

A Nichols' Worth of— Comment On This and That

By **HARMAN W. NICHOLS**
United Press Feature Writer

Washington, Jan. 26—(U.P.)—The way my captain looks at it, the mighty Mo will stay stuck in her mud puddle on the flats off Hampton Roads until:

1. A stiff nor'easter comes along; or,

2. They do things my captain's way.

Erick Just, a merchant marine captain who has sailed the seven seas and more, admits that a good hard blow could get the job done quicker.

But he thinks his idea, gathered from experience, has merit too.

"The navy, the army, and the coast guard are doing the job all wrong," he said.

The captain pushed aside his coffee and drew a diagram on his napkin.

"These guys," said the old salt who came of a long line of seamen from Denmark, "have got all those tugs attached to the stern end of the ship. The way they're doing it, the prop wash from the tugs is pushing against the ship, rather than pulling the \$7,000 ton battleship Missouri out of the mud."

Lot of Experience

"I've had a lot of experience of that kind. The thing to do is to put the steel cables on the bow and attach the tugs at that end. Then the prop wash would be to the advantage of the operation."

Captain Just, who went to sea at 19 and stayed there 25 years, once directed the job of getting the S. S. Roll of 9,000 tons, off a sand bar in the bay of Biscay.

"It sounds a lot easier," he said, "but it was the same sort of problem and we handled it like I said."

Captain Just fancies himself a good cook. He learned the business the hard way. He was in the South Atlantic on a square rigger when a gale came up and the cook was washed overboard. During the storm the crew had nothing to keep body and soul together but hardtack and water. When the wind died, the skipper called the boys aft and looked them over. He kind of went eenie-meenie-mo. The "mo" pointed to Erick Just, who had never even boiled water before. He became "chief cook."

Kept Crew Happy

For 60 days he parboiled his

face over a coal stove and kept the crew happy. They reached port pot-bellied on the captain's cooking. Mostly hash and stew. The old tar isn't too much worried about the fate of the mighty Mo. He's about to open a restaurant out west.

In the Day's News

By **FRANK JENKINS**

I sat the other day through the annual meeting of the Klamath Production Credit association, which operates on the other side of the mountains. I wouldn't have missed it for anything. It was an unforgettable lesson on what government and the people can do when they work together intelligently, wisely and with due and proper regard for sound and time-tested business principles.

KPCA has been operating for about 16 years. During that time it has loaned to the agricultural industry of its area a shade under 40 billion dollars. **ON THAT RATHER LARGE VOLUME OF LOANS, ITS LOSSES HAVE BEEN JUST ONE-TWENTY-THIRD OF ONE PER CENT!**

TO MAKE sure that it is understood, let's put that this way: For every \$23 loaned by this association since it was organized, the bad debt loss has been only **ONE CENT.**

SIXTEEN years ago, when KPCA was organized, the government came in as a stockholder and put up the bulk of the capital with which to make the early loans.

At the end of these 16 years, this government money with which the pump was primed has all been **RETIRED** and the association owns its own business. There isn't a cent of government money left in the kitty.

ANOTHER thing ought to be pointed out: During the years in which the government was a **PARTNER**, the association paid no federal taxes. (The government, you know, doesn't tax itself.) But when the government **CEASED** to be a partner, which has just happened, the situation changed. Hereafter KPCA will



ONE MILLION IN GREENBACKS—Miss Velma Demaso stacks up one million dollars to give a graphic idea of the amount of money stolen from Brink's, Inc., in Boston. A \$100,000 reward has been offered for the capture of the nine masked men who staged the daring holdup of the armored trucking firm. The bandits also escaped with \$500,000 in checks. This photo was made **DEEP** inside a well-guarded bank vault.

have to pay federal taxes just like anybody else, because it is privately-owned. So this year it had to take a large sum out of its profits with which to pay its taxes.

Because of this fact, and the further fact that as a private enterprise, ample debt reserves must be set up to take care of losses that might later be incurred, there were no dividends this year.

YOU'D have thought the members of the association might have been a little let down by this. **THEY WEREN'T!** They were as happy as clams because the government has been finally bought out and they now own the business themselves in their own right.

WHY have these production credit associations, which operate under the federal intermediate credit bank, worked out so successfully as a partnership between government and private business?

I think this is it: They were started for the simple, businesslike purpose of finding a better and cheaper way to finance the operation of farmers and livestock growers. So far as I have been able to learn, **IT WASN'T A SCHEME TO KEEP THE ADMINISTRATION IN POWER** by buttering up the farmer and the livestock grower with government cash. In their conduct, business principles, not political principles, have been followed. Santa Claus methods have been strictly eliminated. So the whole thing has worked out very nicely indeed, and everybody is happy and a lot of good has been accomplished.

OFF ON WRONG FOOT

Monterey, Cal. (U.P.)—A bridegroom here started his married life off on the wrong foot. He paid for his marriage license with a worthless check.

TREATY NEEDED

Boston, (U.P.)—Padlocked by authorities because of a brawl, a tavern posted this sign: "Closed for alterations."

Recipe For Hydrogen Bomb Produced By Authority On Atomic Science

Washington, Jan. 26—(U.P.)—An authority on atomic science today produced this recipe for the so-called hydrogen bomb.

