

OIL ON TROUBLED WATERS—The rising Missouri River, covered with oil from a broken refinery tank upriver, flows by this 33½-foot dike protecting a plant in the industrial section of Omaha, Neb. The flood is expected to crest at 31½ feet.

## Guilt in Murder of Polish Army Officers Remains Mysterious

By PHIL NEWSOM  
United Press Foreign Analyst

Eleven or 12 years ago, on a spruce-covered hill near Smolensk, Russia, someone lined up 4,000 Polish officers, tied their hands behind their backs and then killed each one with a shot through the back of the head.

It was the Katyn massacre which wiped out the flower of the Polish Army officer corps. Today, in London, a U. S. House of Representatives committee is trying to find out who did it. Both Russia and Nazi Germany have been accused. Both denied it, each blaming the other.

**Evidence Disappears**  
Meanwhile, of course, the original evidence has disappeared and the present Polish government has announced it wants nothing more to do with the case.

Whatever decision the American committee reaches will be for the history books, since there is little likelihood now of action being taken against the culprits, whoever they were.

Most of the evidence in the first place was circumstantial, and a decision on whether the crime was perpetrated by the Germans or the Russians depends on when it actually was committed.

**Reported in 1943**  
This was the story: The massacre first was reported by the German in April, 1943. They reported finding some 4,000 bodies in a mass grave, and said the bodies were those of Polish officers captured by the Russians when they invaded Poland in September, 1939.

The Germans said the executions had been carried out in March, April and May, 1940. The Germans sent an investigating team, including a Swiss doctor, to the scene to examine the bodies. This team made its report on April 30, 1943, and declared that none but the Russians could have committed the mass killings.

**Red Cross Probe Asked**  
Meanwhile, the Polish government which had been trying to locate the missing officers, asked that an International Red Cross team be permitted to investigate. The Russian reply was to

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break off relations with Poland. Then in 1943 when the Russians retook the territory from the Germans, they conducted an investigation of their own, inviting some U.S. correspondents to witness it. The Russians fixed the date of the massacre at August, 1941.

**Dates Important**  
The dates were important. If the massacre occurred in the late summer of 1941, as the Russians said, then the Germans had to be guilty. If it were in the spring of 1940, then it would be the Russians.

Those who blame the Russians say that the bodies still were clad in overcoats, such as would not be worn in a hot month. They also claim that the knife wounds were such as would be made with a four-edged Russian bayonet, and that the ropes used were of Russian manufacture.

## Washington State Veterinary School Denies Dognapping

Pullman — (U.P.) — Washington State college wants it understood its veterinary college "never knowingly" has been guilty of dognapping.

"The school has been buying stray dogs for a standard fee of \$4 for 28 years from reputable people, and that includes police chiefs and dog catchers from all over the state," Dr. J. E. McCoy, head of the veterinary college, said Friday. "We require a bill of sale for each animal offered, whether or not it's a dog."

**Dog Said Stolen**  
He said the first complaint in all that time came from a woman who advertised in a Baker, Ore., newspaper that her dog was stolen and sold to the WSC vet school. She later said she had 150 telephone calls from others in Baker who said their pets also were taken.

Baker's police chief said several weeks ago a Bob Hedillus of Pullman "mistakenly" was given permission to pick up stray pooches in Baker, but he said permission was rescinded when the mistake was discovered.

The action caused 70 persons in Baker to apply for dog licenses in the last week, as compared to 140 in the last three months.

Oregon state police reported a trailer load of dogs was stopped near Baker Sunday, but that the driver, Hedillus, had a bill of sale for the animals which were taken from Idaho pounds. He was permitted to continue.

One of the best times for hunting agates along the Oregon coast is after a low tide or heavy storm.

## On The Side By E. V. Durling

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Farewell my shackles, I am free from them. Such thralldom, ne'er again shall fetter me. He loves his bonds who, when the first are broke, submits his neck to a second yoke.

—Herrick.

