Alice's Novel Paper Clips

By DOROTHY DOUGLAS

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IT WAS not until Alice reached her office and put down her many packages that she knew she had either lost or left in the bus or train the most important of the lot.

She had sat up, straining her eyes with the fine print of the telephone directory, until after midnight, addressing envelopes to be sent out with samples of her paper clips, and she had stupidly proceeded to lose 500 of them.

Alice felt like indulging in a grand, devastating cry, but realized with her sound, common sense that she dare not acquire a red nose and tear-dimmed eyes at the very commencement of her business day.

Had that common sense told her that there was just a faint chance that some honest person might find the package, see the address on the envelopes and return them to her, Alice might have felt a bit more cheery as she opened her morning mail.

But from the depths of her gloom she failed to see that glimmer of hope.

Some few, nice orders among her letters and the work attendant upon getting them packed up, invoiced and dispatched left her little time to fret about her loss and it was just nearing the noon hour when a young man entered her office.

She had her hat on preparatory to locking the office and going out for her noon breath of fresh air as well as a large cup of coffee and some chocolate cake.

The young man needed no introduction, for Alice espied in his hand the neatly done up packet that was her 500 addressed envelopes.

She smiled such a charming smile that young Woodward almost lost his breath and forgot to mention his reason for being there.

However, being an outside salesman and more than accustomed to various types of receptions in offices he visited, he managed to smile joyfully in return and say briskly:

"I found these envelopes in the Fifth Avenue bus this morning and being curious, opened up the package. I found the name of A. Caton, Incorporated, and this print of the clip which I suppose your office supplies."

"I happen to be the office, store house, manager, office boy and all the directors," laughed Alice, "and I am tremendously pleased to get those back so soon. I sat up until twelve-thirty addressing them last night."

"Oh, I say—then I suppose you are Miss Caton." He hesitated for a second, then plunged boldly into his reason for appearing in person with the lost property. "I suppose you are just going out to lunch, but I wanted to make a proposition about this clip."

"Well, I wasn't exactly going out to lunch, but I was going to have some coffee. I have only the noon hour to get out—being a one-man office force. Perhaps—" she smiled up at young Woodward.

And when they sat at the marble counter, each with a steaming cup of coffee with thick cream floating on top and an enormous slice of chocolate cake beside them, Woodward plunged into his idea.

"You see, Miss Caton, I am an outside salesman working a few good stationery lines and I feel that I could sell a lot of those clips of yours—commission basis, of course. It looks like about the best paper clip on the market."

"It is," said Alice with conviction, "and I sell millions of them now, but I want to do a lot more. I am just struggling upward at the moment and could do with some outside salesmen—good ones—that is."

"I'm all that," laughed Woodward, "and if you want to save postage on this batch of envelopes, I will take this along with me. It will give me a bit of a start."

Alice laughed at his enthusiasm and felt a great wave of gratitude sweeping over her toward this very attractive young man. She had been feeling a bit in need of assistance if her business was to expand and had not known just how to go about it.

"I will have to attach all the clips first," she told him. "I put one of each size on the circular card so that the actual clip is seen and tested in the office."

"That's the stuff," exclaimed Woodward, "no use being mean in business. But it will take you a long time to do thousands of them, won't it?"

Alice sighed softly. "Yes, but—I have to do it. I can do hundreds in the evenings at home."

"Oh, I say—couldn't I help? I have only some uninteresting fellow boarders to spend the evenings with. I'd love to help you. Besides—the sooner we swing this batch into the offices the better."

Again Alice laughed. The "We" had come out so unconsciously.

"You are the kind of salesman I have dreamed about, but never hoped to find," she told him.

And Woodward found himself lost in contemplation of a future wherein the girl opposite him played a somewhat more intimate part than that of employer of a commission salesman.

Alice found herself, much to her annoyance, coloring under that regard—but somehow they both knew that a little paper clip on a lost envelope had given them each other as well as increased business.

"For the Use of the House"

Three-year-old Billy's mother, being particular that he should not annoy the neighbors, would not permit him to go into their house unless on special invitation. So Billy was especially delighted when he was permitted to spend the whole morning with the ten-year-old boy next door, who was very fascinating to him in a thoroughly "grown-up" way. When he got ready to go home, he summoned all his manners. "Thank you for the house," he said, gratefully.

GIANT STRIDES MADE IN AIR TRANSPORT

Progress in 1929 to Excel Three Years' Total.

Washington.—The development of the aeronautics and air transport industry during the three years' life of the aeronautics branch of the Department of Commerce has been "among this country's outstanding achievements," Secretary of Commerce Lamont declared recently in surveying the present state of development of the industry.

