

Buried Treasure

by Pinkney Gage



Nazi Stamps Worthless Remnants of Hitler Era

Jim picked up a dozen pages from the loose-leaf stamp album he had just acquired as part of a collection he had paid \$200 for, glanced at them briefly and tore them in half.

"Are you crazy?" I asked. "Not at all," he said. "Take 'em if you want 'em, but I don't think you will."

"I don't get it," I said. "This looks as if it might be a complete collection of everything issued by the Third Reich."

"I think it is," Jim replied. "Well, it was a complete collection, complete in the sense that every space was filled with the Scott catalogue shows, and when I had got it reassembled, Jim very graciously offered to supply me with fresh copies of the 30 to 40 stamps that had been ripped in the tearing."

"Help yourself," he said, tossing me a large envelope marked Hitler's Germany.

SHEFFIELD PLATE DIED WITH ADVENT OF ELECTROPLATING

"This isn't quite what I want," said Jim, putting the metal box back on the counter. "Do you have anything smaller?"

As the proprietor stepped into the next room, Jim bent swiftly forward, breathed lightly on the lid of the box and straightened up quickly as the owner returned with a smaller one.

"Maybe this is better," he said, setting it before us. "It's not plated. Real sterling. See," and he turned the box upside down to point out the sterling mark. "Of course, I've got to ask more money for it. Twenty-five dollars instead of \$10."

It didn't take Jim long to make up his mind. In a matter of minutes we were sauntering out to the street when Jim immediately broke into a fast walk towards the end of the block.

A few minutes later he removed the box from his shopping bag and set it on the table between us.

It was about a foot long, nine or 10 inches wide and a little over six inches high. There were no maker's marks on the bottom, and here and there you could see where the silver had been rubbed or worn through to the copper underneath. So far as I was concerned, it was undoubtedly a fairly early electroplating job. Say about 1870.

RARE 3-CENT COINS FOUND IN PICTURE FRAME

"It wasn't wholly by accident that I got them," Cousin Sarah nodded toward the picture frame that contained the 25 nickel three-cent pieces put out from 1865 to 1889.

"Well," resumed Cousin Sarah, "when I picked this frame up at an auction to examine the picture I was so astonished at the heaviness that I couldn't account for it unless there was a lot of metal in it somewhere."

"Knowing that sometimes people conceal precious things in picture frames, I ran my fingers lightly over the canvas and detected here and there little depressions with something hard in them."

"That was enough for me. I thought sure that someone had hidden gold coins there, so when the bidding opened I promptly offered \$20."

"A dealer, thinking it might be a piece by some famous artist, ran it up to \$75 before he de-

"It's easy to see that you haven't paid much attention to the catalogue prices of the Third Reich stamps. Suppose you run through the catalogue," Jim said.

I opened the big book he handed me and spent a good 15 minutes going through it. When I had finished, I quietly picked up the torn pages I had rescued and dropped them back in the waste-basket.

Of the 55 different types of stamps put out by Germany under the Hitler regime, starting from the day back in 1932 when the Swastika was first used as a watermark on stamps, there were only 10 items with a catalogue value of 75 cents or better.

Under the circumstances, it didn't seem worthwhile to both- er with the most valuable—a 25 pfennig, ultramarine blue num- ber with a bust of Hindenburg on it, listed as worth all of \$2.75.

When I said so, Jim merely smiled.

"That's what the proprietor thought," he said, "but actually this is an excellent example of genuine Sheffield plate of about 1810 to 1915, an art which died with electroplating's advent in the 1840's."

I wanted to know how he could tell, since there wasn't a maker's mark on it. The answer was surprisingly simple: (1) About 85 per cent of the Sheffield plate makers omitted marks primarily as a means of avoiding trouble with the silversmiths who resented their competition.

(2) About 1785, some plate makers began using solid silver for the edges where the greatest wear occurs. (3) About 1810, when plate was becoming fashionable among the nobility, the makers began letting in a solid silver shield for monograms, because if they had engraved on the plated area they would have cut through to the copper.

"The moisture from your breath lets you see the solid silver shield and makes the silver edges look like seams against the plate," Jim said.

And then, patting the box lightly on the lid, "I tried to buy one something like this last year, but the owner rightly wanted \$150 for it, which wasn't a bad price even at that."

cided that I was just bidding for sentimental reasons, or because I had been carried away by the excitement of the auction."

"But it was such an awful let-down to find they were only three-cent pieces, and not even silver ones at that," she said.

"You got a picture you liked and these coins must be worth quite a bit. They seem to be in excellent shape," I told her.

"They must certainly be," Cousin Sarah replied. "As a matter of fact, it is an excellent collection. Why, the 1877 piece is worth \$75 by itself, and I have a standing offer of \$350 for the collection any day I want to sell it. But just think! Suppose they had been \$5 gold pieces!"

And Cousin Sarah began to fan herself vigorously, beating the air as if to retaliate on fate for not having done her a good enough turn.

