



A Nichol's Worth of... Comment On This and That

By HARMAN W. NICHOLS
United Press Feature Writer

Washington — (U.P.)—A lot of doctors have worked their way through college. But name me a lady doctor who has turned the trick by selling oligochaetous of the genus Lumbricus.

Translated, those two tongue-twisters add up to the lowly earth worm, referred to on the waterfront as the fish or wiggle worm, and sometimes as night crawlers. I know two lovely young



ladies who are in the business of producing better worms, and the wigglers are helping to further their education.

Pamela Leech of Chevy Chase, Md., and Margaret Lucille Lambert of Arlington, Va., both are juniors at the George Washington University Medical School here. The two friends are not in partnership, exactly. The whole thing began like this:

Small-Scale Start
Pamela heard that a couple in the area had a basement full of worms and planned to go out of business. She also learned the entire stock had a potential income of \$12,000 a year, a sum which would buy a lot of medical books and "x" number of scalpels. She couldn't afford the whole lot, but she bought 1000 for \$10.

At first she bedded her investment down in a barrelful of the good earth in her mother's basement.

Soon, with little worms coming along at a mad rate, as little worms do, the family outgrew its "home," so Pamela had a five-foot square aluminum pit planted in the back yard. She filled this with equal parts of clay, grass clippings and waste.

"Before I knew it," she said, "the word got around and orders started coming in. I charge a penny a worm."

"I have about 10,000 worms now," she said, "maybe more. They are kind of hard to count. They aren't much trouble, though, and my expenses are very low."

An earthworm, according to expert Margaret, travels only about three feet in a lifetime.

"And they double their num-

Court Records

POLICE COURT
William H. Bayley, Dean Wesley Allen, Raymond Leslie Johnson, Homer B. Stephenson, Bill Chrysler, Montford Dee Martin, violation of basic rule, \$10 each.

Elfriede Anne Jones, Douglas Ray McNeill, John Robert Bierma, failure to yield right-of-way, \$10 each.

John Francis Birmingham, reckless driving, \$10.

Homer B. Stephenson, no operator's license, \$5.

James Grant Robertson, Genevieve Hannah Alexander, Samuel Maurice Brown, Charles Manen, failure to stop at stop sign, \$5 each.

Kenneth Virgil Shelton, violation of basic rule, \$10.

Alvin McKinley Hicks, failure to stop at red light, \$5.

Robert Hughes, parked on wrong side of street, \$2.50.

Charles Herbert Smith, failure to stop at stop sign, \$5.

Kirk, William, Ainslem, failure to stop at stop sign, \$5.

Alice M. Rawlings, violation of basic rule, \$10.

DISTRICT COURT
Donald A. Hubbard, violation of basic rule, \$10.

Ray W. Cousser, overload, \$62.

Harold F. Yost, no red light on extended load, \$10.

MARRIAGE LICENSE APPLICATIONS
Lyle Henry Cline, 28, Castle Rock, Wash., and Evelyn Florence Stone, 28, Grants Pass.

James Henry Wallace, 18, of 625 B st., Ashland, and Martha Re Crouch, 18, of 300 Clay st., Ashland.

ber in a month," said Margaret, "and that's the best part. You start with a thousand worms and in 30 days you've got 2000; and that goes on every month."

Who on earth would pay money for an earth worm?

Well, Margaret and Pamela have learned that a lot of people will. Fishing lodges buy a lot, but the best business is with gardeners.

"The small farmer has learned the value of having worms around the place," Margaret said.

A worm is bound to turn, and while turning he perforates the soil, giving the earth a needed breath of air. Worms, of the wiggle type, also fertilize the soil, hasten decay and turn the ground over.

Bills in Legislature

Salem—(U.P.)—Members of the legislative Ways and Means Subcommittee on salaries indicate they would favor making retirement benefit contributions on the first \$600 of salary of an employee in the state retirement system optional, in face of union labor opposition to the exemption.

Union representatives said they favored contribution to the entire salary of an employee.

