

Buried Treasure

by Pinkney Gage



Shaving Mug Catalogues Rate Undertakers at Top

It looked like either a shaving mug or a coffee cup of extra heavy crockery. I couldn't tell which it might be because someone had melted wax into it until the stuff had overflowed, caking on the sides and completely covering the design that might be there.

Anyway, I dropped it into the box of odds and ends of tableware I had selected and paid the \$1.50 asked.

I knew it was a long shot, of course, but somehow or other I felt lucky. It didn't take long to get the wax off. Thanks to plenty of hot water and elbow grease, the design quickly came into view. It was arresting, to say the least.

The piece was a shaving mug and one of the occupational type. It had belonged to a Timothy Deep, Undertaker, as it said in letters of burnished gold, glittering in Old English script below the rim of the cup.

And just in case any who saw the cup were unable to read, there was a picture of Mr. Deep in top hat and frock coat, standing solemnly midway between his hearse and a coffin.

I can't say I was immediately overwhelmed with pleasure at the sight of the piece. It seemed somewhat too lugubrious. But there was no reason to feel that way for very long. A glance at a catalogue on shaving mugs that I had saved some months before showed those for undertakers ranked at the top of the list, right along with those put out featuring card players, glass blowers and justices of the peace. In other words, my find should command a price of better than \$25.

It did, too. I had no difficulty at all in getting rid of it for \$40.

VALUABLE GRAND TURK STAMP EXPENSIVE BOOK MARK

We were lying at anchor in Miami discussing traditions of the sea when Captain Henry called me to the bridge.

"I'll show you one," he said. "We call it boxing the compass." For such a custom, otherwise known as splicing the main brace, to become a tradition is as inevitable as evolution.

"Happy days," the captain said, tossing off a jigger of rum. I followed suit in as nautical a manner as possible and set the glass down on his desk beside a thick leather-bound volume.

The book, I noticed, bore the imposing title of "Bowditch's New American Practical Navigator."

I spotted the corner of an envelope sticking out of the book. I couldn't help noticing it carried a violet colored stamp bearing the likeness of Queen Victoria.

The envelope, addressed in a feminine hand, was postmarked in 1874 from a town with the name of Grand Turk.

"It's a letter my grandmother sent my grandfather," the captain said as I expressed my doubt of there being a city with the improbable name of Grand Turk. "She came from the Turks Islands in the Bahamas. Grand Turk's the capital. The name comes from a type of cactus that grows there."

The stamp, of one shilling denomination, was not heavily cancelled. I asked if he knew what it was worth, looking again at the words TURKS ISLAND over the queen's picture.

"Sure I do," he said. "Just the stamp, used, is worth \$350, but on an envelope like that it would probably bring \$400."

"It's been there 50 years I know of," he replied, "and far as I'm concerned, it'll be there 30 more."

1873 SILVER DOLLAR WORTH SEVERAL THOUSAND

If you ever come across an 1873 silver dollar carrying an S on the reverse side below the eagle—that's the San Francisco mint mark—you will have one of the most valuable coins in the world.

This is true despite the fact that some major catalogues list it as worth from only \$35 to \$100. Actually, what you should get for it is at least several thousand.

The reason is that though mint records show that 700 of these coins were struck, and one was reserved for assay purposes, none are known to be in existence today.

As a result, three of the five leading catalogues in the country do not even suggest a price for it.

We can gain some idea of its value, however, by the price which the 1804 silver dollar commands.

Of the 19,570 cartwheels made in that year, six are known to be in the hands of collectors today.

lectors today, the prices paid for them ranging from a low of \$5,000 to a top of \$12,500. And even the seven re-strikes of the 1804 coin—pieces struck from the original dies but in a later year—bring around \$3,000 each.

In view of the value placed on the 1804 dollar, it is obvious that anyone finding an 1873 issue with the S on the reverse should have no difficulty in getting five figures for it.

Even if the condition might happen to be poor, so long as the piece is identifiable, the owner should have no difficulty in getting a top price.

In finding such a coin, or another of somewhat comparable rarity, he should immediately have it photographed on both sides, put it in his safety deposit box, and then send out copies of the prints to leading coin dealers. In that way he will assure himself of a top market.

