

BROADWAY AND MAIN STREET

Ghosts Haven't Ghost of a Chance in Manhattan But This Haunting Story Gave New Yorkers Pause

By BILLY ROSE

Men of Manhattan are an undaunted and unhaunted lot—or at least think we are—and so ghost stories seldom stand a ghost of a chance in this town.

The other night, however, a real estate man buttonholed me coming out of "21" and told me a chiller about a deserted house in the Flushing section of Queens, and on the off-chance that your scalp can use a tingle or two, I'd like to pass it along . . .

On the night of the big snow three winters ago, a doctor in Queens answered his doorbell and found a smallish man in a faded mackinaw standing on the stoop.

"My wife is very sick," he said. "I hate to ask you to come out on a night like this, but it's only a few blocks."



Billy Rose

The doctor followed him to a large wooden house near the intersection of Vine street and Broadway, and when the man unlocked the door the physician could see by the glare of an unshaded droplight that the lower floor was empty except for a few kitchen chairs and a length of carpet.

"THIS IS NO PLACE for a sick woman," he said. "You ought to have some heat in the house."

The man led him up a creaky set of stairs to the second floor, and in the front room an emaciated woman was lying in an old four-poster bed. She kept coughing into a blood-flecked handker-

chief, and though the doctor went through the motions of an examination he knew at once it was an advanced case of tuberculosis. "I can give her something to relieve the congestion," he told her husband, "but she'll have to be moved to a hospital first thing in the morning."

He then wrote out a prescription. "I'll get it filled right away," said the man, and showed the doctor to the door.

Next morning, wondering how the woman was getting along, the physician stopped by the wooden house, but there was no answer when he rang the bell. Moreover, there were no tracks in the snow to indicate that an ambulance or any other vehicle had pulled up in front of the place.

Puzzled, he went to the office of a real estate agent on the next street and asked if he could get some information about the residents of the house.

"THAT'S A FUNNY sort of question," said the agent. "There aren't any residents and there aren't likely to be any. The house hasn't been occupied in 15 years, and though

it's always been on my list, nobody's ever wanted it." "Do you think squatters might be living in it on account of the housing shortage?" asked the doctor.

"Could be, but I doubt it," said the agent. "There's been a lot of queer talk about that house, and the last family that moved in during the depression could only stand it for a few weeks. The husband and wife slept in the front room on the second floor, and to hear them tell it they were kept awake night after night by the sound of a woman coughing. It finally got so bad they packed and left."

"I know its sounds absurd," said the doctor, "but I examined a sick woman there last night, and if you've got a key I'll walk over with you and prove it."

"When they got to the house, it took the agent quite a while to get the rusty lock open, and when they entered there wasn't a stick of furniture in sight. 'I could have sworn I saw some chairs and a carpet down here last night,' said the doctor.

"Maybe you've got this house mixed up with another one," the agent suggested.

"I still think it's the same place. Let's look upstairs."

On the second floor they went into the front room. It was also empty. Empty, that is, except for a piece of paper on the window sill—the prescription the doctor had written the night before.



SYLPH-CONTROL . . . Thomas Tiny Tim) of Pittsburgh hopes that an apple a day will keep extra pounds a way.

This Is Your Paper Those 'Changed' News Items

By William R. Nelson

"WHENEVER I bring in a news item, why do you always change it all around?"

That question is one of the most frequently asked in every home town newspaper office in the country. Sometimes it is asked in considerable exasperation.

The answer is, of course, that news stories are easier to read, better understood, take less space, when they are written to conform to a somewhat flexible pattern. That style, developed over the years, is fairly uniform in all newspapers because it was designed to evaluate the facts for their news value and tell them quickly and clearly.

'Lead' Is Inclusive

A well written, straight news story presents its outstanding information in the opening paragraph, or lead. What follows after that is amplification, additional details.

There are excellent reasons why news story style is best, among them: (1) The reader can quickly read the lead, and quit there if the story fails to interest him or her. (2) It permits cutting or reducing the length of a story, to get it into a particular place in the paper, by eliminating from the bottom. As these bottom paragraphs contain less important details, their removal will not seriously reduce the information the story is conveying.

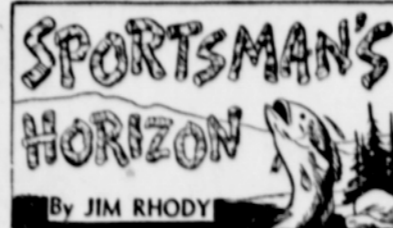
The editor tries to pack his paper with as much news as he can get, written in clear, readable style, and arranged to give the paper a varied and attractive appearance. Yet he cannot prepare the entire content of an issue in an hour or a day.

