

# Buried Treasure by Pinkney Gage

## 1942 Telegraph Stamp Found To Be Valuable

A friend of mine, who was working for Postal Telegraph when he got drafted in 1942, recently came across some stamps the company had given and which he had failed to use. Wisely, he decided to see if they had any value before disposing of them.

The stamps were the kind used in lieu of money for sending telegrams. They were pink in color and of five-cent denomination.

"I had five of them left," my friend said, "and when it came time to go overseas, I sent them along home with some other things."

It was easy enough to check their value. Scott's United Stamp Catalogue Specialized gave a full description of them, including a picture. Their value was given as \$5 each.

My friend was surprised. "Imagine these things being worth 30 bucks," he said, and then, "but if that's so, I wonder what the old one's worth!"

Actually it wasn't so old, though certainly interesting to look at.

It was a blue stamp with a number at the top, above a curlicued, late Victorian style nameplate carrying the company's name. Below that, occupying the balance of the space, was the following close-packed message:

"Good for one telegram of ten words to be transmitted subject to considerations agreed to by the user hereof. Void after 1908, Dec. 31st Clarence H. McKay, President."

I looked hastily at the description of the stamp in the catalogue and announced it was worth only \$3.50.

My friend looked disappointedly at the picture, comparing it with the stamp itself. "I don't suppose it makes any difference," he said presently, "but my stamp has the initials 'O.D.' at the top, and they don't show in the picture."

The initials did make a difference. The 'O.D.' stood for 'Old Dominion Steamship Co.,' a firm that bought plenty of the Postal Telegraph stamps—so many, in fact, that unused copies, like the one before us, have a catalogue value of \$60 each.

### BLUE AND WHITE MARBLE. GLASS RARE COMBINATION

Tiny rivulets of sweat ran down my chest, and I was glad to see that the half-gallon pitcher of lemonade before us was sweating, too. But a cold sweat, not a hot one. And I reached for the pitcher to pour myself another glass.

"I'll do the pouring, Pink. Don't touch it."

"Why?" I asked. "There's no reason to disturb yourself. I can handle it all right. It's merely lemonade."

"It's just a rule of the house," said Jennie. "No one touches that pitcher but the master. After all, he paid \$300 for it."

I asked why so much.

"Because the man I sold it to recognized me when I went to buy it back," Pete said.

His story was that back in 1937, when broke and living in a housekeeping room, he had decided the blue and white marble glass pitcher on his shelf might be worth something. He

looked it up in some reference works on glassware, discovering that even in those days it was worth around \$25.

"I had only two bucks," he said. "But I told the landlady I was responsible for that little nick you see in the rim and offered her a dollar in compensation. She told me I was a fool but took it."

"Within the hour I was \$15 richer, and from then on things rapidly got better for me."

"But how did the buyer happen to keep it for so long?" I asked.

"For one thing," Pete said, "he knew that blue and white marble glass is much rarer than any other combinations and always priced it high. It's actually worth about \$100 dollars now, but for years he was asking more than that. And he was smart, too, because when he saw me come back he knew I had a sentimental attachment to it and acted accordingly."

### MISNUMBERED PAGES PROOF OF EMERSON FIRST EDITION

The room had the musty smell of an old parlor that the family reserved for weddings, funerals and minister's calls.

Everything in it was primly arranged and hung just so. From the antimacassars on the velvet covered backs of the carved walnut chairs to the bead curtain that hung across the doorway, everything was painfully in place.

Even the hooks in the book cases were marshalled in rigid ranks behind their glass doors. Wondering if by any chance they might be unlocked, I went over to try them. The first three were, but the fourth wasn't and so presently I was busy running my eye along the titles.

They weren't especially interesting—books of sermons, hymnals, tracts, that sort of thing. But at length I spotted one that struck a mildly responsive chord. To give it its full title, it was "Nature: An Essay. And lectures on the Times," by R. W. Emerson.

