

Pending Blessed Event Threatens Big Backstage Battle on Berle TV Program

New York—(U.P.)—A pending blessed event threatens to turn into the biggest backstage battle since the famous Helen Hayes "act of God" case in 1929.

Television audiences tonight will see Ruth Gilbert, the pint-sized blonde who plays the part of Max, Milton Berle's love-struck secretary, quit her job. Berle protests in the script, but Max quits anyway, and even introduces comedienne Nancy Walker as the girl who'd like to take over.

That's not the way it is though. In real life, Ruth is a sizzling mad that she's being dropped from the show. She is pregnant and expects her baby early in February. She says the producers want to cancel her contract with no promise of putting her back on the show after the baby comes.

Irving Gray, executive producer, for Berle, admitted they were anxious for Ruth to leave the show because "she looks like she is going to have a baby." He

added, however, that "we have never planned not to have her back." They just won't promise it in writing.

Goes To Arbitration

Now the squabble has gone from lawyers to Actors' Equity and will go before arbitrators next week for a decision.

Helen Hayes quit the cast of "Coquette" 25 years ago because she was expecting a baby. The play's producer closed the show, claiming he didn't have to pay other actors their two weeks' notice because he was not responsible for acts of God. The board of Actors' Equity ruled that a baby was not an act of God.

Even the lines she's forced to say on tonight's show infuriate Miss Gilbert. She doesn't want the audience to think she's quitting because she wants to.

Objects to 'Goodbye' Script

"They promised me there would be no goodbye script," she wailed. "So now they have me quitting and Milton pleading with me to stay. According to the fans, I'm the heavy."

"Suppose I wasn't going to have a baby," she continued. "Suppose I'd just gained a little weight. During the course of recent years Milton's weight has gone from much heavier to much thinner—did they fire him?"

"They asked me to come back to start the new season, and they knew I was pregnant. Now with tonight's script the door is closed on my return. I even introduce my replacement!"

Ruthie, as everybody calls her, is married to businessman Emanuel Feinberg, and this is their first child.

BLM Contract Calls For Planting 160,000 Small Trees in Area

A total of 160,000 seedling trees will be planted in Jackson and Douglas county under contract with the Bureau of Land Management, according to Eugene Peterson, district BLM forester.

A contract for the work has been let to M. S. Meacham, Port Orchard, Wash., and crews are already at work at two of the tracts.

The tracts are located north of the Oregon Springs highway near Lincoln, where 80,000 sugar pine seedlings are to be planted; west fork of Evans creek, 40,000 sugar pine seedlings, and Upper Cow creek, Douglas county, 40,000 Douglas fir seedlings.

Burned, Logged Areas Peterson pointed out that the burned area, and the other two Evans creek planting is in a locations are in logged - over sections where natural reproduction was not satisfactory. He added that natural reproduction takes care of 90 per cent of re-

forestation. However, occasionally this doesn't work and artificial means have to be utilized, as these cases.

Meacham's bids on the world were \$45 a thousand seedlings planted for the Lincoln section, where a special planting technique was required, and \$30 a thousand for the other two jobs.

About 600 seedlings, all two-year-old stock, are planted to each acre, the forester pointed out.

He also said that in one other area near Butte Falls a total of 88,000 ponderosa pine seedlings will be planted on clearcut land by the Talent Sawmill Inc., under terms of a timber sale purchase on O & C property.

The seedlings on all four sites were purchased from the following nurseries: ponderosa pine, U. S. Forest Service, Bend; Douglas fir, Washington State nursery, Little Rock, Wash., and sugar pine, Forest Service, Oakdale, Calif.

Magic Formula In Farm Program Declared Wrong

Spokane—(U.P.)—The greatest mistake in handling farm programs is "to attempt to apply one magic formula, one cure-all" will answer the problems of all agricultural products, Rep. Clifford R. Hope, chairman of the House Agriculture committee in the 83rd Congress, said today.

The Kansas Republican told the 83rd National Grange convention there are some commodities which do not adapt themselves to direct price support programs.

"I want to use fixed supports best when fixed support work best, flexible supports in areas where they work best, and marketing orders and agreements where they work best," he said. "I want to see a fair share of the national income for agriculture."

Hope helped guide the flexible price supports program through the last Congress.

He also said that the decreasing number of persons engaged in farming poses a "real danger" for agriculture.

One of the major interests of farm groups should be the development of a better public relations program aimed at informing the public that consumers "get more and better food today with an expenditure of a smaller percentage of their total income than at any other period in history," he said.

Jacksonville School Open House Tomorrow

Jacksonville—An open house in the schoolhouse here will be held tomorrow morning starting at 7:30 p.m., according to School Superintendent Clyde Sutherland.

Patrons of the school are invited to inspect the new building, and the repairs made to the old building, he said.

GARBAGE GESTURE

Hartford, Conn.—(U.P.)—This city shipped 26 tons of garbage to nearby New Britain—and got a thank-you note in return. New Britain wanted the refuse so it could test a new incinerator.

