

The FICTION Corner

THE END OF THE LINE

By CHARLES S. PARK

Nogales was the end of the line for John Todd, and he arrived there in a blaze of glory the citizenry would never forget.

Nogales, end of the line. When the three-car train pulled slowly alongside the tile-roofed, stone depot building and stopped, John Todd moved tiredly from his seat and from the car. Within him was a strange depression; a feeling that for him, too, this was "the end of the line."

He walked away from the tracks, a tall figure in big city dress that hung on his thin frame poorly. He followed the traffic and made his way through the gate in the International Fence. Long legs carried him past the slower moving, dark-clad Mexican women returning from their marketing in Arizona stores. He had seen them before. He was not curious. But he envied them the comfort of the homes they would go to, though they might be only mud huts, with roofs that leaked and windows patched against the weather.

He carried no luggage, so the Mexican customs men barely glanced his way, and then nodded him through. He knew where he was going; this was all a part of the plan. A plan only half-formed, perhaps, but one that had been long in the back of his mind. All he needed to carry it out was nerve. Desperation was taking care of that.

His hands had a new tremor. To still it he shoved them deep into the pockets of his slack coat. Fumbling there, they found pipe and tobacco. He stopped, stepped out of the moving pedestrian traffic into the vestibule of a curio store, loaded and lit up. With the pipe clenched between his teeth and drawing well, he glanced over the passersby. It was funny, he was always looking for a familiar face, yet even friends were of no use now. He knew what he had to do and at last, his mind was made up.

An open safe. The other; a dark-haired girl in a red dress. She was counting out money to a couple of tourists. Todd knew that under the counter and in the safe there were racks of silver and bills of all denominations. He hoped his nerve would hold up, to provide support yet a little longer as he continued down the block. He crossed a street and entered a small park. He seated himself on a bench. The streets were gradually emptying. A police prowl car eased quietly by and its occupants turned their heads to look at him. He stared back. Yet at the same time he felt a coldness around his heart. Two border patrolmen passed in a



The room became a whirling wheel, and he its hub.

jeep and he was conscious of his scrutiny. Down the street the lights in the money exchange went dim. He rose from the bench and stepped out briskly. The prowl car had turned the corner, the patrol jeep was out of sight. Todd judged the distance to the International Line; noticed with satisfaction that the officials had all moved inside their guard-house. A quick move, a fast sprint, and the business would be done. Once across the line he could easily lose himself among the shadows between the adobe buildings, and as easily stay hidden until train time.

TURNING abruptly into the Money Exchange, he saw the girl in the red dress coming toward the counter with a tray of money from the safe. Her eyes were very wide, very brown, and she was very pale. In front of the counter, his back toward Todd, there stood a man. A tardy customer, perhaps, but desperation told Todd it was too late now to back out. He gripped the pipe in his pocket and poked the stem of it against the cloth convincingly. He curbed the fine tremor that was coming back to his fingers and spoke in a voice made harsh and sharp by the urgency of the moment.

"Put that down and raise your hands." The man at the counter jerked around. His hand stabbed out. Todd felt a tearing, ripping sensation high in his chest even as the shrill bark of a small caliber pistol hit his ears. In a continued motion, the man broke into a dash for the door.

Only instinctive reaction made Todd stick out a long leg and trip him up. The same motivation caused him to dive forward onto the prostrate figure, to scramble for the little gun and wrench it from temporarily limp fingers. The heavy blow delivered to the base of the man's skull with the butt of the pistol was a part of the same pattern. It was then that realization caught up with Todd. He arose slowly, feeling the pain in his chest a sudden, live thing. He moved back to the counter; leaned against it. The room became a whirling wheel, and he its hub. He never heard the girl speak into the telephone. The shriek of a siren was only a high note piercing the roaring in his ears. But he did

feel her nearness, the press of her body when she moved around the counter and placed arms about him to hold him erect. His knees were giving away. Except for her he would have fallen. He was aware of other people in the room. But it was her voice to which he was listening—a soft, murmuring kind of a voice, full of compassion. He didn't struggle when he felt the blackness coming on him. It was better so. It was better to go now, in the arms of a lovely, sympathetic stranger, than to hang on a few feeble months more in a foreign land. Finally to die alone and un mourned. And how infinitely much better to go this way, clean. Life had given him the best of the deal, after all. The policemen looked down at the still figure lying in the girl's arms, at the ugly purple hole high in the bony, bared chest. One asked the room in general: "Who would have thought a sick old man would have the guts to try to stop a hold-up with a pipe?"

