

BROADWAY AND MAIN STREET
An Old St. Christopher Medal
And a Bashed-in Pullman Car

By BILLY ROSE

Ordinarily, knowing what editors expect of me, I don't devote much space in this column to stories of faith, devotion and other such unhelp subjects. However, I bumped into a yarn the other night that did nice things to my spine, and here 'tis, even though it's as corny as a chorus of "Hearts and Flowers..."

Some years ago, a dancer named Jean Armstrong (note to Ed.—that's her square monicker and she's given me permission to use it) came down with a ruptured appendix, and by the time they got her to the hospital, peritonitis had set in and the doctors didn't give her much chance.

The following day, the nurse handed her a string of rosary beads.

"A little girl tried to get in to see you this morning," she said. "Her name was Sylvia, and she said her mother was a friend of yours. When I told her you couldn't be disturbed, she asked me to give you this. It has a St. Christopher medal on it, and the kid thought it might bring you luck."



Billy Rose

The dancer wasn't a Catholic, but she was touched by the present anyhow. And six weeks later, thanks to faith or the new sulfa drugs, she was out of the hospital.

FROM THEN ON, she kept the rosary in her make-up box, but a couple of years later, after a succession of cheap variety houses and even cheaper hotels, the beads no longer seemed very important. And one day, when one of the girls in her vaudeville unit asked about the St. Christopher medal, Jean said, "It's nothing at all. Just a piece of old junk. I don't know why I keep on carrying it."

That Sunday, when the troupe checked into a Baltimore hotel, Jean put the make-up case on top of her valise and signed the register, but when she reached for her

luggage the case was gone. She notified the desk and, when that didn't produce results, reported the loss to the police. But when the unit pulled out of Baltimore on Saturday night, neither case nor beads had been found.

In Pittsburgh the next week, the show got bad notices and folded, and as if that weren't enough, the manager skipped with the salaries. A few days later, down to her last three bucks, Jean considered herself plenty lucky when a local agent offered her a job in a Miami nightclub. She was given a ticket-car 16, berth No. 1—on the 7:22 out of Pittsburgh.

At 7 o'clock the dancer left the hotel, but a couple of blocks from the depot she noticed something on the sidewalk and picked it up. It was a string of rosary beads and, attached to it, a medallion of St. Christopher.

JEAN DIDN'T KNOW then, and she doesn't know now, whether it was the same rosary. She did know, however, that it looked exactly like the one the little girl had sent her, except for one thing—the chain had been broken. As she continued on to the station, she got to thinking of the beads—how sick she had been when the first got them, and how her troupe had been stranded when she had referred to the medallion as a piece of old junk. And suddenly it seemed

Sympathy

by GRACE NOLL CROWELL

IF Jesus had not walked the earth, Footsore and weary, long ago, Oh, I might be so very tired, And even He could scarcely know The depths of my discouragement, Or just how tired I might grow.

If Jesus had not suffered much, And borne the greatest agony, I might have more than I could bear Of pain, and He could scarcely see How great would be my suffering Or what that pain would mean to me.

But oh, my Jesus understands, And looks in loving sympathy; "Like as a father pitieth His child," 'tis thus He pities me, And I am glad that Jesus knows When I am walking wearily.



important to get the chain fixed.

Up the street there was a combination book shop-jewelry store and, forgetting the 7:22, she walked in. The jeweler worked as fast as he could, but when he handed the rosary back to her the clock said 7:30, and the dancer knew she was out of a job again. With less than a dollar in her purse, she went back to the hotel, and a few minutes later the phone

rang. It was the stage manager of "The Student Prince" which, for the umpteenth time, was playing the Nixon theater. "Heard your troupe was stranded," he said. "One of our dancers is getting married tomorrow, and if you want to fill in for a few weeks—"

And now for us as corny a finish as ever found its way into a so-called pep column. When Jean picked up a newspaper the next morning, she read that the 7:22 out of Pittsburgh had been side-swiped by a freight car. It wasn't much of a wreck—nobody had been hurt because the two berths which were bashed in happened to be empty. One of them, of course, was berth No. 1, car 16.

The Fiction Corner
FIVE HOURS DEAD

By Richard H. Wilkinson

OBADIAH LITTLE was dead. There were plenty who would be glad to hear that news. There were a great majority of others who didn't care a rap.

Obadiah was a mean old man who lived alone on a farm 10 miles west of Fairview. Everyone hated him because he drove a sharp bargain and foreclosed mortgages on the minute.

