

## Letters to Nephews

By Ella H. Leonard

Dear Nephew:

Leaning on the hoe handle, looking over the spuds, and corn rows, the cabbage whose dirt had been drawn up over their roots; the brown earth so clean and fresh, free of weeds, a feeling of pride surged through me. How many long rows . . . The wheel cultivator was run through the rest of the vegetables. It "shove was purty", says I to me. But what to do for the gray aphids on the brussels sprouts and cabbage? Soapuds surely couldn't injure the plants and might not be tasteful to the bugs. Laddling it out with a longhandled spoon leaf by leaf, sweating "like a bay steer", a voice from the pathway called, "What do you think you are doing?" And there was dad. He called to the neighbor in her berry patch, "What man has been living here? He sure has done a good job." Why did I want to lie down in the cabbage row and cry? One trip after another he carried chickens to the henhouse. What was that about a straw?

The next day it rained, and continued to rain. A few days went by. Dad's face began to swell on one side. The next day it was both sides. Boy, he made up for lost time.

Leaves from the walnut are falling like October. They were whirled over the roof and into the gutter over the front porch. Watching a downpour from the upstairs window, it was seen that three dams caused an overflow on to the porch. Next day the stepladder was set on the porch, standing on its top, I reached over to clean the drain. The ladder slid on down the smooth floor leaving me suspended in the air. A shrill yell to dad who sat just through the wall, failed to penetrate his hearing. Nothing to do but drop. It could have been different, tho a leg acts a bit fussy; sundry spots carry patches; and a bounced head showed it could take it. The good Lord has taken care of me through the "might-have-beens". And enables me to do what has to be done. Like dressing your aged aunt's hand next day when the swinging door caught it.

How many ways do you know how to use red pepper as a medicine (tho doctors call it capsicum to show their learning.) This house liniment reminded me of an incident at the Horse Ranch on Goose Lake long ago. Letch Holbrook had a bad cold. I suggested he make a tea of red pepper and drink it. He took a teaspoonful of the pepper. For some time, he thought every moment he would blaze. Tho his tears were copious. Today he still can cry about it, but with laughter.

The four tiny eggs in the nest in the lilac have become open-mouthed birdies which grows so fast, the nest will not long hold them . . . A wee hummingbird comes at twilight to sit on the light wire near the fir. Evening after evening. The smallest one I've ever seen. Close to it a robin cried plaintively.

Gardens grow slow. Our bumper crop everywhere is babies. Little room in the hospitals for aught else, we hear. With Congress granting free prenatal care, hospitalization, and the first year for the child, it turns desire loose upon the nation? What do we think of it? Have you read that little item in the last Readers Digest that goes like this: A queue stood at a bank window in Tucson, Arizona. Out of turn, a high ranking army officer goes to the window and asks for a checkbook for the Army Base. The teller told him they cost a dollar each, but two for one fifty. He cared nothing for the price: "The army's paying for it." But the teller snapped back, "Well, I care, I'm a taxpayer." Reasonable in him, don't you think? Or don't you.

Advancing from private to corporal in a month's time is fast work, isn't it, Bobby? I hope England gives you a fine clear day for your 24 hour pass. It was fine to get your letter, and your grandmother put it carefully away among her treasures. There's gold in them that girls' hair. Sometimes it becomes very precious. There's dreams and prayers for you. Here's leaving you, Cheerio.

Auntie.

### It's A Fact

ASTONISHING!—From his crime he was able to wear \$300 suits, \$50.00 hats and \$30.00 shirts but Alcatraz finally clothed him in much less expensive clothes.

The "boy" in question was Al Capone. His main headquarters and home town, Cicero, Illinois, wherein he eventually ruled with a power more gripping than a Czar. His opposition was beaten, man-handled and in many cases met sudden and violent death. The law seemed helpless before him. But now here comes the JOKER that he didn't find in his desk. The government hel dit. The winning card. His failure to pay his income taxes. That's what got him.

It proved that in the long run, no criminal is greater than the law, even if it is only the law governing the payment of income taxes. At the height of his career which was "boot-legging" his income was estimated at three million dollars a year. Who says prohibition doesn't pay. It is the bed-fellow of boot-legging.

Do you get shaved in a barber shop? Well, listen to this. Even down to 80 years ago, many large American industrial concerns had fixed rules governing the private lives of those who worked for them. For instance, they were forbidden to smoke, drink, attend theatres or other places of amusement. Or to stay out after 10 o'clock at night. Too, to associate with actors or to be shaved in a barber shop was another serious offense. These companies fixed these rules in order that their employees should not be consigned to purgatory when they were called by death.

There is a mysterious not yet known element in sea water that sustains life. No chemist has been able to find what it is. Where marine fish soon die in a tank of ocean water artificially made, they will live and thrive when it contains as little as 2% water from the sea.

We are told that the left eye is nearer to the nose in more than 90% of our American population. Who cares when it's a pretty blonde or brunette?

Twins are more apt to be left handed than children born singly. And the more closely you are "twin-ned" such as "identical" the more apt to be left handed or at about 25% whereas if you are born "fraternal", then the percentage would be about 20%.

Snakes can't "take it" when it comes to much "milking". By that we mean the process of stealing their venom for medicinal purposes. It is stated that a snake will die from this handling or manipulating of their poison glands after about three milkings.

The "music" of falling shrapnel from anti-aircraft guns is said to continue up to three minutes after the guns have ceased firing.

