



**AVALANCHE** — A car, right foreground, lies beneath wreckage of a building in Moulin Sous Fleron, Belgium, after a slag heap avalanche swept down on this mining

village Friday. Six bodies already were recovered and at least eight other persons were reported missing and presumed dead. (UPI Telephoto)

# OF SMITH & MEN

By Jack Smith

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My friend Al, the deep thinker, phoned again the other day and asked me to meet him at the Chinese restaurant for lunch.

This always means he's made a new intellectual breakthrough. Al's hobby is pure thought. He doesn't fool with ideas unless they are related to the destiny of the entire human race.

It was Al who first got me to worrying about the population explosion. He figures there will be six billion people on the planet by AD 2000. He says the race will have to evolve in reverse and sink back in the sea.

Al is also responsible for the theory that there is already a highly developed clan of beings on the moon, but they are hiding from us by living on the dark side, biding their time.

"What is it this time, Al?" I asked when the waiter had patted away with our orders.

Al insists on meeting me in the Chinese restaurant when he has a new theory. He thinks the waiters can't understand English.

"Listen," he said. He leaned over close to me so nobody could overhear in the next booth. "You ever worry about peace?"

"Worry?" I said. "Well, I think about peace, all right. But I guess I worry more about war."

"That's the whole trouble," Al said. "Everybody worries about war. That's foolish. There isn't going to be any war. And if we don't have war, what do we have?"

"So what's wrong with that?" I asked.

"What's wrong with it?" Al said. "It's impossible! The human race doesn't understand peace. It hasn't had enough practice with it. We'd do everything wrong."

"Why, peace ought to be a snap," I said. "You just live it. If there wasn't any war, life would be like a walk through Disneyland."

"Don't kid yourself," Al said. "We'd have chaos. What'd we do with all the people in the military forces and defense work? What would happen to all that energy?"

"Why, I suppose it could be channeled into more constructive activities," I said. "Little theater groups. Cave exploration. Mushroom cultivation. All sorts of healthful outlets."

"Maybe so," Al said. "But how would we settle international disputes without any armed forces?"

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HERE'S a quiz question: See if you can answer it offhand, without looking it up in the book.

Who wrote "Swiss Family Robinson"?

TO SAVE your time, here is the answer: "Swiss Family Robinson" was written, somewhat more than a century ago, by Johann Rudolf Wyss, a Swiss educator and author. It is probably the best of the many stories that were written along about that time in imitation of Daniel Defoe's "Robinson Crusoe."

Wyss heard the story of the Swiss family named Robinson from his father and wrote it into a book at a considerably later time.

JOHANN Rudolf Wyss was born in Bern, in Switzerland, in 1743, and became a professor of philosophy at the university there.

His works, incidentally, include the Swiss national anthem: "Rufst du, mein Vaterland?" (Are You Calling, My Fatherland?)

New York — (UPI) — Stewart Johnson, 42, New Yorker magazine editor, died Saturday at Presbyterian Hospital.

## Duncan Chilly On Stamp Bill

Salem — (UPI) — House Speaker Robert Duncan (Medford) said today someone would have to show him evidence of abuses before he could support a bill to regulate trading stamps in Oregon.

Such a bill, sponsored by the Oregon Business Council, is due to be introduced this week or the first part of next.

"I have never been enthusiastic about trading stamps," he said. "But I would have to be convinced there are abuses before I would support regulation."

A spokesman for the Oregon Independent Retail Grocers association indicated his group might push to put more teeth into the proposed bill.

H. G. Carlson of Portland, association secretary, said he would like to see another stamp act added — taxation of staple companies by the state.

Among other things the Oregon bill would make stamps redeemable in cash or merchandise, and stamp companies would be required to do away with their exclusive franchise system.

STEAR RED LIGHT — Omro, Wis. — (UPI) — Thieves stole a revolving red light Sunday from atop Police Chief Richard Dehn's car in front of the Omro Youth Center.

## Powder Puff Derby Route Announced

San Diego — (UPI) — The route for the 1961 all-women Transcontinental Powder Puff Derby air race was announced today.

Mrs. Betty Willes, Rancho Santa Fe, Calif., race board chairman, said the starting point will be San Diego and the finishing point Atlantic City, N.J. It will be held July 8-12.

