

### Barbados Paradise For Weed Pullers

Washington — (U.P.) — Any American weed-puller with an aching back would envy the pullers on Barbados.

The place is a paradise for weed-pullers. There are no weeds to speak of.

Barbados is a tiny sugar-producing British possession, east-most of the Caribbean islands.

It took about 300 years to do it, but during that time the cultivation of nearly every arable square foot of Barbados has eliminated weeds and weedseed. At least, that is the conclusion of Charles Allmon, who writes about it in the National Geographic magazine.

There has been intensive cultivation. Even so, the thin soil of the island has not been depleted. The people have used fertilizer, crop rotation, and have taken advantage of the lack of erosion.

Rain, in that area, falls mostly on the heavy side from June to November. It doesn't run off. It sneaks into the bedrock and "percolates" slowly. Then it comes out in bubbling springs near the coast.

The British isles get all of the processed sugar that comes from Barbados. Nearly four-fifths of the 166-square-mile island is covered with cane fields.

### Snow-Melting Device Would Save Money

Worcester, Mass. — (U.P.) — Two men have invented a snow-melting machine which they claim could save the nation's taxpayers many millions of dollars.

James E. Devlin and Harry V. O'Connor built the machine, which uses hot water to melt snow.

The machine is a truck with a revolving scoop. Moving over the highway, the scoop picks up the snow and raises it to a hopper on top of the melting chamber on the truck.

The melted snow runs off into the gutter to the nearest sewer drain.

### BEAVERS HALT TRAINS

Nobleboro, Me. — (U.P.) — Beavers put the main line of the Portland-to-Rockland branch of the Maine Central railroad out of commission for a few hours. The beavers built a dam in a railroad culvert. When it broke, a section of rails was washed out at Muscongus Bay.

## OUT OF THE WOODS

By Jim Stevens

Funny Thing . . .

You might have seen the story in this column around nine years ago. It recited how Paul Bunyan started logging in the big firs of the West Coast on a morning when the grand-daddy of all the fogs was rolling in as thick as Tillamook cheese.

Why, say, and tell it to the judge if you don't believe me, that fog was not only so thick but so tough it held up every single one of Paul Bunyan's big douglas firs that was undercut and sawed through by a falling team. He had a pile of fallers. By noon something like seven hundred tall trees were all cut through there but still standing in that thick and tough fog.

In the afternoon the fog thinned out right fast, for it blew up a gale. The seven hundred huge and high douglas firs that had been cut through fell as one tree, and the thunder of their fall could be heard for 17 miles and more.

It was a Monday afternoon. Over in Coquille, the closest town, the women folks all rushed out to take their washings off the clothes lines. They heard that thunder and were dead sure a tremendous rainstorm was blowing in . . .

That was the story, a tall tale made up in my own head, then written and forgotten until I read it again the other day in a national magazine as "a tall tale of the Ozarks." There it helped a fellow writing man rake in a bunch of money. It is a good thing for me that I truly do love to help fellow writers. Old Stuff . . .

### JUDGE HAS HEART

Knoxville, Tenn. — (U.P.) — Judge Charles G. Kelly suspended a \$5 fine and then gave a 60-year-old man \$1 after a hearing in court. Melvin Jay Reynolds, charged with trespassing on private property, said he had only 40 cents and was trying to get back to his home in Arkansas.

Kent, O. — (U.P.) — Signs of our times: Students in Kent State university here are taking courses in income tax accounting, military map making, marriage and the family, problems of an atomic age, juvenile delinquency, geography of Russia, atomic-nuclear physics and managing personal finances.

Let me hasten to say that I am not accusing the writer in question of deliberate borrowing without giving credit—or cash—to the original author. The fog story column was published in lumber trade journals which have circulation in the Ozark timber industries. The story could have been read by Ozark lumberjacks and adapted to their own so-called "folklore." And then Dr. Richard Dorson or Dr. Marshall W. Fishwick or Dr. Vance Randolph or some other famous folklorist of the colleges may have yarned the Ozarks and gleaned my yarn among others as the real quill.

I wonder why no question was raised on how it happened that tall tales about powerful fogs were to be found in the Ozarks. They are not fog country in my geography book. They have no rain forests.

Rest of Story . . . The Ph. D. who wrote the magazine article somehow missed another chapter of my story of the big Bunyan fog. This concerned Paul's bull of the woods, the mighty Hells Helson, a woodsman so great that he muddled the Missouri river forever with one spring bath and who pulled all the stumps in North Dakota with his teeth. Once Hells grew a beard. He cut it out when another spring brought forth a couple of cub bears that had hibernated in the beard.

Well, in the big fog Hells Helson got lost. At last he decided to stand stock-still until the fog should clear. A team of fallers plowed up against his boot leg and mistook it for a Douglas fir. They chopped an undercut through leather, wool sock and red flannel. Then their ax bits drew blood. Hells Helson yumped and he yumped and yeaminy! He tore that thick fog to tatters and ran off hollering, "Snakes!"

What bothers me is why that part of the fog story was unused in the magazine account. It was a little bit too hard to believe, I guess.

