

CAN'T BLAME ANYONE FOR HIDING . . . They're Happy—in Their Hermit Heavens! ... IN CLOTHES CLOSET THESE DAYS

By H. I. PHILLIPS

CLOTHES CLOSET REFUGEES

The case of the young New York man who lived in a clothes closet for 10 years and, upon his release, cried, "I want to go back in there. I don't like it outside," is not as unusual as you might think.

This department has come into possession of the fact that there are numerous such cases. Elmer Twitchell, for instance, has a nephew, Pastrami Twitchell, who has not only been in a closet for 10 years, but has resisted all efforts to entice him out. "He went in during

Hitler's oratorical tirades over the strike. We nearly got him out this season, but he heard Vishinsky," Elmer explained. "Then he nailed up the door from the inside."

Other cases reported today, with statements by each follow: Thaddeus Swivelhead: "Yes, I have been living in the top drawer of an old dresser for five years. I crawled in because of the depressing war news all over the world. After a little while I heard that the war was over and that peace had been declared. I came out, read the newspaper headlines and leaped back in again. I'm no fool."

Asa Z. Boogie, who has been living on a shelf in a basement pantry ever since 1943: "I climbed onto this shelf when the prices of everything began rising, with government controls helping very little. From time to time I peeked out and found things getting more unbearable. I am a fugitive from 75-cent cocktails, beer at 17-cents a glass, \$4.50 steak dinners, 28-cent gasoline, shrimp cocktails at \$1.10 a throw, 90 cents for watered soup, the \$1.25 raw lamb chop delivered on the butcher's block and people who call up to know what radio program I am listening to. Come out again? Why?"

H. K. G. Stuffinbox, who has been residing in a filing cabinet for ever so long: "If you wish to talk to me, climb in. I refuse to come out for anybody. I consider that I am a sane, wise and highly judicious fellow. You and all others who prefer the outside world in its present shape are nuts."

"The location of my home and my place of employment was such that I had to use the subways for north and south travel and buses for east and west. Once in a while when I went to a theater I had to get a taxi. I lived in an apartment where everybody kept the radio

on all night. A room across the hall was occupied by an opera star who vocalized all day. Every few weeks there was an elevator strike in the building. And in order to get to my job I had to cross nine picket lines. So I got into this filing cabinet and, mister, it seems paradise."

Jarvis P. X. Waffle, who has been living in an abandoned cello case ever since 1919: "I got in right after Woodrow Wilson announced America would make the world safe for democracy. I knew what that would mean. Now and then I get a pretty good line on what life is like outside this cello case and, boy, am I happy to be where I am! No flying saucer mysteries! No video comedians! No bop music! No radio jingles! No jackpots! They can't even get me interested in 'Stop The Music.'"

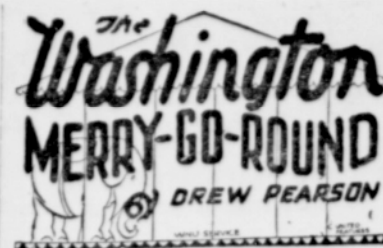
Jottings
There are so many daily changes in President Truman's cabinet that it seems to us something should be done to number the players or abolish the two platoon system in government.

"John L. Lewis Hopes to Avoid Strike."—Headline . . . Wanna bet?

Olympia flew to Churchill Downs by plane. It was just for practice. In his recent races the horse had trouble getting his landing gear down.

"Secretary of Commerce Sawyer administered the oats to his new chief aide, Cornelius Vanderbilt."—Journal of Commerce . . . Come, come, boys, the setup in Washington isn't getting that bad!

"The psychiatrist said that the bank robber was clearly a victim of unbearable emotional conflicts coupled with a form of latent immaturity. The man attempted to establish an impression of importance, and in so doing got hopelessly into debt without the stability to correct this condition."—News.



