

Editorial Comment

OBSESSED WITH AN IDEA

He — or more frequently, she — always arrives in the newsroom shortly before the day's deadline, slides up to a reporter who is working feverishly to get his last story out, and produces a sheaf of clippings from obscure, poorly-printed publications.

"Now I want you to read these carefully," says the visitor, directing a reproachful glance at the reporter. "The public isn't aware of what a grave problem this is. We need action. Right away."

So the reporter, with whom tactfulness is an occupational hazard, scribbles a hasty ending to his story and turns his attention to the visitor. The clippings turn out to be documents explaining, in exhaustive detail, the satanic relationship between Darwin's theory of evolution and Marx's theory of world communism.

The visitor, and every newspaper has its own collection of them, is the Vaecant Mind Obsessed With an Idea. Such people make up only a fragment of the population, but they're always on the move. They maintain active correspondence with like-minded souls. Their distinguishing mark is the sheaf of clippings, which they produce as positive proof that their ideas are valid. The zaniest argument appears to take on dignity after it has found a place on a printed page.

Many of these idea-crazed individuals are motivated by the highest of impulses: The lady who worries about prisoners in the penitentiary, the elderly gentleman with a

brand-new plan for ending poverty, the intense housewife who wants to tell the world about her religious discoveries.

Others are less agreeable. One is sure that the Communists have planted an agent with each newspaper in the country—how else could the news come out so garbled? Another announces that the Medical Trust is bribing the press to ignore the news of Dr. Quack's anti-cancer miracle drug; look here, it explains all about it in this clipping. With such visitors the reporter tries to look as un-Red or as un-bribed as possible, meanwhile keeping a wary eye on the nearest exit.

The most pleasant, and by all odds the most persuasive, of the visiting idea specialists are the food faddists.

They don't start by assuming the reporter has a grudge against them. On the contrary, they sympathize with him for his ignorance of the benefits to be gained from sunflower seeds or Bulgarian yogurt or blackstrap molasses.

"I used to look almost as wretched as you until I discovered what proper diet can do," says the yogurt fan, smiling cheerfully and radiating good spirits. "But now I feel fine. I haven't got a worry in the world. Life is wonderful. See, it explains all about it in this clipping."

Unlike the worrier over communism or vivisection or eternal damnation, the food faddist seems to get pleasure out of the idea that has seized him. He gains few converts, but at least he enjoys himself.

—Albany Democrat-Herald.

Two Big Fires Consume Sagebrush

Sunnyside, Wash.—(UPI)—Two large brush fires Thursday consumed two-thirds of the sagebrush on Big Snipen Mountain and for a time threatened the Granger water supply before the blaze was brought under control.

A powder house belonging to the Granger Clay Products Co. also was endangered by the flames before they were controlled.

Fire departments from Sunnyside, Outlook, Granger, Villa and Toppenish fought the fire. Cause of the blaze was not immediately known.

Flexible rubber electric blankets are spread on the floors of brooder pens at Joe Davis' farm to prevent baby turkeys from suffering from cold feet. The new system keeps turkeys alive and healthy during the first few weeks of their lives when the mortality rate is high.

Try and Stop Me

By BENNETT CERF

WHERE ELSE but in Texas could this happen? A little boy was devouring an ice cream cone when a lady swathed in mink walked by. He boldly wiped his dripping cone against the back of the lady's coat. His 10-year-old sister was aghast. "Junior!" she shrieked, "you're getting fur all over your ice cream!"



Broker drove his wife to Idlewild airport and put her aboard a non-stop plane for Denver. Driving back to town, he hit the peak of the morning traffic, arrived at his office in a state of exhaustion. Propped up on his desk was a wire from his wife: "Arrived in Denver. Perfect trip. Love and kisses."

Comedians were discussing the fame and foibles of one of their most successful contemporaries. "One thing you've got to hand him," admitted one. "He never says anything bad about the dead." "Nor," added another, "anything good about the living."

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Railroad Bill Draws Criticism

Washington—(UPI)—Commerce Secretary Sinclair Weeks criticized the Senate's pending railroad bill Thursday, branding certain of its provisions unwise and discriminatory.

He sent a letter with proposed changes to Chairman Warren G. Magnuson (D-Wash.) of the Senate Commerce Committee which drafted the bill. The letter said in effect that the measure goes too far in some respects and not far enough in one regard.

Weeks said one of the bill's provisions would be of great benefit if it allowed one type of carrier, railroads for example, to exploit its cost advantages in setting its rates. The section is designed to permit such rate making without requiring the Interstate Commerce Commission to consider the effect on other modes of transportation.

But Weeks said the committee version endorses ICC policy of keeping the rates of one carrier above a certain level to protect another. Moreover, said Weeks, the committee bill would not permit rate reductions to encourage competition between different types of transportation.

Two 10-year-old boys, who said they tied 7-year-old Michael Evans near a railroad track "just for fun," faced possible juvenile action today.

The two were released to their parents Thursday after explaining to sheriff's deputies they were only having fun when they tied the Evans boy within five feet of a railroad spur and 20 feet of a main line.

