

# Buried Treasure

by Pinkney Gage

## First Government Postage Stamp Issued July 1, 1847

"I found these stamps 20 years ago. Maybe you can tell me if they are worth anything."

On glance at the envelope was enough to indicate it was something of a find.

The yellowed, faded missive was addressed to a man in St. Louis and carried a pair of bluish colored stamps which I recognized immediately as New York five-cent provisionals. The stamp is identified by an oval portrait of Washington directly above which are the words Post Office, and below, Five Cents. In small type in the upper corners are the words New York.

I asked why she had waited 20 years to find out about the stamps. Her answer was that she had mislaid the envelope soon after first finding it and had

### PHENOMENAL BARGAIN FOR GENUINE DUTCH CRUET

"That's \$7.50," the proprietor said. Obviously, the cruet stand was imitation Japanese—probably turned out in the '90s.

And yet it did have a certain beauty.

The colors, for example, were really unusual—red, blue, green, black and gold against a pure white background. Despite the dust layers on the two pitchers that were almost seven inches high, on the nearer one the Japanese gentleman seemed almost alive as he looked at a butterfly through the blossoms of a plum branch held in one hand.

I handed over the money. But I was lucky. When I showed it

### LITERARY MERIT NOT SOLE STANDARD FOR BOOK VALUE

He is known as Mort, not so much because his first name is Mortimer as because he is such a lugubrious looking fellow—almost as cheerful as a death's head.

Consequently, when I saw him smiling to himself, I was so mystified that I had to go over to talk with him.

"You would be happy, too, Gage, if you had just acquired one of the rarer and most salable books in the West. Look at this." He produced a small dog-eared volume bound in scuffed leather with the one word Oregon on the back.

I opened it carefully to find that the condition on the inside was excellent, except for a few penciled notes. Full title of the work, by John B. Wyeth and printed at Cambridge, Mass., in 1833, was "Oregon or a short history of a long journey from the Atlantic Ocean to the Region of the Pacific." There was more to the effect that the volume con-

come across it again only a few days before.

I pointed out that the cancellation date was 1845, and that consequently had an unusual premium value because the first United States stamp was not issued until July 1, 1847. I also called attention to the fact that the stamps had been cancelled by a clerk who initialed them in red ink with the letters A.C.M.

That done, it was a pleasure to turn to the appropriate pages in Scott's specialized catalogue and read to the lady that stamps initiated by Alonzo Castle Monson, of the New York post office, were valued, when on a cover, at a minimum of \$30 each. As a pair, however, they were worth more—at least \$250.

"When I think," she said, "of all the times I could have used that money—and I didn't even know I had it."

to a friend of mine, an expert in ceramics, he took one look and exclaimed "Dutch!"

I asked what he meant. "Why, the O and A on those two bottles or pitchers or whatever they are stand for olive-oil and azijn-vinegar," he said, turning the stand over. And then:

"Why, look here. This is the mark of Adriaen Pijnacker, of Delft." He was pointing to the initials APK in a monogram.

He was quite correct. And knowing that my cruet was Delft, and 18th century at that, it wasn't difficult to establish a value. So far, I have refused \$325 for it.

tained the story of "four days march beyond the ridge of the Rocky Mountains, and by the only one who has returned to New England."

Recalling nothing about the book or the author, I read a few pages here and there. It was fairly interesting, but not of any great merit, and I said as much.

"I don't care a rap whether it has literary value or not, Gage," Mort said. "I am quite content to know that I shall sell it today, just as soon as the bank opens, and for a very good price."

The night before Mort had come across the book in a small collection, he had paid \$20 for it. As soon as he had authenticated it, he had called a man who had unsuccessfully offered \$300 for a copy the year before.

"The offer still stands," Mort said. "And the \$300 I'll get is exactly \$50 more than the last reported auction price."

(Released by McClure Newspaper Syndicate)

## On The Side

By E. V. DURLING  
(Distributed by King Features Syndicate, Inc.)

THERE are no times like the old times. They shall never be forgot. There is no place like the old place. Keep green the dear old spot. There are no friends like the old friends. May Heaven prolong their lives! There are no loves like our old loves. God bless our loving wives!

—Holmes.  
Jimmy Stewart is to portray Lindbergh in the film based on the flyer's life. Wonder who will play I. O. Biffle. Haven't forgotten Biffle have you? He taught Lindbergh how to fly. That was in Lincoln, Neb., in 1922. Lindbergh was 20 at that time. Be interesting to see how Jimmy Stewart is made up to look 20 years old.

