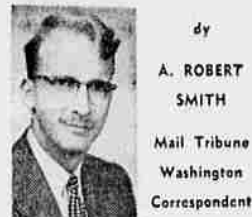


Desert Wasteland Promoters Facing Long, Cold Winter



WASHINGTON — It looks like this will be a cold barren winter for the slick promoters who in recent years have been peddling desert wasteland to innocent citizens who think they're buying a lovely homestead in the scenic West on the installment plan.

Usually this is the peak of the season, with winter's chilly blast roaring down the chimney, for the promoters to flood the mails with literature portraying inexpensive sunny home sites, sometimes pictured near non-existent lakes.

There may never be an end to variations on this promotional venture, but 1963 should go down as the year the government cracked the desert land frauds.

that drinking water, power lines, telephone circuits and other community conveniences were at hand for ready service to each lot.

Money Mailed
Over 3,000 citizens living in a dozen states and Washington, D. C., bit on this case. They mailed their money to an address in Kingman, Ariz., presumed to be near the property. The indictment said this was part of the fraud, for the mail was forwarded unopened to their offices in Miami and Hollywood, Fla.

Florida's reputation among would-be property buyers living elsewhere was once tarnished by the promoters who sold swamp land with the same sort of misleading salesmanship.

The Justice Department's successful crackdown on desert land swindling will protect the good name of the Western states to which many Midwest and Eastern citizens have been migrating in recent years.

Four Killed in Rectory Robbery

OTTAWA (UPI) — Parishioners bowed their heads in prayer near the end of the noon Mass at the little church of Christ the King on the quiet last Sunday before Christmas.

Then a loud knock on the door behind the altar heralded the beginning of a drama of horror that was to end with four persons fatally shot in the parish rectory a few yards away.

Canadian Justice Minister and Deputy Prime Minister Lionel Chevrier, a member of the Roman Catholic parish, was among the 350 worshippers who saw and heard the events unfold.

Two women and a man were shot to death Sunday in an abortive robbery of the rectory in the heart of this Canadian capital city. Then one of two brothers, the suspected gunman, killed himself in panic as police closed in. The other brother surrendered and was charged with murder.

Victims of the shooting were Miss Alberte Guindon, 45, the rectory housekeeper; Miss Doris Bechar, who lived with a sister in an apartment in the rectory building, and Paul Mercier, a parishioner. Roger Biette, 21, shot himself in the head with an automatic pistol when police with machine guns closed in. His brother Reginald, 17, gave up when he crawled onto a third-story fire escap and found police guns bristling below.

Man Sentenced Again For 1962 Slaying

PORTLAND (UPI) — George Jones, 37, today was sentenced to life imprisonment for a second time for a 1962 slaying.

Jones was convicted last week of second degree murder for the fatal stabbing of Robert Bowman, 33, in a local cafe.

He had been convicted and sentenced to a life term earlier but the State Supreme Court ordered a new trial.

They'll Do It Every Time

AT THE FOOTBALL GAME THE LOUD-SPEAKER PAGES SOMEONE ONLY WHEN ITS VERY IMPORTANT ...



SO THE GOOD DOCTOR GETS TO SAID OFFICE TO FIND THERE'S A PHONE CALL AWAITING HIM ...



Your Money's Worth

By SYLVIA PORTER
Copyright, Hall Syndicate, Inc.

THE METRIC SYSTEM — WHAT IT IS
(This is the first in a series of three columns)

Say you weigh 125 pounds, are five feet, four inches tall and measure 36-24-36. What if your weight became approximately 57, your height 1.63 and your measurements — hold fast 91-61-91?

This is not pre-Christmas nonsense. For what I've done above is simply translate our familiar English pounds, feet and inches into their equivalent metric weight and measures — kilograms, meters and centimeters.

Impressive evidence is piling up that we finally are moving toward adoption of the Metric System for weights and measurements — the "international language" of science and trade used in 83 countries, including 90 per cent of the world's population today.

Item: A "Metric Study Bill" is slated to be introduced in the next session of Congress to lay the basis for conversion here to the Metric System over the next generation. Chances for passage of the bill, which would call for an exhaustive study of the feasibility and problems of the changeover by the National Bureau of Standards, are considered the best in years.

Item: This Saturday, Dec. 28, in Cleveland, the Metric Association, a non-profit organization headquartered in Washington, will hold its annual meeting in connection with the convention of the American Assn. for the Advancement of Science. Leaders of science, education and industry at this meeting will push for conversion as soon as feasible.

Item: Editorials are now appearing in record numbers in the nation's most influential scientific and trade journals urging a changeover to meet the demands of space-age industries and to bring our measurement system into conformity with the most of the rest of the world.

"Never before has there been such tremendous pressure to convert to the Metric System," says Democratic Congressman George Miller of California, chairman of the House Committee on Science and Astronautics and sponsor of the Metric Study bill. Miller expects that the study will be completed by 1967, that it will recommend conversion and "that we could be actually converting before the end of this decade."