## Eisenhowers Leave For California

Harrisburg, Pa. — (UPI) — Former President Dwight D. Eisenhower and Mrs. Eisenhower left here today on a transcontinental train trip for a two-month vacation in California.

The Eisenhowers will stay at the El Dorado Country club at Palm Springs.

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## Try and Stop Me

By BENNETT CERF

IF YOU'RE NOT convinced that this is an age of specialization, consider the case of an airline that has trained an ordinary white chicken to sit on top of elephants in flight. That's right: I said elephants in flight. It was discovered that an elephant tends to get a bit nervous aboard a moving plane, but that a chicken on its back, for some weird reason, appears to exert a soothing influence. The airline's chicken, trained for this purpose, bears the appropriate name of "Elephant Girl."



A detective in the Southern Pacific yard in Eureka, California, spotted a strange-looking cord dangling out of a freight car on a siding. He climbed into the car to investigate, and found a comfort-loving tramp peacefully asleep under an electric blanket!

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## In the Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

The Salem Statesman reports that the Elsinore Theater in its town "has been the focal point of a traffic jam this past week end that must rival the great days of movie attendance B.T. (before television). The theater has been packed at every showing with customers lining up for blocks and in some cases waiting an hour or more to get in. Walt Disney's 'Swiss Family Robinson' is causing this sudden outpouring of movie fans."

THAT'S good news. When the clean story of a clean hard-working family that is shipwrecked on a remote tropical island and by ingenuity and hard work creates for itself a pleasant and rewarding way of life can line the customers up for blocks and interest them so deeply that they will wait for hours to get

into the theater, it's a sign that it doesn't take blood and thunder and off-color morals to attract paying audiences in these days.

That's worth knowing. THE Statesman adds: "The movie follows the book only insofar as it jams the world's flora and fauna together on a South Seas island to be put at the disposal of the Robinson family that is shipwrecked there. Disney loses into the formula a shipload of throat-cutting pirates, a jungleful of adventure and a bundle of romance in a successful attempt to prove that some things can be made TOO BIG for a 21-inch picture tube."

IN OTHER words, Disney set out to produce for the life-size movie screen something that would be too big in sheer size to be copied by TV. That sounds like shrewd business. But the interesting point is that he chose for his king-size screen opus a clean, delightful, family-life story whose moral, if any, is that hard work, buttressed by a good educational background, can be made to pay off in a big way.

One can't help hoping that "Swiss Family Robinson" pays off at the box office in a big way. That would prove something that in this day and age needs to be proved.

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### Announcing the Affiliation of PERL Funeral Home

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An application for membership cannot be passed upon by the Order itself; membership is granted only after the Order has made direct contact with those who are in the best possible position to know whether the applicant is worthy; families served, and the business and professional men of the community in which the applicant lives.

The Symbol which appears below is the identifying emblem of membership, and all users of this Symbol are pledged to give modern, comprehensive service, to advise wisely, and keep all charges moderate.

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*B. D. Hunter*  
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## Painting, Ceramics Courses Available

The Medford Recreation department is now offering courses in painting and ceramics. The class instructor is Ed Logan, and the classes will be held in the Medford YMCA arts and crafts room.

The painting class includes instruction in water colors, oils, easels, tempera, gouache, basic composition, and picture framing. It will be offered on Wednesdays from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. and on Saturdays from 9 a.m. to noon, and from 1 to 3 p.m.

The class in ceramics will include instruction in the various methods and procedures of pottery making. The class will be offered on Mondays from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. and on Saturdays from 9 a.m. to noon, and 1 to 3 p.m.

Additional information may be obtained by contacting the recreation department in the Medford city hall.

FOR TASTIER CANDY — London — (UPI) — The Union of Retail Confectioners appealed to the government Sunday to permit candy stores to sell liqueur-flavored chocolates. A spokesman for the group said "the alcoholic content of liqueur chocolates is never above 6 per cent, so there is hardly any danger of encouraging drunken orgies."

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- Scott's Pure Pak BIG BOLOGNA Any Size Piece 37¢ lb.
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- Locker Beef — USDA Good, Choice Half, 49c lb. Front 1/4 43c lb. Hind 1/4, 59c lb.
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