An enigmatic smile lay across the lips of the dead John Todd. That was his only answer.

Ever since we printed a list of six types of lunch-room pests, we've been deluged with letters describing additional types we overlooked, along with that four-leaf clover you're always singing about. If you recognize yourself in these descriptions, you'd better F. F. F. F. F. F. T. (and if you don't know, that F. F. F. F. F. T. means "Fall Fatally on Your Fat Face Five Times").

The Thinker—He works his way doggedly to the counter in the line (you're just a few behind him) and then pauses for Station Announcement, or something. Seems he never can decide beforehand, so you have to wait until he makes up his alleged mind. But by that time the bell is about ready to ring.

The Critic—He doesn't like what you have on your plate—and doesn't hesitate to tell you so in the most unappetizing term. Comparing your tapoca to fish eyes and your spaghetti to worms doesn't help your appetite one bit. It doesn't help his popularity, either.

The Sob Sister—All during lunch period, when you want to relax and have fun, she insists upon pouring out her troubles to you. The only happy ending you can be sure of is the bell.

The Whisperers—Just your luck to sit next to two best friends who are in a confidential mood. That means they whisper furiously to each other all through the meal, leaving you out in the cold completely to feel like an interloper.

More Mealtime Menaces.

by NANCY PEPPER

CLASSIFIED DEPARTMENT

RABBITS & SKINS

MISCELLANEOUS

MEN AND WOMEN, send for FREE COPY OF THE AMERICAN CRIMINOLOGIST. Also information on how to become a Detective or Fingerprint Expert. Write: Consulting Criminologist, Dept. C, P. O. Box 1022, Burbank, Calif.

DAIRY SHOW SUPPLIES: Blankets of 12-oz. India Dyed high quality fabric in 12 sizes, khaki colored or blue trimmed in gold. Other colors or 19-oz material on order. Price \$8.45 to \$14.55. Stenciled two sides \$2.50. 4-H or P.F.A. emblems available. Delivery 10 days. Brushes, etc. to Stewart's Chemists, all postpaid. Ted Warren, Farm Supplies, Baumolaw, Wash.

45 GMC 2 1/2 ton amphibious Jeep, complete with winch, compressor, sea-going cabin, new motor, \$875. terms. Write Neal Huggles, Aurville, Ore.

FOR SALE: Attention Loggers: Model FDI, 95 HP Hercules Diesel Cletrae Crawler Tractors equipped with Buckeye dozer double drum power control unit. Engine and tractor completely reconditioned in A-1 condition. Write, wire or telephone THE SAWTOOTH COMPANY, Boise, Idaho.

HARDWOOD FLOORING Wholesale and Car Lots ASPHALT TILE HAROLD H. NEVIN CO. 4246 S. E. Belmont PORTLAND 15, OREGON

SCARCE HUNTING Ammunition: 256 Newton; 25 and .31 Japanese army; mm. Mauser (German army); 303 British; 7.62 mm. Russian; mm. Lebel; other foreign calibers; \$5.00 per 20. 30-'06, other American calibers, \$4.00 per 20. Precision hand loaded with expanding jacketed bullets. High velocity, safe, accurate. Parkinson Custom Loaded Ammunition, 812 McKinley, Boise, Idaho.

SCHOOL BUS, 42-passenger, superior body on 1948 Chevrolet chassis. After October 15th, 47-passenger of same kind. \$8,500. Write: Fulmer Service, Independence, Oregon.

WELL DRILL, all steel, heavy 6-inch beam construction. Double clutches, SKF bearings throughout, chain and gear-drive drum, spools 1500 line, friction sand reel, 3 1/2" 16" spudder and heel shaft, 20 hp motor, 6" drill tools. Mounted on GMC truck. Must be seen to be appreciated. \$4,000 for quick sale. See or write Ervin Kroger, Camas Valley, Oregon.

