

A Nichols' Worth of—

Comment On This and That

By HARMAN W. NICHOLS
United Press Feature Writer

Washington, May 26—(U.P.)—Every year when I tackle the job of interviewing kids in the national spelling bee I run into trouble.



I send copy-readers and editors to the—how do you spell it?—dictionary. Last year I had an interview with a little 13-year-old, and when I spelled out some of the words she had trouble with, the UP had to carry two corrections on the first paragraph.

I'll never learn; here I go again.

Tomorrow the Scripps-Howard newspapers are holding the national finals for the say-it-by-the-letter business, and here I am with another piece about it.

This time, I think I can give you all the winner. Maybe. A 14-year-old blonde from Sevierville, Tenn. (pop. 4,000) named Martha Ann Kennedy.

Martha Ann can outspell most copy-readers I know. She just graduated with honors from her grammar school and did well in everything but deportment. Which is understandable in a gal that age.

Wins Several Tests

First the kid, a blue-eyed little girl wearing her first pair of high heels, won the spelling contest in her classroom and then took the run-off in the sixth-seventh-eighth grades. Then she won the Tipton county (Tenn.) meet and later the mid-south contest in which youngsters from 61 counties competed.

Martha Ann spells with a southern accent. She won the

mid-south thing by licking the young man ahead of her by spelling correctly the word "apprise." The other kid put a "z" in it and he was wrong because I looked it up in Webster's latest.

Well, these kids from many states are in for a bad time when the clock strikes 9 tomorrow at the National Press club, where the contest will be held.

Spelling List Given

Please check me back on some of these, but the boys and girls will be asked to spell such words as:

Mistatement.
Mercurochrome.
Meticulously.
Psychoanalysis.
Balustrade.
Antimacassar.
Braggadocio.
Appurtenant.
Candelabrum.
Ebullition.
Ichthyology.
And so forth.

You folks can look 'em up and see whether they are right. There will be no corrections this time.

Calm as Cucumber

To get back to my pretty little blonde girl from Memphis. She is as calm as a cucumber.

"I'm having the time of my life and I'm not scared a bit. I can win in a walk," she said.

Richard Kennedy, her 12-year-old brother, started to give Martha Ann a rough time on that count.

"You can't spell c-a-t," he said to his champion sister.

"What did you get in spelling last year?" she asked in a huff.

Richard thought it was a good time to go down to the lobby and look for a new comic book.

Shady Cove - Trail

Shady Cove-Trail, May 26—Patricia Brown, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Brown of Shady Cove and sister of Bill Brown, has been named valedictorian of the senior graduating class at Prospect high school.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Prichard and baby daughter, Joy Ann from California, are here visiting Mr. Prichard's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ray Prichard of Trail.

Mrs. Prichard is also the granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. Tom King of Shady Cove.

Mr. and Mrs. Bill Perdue, formerly of Shady Cove and now of Bakersfield, Cal., spent a week-end recently visiting with friends in Shady Cove.

Mr. and Mrs. O. M. Aupelund and son Dean from San Pablo, Cal., have been house guests of Mr. and Mrs. Allen Eastgate and family of Shady Cove.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Walker and son, Craig of Roseburg spent the week-end visiting Mrs. Walker's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Tom Burdett of Shady Cove.

Attending the baccalaureate services Sunday for Prospect high school were Mrs. Mary Note, Mr. and Mrs. Chet Willson, Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Brown and Dolores Saari, all of Shady Cove.

Jerry Willson, Pat Brown and Jerry Nate, all of Shady Cove, are graduating this year from Prospect high.

SENATOR SHARES

Skowhegan, Me.—(U.P.)—Sen. Margaret Chase Smith, R., Me., gave up her 30-room mansion and moved into a small three-bedroom house here. The senator converted her former home into a hospital memorializing her late husband.

May Handle Explosives

"Applications in weapons work may include handling of explosive materials and de-arming or disposal of bombs," Hill said. "Industrial applications will also suggest themselves, especially chemical plant operations involving toxic materials."

He said the new "stereo" TV units were constructed by modifying standard television equipment. Twin lenses, corresponding to human eyes, view the radioactive materials. At the receiving end, viewers wear special polarized spectacles which fuse the two pictures into a single three-dimensional image.

An alternate system, involving the use of cathode ray tubes and a hal-silvered mirror with polarizing filters, eliminates the necessity for the spectacles.

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