1. Take one plutonium or uranium bomb of the kind now being manufactured.
2. Assemble a quantity of lithium deuteride (lithium combined with heavy hydrogen) at least as great as the weight of plutonium or uranium used.
3. Arrange the lithium deuteride so that it envelops the plutonium or uranium at the moment of detonation.
4. Explode when and where directed.

Powerful Bang

The resultant bang, the anonymous but highly qualified authority said in an interview, will be between two and three times as powerful as a plutonium or uranium bomb going off by itself.

It will not be anywhere near 1,000 times as powerful—as some discussions of the "super bomb" have suggested. To get that much power, you'd have to pour in so much additional lithium deuteride that—assuming it all would "go"—you'd have a bomb no conventional airplane could carry.

The scientist who suggested the lithium deuteride bomb has spent a lot of time in the past decade figuring out possible energy-producing nuclear reactions. He believes it is the lithium deuteride bomb that President Truman and his atomic, defense, and diplomatic advisers are now wrestling with.

Decision Expected

Mr. Truman's decision as to whether to go ahead with production of the new bomb is expected fairly soon, perhaps within the next two or three weeks. Problems posed by the new bomb include the old one of military vs. civilian control of

atomic energy; the most profitable use of scientific brains, technical skills and money; and peacetime vs. military uses of nuclear forces.

Another question suggested by the probable effectiveness of the lithium deuteride bomb would be: "Is it worthwhile?" Suppose it is twice or even four times as powerful as the present atomic-fission bombs. The atomic energy commission says that doubling the power of an A-bomb increases by only one fourth the radius of severe damage.

Not "Absolute Weapon"

Some atomic officials believe the present bombs are "tough enough." But military experts say they are not an "absolute weapon."

Some hydrogen reactions would release more energy than the lithium deuteride bomb. But the only one that meets all the specifications of space, time, and "probability" is, according to the recipe's author, the one involving use of lithium deuteride.

Lithium is nature's lightest metal. It is roughly 2,000 times as plentiful in the earth's crust as uranium, the sole raw materials of fission bombs.

Deuterium, or heavy hydrogen, is rare in nature but can be mass produced from ordinary water. Before the war, Norway sold heavy water, made of heavy hydrogen and oxygen, for 10 cents a gram. Heavy hydrogen in bomb-sized amounts would not be excessively expensive.

ANOTHER \$100,000 SHOT

Manchester, N. H. (U.P.)—Sen. Styles Bridges, (R., N.H.) said a recent government survey that cost \$100,000 showed that only 53 per cent of American men sleep in pajamas, while 47 per cent sleep in underwear, night gowns or in the raw.

There are 175,700 co-operative societies in India with a total membership of nine million and a working capital of about \$350 million.

The Rockefeller Foundation, New York, has granted a fund to make a one-year survey of dances of India to Mrs. Ragini Devi, well known dancer.

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SPICE CAKE NEWS!

Only 3 minutes mixing because
SNOWDRIFT is Emulsorized

Only an emulsorized shortening can give you such superb cakes with so little effort!

What a gift for cake-making you'll discover when you try Emulsorized Snowdrift. This Sun-Kissed Spice Cake requires no creaming of shortening! No separate egg-beating! All ingredients are mixed in the same

bowl—in just 3 minutes!

But remember: only an emulsorized shortening can blend your cakes so smoothly with so little time and so little effort!

If you want the reward of finer-grained, richer-tasting cakes that stay moist and luscious for days, make them with Emulsorized Snowdrift! Yes, use Snowdrift for all your baking—biscuits, pie crusts, cookies, and for crisp, digestible fried foods too.



SUN-KISSED SPICE CAKE

Quick-method recipe cuts out creaming and separate egg-beating! scrape beaters after 2 minutes.

Sift together into a large bowl:

- 2 1/2 cups sifted cake flour
- 1 tsp. double-action baking powder (1 1/4 tsp. single-action)
- 1/4 tsp. soda
- 1/4 tsp. salt
- 1 cup sugar
- 1/2 tsp. cinnamon
- 1/2 tsp. nutmeg
- 1/2 tsp. cloves

Add:

- 1/2 cup Snowdrift (Emulsorized—quick-blending)
- 1/2 cup brown sugar, firmly packed
- 1 cup buttermilk

Mix enough to dampen flour. Beat 2 minutes. If by hand, count beating time only. With electric mixer, use "low speed"—scrape bowl often.

Beat 1 minute, add:

- 1/2 cup finely chopped raisins
- 1/2 tablespoon flour dusted with 1 tablespoon flour

Turn into two greased 8" layer pans lined with plain paper. Bake in moderate oven (375° F.) about 30 minutes. Cool and frost with—

ORANGE ICING: Blend 2 tbsp. Snowdrift with 3 cups sifted confectioners' sugar and 1/4 tsp. lemon juice. Unbeaten egg. 1 tsp. lemon rind. 3 tbsp. 1/2 tsp. grated orange rind. 3 tbsp. orange juice. Beat smooth. Frost cake. Decorate with 1/4 teaspoon oilate, melted with 1/4 teaspoon oilate, as shown in picture.



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