

A Nichols' Worth of—

Comment On This and That

By HARMAN W. NICHOLS
United Press Feature Writer

Washington, Mar. 9 — (U.P.) — This is about a bar-keep named Joe and a horse called Bee Kee.

Joe loves the horses, risks a bob here and there, but seldom wins. Bee Kee — well, more about the horse later.

Anyhow, the nag, a strapping four-year old bay gelding, was due to start on Saturday at Charlestown, W. Va. In 22 trips to the post in its racing career, the score was 22 to nothing. It hadn't even been in the money and had finished fourth only twice. Total winnings for owner C. Garland, \$125.

But word got around to the tavern owner that Saturday was the day. Rumor was that Garland had been stuffing vitamin

pills down the horse's throat all winter and that he could win in a walk. This despite the gelding's poor record and the fact that in his last time trial he had run three-eighths of a mile in 39 seconds, which is considerably over par for the course.

Our man Joe wet-raged the mahogany, served up a couple and went to the phone. He asked the bookie across the way to come running.

Joe handed him a \$100 bill along with a note, "On the nose, 'Bi Ki'."

Wearing Rabbit Ears

Harry, one of the bartenders, was wearing rabbit ears. Harry makes around 50-60 bucks a week. He was going to catch a bus to the track that day. He looked in his pocket and found a stray 10-spot. He looked up and down the bar and found a few friends. He borrowed another \$50. A fin here, two or three there, a twenty from a well-heeled patron who had just drawn his week's wages.

Bee Kee, the gelding, bore the highest price of any horse in the race. Almost \$80 for two if it won. Joe was by his radio. Harry was at the track, having stuffed his 60 borrowed and hard-earned dollars through the wicket at the "win" window.

The race was off. Easter Bonnie broke on top. Bee Kee kicked up a slow heel and started off sixth, from post No. 8. He remained sixth until the end of the race, when nosed out by Cherokee Star.

Our goat didn't get a call all the way around the oval.

Tavern owner Joe dropped a couple of tears in his beer, scrubbed the bar some more and said:

"There goes another C-note." About this time the doors of the saloon turned in and the bookmaker bellied up to the bar, ordered one and pitched a \$100 bill at Joe.

"I looked all through the racing form," he said, "and I couldn't find a horse named 'Bi Ki'."

Looked Again

Joe fished his own "form" from under the bar and looked again. He had spelled the name of the horse wrong on his memo. Joe, being a pretty good Joe, cracked the C-note, bought the house a round.

At the track, Harry, the young bartender, was having a bad time. The money he had borrowed was down the drain.

"Vitamin pills for horses and hot tips on same, fokey," he said, at he put the arms on a friend for carfare back to home base.

Four Policemen Prove They're Not All Dumb

Worcester, Mass. — (U.P.) — The Worcester police department has four answers to the popular notion about the "dumb cop."

The answers: Detective Edward P. McDermott, a student at Tufts Dental School.

Patrolman Lawrence S. O'Connor, a student at Boston University Law School.

Patrolman William M. LeMaine, a student at Worcester State Teachers College.

Patrolman Clifford M. Augur, a student at Clark University.

for milk our per capita consumption of it is down practically to depression levels.

At the same time, he proclaims, the government has 210 million dozen eggs stored in caves and elsewhere and has the equivalent of 2½ BILLION pounds of whole milk stashed away.

Both the milk and the eggs were bought to keep prices high.

It's crazier than a coot, I'll admit, and it is leading us directly into an economy of ARTIFICIAL scarcity. But just the same I shudder when I think of Brannan's pet scheme to let prices of farm products find their supply-and-demand level and then write the farmer a government check for what he thinks he ought to have made.

Car Gas Tank Gives Up Silver 'Jackpot'

Jackson, Miss. (U.P.) — A mechanic here received the surprise of his life when he took the gas tank off a car and \$125 in silver dollars came tumbling out.

Two Memphis, Tenn., men, Barney Costello and Pete Carroll, had asked the mechanic to remove the tank. When the money came out, they hastily explained they were simply following an old western custom. They also explained to the sheriff, two deputies and a city detective who came to investigate.

Costello and Carroll said out west it isn't unusual for a car owner to drop silver dollars in his gas tank as a reserve against

Hawk, Dynamite Puzzle Jokester In Missouri

Jefferson City, Mo. (U.P.) — The Missouri conservation commission calls this poetic justice.