That was the situation that confronted Owen and me when we drove up to investigate.

Preliminary investigation revealed the following facts: Obadiah had been killed by a rock thrown through a window near which he was sitting, reading. We knew he had been sitting there reading because Moses Morris, a neighbor had passed by in the early evening and noticed the light in Obadiah's window, and noticed Obadiah sitting beside it. Moses had gone up the road looking for a cow that had strayed. He found the cow and started back and noticed that Obadiah had shifted his position.

Something about the way the old man looked aroused Moses' curiosity, and he went up close and saw blood on Obadiah's temple. Moses went on home and called the police.

We corroborated this by talking to neighbors who had heard Moses calling the cow, and by discovering footprints and hoofprints outside the window, and by the fact that

That looked bad, or good, depending on what side of the fence you were on. I sent Owen to hunt up Roscoe, and returned to Obadiah's farm.

Quite a crowd had gathered outside. Lights from automobiles illuminated the house and grounds. Among the cars I noticed Doc Orion's little coupe.

He was inside, and had already begun his investigation.

"How's it look?" I asked him. "Let you know in about an hour." He glanced up and returned to his work. I scowled. Doc was usually more confident.

I went back into the bedroom. Doc was stuffing things back into his bag.

"Been dead about five hours," he said.

"How?"

"Some blunt instrument."

"The rock, eh?"

"Could have been."

Just then Owen came in. He had a tall, rawboned individual with him. "This is Roscoe," he said.

Owen came in again with Moses. Moses looked important.

"Moses," I said, "you're a first class liar. You murdered Obadiah!"

Moses' jaw went slack. "How do you figure that, Shurruf?"

"Easy as pie," I said. "You started out after your cow and stopped by to talk to Obadiah—about renewing a mortgage, perhaps, or something else. Anyway, you got mad and slugged him with the stove poker. Then you propped him up by the window, lighted the lamp and put the book in his hand."

"Then you went outside and heaved a rock through the window. Later, when you came back with your cow you saw that Obadiah had slumped, and you went up to look, which is when Oscar Jones came by."

There was, of course, blood on the poker to prove that part of it, but it was what the doc said that gave me the real lead. Dead five hours. Well, five hours ago the sun was shining, and a mean old man like Obadiah wouldn't burn oil when the sun was out.

Star Dust

By INEZ GERHARD

BERRY KROEGER, typed on a recent Hollywood trip as a young Charles Laughton, is currently heard as "Sam Williams" on "Young Dr. Malone". He got his first radio contract when the narrator of Louella Parsons' show collapsed in the middle of his impersonation of Ronald Colman, back



BERRY KROEGER

in 1940. Berry picked up the script and carried on. He had broken into radio in 1930, when versatility was a "must"; in one local half-hour show he had carried 11 parts, for which he received \$2.50!

When Charles Laughton was being interviewed at luncheon in New York's Algonquin the other day, complete silence reigned at neighboring tables; his voice was so beautiful that everybody within range wanted to listen to it.

"Stromboli", which quickly leaped from first to second-run movie houses, is getting bad word-of-mouth publicity. People report that it just seemed so dull and tiresome that they walked out before the picture was half over.

Walt Disney discovered while doing research for his "Cinderella" that the famous glass slipper wasn't glass at all, but fur. Charles Perrault, when he wrote the famous story more than 300 years ago, said the slipper was "pantoufle en vair" (fur slipper). The translator mistook the last two words for "en verre", or glass. So there goes another legend!

Debbie Reynolds made her screen debut in Warners' "The Daughter of Rosie O'Grady" recently, did "Three Little Words" at M-G-M with Fred Astaire and Vera-Ellen, and now has been signed by that studio to a term contract. Next she'll do "The Tender Hours". Debby is top Girl Scout of her district, has 42 merit badges, including one for cooking and one for baking.

SPORTSMAN'S HORIZON

New Ammunition

Big game bullets give their best performance when used on game for which they are specifically designed, and at ranges within the limitations of the particular cartridge. Sportsmen, especially big game hunters, will be interested in, and will find useful, the following table released by Western Winchester, divisions of Olin Industries, Inc., on their new lines of Silver-tip and Soft Point big game cartridges.

A wealth of correspondence and field reports were drawn upon, and remaining energy and velocity, flatness of trajectory, accuracy, sighting equipment, and average hunting ability were considered in establishing the range and game recommendations shown. The new Silver-tip and Soft Point bullets have been designed to give their best performance under conditions covered by this table.