**Asking**  
Queries from clients. Q.—Who wrote the song titled "Has Anybody Here Seen Kelly?" A.—William McKenna. Was introduced in 1909 by Nora Bayes in a musical show called "The Jolly Bachelors." Q.—Our first baby has arrived. We think it far above the average. You quoted some statistics on the average baby. Could you repeat for a pair of newlyweds—husband 21, and wife, 18? A.—The average length of a baby at birth is 20 inches. A baby smiles at four weeks, laughs aloud at four months, starts reaching for things at six months, has first tooth at ten months, walks at 15 months. That's what the baby experts say.

**Sidelights**  
Herb Shriner, airwave entertainer, who is regularly introduced on his program as "that humorous fellow from Indiana," was born in Toledo, Ohio. . . . There are over six million girls named Mary in this country. It tops the list by a wide margin. Most other feminine names are in order named Elizabeth, Ann and Frances.

**Among the Married**  
How much of an opposite to you is your wife? It has long been maintained that in seeking a matrimonial mate most men and women are attracted by opposites. Said Schoepenhauer, "the most masculine men seek the most feminine women; while small and feeble men love large and strong women; people with short noses prefer those with long noses; tall and thin men prefer short and stout women."

**Asides**  
Not all bread is fattening. A feminine subscriber of 40 who says she still has her schoolgirl figure, claims you can eat all the pumpernickel you want and it won't make you fat. . . . Sports-scribe said Knute Rockne was "an all America end in his playing days at Notre Dame." That's wrong. First Notre Dame player to make the all America team was George Gipp. That was in 1920.

**Please Note**  
Who was Clark Gable's first leading lady? Give up? It was that beautiful Brooklynite, Helen Twelvetrees. Now I'll give you an easy query. What was the name of the film for which was used the slogan: "Gable's back and Garson's got him?"

**Lie Detector**  
How accurate and efficient is the lie detector? Dr. Leonard Keller, inventor of that remarkable device, once said he and his wife considered it so efficient they made an agreement never to use it on each other. How about it, madame? If you had a lie detector handy could you resist the temptation to use it on your husband occasionally? Would you worry about his using it on you?

**Briefly**  
Kate Smith made her first hit in Washington, D. C., singing a ditty titled "Nobody Knows What a Red Headed Mama Can Do." . . . Vegetarians generally have considerable trouble with their teeth. They are great denture customers. Eskimos, who are exclusively meat eaters, never have any dental troubles.

**Passing By**  
Carl Brisson. The perennially debonaire Dane. Carl and his charming wife, Cleo, must have made a very interesting bride and groom. Carl was 16 when married, Cleo was 14. The Brissons have been happily married for 44 years! . . . Zeppo Marx. Only one of the five Marx brothers who is a millionaire. Zeppo acquired his wealth in industry. To be exact, in the aircraft parts industry.

to the unhappy side of Hollywood.

Carole Landis and Lupe Valez killed themselves over unhappy romances. Mary Astor tried suicide because of ill health. Corinne Calvet took pills after her divorce, but insisted it was an accident.

More than 1,000 different types of radio tubes have been developed and put on the market, and most of them can still be purchased, according to recent trade consumer reports.

## They'll Do It Every Time

By Jimmy Hatlo



**DISTINCTION OF BEING** assigned to closest position to nuclear blast ever occupied by sex is held by these members of Women's Corps of Civilian Defense, 3,500 feet from "Ground Zero" near Las Vegas. From left: Mrs. Shirley Smith and Mrs. Garnet Good, Oakland, Cal.; Mrs. Robert Ives, Topeka; Mrs. Carole Doehler, Tucson; Mrs. Jean Fuller, Los Angeles; Miss Helen Leininger, New York; Mrs. Lydia Durst, Silver Spring, Md. (International)

## Arms Makers Seek Method To Keep Machines Buzzing

Tokyo —(U.P.)— Arms manufacturers are searching for ways to keep their machines humming in the face of an almost certain sharp, if not drastic, reduction in U.S. Army buying in Japan.

In Asia, they see little possibility for sales. They discount Formosa because the coastal war there "appears unlikely to assume greater proportions at the present moment."

Looking backward to the Korean war days, they see that American Army orders totalled \$75,000,000 between May, 1952 and June, 1953, and \$65,000,000 from July, 1953, to June 1954.

From July, 1954 to June 1955 some industrialists say that the orders will be only \$40,000,000, while the more optimistic peg them at \$60,000,000.