Few would ever accuse Emerson of being an exciting writer, and I'm not one of them. Nonetheless, I felt a surge of excitement as I drew out the book. Would it be a London, 1844 im-

print—the first edition—or a Boston, 1844?

It was the former, and furthermore, it was still bound in buff colored wrappers printed in blue, green, gold and red and black. On the outside of the back wrapper was a list of books put out by the Clarke Cabinet Series.

It was the first edition, all right, but was it the first issue—there were two in 1844.

With an effort I recalled that one mark of the first issue was a series of misnumbered pages. In a couple of minutes I had found that what should have been page 41 was 43 and what should have been page 62 was 64.

As I sat there, looking through the work, the owner of the place entered. I immediately told him of my find.

"We have several first editions in here," he said. "Father collected them." He spoke as if it had been a mild idiosyncrasy on his parent's part.

"But do you realize this copy is worth at least two hundred dollars?"

"Really," he said, putting it back in the case. "It ought to be worth more."

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TURN THE OTHER CHEEK, GENERAL—Miss Airpower (Joanne Alford) welcomes General Nathan F. Twining, U. S. Air Force Chief of Staff, to New Orleans with demure kiss on the cheek. General Twining is in New Orleans for the Airpower Panorama.

## JACKSONVILLE 1946 Class Holds Reunion

By MRS. C. S. HOSKINS  
Jacksonville—The 1946 graduating class of the Jacksonville High school held a reunion and family picnic at McKee bridge Aug. 5.

Eleven of the 18 students in the class were present, including Mrs. Mary Killingsworth (Overstreet) and daughter, Kelly; Mr. and Mrs. Jack Nelson (Barbara Niedermeyer) and two children of Winston, Ore.; Mrs. Dot Kantor Shultz and three children of Ashland, Frit Offenbacher and wife of the Applegate, Mr. and Mrs. Alvis Offenbacher (June Clark), both graduates of the class, and two children of Crescent City, Calif.; Byron Carter and wife of Medford, Wesley Grinstead, wife and two children of Rupert, Ida.; Miss Simone Petard of Jacksonville, Charley McAllister of Medford and Mr. and Mrs. John Hamaker (Betty Rock) and two children of Jacksonville.

This is the first reunion held since the group graduated 10 years ago, and it was agreed that another gathering would be held in five years, in hopes that all 18 of the former classmates would be able to attend.

House guests at the Ray Wilson residence last week, here to attend funeral services for Mrs. Martha E. DeHaas of Valdez, Alaska, a former Central Point resident and mother-in-law of the Wilson's daughter, were Mr. and Mrs. Hubert DeHaas of Valdez, Alaska; Mr. and Mrs. Harvey DeHaas of Cascade, Ida.; Mr. and Mrs. Walter Buchanan of Baker, Ore., and Mr. and Mrs. Allen Hood of Valdez.

Out-of-town week end visitors at the home of Mrs. Lois Fretwell, here to attend last week's Gold Rush Jubilee, were Mr. and Mrs. R. G. Simmon of Portland, Mrs. Clarence Smith of Enterprise, Ore., both sisters-in-law of Mrs. Fretwell, and a niece, Mrs. Arnold Hergenrader, and daughter Sandra of Prineville, Ore. They were en route home from Los Angeles where they visited other relatives before coming here.

Miss Ruby Egbert of Olympia, Wash.; Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Caylor and children, Sandra and Stanley, of Fresno, Calif., and Mr. and Mrs. Jack McKim of Smith River were all callers and guests Aug. 4 and 5 at the Warren Hazen residence.

John Atterberry of Etna, Calif., was a house guest at Mrs. Pearl Whitney's home over Jubilee week end in Jacksonville.

Delbert Fryer of Port Orford, Ore., visited his mother, Mrs. Nina Fryer, at 107 Pine st. over last week end.

Mrs. J. T. Bradley and son Eddie of Cottage Grove are here for a week's visit with her mother, Mrs. Anna Rumley, and to take home her other two children who have been vacationing with their grandmother the last two weeks. Bradley will drive down after them from Cottage Grove next week end.