Written To Fit The Space

Because writing, editing, setting type, putting the type in the page forms, and printing, addressing and delivering take time, they must start early enough to conclude at a specified time each issue. If news stories are not written so they can be made to fit the space assigned to them, much time will be lost and the paper will contain fewer stories and be less interesting.

The editor is a specialist whose stock-in-trade is an understanding of what interests people. He welcomes news and does his best to present it in accurate, readable, interesting form.

Next time you bring in a news item, and it is "changed all around", remember that it was rewritten into news style to help you make it of interest to the greatest possible number of readers.



Key Deer Get Help

The Key deer has found in the Florida congressional delegation staunch allies in its battle with extermination, according to the Wildlife Management Institute.

Two bills have been introduced to extend the boundaries of the Great White Heron National Wildlife Refuge to include the restricted range of the diminutive member of the deer family which is battling for survival on several small islands near the refuge; Congressman Charles E. Bennett introduced H.R. 7524, which was referred to the house committee on merchant marine and fisheries, and Sen. Claude Pepper introduced a companion bill, S. 3286, which was referred to the Senate Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce.

Unless this land is acquired soon, the Key deer is doomed. No more than 50 and possibly only 25 have survived the ravages of poachers who, in defiance of law and human decency, have been burning the cover, running deer into the sea with dogs, and killing them in the water as they have attempted to swim to safety.

Steady encroachment of resort developments on the estimated 10,000 acres that comprise their inhabited range poses an additional threat to survival. The Keys are too far from the mainland for effective state protection in spite of efforts.



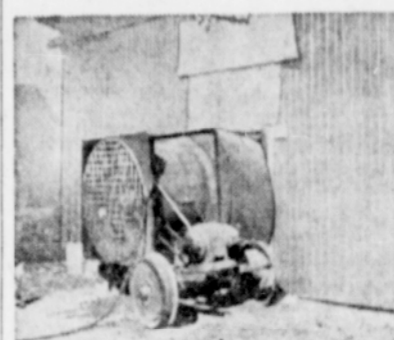
Farmer Finds Blower Effective Hay Dryer

Mounted on Cart, It's Easy to Move About

Wet springs and early frosts aren't the headaches they once were to a growing number of farmers. For they have discovered that immature grain can be cured just as effectively in storage buildings as in the field.

The average farmer will find that mechanical drying of hay and grain is not as expensive as it would appear. Hay and grain saved will soon pay for equipment.

Equipment for mechanical drying of grain is simple, and present farm structures can be converted easily, quickly and inexpensively to handle this newest of farm production chores. Farmers, who have hay curing equipment, will find that the same fan and motor



Mounted on wheels, this motor and blower takes the headaches out of curing immature grain for farmers. Here the equipment is shown being used for hay drying.

can be used for both drying grain and finishing forage crops.

The accompanying illustration shows what can be done in the way of inter-changing hay curing and grain drying equipment. When the hay curing season is over, the farmer mounts his fan and motor on a cart and hauls them to a crib where they are put to use blowing moisture out of his immature corn. An outlet, into which he plugs his five-horsepower motor, is located in an adjacent building.

When double cribs are used, as in the case shown, the air blast enters through one end of the driveway. The opposite end is sealed up, and heavy paper placed on walls of the crib from the peak of the roof to the top of the corn layer. Openings around the fan and in the floor also are closed. In single cribs, wooden ducts or "A" frames are laid down the center of the floor and the air blown directly into them.

Drying is successful without supplementary heat when the temperature is 60 or above and the relative humidity 65 per cent or below. If heat is used, buildings should be insulated and properly ventilated. Warm air is blown into storage sheds by motor driven fans. Thermostats and other controls automatically keep the temperature and the flow of air at efficient drying levels.

Don't Strain



Here's a right smart idea for a feed and grain scoop that eliminates the wrist strain of scoops with the usual projecting handles. For a large scoop, one that can be used in sacking grain, 20-gauge galvanized material is about right. The scrap iron brace to which the front end of the handle is bolted helps hold light metal in shape.

Year's Fruit Prospects Hit by Widespread Damage

Explosive April caused considerable damage to budding fruit and a great drop in the year's prospects is indicated.

South Carolina, Virginia and Georgia suffered damaged peaches. Washington, Idaho and Oregon show a 100 percent bud loss and many trees killed. Damage in southern Illinois ranged from 50 to 100 per cent, according to some reports by farm bureaus.