A conservation agent, Arthur Pugh, said a farmer with a sadistic sense of humor tied a stick of dynamite to a captive hawk's leg. He lit the fuse and released the bird, believing it would fly away to its doom.

Instead, the hawk dived dangerously near the farmer several times and then lit on his barn.

the day he trades for another car. Sheriff Albert Jones had heard of the custom, so the men were allowed to go on their way.

Southern Rhodesia, Turkey and Cuba supply much of the chrome oxide used in the colored glazes of clay tiles for baths and kitchens.

Inventor Simulates Birds While Flying

Las Vegas, Nev. (U.P.) — Man's age-old desire to fly like the birds may be realized in a new type of aircraft being developed by J. E. Caldwell, inventor.

Caldwell has completed preliminary tests of a flying machine built in the form of a "cyclogiro," which he believes solves the bird formula of flight.

To the "cyclogiro," a device recognized as an efficient aeronautical instrument by the advisory council of aeronautics, Caldwell has added a "simple attachment" which he claims will duplicate the principle of gravity propulsion, said to be the bird's secret of flight.

The inventor explains that birds fly simply by lifting their

wings for initial impetus and then taking advantage of the force of gravity for gliding propulsion. If birds had to pull themselves along through the air as an airplane does, he points out, they could fly only short distances before becoming exhausted.

His new aircraft, Caldwell says, will imitate this method, lifting itself from the ground with power supplied by a jeep engine and continuing in flight by the proper use of gravitation. The revolutionary plane rose a foot off the ground during preliminary tests in Caldwell's hangar.

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TOWN WANTS DOUGH

Westerly, R. I. — (U.P.) — This town is more persistent than an insurance agent. The town paid \$4,000 for repairing the roof of the combination court house-town hall which was damaged in the 1938 hurricane. Every year since, the town has asked the legislature to pay the state's half of the bill.

Atlanta — (U.P.) — Howard Carroll, mechanic, was called in a hurry when a bakery salesman found his motor-starting efforts greeted by an unearthly screech. Carroll found a tomcat which had crawled upward into the engine when the salesman left the car. Each time the fan belt turned, the tomcat was getting a charge of electricity.

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PENNEY'S

In the Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

This changing world-note: Out in the Wilshire district in Los Angeles the other day, a coyote strolled leisurely down the street. It was doing nobody any harm. So far as could be determined, it was merely seeing the sights—even as you and I when we go to L. A.

But all of a sudden everybody in sight began to yell and whoop at the poor little beast. Eventually it was hazed into a garage and the door was slammed and now it is in solitary confinement at the city pound.

The story is that it will be given to the zoo.

THIS is the point:

The coyote was stealing no chickens. It was biting nobody in the leg. Its sole offense seems to be that it wasn't acting in orthodox, accepted coyote ways.

Do you reckon the time may come when we HUMANS from the back districts will be trapped in garages and sent out to the zoo as an exhibit for the children to gaze at if we go to Los Angeles and fail to act as humans from out in the sticks are supposed to act?

In this modern world, you never can tell.

HERE'S another one:

Both Hawaii and Alaska are pressing congress for statehood. In debate on the subject in the house, Representative Johnson, of California, says he's for Hawaii, because in his opinion Hawaii has population and resources enough to be a state, while Alaska doesn't. (Hawaii's population is half a million; Alaska's about 100,000.)

I find I can't go all along the road with Johnson on that theory. There are times when I incline to the dogmatic conviction that the fewer the people the better the state.

REPRESENTATIVE Delaney of New York doesn't hold it against Hawaii that she has too many people, but he is agin Hawaiian statehood, he says, because it would open the door to admission of Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam and other areas. He adds that if we take Hawaii into the lodge EVEN CANADA AND COUNTRIES IN CENTRAL AND SOUTH AMERICA might ask for admission to our Union.

WHAT does this New Yorker think this country is? A college fraternity? Or a country club?

This business of statehood is getting to be highly complicated.

SECRETARY of Agriculture Brannan says in Denver that farm price supports are pricing eggs and milk out of the reach of many Americans. Last year, he adds, we ate 11 fewer eggs per person than in 1948, and as

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