"Ersatz" Food

THE AMERICAN housewife doesn't know it, but more and more of the food she buys for her family contains the same basic "ersatz" ingredients which I. G. Farben, the notorious Nazi cartel, developed for German troops and civilians in the last war. The German people lived on "ersatz" during most of the war.

The extent of this Farben-izing of American food, unbeknown to the consumer, has been partially investigated by the food and drug administration, which has been holding hearings on the use of synthetic substitutes.

However, the whole story hasn't been told the public, chiefly because of official buck-passing. Food and drug officials wring their hands and say they have no authority under the law for a full-fledged investigation. They admit, however, that more and more chemical substitutes are being used in various foods and that they do not know what the final result will be on the health of the nation.

Meanwhile Republican Rep. Frank Keefe of Wisconsin, who has been quizzing the food and drug administration, has made some startling disclosures. He charged:

1—That bread can and is being chemicalized to a point where it has little if any nutritional value;
2—That non-nutritional chemicals, "mostly the result of the work of I. G. Farben chemists," are being palmed off on the unsuspecting public, in place of milk, fats and eggs in such foods as cake, doughnuts, cereal mixes, peanut butter, ice cream, candy, salad dressing, milk drinks, synthetic whipping cream, pickles and food flavors;

3—Manufacturers and pharmaceutical houses that produce synthetic foodstuffs have not made adequate research to determine if the substitutes are poisonous. While there is no proof of toxicity in most of the substitutes, Keefe points out that seven persons died after using a substitute salt prepared for people who cannot use organic salt in their diet.

Taste Comes First

The synthetic ingredient which many bakers now use in bread is a compound of polyoxyethylene glycol and stearic acid, known as polyoxyethylene monostearate. Stearic acid is derived from animal fats, but polyoxyethylene glycol, a substance similar to purified antifreeze for automobiles, has no nutritional value.

I. G. Farben experimented widely with polyoxyethylene products as a base for "ersatz" German foods during the war.

The American compound is produced chiefly by the Atlas powder company of Wilmington, Del., and Glyco products company of Brooklyn and is distributed in slightly different forms under the trade names "Sta-soft" and "Myrj-45." Both keep bread soft for a long period, so that a housewife who feels a loaf of bread in a grocery store thinks she is getting oven-fresh bread.

In fact, this deceptive quality—plus a pleasing taste the chemical gives the bread—is the chief selling point of its distributors. Vernon C. Usher, Inc., of Chicago, which makes a somewhat similar synthetic compound called "Top-scor," frankly states, in his literature:

"In speaking of higher quality, we mean products that not only look good, but are appealing to the sense of taste as well . . . bakery goods that are not overburdened with fats and other richness to the point where substantially less is eaten."

"We believe that every person—man, woman or child—eats and drinks only that which appeals to the sense of taste, with little or no thought of nutritive value; so, we emphasize again, that higher quality bakery goods, in our opinion, are attained by balancing formulas to a point where they are not overburdened with rich substances which, in the end, tend to discourage and decrease consumption."

Federal Warning

One government agency that is carefully watching on this nutritional question is the department of agriculture. The department foresees not only higher support prices for surplus dairy products, costing the taxpayers millions, but a serious economic threat to dairy farming if chemicals come into wide vogue.

In a confidential report prepared for agriculture secretary Charles Brannan, Ralph Trigg, chief of the production and marketing division, points out:

"It is our opinion that the department should object to the approval of chemical softeners as acceptable ingredients in baking formulas, because of the effect on the health of the nation, since evidence indicates that the substitution of chemical softeners for fats, eggs and milk considerably reduces the food value of the product."

FIRST AID to the AILING HOUSE

by Roger C. Whitman

Building A Basement Room

Question: We have a project in mind and I am able to do the work myself if I have a little help. We want to dig out a basement under the kitchen; we have two rooms under the house already. Have you any leaflets on tiling out the drain, and footings for concrete blocks? After the basement room is completed, we plan on a kitchen sink and cupboards. Have you any leaflets on plumbing for a kitchen?

