



Barney Google Author To Receive Newspaper Artist of Year Award

By BOB DRISCOLL

Thirty-five years ago an 11-year-old schoolboy in Tampa, Fla., lit a forbidden firecracker and hastily flung it on the ground. He put his fingers in his ears and closed his eyes. When he didn't hear the muffled explosion a few seconds later, he opened his eyes and gingerly picked up what he thought was the dud firecracker.

Disappointed, he began to blow gently on the cardboard cylinder. It was the only one he had. He never did see the faint spark that sputtered wickedly inside the paper wadding as he futilely tried to fan the wick.

He didn't see anything for two weeks. For a time there was grave fear that there had been permanent damage. He made a little boy's vow then. Never Forget Blackness.

As he grew into manhood he never did forget those two weeks of terrifying blackness or his vow. Even at 11 he had been drawing cartoons and the thought that he couldn't see to transfer the fancies of his mind's eye to drawing paper was perhaps the most frightening consequence of all.

That boy was Fred Lasswell. He draws "Barney Google and Snuffy Smith," which appears in the Medford Mail Tribune. On Nov. 1 more than 1,000 people will bunch into the Grand Ballroom of the Waldorf-Astoria hotel in New York City to see him honored as the outstanding newspaper artist of the year when the Banquets, a club of hard-boiled newspapermen, present him with their "Silver Lady" award.

The "Silver Lady" means that Lasswell has reached the top of his profession, a heady perch where it is easy to forget some of the "unimportant" things.

Success Steadily Mounts. As his success, steadily mounted, however, Lasswell refused to forget the stygian limbo of his youth. He wrote to his old Scoutmaster, prominent in helping the blind in Florida, and asked if there was something within his chosen profession that he might do to help. He was shocked when he learned there were no comics at all for sightless persons.

So for two strenuous years he devoted every spare moment to creating a new concept in comic-artistry that would enable the blind to "see" the funnies. The famous Perkins Institute outside of Boston was so impressed with his progress that they offered him a fellowship at Harvard



FRED LASSWELL
Will Be Honored

university to continue his work, a position he regretfully had to turn down to make a living for his expanding family.

Still, he worked on his unheralded project whenever he had time. He sought out an old Jesuit Priest who did work in braille to pioneer with him. The result of their dedicated labor is now neatly catalogued in the Library of Congress under the title, "This is Charley." It's a short comic book that the blind can see with their fingers.

When six little boys at the Maryland Institute for the Blind expressed their delight at "reading" the funnies for the first time, Fred felt that he had been paid back in full for all the work he had devoted without recompense.

He still feels that there is much to be done in the field of the funnies for the blind. Indeed, he looks forward to the day when daily comics will be translated into pictures for the blind.

Lasswell Conveys Picture

Lasswell, understanding a bit groping for words in explaining a completely new concept, dubiously describes his comic strip as "a method of graphics for the blind."

"It's a different art," he goes on, "one that doesn't look like much if you're looking at it with your eyes. But, I hope, it comes to life under the sensitive finger pad of a blind person."

"This is Charley," which Lasswell embossed and the priest translated into Braille, conveys its picture by keeping the reader oriented.

"It wouldn't do, for instance, 'if a blind child were to see' an elephant's tail before his trunk. As simply as I can explain

it, it works this way. The reader follows the word story and from there a braille signal, perhaps an arrow, or some other clear indicator, leads him to the part of the picture he should 'look at' first. With Snuffy Smith, for instance, an arrow would point to the tip of his hat and go on logically from there. A blind person is so sensitized that he can easily tell if Snuffy is awake or asleep by a lightning touch of the fingers."

At this point, Lasswell feels

30 People To Get School Certificates

Thirty people will receive certificates this week for successfully completing the Jackson County Driver Improvement school which ended on Tuesday.

The monthly schools, held on the first four Tuesdays in each month, are open to the public in addition to those drivers ordered to attend by Medford municipal or Jackson county district courts.

The next school will start Wednesday, Nov. 7, due to election day, school officials said today. The classes meet in the Jackson county courthouse from 7 to 8:30 p.m. and are taught by Medford police officers and Jackson county sheriff's deputies.

During the school among the films shown is "Signal 30," filmed by the Ohio state police which includes not only the causes for traffic accidents, but shows actual accident scenes.

With this session, the tenth, 276 Jackson county residents have successfully completed the school.

