



BLOWING UP MOUNTAIN, 600,000 pounds of dynamite blasts rock for Southern Pacific's new railroad causeway, one of history's largest non-atomic blasts. (International)

Steady Dating in High Schools Varies in Different Sections

New York — (U.P.) — A high school in San Francisco has quit printing "tally cards" for school dances because the same boy and girl dance together all evening.

A 12-year-old boy in Madison, Wis., wants a ring or identification bracelet for Christmas in case he should need to give it to a "steady" girl.

Fifty per cent of the girls in Denver "go steady" sometime during their four years in high school.

A Boston high school has tried to impose a ban on going steady because it "can lead to sin... and forced marriage."

Big Thing in Oklahoma

Atlanta has youths of 13 and 14 on steady dates. Oklahoma City reports it a big thing there.

The United Press took a survey of a dozen cities across the nation and found a definite trend among American youth, barely in their teens, to pair off and exclude all other dates.

Gone are the days of the stag line at the dance. No longer does a girl measure her social success by the number of different boys she can date. Now the trick is to latch onto one lad.

One thing running through all the reports was that going steady is most prevalent in junior high school — among those in the seventh, eighth and ninth grades — and in the first year or two of high school. After that it slacks off and the teenagers begin "playing the field."

Another common denominator was the feeling that going steady is a result of feelings of insecurity. The explanation was that the girls, particularly, want to be sure of a date on Saturday nights and at set social events.

Here are some of the observations:

San Francisco — R. H. Lehman, principal of Balboa High School, blames it on laziness. "It's cheaper both in dollars and energy for a boy to go with the same girl regularly because she is more considerate of his pocketbook and neither has to worry about making a date," Mrs. Mrs. Gladys Lorigan, dean of girls at Lowell High, says girls want "date security" and adds that boys blame the girls for the custom.

Miami — Miss Eugenie Howard, dean of girls at Miami High, says going steady is prominent among students in the eighth and ninth grades, then decreases. "It gives them a feeling of adulthood," she says.

Dallas — C. C. Miller, principal of Sunset High, says many of those who go steady seem to have an understanding that they will break off when they go to college.

Boston — School Superintendent Dennis C. Haley: "Steady dating often leads to serious trouble, interferes with good school work and robs teenagers of the finer experiences of growing-up."

Madison — Mrs. Robert Pankow, president of the PTA Council, says going steady is definitely increasing among younger high school students but decreases sharply around the junior year. "But I think the term going steady means less to them than we think."

Kansas City — One place that reported a trend away from going steady. A school official there said the problem was to get boys to ask girls for dates at all.

Oklahoma City — The term does not mean what it seems. One girl went steady with 13 boys in one semester.

Atlanta — Steady dates at 13 and 14. At dances, boys dance with the same girl all evening and are "burned up" if someone cuts in. A few years back, if a girl danced more than one dance with a particular boy, she was "stuck."

On The Side

By E. V. DURLING
(Distributed by King Features Syndicate, Inc.)

Oh, what a beautiful morning it was in Manhattan. Clear, sunny and brisk. A few more like this and the New York Chamber of Commerce will be boasting of the climate and exploiting the big town as a winter resort. For native New Yorkers, the city really has a wonderful climate. It is said that if a child born in New York City survives until the age of eight, he can hope to live to a very healthy old age. That is because in his very early life he has developed unusual powers of resistance to every type of weather. Anyway, New York has more men in the 90-year age group, who are still active in a business or profession, than any other major city in the world. There is one physician, a native New Yorker who is 97 years old and still actively engaged at his office daily.

Fur Coats

I strolled by the long established fur shop of Stein and Blaine. One of these partners, I forget whether it was Stein or Blaine, told me he had sold a fur coat to Mrs. Henry Ford Sr. for \$30,000. That was many years ago when the buying power of the dollar was three times what it is now. Today a similar coat would cost at least \$90,000.

Passing By

Rosalind Russell. Highly successful native daughter of Waterbury, Conn., which is also the birthplace of those distinguished scribes Dan Parker and Louis Sobol. Rosalind is, as you know, starring in a hit play titled "Auntie Mame." Plays about aunts seem to always do well. Outstanding examples are "Charley's Aunt" and "The Rejuvenation of Aunt Mary." I had a couple of very gay aunts myself. Perhaps I should write a play about them.

Show Shop

Who was it first said, "It is always a good season for a good show"? I believe it was Al Woods who first voiced that immortal observation but I could be wrong. But how true it is. Every time I pass a film theatre on East 58th st., Manhattan, around show time there is a waiting line of nearly a block long. The film showing is "A Lust for Life" starring Kirk Douglas and dealing with the career of the artist Van Gogh.

