

# Pickin' Pears

News and Notes  
From Camp White

By SID HOLLINGSWORTH

Veterans are looking forward to the annual show to be presented Friday by the youthful company of starlets known as the "Young Oregonians." As the name implies, it is sponsored by the Portland Oregonian.

Among those glad to assist in publicizing the show is George Parker, who at Camp White is synonymous with this esteemed newspaper. He is the representative who distributes the Oregonian daily as well as Sunday.

George is something of a show himself, and his habit of getting in and out of tight situations goes back to a harrowing experience at the time of the First World War. It need hardly be mentioned that George Parker is a native of Brooklyn. He dates his interest in the newspaper business to an incident which occurred in the Kingston City Hospital where he was sent for emergency treatment. The experience was dramatic enough to attract the attention of a famous war correspondent of those days—Floyd Gibbons.

Here is what Gibbons wrote about George Parker. It was published in the New York American:

You know, lots of adventures have happened because someone did the wrong thing somewhere along the line, but here's one that resulted from saying the wrong thing.

It's the story of George T. Parker, of 639 55th street, Brooklyn, N. Y., and it's as fine an example of a horrible experience as I've come across in many a day.

It isn't that George talked out of turn or tried to start an argument. No, there's nothing like that in this yarn. What little George did say, he said with the best and most peaceful intentions in the world.

As a matter of fact, George was just out of the operating room and lying on a hospital bed when he said it. Birds in that fix don't go around looking for fights, and you and I know it.

But just the same, George sure talked himself into a sizable lot of trouble — trouble that came near causing George's death.

For two days after his operation, George was a pretty sick man, what with the ether he had swallowed and the shock of being cut up by the surgeon. On the second day, an old fellow with a beard became delirious and started to rave and that didn't help George's frame of mind any.

"He was talking about someone named Lenny," George says, "and he kept it up until everyone started to complain. I thought it would be all right to try and pacify him, so when he called for Lenny again, I answered him."

The trick seemed to work. The old fellow actually thought he was talking to Lenny. "What did you do with that junk in the attic?" he asked. And George

answered: "I sold it." "How much did you get for it?" the old fellow wanted to know. And George told him, "Fifteen cents." After that the old fellow was quiet. At 10 o'clock, the lights were put out and George dozed off.

Then suddenly, George woke up at the sound of footsteps beside his bed. "I looked up," he says, "and there staring down at me was the old fellow. His eyes seemed to be popping out of his head and his good hand was reaching down for my throat. And in a low voice he hissed: 'Where is the fifteen cents?'"

It might have been funny—that situation—if it hadn't been so pathetic too. But to George there was neither humor nor pathos in it—nor anything else but just plain terror.

There he lay helpless, two days out of the operating room, and hardly able to lift a finger in his own defense, and over him stood a man out of his mind and plainly bent on violence.

"I couldn't find my voice — couldn't utter a word. I put up my hand to protect myself, but it was weak and shaking. The old man grasped me by the throat and began to squeeze.

"His hand was strong, and it's lucky for me he didn't have two of them—that the other one was crippled with blood poisoning—or he might have strangled me then and there."

George wondered if he was going to die there in the apparent safety of a hospital bed. And then, suddenly, the lights came on. Nurses and attendants came running to the rescue. Tony, a poor fellow with a broken spine, had brought help. He had awakened, seen what was happening, and pushed the buzzer that summoned the nurse.

George was so shaken by his experience that they had to take him out of the ward and put him in a private room. "And," he says, "I came pretty near not writing this story."

## Founder of News Supplement Dies

Laguna Beach, Calif. — (U.P.) — Alfred David Mayo, founder of the nationally syndicated Sunday supplement, This Week, died yesterday of a heart ailment at his home here. He was 79.

Mayo was once secretary and general manager of the Crowell Publishing company, and publisher of the Chicago Record. He was also at one time president of the Butterick company of New York.

He began the Sunday supplement, Newsweek, which later became This Week. Mayo retired 12 years ago. He was survived by his widow, Teresa; a brother, Walter of St. Paul, Minn., and a son, Winston, of New Gardens, New York. Services will be held Thursday.

## They'll Do It Every Time

By Jimmy Hatlo



## As We Live

By ELIZABETH HURLOCK, PH.D.

