

# Buried Treasure

by Pinkney Gage



## 1913 Christmas Seals Prized by Collectors

Christmas seals, such as those put out by various associations to finance the fight against disease, have a certain collectors' value — especially those of the earlier ones. So if anyone in your family has made it a point to save old Christmas seals, as a surprising number of people do, get them out and take a look at them. If the envelopes in which they came were saved also, you may make quite a find, both through the stamps and the seals.

The most valuable of the seals, so far as I have discovered, is the one put out by the American Red Cross in 1913. Proceeds of their sale, amounting to nearly \$500,000, were used to combat tuberculosis.

The stamp has a picture showing a sleigh being drawn by reindeer. On its lower edge is the date, 1913. Scrolls above and below carry the legend "American Red Cross Merry Christmas."

If there are poinsettias on

either side of the picture, and if there is also a green circle containing a red cross on either side, and only the colors green and red are used, the seal is worth from \$40 to \$55.

If black, however, is used in the place of green, but it is otherwise the same, the seal is worth about a third less.

If you come across an envelope carrying such a seal, don't make any attempt to remove it, or the postage stamps. Quite possibly the stamps themselves may have a value equal to or greater than the seal. In any case, it is an absolute rule that any stamp or seal is worth more on the envelope on which it was mailed than otherwise.

As to the value of earlier and later seals, though many of them bring only a few cents, there are several in the \$5 to \$10 bracket, and it is highly likely there are some that are completely unknown to collectors and which would bring a moderately reasonable price from seal collectors.

## SWITZERLAND PROVES COIN COLLECTOR'S PARADISE

Anyone who goes to Switzerland, or any of the other countries where gold can be bought at its monetary value, can cut the cost of his trip considerably if he becomes a coin collector, a gold coin collector.

Furthermore, he doesn't need to pay attention to the scarcity of the individual coin, although the scarcer the coin is the more profit there is in it.

Why it works is that gold coin in Switzerland and some other European countries can be acquired by the individual as coin and to be used as such. In this country, the only use an individual can legally have for gold coins is for numismatic purposes — for their collector's value.

Because of this situation ordinary gold coins can be bought by any one in Switzerland as the world gold price which lately has not been so very far above the U.S. price of \$35 an ounce. Those same coins, however, when sold in this country on the collector's market, bring

a price that is considerably above the Swiss gold coin price.

To illustrate, one man visiting Switzerland this past summer acquired 30 gold coins of different dates and countries by the simple process of buying them through banks at the regular exchange rate.

After he returned, he found that he could sell them to dealers at a price which gave him a profit of a little better than \$100.

One of them was 1926 10-gulden piece put out by the Netherlands under the reign of Queen Wilhelmina. The coin on the collector's market sells for \$15 or more, depending on condition.

Since a 10-gulden piece can be bought from a Swiss bank at a price of \$5 or \$6, according to the fluctuation of the world gold price — and the same applies to the gold coin of other countries including that of the United States — it is obvious that anyone who has the foresight to make a collection of gold coins abroad can sell it at a profit in this country.

## THOREAU'S 'WALDEN' STILL FOUND AS 1ST EDITION

It is impossible to say which of Henry Thoreau's works will prove to be the most important, but the probability is it won't be one of his political writings.

Engrossing as his political thoughts are, his writings on nature are far more so and also have a much wider audience.

All of which is by way of saying that if you have the opportunity to buy a first edition of one of his works, such as "Walden" or "Life in the Woods," and if the price is not very high, the purchase should be a good one.

Copies of this work has sold in recent years for prices ranging from \$10 to \$100 and more, the differences being due not wholly to condition.

I saw one recently priced at \$40, and it was almost immediately bought by a friend of mine. Since he already had a copy of the first edition, I was doubly curious as to why

he had bought another.

His reason was a highly practical one. He had paid \$25 for the first copy which was in fair shape. An acquaintance of his, however, had offered his \$25 for it, and since the \$40 one was in much better condition, he felt he would be a fool not to buy it, because it would actually cost him only \$5 if he sold the other.

For a copy to be a first edition, it must have 357 pages and be published at Boston in 1854. The date is given in Roman numerals. Also, there should be the words "double spruce" instead of "single spruce," as is found in later issues.

Some copies have eight pages of advertisements, but a copy that has none can still be one of the first issue. The advertisements were inserted after some of the copies had been released.

(Released by McClure Newspaper Syndicate)

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## Portland Mansion Damaged By Blaze

Portland—Fire shortly before dawn yesterday destroyed at least half of the Don H. Crawford mansion at 4430 SW Patton rd. here and did extensive damage to the rest of the home.

Crawford is co-owner of the Tum-A-Lum lumber company. No one was in the house at the time of the blaze. The family was reported visiting in Walla Walla. There was no immediate estimate of damage.