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Name (please print) Address City Zone State

Offer good only in U. S., subject to all state and local regulations.

Good Cook Stops Stomach Trouble



Mrs. Maud Tebeau, Route 4, Box 840, Waco, a mighty fine cook, says that good food, lots of fresh air, plenty of sleep and a box of Crazy Water Crystals on hand is a fine way to assure good health.

Mrs. Tebeau says: "Any time anyone feels sick or sluggish I insist they take Crazy Water Crystals. I have used them for over five years and before I started taking them I was troubled with gas and my stomach was always sore. Now since taking Crazy Water Crystals regularly I have not had my stomach trouble. Actually, I do not consider Crazy Water Crystals a medicine—I call it a good nourishing breakfast drink."

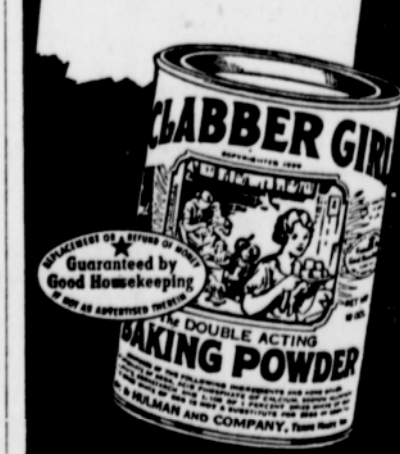
It doesn't matter how old you are or where you live—Crazy Water Crystals are good for you because they are nature's own product. Faulty, sluggish elimination so often is the cause of many ailments folks suffer from—upset stomach, gas pains, headaches, rundown, played-out feeling, nervousness and other body aches and pains can often be attributed to faulty elimination. The one and only genuine CRAZY WATER CRYSTALS have been produced and distributed to your drug-gist for over 70 years by the CRAZY WATER CO., INC., of Mineral Wells, Texas.—Adv.

WNU-13 23-50

No Substitute FOR EXPERIENCE



no substitute, say experienced bakers, for Clabber Girl's balanced double action . . . For hurry-up biscuits or for that extra-special cake, experience dictates Clabber Girl Baking Powder.



CLABBER GIRL THE BAKING POWDER WITH THE BALANCED DOUBLE ACTION

Star Dust STAGE-SCREEN-RADIO

By INEZ GERHARD

WILLIAM HOLDEN made quite a record in 1949—he did five pictures at four studios; this year promises to be equally busy. His role in "Sunset Boulevard" is one of his favorites, though he had to figure a bit over just what to do after Gloria Swanson shot him. That very effective bit of acting came after long study of the



WILLIAM HOLDEN

character he was playing. His performance is really tops. In private life his severest critic is his daughter Virginia, who reads all his scripts; of this one she said, "Why do you play such heels?" His young sons walked out on a recent picture of his to look at an old Western on television.

Gloria Swanson, after her sensational come-back in "Sunset Boulevard," plans to star in another picture, which she will co-produce with William Dieterle. She has plans to make it in Istanbul, with partial Turkish financing. The story sounds perfect for her—it's about a woman who is in love with a man younger than she, who cannot save her from death.

Rhonda Fleming, star of "The Eagle and the Hawk," is featured in the June issue of Hollywood magazine in a color portrait shot at Malibu; she was chosen as "being typical of the 1950 feminine figure in a bathing suit."

Walt Disney studied the appearances and careers of notorious pirates of history before camera work started on "Treasure Island." The famous Blackbeard, the ruthless Israel Hands and others appear as Stevenson characters.

Fred Ullal, announcer on "Mr. District Attorney," has two boys, Bro and Lyn, aged 2 and 1 respectively. He says that if he and his wife have a third one he'll call it Ook—"Put them all together and they spell Brooklyn."

Low Ayres began his career as a dance band singer, but in his years in pictures he's done everything but sing. At last, in RKO's "The Capture," he's a singing cowboy—has one scene where he plucks a guitar and sings "Git Along Little Dogie." But Ayres ran into difficulty; he has a true ear, and had to practise hard to learn to sing off-key.

Melville Cooper and Elsa Lanchester were a vaudeville team 25 years ago in London, appearing in a miniature theater owned by Elsa and Charles Laughton. Together now in "The Petty Girl," they did their act for the cast.

THE FICTION CORNER

BART'S DECISION

By Richard H. Wilkinson

BART HODGES had lived in the city for two years and he was getting tired of it. Country bred, he longed for the smell of sweet, fresh air, the sound of roosters crowing and crows lowing. He wanted to go to bed to the tune of crickets cheeping and bullfrogs jug-a-rumming.