### The Grange

Eagle Point Grange met April 1, with Master Bob Bitterling presiding. Mr. and Mrs. King were obligated in third and fourth degrees.

Legislature chairman Grant Hubbell reported tax problems being studied by the State Grange committee.

Marie Clark told of the important part television will play in the national election.

Lillian Force announced that tickets for the April 15 dinner are on sale and that Hally Swingle will be in charge of the lecture to follow the dinner. The speaker is a retired postal inspector.

Agnes Hubbell had charge of the display table with interesting articles from foreign countries.

Paul Olsen told of the Kiplinger agricultural letters, which forecast farm prices, etc., which can be subscribed to now.

Mabel Wertz was commended on her prompt lecture reports. Lecture program put on by the H. E. C. included a clarinet duet by Jean and Kenneth Bitterling; origin of April Fools day, by Rosa Smith; the seats April Fool, by Billie Vestal; Kay Dunford, accordion number; "Dad" Cowden, violin selection, accompanied by Mabel Wertz on the piano.

### A BUTCHER NEVER CUTS A WHOLE BEEF INTO STEW MEAT—



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### There's Gold In Your Farm Woodlot

No. 6 (Last of a series of six articles on second-growth forests as a cash crop, prepared by private, state and federal forest agencies)

To get the most cash from your forest crop requires some study. For instance, a 12-inch tree, 90 feet tall contains 100 board feet of saw logs at an approximate value of \$42.50 per M feet or \$4.25. It contains .33 cords of pulpwood which if sold at \$13 would bring \$4.29. It contains one 40-foot barkie (unpeeled) pole which if sold at 12 cents a foot would bring \$4.80.

A 16-inch tree 100 feet tall contains 240 board feet of saw logs at \$4.59 worth \$10.20. In the same tree is .52 cords of pulpwood worth \$5.06, but the highest return comes from a 55-foot barkie pole at 15 cents which could bring the farmer \$10.45.

A little mistake in judgment on an acre of poles could cost hundreds of dollars.

The same loss can be sustained from a poor job of logging. Here are some positive rules for logging to protect your own best interests.

Plan your roads before felling and bucking. Pick your best season, winter or summer. Mark every tree to be cut well in advance of cutting. Insist on care when trees are being felled so that a minimum of breakage occurs and the least possible damage is done to young trees.

Insist on your "cat" skidders being careful with small trees left growing for your next crop. Keep your stumps low, because only you lose.

### TEETH RETRIEVED

Watertown, N. Y. — (U.P.) — The Watertown Daily Times published the following as a public service: "Found, on the roof of The Times building, one upper plate, slightly weatherbeaten."

### FANCY DOG TAGS OUT

Augusta, Me. — (U.P.) — The fancy dog tag is out in Maine. In 1949, the tag was acorn-shaped; in 1950, hydrant-shaped and last year, a miniature dog house. This year it's a simple oval tag.

## Army Learn Technique For Camouflaging of Spam

With 3rd Infantry Division, Korea—(U.P.)—The operators of the Third Division's 126 food factories are going to cooking school.

They are learning the latest techniques for the camouflage of spam and the dissolving of the rock-like dehydrated potato.

Under operation "chop chop," small groups of mess cooks are being brought to a classroom where they are given a week of schooling and have an opportunity to gripe about somebody else's cooking.

Everybody seems to think the whole idea is excellent, a step in the right direction. For the most part, food has been plentiful and of good quality in Korea this winter. But, as the cooks will testify, they continually receive strongly-worded suggestions from their clientele.

### Boosts Army Rations

The suggestions made during the schooling should be more constructive, according to Warrent Officer Donald Smith of Greenwood, R.I., dean of "chop chop."

Smith is an enthusiastic booster for army rations, holding that employment of certain tactics for reviving the defunct dried egg, plaster of powdered milk and the arid onion and potato will not only make them palatable but downright tasty.

He knows the cooks are bucking a strictly "show me" attitude and he thinks they can win out, if they follow the advice of his professors: Master Sergeant Russell Coffman of Washingtonville, N. Y. and John Robinson of Browns Mills, N. J. and Sgt. First Class Carl S. Smith of Point Chicago, Calif.

### Enjoy Schooling

The student cooks enjoy the week of schooling, although at chow time they are inclined to pass on salty insults to the local cooking staff. Smith said his own cooks were going to the school "as soon as it is their turn."

"You should have been here for the class yesterday," Smith said, switching the conversation

back to more pleasant things. "We had a class on roast duck." "I graded the work in my tent last night," he chuckled.

The first practical use of helicopters in archaeological field work was in Panama in 1949, by Dr. Matthew W. Stirling of the National Geographic society.

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2 cans Blue Plate Shrimp  
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¼ cup liquid from peas  
1 can condensed mushroom soup  
½ cup buttered crumbs

Drain shrimp and peas, reserve liquid from peas. Stir soup well, blend in liquid, then peas and shrimp. Place in greased 1½-qt. casserole. Top with crumbs. Bake in moderate oven (375°) 25 to 30 min., until browned. 6 servings.

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