

PHONE COMPANY SHOULD ELIMINATE . . .

But the Company Would Ban "Hellos" Instead
 . . . WRONG NUMBERS, TWITCHELL THINKS

By H. I. PHILLIPS

"DON'T SAY HELLO"

("Don't say 'hello' when answering the phone.")

Give your name or company name promptly and save time.—From a telephone company appeal.

We read it again. "Don't say 'hello' when you answer the phone," it said clearly. "It wastes time." It seemed revolutionary

but reasonable. After all, why not co-operate with the company? So we sat down and awaited a phone call . . .

It is strange how long one has to wait for the phone to ring when one is not busy. If we had been absorbed in a book, tied up in a conference, trying to find a rhyme or busy at reassembling a Swiss watch there would have been a call

every 10 seconds. But now . . . silence! Nobody wanted to talk to us. But we are not easily defeated. We called up a Dudley Zeek (at random out of the book) and hurriedly left word with his secretary to phone us.

Presently our phone rang. We leaped to it and announced our name with no waste of time.

"Elmer Twitchell," we said. There was no answer. We jiggled the hook and insisted on getting the connection. Central finally asked, "Who called you?" "What difference does it make?" we asked. "We will take a call from anybody." Presently she re-connected us.

"Elmer Twitchell," we repeated firmly.

"There is no Elbert P. Twitchell here. You have the wrong number."

"No, I haven't. Listen . . ."

"This is not Twitchell," the female voice insisted.

"Of course not," we explained.

"How could it be?"

"Hello," the voice said.

"And you're not supposed to say 'hello,'" we put in.

"Hello. Who do you want? Hello. You must have the wrong number. Hello."

"Stop slipping in all of those hellos!" we yelled. "Haven't you heard about them?"

Here a male voice put in.

"Hello," it said. "Are you trying to get me?"

"No, you're trying to get me," we said.

"Who are you? Hello," the voice repeated.

"Elmer Twitchell. You are Dudley Zeek, aren't you?"

"Who?"

"Dudley Zeek."

"No," came the answer. "This is the Economy Pastrami Factory, Amos Finch speaking."

"Are you trying to get Elmer Twitchell?"

"No. My secretary has been trying to get the city hall. What're you doing on the line. Hello. There must be a mixup. Hello. Hello."

It was too much. We hung up and fell, wilted, into a chair.

After a while the phone rang. The wife answered it. "There's a Dudley Zeek on the wire. He says you left word for him to call."

"Just say 'hello' to him . . . four or five times," we concluded bitterly.

This is the season muggy When parents do their best To send their kids to summer camps— As parents need a rest!

Hi.—Saw a sign in the country "Cattle Crossing. 35 miles per hour." That's too fast for any cow to move in modern traffic.—Arthur McElroy.

"United States Deficit 98 Million a Day"—Headline.

Aw, they can't be trying!