WANTED at once, used cameras, cash or trade on new Eastman, Bell & Howell, Revere, Argus, Bolex, etc. Tall's, Inc. 1409 Fifth Ave., Seattle, Washington.

ROLL DEVELOPED - OVERNIGHT SERVICE. 8 High-Gloss Prints, All sizes 25¢. Reprints, 3c each. FOX STUDIOS - Billings, Montana.

ONE ROSS LUMBER CARRIER for 42" blocks. Motor and pneumatic tires in good condition. Price includes spare motor and large quantity 42" blocks. \$200.00 cash. Write: E. J. Hill, 212 E. Sprague St., Portland, Ore.

ONE 3-BLOCK 2 1/2 ton carrier for 8 to 16-ft. logs 42" o.p. Hand set works. Spring retractor—Track included. \$600. COLUMBIA LUMBER CO., 1550 Columbia Way, Longview, Wash. Phone 2312.

Modernize your bathroom and kitchen with new tile. Many beautiful colors. Free literature. 421 SW Taylor, Portland 4, Ore. ACME LINOLEUM COMPANY

AUTOS, TRUCKS & ACCES. LATE 1947 C.O.E. 2-ton Chev. truck; 42" cond. 25 per cent rubber; with 15 ft. stock rack, 4500 miles, \$2600. C. J. Crandall, Rt. 9, Box 384, Salem, Ore., Phone 2,4312.

WRECKING Diamond T, International K-5-6, 7-8-10-11, Stude., G.M.C. Autos, Chev.

Military Parts Transmissions, motors, cabs, axles, 256 Timken Bogies Winches, hoists, transfer cases, drive shafts, universals, wheels, frames, fenders, doors, etc. 4 Acres, G. I. Paris SEATTLE

TRUCK HEADQUARTERS 9798 E. Marginal Way LA 4355

TWO 1946 HD 14C CRAWLERS, 1 with hydraulic dozer, Garwood in rear, 2 catwalks, 2 rippers, A. J. Nysse, Nysse, Ore. Ph. 014-R. R. 1, Box 167.

INSTRUCTION BE an Auctioneer! Good earnings. Easy. Every community needs an auctioneer. Learn fundamentals by mail. Ralph Coen, Auctioneer, Suite 998 F. E. Bldg., Los Angeles, Cal.

Olympic Games Modern Olympics, reviving the very ancient games, date from 1896 at Athens. The 14th Olympiad takes its number from the fact that 1948 is the 14th quadrennial year when 1896 is taken as the first. The 6th Olympiad, scheduled for Berlin in 1916, was cancelled because of World War I. The 12th, 1940, originally scheduled for Tokyo, was re-assigned to Helsinki, Finland, and later cancelled because of war.

Origin of Political Labels On November 7, 1874, Harper's Weekly published a full page cartoon by Thomas Nast. This cartoon was destined to introduce the elephant as the symbol of the Republican party. Another Nast cartoon, published earlier in the same periodical, tagged the Democratic party with the donkey.

Streamlined Jimmy Durante, seated beneath his caricature at the Brown Derby, pointed to it and told Bob Cobb, the owner: "You'll hafta have d' pitcher done over. Dis season Durante's schmozz has got d' new look-wit' flared nostrils."

Classified Ad Bloodhound For Sale—What am I offered for one-year-old? Beautiful animal, gentle, good watch-dog. Will eat anything and especially fond of children.

BUSINESS & INVEST. OPPOR.

NEW MODERN MOTEL, best location in Western Montana, on highway 10. Excellent hunting and fishing territory. No competition. 8 units, 6 with kitchenettes and garages, laundry, Modern accommodations for trailer court. Room for 8 more units. Full price \$13,500. Partnership disagreement forces sale. Montana Motel, Box 244, Drummond, Mont.

