

Wood Carver Dusts Off Walnut Piece For His Neighbor

By EWAN McNAUGHTON
United Press International
London - (UPI) - The wood carver beamed when he heard that his "neighbor," Princess Alexandra, was engaged.

He delved into the dark recesses of his workshop and lovingly pulled out a perfect piece of walnut. With gnarled hands he smoothed away the dust until the surface shone. Then he sat down to think

how his skill might turn the block into a wedding present.

Twenty years ago, when Princess Alexandra was tugging at her mother's skirts, and her father, the Duke of Kent, had been dead a year, a massive walnut tree was blown down in the grounds of Windsor Castle. The woodman cut himself an enormous chunk and hid it away.

When Queen Elizabeth married, he gave his wedding present: a walnut fruit bowl. Princess Margaret received walnut egg cups. The Duke of Kent, Alexandra's brother, was given a walnut breakfast set. There remained one last piece. Carver Pelham Dean wrapped it in sackcloth and stored it. He waited anxiously for the news. Twenty years is not long to a man who watches trees grow.

He had been to Eton and Oxford, his family was noble with a lineage as exciting and romantic as a Sir Walter Scott novel. One of his ancestors was sentenced to death in 1644 for rebellion and escaped in his sister's clothes the night before his execution.

And his family had close royal links. His grandmother, who died recently and who published the best-selling "Thatched with Gold," was a lady-in-waiting to Queen Mary. His father, the Earl of Airlie, is Lord Chamberlain to the present Queen Mother. In September this year Angus stayed at Balmoral in the

Queen's house-party. He and Alexandra walked long into the afternoons across the Moors and dropped into the Queen Mother's house, Birkhall, for tea. She took a fond interest in the budding romance, for his father had been a suitor when she was a girl living at Glamis Castle and he at Cortachy Castle, a few miles away.

Both are poor by some standards. Alexandra was left a little money in trust by Queen Mary and Angus has earned what he has by working in the city as an official of 50 companies ranging

from mining firms to Wembley Sports stadium.

As Alexandra has so many royal commitments and her husband-to-be needs to live in town, it is possible they will be given 10 Kensington Palace by the Queen when Princess Margaret and Lord Snowdon move out in the new year to 11A.

Both are protestants, so the wedding is almost certain to be in Westminster Abbey, with the Duke of Kent flying home from Hong Kong, where he is on regimental tour, to give his sister away, and Princess Anne as chief bridesmaid.

There will be some glum faces in many countries now that Alexandra has made up her mind. Her suitors have been as numerous as they have been nationally varied.

Her boy friends have been: Princes Otto and Karl of Hesse, Prince Michael of Greece, Prince Max of Baden, Crown Prince Harald of Norway, Prince Kraft of Hohenzollern-Langenburg, the Marquis of Hamilton, Lord O'Neill, the Duke of Atholl, Viscount Lumley, Lord Patrick Beresford, Lord Farnham, the Earl of Clarendon and Mr. David Bailey.

Oldtime Dinner Call Replaces Fire Alarm

East St. Louis, Ill. - (UPI) - Firemen used a durable kettle lid and metal ladle as a temporary substitute for the automatic alarm system.

An electrical malfunction knocked out the system. While repairmen searched for the trouble, assistant fire chief Charles Cadell borrowed the utensils from the department's kitchen.

When the dispatcher received a call reporting a fire, he turned on the intercom system and rapped the lid sharply with the ladle.

It worked. The banging attracted the attention of all stations.

Lions Club Praises Hiway Work Crew

Prospect - The Lions club of Prospect has sent a letter to the Oregon state highway commission praising the highway crew in the area for their work on Highways 62 and 230 in the Prospect area.

In the letter, signed by

Sherman Poole, president, the club praised Clyde White and his crew. It states that the highway is sanded on frosty mornings before dawn, and ploughed and sanded after snow.

It also notes that the clearing of the shoulders of the highway has made for better visibility.

The letter concludes "during the Oct. 12th storm, Mr. White and his crew risked their lives clearing the highway of dozens of fallen trees so that traffic could get home. They then worked far into the night and the next day making the highway safe."



Coming Out Ball

Eight years ago, his "neighbor" had her coming out ball and Carver Dean soon began to see young men paying her calls. Among the many who called at her home, Coppins, there was Angus Ogilvy, the young Scott from a castle in the highlands.