Mules And Men

Establishments specializing in rejuvenating the facial appearance of men are doing a greatly increased business in Manhattan. When a man goes in for appearance rejuvenation he usually can accomplish more than a woman. He can manage to have himself made to appear from 15 to 20 years younger. Many wives are not enthusiastic about having their middle aged or fiftyish husbands look 15 years younger. They prefer to enjoy the contrast of appearing 15 to 20 years younger than their husbands. Also, they have a feeling if a man looks young he is likely to start getting young ideas. One of the major reasons that so many men are going in for appearance rejuvenation is that a youthful look is a business asset for an executive. Also, an aged look is a definite handicap.

Problem

A problem every cigar enthusiast has to face is that of a short smoke. If he has only five or 10 minutes for a smoke he hesitates to light up a fine cigar and waste most of it. As for example, in theatre intermissions. I have solved that problem. I have discovered a remarkable all-tobacco cigarette. Provides a short smoke that is just as good as a cigar. Another interesting angle to this cigarette is that there is nothing in its make-up to keep it burning when not smoked. If not smoked it goes out. A good cigarette for people who smoke in bed.

Sidelights

The most popular dance among the younger set in Paris is the one called Le Rocanrole (the Rock and Roll). In France there is available a shoe with changeable heels. That is, the heels of this type of feminine footwear can be adjusted to different heights. The heels slide into place along a one-quarter inch wide track. So, if a girl is taller than a man she has dated, she can even things up by changing the height of her heels.

Eggs

There is a tremendous difference between eggs. Some are delicious and some are absolutely tasteless. That you have no doubt noticed. Eggs can also be dangerous. They are, according to those who should know, one of the major causes of stomach upsets. So, be very careful where you buy eggs for home use. Also, as to what restaurants in which you order bacon and eggs. Or any menu item in which eggs are used.

Stoughton, Wis. — (U.P.) — Mrs. E. O. Wheeler, 81, has a clock that dates back 120 years. She received the clock from her father. Mrs. Wheeler said she wouldn't sell the four-foot-high clock for "any price," and believes its pleasant "tick-tock" has done more than anything else to help her pass her 81 years comfortably.

Backstairs: Sadness Among Single Men

By MERRIMAN SMITH
United Press White House Writer
Washington — (U.P.) — Backstairs at the White House: Great sadness prevails in the press room—primarily among the single men assigned to covering the President.

Reason for the long faces: One of Press Secretary James C. Hagerty's prettiest assistants, Twyllia Hamstreet, is thinking rather seriously of getting married.

In fact, Miss Hamstreet has informed Hagerty of her intention to become a housewife. Hagerty, in turn, passed the word to the reporters and photographers with this grave preface: "Men, I have bad news today."

Assuming that Mr. Eisenhower will be on his way to Augusta, Ga., by the time this is printed—or at least, packing his golf clubs for the trip—the Chief Executive is not expected back at the White House much before Dec. 6 or Dec. 7.

Any trip he may make, however, promises to be something

SUDDEN FAME

Birmingham, Ala. — (U.P.) — Auto dealer W. S. Moughon routinely bought an Alabama license tag from Jefferson County officials and suddenly discovered he was the center of attention. He had bought the 200,000th tag sold in 1956, a new record.

less than a vacation. His tele- types and long distance tele- phones will go with him and he'll be in touch with national and international affairs on a minute to minute basis.

The White House has regarded Mr. Eisenhower's plans for going South as a secret akin to the hydrogen bomb. The reason is simple: Hagerty does not want the President pictured as a vacationist with war smoke billowing up over the Suez Canal and Hungary.

Consequently, any decision by the President to fly to Augusta for a few hours or a few days is not expected to be announced until the last moment; the last moment consistent with the latest developments in the United Nations, in Port Said and in Budapest.

"Backstairs" reported a few days ago that three cats were ranging through the White House grounds in search of field mice. At the time, there was a theory that as the weather gets colder, the mice might forsake the siffrubbery of the White House and move into the mansion, itself.

Howell Crimm, Chief White House usher and the man who really runs the residential section of the place, boggled at such a thought. He claims that not even the smallest field mouse can wriggle through the multi-million dollar ramparts of the

White House. The mansion was rebuilt from cellar to roof during the Truman administration. But the three cruising cats are not aware of the infallibility of the executive mansion. Any cold night now, Crimm had better keep a close watch on the doors.

At the morning press confer-

ence last Thursday, Hagerty was not on hand. Murray Snyder, faced reporters instead. The question immediately came up: Where was Hagerty? The answer was simple. Jim has had an aching tooth for some time and could not go to the dentist during the campaign. At the first possible opportunity, international crises permitting, Hagerty scooted off to the dentist and left Snyder in charge.

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