Rep. Orval Eaton (R-Astoria), chairman of the subcommittee, Sens. George Ultet (R-Coquille) and John C. F. Merrifield (R-Portland) and Rep. V. T. Jackson (D-Roseburg) all inclined to the belief that it would be a mistake to force employees to pay on the \$600 of salary.

Eaton said "I made an extensive survey of state departments and found that the young state employees were not interested in retirement benefits. What they are interested in is having money to pay for a home, and to meet the cost of the necessities of life. They want the largest take-home pay possible."

Leo Butts, executive secretary of the AFL State Workers Council, told the committee the original concept of social security was to force employees to save money "so that when he reached age 65 he would have enough money on which to retire and then can be replaced by a more productive worker."

Salem—(U.P.)—The Oregon Senate had only one bill up for final action yesterday and that one concerned one dollar. But it brought forth a half hour's volley of debate before it finally passed with 13 dissenting votes.

Senate Bill 81 was the focus of attention. It would increase the fee from \$2 a year to \$3 for shopkeepers' permits to sell minor drugs and remedies.

The State Board of Pharmacy asked the increase so it could hire an extra inspector to police the places selling these drugs. Sen. Pat Lonergan, (R-Portland), who spoke for the bill, said there were 6,250 such shopkeepers—taverns, grocery stores and other outlets—selling these minor drugs and remedies and said the extra money would pay for an extra inspector.

Sen. John Hounsell (R-Hood

River) said the Board of Pharmacy has a \$33,000 reserve left over from the last biennium, and he said that should be sufficient to hire the extra inspector. He suggested the proper time to ask for more license money would be in the 1957 session, if the board of pharmacy found itself near the "flat broke" stage then.

Salem—(U.P.)—A bill which would make it illegal to carry loaded firearms in automobiles is meeting surprisingly strong opposition, according to Sen. Charles Bingner, La Grande Republican, one of the measure's sponsors.

Letters protesting the bill have come from all over the state, Bingner said, but about 60 per cent of them were from western Oregon. He said the amount of mail prompted by the measure has been heavy.

Salem—(U.P.)—Gov. Paul L. Patterson has signed into law a Senate measure to return to Fallin Post No. 123 of the American Legion, Douglas county real property it had sold to the state for \$10 for use as an armory site.

The property was conveyed to the state May 7, 1949. The Oregon National Guard erected a quonset hut there, but the ONG company which used the premises has long been disbanded. So under terms of the act, the state of Oregon will sell the property back to the post for the same sum—\$10.

Republicans Irked by Demos With Benson

Washington—(U.P.)—Some Republican congressional leaders are reported unhappy because Secretary of Agriculture Ezra T. Benson has too many Democrats in the department's policy making jobs.

One GOP leader said, "When a party is in office, it ought to be able to control its own administration by filling the policy making jobs."

A survey showed 43 of 76 top agriculture department "policy" jobs still are filled by holdovers from the Truman administration.

"Sure, we believe in the merit system, and we want to keep it strong. But I also believe in the two party system," the GOP leader said.

Another congressional leader complained sharply that Benson's aides have failed to "cooperate" in making appointments.

The dinner is open to church members and a feature will be the showing of highlight films from the East-West Shrine game in December, 1953.

For further information, call Bruce Braten at Medford 2-6787. Tickets will be available at the door.

More than 40 per cent of all single women and 27 per cent of all married women are employed, according to U. S. Department of Labor figures.

EMERGENCY WITHDRAWAL

Gary, Ind. — (U.P.) — A Gary housewife, who was being interviewed on a morning television show, suddenly remembered she forgot to give lunch money to her three children. So she voiced an "emergency" appeal on the air, hoping a friend would hear and take care of the matter. But she needn't have worried. The children raided the piggy bank before going to school.