Democrats Will Take Hard Look at U.S. Policies of Defense

Washington—(U.P.)—Senate Democratic Leader Lyndon B. Johnson gave his assurances today that the Democrats will take a hard look at the administration's defense policies when they take over Congress in January.

Senate Republican Leader William F. Knowland called for a sweeping review of U. S. defense and foreign policies in a Senate speech late Monday.

He said congressional committees should call in State and Defense Department officials "promptly" to decide whether policy changes should be made in the light of Russia's effort to sell the world on "peaceful co-existence."

Stall For Time Seen

"It is my belief that the Soviet Union is advancing the Trojan horse of coexistence only for the purpose of gaining sufficient time to accomplish what we may term atomic stalemate," he said. Actually, however, coexistence can only lead to eventual Communist victory, he said.

There was no immediate indication whether the present Republican-led congressional committees would act on Knowland's suggestion. But Johnson said as soon as the Democrats take control the Foreign Affairs and Armed Services committees will hold hearings on administration policies.

Justice of Peace at Junction City Named

Salem—(U.P.)—Gov. Paul L. Patterson said today he has appointed Christian Haskel of Junction City as justice of the peace, Junction City district, to serve until his successor is elected and qualified. Haskel succeeds W. C. Evans, resigned.

TO HOSPITAL

Camp White—Ralph "Jesse" Baker, one of the original contributors of wit and anecdote to Dominions, the camp paper, will be sent to Portland hospital this week for surgery. Baker is a New Yorker and was with the merchant marine in the last war.

Wall Street

New York—(U.P.)—Industrial shares on the Stock Exchange pushed to further new high ground in more than a quarter of a century today. Trading was active.

Gains in the industrials ranged to more than a point with the steel shares leading the way. Elsewhere railroad equities were generally steady. A few specialties tacked on good gains.

Today's closing prices on selected stocks:

American T & T	173 3/4
Anaconda	43 1/4
Chrysler	64
Curtiss Wright	13 3/4
General Electric	45 1/2
Montgomery Ward	9 1/4
Penn R R	18 1/4
Penn J C	88 1/2
Radio	17
Southern Co	38 1/2
S O of Calif	73
Texas Gulf Sulphur	121
Transamerica	38 1/4
Tri-Continental	23 3/4
United Aircraft	67 1/4
U S Rubber	41
U S Steel	66 1/4
Youngstown	unquoted

Portland Produce

Portland—(U.P.)—Eggs—To retailers: Grade AA large 68c doz.; A large 44-45c doz.; A medium 36c; A small 29c doz.; cartons, 1-3c additional. Butter—To retailers: AA grade prints, 68c lb.; cartons, 67c; A prints, 66c; cartons, 65c; B prints, 64c.

Cheese—To retailers: A grade cheddar Oregon singles, 42 1/2-43 1/2c; 5-lb. loaves, 46 1/2-47 1/2c. Processed American cheese, 5-lb. loaf, 39 1/2-41c lb.

Farm Market Prices were mostly unchanged along wholesale produce row today although the approaching holiday market brightened a few trading. Willamette valley broccoli was \$1.25-1.50 a dozen with some cauliflower 25 cents higher at \$1.75-2.25.

Poultry, Rabbits Live Chickens—To growers No. 1 quality, f.o.b. Portland: Fryers 2 1/2 to 4 1/2 lbs., 25c lb.; at farm, 24c lb.; roasters, 4 1/2 lbs. and up, 26-27c lb. f.o.b. Portland; 25-28c at ranch; light hens, 11c; heavy hens, all wts., 13c; old roosters, 10-11c lb. Dressed Chickens—No. 1 dressed to retailers: Fryers, 36-37c lb.; roasters, 38-39c; light hens, 22-23c; heavy hens, 24-25c; cut up fryers, all wts., 40-41c; whole drawn, 44-45c lb. Turkeys—Paying prices to producers for 1954 turkey types: 30c for 34-35c lb. f.o.b. farm on N.Y. dressed basis, same basis, 24c lb.; light-weight hens, 35c; light-type toms, 30c; fryer-roaster, 32c lb. live. To retailers: A grade hens, ready to cook, 50c; 5-lb. N.Y. dressed, 45c lb.; A grade toms, oven-ready, 41-44c; light type, A grade hens, oven-ready, 52-53c; light toms, 48-49c lb. Rabbits average to growers, f.o.b. killing plants—Live white, 3 1/2-4 1/2 lbs., 18-20c up; 5-6 lbs., 14-16c; colored pels, 4c under; old does, 8-10c lb.; a few higher. Fresh dressed fryers to retailers, 34-37c; cut up, 60-62c.

Disabled Troller Taken Into Tow by Coast Guard

Astoria—(U.P.)—A 48-foot troller from Seattle, the Madeline J., was taken in tow by the Coast Guard cutter Yocona late yesterday after the small vessel's engines failed in rough seas 15 miles southwest of the Columbia river lights.

Coast Guard officials said the Yocona would stand off shore until morning when winds were expected to subside enough to allow them to enter the Columbia river. The Madeline J. wallowed in the rough seas for some time before a Coast Guard boat and a plane were able to locate her.

