



Spring Winds Put Thousands of Kites Aloft; Two Crossed Sticks Most Popular

By EVERETT R. IRWIN
United Press Correspondent

Chicago—(U.P.)—Spring is well along today and there's a sort of relaxed, familiar look to the lower levels of the jet-furrowed skies.

Kites, thousands of the gaudy things, each attaching a little chunk of sky to a small boy or a small girl, are floating in the winds blowing up from the South.

And, too, jobbers, parents and kids agree, these kites sort of represent a setback to all this talk about the jet age being here. Most of them, and the biggest sellers this year, are just the plain old two crossed sticks and paper type. They sell for 10 to 35 cents and nearly any piggy bank can produce what's needed.

Shaped Like Parachute

Of course, there are newer ones, too, like the rhumba kite. An ultra-modern job of vinyl plastic and shaped like a parachute, it cost more and rhumbas, naturally according to my well-informed source. That's my nine-year-old, Linda. She wants a rhumba.

"It's amazing," said Ira Singer, owner of the United Notion Supply Company. "The demand for kites is just as big today as it was when my father started selling them 35 years ago. Millions are sold every year in Chicago alone."

Kite flying is no Johnny-come-lately. Tradition has it that Archytas of Tarentum invented the pastime four centuries before Christ.

Koreans attribute the first kite to a general who sent up a crude "dragon" with a lantern attached. His soldiers, thinking the flickering light was a heavenly omen, charged the enemy and won the battle, "tis said.

Kites Flown in Asia

Most Asiatic peoples have flown kites since time immemorial. Moors attached religious significance to them. Some Asiatics still keep whining, "musical" kites flying over their homes nightlong to frighten away evil spirits.

In 1752 Ben Franklin experimented and... but every schoolboy knows what Ben found out. Capt. B.F.S. Baden-Powell of the Scots Guards successfully lifted a man with a 36-foot kite in 1894.

Over West Virginia in 1910, a train of ten kites climbed to a height of four and a half miles. And in 1929 kites turned loose in Chicago pulled heavy logs across Lake Michigan to Saugatuck, Mich., in 12 days.

Kite Flying Record

That was the year that John Garmon and Trueman Diem, who didn't believe in flagpole sitting, set a new world's record by keeping their kite "Old Glory" in the sky over New Hol-

land, Pa., for 71 hours and 13 minutes.

Only last year, 10-year-old Dave Keddie of Chicago made kite history. A police squad made him pull in his kite.

"It's a menace to aviation," they chided. "Planes are flying under it."

Davy reeled in 16,000 feet of twine.

Is That So?

Tokyo, with Japan Air Lines—This is Japan.

Roaming about shrines and temples in Nara Park are some 150 tame deer. They go about unmolested, revered as divine messengers. If ever animals begged for food, these creatures with their soft eyes seem, to implore handouts. For a rare treat, time yourself to be in the park towards sundown. A trumpeter comes out then to summon them—and when he plays they hurry to the pens in groups.

Every year, come the middle of October, the antlers of these deer are cut, the occasion being

By EUGENE BURNS
Ranger-Naturalist

year to blossom are the single white and pink cherry trees. After the single blossoms, the doubles bloom—the blossoms lasting about two weeks. Japanese cherry trees, incidentally, do not bear fruit. Their single mission in life is to be beautiful and that's ample.

When a person dies the body is always laid out with the head toward the north. Therefore, people when sleeping avoid getting into that head-to-the-north position presumably for fear that they may die in their sleep.

In summer men as well as women carry fans—and use 'em.

A spider appearing in the house in the morning is a good luck omen.

Instead of "hurrah," Japanese say, "banzai." "Banzai" means 10,000 and "sai" or "zai" means years. Hence 10,000 years! If you really want to make it stick, say: "Ban-banzai." That's good for ten times 10,000!

A big bamboo cage full of birds is often carried behind the coffin. These birds are set free after the burial presumably in the belief that the kind act of freeing the birds may release the departed soul from an eternity in hell.

At a wedding dinner, seabream, a red fish, must be served each guest whole—to cut the fish is ominous of incompleteness, separation.

In posing for a picture in the U.S., a person usually smiles; in Japan he looks dead serious.

Since olden times hawks have been trained to retrieve birds for their trainer—even such large ones as cranes, the symbol, incidentally, of Japan Air Lines.