**Domestic Policy Unclear**  
But few believe that the U.S. Army will continue to buy arms in Japan at anything like the previous amounts. They think it will have to consider what is best for it, and that its actions will be governed by political and economic considerations in Washington.

The arms manufacturers hope to convert to civilian production or begin to make weapons for Japan's small defense force.

The rapid change in the political picture following the rise of Prime Minister Ichiro Hatoyama and the post-election disorganization and lack of a clear policy on military defense makes difficult planning or even guessing on this market prospect. The manufacturers must wait this period out.

Meanwhile, a few are placing high hopes on selling war weapons to Southeast Asia. They are particularly encouraged by the SEATO conference in Bangkok which gave the defense organization a more positive form.

But nothing at the moment is definite. The arms special procurement industry remains uneasy about its future.

There are more than 47,000 Minnesota boys and girls in 4-H clubs.

**LEGAL NOTICES**  
INVITATION FOR BIDS  
Asphalt Tile on Floors  
Jefferson School  
Bids for installation of asphalt tile floors and Vinyl plastic counter tops for the new Jefferson Elementary School are invited.

Specifications may be obtained from the office of the Board of Education, 300 Monroe Street, Medford, Oregon. Bids are to be submitted on or before 5:00 P.M., Tues., May 10, 1955. Asphalt tile floor bids are to be in one sum for a complete job according to plans and specifications, with unit costs, of the different kinds of tile per square foot, installed, submitted. Counter tops will be bid separately from asphalt tile floors but a combined bid for both tile and floors may be submitted if desired.

Bidders bond or certified check to amount of 5% of the bid must accompany this proposal. The Board reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

REBECCA JENSEN  
Clerk, School Dist. No. 49  
Jackson County, Oregon  
April 30, 1955

## SCIENCE AT WORK

By DELOS SMITH  
United Press Science Editor

New York—(U.P.)—Three scientists devoted to the hen believe she could become an instrument of science second to none, and they have presented their nomination to members of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

The role these men of the University of Minnesota have in mind for her is that of living test tube for various agricultural chemicals whose slight, accumulative, and incidental toxic or poisonous properties are in exactly or even poorly understood.

Their evidence came from strange occurrences in the hen pens of "at least six" Minnesota farms last summer. The farmers were licked, and they summoned P. E. Waibel, B. S. Pomero, and Elton L. Johnson, of the university's departments of poultry husbandry and veterinary science.

Some 75,000 hens had suddenly started laying eggs of many strange shapes. The reason for the strange shapes was that the shells no longer were hard, and so the eggs came out every which way.

**TMTD**  
The scientists suspected any one of several diseases which influence the hardness of the shell, but they very quickly eliminated all of them. Then they suspected the cause had to be in something the hens were eating. By a process of elimination, they found that the cause was seed corn grown on the farms.

This corn had been treated against fungus infection with tetramethylthiuram disulfide, which is the active ingredient of a number of agricultural fungicides. It was this chemical compound, present on the corn in the barest (or "trace") amounts that had made 75,000 egg-laying machines all awry.

TMTD, as it is called for short, is one of an interesting chemical series. In addition to

being a fungicide, it will hasten the vulcanization of rubber. Replace the methyl in its molecule with ethyl and you have the active ingredient of Antabuse which makes alcoholic beverages extremely distasteful, even to alcoholics.

**Value of Hen**  
Their studies showed that TMTD, in a proportion of only 50 parts per million parts, could "produce disastrous effects" on the shells of hens. As soon as these "trace" amounts of TMTD were removed from what the hens were eating, the shells hardened and the eggs became egg-shaped again.

The three scientists seemed enthusiastic over the conclusiveness of their experimental results, and the ease with which they obtained them. That caused them to nominate the hen as a test tube for chemical compounds which may be toxic in trace amounts.

She has a "rapid reproductive rate," they pointed out—200 to 300 eggs a year. She is easy to keep and feed, and she has "a sensitive reproductive mechanism."

That "would seem" to make her "an ideal subject for toxicologic studies," especially since methods now routinely used "leave much to be desired in the evaluation of potentially toxic substances."

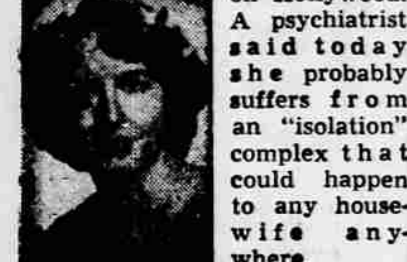
**RARE VOLUME**  
Amesbury, Mass. — (U.P.)—A first edition, once part of John Greenleaf Whittier's library, is now considered a collector's item. The book narrates the history of the mythical Indian city of Norumbega and was presented to the poet by the author, E. N. Horsford. The volume has been presented to the Amesbury Public Library.

