



**ABBOTT EXECUTION STIRS BITTER CONTROVERSY**—A legal battle boiled over the disputed "reprieve-came-too-late" execution of Burton W. Abbott in San Quentin's gas chamber. California Governor Goodwin J. Knight (right in photo at left), accompanied by Alameda County District Attorney Frank Coakley, is shown as he landed from the carrier USS Hancock at Alameda Naval Air Station following a day of "inspection tour" off the California coast. At right, Abbott's attorney, George T. Davis holds a press conference in San Francisco to tell how he finally reached the governor aboard the carrier and Knight agreed to hold up the execution until Davis could make another appeal. The call reached the prison too late. In photo with Davis is Abbott's brother, Mark. Governor Knight accused Davis of staging a dramatic stunt by waiting until the last minute in appealing for another reprieve.

**New Technique in Rabies Treatment**

Chicago (U.P.)—A new approach to protecting persons who, because of their occupations, are exposed to the possibility of bites from rabid animals is being developed.

The new technique is presently being tried on volunteer veterinarians throughout the United States, the American Veterinary Medical Association said, and would replace the current and painful Pasteur treatment which involves a 14-21 day series of shots after exposure.

The method involves giving very small doses of rabies vaccine, or a few doses of vaccine developed from nerve tissue, followed by a simple booster dose of vaccine given only after a bite from a suspected rabid animal.

"In their practice, veterinarians are often exposed to rabid animals and the new treatment, if successful here, will offer greater safety for all persons who may be frequently exposed," the AVMA said.

Rabies is a disease which affects all warm-blooded animals and, according to veterinary researchers, bats are the only animals believed to recover from the disease. They added, however, that rabid bats are suspected of infecting their species such as cattle, wolves, coyotes, dogs and man.

Your newspaper brings you all the news—as it happens. To fully understand what this news means to you—get the facts behind the news in books and magazines at the Medford Public Library.

**Bend First Graders Learn To Make Butter**

Bend, Ore. (U.P.)—First-graders in Bend schools are learning how to make butter first hand.

The butter-making is tied in with the study about cows grazing, milking time on the farm and transportation of the milk to the dairy.

The Oregon Dairy Council has provided do-it-yourself kits which include a churn, pitcher, wooden bowl and other items used in the hand-churning of butter.

The children go through the entire process of making butter themselves and then eat the finished product on crackers they bring from home. The children also supply their own cream.

Calcium exerts a steady influence on the nervous system.

Freckles come from an irregular pattern of pigment that is usually produced by the human body's adrenal and pituitary gland systems.

The diameter of the earth at the equator is about 7,926 miles, according to modern computations. Through the poles it is 7,899 miles.

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**Tommyknockers Suffer Big California Housing Setback**

Grass Valley, Calif. (U.P.)—Tommyknockers have just suffered one of their greatest housing setbacks in this once-booming northern California mining town.

Tommyknockers? Why, any miner can tell you what they are—gremlin-like characters who live in mine shafts and protect the men who make their living by digging wealth out of the earth.

The disaster that has befallen Tommyknockers in this part of the country is the flooding and abandonment of major portions of the Empire Star Mine. And local miners respect their plight.

After all, the subterranean sprites have been around here a long time, having come over with Cornish mine workers who migrated to the Golden State in the decade following its big gold strike in the late 1840's.

Fred Nettell, a retired Empire Star worker whose family migrated from Cornwall during the big push, is credited with being the local authority on Tommyknockers.

They're **obnoxious**—When a Cornish miner of the old school tells you how his life was saved by a Tommyknocker's warning, Nettell said, "he is being facetious."

They're **respect and feeling to**—The respect and feeling to the underground elves is almost religious.

Nettell said a falling pebble, or a rock on an air line or the

creaking of a mine's timber supports are interpreted by the men as "warnings which cannot go unheeded."

