist, is "quietly."

If his friends thought that Lungbuser really had a chance, they already would have hired a brass band.

Should this balloon produce any sort of reaction other than hysterical laughter, a second one will be sent aloft.

"Some of the prospective candidates for next year's presidential nomination are quietly working behind the scenes in a 'Stop Lungbuser maneuver. . ."

A balloon of that sort gets its lift from the fact that the person being stopped actually has never started. It presages the launching of still another type.

"Sen. Lungbuser had quietly passed the word that he would not accept second place on the ticket."



A few more days should tell us what decision has been made

For some weeks there has been speculation as to the eventual fate of the 58 American "Students" who made the trip to Cuba this summer in spite of refusal of the State Department to grant them passport visas for the trip. The 58 went ahead anyway, after warnings from the President and the State Department that such a trip would be held to be "not in the interest of the United States."

Some members of the group are bona fide students. Others, however, were known Communist organizers and leading lights in the Fair Play for Cuba committee, a Castro-financed organization which has been a leading apologist for the bearded dictator.

To get around the passport restrictions, the students flew to Czechoslovakia, and then boarded a flight for Havana. A long way, indeed, to go to reach an island only 90 miles off the Florida coast. They are returning via the same route. Our government has evidence which proves the entire junket was sponsored and subsidized by the Castro government. And President Kennedy, at August press conference, issued a mild threat. "The passports of all those who took the trip would be lifted," he said, and "other steps may be considered in regard to a few who are not students but who are Communists."

One of the group, Todd Stuart, a Harvard student, on July 31 said in Havana that he didn't believe the government could take away their passports. This was after learning by Miami radio that the passports had been revoked. "A few years ago," Stuart said, "the Supreme Court ruled that a passport is private property."

Stuart was referring to a ruling of 1958. The Supreme Court also held that the Secretary of State had no authority to deny passports on the basis of an applicant's associations or beliefs.

The House of Representatives in

1958 and 1959 passed a bill giving the State Department authority to bar passports to Communists, but the Senate did not act in either year. A 1960 report of the House Un-American Activities Committee recommended that the Secretary of State be authorized to deny passports to persons "whose purpose in traveling abroad" was to "advance the objectives of Communists." And in January 1962 the Department of State issued new regulation denying to Communist Party members but providing that they be allowed a hearing.

The case against the students would not appear to be governed by the 1958 ruling, for they willfully violated terms under which the passports had been issued. A more likely parallel is the case of William Worthy, Jr., Negro newspaperman who spent 41 days in Red China in 1956 and two days in Hungary in 1957 in violation of passport regulations. The State Department refused to renew Worthy's passport. The refusal was upheld by the U.S. Court of Appeals in Washington, and the Supreme Court in December 1959 denied a review. (Bans on travel by newspapermen in Red China and Hungary were later lifted.)

Worthy ran afoul of the law again two years ago when he shipped for Mexico — where no passport is needed — but left the ship at Havana because, he said, he was ill. He stayed 11 weeks writing articles for his paper. He returned by plane in October. Curiously, six months passed before he was indicted for violation of the McCarran-Walter Immigration and Nationality Act of 1952. He was convicted and last Sept. 17 was sentenced to three months in jail and a year on probation. The conviction is being appealed.

Worthy's prosecution was unusual, to say the least. Indications are that the erring students will fare better with the government, except, perhaps for those who are not really students.

Dark cloud for high school grads

Many bright-eyed June graduates of Central Oregon high schools will pass briefly under a dark cloud this fall as they are pushed out of the nest onto a college campus. For some, the transition may be long; they may never be able to make necessary adjustments.

Though mother and dad may be just a telephone call away, students do find themselves on their own. The gay lark of social and academic freedom must turn into social and academic responsibility. Otherwise, they will find themselves at home "working."

Group living is quite an adjustment to young adults of both sexes. Most freshmen are not used to having 300 boys and girls who are more than willing to take Coke breaks, borrow clothes, or be constant companions until the wee hours of the morning.

The 35 or 40 pages of reading in each of six classes will no longer be put off so easily until the next day. Students find that when they are simply a name or number, they can't pat the teacher on the back and give the excuse that they had various meetings to attend or company the

previous night. Cheat-sheets and ponies aren't so highly regarded in the college mid-term of final. There is always the fear of the guy next to you who is sending himself through school.