### Husband's Threat To Go Probably Just A Bluff

There are many men who feel that they can dictate to their wives and intimidate them by using the threat they know is most effective: leaving and taking the children with them. That is why I am advising the young wife who wrote the following letter to call her husband's bluff. She says:

(Q) "We have been married for seven and a half years and have one son, six years old. I am expecting another baby in July. My husband and I haven't been getting along well for a long time. The other day, he threatened to leave me as soon as the new baby arrives and take both the children with him. Can he do this? I can't go back to my parents and take the children with me as they are both getting old and not in good health. I do not feel it would be fair to give them this extra burden and worry, especially as they have very little to live on. I feel trapped and don't know what to do. Please advise me as this whole

thing is making a nervous wreck of me."



Dr. Hurlock

He was obviously counting on your not knowing the law, and he has won so far. Or he may be even so ignorant of the law that he thinks he can do as he pleases. In that case, he is in for a rude shock.

Go to your minister at once and tell him of your husband's threat to leave you and take your children away from you as soon as the new baby arrives. Then ask him to make arrangements for you to take your problem to the domestic court in your district.

When the judge hears of your husband's threat, he will doubtless call him into court and ask him to explain it. The judge will know your side of the story before your husband takes action and will be in a position to stop him.

Your husband cannot take your children away from you unless he can produce proof that you are unfit to be their mother. Furthermore, he will be legally responsible for your support and theirs, should he leave you. When he knows the law is on your side, he may change his tune.

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### EXPENSIVE PARKING

Detroit — (U.P.) — Police today questioned three young men about the operation of a "parking lot" which cost patrons \$1 and a traffic ticket. Police said the attendants offered to park automobiles for \$1. More than 100 patrons were ticketed when the attendants parked the cars in no parking zones.

Richmond, Va. — (U.P.) — Lacy Thomas Jr., 22, was charged with reckless driving Monday after he collided with a tricycle while driving his horse-drawn wagon.

Des Moines, Ia. — (U.P.) — The Iowa legislature has voted in favor of a bill allowing young cowboys and Indians to pack cap pistols. Rep. Frank Thompson said any child with such a pistol is "just going through a blood and thunder stage."

Tuesday, March 15, 1955

MEDFORD (OREGON) MAIL TRIBUNE—THIRTEEN

## Back Stairs: Warning To All Squirrels

By MERRIMAN SMITH  
United Press Correspondent

Washington — (U.P.) — Backstairs at the White House:

This is a warning to all squirrels: Stay away from President Eisenhower's putting green on the White House lawn or you'll find yourself clapped unceremoniously into a box and shanghaied to some forest miles away from the lush tourist peanuts and other easy pickings around 1600 Pennsylvania avenue.

For some weeks, a secret "Operation Squirrel" has been at work around the executive mansion.

It seems that the President noticed that squirrels were scratching up his velvet-smooth gold green which is just outside the southeast corner of his office. Steps to discourage the furry little rodents were ordered.

First, an expert in electronics was called in. He suggested the use of extremely high pitched sound which theoretically would annoy the squirrels and send them scampering. They didn't scamper.

### Conditioned To Noise

Then the Army Signal Corps tried putting together a tape recording of sounds allegedly offensive to squirrels and played

it at the little nut gatherers. But they kept gathering.

It turned out that the hundreds of squirrels around the White House, living as close to people and auto traffic as they have for many years, have become rather conditioned to noises of all sorts.

From this knowledge developed "Phase Boxtrap" of "Operation Squirrel."

It works very simply. Box type traps are baited and set around the golf green at night. When the near sighted but highly intelligent animals venture out of their trees to investigate and sample the White House provender, plop goes the box.

The haul from a night's trapping is then put into a truck and taken miles away into the woods where the squirrels are released.

### Get the Tourists Too

Squirrels are supposed to have poor homing instincts and the theory is that they'll stay in the woods instead of beating their way back over street car tracks and buy streets to the White House grounds.

Mr. Eisenhower's feeling toward squirrels is one of longstanding. When he was Army chief of staff, he wanted to have all the squirrels run off Fort

Myer, but aides talked him out of it lest nature lovers get up in arms.