Answer: Those are all rather large subjects, and I do not have any leaflets to cover them. If there is a good public library in your town, you should find handbooks on plumbing and piping on file. Other sources of information are the publishing house of Theodore Audel & Company, 49 West 23rd St., New York; also the Popular Mechanics Magazine, 200 East Ontario St., Chicago. The Portland Cement Association, 33 West Grand Ave., Chicago, can supply bulletins on concrete work around the house.

New Gasoline Process

The nation's transportation industries, worried by the current gasoline shortage, have been assured of an abundant supply of liquid fuel at reasonable cost when sufficient plants are placed in operation to use a new synthetic process from natural gas. However, this source of supply is not expected to be widely used for several years.

FREED FROM HARSH LAXATIVES

"I used to take laxatives regularly—until I started eating KELLOGG'S ALL-BRAN daily. That was 22 years ago. ALL-BRAN still keeps me regular!" Clarence M. Smith, 3204 St. Paul Avenue, Madison, Wis. This is just one of many unsolicited letters. If you suffer constipation due to lack of bulk in the diet, eat an ounce of ALL-BRAN daily, drink plenty of water. If not satisfied after 10 days, send the empty carton to Kellogg's, Battle Creek, Mich. Get DOUBLE YOUR MONEY BACK! Buy today.