Interested working partner for largest commercial landscaping business in country. Thousands of dollars of orders on hand year round. Must be store. Too large to handle alone. Hundreds of references. \$4000.00 for 1/2 of stock, machinery and business. Will teach if necessary. Landscaping & Lawns, 1350 Harrison St., Roseburg, Oregon.

INVENTION: New type building block and wall construction. Need help to develop. Will sell part interest to right party. Box 321, Toppensish, Wash.

HOTEL—Loc. in Tacoma; brick bldg; over 40 rms; workingman's hotel. Place is loc. in dist. where an operator can fill up & make some nice money. Gov. is filling up Camp Lewis; business will gross \$1500 plus from now on. Only \$4000 cash req. This office thinks enough of this deal we will bankroll you if you have mortgage, home or any other contracts we can get. Write money on 1919-5th Ave., Seattle, Wash. ACME BROKERAGE, INC.

CAFE located lower Columbia Hwy close to Portland in good little town with largest payroll any town its size in state. Well equipped, seats 24, large storage, living quarters, same floor. Couple cash operate. \$2750 and it's all yours. Martin Gehrk, M and M Cafe, St. Helens, Oregon.

GROCERY, gas and oil business, store building, living quarters. In Hitefoot valley, Mont. Please write to Woodside Cash Grocery, Victor, Montana.

GROCERY STORE ideally located Cle Elum, Wash., midway Yakima & Seattle, U. S. Hwy 10. Good steady trade, grossing \$42,000 yrl. Clean grocery stock, inventory approx. \$7,000.00. 7-stool lunch counter, donut machine, \$65.00 month includes heat. Bldg. 25x130. Living qtrs. ground floor. Will see fixtures & inventory \$11,500.00. McCully Cash Grocery, Cle Elum, Wash.

\$110,000.00—Motel—24 units, borders on 4 streets. Excellent condition. Money maker, completely furnished.

\$43,000.00—Auto Court, 6 units plus 3-bdrm. home, ideal location, completely furnished.

\$9000.00—Grocery Store, package beer, living quarters, includes bldg., gas pump.

\$1100.00—Restaurant, includes equipment & lease, seats 40 people.

\$12,500.00—2 operator Gift Shoppe, illness forces sale. Took in \$4,900 gross last year.

\$11,500.00—4-Unit Court, completely furnished on main Hwy, 132 frontage, 330 ft. deep.

Contact Allen Jones or Mabel Neuhart Realtors, 341 State St., Bm. 4, Salem, Oregon. Ph. 3-9201.

SMALL RESTAURANT FOR SALE Good location, lots of drive-in space; \$4,000 cash includes building. MAX VAN OBEI, Box 464, Stevenson, Wash.

WANT A RESTAURANT? Good business, good location, grade A, seats 24. Call or write PASTIME CAFE, Coquille, Ore.

Buy U. S. Savings Bonds!

FARM MACHINERY & EQUIP. FOR SALE—Model L Case Tractor, completely overhauled, including oversize tires. J. R. Butler, Rt. 2, Box 249, Phone 4504, Sherwood, Ore.

A. C. CRAWLER tractor, Model W. M. Good condition, 2 discs, 1 3-bottom plow to match, 25,000 light face brake. C. O. Hall, Dundee, Ore.

FOR SALE—1942 Model M. ACT tractor, 18" tracks, armored, Isaacson blade, starter, pulley; good cond., \$3,250. Phone 4387, R. B. JOYCE, Rt. 3, Sherwood, Ore.

FARMS AND RANCHES CANADIAN FARMS—Write us for FREE INFORMATION on farm settlement opportunities. Fertile soils. Reasonably priced. C. F. Crowell, Canadian Pacific Railway, Vancouver, B.C.

DOGS, CATS, PETS, ETC. REGISTERED collies, excellent, pedigree, blues, tris and sables. Victoria Kennels, Route 1, Box 478, A, Longview, Washington.

REGISTERED Irish setter pups, 10 weeks old, excellent hunting stock. Males, \$45; females, \$30. Cash, prepaid. Write or call Anderson Kennels, 1825 So. Higgins, Missoula, Mont.

BORDER COLLIE PUPS The best, 3 months old. JOHN KLINKER - Lakebay, Wash.