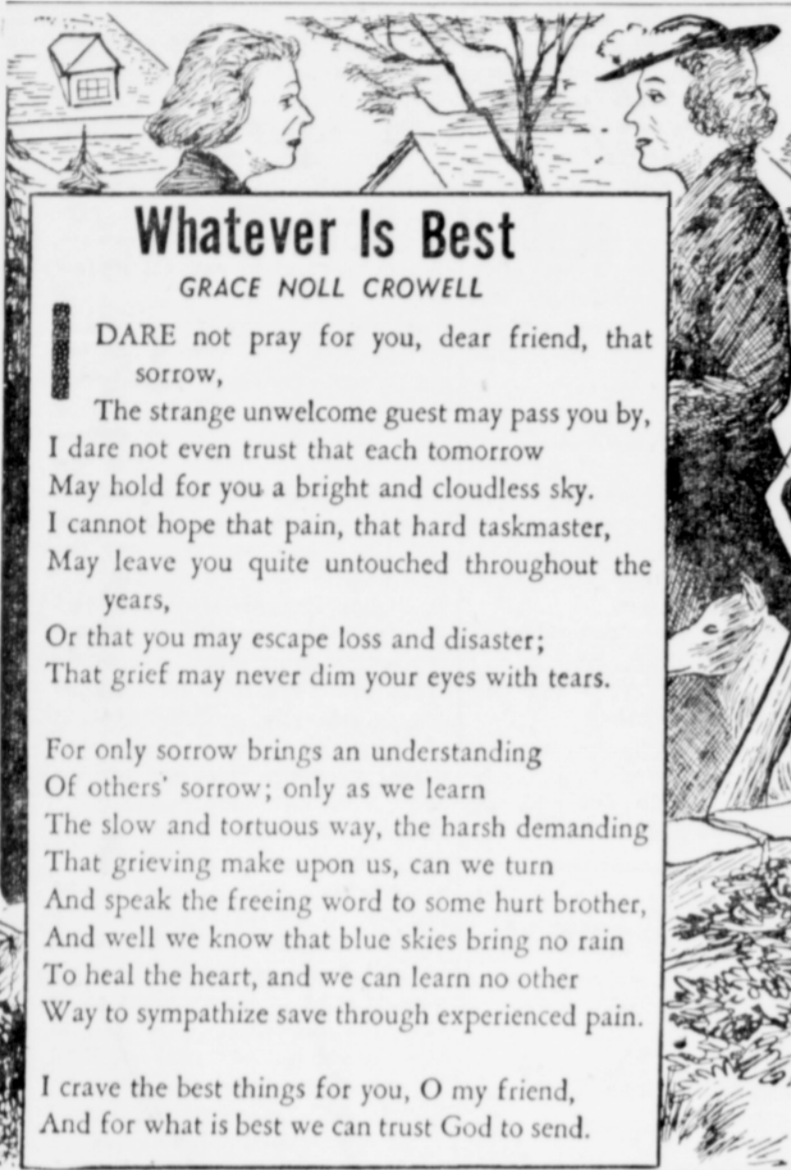
Russia has paid three million dollars out in bonuses to mothers of babies, Moscow announces. We await the claim that Russia originated the idea of motherhood.

With every restaurant in Reno closed, we understand hundreds of divorce applicants wiped from their suits the complaint that the wife's cooking constituted intolerable cruelty.

We trust that the illness of Bob-By Clark, great comedian, is trivial and that, above all, the doctors will never make him give up cigars.

GOTHAM BUGLE & BANNER

Cole Porter has endorsed a beer . . . "Kiss Me, Keg" . . . All the munitions stocks have been strong since Olsen & Johnson returned . . . Ye ed watched the pair on video and got powder burns . . . "Harvey" is being played in Wales . . . with a Welsh rabbit, of course . . . We know a fellow who is going to reverse the routine and appeal his case from the supreme court to the lower tribunals . . . They seem to think clearer down there.



Whatever Is Best
 GRACE NOLL CROWELL

DARE not pray for you, dear friend, that sorrow,
 The strange unwelcome guest may pass you by,
 I dare not even trust that each tomorrow
 May hold for you a bright and cloudless sky.
 I cannot hope that pain, that hard taskmaster,
 May leave you quite untouched throughout the years,
 Or that you may escape loss and disaster;
 That grief may never dim your eyes with tears.

For only sorrow brings an understanding
 Of others' sorrow; only as we learn
 The slow and tortuous way, the harsh demanding
 That grieving make upon us, can we turn
 And speak the freeing word to some hurt brother,
 And well we know that blue skies bring no rain
 To heal the heart, and we can learn no other
 Way to sympathize save through experienced pain.

I crave the best things for you, O my friend,
 And for what is best we can trust God to send.

SPORTSCOPE By JOE MAHONEY



TED SCHROEDER and BOB FALKENBURG

WERE A LITTLE WEARY OF TENNIS AFTER WINNING THE 1949 SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA DOUBLES CHAMPIONSHIP, IT TOOK THEM 135 GAMES TO BEAT PANCHO GONZALES AND HUGH STEWART. THE SCORES WERE 36-34, 3-6, 4-6, 6-4, 19-17, AND THE MATCH TOOK FIVE HOURS TO PLAY!

THE NATIONAL LEAGUE HAS OFFICIALLY BANNED THE PLAYING OF THE SONG "THREE BLIND MICE" TOO MUCH OF A POKE AT THE UMPIRES.

