

Talk With Other Planets

By J. HUGH PRUETT
From the hillside we watched Venus, resplendent gold in the blue twilight as she sank slowly toward the sky line of the western mountains. "It is just too bad," said one of our group who for nearly 70 years had viewed this beautiful planet from widely separated lands, "that we cannot somehow go to this other world and learn what it is like there."

This urge for interplanetary travel has so far availed us nothing. Until recently, our vehicles for ascending to the skies—balloons and propeller airplanes—were good for only a few miles of altitude since they were dependent upon the presence of relatively dense air for their movements. Jet planes and rockets, which can travel outside the atmosphere, now offer better opportunities for getting out into space. They operate on the principle of Newton's third law of motion, that "to every action there is an equal and opposite reaction."

Below Needed Height

Rockets without passengers have recently gone as high as 250 miles above the earth and have acquired terrific speeds, but far below the 25,000 miles per hour needed for final escape from the earth without further propellants. Some believe that flying saucers actually are bringing us communicants from other worlds.

Signaling to the planets seems at present more practical than traveling. From 1846 until re-

cent times many telescopes have reported seeing sudden flashes of light on Mars. Professor Lowell's confirmation of this phenomenon in 1894 gave impetus to the idea that the Martians were trying desperately to signal to us. It is well known now that electro-magnetic waves come to us from far out in space. But few advocate that these come from intelligent beings attempting to communicate with us.

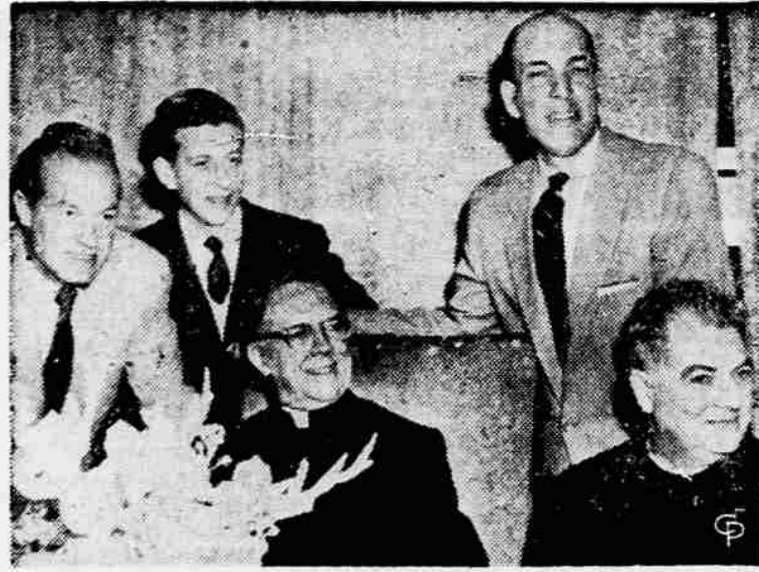
Not Seriously Considered

The Martian signals are no longer very seriously considered. Since all the flashes appear in the regions of the polar snow cap, many believe them to be mirror effects from occasional unusually level areas of ice at the instant the planet's rotation brings these into just the proper position to reflect the sun's light to us.

But suppose the Martians were trying to signal us. How shall we answer? When we see Mars best we are between it and the sun. To "inhabitants" there the earth is then lost in the sun's rays, so our signals could not be seen. Someone has suggested that a few months later we illuminate a huge right-angled triangle in an attempt to get a similar response from them.

Radio Waves Advocated

Another has advocated that we direct a beam of ultra high frequency radio waves at Mars, trusting that proper receivers are in operation there. If we send three dots—indicating ours is



ADDRESSING LOYOLA HIGH fathers and sons, Los Angeles, James Francis Cardinal McIntyre urges Catholic youths to rededicate selves to principles of faith. From left: Comedian Bob Hope, son, Tony, 14; Cardinal McIntyre; Coach Jordan Olivar, Yale University; Rev. F. Ford, Loyola president. (International)

15 Welfare Bills Go Before Senate

Salem—(U.P.)—Fifteen bills designed to strengthen welfare laws in Oregon were introduced in the Senate this week by Sen. George Ulett (R-Coquille).

The measures, most of them recommended by a legislative interim committee which studied welfare activities, were aimed at correcting some abuses and at holding down state and county welfare costs.

Ulett is chairman of the Ways and Means subcommittee of welfare. Some of the bills would ask Congress to ease restrictions on earnings of children and aged persons, and to pay social security benefits to permanently disabled persons regardless of age.

Two other measures would give the state more priority on claims against the estates of deceased welfare recipients.

New Trucks, Trailers Purchased by Pierce

Seventy-nine new trucks and trailers, with a total valuation of over \$600,000, are being added by Pierce Freight Lines, Inc. The fleet operates on Highway 99 between San Francisco and

Portland, according to George P. Davis, president.

The equipment, consisting of 25 new truck tractors and 54 trailer units, is scheduled for delivery early in April.

Founded by A. C. Pierce in Medford 30 years ago, with a single truck as its total equipment, the firm will have more than 300 trucks and trailers in operation early next month.

Sunday, March 20, 1955

MEDFORD (OREGON) MAIL TRIBUNE—FIVE

Bailey Trial Date Set by Judge East

Eugene—(U.P.)—Circuit Judge William G. East Friday scheduled a new trial for May 3 for Richard G. Bailey, president of the defunct Bailey Lumber Co., after a jury failed to reach a verdict in 9½ hours of deliberation.

Bailey, 34, was charged with conspiring to obtain money by false pretenses.

The jury received the case Thursday afternoon, after a trial that lasted two weeks.

Bailey remained free on \$10,000 bond.

California's first shipment of uranium ore was made in July, 1954.

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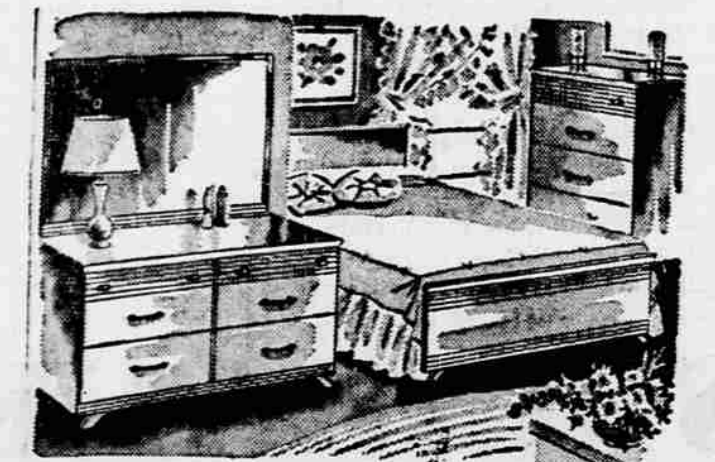
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