In fairness to Mr. Eisenhower, it should be pointed out that he's not blindly anti-squirrel. He feels, like many other people, that the little animals, cute as they may seem, can cause damage, and certainly annoyance when they arrive on the scene in any quantity.

Logic would indicate that "Phase Boxtrap" is aimed at the wrong target. Why not go after the tourists who circle the White House daily with bountiful bags of peanuts and for the squirrels and pigeon?



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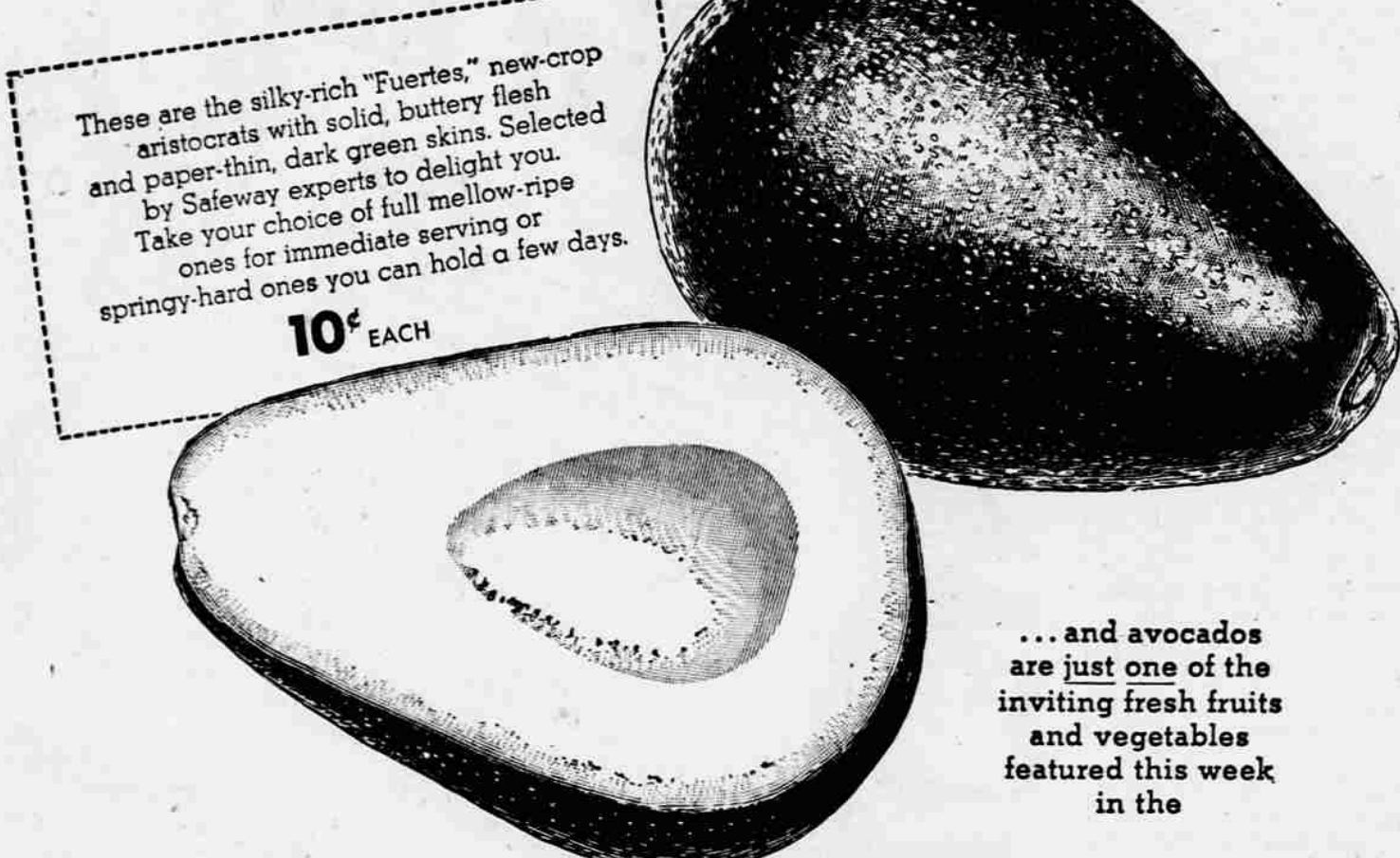
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