One term or semester later, those students who have learned to budget their time, both academically and socially, will find they have made the grade (or grades). Those who don't return and feel that college isn't their cup of tea will go down some other avenue of life only to find that they still have the lesson of self-discipline to learn.

Quotable quotes

It is a God-given instinct. Used right, it is a wonderful servant. Used wrong, it is a terrible tyrant. — Evangelist Billy Graham in a sermon on sex.

Our bodies numbering over 100,000 will bear witness—will serve historic notice—that jobs and freedom are needed now. — From the 12-page manual outlining plans for next week's civil rights march on Washington.

Washington Merry-go-round

The oil lobbyists are active at all levels, protecting that allowance

By Jack Anderson

WASHINGTON — Texas oil tycoon Bedford Wynne dropped by the Democratic National Committee last week to discuss campaign contributions and tax changes.

The two subjects are not unrelated. Indeed, oilmen have learned that the bigger their contributions, the safer their tax benefits.

Wynne was closeted for 45 minutes with Dick Maquire, a back-room politician, who handles finances and favors for the Democratic party. Maquire never forgets a big contributor who may be in need of government consideration.

There are a few more deserving contributors than oilmen. Wynne, who staged a \$1,000-a-plate dinner last January to pay off the Democratic debt. The dinner raised a whopping \$500,000, largely from the oil crowd.

Shortly after this happy event, Wynne's oil partner, John Murchison, paid a private 90-minute call on the President. The visit was never announced, and no one overheard their conversation.

But Murchison returned to Texas smiling, and told fellow oilmen not to worry about tax reforms.

Now the House Ways and Means Committee is putting the finishing touches on a tax bill. Wynne chose this moment to show up in Washington and volunteer his services again to raise money for the Dem-

ocratic cause in 1964.

Wynne's trip was probably unnecessary. For there is little danger that the congressmen will plug the most gaping of all tax loopholes: the oil depletion allowance.

Slick Oil Lobby

Behind the congressmen, crackling the velvet whip, are the oil lobbyists. They are the most skilled, most elite of all Washington pressure people. Well-tailored and turned out, they are skilled at the "soft sell," seldom are found engaged in blatant lobbying.

They belong to the hush-hush, plush-plush Carlton Club on the second floor of Washington's Sheraton-Carlton Hotel. Here, in an atmosphere of elegant dignity, they entertain congressmen and government officials. There are afternoon poker and gin games, subdued ball sessions, lots of liquor.

When their oil privileges are threatened, however, these back-room boys can drop their dignity and lobby at any level it takes to win. They can retain a senator's law firm, if necessary, or deliver campaign cash to a needy congressman.

Those who cannot be persuaded or pressured are investigated. During the gas bill fight, the oil lobby ran a complete genealogy on senators, who suddenly received letters from almost forgotten relatives asking them to support

the bill.

Commented Sen. George Aiken, Vermont Republican: "They have checked on who you have ever been associated with, who are your friends, who has supported you in the past, anybody who has ever worked for you or with you. And they get them to contact you."

The giant is Standard Oil of New Jersey, which also does the most subtle job of disguising its power. It maintains only a modest office in Washington, and handles government relations from New York City, thus attracting less attention.

Esso's Quiet Man

The quiet, suave squads of Standard Oil men, who commute regularly between Manhattan and Washington, are discreetly directed by Judge Cecil Morgan, a dignified gray-tatched Louisiana gentleman.

The genial judge works closely with Humble Oil, whose Washington office is headed by young, handsome Walter Sprague, an ex-Eisenhower official.

Gulf Oil's Washington office is run by Kermit Roosevelt, grandson of rough-riding T.R. Socony uses Chris Herter, Jr., son of the former Secretary of State; and Texaco has Jim Pipkin, a roly-poly Texas politician type.

These men pull powerful strings both on Capitol Hill and in the government departments downtown.

Berlin wall has not solved E. Germany's problem, nor has it stabilized Red regime

By Joseph B. Fleming
UPI Staff Writer

BERLIN (UPI) — "Conditions are so bad in the prison that even the keepers are escaping."

