

They'll Do It Every Time

By Jimmy Hatlo

THE QUESTION BEFORE THE HOUSE TODAY IS: WHY DO THEY HAVE A TWO-TON WEDDING CAKE THAT TAKES SIX WAITERS TO CARRY IN???



...AND THEN SERVE SLICES THE SIZE OF A BOOK OF MATCHES... OF WHICH YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO EAT SOME AND PUT SOME UNDER YOUR PILLOW...??

OF SMITH & MEN

By Jack Smith

It's a good thing I've already got a job. I might as well figure on staying where I am for life.

With all these new techniques and machines for testing applicants for jobs I doubt if I could get a job racking balls in a poolhall.

The days are gone when all the city editor gave a reporter was a sobriety test and made him type "the little red fox jumps over the lazy brown dog's back" with two fingers.

Now they look at your teeth. X-ray your chest, test your IQ and your emotional profile and make you tell them what you see in an ink blot. One young fellow I know who went through this ordeal thought it must be a genetics test.

I might survive some of these tests. I'm good at ink

blots. But now an outfit called Truth Verification, Inc., in Texas, is being engaged by big companies to give job applicants lie detector tests.

"The rubber hose is stretched across your chest," the firm says. "Then the electrode is placed in your hand. The gray cloth of the blood pressure machine is wrapped around your arm."

"I'd be cooked right there. I'm the kind who always imagines the worst. Airplanes crash. Elevators fall.

If they strapped me in a lie detector machine I'd imagine I was being electrocuted for a crime of passion. I'd be innocent, of course, but that would only make it worse. Injustice makes my blood boil.

My blood pressure is odd anyway. It goes up when they try to measure it. The last time a doctor took my blood

pressure he turned pale and cried, "Great Scott, man! You're going off salt!"

I was off salt a month before we found out it was only nerves.

"You'd never be able to take a lie detector test," the doctor told me. "You'd murder it."

After you're strapped in this chair, says the company, "In a quiet, slow voice, the man asks you questions - Is your name Jack Collins? Have you ever stolen from your employer?"

Well, of course my name isn't Jack Collins, so I could get out of that all right. The next question is tougher.

"I've never actually stolen. Certainly not. But there was that time I came out \$10 short on an expense account and put down \$10 for tooth paste. The editor called me in his office. I'd never been in there before. I was surprised to find out that the editor was a kind of purple-colored man.

"How can you spend \$10 for tooth paste on a two-day trip?" he shouted.

"As a representative of you and your newspaper," I explained, "I wanted my teeth to be as clean as possible."

He didn't fire me. He knew my strengths and weaknesses. But do you suppose any prospective employer, not having any way of detecting any strengths, unless they showed up in my ink blots, would hire me if they found out about the tooth paste? Not likely.

But if I answered no, saying I'd never stolen from an employer, I'd remember the tooth paste and my blood would shoot up.

I might as well just tell the lie detector I was really Jack Collins after all and was wanted for escape from Joliet.

The Family Council

Editor's Note: The Family Council consists of a judge, a psychiatrist, three clergymen, three editors and a woman's editor. Each article is a summary of an actual case history. The Council reports on problems that have been dealt with by responsible agencies and counselors. (Copyright 1961—General Features Corp.)

Agnes M. - My fiance and I can't finance a wedding reception.

Mrs. N. M. - Then, postpone the wedding until you can.

Agnes M. - Newton and I are getting married soon. We're both over 21, and know exactly what we're doing. We each have good jobs and have been able to save up enough money to just about cover the cost of furnishing an apartment. For that reason, we are quite prepared to have a very small wedding and no reception.

To my surprise, my parents are insisting on a reception even though they cannot afford to pay for one. Neither can Newt and I.

My mother's solution to the problem is for us to postpone our wedding and save up for a formal wedding at a Mass in a bridal gown, with a reception for friends and relatives right after. Otherwise, she says, we might as well elope.

We don't want to delay our marriage. At the same time, we don't want any hard feelings. Should we compromise our position in this dispute?

Mrs. N. M. - What's the big rush with Agnes and Newt? She was just 21 last month, and he's 22. Just as they saved up for their home, let them save up a little more and have a beautiful wedding.

How can Agnes put on a wedding-gown and veil and be married at a Nuptial Mass in front of all the family and friends, and then just shake hands and say good-bye outside the church? It's ridiculous, but that's what she has in mind.

I've told Agnes, either she does it right, from top to bottom, with a veil and a procession and a reception after the ceremony and the Mass, or she just gets married quietly in a plain dress with none of the family or friends around, except as witnesses.

"the main course" and the trimmings. Since she can't have both, we know what her choice must be.

After conferring with our Catholic advisers, we can suggest a few compromises, not with the date and budget as Mrs. M. requests, but between the festive pageantry Agnes envisions and the bread-and-butter rites she can afford.

She and Newton may be married at any "low mass," in any garb she wishes. A special nuptial mass is not necessary. Or, she can dress to the gills and slip into the church "through the side-door," for an afternoon wedding, without a mass.

As for a "reception," this can be anything from the sharing of a bottle of champagne among the principals and witnesses, to entertaining a small, specially-invited group at anybody's home which can hold "the bunch." Refreshments can surely be "scared-up."

Most important, Agnes - don't overdramatize your problem. Your parents will accept your decision, and you'll wind up with nice memories of the day, fewer lemonade pitchers, perhaps, but no debts and no regrets.



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Lenten Message

By THE REV. DR. BILLY GRAHAM
Baptist Evangelist
(Written for UPI)

Earth never knew a darker day than that first Good Friday when the Prince of Glory died. But earth's most tragic day was transformed into earth's gladdest day for it marked the end of sin and checked its rule over the hearts and lives of earth's people.

When Jesus lifted up His voice and cried, "It is finished," He did not mean that His life was ebbing away or that God's plan had been foiled. Though death was near, He realized that the last obstacles had been hurdled, the last enemy had been destroyed, and that He had successfully and triumphantly completed the task of redemption.

By His death on the cross, He had removed the last barrier between God and man, and with the words, "It is finished," He announced that the road from man to God was completed and open to traffic.

Modern man would like to make of the cross a thing of sentiment... trinket to be worn around the neck... an ornament on a church steeple... or an emblem stamped in

gold ink on our Bibles. But the cross symbolizes man's utter helplessness to save himself... and the intensity of God's love. There is an element of mystery in the cross of Christ that cannot be understood with our natural minds.

But I do know that all who by faith test its power discover that it can wonderfully change their lives and lift them to a higher plane of living.

MANAGER NAMED
Portland - UPI - A. V. Smith of Portland has been named to the newly-created position of economic and industrial development manager for Pacific Telephone Northwest in Oregon.

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