

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

By HARMAN W. NICHOLS
United Press Feature Writer

Washington — (U.P.) — I will have you know I am a member in good standing of a society called "Les Amis d'Escoffier."



Harman Nichols

I never met August Escoffier, the famous French chef who was born in 1846 and went to his reward in 1935. But we were kin of a sort. He loved to cook and I always have loved to stuff my middle with rich foods.

"Les Amis d'Escoffier." In case you aren't up on your high school French, means "The Friends of Escoffier." Once a year, in many cities of the world, hotel managers and chefs fight to see what fine meals they can put out in honor of the granddaddy of the meat, sauce and ladle trade.

Nobody ever wins, but every hotel manager in active membership puts a burr under his head to see that there is a lot of good stuff under the glass and fluid flowing without interruption into glassware of various size. Wine, mostly.

First one of these things I ever attended was in Minneapolis, Minn. I believe that Cedric Adams, a columnist for the Register and Tribune papers, and I were the first newspapermen ever to tuck a bib with the high and mighty of the society.

Huge Bibs
There we sat, Ced and I, feeling a little silly in bibs four feet square, and with nothing to do but eat through course after course of fattening stuff for four whole hours.

There were no speeches at these gatherings at the grub board, and there are no speeches now, either. Everybody is supposed to dip the proper fork into each new dish that comes along and bow a head in memory of the famous Frenchman.

That night back there in 1936, I think it was, wound up with the wealthy hotel managers gathered around a crap table and beginning a simple little crap game at \$1000 a lick. Cedric and I left.

Well, a recent one of these annual affairs was held at the Sheraton Carlton Hotel here.

The menu started out the same—all guests are equal. It said at the beginning that "There will be no guest of honor. Members

and guests will sit where they please ... napkin must be tucked in the collar ... smoking forbidden up to the time dessert is served. A person who smokes while eating does not deserve the title of 'gourmet'."

The Food
The menu—as much of it as time allows:

"La tortue verte amontillado" green turtle consommé perfumed with the finest sherry. "Les filets de sole de la manche nantua" — fillet of English sole, with rich cream sauce, completed with crawfish and sliced truffles. "La mignonette d'agneau Escoffier" — scalloped saddle of spring lamb. "Les pommes noisette rissolées" — small parisienne potatoes browned in butter. "Les fonds d'artichaud clamart" — artichoke heart filled with puree of green peas. "Le sorbette d'ananas au kirsch" — pineapple sherbet.

After that, we got down to eating. Quail, with a French name. Wild rice, and plain old buttered string beans. And there then came a spice bear, with a fancy name followed by imported goose liver in puree, perfumed by port and served in jelly, topped off with a soufflé flavored with grand mariner.

Finally—cigars.
Hungry?

TV Industry Grosses \$593,000,000 In '54

Washington—(U.P.)—The television industry grossed \$593,000,000 in 1954, far surpassing what radio realized in its richest year.

The Federal Communications commission reported Friday that television's gross revenues rose 37 per cent during the year, the commission said, while radio's total income dropped by five per cent to \$149,000,000.

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TABLE ROCK Fire Causes Excitement

By R. E. NEALON

Table Rock — Fire caused by a spark from a wood furnace igniting a cloth in the furnace room at the Dick Reum home last Monday forenoon brought a truck from the Central Point Rural Fire department, and caused quite a little excitement for the occupants, Mrs. Reum and her two small children.

The hopper of the furnace had been filled with wood, and Mrs. Reum and the children were getting ready to leave for Medford, when a noise in the back part of the house caused her to open the door to the furnace room, which she found full of smoke and fire. Quickly closing the door, she called the fire department and then got word to the Copco crew, which were working some distance down the road, who came on the double, putting out the fire in a matter of seconds with fire extinguishers which they carry as part of their equipment. The Reum's feel deeply indebted to the Copco crew as they believe that without their help the house and contents would have been destroyed.

Mrs. Robert Dunn returned Monday from the Sacred Heart hospital where she underwent major surgery Nov. 25. She and her husband and young son Gerold are now at the home of Dunn's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Dunn, Central Point.

Elgin Robinson, youngest son of Mr. and Mrs. E. E. Robinson, has enlisted in the U.S. Marines and is now undergoing training in the Marine camp near San Diego.

Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Smith of Phoenix were here several days last week, keeping the wheels turning, the cows mooing, and the hens cackling, at the Everett Brown farm, while the Browns were vacationing in California.

Among Thanksgiving holiday visitors here with relatives were Earl Edmonds and son Lonnie of Walnut Creek, Calif.; Mrs. Margaret Williams, Mr. and Mrs. John Dodge and three grandchildren of Medford; Robert and Refa Narramore of Klamath Falls, Mr. and Mrs. James Lewis and daughter Jan of Forest Grove; Mr. and Mrs. Robert Dunn and young son of Central Point; and 28 members of the Bigham clan, with six friends from various points in the valley.