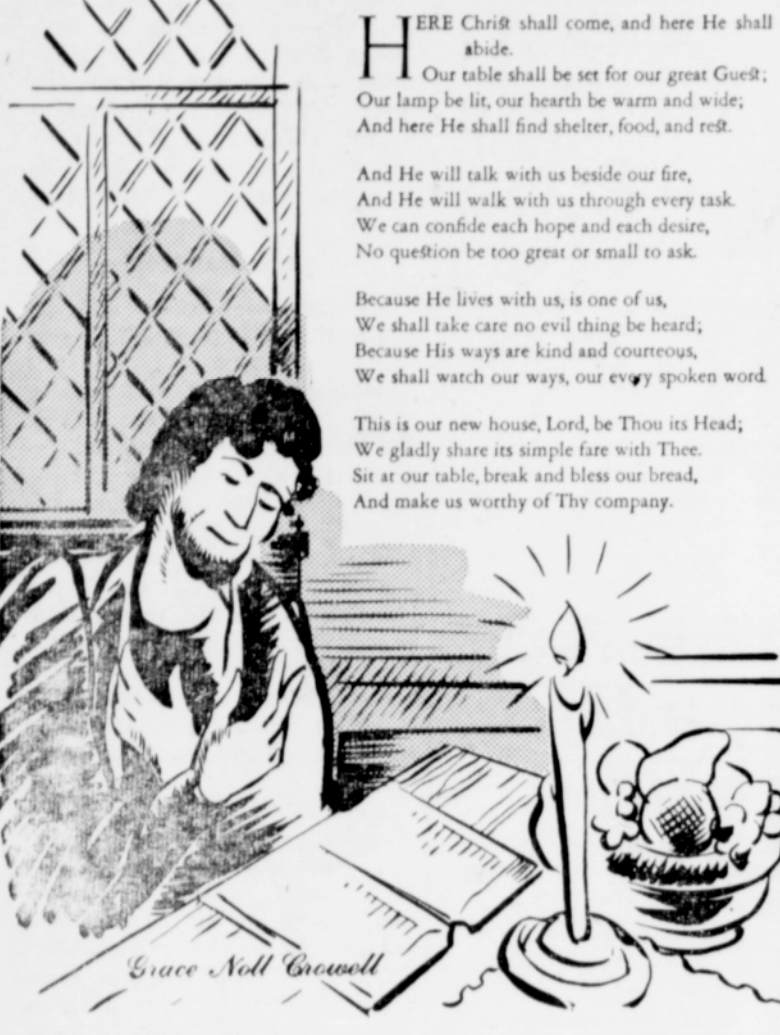


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Kills aphids and similar sucking insects. Permits full development of healthy foliage and top-quality fruits and vegetables. Leaves no harmful residue.
• Kills by contact and by fumes
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Are you troubled by distress of female functional periodic disturbances? Does this make you suffer from pain, feel so nervous, tired—at such times? Then try Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound to relieve such symptoms. Pinkham's has a grand soothing effect on one of woman's most important organs!
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Kidneys Must Work Well—
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24 hours every day, 7 days every week, never stopping, the kidneys filter waste matter from the blood.
If more people were aware of how the kidneys must constantly remove surplus fluid, excess acids and other waste matter that cannot stay in the blood without injury to health, there would be better understanding of why the whole system is upset when kidneys fail to function properly.
Burning, scanty or too frequent urination sometimes warns that something is wrong. You may suffer nagging backache, headaches, dizziness, rheumatic pains, getting up at night, swelling.
Why not try Doan's Pills? You will be using a medicine recommended the country over. Doan's stimulates the function of the kidneys and help them to flush out poisonous waste from the blood. They contain nothing harmful. Get Doan's today. Use with confidence. At all drug stores.
DOAN'S PILLS



The New House

HERE Christ shall come, and here He shall abide.
Our table shall be set for our great Guest;
Our lamp be lit, our hearth be warm and wide;
And here He shall find shelter, food, and rest.

And He will talk with us beside our fire,
And He will walk with us through every track.
We can confide each hope and each desire,
No question be too great or small to ask.

Because He lives with us, is one of us,
We shall take care no evil thing be heard;
Because His ways are kind and courteous,
We shall watch our ways, our every spoken word.

This is our new house, Lord, be Thou its Head;
We gladly share its simple fare with Thee.
Sit at our table, break and bless our bread,
And make us worthy of Thy company.

Grace Noll Crowell

Star Dust

STAGE-SCREEN-RADIO

By INEZ GERHARD

SANDY BECKER, the new "Young Dr. Malone" in the CBS daytime serial, started out to be exactly that, a doctor, to please his father. But his mother had always been keen about amateur theatricals; at a tender age he had appeared in a play with her. When he was eight he was making puppets and putting on shows at local church bazaars. So, when half way



SANDY BECKER

through pre-medical school, he abandoned the career of his father's choice and chose a branch of his mother's hobby, radio. He has hobbies of his own, sculpturing and sketching in winter, playing tennis or golf in summer, but baby-sitting with his son and daughter limits his free time.

Cathy Downs, who is featured in Allied Artists' "Massacre River," is knitting like mad, all because she posed in six knitted dresses for a fashion layout, liked them, and decided she could duplicate them herself.

The success of "Variety Time" has spurred RKO into speeding up production on a big-time vaudeville picture to be called "Make Mine Laugh." It will comprise a batch of new acts and a series of "Flicker Flashbacks" for old-time flavor.

Horace Heidt is planning a musical comedy to feature the youthful talent discovered on his "Original Youth Opportunity Program." It will be titled "The Kids Break Through," is tentatively scheduled for this fall on Broadway.

Patric Knowles is going to let his rusty Spanish get even rustier from now on. In Mexico on location for RKO's "The Big Steal," he had a linguistic disaster when he needed soap, asked a storekeeper for "Sopa"—and got a can of soup!

The Fiction MURDER BY TWO

By Richard H. Wilkinson

IT SEEMS to be universally pre-supposed," said Inspector Ben Odell, "that people who aren't in their own element are at a disadvantage."

"I'm thinking of the time Detective Sergeant Rod Upshur went up to Round Pond for his summer vacation. Rod was city bred and city raised. He worked on the police force of one of the country's largest cities. He didn't know a great deal about the country and country ways. But he knew human nature, and he was smart."