Youth on Hospital Leave Slugs Two

Salem — UPB — An 18-year-old youth on trial leave from the state hospital leaped over the counter of a Salem bank Wednesday and struck a vice president and a secretary, police said.

The patient, Maynard Gary Nelson, Salem, was returned to the hospital. Police charged him with disorderly conduct. The incident occurred at the First Federal Savings and Loan association office. The bank's vice president, Cecil Johnson, and secretary Levern Bell, were not seriously injured.

GLASS CAPSULE—This magnetic reed in its hermetically sealed glass capsule is the essential feature of an electronic telephone exchange announced by General Telephone and Electronics Corp. The company claims the system, called EAX (Electronic Automatic Exchange), is the first of its kind to offer intimate compatibility with "step-by-step" electro-mechanical switching equipment. The magnetic reeds, within EAX switching matrix, are said to provide direct metallic paths for each call which can carry signal and voice transmission currents presently used by electro-mechanical equipment. (UPI)

Unemployment Up Sharply in State

Salem—UPI—The Oregon Employment Department said today Oregon's big Columbus Day storm caused unemployment insurance claims to rise sharply, due to various shutdowns.

Seasonal layoffs were also a factor. Claims in Oregon in mid-October totaled 12,057 compared to 9,652 a month ago.

The department noted, however, that the 12,057 figure was still below the total in mid-October last year, 13,334.

The department said it regards the increase in claims due to the storm as temporary

UO Students Hang Castro in Effigy

Eugene — UPB — Students at the University of Oregon this morning hung an effigy of Castro from an upper floor of the Erb Memorial Student Union.

The effigy, draped down a north side wall from a window, bore a sign saying: "To hell with Castro."

since rapid progress is being made to restore normal conditions in areas hit by the winds.

The lowest rate of insured unemployment last week was in Hillsboro, 2 per cent. Highest was 7.8 at Toledo.

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WOMEN—MEN—CHILDREN

Our Grants Pass store has been closed out and the balance of the shoes brought over here for

QUICK DISPOSAL

Women's Dress Shoes

VALUES UP TO \$13.95

\$3.00 \$5.00 \$6.00

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Dress Flats

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Values to 7.95

Infants' Brown Shoes and Oxfords

Small Sizes

Values to \$6.50

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Girls' School Oxfords

Value \$7.95

\$3.00 - \$5.00

Children's School Shoes

VALUES TO \$7.99

\$3.00 \$4.00 \$5.00

Boys' Lace to Toe Boots

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Values to \$9.95 **NOW \$5.00**

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Heavy Duty Metal—Adjustable

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IRONING BOARD COVER AND PAD SET

Comparable to 98¢ Sets

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BABY RUTHS—SNICKERS—MILKY WAYS—PALOOPS—NESTLES CRUNCH M & M's—HERSHEY BARS—2c and 5c

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Box of 40—2c Bars



WHILE STOCKS LAST THE PRICES IN THIS CRAZY SALE ARE GOOD ALL WEEK

The Boss Thinks We Are Crazy. We Are and He's Out of Town. How About That? If You Don't Think We Are Crazy:

LOOK BELOW

FOR THE LADIES ONLY

PROMPTLY AT 7 P.M. FRIDAY THE FIRST 31 LADIES MAY BUY A HANDSOME RONSON TABLE LIGHTER BEAUTIFULLY DESIGNED IN SILVER, CHROME OR ENAMEL FOR JUST:

\$1.99 Each

The price tags read \$8.50 to \$18.50. Now you know we're crazy. Naturally only one to a customer.

THIS ONE IS FOR THE MEN

After the Game Friday Night, When the Clock on the Bank Says Exactly 10:00 P.M.—33 Men May Buy a Name Brand Electric Razor for a Ridiculously Low Price. "Read 'Em While We Weep."

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Power shave or 3 Speed

List Price \$24.50 to \$31.50

Standard or Home & Travel Model

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While We Are Still Under the Spell Here's One for Both Men and Women. The Time — Saturday Morning 10:00 A.M.

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The Boss Just Came Back

We Are Mad—the Boss Is Sad... Look What We Did to Him...

Sunbeam Shave Master

\$7.77

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100% Nylon Stretch Yarn

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He Sold It—We Couldn't

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HIDE ONE FOR HER CHRISTMAS REGENT HAND MIXER

A Fine Portable Electric Mixer

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