So important are these omens considered that even in this modern mining era there are men who won't enter a shaft unless assured that Tommyknockers are on hand to tell of possible cave-ins, loose rock and rotting beams.

The ex-miner cites this occurrence from his fund of stories. "I recall an incident in which a crew was running a race to intercept a higher tunnel. After the crew left at the end of the day shift, the earth and rock gave way and flooded the lower workings."

Those miners firmly believed the Tommyknockers had released the rock and earth after the crew was out.

**A Naughty Variety**

Such tales have been passing from father to son in mining clans for generations. Many argue a firm spot in American folklore should be reserved for the Tommyknocker, supposedly fostered by the Vugs and Piskies who lived in the shafts of ancient Cornwall. And there's a note of seriousness in their request, for the Empire Star closings sever one of the last links with the beloved myth.

Hopkins Fitzpatrick, general manager of Empire Star operations, bares another type of Tommyknocker—the naughty breed.

He says this variety specializes in blowing out miners' work candles and holding all-night parties in the mule barns.

"When a shift boss criticized a miner for low production," said Fitzpatrick, "the miner explained his sleepy mule could not perform after being kept up all night by a Tommyknocker party."

There may be some hope for the evicted Empire Star Tommyknockers. Lewis Heulsdonk, a mine manager and a member of the California Mining Board, extended a welcome to both good and saucy ones.

"The Sixteen to One Mine in Allegheny probably has room for a few more and the Best Mines can provide homes for some," he said. "But the only possible way to provide adequate and permanent homes for Tommyknockers is to raise the price of gold and open more mines."

**Easy-going Clock Extends Time for Hawaii Legislature**

Honolulu (U.P.)—The world's gaudiest legislature convened recently with all the song and dance of Mardi Gras and a special clock that runs strictly on easy-going "Hawaiian time."

Jubilant Democrats were back in control of both houses for the second time in Hawaii's 56 years as a U. S. territory, vowing to correct what they consider past legislative errors.

The opening of a Hawaiian legislative session traditionally is a gala affair—with strumming ukuleles, hula dancing, ancient Hawaiian chants and outbursts of spontaneous entertainment, all mixed with opening day formalities. The colorful affair occurs in historic Iolani Palace where Hawaiian royalty once held court.

Through the years the practice of clock-stopping almost has become mandatory as lawmakers scurry about trying to wind up unfinished business—usually the biggest bills of the session. **That Clock**

The 1955 legislature was a classic example. The session is mandated by law to run for "60 working days." Two years ago lawmakers were laboring a full four weeks past the legal limit with their own special clock that was stopped five minutes before midnight in the last legal day of the session. Legislators explained simply that the clock ran on "Hawaiian time."

Hundreds of people join in the fun of opening day festivities in the gray stone palace built in the 1880's by King Kalakaua. The house chamber was the royal throne room. The senate chamber was the state dining room. The governor's office used to be the royal bedroom.

Among unique features of Hawaii's legislature are opening and closing prayers daily in the near extinct Hawaiian language.

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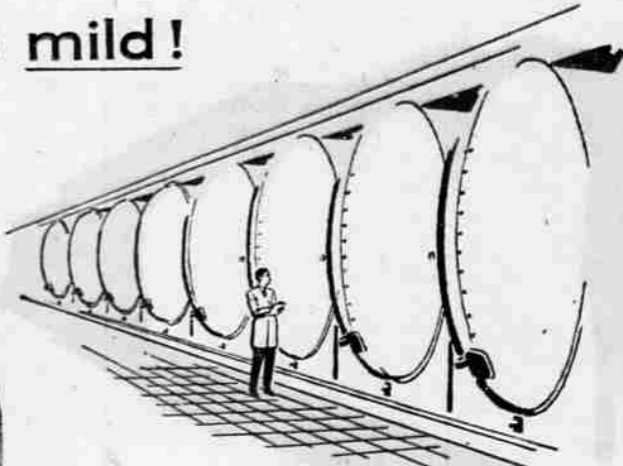
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