(Released by McClure Newspaper Syndicate)

LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS
Sealed bids endorsed "Proposal for the Installation of a Six (6) inch Cast Iron Water Main on Jackson Street from Genesee Street to Hawthorne Street, in the City of Medford, Oregon," will be received by the City Council of the City of Medford, Oregon, at the office of the Superintendent of the Board of Water Commissioners, City Hall, Medford, Oregon, until 10:00 A.M. on the sixth day of June, 1935, and will then be publicly opened and read.

The work for which proposals are invited will be paid by Improvement Fund Warrants from assessments to be levied upon the property benefited by such work and by Water Commission Warrants as set forth in Section 48 of the "General Provisions".

The work includes the following: FURNISHINGS AND INSTALLING Approximately 315 linear feet Excavation & Backfill

Approximately 315 linear feet 6" Cast Iron Pipe
Approximately 1 only 6" Gate Valves with Valve Boxes
Approximately 1 only 6" Cast Iron Plug

Plans and Specifications may be obtained at the Water Commission Office in the City Hall at Medford, Oregon, upon the deposit of Ten (10) Dollars, which sum so deposited will be refunded if said Plans and Specifications are returned in good condition within fifteen (15) days after the opening of bids.

The necessary cast iron pipe, valves and fittings may be purchased from the Board of Water Commissioners at their shop on Fir and Jackson Streets.

The right is reserved to reject any or all proposals and to accept such proposals as are to the best interest of the City.

Dated this 13th day of May, 1935.
CITY OF MEDFORD, OREGON
By Robert A. Duff, Superintendent
Board of Water Commissioners

LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE OF MEETING OF GROWERS OF FALL AND WINTER PEARS FOR ELECTION OF NOMINEES FOR MEMBER, ALTERNATE MEMBER AND SECOND ALTERNATE MEMBER OF THE WINTER PEAR CONTROL COMMITTEE, PURSUANT TO THE MARKETING AGREEMENT AND ORDER AS AMENDED REGULATING THE HANDLING OF THE BEURRE D'ANJOU, BEURRE BOSCH, WINTER NEELS, DOYENNE D'ESPERANCE, BEURRE EASTER, AND BEURRE CLAIRGEAU VARIETIES OF PEARS GROWN IN THE STATES OF OREGON, WASHINGTON, AND CALIFORNIA.

TO ALL GROWERS OF FALL OR WINTER PEARS IN THE MEDFORD DISTRICT:

TAKE NOTICE that a meeting of growers of pears in the above named District, for the purpose of electing two nominees for a grower member, two nominees for an alternate grower member, and two nominees for a second alternate grower member of the Control Committee, pursuant to the provisions of the above named Marketing Agreement and Order as amended regulating the handling of the Beurre d'Anjou, Beurre Bosch, Winter Neels, Doyenne du Comice, Beurre Easter, and Beurre Clairgeau varieties of pears grown in the states of Oregon, Washington, and California, executed by the Secretary of Agriculture of the United States and now in effect, will be held at 1:30 o'clock p.m. on the 20th day of May, 1935, at 303 West 5th St., in the City of Medford, County of Jackson, State of Oregon.

Each grower of pears of the above named District will be entitled to attend and participate in said meeting and election.

R. A. Patterson, Manager
Winter Pear Control Committee
302 Woodlark Building
Portland 5, Oregon
DATED: May 11, 1935.

William J. Beal, early agricultural scientist at Michigan State college, was the first to cross-fertilize corn, ushering in hybrid corn.

They'll Do It Every Time

By Jimmy Hatlo

GLIBLIP, THE POLITICAL OFFICE-SEEKER, PROMISES TO CLEAN UP THE CITY IN TEN DAYS...

BUT TAKE A GANDER AT HIS OWN DIGGINGS WHICH HE HASN'T CLEANED UP IN TWENTY YEARS...



SCIENCE AT WORK

By DELOS SMITH
United Press Science Editor

New York — (U.P.) — When the patient said he had an identical twin who was in excellent health, A. G. Beckett, a British physician, embarked on a new phase in the study of muscular dystrophy.

The 45-year-old farm laborer before him was in the advanced stage of this terrible, wasting disease for which there now is no cure.

For almost 100 years science has regarded it as a hereditary disease. Therefore, if one of identical twins was so far gone as this one was, the other should be far gone, too—since the inheritance of identical twins is identical.

Beckett went out looking for the other twin. Just as his physically helpless brother had said, he seemed in perfect health, working daily on the farm and complaining about little, certainly not about his muscles.

Yet his appearance of health had to be deceptive—otherwise the long-accepted hereditary the-

ory of muscular dystrophy would be in for a very rough challenge.

Only Legs Affected
Beckett got the man's clothes off and went over him, and found out that the theoretically impossible still was impossible. The man was not perfectly healthy—he had muscular dystrophy.

It was in his legs, just as it was in his helpless brother's legs. But it was only in his legs; his brother's shoulders and arms were wasted, as well as his legs.