An average dentist in the U.S. has an annual income of \$7,820 net per year, while an average physician's income runs to \$13,432 before taxes.

## Around Hollywood

By ALINE MOSBY  
United Press Correspondent

Hollywood—(U.P.)—Susan Hayward's attempted suicide is one near-tragedy that can't be pinned on Hollywood.



Aline Mosby

A psychiatrist said today she probably suffers from an "isolation" complex that could happen to any housewife anywhere.

The question of why the famous and beautiful film queen swallowed sleeping pills Tuesday has brought forth many an armchair second-guesser. Evangelist Billy Graham declared in Scotland she tried to kill herself because "moviestars are miserable, unhappy people."

But a leading psychiatrist I queried (who did not wish his name used) said her movie career "has only incidentally to do with her unhappiness."

"I would say her suicide attempt was a despair reaction from her feelings of complete isolation," the doctor said.

**Battle Was Trigger**  
The trigger that set off her death try with her ex-husband over their children. She also suffers from overwork.

But the sadness that has been building up inside of her, the psychiatrist went on, is due to her inability to have close relationships with people.

"It would not be correct to say she is unhappy because of her ambition or career, or because she is a working woman who should be a housewife. This does not seem to be the usual case of career versus marriage, or of sudden fame and wealth.

"This neurosis occurs also in

women who are housewives and mothers in ordinary cities.

"Miss Hayward seems to be maladjusted and withdrawn. A psychiatrist said today she probably suffers from an "isolation" complex that could happen to any housewife anywhere.

**Close to Nobody**  
"Sometimes such a person gets a little desperate because of that feeling of isolation. She has great trouble feeling close to anybody and she goes into suicidal depressions."

Susan's co-workers at 20th Century Fox support that theory. They call her "a close-mouthed woman nobody really knows—so hard to get close to."

Some second-guessers insist Susan is unhappy over a new romance. But the actress not only does not want to see ex-husband Jess Barker but apparently has no wish for a new love. Since the Barkers separated two years ago, she has had only casual dates with Howard Hughes, actor Richard Egan, Director Stanley Hough and Jeff Chandler.

Down the years several actresses have been drawn to suicide. Diana Barrymore is a recent case. The accidental sleeping pill death of Tommie Adams and the suicide try of Judy Garland probably can be attributed

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CENTRAL POINT

## Grange

**Eagle Point Grange**  
A literary program, which will be open to the public, will be presented prior to the Grange meeting on May 3, starting at 8 o'clock.

In observance of soil conservation week a film entitled "Promise of the Trees" will be shown by Jack Crump. Another feature of the program will be dancing numbers by pupils of Colleen Hope's classes.

**Shady Cove Grange**  
A potluck supper preceded the regular meeting of Shady Cove Grange April 27.

Master McKay thanked Mrs. Edd Leaming and Elizabeth Hale for aiding the Grange ladies in making the float which was entered in the pear festival parade.

Gene Weitman was reported doing nicely after a serious operation.

Cecil Kee gave a talk on safety during the lecture hour. Jokes were told by Travis Littlefield.

The next HEC meeting will be held at the home of Mrs. Cecil Kee on May 10. Roll call will be answered with a short poem and garden ideas will be exchanged.

The Grange will hold its next meeting May 11 at 8 p.m. at the school gym.

**HAYSTACK USEFUL**  
St. Louis — (U.P.)— Lt. Col. Bernard Trum of the Atomic Energy Commission told a state convention of veterinarians here that a haystack would protect both man and beast from fallout of radio-active particles from an atomic explosion. In fact, he said, a haystack would provide the most practical shelter for rural dwellers.

There were about 1,480,000 marriages in the U.S. during 1954, a decrease of about 60,000 below the 1953 figure, and far below the record.

## Corvallis Firemen To Protect OSC Buildings

Corvallis —(U.P.)— The Corvallis fire department has agreed to protect Oregon State College buildings west of the city that are outside the district boundary, City Manager James Convil said.

The problem cropped up earlier this week when a turkey brooder house and equipment worth an estimated \$60,000 were destroyed by fire.

Dead line for Sunday Classified is at noon Saturday.

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