Average length of freight trains in the U. S. increased from 50.3 cars in 1941 to 63.2 cars in the year 1953.

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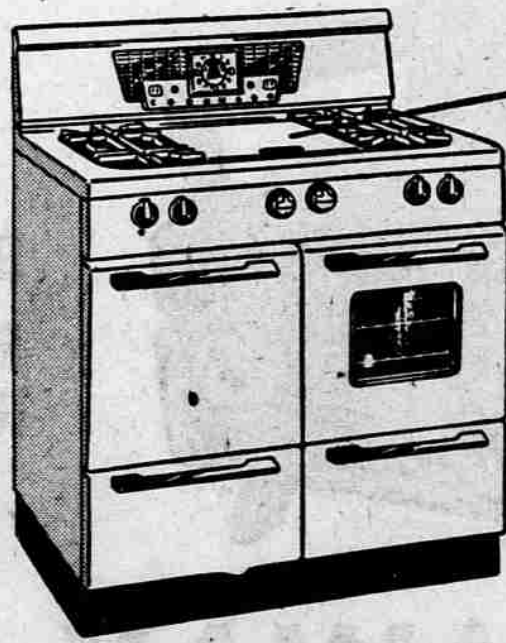
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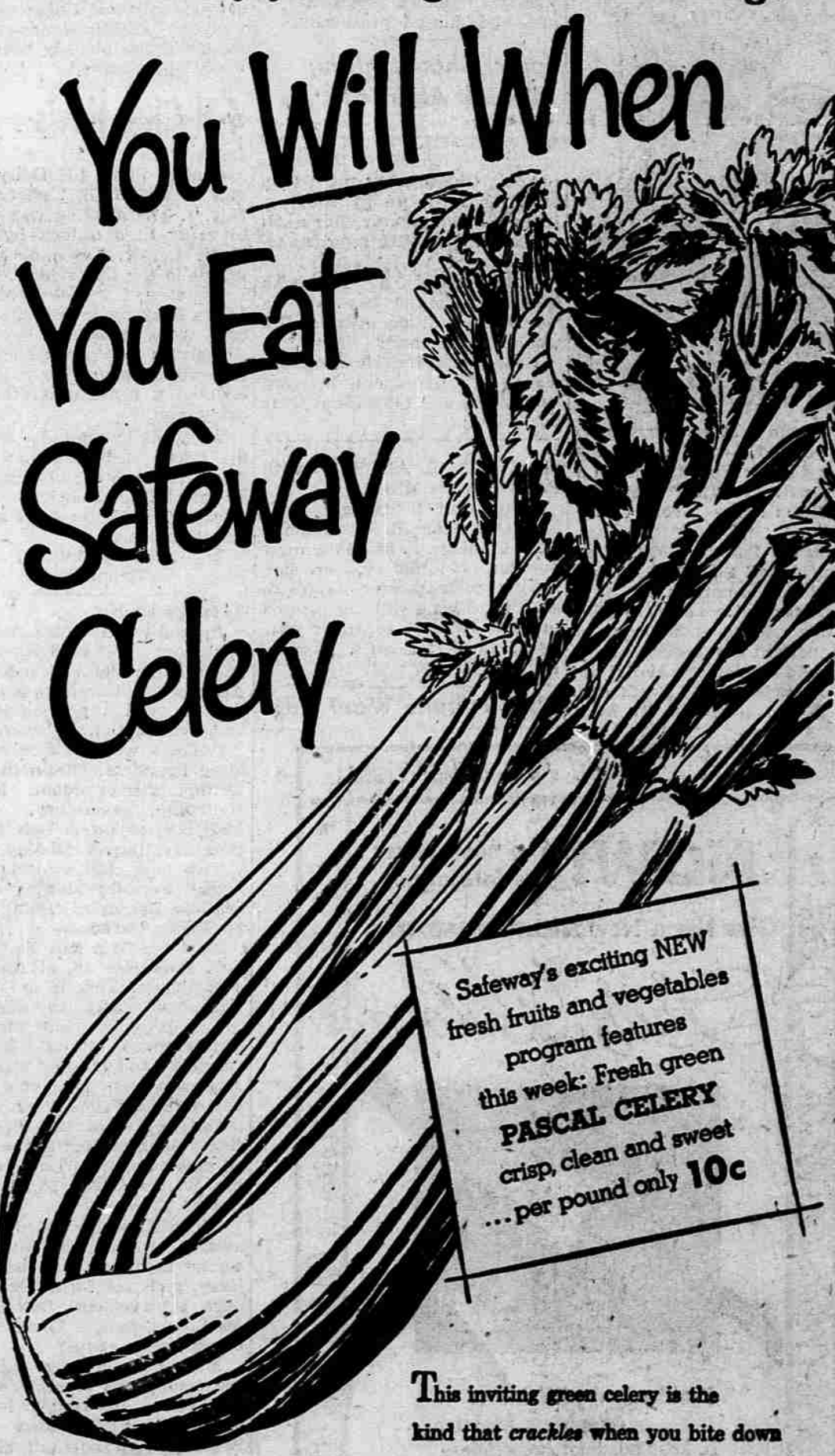
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