Innumerable men are successful hairdressers, but a successful lady barber is a rarity. For reasons unexplained men have never been enthusiastic about feminine barbers. They will go for a beautiful manicurist but will pass up a feminine tonsorialist no matter how good looking she is. Some years ago, a barber shop was opened on Broadway staffed by eight beautiful red-haired lady barbers. It was a flop. An interesting angle to this situation is that those who should know say women barbers usually give a man a better haircut than male barbers. The women barbers take more interest in the job. They know a hair-do can do a lot for a woman so they try to make a haircut do something for a man's appearance. Still, somehow or other, men view lady barbers as they do women automobile drivers. No matter how much proof is advanced that women are as good at driving automobiles as men the males refuse to believe it.

### Over There

How long are you allowed for lunch at your place of employment? Any other time out permitted during the day? The Swedish working day is dotted with rest intervals. What follows is the schedule of the average Swedish working man: Goes to work at 7:30 a.m. At 9 a.m. has an interval for breakfast of eggs, mush and fish. At 11:30 a.m. gets half an hour for a lunch of roast beef, potatoes and coffee or milk. At 2 p.m. is allowed fifteen minutes for coffee and cake. At 3:30 p.m. takes time out for a smoke. At 4:30 p.m. he is through for the day.

### Those Buses

For several years I have been claiming the average city bus is the most horrible form of transportation in history. I had the New York City buses in mind. It is a tragic sight to see people being transported in these vehicles during the rush hours. The usual simile employed is that they are "packed like sardines."

I think the sardines get a better break. Besides the sardines are dead. I was therefore, interested to learn that in Los Angeles there has been formed an Association for Betterment of Public Transportation. And that the chief campaign of this organization is directed against the buses.

### Divorcees

Record now reveals there is one divorce for every three marriages. No wonder there are so many divorcees around. The ex-wives should organize for the purpose of discussing the events that led to their divorces. This might help them to avoid making the same mistakes twice. They could also stage social events inviting eligible bachelors and widowers to the same. A good name for a divorcees' organization would be "If at First Club." More of this anon.

### So They Say

Gemini (May 22nd-June 21st): Women are said to be very fickle. Are frequently accused of being "love 'em and leave 'em" types. They are not really fickle. They just crave interesting, exciting and entertaining male companions. Nothing a man has can repay a Gemini woman if he bores her. So she keeps looking around and around. Or so say the stargazers.

### Sidelights

Frank Fay, the veteran Theatopian, is another fellow who is never without a St. Christopher medal. Frank, a deeply religious fellow, attends mass every day. For the first time in United States history women now outnumber men. Yes, sir, there are also more women voters than men voters. So if the girls really got together they could elect a woman President.

According to recent research the average Englishwoman who smokes consumes six and one half cigarettes a day, the average man fourteen and a half cigarettes a day. Don't know what the American average is. But our countrywomen are the world's greatest chain smokers. Many of them smoke from forty to sixty cigarettes a day. Also there is no question the average American woman smokes more cigarettes than the average man. It's all right with me. Except I wish the women who smoke at lunch counters wouldn't blow so much

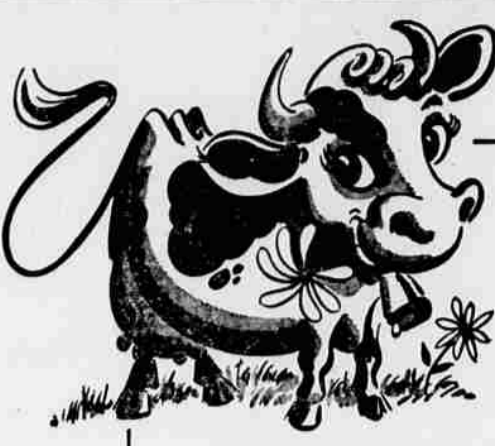
cigaret smoke on my ham sandwiches. I also am opposed to women smoking cigarettes while carrying babies. Then again the sight of a woman walking along the street with a cigarette drooping from her lips is not a pleasant sight. That doesn't particularly annoy me, however, but it doesn't add to the lady's glamor.

As for women smoking cigarettes while driving automobiles it is a situation that baffles many of them. Smoke gets in their eyes.

### Asides

What is this country's most popular cook book? How about Fannie M. Farmer's Boston Cooking School Book which has sold over two million copies? ...

Chicagoan says the name of the star dancer at the Chicago Columbian Exposition of 1893 was Fatima. I think he is in error. However, there was a dancer of that name featured at Coney Island, whom the barker described as: "Fatima, the muscle dancer. She moves every muscle in her body!"



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