"With the increasing interest being shown in this subject by the general public, there is every reason to believe that the immediate future will bring forth even greater accomplishments," he added.

Secretary Lamont predicted "the foundations have been laid for a great transportation system over which swift aerial carriers will bear their cargoes of mail, express and passengers to every corner of the nation."

Outlook for Big 1929 Record.

A statistical estimate of the condition of the industry appended to Secretary Lamont's statement indicated that if the present rapid growth in air transport operations continues during the remainder of the year, the operations for 1929 will exceed the total for the last three years.

The report estimated that the mileage flown by air transport operators for the first half of 1929 would total 8,000,000 miles as against 10,500,000 for all of 1928, 5,870,489 for 1927 and 4,318,087 for 1926.

The average of miles flown daily by air transport operators for the first half of the year, estimated to be 70,000 miles, is almost three times as great as the average for all of 1928, which was 26,606, more than four times the average of 16,083 miles for 1927 and almost seven times the average of 10,830 miles for 1926.

Thirty Thousand Miles of Airways.

The total length of the airways network, estimated now to be 30,000 miles, has jumped from a total of 16,067 miles at the close of 1928; 9,121 miles at the close of 1927, and 8,404 miles at the close of 1926. Ten thousand miles of airways, or one-third of the total, are lighted, as compared with 6,988 at the close of 1928; 4,463 at the close of 1927, and 2,041 at the end of 1926.

The greatest increases were shown for the income-producing activities of air transport companies. It was estimated that 40,000 passengers were carried during the first six months of 1929, as against 35,000 in all of 1928, 8,679 in 1927, and 5,872 in 1926. Total mail carried was computed at 3,400,000 pounds, as against 4,061,210 pounds in 1928, 1,654,165 in 1927, and 810,855 in 1926. Express volume was fixed at 1,200,000, as against 2,000,000 for 1928.

There are now 45 companies operating air transport lines, compared to 37 at the close of 1928, 19 at the close of 1927, and 14 at the close of 1926. They have 400 airplanes in service, an increase from 300 at the close of 1928, 128 at the close of 1927, and 69 at the close of 1926.

Visitors Wreck Monkey's Nerves in St. Louis Zoo

St. Louis, Mo.—The seasonal epidemic of nervous breakdowns among the monkeys of the St. Louis zoo is approaching.

Watching the antics of human beings through the bars of their cages all day is very distressing to the nerves of the monkeys, according to the magazine of the Zoological society. Every year, as summer crowds throng the primate house of the zoo, several of the more impressionable monkeys collapse and give way to all sorts of complexes and mental ills.

The victims are sent to a "rest house," where the only human beings they have to look at are the keepers who feed them. Once a year all the monkeys in the zoo take their vacations in the rest house.

Gem-Eating Ostriches Lure Diamond Hunters

Washington.—The finding of 70 diamonds in the craws of two ostriches killed by hunters in the southern part of the Kalahari desert in South Africa has started a new industry, "hunting ostriches for diamonds," Samuel H. Day, trade commissioner at Johannesburg, has informed the Department of Commerce. One bird produced 53 diamonds and the other 17, all of exceptional quality, it is reported. These ostriches formerly roamed the Namaqualand district, where rich alluvial diamond deposits are said to exist, and, having an eye for shining stones, included diamonds in their diet.

Peculiar Mill Stones

Before England became an industrial country, and when the villages were self-supporting, mill stones were used by the villagers to grind their corn. A remarkable feature of the stones was that the surface of the lower stone was carved with a fixed harp pattern of hollows and ridges, disposed in a certain direction between the axle and the perimeter of the stone, so as to obtain uniformity of grinding and regulate the flow of flour to the edge.—Detroit News.

Volunteer Messenger

Here is what President Wilson said was the best negro war yarn he had heard during his stay in Paris. It is quoted by J. F. Essary in "Covering Washington." A group of negro soldiers were in a front line trench on the eve of an attack. A white officer approached one of them and asked:

"What would you do, Jim, if you suddenly saw the whole German cavalry coming straight at you?"

"What would I do, boss?" repeated Jim. "Why, I sure would spread the news through France."

PROBE OF MERCHANT MARINE UNDER WAY

Dispute Over Mail Bid Opens Financial Investigation.

Washington.—President Hoover has taken steps to ascertain the extent to which the rejuvenated American merchant marine has been aided financially by the government. It is known that he has received a statement of the loans authorized and made by the shipping board for the construction of new vessels—loans said to total about $41,370,000—and it is understood that he has been advised of the extent to which the Post Office department has aided with ocean mail contracts.