It wasn't as if the city hadn't been kind to Bart. It had. It had taken him to its bosom, and he had prospered. Nor had he been unhappy. He loved the lights, the noise, the hustle and bustle. And most of all he loved a girl.

Tonight, lying on the divan in the living room of his apartment, Bart was troubled with an annoying thought. He wondered, strangely, which he wanted most: Sabina's love or the country.

It was at this particular moment in Bart's speculation that the telephone rang. A strangely familiar feminine voice answered.

"Hello, there, Bart," the voice said. "This is Sadie Blake, fresh in from the old home town. Come down and talk to one of your forgotten friends."

Bart's pulse leaped. Sadie! His boyhood pal! Sadie, whom one day he expected to marry! Sadie, in the city. Here! Now! Fresh from Centerville, with news and notes of the old home town galore.

At that moment Sabina Goodnow was forgotten. There was just one girl in the world for Bart. And that girl was Sadie Blake. He felt suddenly ashamed he had neglected to write, to remember her at Christmas . . .

Sadie, pink cheeked, blooming with good health and freshness,



Her name was Sabina Goodnow, and she adored him.

met him in the lobby of her hotel. "Hello, pal," she cried. "Looking just the same. Thinner, maybe. But otherwise old Bart himself."

"Sadie! Bob stared in open admiration. 'Sadie! How good it is to see you. Tell me, how are things in Centerville? How are the folks? Tell me everything.'"

"Same old town, Bart. Your folks are fine. Your dad owns a new tractor. Polly, the horse, died, you know. But I suppose they wrote you that. The voters decided to run town water up to William's Hill at the last water meeting. Not so much danger if fire breaks out now. Ed Salmon ran off with Bob Evans' wife. She came back two weeks ago, and Bob took her in. Shame. Poor kid . . ."

THEY TALKED for hours. By evening Bart was fully ap-

praised of all the events and happenings in Centerville during the past two years, and assured that his folks were well.

He took Sadie out to dinner, and delighted in showing her around. She seemed a little awed by it all, and more awed by Bart's indifference to the many wonders.

"You get used to it after a while," he said indifferently, and stood gazing thoughtfully at the many lights along Broadway. He felt enlightened and no longer homesick. Strangely enough the noise and bustle associated themselves in his mind with Sabina. He was glad to be a part of it all.

He gazed furtively at the comely Sadie and pictured her in the rural setting of Centerville.

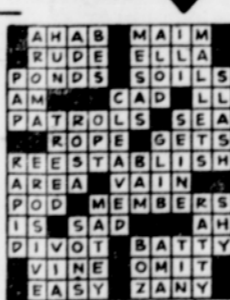
They attended a theater and dined afterward at an exclusive night club. Sadie would have liked to go back to her hotel, but she wanted to please Bart.

"Bart," she said, when at last they stood outside the door to her room. "When are you coming home? When are you going to give up all this and come back where you belong?" Bart looked down into her eyes and saw something that two years ago he had longed to witness. He sighed deeply.

"Sadie, it's been just great seeing you. Just what I needed. A sort of tonic." He smiled at her gently. "I'm not going back just yet, Sadie. There's something keeping me here, something that before I never knew existed. I know now that it's something greater than anything. Some time I'm coming back, and when I do there'll be two of us."

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

LAST WEEK'S ANSWER



- ACROSS 1. Consume 4. Total 7. River (Russ.) 9. Scorch 10. Frighten 11. An ancient language 13. Mulberry 14. S-shaped molding 16. Biblical name 17. Disease of sheep 19. Untrained for hardship 21. Half an em 22. First man (Bib.) 24. Farm building 26. Tattered piece 28. Prosecute judicially 29. Opposed to "former" 32. Labels 35. Elevated train (shortened) 36. Send forth 38. Apex 39. Diminutive of Alfred 41. Heathen image 43. Land-measure 44. Girl's name 46. Kind of cement 48. Desert (Asia) 49. Astringent fruit

- 50. Self 51. Lixivium DOWN 1. A Greek geometer (Russ.) 2. Constellation 3. Edible rootstock 4. Exclamation 5. Fruit of the palm 6. Foolish talk 8. Supports 9. Cracks 10. Medieval story 12. Ennead 15. Goddess of dawn 18. Short lance 20. Tight 23. A kind of tea (Paraguay) 25. Thrash 27. Zodiacal sign 29. Girl's name 30. Assert 31. Free 33. Chin 34. Nimble 37. Spinning toys 40. Thrash 42. Soothe 45. Tropical tree (var.) 47. Plaything

