

Buried Treasure

by Pinkney Gage



Money Couldn't Buy Pre-Bolshevik Stamp

I noticed a flicker of flame in the far corner of the room into which Andrei had taken me. It was a candle burning before an icon that loomed in the shadows.

I stepped over for a closer look. On the wall to one side of the little statue was a glass frame containing a letter and an envelope.

"What's that?" I asked. Andrei took it down.

"It's a letter announcing my father's birth," he said. As he translated it for me, I looked at the stamp. It was

a severe-looking thing, black and gray in color, with a central panel in which appeared the imperial double-headed eagle above crossed post-horns.

"What about the stamp?" I asked when he got through. "Since the letter was written in 1863, it may be valuable."

"I thought so, too," he said, shaking his head. "But it isn't. I looked it up. Even though it's a three and a half ruble item, all it catologues for is \$50. And as far as father is concerned, it's just about priceless where it is."

CURRIER & IVES "GRANT" AMONG LEAST VALUED

I could see that the picture was faded somewhat around the edges, but it was obviously one of General Grant and quite possibly by Currier & Ives. I took a closer look.

It was a Currier & Ives, and since the caption read that it was General Grant at the tomb of Abraham Lincoln, Oak Ridge Cemetery, Springfield, Ill., I decided to pay the \$10 indicated by the price mark.

"I should be charging you double that price," the proprietor said. "It has an 1868 date, as you can see, but Grant isn't popular here in the South."

"I said I could quite appreciate how the people of Georgia might still feel and left with an air of smug satisfaction."

Very likely, I thought, the picture would bring five times what I paid for it when I got back to the North. Especially with the Lincoln angle.

Well, I still have the picture, and the last time I looked it up in a catalogue—which was last year—the price still hadn't broken through the \$25 barrier.

And what is especially aggravating to me is that mine is one of the most valuable of the 13 different pictures of General Grant which the famous firm of print makers put out. Only two catalogue higher, and all they bring is merely \$35 apiece.

Why it is, I don't know. It would seem that some of those prints of Grant would be far more valuable. He was one of our greatest commanders, twice President of the United States, and in view of that, plus the heroism he exhibited in staving off death to write his memoirs so as to satisfy his creditors, one would think such prints would be worth much more.

Instead, most of them are at the very bottom of the value list.

JUNK DEALER SOMETIMES COMES UP WITH A REVEL

Max is a junk dealer by profession but a waste paper processor by avocation. In fact, though he finds it rather costly to do so, he insists on personally processing most of the waste paper he gets.

"The reason is," he told me, "that every once in a while I come across something like this—just often enough to make it exciting."

The slender pamphlet he had handed me carried the following title:

"The Position and Prospect of the Medical Student—an Address delivered before the Boylston Medical Society of Harvard University, Jan. 12, 1844, by Oliver W. Holmes, M.D. Published at the Request of the Society. Boston: James

Putnam, Printer, 1844." "Not bad," I said. "Not bad at all, but if you could only come up with something like Holmes' 'Chambered Nautilus,' or..."

"Sure," he said, "Or a copy of Poe's 'Tamerlane' that would be worth about \$12,000."

"But there are plenty of other things that might be worth only a tenth as much," I said.

"It's the adventure of it," he said. "And besides, this isn't such a bad find. Four or five copies than this have brought \$30 to \$40 in the past few years. As a matter of fact, a friend of mine is quite willing to give me \$50 for it now."

(Released by McClure Newspaper Syndicate)

23 Cases of Mumps Reported Last Week

Twenty-three cases of mumps were reported in Jackson county during the week ending Feb. 21, according to the Jackson county health department.

Thirteen cases were reported in Ashland, six in Medford and four in Central Point. There were 19 cases of chicken pox, 12 in Phoenix, five in Medford, and two in Ashland.

Influenza cases totaled 16. Eight cases were reported in Phoenix, seven in Medford and one in Ashland.

There were nine cases of measles, five German measles, two strep throat, two pink eye, one scarlet fever, four cases of pneumonia, one dysentery and two cases of mononucleosis.

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EXPERIENCED PRUNERS WANTED at Big Boulder Orchard, 2 1/2 mi. N.E. of Central Point—4 Corners on Foothills Rd. TA 6-4736.

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FOR SALE davenport, chair, table, twin springs, mattress. NO 4-2212.

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POTTED Growing Roses, Delphinium, Phlox, Bleeding Heart, Tulips, and other perennials. BERRYDALE FLOWER FARM

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Voting Regulations Are Given In 1958 Issue of Voters Manual

The latest regulations on voting are listed in the Voters' Manual for 1958 recently issued by the elections division of the secretary of state's office.