Informed shipping representatives put the amount involved in ocean mail contracts at nearly $11,500,000 a year, or $115,000,000 for the regulation ten year period for such contracts.

With the United States Lines, Inc., disputing the administration right to withhold mail contracts from it and the administration disposed to go slowly with respect to this application, it is likely that the next government step in aid of the merchant marine will await a careful study of the whole situation by President Hoover.

While the statement on ship loans which was sent to the White House was not made public it was said at the shipping board that out of the $250,000,000 ship construction fund appropriated by congress to be loaned at low rate of interest on new ship building up to 75 per cent of the cost, ten loans have been actually made and loans aggregating $22,312,500 have been authorized. A number of applications for loans have been made also.

The mail contract subsidies sought by the United States Lines would amount to about $2,300,000 a year or $23,000,000 for the ten-year period, according to the Post Office department.

U. S. July Exports Were Over Half Manufactured

Washington.—Shipments of finished manufactures accounted for more than half the total exports from the United States in July and were the highest in proportion to other exports in history, according to an analysis of domestic exports and imports given out by the Department of Commerce.

Domestic exports in July were valued at $394,296,000 and made up as follows: Finished manufactures $227,202,000, or 57.6 per cent; semimanufactures $60,539,000, or 15.4 per cent; crude materials $50,445,000, or 12.8 per cent; manufactured foodstuffs $35,852,000, or 9.1 per cent and crude foodstuffs $20,259,000, or 5.1 per cent.

Crude materials were the chief products imported, with a percentage of 33.8 per cent and a value of $119,611,000, as compared with total imports in July of $354,150,000. Finished manufactures brought into the United States were valued at $86,971,000 or 24.6 per cent; semimanufactures $71,620,000, or 20.2 per cent; crude foodstuffs $42,954,000, or 12.1 per cent; and manufactured foodstuffs $32,994,000, or 9.3 per cent.

Paper Has Kept Growth

In the United States the history of paper is the history of the country. When the Revolutionary war broke out there was hardly enough paper available to wad the guns of the soldiers or upon which to write the orders of their officers. There was virtually no paper. By 1810, however, the use had increased to about one pound per capita per year. It had grown to over eight pounds in 1850. The Civil war greatly accelerated consumption, which reached 25 pounds in 1869. In 1899 it was 57 pounds; in 1923, 150 pounds, and today the people of the nation annually consume more than their own weight in paper.

Bell-Ringing Clocks

Perhaps the earliest tower clock with bell-ringing mechanism was one made by Peter Lightfoot, a monk of Glastonbury, England, about 1325, writes Satis N. Coleman in his book, "Bells." Connected with this clock were automatic figures which struck a bell on the hours. These performing figures pleased the public, and many of the town clocks of Europe were provided with such figures to ring the bells on the hours. They were used for proclaiming time long before the introduction of clock dials.—Detroit News.

Unbreakable Glass

The bureau of standards says that in general non-shatterable glass is of three distinct types. One of these is unusually thick; another consists of two or more layers of glass cemented together with an organic binder, such as celluloid, and the third is prepared by special heat treatment. The first of these can be identified by its relatively great thickness, the second by examining the edge of the glass for laminated structure, and the third by its irregular figures, seen when the glass is examined in polarized light.

Tinned Stuff Used in Navy

More than 19,000,000 pounds of canned goods are consumed by the sailors of the United States navy in a year. Canned tomatoes take the lead in vegetables, followed by peas, corn and stringless beans. Among fruits, peaches lead, followed closely by pineapple, then come prunes, applesauce, apricots, pears, figs and raisins. Figs are relatively new in the canned goods products, but the navy uses them to the extent of 540,000 pounds annually.

Thrifty, Lying Americans?

About one-half of the homes in the United States are owned by men with incomes less than $2,000. So, after all, this thing of saying Americans are not thrifty is based on imagination instead of facts. We guess that about 99 per cent of what we Americans say is untrue. We have developed into a race of liars, we regret to say.—Atchison Globe.

OREGON STATE NEWS OF GENERAL INTEREST

Principal Events of the Week Assembled for Information of Our Readers.

A 70-day period without a drop of rain fell over Umatilla county. The last rainfall there was on June 16.

Fire of undetermined origin destroyed the sawmill and a large quantity of stacked lumber of the Sourdough Lumber company near Wolf Creek.

Among the fine grain crops of Jackson county was that of John Hueners, who threshed out 5000 bushels from 115 acres on his ranch east of Jacksonville.

A shipment of 5000 lambs was made by T. B. Johnson, Cove stock buyer. The lambs were bought in various sections of the valley and shipped to St. Joe, Mo.