"We wanted to scare him," deputies quoted them as saying. Michael's father ran a mile and pulled his son away from the tracks moments before a freight train went by. He had been warned by two companions of the bound boy. Sheriff's deputies said Michael never was in danger but might have suffered psychological damage if the train had rumbled past while he was tied.

Phoenix Grange meets Tuesday, June 10 at 8 p.m. The program, sponsored by the Home Economics club, will be open to the public, and will precede the regular meeting. Mrs. Harland Glascock, chairman of the program, will also have charge of the display table.

Gertrude Lewin, Publicity Chairman. Type metal is usually made of lead with a hardening of antimony.

In the Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

In two Algerian cities—Constantine and Algiers—General (now Premier) De Gaulle pledges that Algeria's NINE million Moslems and ONE million Europeans will henceforth have the same RIGHTS AND DUTIES.

That is to say— If he means what he says and is able to make good on his pledge— BOTH will have the right to VOTE in free and unhindered elections.

SO FAR, so good. But here is the catch: In Constantine, the speech was received with clamorous applause by the crowd, more than half of which was made up of MOSLEMS.

In Algiers, where the crowd was made up almost entirely of ALGERIAN FRENCH, his pledge was received with marked coolness.

OVER the years, this has been the situation in Algeria: About a million French have been running the affairs of about nine million Moslems.

But— If De Gaulle makes good his pledge of EQUAL rights and duties (including, presumably, FREE elections) the nine million Moslems WILL RUN THE AFFAIRS OF THE ONE MILLION FRENCH.

THERE'S where the rub will come. Will the French stand for it?

We'll have to wait and see. At the moment, it looks a little doubtful. If De Gaulle can make a ke good his pledge and can MAKE THE FRENCH LIKE IT he will be entitled to a place in history among the world's GREAT leaders.

Cape Canaveral—(UPI)—A speedy test version of the Navy's solid fuel Polaris missile roared into the sky on a zigzag course today and tumbled back into the ocean when its engine burned out.

EAST EVANS CREEK Holiday Visitors Named

BY NELLIE BERGMAN

East Evans Creek-Meadows—Memorial Day visitors in the Lloyd Beers home were his cousins, Mrs. Iral Moore of Portland, Mrs. George Rodman, Mrs. Lou Hibbs, James Owens and Mrs. Frank Bruhn of Yakima, Wash., and Jerry Owens of Clarkia, Idaho.

The Amos Maplesden family visited in Yreka and Horse Creek, Calif., over Memorial

Day weekend. In Yreka they visited the Robert Head family and the W. E. Callick family.

In Horse Creek they visited the Ben Maplesden family. Sunday afternoon another brother-in-law and sister of Maplesden from the Applegate, Mr. and Mrs. Bert Hukill, visited the Ben Maplesdens' home.

A number of children had had the mumps in the Meadows.

Dr. Guy W. Bishop Jr. and family of Aberdeen, Idaho, were visiting in the valley with Dr. Bishop's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Guy Bishop Sr. and Mrs. Bishop's parents, the Ben Dawsons of Valleyview, Ashland. Dr. Bishop was in the graduating class of Washington State college and received his degree as doctor of philosophy in entomology. He attended Oregon State college. He was a member of Phi Sigma national honorary biological society.

Mr. and Mrs. Bryon Coulter spent memorial day in Grants Pass visiting their aunt and uncle, Mr. and Mrs. John Lichtenburg and spent the evening with their son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Wade Coulter of Rogue River.

Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Beers attended the graduation at Prospect High school last Wednesday evening. Their niece, Patricia Sanderson, was one of the graduates.

Emery Stingley spent several days in Crescent City, Calif., visiting his sister, who has been in a hospital there.

A family picnic was held at the Carl Bergman home Sunday last week.

Mr. and Mrs. Carl Bergman spent Sunday at Tenmile attending a field trial and won several trophies with his dogs.

The rain has done some good to crops in the Meadows.

Jack Webb Plans To Wed Miss U. S. A.

Hollywood—(UPI)—Jack Webb, TV's dead-panned Sgt. Friday of "Dragnet," plans a new venture into marriage.

The hard-working producer-director of the Los Angeles cops-and-robbers drama disclosed Thursday night he and Jackie Loughrey, 28, Miss United States of 1953, would be married before the end of the month.

They met when the actress was trying out for a role in a picture produced by Webb. Miss Loughrey was married to crooner Guy Mitchell.

Webb, 38, was married previously to singer Julie London and actress Dorothy Towne. He and Miss London had two children, Stacy, 8, and Liza, 5.

St. Mary's 4-H Cooking Club met June 3 at the gym annex for their last meeting until this fall. Fourteen members were present. We all made brownies again. The finer points of baking brownies were pointed out to us by our leader and from the mothers who served as aides. Meeting was adjourned.

Terri Calhoun, Reporter

4-H Club News

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Terri Calhoun, Reporter

MAIL TRIBUNE, Medford, Oregon, Sunday, June 8, 1958 5

For the first time in nearly 100 years, there was not a single case of diphtheria in Norway in 1957.

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See Page 6 Main Section TODAY'S PAPER FOR BROOKS NEW Wholesale PRICE POLICY IT'S TERRIFIC!

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