That's a popular West Berliners' description of East Berlin two years after the building of the anti-refugee wall that divides the city.

The wall, built by the Communists on Aug. 13, 1961, has not solved the satellite East Germans' problems, nor has it helped stabilize the regime as the Communists had hoped.

It did halt the mass flood of refugees that threatened to bleed East Germany white. But East Germans still brave death almost daily to flee by every conceivable means.

And the prison's keepers —

the police, soldiers and border guards — are escaping in ever increasing numbers.

Would Risk

Western officials say the Communists would risk the almost complete depopulation of East Germany if they took the wall down now.

Two years ago when the wall went up East Germans were fleeing the West Berlin hole in the Iron Curtain at the rate of up to 100 an hour.

In July, the last full month before the wall, 30,000 East Germans walked or rode across the East-West border.

The wall along the 26-mile East-West Berlin border halted that mass flow. In the two years since the wall 16,456 refugees have managed to get to the West.

The first year 12,000 got out. Strengthened controls the second year cut the number to 4,456.

But the number of escaping soldiers and police has increased. The first year 400 soldiers, border guards and policemen fled. The second year 904.

Only fear of retaliation against their families and lack of opportunity keep most border guards from fleeing, defectors have reported.

Despised By Civilians

Morale is said to be extremely low because the soldiers are despised by civilians for guarding the wall.

Pfc. Manfred Tucker, 21, who fled to the U. S. Army's Checkpoint Charlie last month, said "no matter how crowded a train is no other passenger will take a vacant seat next to a border guard."

"I was stationed in East Berlin almost two years ago and never got to know a girl. They wouldn't talk to us. Outside of the men in my company I had no friends."

Pfc. Heinz Heger, 20, who also fled, said: "More than half of my unit would defect to the West in the first few days if war broke out."

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Other pens . . .

Stan the most

Big league baseball will lose one of its real institutions this fall when Stan "The Man" Musial hangs up his spikes.

Musial has been a St. Louis Cardinal mainstay for 22 years. He won three National League Most Valuable Player awards. He led the league in batting seven times. He holds National League records for the most runs (1,939), most games (2,987), most hits (3,610), most doubles (721), most times at bat (10,881) and most runs batted in (1,937). He holds the major league record for total bases (6,099). He never won a home run title, but his 472 round-trippers place him sixth on the all-time home run list.

The 42-year-old Musial also is one of the game's finest sportsmen and gentlemen. He will be missed, but remembered, by fans everywhere. (Salem Capital Journal.)

Barbs

Some politicians name names, others just call them.

We'd be almost willing to let some reformers shut up everything if it included their mouths.



When mother does fall housecleaning she may find an egg or two hidden for the kids at Easter.

The need of a shave is considered one of the best chaperons.

Authors
ACROSS
1 American humorist
4 "Ivanhoe" author
9 "Gold Bug" author
12 "Diamond" author
13 Titter
14 Morsel
15 Yeap (slang)
16 Soul (Hindu)
17 Creek
18 Roman official
20 Plug up
22 Oil of orange
24 Author of "Spectator"
25 Crow
26 Gun (slang)
28 Sooner than
29 French writer
31 Town plaza (Italian)
32 Holy (Hindu)
33 Nothing
36 Arrest (slang)
39 Thulium oxide
41 Hardens
44 Wimbleber
45 Creator of "Doll's House"
46 Some
47 Cordage fibre
51 I have (contr.)
52 Jap statesman
53 Impassive
54 Born
55 Negative prefix
56 Author of "Tennessee's Partner"
57 Worm
DOWN
1 Author of "A Kentucky Cardinal"
2 Crown
3 New York town
Answer to Previous Puzzle
ACROSS
4 Madame de
(form)
6 Resistance unit
7 Beverage
8 Dogma
9 O. Henry
10 Bird
11 Storehouse
19 Humble
21 Observe
23 Liard
24 Raw material
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29 Direct current (ab.)
30 Kipling's "Just Stories"
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32 Japan's
33 Author of "Lullian"
34 Chevalier's
35 Cuis
36 Lump
37 Arsenical gas
38 Steers
39 Ignited
40 Erse
41 Female kin
42 Cuis
43 Station (ab.)
44 Hill
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