An unused sewer lead to wealth. A London Bank that boasted of its invulnerability and how impossible it would be for anyone to break into its vaults, was awakened one day from this complacency with a great shock when it was learned that a workman after repairing a large sewer pipe in the street became lost and in trying to find his way out, crawled into an old unused sewer, stepped thru a trap door and found himself right in the middle of the bank's private money room.

Let us hold our noses a little higher, we out here in the Nation's timberlands. It is now scientifically proven that—(quote from Science & Discover) "the life of timber is comparable to any steel in existence today."

## Locals

A large group of friends gathered at the church last Wednesday evening for a surprise shower of household articles on Rev. and Mrs. Cays. It was a complete surprise. Many lovely gifts were received. Refreshments of cake and coffee were served.

Mr. McDowell, our long time shoemaker, was visiting friends in Central Point last week and looking after business. Mr. McDowell lives four miles out on Wagner Creek.

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Mary Hodapp left Saturday for Arizona to visit relatives. She planned to stop at Los Angeles to visit her sister, Maxine, also make one other stop to visit friends. This trip was a graduation present.

Gene Shores left Saturday morning for his home in San Francisco, after a week's visit with his grandparents Mr. and Mrs. Harry Copinger. Gene is working in a drug store this summer.

Mrs. Etta Lucy is ill. Last Sunday was the first time she had missed Bible school in five years. She is much improved.

Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Weaver have both been on the sick list this week but are both better.

Mrs. Axel Benson was called to San Francisco last week to be with her daughter who was very seriously ill. The last report was that the daughter is much better.

Shirley Brenner is visiting in Klamath Falls.

Mr. and Mrs. Ray Burns have moved to their new home in the Willow Springs district.

Rev. and Mrs. Cays left early Monday morning to attend the Oregon State Convention of Churches of Christ in Turner. They will return the following Monday or Tuesday. Interesting and worth while services will be arranged for next Lord's Day in the absence of the minister.

Stanley Jones of Medford left Sunday for Park College Md. to continue college training under the navy V-I program. Stanley is a nephew of Mr. and Mrs. W. M. Tetherow.

## LETTER FROM WASHINGTON

By Harris Ellsworth

WASHINGTON, D. C. June 26—Congress, particularly the House of Representatives, has suddenly become aroused to the facts of life—as life runs on in this country during this war. The facts: The fighting end of the war is progressing in good shape. Our forces throughout the world are making an excellent showing. Production for war has reached, and even exceeded, quotas and expectations. But—the home civilian front is in a state of confusion, over-regulation, mismanagement and turmoil that will require straight thinking and strong action on the part of Congress to settle. hat, I think, is a quick statement as to what has happened to the Congressional state of mind during the last ten days—and why the sudden dynamic—even belligerent—attitude of Congress.

The House has: cracked down on OPA money; has refused money for further subsidies; has cracked down on the domestic branch of OWI; has passed the anti-strike bill over the veto of the President. There have been other similar actions, but these are the headlines. All this within the last ten days.

This weekly letter has often mentioned the food problem. This is partly due to the fact that I am active on a Food Study Committee, but is

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mostly due to the fact that the handling of our food supply is the number one issue of the day. There is ample production of most needed foods, but distribution and processing methods and machinery are shut down, bogged down and tied up to such an extent that actual hunger in a land of plenty is a possibility.

Here are some paragraphs taken from a report by the Committee on Agriculture in recommending the passage of the bill which, if passed, would place the control of food under one single head in the Department of Agriculture:

"A food crisis in a land of plenty is a disturbing condition which faces the American people for the next 12 months. With the largest supplies ever known of livestock, hogs, and poultry on the farms of the country, it is quite apparent to your committee that we are on the verge of a complete break-down in the distribution of meat, poultry, and dairy products for military, Government, and civilian requirements.

"In 1942 we produced the greatest supply of crops in all history, including record crops of both corn and wheat, together with large carry-overs of each. Notwithstanding this fact, we find that many plants processing corn for the production of vital supplies have been forced to close their doors because no corn is available.

"Notwithstanding the fact that our feed grains have been supplemented by vast quantities of wheat, we have a desperate feed shortage prevailing in all parts of the country outside of the commercial corn area. Dairy, livestock, and poultry farmers have literally reached the point where many have gone out of business and

others do not know how long they will be able to continue their operations.

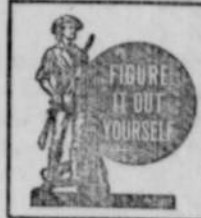
"It appears that the production and distribution of fresh and canned vegetables and fruits will be so short as to leave consumers with limited or no supplies whatsoever. Legitimate processors and distributors of food products are closing their doors because of inability to secure supplies, and a large percentage of food is finding its way into the "black market". While consumers are short, large quantities of vegetables are rotting in the field because of the shortage of labor and lack of proper transportation, handling, and distribution.

"We are convinced that the chief reason for this food crisis is the confusion and chaos resulting from the fact that a multiplicity of agencies are attempting to deal with food production and distribution. Lack of coordination, delay in formulating policies, and failure to consult men experienced in food problems appear to your committee to be important factors in bringing about the disastrous situation now confronting the country and our war effort."

The bill to consolidate the control of food, although patterned after the bill by Tom Jenkins, a Republican from Ohio, was introduced and is being sponsored by the Democratic side of the aisle. Democrats in Congress,

in substantial number, are breaking with the Administration so far as domestic policies are concerned. There appears to be no partisanship in connection with war policies.

The dates of the proposed Congressional recess are not fixed yet, but apparently all urgent business will be completed by the end of next week. My own plans are indefinite, but if and when a recess is declared, I expect to spend several weeks in the district.



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