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something of a festival. To the animal, of course, there is no pain—any more than getting your hair or your fingernails trimmed.

One of the thousand kinds of silk producing moths exudes a natural green-tinted silk. This silk is prized and used mainly for embroidery.

Among the climatic disasters to which Japan is prey typhoons are the No. 1 killer. During 1954's two-month season, August and September five typhoons in a row smashed into the Japanese Islands. They left behind 1,508 persons killed, 506 injured, 2,221 houses destroyed and more than 1,000 vessels either sunk or washed away. The greatest single loss of life was sustained when a ferry boat capsize with a loss of over 1,000.

Differ from Real Pearls

The cultured pearls of Japan differ from real pearls in only one way—the center. In real pearls some irritant, perhaps a grain of sand, is the nucleus; in artificial pearls, tiny pearl-like irritants are introduced by man and upon this the oyster deposits its layer upon layer of nacre—or pearl.

What every Boy Scout should know: rice, when cooked, expands about 300 per cent.

Among the first trees of the

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Vatican City—Pope Pius XII in a first public reference to Russia's new anti-Stalin campaign:

"The enemy of peace... today exalts his myths, tomorrow derides them... today announces a new system, to return tomorrow to the old."

Washington—Sen. Olin D. Johnson (D-S.C.) on President Eisenhower and the compromise omnibus farm bill:

"... If I were in his position, I'd want to do something for the farmers who are in such a desperate situation. I'd take that into consideration before I vetoed anything."

Springfield, Ill.—John Asher, Illinois Democratic state committeeman, on Adlai Stevenson running for president:

"... If we ran him again we would be making the same mistake the Republicans made in running Dewey twice."

Pittsburgh—Businessman T. J. O'Malley, who survived a TWA plane crash at Greater Pittsburgh airport which killed 21, on his experience:

"I had the feeling right after our wheels left the ground that something was wrong."

Citizens Who Suffered World II Property Loss Must File Claim Soon

Washington—(U.P.)—Unless thousands of American citizens who suffered World War II property losses act soon, they stand to lose some \$41,000,000. But apparently few of the legitimate claimants care.

The Foreign Settlement Commission says claims for war losses against Bulgaria, Hungary, Rumania and Italy must be filed with it before Sept. 30, 1956. Claims against the Soviet Union for losses before Nov. 16, 1933, must be filed before March 31, 1956.

Congress authorized the filing of these claims with Public Law 285, approved on Aug. 9, 1955. The five countries involved have set money aside to settle their old debts. The commission said, however, that Americans "have been slow in asserting their claims" and "unless they do so before the scheduled filing deadlines, the efforts of Congress to provide them some measure of compensation will be wasted."

Commission Chairman Whitney Gillilland said the commission has sent out more than 8,000 notices to the people who previously queried the State de-

Quotes From the News

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WHO'S CHICKEN?

Who makes or takes, A driving dare Is a chicken for sure And a "cluck" for fair. He has feathers for brains And he's ready to pluck—His friends should tell him He's crowding his luck!

"Careless driving is deadly KID STUFF"

Travelers To New York Will Find Tickets To Popular TV Shows Are Hard To Obtain

By WILLIAM EWALD
United Press Correspondent

New York—(U.P.)—If you're planning a trip here this spring, you can just about give up any notions of seeing Ed Sullivan, Perry Como or the Arthur Godfrey morning show. Tickets can't be had.

However, a letter to the networks right now will get you free seats to see Phil Silvers, Sid Caesar, Steve Allen, Garry Moore and both evening shows of Arthur Godfrey. In fact, TV tickets are available for just about everything except the few really "hot" shows and Charlie Chan movies.

CBS says Sullivan and Godfrey in the morning are booked up for the next six months. NBC isn't even accepting requests any more for the Como show this season.

Skipping around the networks, the ticket situation here breaks down like this:

Silvers' Available

CBS (485 Madison Ave.)—Godfrey tickets are available for his "Talent Scouts" and "Friends" shows. Talent Scouts is the easier ticket to get. Jackie Gleason is no longer shooting his "Honey-mooners" films, but Phil Silvers will continue shooting until the end of April. Some tickets are available for Silvers.

"What's My Line," "Beat the Clock," "I've Got a Secret" and "Two for the Money" are next most in demand, but can be had if you apply about one month in advance.

"The \$64,000 Question" is booked solidly four or five weeks ahead. This is the only show for which you must send a self-addressed envelope if you want

tickets.