The pamphlet notes that a registrant must be a citizen of the United States, 21 years old or more, able to read and write English and not mentally ill, have not lost voting privileges by conviction of a felony, and have resided in the state at least six months.

A person neither loses nor gains residence in Oregon while employed by the United States or Oregon, while navigating waters of Oregon, the United States or the high seas; while a student at a college, university or seminary; while in an almshouse or asylum or confined in any public prison, the pamphlet points out.

To qualify for voting, a citizen must be registered 30 days before an election. However, if a newcomer completes the residence requirement or becomes 21 during the 30 days before an election he may register during the period from 60 to 30 days before the election.

Registration may be done with the county clerk, or official registrar while in Oregon. While out of the state a citizen may register with any official registrar.

Only registered voters may vote, according to the pamphlet. The primary election is set for May 16 this year. The general election will be held on Nov. 4. Primary and general elections are held from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Voting may be done in the precinct designated when a citizen registered. However, if he is away at the time, he can vote by absentee ballot. Even after he has moved to another precinct within the same county he may vote in his old precinct if he applies for reregistration at the time of voting.

If a voter moves within 30 days before the election to another county he may vote in the new precinct by getting a certificate of registration from the county clerk of the old county stating he is a registered voter in that county. A voter is also required to take an oath giving the present residence and stating the move has been made within the 30 days before election.

Instructions on how to vote include giving the election board clerk name and residence address. In the primary election the party affiliation must be declared. Then the poll book must be signed. Then, the ballot must be marked in the election booth and returned to the clerk.

The pamphlet explained that the right to vote may be challenged by an election board member or by another voter at any time before the ballot is in the ballot box.

The primary election, the pamphlet explained, is actually three elections held at the same time. One election is to nominate Democratic candidates, one to nominate Republican candidates and the third to nominate nonpartisan candidates.

Absentee voting is allowed if a citizen is registered, has reason to believe he will be absent from the county or city on election day, lives more than 15 miles from the polling place, or are physically disabled. Those in the Armed Forces also qualify under this provision.

Others who qualify are civilian employees of the United States serving outside the country, members of a religious group or welfare agency assisting members of the

Trouble Shooter Heads for Africa

Washington — Deputy Undersecretary of State Robert Murphy left for Europe and North Africa today with secret U.S. proposals for solving the French-Tunisian dispute.

The ace U.S. diplomatic trouble-shooter said that he is "hopeful" a settlement will be reached.

Murphy refused to disclose details of the top secret U.S. proposals, saying:

"Frankly, on a trip like this the fewer public statements I make, the better. We have been putting the emphasis on quiet diplomacy."

Armed Forces, a service or dependent of a "service voter" temporarily living outside the county or city given as last home residence.

Absentee voters may apply for their ballots by writing the county clerk or the county in which a person lives. The application should include the statement that he is a duly registered voter, and temporarily absent from the county. The reason for the absence at the time of voting must be given.

The pamphlet also shows sample registration notice, precinct card, application for reregistration and a certificate of registration.

Office of Council of Aging Is Established

Eugene—The office of the State Council on Aging has been established on the University of Oregon campus, and an executive secretary appointed, according to Dr. Wesley G. Nicholson, council chairman.

Authorized during the last regular session of the state Legislature, the council consists of 44 members appointed by Gov. Robert D. Holmes.

Medford member of the statewide organization is Mrs. Enid M. Rankin, 18 Richmond ave., who was recently appointed chairman of the subcommittee on community service.

Executive Secretary Executive secretary recently hired by the council is Julia G. Johnson, a Willamette university graduate who holds a master's degree in personnel work from Northwestern university. Her experience includes employment in the personnel department of Crown Zellerbach corporation, Camas, Wash., seven years as women's personnel manager, Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago, six years as director of placement for Lewis and Clark college, Portland.

The Council on Aging is not an interim committee, but

a permanent group to which members are appointed for terms of four years. Purpose of the council is to investigate problems and needs of the aging population in Oregon, to provide a consulting service to local communities, to cooperate with and assist agencies and groups concerned with problems of the older citizen. Recommendations will be made to the governor and, in turn, to the Legislature.

The council is aimed at stimulating programs in local communities and giving aid in helping to solve problems of aging people. In an attempt to learn what conditions are for the aging in Oregon, the council is planning meetings in communities of the state. Anyone who would like to meet with the council, to furnish information, should get in touch with Miss Johnson.

Ballet Group Stops In City Thursday

Approximately 62 members of the Ballet Russe stopped in Medford hotel Thursday night, according to hotel officials.

Two buses containing troupe members left early Friday for an engagement in Salem Friday night.

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