SPORTLIGHT
Cards, Dodgers Rule the Roost
 By GRANTLAND RICE

THE NATIONAL LEAGUE is a baseball circuit where practically all the pennant playing lately has been by the Cardinals and the Dodgers.

Once in a rare while some interloper, such as the Braves of 1948, breaks into the picture. But for the greater part of the time it is the Cardinals and the Dodgers rolling together down the stretch.

Once they get into the world series the Cardinals are a far different team. The Cards have won a flock of such post-season pastorals while the Dodgers have yet to come safely through. But they can stir up a lot of dust trying.

In the last eight years only the Cubs and Braves have each slipped through once, probably when the Cardinals and Dodgers were not looking. Now we get the same story in the steamy year of 1949. The Braves and Phillies may be rated a chance, but the bet is that either Dodgers or Cardinals will take over the August and September stretch.

Last spring it looked as if the National League would have much the better race. Now with the Athletics and the Red Sox still busy, with Cleveland's Indians beginning to act in a hostile manner again, the A.L. race may be much the better show.

It is about time the other six clubs in the National picked up more steam. The crash of the Pirates was a heavy disappointment, as much of a jolt as the downfall of the Red Sox was up through July Fourth. The main idea seems to be that anything can still happen in baseball.

"Don't Play Out A Nine"

Apparently a number of golfers are getting much slower than they were some time ago.

Just as we were trying to work up a message, the following arrived from F.A.W., an eminent golfer and also a hot rooster for Michigan's football team against all comers.

This seems to cover the field completely—"People love golf and I love people, and so today's remarks are

- (1). "Do not delay the game. This is the most common fault, and this alone is enough to ruin the concentration of your foursome."
 - (a) "Be in a position to play when it comes your turn."
 - (b) "Do not take a lot of practice strokes; preferably none."
 - (c) "Do not painstakingly play out a nine or other high score when you are completely out of the contest. Pick up. Others want to get on with the game."
 - (d) "Do not ask everyone in your foursome what club to use."
- (2). "Be quiet, motionless and look at the player addressing the ball until he has played."
- (3). "Many duffers cuss out their own mistakes, loud, long and continuously. Don't do it. Others are trying to concentrate on their own game."

Joe Surprises

There have been a flock of great ballplayers around New York and Brooklyn in the last two days. Their tongues, as usual, were busy. The first topic was Joe DiMaggio and his spectacular return to his best form with no chance to get in top shape. It seems he did.

Star Dust
 STAGE-SCREEN-RADIO
 BY INEZ GERHARD

IRVING MANSFIELD, young producer at Columbia broadcasting, proves that lightning can strike twice. He conceived and produces the tremendously successful "Arthur Godfrey's Talent Scouts;" using a different twist on the same idea, he came through with the new hit show, "This Is Broadway," also on CBS. He began in radio in 1943 as coordinator of the Fred Allen show, then,



IRVING MANSFIELD

In 1944 and '45, produced the Milton Berle program. Realizing what they had, CBS assigned him to originate and develop new comedy and variety shows, and he came through with the Godfrey gold mine, which made its first appearance on the air on July 8, 1946.

Well, "The Fountainhead" arrived, was seen, and proved to be disappointing, despite the excellent cast and the money lavished on the production. As with "Arch of Triumph," a good book just was not good screen material.

At luncheon in New York months ago Macdonald Carey announced that a second visit from the stork was slated for his home. Elizabeth Macdonald Carey arrived July 12th, ending a long, tedious sojourn in bed for her mother. Carey installed a television set in the bedroom to entertain his wife. He commented sadly that she didn't care to watch football games and he did.