Table with columns: Caliber, Maximum Range, Rec. for, and various bullet types like 250 Sav, 257 Rbts, 270 Win, etc.

Legend: D—Deer, A—Antelope, E—Elk, M—Moose, X—Largest North American Game

Big Buck

A monstrous 412-pound deer was shot by Henry Hayden, Poccatello, during the 1949 open season. The huge muley was bagged in Montpelier canyon, and is one of the biggest deer to be recorded in Idaho. The buck had nine tines on one rack and eight on the other, with a spread of 30 inches.

Excellent Cover

The up and coming multiflora rose, hailed by upland bird biologists as a major cover plant to aid wildlife populations, is a hardy plant, but cultivation will assist growth to nearly double their size in one season. Cultivation during the first year or two will materially aid the rose in its start toward becoming a refuge for many forms of small wildlife, the technicians advise. Field checks have shown this simple practice more than pays with increased plant growth and all co-operators are urged to benefit by the findings.

Fishermen, here's a tip from Herb Fisher, of the University of Missouri wildlife research unit here, on the use of catfish fat. Herb finds that some commercial fishermen use catfish fat to help in trying fish, in removing tar from hands, and as an agent in hardening and eliminating the stickiness of tars used on their nets.

Dingell Bill

Sportsmen everywhere will be interested to hear that the Dingell bill which would provide for federal aid to state fish restoration and management projects is to be introduced again before the 81st Congress.

The new bill is substantially the same as the old one which was vetoed by the President during the last session. Two changes have been made that should affect the objections made by the President. One stipulates that the bill would be effective July 1, 1950, and not retroactive to 1947. Another provides for an authorization of \$2,000,000 to carry out provisions of the act from July 1, 1950, to June 30, 1951. Thereafter, the entire sum earmarked from the excise tax on fishing equipment during each fiscal year would be available for allocation to the states to carry out the program.

Fast Salmon

The fastest tagged salmon recovered to date is the salmon caught last summer 20 miles up the Columbia river by an Astoria fisherman, William M. Pice. The fish had been tagged on July 21 by the California bureau of marine fisheries near San Francisco and was caught 22 days later in the Columbia river. The fish had travelled a distance of 660 miles or an average of 30 miles a day which is good going for a fish.

Farm Topics

U. S. Milk Industry Vastly Transformed

Cost of Product Rises Less Than Other Foods

Since the turn of the century the milk industry has undergone a transformation rivaling that of the airplane, according to dairy scientist and historian Dr. J. Lloyd Henderson.

Dr. Henderson, co-author of "The Market Milk Industry," a standard textbook whose latest edition will be released this spring said "Our research since the war's end points up the fact that although labor and equipment costs have kept pace with rising scales in other industries, the cost of milk and its products has risen less than that of any other food. In fact, milk, from a nutritive point of view, is far and away the housewife's best food buy."

Cost-saving scientific advances in milk processing and startling economies due to improved distribution practices have been responsible for this, Henderson points out. The industry shed no tears as it buried the familiar 10-gallon milk



This excellent herd of cattle, grazing quietly and contentedly is symbolic of vast milk industry which has undergone such a transformation in the past two decades.

can and converted to huge insulated tank trucks for bringing milk from the larger farms to the processing plant. Savings in handling due to this change have only been matched by the improvement in sanitation and quality of the product, Henderson said. Every-other-day delivery, now practically standard practice in major cities, plus the use of retail trucks of almost double capacity, also helped keep the housewife's milk budget in line. The flash pasteurized, once outlawed by health authorities, has been so improved that today every milk company of any size uses it to save expensive man-hours and production space.

Check Cows' Feet



Although one would hardly gather the impression from the Holstein cow (above), cows are like people in more ways than one—one sure one being that when their feet hurt, their production lags. Farmers can help prevent loss of production from this source by periodic attention to the feet of their cattle to check for foot infection or other ills.

New Dairy Element Seen As Aid in More Output

The animal protein factor—miraculous dairy element which speeds up the growth of farm animals and poultry at less cost to the farmer—is now in tonnage production and should be readily available to consumers within a short time.

Officials of the chemical company producing the element which is accomplished by bacterial fermentation, promise feed efficiency that will represent a significant new advance in animal nutrition.