Evergreen blackberry picking began at Walterville the last few days. Most of the growers are shipping to the Eugene Fruit Growers, who are paying more per pound this year.

Fifty-one guineas obtained from the state game farm near Pendleton were released in the north Santiam district recently. A number of wild turkeys were released there a month ago.

The evergreen blackberry season opened at Sweet Home recently with a promise of a heavy run. The price is fair, and a good many pickers are in all the fields. The berries are fair in size.

Andrew J. Sherwood, foremost citizen of Coquille, resident for nearly fifty years and most prominent democrat of southwestern Oregon, died in the Coquille hospital, following an emergency operation.

J. H. Cronkhite of St. Helens submitted low bid for the new fire house station and was awarded the contract by the council. With complete plumbing and heating system, the structure will cost close to $10,000.

Lying down on several sticks of dynamite, L. Swanson, about 45, logger employed at the Crossett Western Camp No. 17, near Wauna, committed suicide by setting off the explosive. His body was blown to bits.

Ground was broken for the P. L. Campbell memorial fine arts museum, the product of several years of intensive effort by campaign workers, led by Irene Gerlinger, Portland, former regent of the University.

Dredging the Yamhill river below Lafayette locks is progressing. This is government work supervised by E. Demary of Dayton, who has a crew working on two shifts. The channel is being deepened and widened.

A test of better than 61 pounds a bushel is being made by some of the wheat being hauled to the warehouse in Wallowa, according to Lee Bell, manager. Most of the wheat hauled is being done by auto truck and much wheat is being stored.

After 13 years of idleness and litigation, due to the alleged mismanagement, the once prosperous gold and copper mine, the Akamada, near Grants Pass, will be reopened within a month, according to P. J. Lonergan, mining engineer and stockholder.

With a large proportion of the crop already in, the wheat yield of Yamhill county will probably exceed 300 carloads, it was estimated by county granaries. Besides this, more than 40 carloads of oats will be shipped. The yield in bushels will be more than 500,000.

The fire siren sounded while Fire Chief Carlon was in a barber chair at Bend. One-half of the chief's face was shaved and the other merely lathered. He jumped into his automobile and followed the fire truck. The alarm was false, so Chief Carlon returned to the shop and the other half of his face was shaved.

The Wilson sawmill and yards on Graves creek, 15 miles north of Grants Pass, were destroyed by fire of unknown origin recently. Nearly 200 acres of forest land was burned over by the fire. The loss to the mill was estimated at $2000.

Fifty-six farmers of the Central Point district met recently and voted approval of the preliminary steps to take over the privately owned Hopkins Lateral irrigation canal supplying that district and operating it under a duly organized water district. The election to vote on formation of the district will be held September 4.

A committee of the Eugene chamber of commerce and a delegation from the Siuslaw valley appeared before the state highway commission at its meeting at Portland recently, and demanded immediate action toward construction of the Siuslaw highway between Rainier and Cushman.

Distribution of the 1929-1930 Oregon blue books got under way at Salem recently under the direction of the secretary of state. New features of the book include tables showing a comparative vote at recent elections, highway map of Oregon and cut of the state house. Approximately 8000 were printed.

Frank O. Johnson, for 12 years deputy county roadmaster of Marion county, was appointed county roadmaster at Salem, to succeed the late W. J. Culver, who died recently. Before being appointed deputy county roadmaster, Mr. Culver served for 12 years as supervisor of Hazel Green road district.

WILL START SOON ON BIG AQUEDUCT

New York Plans to Increase Water Pressure.

New York.—Work on boring a gigantic aqueduct 20 miles long and 500 feet beneath the surface of New York is to begin in a few months.

The tube, which involves one of the major engineering feats of modern times, is to be installed for the purpose of increasing the water pressure for the residents of Brooklyn and Queens.

Sixteen shafts are to be sunk along the route to the 500-foot level, where hundreds of men are expected to spend four years in boring through the muck and rock. The shafts themselves will be so deep that the Lefcourt-National building, the city's newest 40-story Fifth avenue skyscraper, would find its tower well below street level if it could be dropped into one of them.

It was announced that 16 electric mine hoists and 62 mine locomotives have been ordered for use in creating the buried aqueduct. It is to begin at the northern end of Van Courtlandt park in the Bronx, extend south and east under the borough, cross twice under the Bronx river, proceed toward Stony Point, cut under the East river to Long Island, cross under Queens and Long Island city, proceed almost the whole length of Brooklyn and terminate at Hamilton avenue, opposite Governor's island in Brooklyn.