A new electron microscope has been developed that will magnify a specimen 100,000 times.

The president of Mexico is elected by direct popular vote for a six-year term. He cannot be reelected.

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# In the Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

This is written on Thanksgiving Day—the day on which we give thanks for the good things that have come our way. Here in the United States of America we have MUCH to be thankful for.

Ours is the greatest nation on earth. It has a RIGHT to be the greatest nation on earth. It has done more for its people than any other great nation. It has done more than any other nation to spread the idea of liberty and equality. In our Declaration of Independence, which started us off on our career as a nation, we put these words in the preamble:

"We hope these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness. That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed."

Our nation has lived up to that declaration by our Founding Fathers—for which we have reason to be DEEPLY thankful. If any American isn't thankful on Thanksgiving Day, he is an ingrate.

BUT—There are DEGREES of thankfulness. Some of us have more to be thankful for than others. Some of us have less to be thankful for than others.

In this latter group, the GOP must be included. On this Thanksgiving Day that follows so closely after the fourth day of November and the 25th day of November of the year 1860, the GOP has pitifully little to be thankful for.

The fourth of November was GENERAL ELECTION DAY in the United States as a whole. On that day, the Democrats practically swept the board. The 25th of November was election day in Alaska, the Union's newest state. On that day, the Democrats SWEEP ALASKA. Even Mr. Stepanov, whom the Republicans had regarded as more or less of a shoo-in and who is certainly a good man, lost to his Democratic opponent.

The politically-minded Republicans who are thankful on this Thanksgiving Day must take it out in being thankful that they are Americans rather than in being thankful that they are Republicans.

STILL, sizing up the situation with brutal frankness, what has the Republican party done to DESERVE to win this year?

I'm afraid the answer must be NOT MUCH. For one thing, the Republican party, as an organization, hasn't known in this particular campaign year where it stands or what it stands for or where it wants to go—other than into office.

IT WAS different back in the campaign of 1860, when the Republican party was actually born. The GOP then knew EXACTLY WHERE IT WAS GOING and it knew what it was going to do when it got there.

It won in 1860. It won again in the agonizing year of 1864. It kept on winning until 1884, when Grover Cleveland finally broke the chain. Even then the break was only temporary. Cleveland lost in 1888 to a Republican, Benjamin Harrison. He came back

## Cuban Officials Smash Attempt To Oust Batista

Havana — (UP) — Authorities have smashed an army officers' plot to overthrow the government of President Fulgencio Batista, it was learned yesterday.

Between 10 and 20 officers, in 1892 and defeated Harrison.

There came then the epochal campaign of 1896, when Bryan, after winning the Democratic nomination with his famous "You shall not crucify mankind upon a cross of gold" speech, campaigned on the issue of free coinage of silver at a ratio of 16 to 1, let money grow on the trees so that the people may pluck it off, and lost to William McKinley who stood pat on sound money, backed by gold. Thereafter, the GOP stayed in power until 1912, when Woodrow Wilson was elected.

THE point is that during these long years the Republican party held the confidence of the people by HAVING CONVICTIONS and standing by them. If it is to get back into power, it will have to GET convictions that the people will respect.

What, for example? Well, if the GOP is to get back into power it must find an issue that will be more convincing than merely trying to OUST-DEAL the New Dealers.

ranging in rank from 2nd lieutenant to lieutenant colonel, have been arrested and are undergoing interrogation at military intelligence headquarters.

Third Attempt  
It was the third military attempt in two years to unseat Batista. The government smashed an uprising of navy

men and civilians at Cienfuegos, 150 miles southeast of Havana, in September, 1957, after 250 persons were killed and wounded. An attempted revolt by a group of army officers was crushed in April, 1956.

Reliable sources said the government began arresting accused plotters at dawn on Thursday. Arrests continued as questioning revealed further details of the conspiracy. No Senior Officers

The sources emphasized that no senior officers were involved. Some, if not all the officers arrested were relatively new in the service, the sources said. Although several held field-grade rank, they all were described as junior officers.

The highest ranking officer arrested was identified as Lt. Col. Castro Rojas of the mixed tank regiment stationed at Camp Columbia, the Cuban army headquarters outside Havana.

Andrews told state police that he saw a movement in the brush about 200 yards away and thought it was an elk.

Within 12 months more than 100 modern motels will be built in Australia. Margarine now utilizes nearly 1,180,000 pounds of fats and oils each year.

Portland — (UP) — Multnomah county sheriff's deputies yesterday continued dragging operations in the Columbia slough for the body of Ira McCullough, about 45, feared drowned Friday.

McCullough, Everett, Wash., had been employed by the Monarch Shingle Co., Portland for two days. He was working on a log boom when he disappeared. Workers found his pike pole in the water when they checked to determine why logs had stopped coming into the mill.

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