

Buried Treasure

by Pinkney Gage



Alert Collector Checks All Standard Catalogues

Two or three dollars is a good bit of money to spend in mailing a single package, and so when an acquaintance of mine came across a piece of old wrapping paper that had \$2.14 worth of postage on it, he wisely decided to save it.

The stamps consisted of one for \$2 and seven for 2 cents each. Because of the cancellation mark, dated December, 1920, he felt no particular need for haste in checking its value, but eventually, after hearing of a small find another friend had made, he hunted the piece up and proceeded to check on it.

The catalogue he used was a small one put out by a stamp dealing house, and the values it gave for the stamps were so low that it scarcely seemed worth the bother. The 2-cent stamps were listed as worth 1 cent each and the \$2 one carried a valuation of \$3.

He had about decided to give the stamps away when it occurred to him to look in a standard catalogue. The values given for the 2-cent items

Nine Timber Tracts Sold by BLM During Oral Auction Here

Nine tracts of timber offered for sale by the Medford district of the bureau of land management at an oral auction May 14 were sold for a total price of \$695,184.90.

The tracts, which contain an estimated 24,564,000 board feet of salvage and 655,000 board feet of re-logging.

Bidding on six of the tracts was spirited, raising the prices well above the minimum set by the bureau. Two small salvage sales and one large sale of green timber received little or no competition.

In Jackson county, Loyd Silva of Grants Pass was the higher of two bidders for 4,170,000 board feet on West Fork Evans creek, Joe Oliver of Trail purchased 29,000 board feet of salvage on Trail creek without competition and Greensprings Lumber company of Klamath Falls was the highest of three bidders for 1,881,000 board feet near Lincoln.

First Advertised

The tract purchased by Silva is the first sale advertised by the bureau that will use their newly constructed West Fork Evans creek access road. His offer included a bid of \$42 per thousand board feet for Douglas-fir, which was the major species. Greensprings Lumber company bids for the major species were \$35 per thousand board feet for the Douglas-fir, \$40 for the ponderosa pine and \$55 for sugar pine.

The four Josephine county tracts were purchased by Harry Steward of Wolf Creek, Patterson Lumber company of Glendale, Cabax Mills of Grants Pass and Brown Brothers Lumber company, Inc., of Grants Pass.

The Robert Dollar company of Glendale purchased a tract containing 12,038,000 board feet on Mule Creek in Curry county with almost no opposition. McGriff of Sunny Valley purchased 29,000 board feet of salvage on Starveout creek in Douglas county with little opposition.

Special Sale

On May 28, the Medford district will hold a special sale at which seven tracts containing an estimated 14,638,000 board feet of timber appraised at \$381,455.00 will be offered for sale. Four of



TO TRAIN PUPPIES—These Ashland 4-H club members line up with puppies which will be trained for Guide Dogs For the Blind, Inc., of San Rafael, Calif. From left are Alan DeBoer, 8, (substituting for his sister, Janice) with Dixie; Sharon Roderick with Donna, John dePlace with Delta, Kath Grimm with Cora, and Clarence Pfaffenberger, official of Guide Dogs For the Blind. The picture was taken in Lithia park in Ashland shortly after Pfaffenberger brought the puppies to Ashland. The puppies will be kept from nine months to a year while being given their obedience training. Then they will be returned for further training.

Collins to Speak at Osteopathic Meeting

Hugh Collins, Medford attorney, will discuss legal problems facing physicians at the Northwest Osteopathic convention in Eugene in June, Dr. David Reid of Lebanon, executive secretary of the Oregon Osteopathic association, has announced.

Dr. George W. Northup, president of the American Osteopathic association, will be one of the featured speakers. The convention will be held June 15-17.

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RUSSELL'S WESTERN PAINTINGS RECALL LUSTY ERA

Any paintings, oil or water color, drawings or prints, or sculpture that you may find bearing the signature of C. M. Russell is pretty sure to have a considerable value.

An example is a print an acquaintance of mine found recently in a country store where he was lucky enough to buy it for \$5.

The reason he bought it was simply because he liked it. He had no idea of its value except that even if it had been twice as much, he would willingly have it. The item was a wide-margined print, measuring about 14 by 18 inches. It was an early western scene showing some white men greeting a band of Indians. The title was "Lewis and Clark Meeting the Mandans," and down in the corner was the signature of C. M. Russell with the date 1897.

The history of the print is interesting. It was one of a group of pictures that Russell did for "Field and Stream" magazine soon after he sold six others at \$10 each, to be used for illustrating Emerson Hough's book, "The Story of a Cowboy." Four of the prints

purchased by the magazine were issued as art prints, selling at 50 cents each or three for \$1.

Their value today is almost astronomical in comparison. When the lucky buyer was offered \$200 for the one he had bought at \$5, his conscience bothered him so that he insisted on sending a check for \$50 to the man from whom he had acquired it. Furthermore, the probability is that the true value of the print is considerably higher still.

Though Russell's fame as an artist of the West lagged behind that of Remington for several years, it equalled his in the opinion of many, surpassed it. Throughout his career as an artist, which began roughly at the age of 16 in 1880, and ended shortly before his death in 1926, he turned out rather better than 2,600 paintings, drawings and pieces of sculpture.

Many of them today are almost priceless. When one of his smaller water colors went on the block recently it brought the owner \$1,700.

ROSE IN SNOW DESIGN WIDELY PRODUCED IN 1870s

The owner of the shop made out a receipt for the stove, then plopped the pencil into a handful of others stuck in a goblet on the edge of his roll-top desk.

"That's quite a pencil-holder you have there. Mind if I see it," my friend asked.

"Go ahead," the owner said. The goblet didn't look like much to me. Aside from its griminess, there was little to distinguish it from scores of others I had seen. The design consisted of a stippled background against which were some roses and leaves in clear glass. Nothing more.

But my friend was obviously impressed. His wife, it seemed, had three of them and wanted a fourth. It was the "rose in snow" design—the stippling representing the snow—and he would be glad to pay a reasonable price for it. Not only that, but if there were any more available, especially in color, he would like very much to have a look at them.

There were no more available in color nor in clear glass. The owner's wife had long since collected a set in clear glass and one in blue. She was now working on those in amber and yellow. As for the one holding the pencils, if my friend really wanted it, he could have it for \$10.

The pencils went into a coffee can and the goblet and \$10 changed hands. The price seemed to me a little high, but my friend didn't think so. If

Aquarian Hall of Truth Moves from City

The Aquarian Hall of Truth, 435 North Holly st., has moved from the valley to Sacramento, Calif., according to the pastors, Miss Alice Cook and Miss Flora Hara.

The two women first established the church here two years ago and since that time have been conducting weekly Sunday evening services at the North Holly st. address.

The original Stilton cheese is made near Melton Mowbray in Leicestershire, England.

Japan has opened its third atomic energy plant to carry out research for machinery and instruments.

Have a happy vacation!

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Contributions Made To Student Loan Fund

Ashland—Contributions totaling \$125 have been contributed to Southern Oregon college by the Jackson county units of the Oregon Education association and the Medford Classroom Teachers.

According to Dr. Alvin Fellers, SOC director of student affairs, the county organization contributed \$100 and the Medford group, \$25. Both sums were for the Student Loan fund, Dr. Fellers said.

Use of prescription-type drugs in the U.S. has increased to an estimated 70 million pounds today.

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