The challenge to the theory still existed—because if their inheritance was identical, then how come one twin had been hit so hard and the other had been hit so lightly he didn't know he was hit?

Beckett's first suspicion was that they might not be identical, but fraternal twins, in which case their inheritances could vary as much as do the inheritances of single-birth brothers and sisters.

Checking into that possibility, he found that as children they

had been indistinguishable. Even as 45-year-old men, their heights varied only a half inch, their skull measurements by only a quarter of an inch and both had the same hair and eye color.

He compared their blood types, and found them identical—not only for the main groups of blood constituents but for the sub-groups of those groups. Even more striking were their fingerprints—which are not identical even in identical twins. But in these twins, twin A had the ulnar loop on all fingers except the left forefinger, which had the radial loop; and twin B had the ulnar loop on all fingers except the left forefinger, which had the radial loop.

Beckett was forced to believe that they were identical twins all right. One more possibility remained. The literature—which is what doctors call the accumulated knowledge of the ages about any given subject—contained a few suggestions that environmental stress might influence the severity of the disease.

He found that the brothers had

Sunday, May 13, 1935

MEDFORD (OREGON) MAIL TRIBUNE—NINE

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

By HARMAN W. NICHOLS
United Press Feature Writer

Washington — (U.P.) — There doesn't seem to be any sense in making a family car that will go 120 miles an hour when there's no public highway in the country that can handle much more than half that speed in safety.

At least that is the thinking of Andrew J. Sordani, the new president of the American Automobile Association.

"We have cars that will go 120 miles an hour," he said in an interview. "But where are they going while going? They are going to the court house to answer a charge or maybe to meet their maker."

Not For Speed
A car today with 200-300 horsepower working for it is fine, according to the new leader of the AAA. But, he warns that the power is not for speed alone; mostly for performance on the road.

"It is for the abusers, not the common users that get in trouble," he warned.

Sordani reminded that last year 36,300 persons lost their lives on the nation's highways. Another 1,250,000 were hurt, some of them maimed for life.

"Statistics don't mean very much, unless you analyze them," the AAA leader said. "What you have to remember is that accidents occur more frequently in winter. A lot of people don't realize that. But driving condi-

tions are worse in icy weather."

been born and brought up on a farm and had been farm laborers all their lives. Nothing had happened to one that hadn't happened to the other.

Muscular dystrophy is puzzling enough without another puzzling aspect being added. However, Beckett was forced to end his report in the British Medical Journal with this sentence: "No explanation can be given."

tions are worse in icy weather."

Foreign Clubs
I fell to talking with Sordani while a group of foreign automobile clubs were in our town.

Comte H. de Liedekerke Beaufort presently is the head of the oldest auto club in the world. There are no speed limits, hardly, in most of Southern France, according to the man with the long name.

"It is no use," he said, "you can't go too fast, anyhow."

Incidentally on some of the

Veterans Officials

Back From Conference

Charles Holbrook, county veterans service officer, and Eugene K. Ricker, manager of the Veterans Administration Dormitory at Camp White, returned last week from Portland where they attended the 16th semi-annual conference for county service officers.

Discussions covered various phases of veterans service work, Holbrook reported, with talks by experts in the fields.

main streets in Paris the people walk in the streets and the little Renaults and other midget cars run along the sidewalks. It's safer that way, all around.

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A NEW "NO-SHRINK" DRAPE CLEANING SERVICE!



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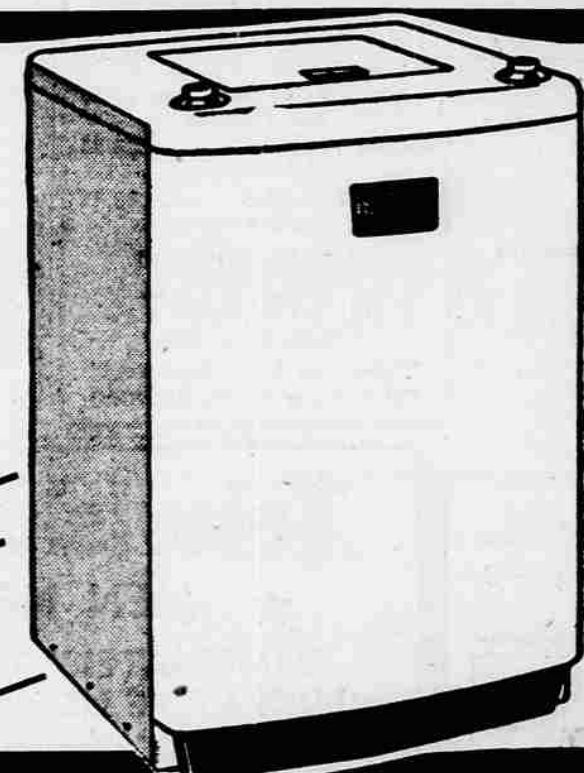
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