On the lookout for new acting talent, Columbia has signed Benno Schneider as top drama coach. He is rehearsing a group of players, some of whom will be selected for screen tests. Meanwhile Richard Quine, a talent scout, is touring the summer theaters in Denver, Omaha, Chicago and the East. He recently co-produced and co-directed "Leather Gloves" for Columbia

The **Fiction** Corner
LOVINGLY, TEMPLE
 By Richard H. Wilkinson

"DEAR TEMPLE: I was indeed glad to learn that you had obtained such a satisfactory position. I am sure that you will make a most efficient secretary. Frankly, I have been entertaining some misgivings about your future. Serving in the capacity of guardian to modern young ladies is, after all, hardly in my line, although I was only too glad to look after the daughter of my close friend, Tom Creighton, when he so unexpectedly passed away. I imagine you are quite a grown up young lady now, though it is hard for me to visualize you in any other form than a girl in pigtails and short dresses—"

Aaron Bell, 34, looking 10 years younger, abruptly ceased dictating and stared hard at his stenographer. The stenographer, Miss Daniels by name, was small, dark, vivacious and exceedingly attractive. She had come to work in the law office of Attorney Aaron Bell two weeks previous. She was a capable girl, yet for some unexplainable reason Aaron hadn't been able to get used to her. That is to say, he felt nervous whenever he was dictating letters.

During the next few days Aaron began to get an inkling of why it was that he felt uneasy when dictating letters to Miss Daniels. He began to wonder if heretofore he hadn't been attempting to evade an issue. He asked himself, secretly, if Miss Daniels was becoming to mean more to him than just a secretary.

TWO DAYS LATER Aaron was rudely swept out of the realm of ecstasy (a state of mind brought about by his dinner date with Miss Daniels), by receiving another letter from his ward.

"Dear Guardian: My boss is really quite lovely, and has been displaying an unusual amount of interest in me since my last letter. I am not a little flattered by his attention and very much thrilled. In fact, I believe I could fall in love with him very easily."

Aaron rang for Miss Daniels. "Dear Temple: I demand that you resign from your present position at once. It's silly and absurd to think of a girl your age falling in love, especially with a man who makes love to every stenographer he employs."

That night Aaron suggested a drive through the country and was delighted when Miss Daniels accepted. It was a beautiful June evening, with a full moon and a cooling breeze blowing off the ocean. It might have been the atmospher-

3-Minute Fiction

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

LAST WEEK'S ANSWER

ACROSS

1. Fruit of the palm
5. A prophet (Bib.)
9. Water cooler
10. Wagon
11. A merry frolic
12. Test
14. Set close together, as the teeth
16. Metallic rock
17. Hawaiian bird
18. City (Ont., Can.)
21. Independent state, S. E. Arabia
24. Obstacle
25. Terror
27. The whole range
31. Humble
33. Slat
34. Exceeded, as speed limit
38. Toward
39. Over (poet.)
40. Sliding, boxlike compartment
43. Edible game fish
46. Seed of the oak
47. Bones (anat.)
48. Slay
49. Require
50. Whiploop

DOWN

1. School graduation document
2. Measure of land
3. Anger (dial.)
4. Upright
5. Division of a play
6. Disfigure
7. Constellation
8. Begin
11. Large ladle
13. Sign of zodiac
15. Goblin
19. Large roofing slate
20. Taken by mouth
22. Indefinite article
23. River (Afr.)
26. Food fish
28. Masurium (syn.)
29. Completely
30. A pricker
32. Marry
34. Habitual drunkard
35. President of Argentina
36. Appearing as if eaten
37. Male duck
41. Tart
42. Treeless tract of land (Eng.)
44. Employ
45. Little boy

ANSWER TO PUZZLE NO. 10

PUZZLE NO. 11

HOW-TO-FIX-IT By TOM GREGORY

WHEELBARROW STUNT

IF YOU INSTALL A SINK STRAINER IN THE BOTTOM OF A WHEELBARROW THAT IS USED FOR CARRYING VEGETABLES, YOU CAN WASH THE PRODUCE RIGHT IN THE WHEELBARROW WITH A HOSE, THE STRAINER ALLOWING THE WATER TO RUN THROUGH THE BOTTOM.



DOES YOUR DOG CHASE CARS?

ONE WAY TO PREVENT DOGS FROM CHASING CARS IS TO ATTACH A SMALL RUBBER BALL TO ONE OF THE DOG'S FRONT LEGS. THE BALL WILL PREVENT THE DOG FROM RUNNING FAST. SERIOUS ACCIDENTS HAVE BEEN CAUSED BY DOGS CHASING CARS.