Last week end visitors at the Ted Hewlett home were Hentlett's aunt and uncle, Mr. and Mrs. Austin Low of Troutdale, Ore. They have been on a vacation fishing trip, Austin taking in all their favorite good fishing spots in this area.

Mrs. Ed Hinkle returned last week from a two weeks' stay in Portland where she attended the Presbyterian training school at Lewis and Clark college. The

## BUTTE FALLS Community Hall Progresses

By MARY JO HARRIS  
Butte Falls — Work on the Community hall is steadily progressing. Medco employees and gypos are signing payroll slips to have one day's wages deducted and donated in their name to the Community Hall fund.

Among the many men that have given freely of their time to the hall are several whose children are grown and absent from our community.

One thing that has been stressed throughout the Community Hall campaign has been that residents with small children and teen-agers will be the ones to benefit. The building is badly needed and it is hoped that soon a plan will be forthcoming so that all men that have worked and that want to work can be fitted into a schedule that will not interfere with family and other community activities.

Times will be listed to give each man his chance to do his part towards his family and community. Among those that have many hours to their credit are Everett Moore, Donald C. Smith, Charles (Red) Capello, Ernest Smith, and Les Casey.

A surprise birthday party was given in honor of Mrs. Henry (Hank) Tygart July 19 at Willow Creek dam. Among those attending were Mrs. Alva Webster, Mrs. Dan McKeen, Mrs. Jack Rodgers, Mrs. Virgil Conley, Mrs. Bruce Burton and Mrs. Ben Shepard.

Mrs. Dan McKeen was guest of honor at a birthday party August 2 at Willow Creek dam. Guests included Mrs. Dwayne Burton, Mrs. Bruce Burton, Mrs. Alva Webster, Mrs. Henry Tygart, Mrs. Jack Rodgers, Mrs. William L. Harris, Mrs. Roy Price, Mrs. Ed Wolfe, and Mrs. D. Hawkins.

Mrs. Cecil Taunton invited several friends to her home July 28 to celebrate the birthday of her husband. Guests were Mr. and Mrs. Ray Sheppard, Mr. and Mrs. R. W. Harris, and Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Cathey.

One correction to last week's news concerns the party given by Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Taunton to celebrate the birthday of their friend, Mrs. Glenn Cathey. Guests were Mr. and Mrs. Page Stauffer, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. L. Harris, Mrs. R. W. Harris and Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Taunton.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Cupples trip was sponsored by the Jacksonville Presbyterian church in preparation for a Vacation Bible school planned for next spring. The trip was made with a group of Medford women. Mrs. Otto Niedermeyer and Mrs. Roy Martin took care of the Hinkle children while Mrs. Hinkle was away.

Eve Chapman Smid of Los Angeles, Calif., is visiting her brother, Walt Chapman, of 304 Oregon st.

Mrs. E. O. Graham and four children, Ed, Pixie, Melba and Lynn, returned last week from a two weeks' vacation bus trip. They visited Salt Lake, Reno and other places along the way, and in Cheyenne, Wyo., visited friends and relatives and attended the famous Frontier Days celebration in Sunrise, Wyo., they visited in Iron mine. They returned home through Sacramento, Calif.

**Driver Escapes Injury  
When Car Hits Signal**

Daniel LeRoy Patch, 33, Merriam rd., Medford, escaped injury at about 3:30 a.m. Saturday, when he apparently fell asleep and drove into a traffic separator light north of Central Point at Willow Springs junction on Highway 99, state police reported.

Officers said the blinker light struck the top of Patch's car after he had sheared off the pole. Damage to the car was extensive. Patch, traveling alone in the car, was not injured.

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DEMOS BEGIN PLATFORM DRAFT—National Chairman Paul Butler (left) greets John McCormack (D., Mass.), chairman of the Democratic platform committee, as the latter arrived at Chicago's International Amphitheater for opening session of talks on the party's plank. Applauding at right is Rep. Emanuel Celler (D., N. Y.).

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