(Released by McClure Newspaper Syndicate)

Distributing Plant Construction Started Recently by Standard

Construction of a new, expanded wholesale distributing plant for Standard Oil company of California began recently.

The new plant at Voorhies crossing about two miles south of Medford will include storage tanks, warehouse, loading ramp, garage and office buildings. Cost of the project has not yet been announced.

Reasons for Plant

Expanded population and growth of industry in the valley, resulting in a larger demand for petroleum products is the primary reason for the move, according to W. D. Hallenback, local company manager.

Thirteen storage tanks at the new plant having a capacity of 500,000 gallons, an increase of about 50,000 gallons over present facilities, will be used to store 12 different petroleum products.

A modern, 20 by 40 foot office building will have outside wood paneling, and one wall, facing the warehouse, of glass. The office building will be finished inside with sound resistant fiber board and partitions will be of translucent glass.

Warehouse Construction

The 60 by 120 foot warehouse constructed of concrete and steel, will have translucent glass paneling in the roof to aid lighting. A modern loading ramp, 12 by 120 feet, running along one side of the warehouse, will have latest safety features and will enable the company to load trucks at the rate of 150 to 300 gallons per minute. Hallenback said. The garage will be capable of housing five tank trucks.

The new plant will also have a public address system and modern, mechanized barrel handling and cleaning facilities.

On The Side

By E. V. Durling

In a little lump of sugar. How much of sweetness lies. And as within the little rose You find the richest dyes. And in a little grain of gold Much price and value lies. So in a little woman There's a touch of paradise.

JUAN RUIZ DE HITA.

Was it the Governor of North Carolina or the Governor of South Carolina who complained: "it's a long time between drinks" Anyway, the time between drinks should be 30 minutes. Otherwise the drinkers are likely to become inebriated and endanger the peace of the party.

Also, when driving their automobiles home they will endanger their own lives and those of the general public. More automobile accidents are caused by persons driving home from cocktail bars or parties than in any other way. Incidentally, female drinkers should be limited to two cocktails. Hardly a woman is now alive who can consume three cocktails in a row and remain normal.

Grange

Phoenix Grange

Phoenix Grange met Dec. 13. Lecturer Dee Hendrickson presided in the absence of Master Melvin Lattie.

Election of state officers was held.

Home Economics Chairman Velma Johnson announced the next HEC meeting will be Wednesday, Dec. 21, at the home of Mrs. Olin Poe, and not at the home of Mrs. Mervin Hixon as previously planned. Mrs. Hixon will be co-hostess. There will be a potluck dinner at 12:30 p.m. Those attending please bring a salad or dessert and their own table service, also a gift for exchange. New HEC officers will be installed.

Asking

Queries from clients. Q. Did you once refer to a man who had managed to get 1,000 shaves from one safety razor blade? A. Can't remember so doing. However, a Brooklynite named Fred Pjerou is said to have managed to get 971 good shaves from one safety razor blade for which he paid one cent. . . . Q. Is the name of that university in South Bend, Ind., properly pronounced "Notre Dame" or "Notre Dahm"? A. That is a disputed question. The faculty, students and alumni pronounced it "Notre Dame." Nevertheless, many people insist it should be pronounced "Notre Dahm."

Sidelights

The reason so many women have difficulty in parking automobiles is because they have difficulty in turning around to look backward as their clothes are too tight, especially their girdles.

Almost Confidential

The reason so many men get such poor shaves is because they are in too much of a hurry. It is the preparation for the shave that counts. At least three minutes should be spent in softening the beard. . . . Know anybody who collects postmarks from quaint places? Has he the following combination of postmark? Ace, Tex.; King, N.C.; Queen, Pa.; Jack, Ala.; Joker, W. Va.

Brevity

Women who have the gift of brevity in either speaking or writing are rare. Among the exceptions to this rule is the feminine advertising writer who penned the following: "Our foundations will flatten your tummy, round your rear and snip down your hips."

British Press Sees U.S. Defeat in U.N.

London — (U.P.) — The British press Friday interpreted Wednesday's Russian turnabout on U.N. memberships as a major diplomatic defeat for the United States.