LIVESTOCK REGISTERED Spotted Poland China hogs for sale. C. J. Jackson, Colton, Washington.

Let the Ads Guide You When Shopping Plastic Clothesline Plastics are used frequently in unusual and unnoticed ways. Latest use is for clothesline. It is waterproof and easy to clean, with unusual tensile strength and a very low stretch rate. It also can be tied much easier than most lines.

Potential Pastures Many farms have areas on them which are overgrown with brush and briars. These areas contribute little or nothing to farm income. If cleaned up and properly treated, however, they will produce good pasture.

Fence Post Treatment If fence posts are cut and peeled, treat them with coal-tar creosote or pentachloropheno before using them as replacements or for new fences.

Keep Looking Two men, both noted for their caution when it came to money, met in the street. "Well, well," said one, "Fancy running into you. I was just looking for someone to lend me 10 shillings." "Is that so?" replied the other. "Well, you've got a nice day for it."

HELP WANTED

"OPENINGS in all communities to show famous Maisonneville frocks. Complete line of women's dresses, skirts, blouses, slips and rainwear. Fully guaranteed. For catalogue write P. O. Box 9898, Portland 7, Oregon."

AUTO MECHANIC, journeyman and bodyman journeyman. Steady emp. \$17.75 hr. plus vacation pay. Long est. Pontiac dealer, Bill Spinks, Inc., Chehalis, Wash.

MAN FOR CHORES, odd jobs on dairy. No mucking. Write, stating wages expected. D. WARDEN, Siltcoos, Oregon.

FLOWERS & BULBS REGAL LILIES, 100 planting stock, \$2.50; 12 small blooming size, 75¢; 12 medium blooming size, \$1.25; 12 large blooming size, \$2.25; 12 Junos, \$2.25; 100 planting stock free with \$5.00 regal orders. Express collect. Smith Gardens, Lewiston, Idaho.

FARM, HOME & GARDEN At Last! Shrubs in Smaller Sizes We have over 70 varieties including many new introductions. They are all vigorous 2 and 3 year old plants, growing in 4 inch plant bands, priced from 60¢ to \$1.70. If you like to Watch Them Grow You can have a complete planting for a fraction of the usual cost. We are offering— Your Selection of 24 Shrubs for \$20.00 36 Shrubs for \$30.00 Write for a complete list with full description and planting guide.

Jaquith Florists Nursery 700 N. Meridian Newberg, Ore. Phone 2-J

PEONIES 3 separate colors, good varieties. All named, large division, \$2.00, Postpaid

Moore's Hotbeds CHEHALIS, WASH. Rt. 3, Box 333

REAL ESTATE—MISC. APPROX. 30,000 ACRES IN HARNEY VALLEY Near Burns, Ore., in tracts of 1/4 section and up. This is top quality grain and alfalfa land; ideal for power farming or livestock spreads. Marvelous value at \$10.00 to \$20.00. 25% down balance very easy terms; level and shallow water. Write at once for more particulars and make arrangements to come and see this outstanding virgin area. James Dunn, Box 695, Burns, Ore.

FOR REAL ESTATE BARGAINS and business opportunities in southwestern Oregon see or write Raymond A. Lower, Broker, Templar Hotel Bldg., Brookings, Ore.

SPECIAL BETTER HEALTH!

Hemorrhoids Rectal and Colon Ailments Gastric Ulcer Treated without Hospital Operation Write or call for FREE descriptive booklet

Monday through Friday: 10 A.M. to 5 P.M. Evenings: Monday, Wednesday, Friday 7 to 9

Dr. C. J. DEAN CLINIC Physician and Surgeon N. E. Corner E. Burnside and Grand Avenue Telephone East 3918, Portland 14, Oregon

DENTAL PLATES AND ALL BRANCHES OF DENTISTRY ON CREDIT TERMS Take 5, 10, 15 Months to Pay

Dr. Harry Seidler, Dentist ALISAY BLDG., 342 & MORRISON - PORTLAND, ORE.