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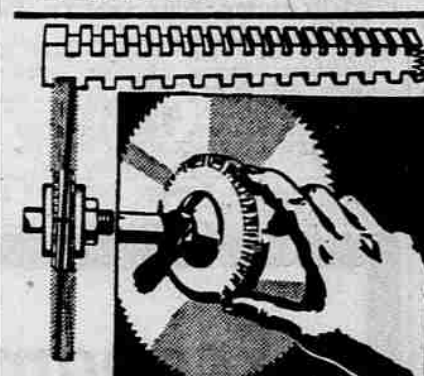
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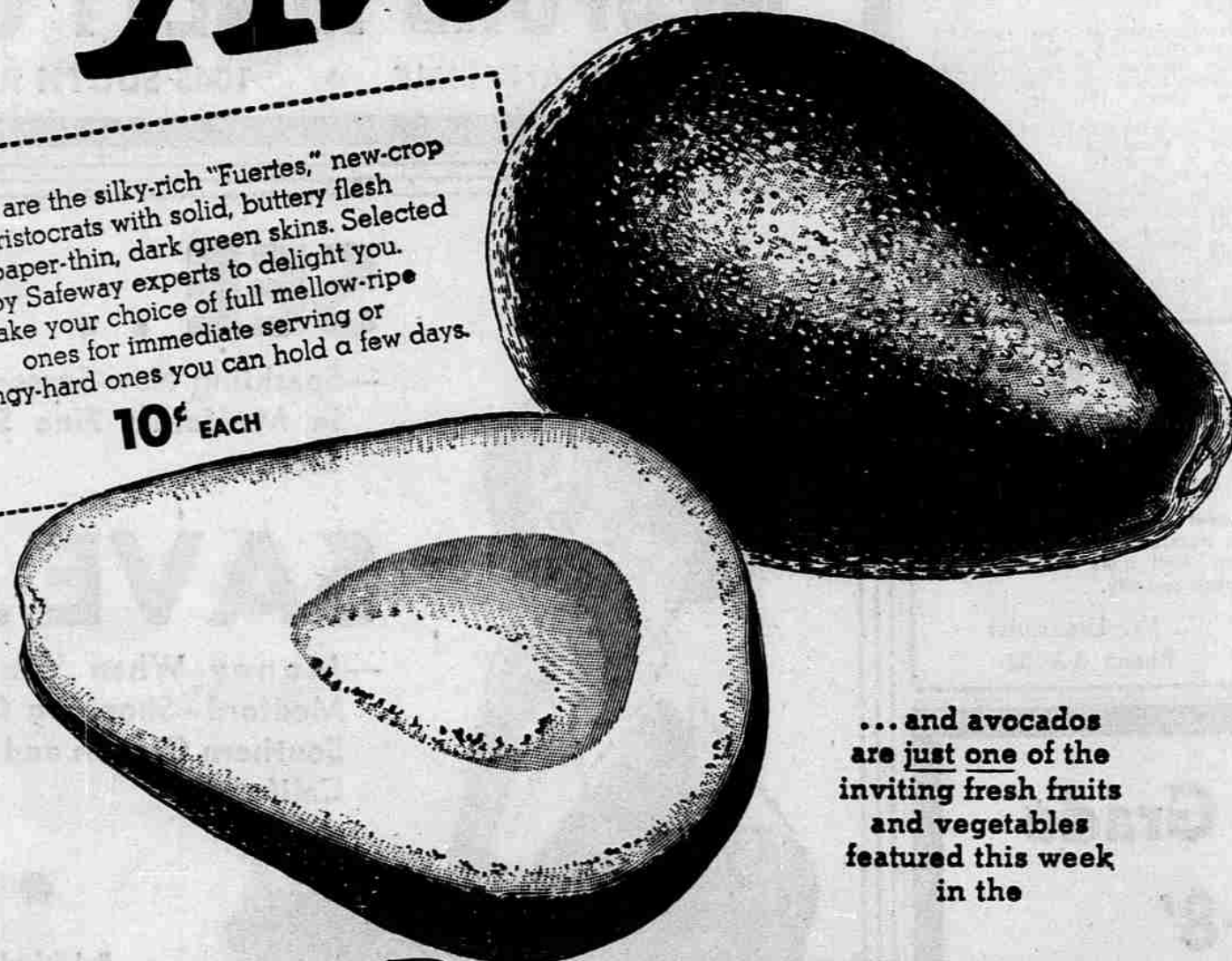
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