"The unhappy Mr. Henry Cabot Lodge is trying to snatch a little prestige for the West out of the Russians' brilliant diplomatic victory," the Manchester Guardian said.

"The United States has suffered an unmitigated diplomatic defeat in its unwavering support of Chiang Kai-shek."

"Japan's banishment will be costly to the West."

The Times of London agreed that "Nationalist China's reckless gesture" had injured U. S. prestige.

"The United States is now in an awkward position because of its special relationship with Japan," the Times said.

"There is no denying that Japan would be a member of the United Nations today had Washington been able to control its most fractious ally."

"Russia may be trusted to make the most of the general feeling in favor of ousting Formosa at an early date in favor of the mainland of China."

"Russia is also likely to use the impending discussion of Japan as a lever in this matter, for it can thus bring pressure to bear upon the United States."

Institutions Willed Martin Estate Money

Baltimore — (U.P.) — The University of Maryland and other institutions will receive about \$3,635,000 under the will of the late Glenn L. Martin, pioneer aviator and aircraft builder who died Dec. 4.

Martin's will was probated in Orphan's Court Thursday. He left \$2,000,000 to the University for establishment of the Minta Martin Aeronautical Research Foundation, it was disclosed. This was in addition to an earlier grant for the foundation, which honors his mother.

Among \$100,000 beneficiaries was the Hoag Memorial Hospital at Newport Beach, Calif.

Among colleges and universities each granted \$100,000 were the University of Southern California.

The largest personal gifts were a \$50,000 trust for Martin's sister, Della Martin, South San Gabriel, Calif., and \$50,000 to Carl Plummer, Chestertown, a Martin employee.

Martin was head of the Glenn L. Martin company, a large Baltimore aircraft building firm.

Dr. Roberts Elected Medical Group Head

Dr. Alvin Roberts of Central Point was elected president of the Jackson County Medical society at a meeting at the Rogue Valley Country club recently. He succeeds Dr. Fred Lorish, Medford.

Dr. C. I. Drummond of Medford was elected vice-president. A film on cancer, loaned by the American Cancer society, was shown. Dr. Charles W. Lemery and Dr. A. J. Loeffler were hosts at the meeting.

Sensational Report On American Problems, 'Confidential File,' Begins On KBES-TV

"CONFIDENTIAL FILE is, let's face it, fairly sensational stuff—the narcotics problem, charity rackets, the aftermath of punch-drunk fighters being a sample of the topics they tackle on it—but it's the most respectable operation to bear the 'confidential' label to come along. And it packs an awful wallop."

This was John Crosby, the nation's best-known TV critic, writing in the New York Herald Tribune on May 8, 1955.

Crosby was writing about a program which has already taken over 50 cities in the United States by storm. CONFIDENTIAL FILE is a behind-the-scenes report — A TRUE REPORT — on America, with candid close-ups of its manners and morals, and its virtues and vices. IT IS NOT FICTION. IT IS FACT, and in it actual people—narcotics victims, criminals, prizefighters, Tennessee moonshiners—actually appear.

CONFIDENTIAL FILE begins on KBES-TV Tuesday evening, December 20, at 8:30 p.m., sponsored by Crater Lake Motors as a public service.

The program is a unique combination of off-the-cuff interviews, on-the-spot films, documentary reporting, and behind-the-scenes demonstrations. Its educational value is so great, that in many areas schools and civic groups ask to have prints of the films to show students and civic leaders. At the same time, much of its material is so sensational by its nature, and treated so frankly, that it has aroused some controversy.

Not all of the programs are as grim as the show on narcotics, or the one on child brides. Some — "Tennessee Moonshiners" and "Bourbon Street"—a look at the street in New Orleans where jazz music was born—are much lighter. But many of the programs, such as the opening show, "Sleeping Pill Addicts"—point up serious problems of American life in a way in which you have never seen them treated.

Don't miss CONFIDENTIAL FILE, beginning on KBES-TV Tuesday evening, December 20, at 8:30 p.m. The show is sponsored by Crater Lake Motors, your Medford Ford dealer, as a public service.—adv.

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