NBC (30 Rockefeller Plaza)—after Como, Sid Caesar is most difficult. Five weeks wait for this one. There is also a long list of customers for Steve Allen's Friday night show. The other four "Tonight" shows are not difficult. About the only other difficult ticket here is "The Big Surprise," but a month's notice should suffice.

Hit Parade Out

There are no tickets available for "Your Hit Parade" because the show has no audience. (The applause and whistles are faked.) There are rarely any tickets to be had for spectaculars either.

ABC (7 West 66th St.)—"Super Circus" this season. Other tough tickets here are "Dollar a

GOP, Democrats Eye Wisconsin Primary

Washington—(U.P.)—Republicans and Democrats are set to watch Tuesday's Wisconsin primary as a test of Sen. Estes Kefauver's vote-pulling power against President Eisenhower and of farm sentiment toward the administration.

When the votes have been counted, both sides can argue about their meaning because of the currents and cross-currents involved.

On the Democratic side, Kefauver will pick up 28 national convention delegate votes without a contest. Mr. Eisenhower's slate of 30 state organization delegates is considered certain to win over one pledged to John B. Chapple, Ashland, Wis., editor.

4-H Club News

Gold Hill Sewing Club

The Flushing Seamstresses met March 30 in the Hanby School sewing room in Gold Hill. The meeting was called to order by president Dianne Jore. Flag salute was led by Jan Newland and the 4-H pledge by Bonnie Knapp. Roll call was answered by members naming their favorite flower.

The members voted that each member should bring a dime or needles, pines, measuring tapes or something for the 4-H work-box.

Refreshments were served by Vervia Beman. The meeting was then turned over to the leaders, Mrs. Al Beman and Mrs. John Jore.

Mrs. Ferd Jones was a visitor. Judith Force, Reporter.

Washington Residents Are Subject to Double Taxes

Salem—(U.P.)—Claims that several thousand persons living in Washington but working full time in Oregon were subject to "double taxation" were made at a meeting of the Legislative Interim Tax Study Committee here Saturday.

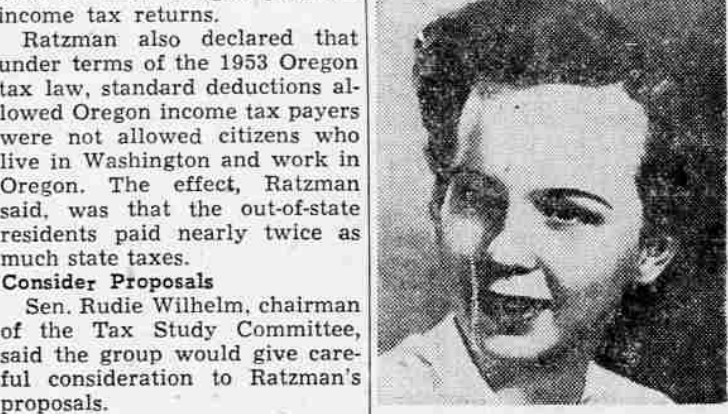
Dean Ratzman, an Interior Department employee who lives in Vancouver, Wash., and works in Portland, appealed to the tax group to consider an offset to Washington residents for estimated sales tax paid in that state on their Oregon personal income tax returns.

Ratzman also declared that under terms of the 1953 Oregon tax law, standard deductions allowed Oregon income tax payers were not allowed citizens who live in Washington and work in Oregon. The effect, Ratzman said, was that the out-of-state residents paid nearly twice as much state taxes.

Consider Proposals

Sen. Rudie Wilhelm, chairman of the Tax Study Committee, said the group would give careful consideration to Ratzman's proposals.

He said he was not too optimistic about working out a reciprocal agreement to offset the Washington sales tax, but said he thought out-of-state residents might be granted standard deduc-



MISSING—Mrs. Greta June Dicus, 20 (above), is object of search since discovery of body of her daughter, Shirley Ann, 3, in rockpile near Kansas City, Mo. Missing with the mother is another baby daughter, one-year-old Mozelle. The father, Lloyd A. Dicus, 31, former Texas convict, is being sought on first degree murder charge.

EARLY THUGS SURPRISED

Davenport, Ia.—(U.P.)—Two thieves tried to steal a march on police by robbing the safe of a store two days before its scheduled opening. Police also paid a surprise visit to the store and arrested the men who were working on the safe by candlelight.

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