Spraying Calls for Caution Spraying and dusting materials should be stored in closed metal containers away from kitchen food stocks. A respirator should be used when spraying or dusting if material blows back in the operator's face. Fumes can sometimes be dangerous and the body should be kept well covered—do not spray with arms or legs bare. Empty bags should be burned, taking care to avoid exposure to fumes.

Columbia River System From headwaters in the Selkirk mountains of southeast British Columbia to its Pacific outlet along the Washington-Oregon border, the Columbia system drains some 300,000 square miles of territory. Half a dozen northwest states, as well as Canada, are involved through a complex network of streams ranging from the Canadian Kootenay to Oregon's Willamette, which meets the Columbia.

Britain Tops List For the first time in 25 years, Britain became the world's largest passenger car exporter in March. March exports, which numbered 19,100 cars, were 78 per cent of Britain's total passenger car production and 1,000 more than United States' February exports, which made up only a small percentage of U. S. output.

Top of the Nation Colorado's world-famous Trail Ridge road between Estes park and Grand lake crosses the backbone of the continent in Rocky Mountain National park at 12,183 feet above sea level. As these snowbanks melt, the water west of the hump flows toward the Pacific, that on the east slope starts flowing toward the Gulf of Mexico.

"Tell It to the Judge" "Repeat the words the defendant used," said the lawyer. "I'd rather not. They were not fit words to tell a gentleman."

"Then," said the attorney, "whisper them to the judge."

Came the Dawn He—Did you hear about the chap who stayed up all night figuring out where the sun went when it went down? She—No, what happened? He—It finally dawned on him.

THE DAY Grace Noll Crowell THE day will bring some lovely thing, I say it over each new dawn, "Some gay, adventurous thing to hold Against my heart when it is gone." And so I rise, and go to meet The day with wings upon my feet. I come upon it unaware, Some sudden beauty without name: A snatch of song, a breath of pine, A poem lit with golden flame; High tangled bird notes, keenly thinned, Like flying color on the wind. No day has ever failed me quite: Before the grayest day is done I find some misty, purple bloom, Or a late line of crimson sun. Each night I pause, remembering Some gay, adventurous, lovely thing.

trucks for teens by NANCY PEPPER More Mealtime Menaces.

Ever since we printed a list of six types of lunch-room pests, we've been deluged with letters describing additional types we overlooked, along with that four-leaf clover you're always singing about. If you recognize yourself in these descriptions, you'd better F. F. F. F. F. T. (and if you don't know, that F. F. F. F. F. T. means "Fall Fatally on Your Fat Face Five Times").

WRECKING Diamond T, International K-5-6, 7-8-10-11, Stude., G.M.C. Autos, Chev.

Military Parts Transmissions, motors, cabs, axles, 256 Timken Bogies Winches, hoists, transfer cases, drive shafts, universals, wheels, frames, fenders, doors, etc. 4 Acres, G. I. Paris SEATTLE

TRUCK HEADQUARTERS 9798 E. Marginal Way LA 4355

INSTRUCTION BE an Auctioneer! Good earnings. Easy. Every community needs an auctioneer. Learn fundamentals by mail. Ralph Coen, Auctioneer, Suite 998 F. E. Bldg., Los Angeles, Cal.

Olympic Games Modern Olympics, reviving the very ancient games, date from 1896 at Athens. The 14th Olympiad takes its number from the fact that 1948 is the 14th quadrennial year when 1896 is taken as the first. The 6th Olympiad, scheduled for Berlin in 1916, was cancelled because of World War I. The 12th, 1940, originally scheduled for Tokyo, was re-assigned to Helsinki, Finland, and later cancelled because of war.

Origin of Political Labels On November 7, 1874, Harper's Weekly published a full page cartoon by Thomas Nast. This cartoon was destined to introduce the elephant as the symbol of the Republican party. Another Nast cartoon, published earlier in the same periodical, tagged the Democratic party with the donkey.

Streamlined Jimmy Durante, seated beneath his caricature at the Brown Derby, pointed to it and told Bob Cobb, the owner: "You'll hafta have d' pitcher done over. Dis season Durante's schmozz has got d' new look-wit' flared nostrils."