The hole to be bored will be 19 feet in diameter—size enough for three motors to be driven through abreast. The workers after descending the shafts and becoming accustomed to the air pressure necessary, are to ream out the tunnel with modern boring machinery and line its walls with a foot-thick coating of concrete as they proceed.

Whittles Lamp From Pole in 1,700 Hours

Vermillion, Ohio.—After ten years of whittling with a pocket knife, George Stump has an elaborately carved lamp. Starting with a section of a telephone pole, Stump spent more than 1,700 hours spare time producing a two-foot electric lamp, circular in shape and containing hundreds of integral ornaments. The lamp revolves by means of an electric motor and is valued by the carver at $2,000.

Elizabeth Daley of Scio waited 84 years for her first airplane ride, and the thrill came last week. In company with Miss Bess Morris she winged over Scio, which has been her home the greater part of her advanced years. The thrill must be experienced to be appreciated, she said on her return from the clouds.

Salem high school students will not be allowed to loiter in neighborhood grocery and confectionery stores next year, according to school officials. The action followed charges by William Kahlsdorf, Salem merchant, that boys of school age had received liquor in a rear room of one of these stores during the last school term.

The decision of the county boundary board which ruled that Columbia City, Deer Island and Canaan districts could not draw transportation for students attending the Rainier High school has been upheld by C. A. Howard, state superintendent of schools.

The marketing of fir cones has become rather quiet at Sweet Home but at Lebanon it has assumed large proportions. The old creamery building there has been obtained as a storage place. The Frank Parish barn has also been secured. Drying and threshing will start soon.

The St. Helens golf course was officially opened on Labor day with an all-day program. Invitations were sent to golfers of Vernonia, Rainier, Scappoose and Clatskanie. The new course, which is on the highway a short distance south of the city limits is 2805 yards long and is par 35.

A report compiled by Superintendent William Reed shows that 121,985 tons of freight and 835,000 feet of logs and piling passed through the Oregon City locks during the month of July. The locks were opened 390 times to allow craft to pass through. Five dredges are now working on the Willamette river between Oregon City and Salem, cutting away the worst bars and shoals to permit navigation during low water, Superintendent Reed said.

THE MARKETS

Portland

Wheat—Big Bend bluestem, $1.35; soft white, western white, $1.25; hard winter, northern spring, western red, $1.22.

Hay — Alfalfa, $19@19.50 per ton; valley timothy, new, $19@19.50; eastern Oregon timothy, new, $20.50@21; clover, $16; oat hay, $16; oats and vetch, $16.50.

Butterfat—46@50c.

Eggs—Ranch, 30@38c.

Cattle—Steers, good, $11@11.50.

Hogs—Good to choice, $10@12.50.

Lambs—Good to choice, $11@12.

Seattle

Wheat—Soft white, western white, $1.25; hard winter, western red, northern spring, $1.22; bluestem, $1.34.

Eggs—Ranch, 30@39c.

Butterfat—50c.

Cattle—Choice steers, $10.50@11.50.

Hogs—Prime light, $12.65@12.75.

Lambs—Choice, $11@11.50.

Spokane

Cattle—Steers, good, 9.75@10.50.

Hogs—Good and choice, $12@12.25.

Lambs—Choice, $9.00.

First Concrete Poured by New Orleans Priest?

Toward the end of the Nineteenth century a French gardener made basins by pouring concrete around a network of iron rods, and until very recently that gardener had been credited with having originated the idea of reinforced concrete.

Not until the summer of 1928 was the claim disputed. Then it was discovered that in 1853 a Jesuit priest of New Orleans had anticipated him. A church on Baronne street, built in that year, was demolished. It had been erected on land reclaimed from a cypress swamp; and when it was torn down the construction of its foundation walls stood bare.

The priest, acting as his own architect, had poured a concrete of crushed oyster shells and bricks around strong iron bars, running from top to bottom of the walls, and held in place with wrought-iron hoops.

No written record of it was left, yet that idea is fundamental to the modern skyscraper.—Silas Bent in World's Work.

Moon's Light Believed to Affect Mentality

There seems to be a very generally accepted belief that the moon exerts a very potent influence upon the mentality of some persons. Writing in the British Medical Journal, Dr. E. Gerald Stanley says that the colossal upheaval of the waters of the earth—the tides—suggests terrifying possibilities of the moon's effect on human actions.

Men in Central Africa declare they have suffered from headaches as a result of moonshine, and some make a practice of wearing a pitch helmet when going out at night.

In the Middle East exposure to the rays of the moon is said to cause nightmare as well as headaches, and in the Far East a morning "thick head" is added to these symptoms. In Burma there is a belief that when the insane suffer from mental storms these correspond to the phases of the moon.

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