Orville Hamilton, manager of the Modoc Orchard, is attending the annual meeting of Oregon Horticulturists at Corvallis and later expects to attend the Horticultural meeting for the state of Washington to be held at Wenatchee.

The Walter Miller pet sheep, "Nobel," a columbia and suffolk cross, sheared 32 pounds of wool at last spring's shearing, according to Walter, who manipulated the shears and claims he wasn't trying to increase the wool surplus but there was nothing he could do about it.

Prices of livestock are still on the downward trend, weaner pigs at a recent session of the Mid-Way Auction yard brought from \$1.50 to \$6 and 100 spring lambs loaded on trucks for the Red Bluff market Saturday at the J. L. Nealon yards brought 16 cents or less than half the 36 cent price for top lambs a few years ago at the San Francisco market.

Wool prices have been stabilized somewhat by a sort of Government subsidy, otherwise wool prices would be down to 15 cents, according to many sheep men. This reminds us of when wool prices went close to the zero mark back when Grover Cleveland was president. At that time, as now, men went from farm to farm shearing the farmers' flocks, at that time for 10 cents a head. We remember one of our neighbors, who was a Republican, saying that the shearers who voted for Cleveland stood the sheep on their heads while clipping the wool as they were ashamed to look them in the face.

Stanley Doty, of Carson City, Nev., arrived here Saturday evening and left Sunday morning, taking with him his mother, Mrs. Arthur Doty, who has been bothered for some time with foot trouble. She will stay at the home of her son and daughter-in-law until she recovers in health. One word left out of our last item made it appear that a Sams Valley Sunday school had voted to donate \$4 a week to the American S. S. Union when it should have been the local Table Rock S. S. Ernest Hamilton, who has spent the past few months at the George Joseph Orchards at Yakima, Wash., returned last week and is now helping with the pruning operations at Modoc Orchard.

According to a recent communication in the M.T. the location of the Lost Cabin Mine was known,

and much gold taken from it. We remember several parties back in the early 90's that went in search of the mine, but returned empty-handed. In checking with old-timers we have not met up with anyone who thinks the mine was ever re-discovered.

Ezra Benson has figured out that the nation's farmers are in good shape because their assets are good and their land values higher. Much of the raise in farm land values has been brought about by people in other businesses wanting to live in the country, farmers selling off home sites, and persons paying high income taxes, who buy and operate farms to lose money and in that way get a little better set up with the revenue collector, and the later land appraisals by the assessors. The farmers' assets and higher land values reminds us of the man who came each week in a six-cylinder car to the commissary to get groceries back in the depression days. A six-cylinder car was some car those days, so in answer to a taxpayer's complaint, we agreed to investigate. We found the man had a wife and several small children, living in the hills, with no job or any prospect of one, and about the only asset was the six-cylinder car, which they couldn't eat or at that time sell at any price.

The Robert Sage family were Thanksgiving Day dinner guests at the Donald Richardson home in Portland, remaining there until Saturday morning.

The annual Thanksgiving dinner held at the schoolhouse was fairly well attended, but several local folks and some other out-of-the-district residents that usually attend the festivities were missing.

Mr. and Mrs. Ray Bosworth left Tuesday for California points where they will spend some time vacationing and visiting relatives. They expect to be gone about two weeks.

The Clarence Buck cattle

Three Teenagers Dead Police Pick up Trail Of Missing Woman

Enfield, N.C.—(U.P.)—Three teenagers on a double date were killed and another injured critically Friday night when a freight train plowed into a new Buick at a crossing here and knocked it into the path of an oncoming passenger train.

The only survivor, Rachel Mullen, 17, was thrown from the car upon the first impact. She was found later lying unconscious in a ditch.

The bodies of Benton Moss, 16, of Enfield and Miss Freddie Stroudan, 17, were pinned in the car and were burned beyond recognition.

Bobby Davis, 15, was thrown from the car under the wheels of the train.

Bandon — (U.P.)—Police Friday picked up the trail of a 74-year-old woman missing since last Sunday.

The trail of Mrs. Lily Downey of Nebraska, instead of leading through dense underbrush south of here where she was at first believed to have wandered off the road, led instead through Greyhound bus depots.

A bus driver told police that the woman boarded his bus here at 3:09 a.m. Monday and rode to Coos Bay, en route to either Portland or Eugene.

The woman had been seen walking several miles south of here Sunday night, apparently trying to locate the home of rela-

tives. Authorities at first feared she had wandered off the road and become lost. Air and ground search parties had been organized to hunt for her.

Mrs. Downey came here to visit a brother, William Snyder.

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