The fermentation APF, as the feed component is known, has a Vitamin B12 content approximately 40 times that of good fish meal, the outstanding natural source of APF which has been widely used heretofore in feed mixtures. This vitamin compound is one of the most effective known for supplementing chicken and hog feeds.

Superphosphate Will Help Add to Manure Properties

Adding superphosphate to manure not only increases its plant food balance, but helps it hold valuable nitrogen that otherwise might be lost, according to Prof. C. J. Chapman, University of Wisconsin agronomist. He says it should be added before the manure is spread on the field.

The superphosphate can be put in the spreader at the rate of 20 to 25 pounds per load.

JUST IN CASE

That Would Have Hurt!

For the first time in his life Cal Smith was in need of a lawyer's services. He remembered that his father had known a lawyer who took the case and won it quite handsily. Then he went to the lawyer to pay the bill.

"Let's see now," said the lawyer, "you won \$500 in that case, didn't you?"

"Yes, sir," replied Cal.

"Well, since I knew your father so well, I must make it easy for you. Supposing I set my fee at \$400?"

"Whew!" whooshed Cal, "I'm sure glad you didn't know grandfather."

Time to Part

A young lawyer had a very complicated case to present to the court. He prepared his case with utmost care and presented it with the clearest words he could muster. When he was about halfway through his oration he felt that the judge was missing a few of the finer points. He paused a moment then said: "I beg your pardon, Your Honor, but are you following me?"

"I'm right behind you, young fellow," replied the black-robed figure, "but if I thought that I could find my way back alone, I'd try it right now."

Household Hints

Orange juice can be fixed in half the usual time. The trick is to squeeze small oranges by cutting off the stem end only and extracting the juice in one operation. It works for lemons, too.

Odds and ends of fruit juices that clutter your refrigerator, especially orange and pineapple, can make a delicious combination. Simply stew prunes or apricots in the mixture.

Apples can be baked without cracking and every bit of flavor retained if a one-inch band is peeled from the middle of each apple. Stuff the apple and bake in a moderate oven.

There are seven ways of preparing eggs: cooking in the shell, frying, poaching, scrambling, baking, broiling, and in omelets.

Salty soup is no cause for alarm. Add a sliced raw potato or two and simmer slowly five to 10 minutes. Remove the potato slices before serving the soup.

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MANY NEVER SUSPECT CAUSE OF BACKACHES

DOAN'S PILLS



Obadiah was a mean old man... everybody hated him.

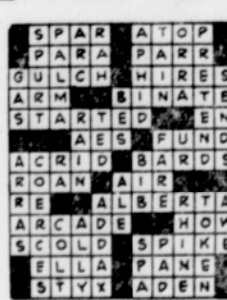
Oscar Jones, another neighbor, had come by while Moses was looking in the window.

So we discounted Moses as a possible suspect, and went to work on the others who had hated Obadiah. There was, for example, Rescoe Norbert, who lived a mile away, and who had been helping Obadiah with his haying. A neighbor had heard Obadiah and Rescoe quarreling over wages that very day.

SO WE CALLED at Rescoe's house, and struck a snag. Rescoe hadn't been home all night.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

LAST WEEK'S ANSWER



- ACROSS: 1. Exhibition, 5. River (Belg.), 9. Parasitic insects, 10. Seaweed, 11. Employed for wages, 12. Skins, 14. Part of "to be", 15. Skip, as a stone, on water, 17. Prepare for publication, 18. Custom, 20. Doze, 22. Greek letter, 23. Stringed musical instrument, 25. A native of Ionia, 28. A native of Iran, 30. Away, 32. Hit (slang), 35. Measure (Chin.), 36. Spread grass to dry, 38. Constellation, 39. Southwest wind, 42. Property (Law), 44. Part of "to be", 45. Per. to the sun, 47. Kind of cap, 49. Ceremony, 50. Another name for Persia, 51. Spar, 52. Serve, 1. Unsubstantial, 2. Breeze, 3. Frosted, 4. Fortification, 5. Chart, 6. Toward the lee, 7. Matured, 8. Salt marsh, 11. Draw, 13. Stupefy, 16. One who paints, 19. Goddess of discord (Gr.), 21. Hawaiian food, 24. Before, 26. Seize, 27. Amazon cetacean, 29. Insect, 30. Expression of sorrow, 31. Having two forms, 33. An intimate, 34. Quick, 37. Left-hand side of a ledger, 40. Pen-name of Charles Lamb, 41. Rodents, 43. Withered (poet.), 46. Soak flax, 48. Flowed