Quiet but not dour, Angus Ogilvy, the second son of the Earl of Airlie, stayed in the background while the young princess waltzed from partner to partner through the years.

Her name was linked with Irishmen, Englishmen, Germans, Danes, Greeks and others.

He courted her where they had privacy - in his own Scotland. There the princess was able to let her hair down. She could be happy with Angus because he was correct.



KILLED - Grace Mary Hudgens, 20, top, has been found shot to death along with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Myron Young, near Kingman, Ariz. Police arrested her husband, Raymond J. Hudgens, at Sherman Oaks, Calif., after a note was found in Van Nuys, Calif., in which he admitted the triple killings. (UPI)

TALLY-HO
Oxford, England - (UPI) - Cyril Brown, 74, said Tuesday he has won his battle with local fox hunters who wanted to ban his grandson from their forays because they thought the 8-year-old boy might fail to shut farm gates behind him. The hunters relented after Brown banned them from chasing foxes over his 500-acre farm unless his grandson, John Lund, went along.

Your Money's Worth
By SYLVIA PORTER
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TV-Radio Business News Superficial, Woefully Inadequate
In the early hours of last Saturday morning, the seven metropolitan newspapers of New York City were struck and shut down.

As a reporter, I therefore spent many hours Saturday and Sunday listening to radio and watching TV news broadcasts. While the difference between the way these mediums and newspapers report news often has been emphasized, I have never heard the contrast explained from the viewpoint of a reporter on and reader of business news. In this sphere, the gaps in TV-radio coverage are almost as complete as in the spheres of obituaries, marriages, classified and store ads - ordinarily mentioned as among the "most missed items" when newspapers disappear.

TV and radio do try to broadcast the highlights in the financial-economics field but they pick out only the most obvious and simplest highlights. Frequently, these are not nearly as important as the less obvious items.

These mediums do attempt now and then to tell what a business story means and why it means what it means. But their broadcasters are brutally limited by time deadlines, by fear that listeners might not be interested, by eagerness to devote their few minutes to stories of "mass appeal," by their own knowledge. A general news reporter simply cannot explain a complicated financial event on the air in a minute or two.

TV and radio do bring spot news to us on the spot, but as every one knows you have to be where a TV or radio set is turned on at the time of broadcast or you've missed it. At three different times Sunday, I had the frustrating experience of missing a report I particularly wanted to hear because I couldn't stay stuck to a TV or radio set.

To confirm my reactions on this, I phoned several New York City editors Sunday, asked what would have appeared in their financial sections had the papers been printed. My conversation with one financial editor dramatizes my point.

"We had scheduled a half-dozen stories on what's behind the recent stock market rise," he said. "We had good stuff on the activities of mutual funds, banks which invest pension funds, market professionals and technicians."

Note: The stories would have told you that financial institutions have stepped up their buying of stocks and the cumulative impact could be substantial. However, the almost perpendicular rise in stock prices since October is making many pros cautious again. Corporation earnings aren't climbing fast enough now to support another wild market upsurge.

"We had an excellent interpretative story on the factors behind the increasing deficit in the U. S. balance of payments."

Note: The deficit in our balance of payments is growing once more because we still are spending far more abroad than we are earning abroad. As a result, foreigners are building their claims against us to enormous totals, our gold reserve is shrinking. To protect the U. S. dollar, the bankers of the free world are cooperating on an unprecedented scale, adopting never-before-tried techniques. Can you imagine a TV or radio broadcaster explaining this tale in a minute or two? Fat chance.

"We had our usual review of the past week and it included several events of major significance. Of course we had all the stock and bond quotations of the week, high price, low and close."

Note: Several developments certainly were significant. For instance, our unemployment rate went up to 5.8 per cent, another warning that our economy's growth is not fast enough to slash our jobless rate. At the Internal Revenue Service's hearings on the new expense account rules, the I.R.S. indicated it would backtrack on some of the toughest rules because of our barrage of protests. Britain's struggle to get into the European Common Market on mutually acceptable terms reached a new stage, an event of fundamental importance to the entire free world. These are just a few samples.

In the economics sphere, TV-radio news today is superficial, woefully inadequate. It will remain so until the "why" and the "what it means" are told along with the "what" and "when." How much I learned from TV-radio this past week end about subjects of the most vital bread-and-butter interest to all of us was not a complete goose-egg, but it came awfully close to that.

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