"Rod was staying at one of those summer camps and was having a pretty dull time, when Henry Graves, the owner, came to him with a request."

"There's been a drowning up the river a ways," he explained. "Jed Thomas, the local officer, isn't so sure but what there's foul play. I know it's out of your jurisdiction, but we'd appreciate having you lend us a hand." He smiled flatteringly. "You see, your fame as a detector of crime is far reaching."

"Jed Thomas, a farmer by trade, was congenial and willing to let Rod assume the entire burden."

"Fact is, Mr. Upshur, there's been a feud hereabouts. Between the Hallams and the Spencers. 'Well, sir, couple days back Herm and Punk Hallam come to me an' says they was bait diggin' in their lower pasture and suddenly they sees a boat with Pat Spencer in it come sweepin' around the bend. He was clear across the river, which is about 200 yards wide there, an' they claim he hit a submerged log and stuck. They claim he tried to push hisself off with an oar an' the oar slipped an' it an' him fell overboard. Well, sir, Pat can't swim an' he just naturally drowned."

"Jed Thomas drove Rod out to the Hallam farm and introduced him to Herm and Punk. They were big strapping fellows, smug, amused."

"I see," Rod remarked to Jed, "that you recovered the oar Pat Spencer lost overboard."

"Yep," replied Jed, and not too happily, "I found it caught in some weeds along the bank about 15 yards downstream. I guess he musta lost it, just like Punk and Herm said."

"Punk and Herm laughed. 'Wait a minute,' Rod said easily. 'Not so fast, boys. You two are smart all right. Too smart. So smart you made one awful blunder. Officer Thomas, I think you'll be safe in arresting these men and charging them with murder.'"

PAT'S AND HERM'S mouths fell open. In fact, so did Jed's. Jed said: "Yuh mean, you know Pat didn't drown hisself?"

"O course he did!" Punk Hallam said darkly. "Listen, city jigger, you ain't comin' up here an' gettin' away with accusin' us o' murder. You ain't searin' us, none. We got each other for witnesses."

"Fine," said Rod. "That makes the lie all the worse, because you both declare you saw Spence fall out of the boat, first dropping his oar. No, I must confess I am a city man and the ways of the country are strange to me. However, any dumbbell would know after looking at that river and seeing that bend above here and knowing that there's a fast current, that

an oar dropped overboard near the opposite bank, could never lodge in underbrush along the bank on this side 15 feet from where we're standing. It would be two or three miles down stream by now."

"For a minute, there was silence. The three men stared at Rod blankly. It took quite awhile for the announcement to penetrate. Officer Thomas fortunately, recovered first. He had a gun in his pocket and he got it out, just as Punk Hallam jumped at him. He had to shoot Punk through the shoulder, and would have done the same to Herm, apparently, had one more ounce of grey matter than his brother. He quit."

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS

- Single sheet of a book
- Valley (poet)
- Donkey
- Musical drama
- Rage
- Attendant spirits (Rom. Rel.)
- Fuel
- Water (French)
- Thrice (mus.)
- Pale
- An awn
- Border
- Pressure marks
- Town announcer
- Native of Denmark
- Huts
- Lift
- Viper
- Club
- Distress signal
- Mount
- Open boat (Eskimo)
- Conical tent
- Like malt
- Covered with dew
- God of love (Gr. myth)

DOWN

- Goddess of the moon (Rom. myth)
- Units of work
- Part of "to be"
- Woods
- Fashion
- Simian
- Unfinished hawk-parrot
- One of the Great Lakes
- Paper container
- Ventilate
- Exclamation
- Flower
- Courage
- Say further
- Narrow inlet (geol.)
- Tavern
- Perish
- Jellylike substance
- Bitter vetch
- A period dress
- Conduit
- Fodder vat
- Cereal grains
- Firmament
- Gull (Eur.)
- Disfigure

Solution in Next Issue.

No. 36

Answer to Puzzle Number 35

Series K-48