



BUSY NOODLE BOY—While most American youngsters in Japan are busy with sports, Bill Wheeler, 11, of Atlanta, Ga., keeps busy as counterman and delivery boy for a Japanese noodle shop. He is shown holding up long strands of noodles. He helps serve 40-odd types of "soba." Japanese noodles available at Fushimiya shop in Tokyo. He also delivers order on a bicycle. He said he gets no pay "but can eat all the soba I want." His parents, Mr. and Mrs. James Wheeler, approve of their son's job. —(UPL Telephoto)

American Youngster Busy With Noodles In Japanese Shop

Tokyo — (UPI) — While most American youngsters in Japan are out playing football, 11-year-old Bill Wheeler of Atlanta, Ga., is keeping himself busy as counterman and delivery boy for a Japanese noodle shop.

Bill helps dispense the 40-odd varieties of "soba," the native noodles, that are available at the Fushimiya Shop in Tokyo's Shinjuku ward. Blond, blue-eyed Bill also gets out and delivers soba orders on a bicycle.

Soba, a kind of bouillabaisse with piping hot broth and noodles, is a highly popular and inexpensive dish in Japan. Bill loves it.

"I don't get paid," he confided. "But I can eat all the soba I want."

Does His Share

In a land where hard work and long hours are the rule, Bill does his share.

The energetic, tow-headed youngster, who speaks very good Japanese, scurries to work after finishing his classes at an American elementary school in the heart of Tokyo.

He works from 4:30 in the afternoon to about 8:30 at night five days a week. On Saturdays, he works a full 10-hour shift. Sunday is his day off.

"I'm really a lucky guy," Bill explained. "I'm learning Japanese customs and they're even showing me how to prepare all kinds of soba."

Bill's home is just one block from the Fushimiya Shop. He can cover the distance in two minutes.

His parents, Mr. and Mrs. James Wheeler approve of his job.

Machine For Christmas

"My mother is even thinking of buying me a small soba machine as a Christmas present so I can make the stuff," he said.

Bill's father is an Army engineer at Camp Drake near Tokyo. The Wheelers took Bill to Yokohama when he was four years old. That's where he learned to speak Japanese. "I just picked it up playing with Japanese friends," he said.

Then his family moved to Shinjuku and Bill found himself without friends and with time on his hands. So last summer he got the idea of working at the local soba shop.

Bill said he can balance six trays of food on his shoulder while riding his bicycle.

"Sure I fell over once. But I went back and got another load. My boss is pretty nice. He didn't say anything. I'm still learning how to balance more trays when I deliver orders."

The Fushimiya Shop is located in a typically Japanese neighborhood. Close by are one and two-story wooden houses with pagoda-like tiled roofs.

Japanese women joggle by on wooden footwear carrying babies on their backs.

As they pass, a young freshly-scrubbed American with a jaunty appearance dressed in white coat, apron and hat, is likely to come out

of the Fushimiya Shop with a load of soba orders on his shoulder to be delivered to hungry customers.

Has Own Ideas

Bill has his own ideas about living in a foreign country.

"All Americans should get out and meet the people and try to learn their language. Japanese, for instance. It's not a hard language."

As for the Japanese people, Bill said:

"Once they know you're interested in them and can talk to them in their own language, they'll buy you all kinds of gifts. Wow!"

Weather Possibly Related to Crime

Cleveland, Ohio — (UPI) — Is there a connection between weather and crime?

The Cleveland Police Department is so determined to find out that the 299 members of the department detective bureau are engaged in a project of making detailed reports on the weather conditions at the time of every crime.

"We have suspected for some time that a steady rain, for example, is accompanied by a rash of break-ins," said Detective Capt. Ernest Hauschild. "If we knew this to be a fact it could play an important part in crime prevention."

In addition to the reports by investigating officers concerning temperatures, wind velocity and direction, and amount of snow or rain, squad cars will make routine weather reports around the clock.

The weather reports also are expected to aid police in questioning suspects to determine whether they actually were at the scene of the crime.

Efficient Machine Does Experts' Work

Chicago — (UPI) — How efficient can you get? Now, there's a machine to do the work of efficiency experts.

The device was demonstrated recently at the 23rd annual industrial engineering and management clinic by Dr. Merle Schmid of Purdue University, who spent five years developing it.

An electronic complex of wires, dials and beeps, it is designed to let one time-study man keep tabs on as many as 20 jobs simultaneously.

Schmid estimated that the machine, called an "antronic random signal audiocaster," could do its job at less than 10 per cent of the cost of conventional methods. He said it could also complete a time-study job in less than a quarter of the time such a study usually takes.

Finally, he said the machine's report could be completed within 48 hours after a time-study, as compared to the one to six weeks a time-study man needs.

South Africa's population in seven years increased by about 2 million to a 1958 total of 14,418,000.

Top Space Men Point To Reason Of Soviet Success

By ROBERT MUSEL
London — (UPI) — There must be a reason why Russia's rockets succeed while America's so frequently fail, and a number of scientists think they know what it is.

Top men in their field, contacted in private conversations at international space meetings, have given their

opinions in the agonizing post-mortem that follows such massive American failures as the one this week at Cape Canaveral. Some are Americans whose names cannot be used because of their official positions.

Build on Launching Sit

The main reason for the Russian successes, according

to the scientists I have spoken to, is that Russia builds and assembles its rockets on the launching site. It makes sure that each one is made virtually by hand. It tests each part, no matter how small or insignificant, in every possible way.

Russian scientists control every single process of every

part that goes into the rockets. They do not leave this to a manufacturer.

In contrast, American rockets are hauled piecemeal to the testing site. One competent American scientist told me that an inquiry into one expensive rocket failure traced the cause to 75 cents worth of faulty metal.

Missiles in Bad Shape

A London Daily Express reporter who covered the recent

failure of the \$7 million Atlas-Able moon rocket at Cape Canaveral said he had been told of missiles arriving from the manufacturers rusted and in bad shape. He said one had to be sent back to the factory because it was so "dilapidated and knocked-about."

The millions spent on a rocket failure can be written off, but you can't store prestige at Fort Knox. President Eisenhower must make his

overseas tour without the same prestige moon shot that Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchev had.

American intelligence learned about the Russian "hand made" rockets many months ago. Presumably the lesson is still being digested.

The Speaker of Britain's House of Lords, unlike the Commons' Speaker, may take part in debates.

MAIL TRIBUNE, Medford, Or.
Thursday, Dec. 3, 1959

MEMORIAL URGED
Chigwell, England — (UPI) — The Chigwell Art Society has recommended to the Chigwell Urban Council that a memorial be erected to famed sculptor Sir Jacob Epstein at near-by Epping forest, where he once lived.

TOPS IN HEARTY, THRIFTY EATING

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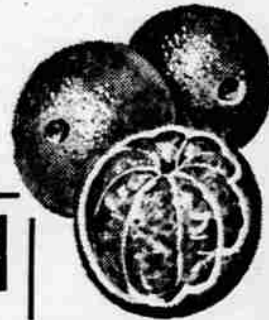
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