What is the Metric System?
It is a beautifully simple system of weights and measurement, invented by the French at the close of the 18th century, which educators say could be mastered by most of us in less than an hour.

It divides all weights, distances and volumes into neat units of 10, 100 and 1,000. There are only three units involved — the gram, the meter and the liter, to measure weight, length and volume. For weight, there is the gram and there are 1,000 grams in a kilogram (about 2.2 pounds). For length, there is the meter and there are 1,000 meters in a kilometer (about half a mile). For volume, there is the liter (which is about a quart) and there are 1,000 liters in a kiloliter. In addition, there are such measures as the millimeter, the milligram, the centimeter, but the entire system is in those neat units — and there is no such nonsense as 5.280 feet in a mile or 12 inches in a foot or 86 45/64 quarts in a barrel of cranberries but 105 "dry quarts" (whatever they are) in most other barrels of fruit.

In contrast, our system is, as the Science News Letter puts it, a "tangled spaghetti of systems," an ordeal for young and old. Aside from feet and inches, we all must learn there are 160 rods in an acre, 640 acres in a square mile, four gills in a pint, 32 quarts in a bushel, 144 square inches in a square foot. How many do you still remember?

If you are an engineer, a surveyor or a scientist, you also must deal with links and chains, drams and minims, short and long tons, points and perches, grains and scruples.

You must know the difference between statute and nautical miles. Troy and avoirdupois ounces and you must not forget that a pound of feathers does NOT weigh the same as a pound of gold.

Against the Metric System's three units, there are more than 80 units in "common use" in our country today. Ours is a tortuously complicated, monstrously mixed up system in a world in which trade and exchange of scientific information demand simplicity and uniformity.

Next: What a changeover would mean to you.

Paul Robeson Ends Self Exile

NEW YORK (UPI) — Controversial Negro singer Paul Robeson, 47, ended his self-imposed five-year exile Sunday and flew back to the United States.

The former All-America football player, associated in the past with Communist front movements, arrived at Kennedy Airport here looking considerably thinner than when he left in 1958. He has been suffering from a circulatory ailment and received medical treatment in East Berlin and London.

The 65-year-old Robeson remained relatively quiet, preferring to let his wife do the talking.

Questioned about reports that Robeson had become disillusioned with Communism, the singer's wife, Eslanda, told newsmen, "that's stupid. Of course he is not. He never was. He thinks it's terrific."

"He's always thought that way and he always will," Mrs. Robeson said.

Robeson, who has been in retirement since before his illness, appeared reluctant to talk.

"I may have something to say later," he told newsmen.

The Family Council

Editor's note: The Family Council consists of a judge, psychiatrist, three clergymen, three editors and a women's editor. Each article is a summary of a family disagreement presented to the Council. The Council deals with problems, major and minor, entered by guidance counselors and social workers. Edited by Mrs. Alma Denny. (Copyright by General Features Corp.)

casual friends did. A woman like that can drive a man to ruin. If Vic won't make a move to save himself, shouldn't we, his family? She's made it clear she doesn't want him, his love, his children, only his money!

Victor R. — I want my family to stay out of this.
Kenneth R. — He's like putty in that woman's hands.
Victor R. — My wife and I have a few differences of opinion, but I haven't given up hope of working out a compromise. Right now she's vacationing in Florida alone because I balked at the expense of us both going there. I preferred Atlantic City. My brothers and sisters are horrified and want to give Jane a piece of their mind. I know they mean well, but my interest in heart, but this is between us two.

Kenneth R. — He's married to a monster. After 3 years of hell, he should admit it and get rid of her. Already he's had one breakdown, during which she visited him even less than

Belle Probably Won't Leave Jail

PITTSBURGH (UPI) — Lack of \$60,000 bond was expected to keep ex-finance Earl Belle in the Allegheny County jail for the time being on 50 counts of fraud and conspiracy.

Belle, who ended a 5½ year self-imposed exile in Brazil a week ago when he arrived in New York, was brought back to Pittsburgh Thursday to face federal charges growing out of stock manipulations.

Belle's attorney, Louis Glasso said Friday he would continue attempts to raise bond money and would try to have the bond reduced Monday.

Glasso also explained that \$3,000 found in a coat taken to Belle by his father, Julius Belle had been earmarked for the care of the suspect's children.

The attorney said the cash was the remainder of \$4,000 the elder Belle had taken to Brazil recently to use for the care of his son's two children. Jail guard discovered the cash when Belle brought clothes to his son at the jail.
Belle, 31, also faces federal charges in New Jersey growing out of the collapse of his paper financial empire.

Suit Filed Against Balloon Bread Law

PORTLAND (UPI) — A suit asking that the balloon bread law passed by the 1963 legislature be declared unconstitutional has been filed in Circuit Court here.

The Davidson Baking Co. of Portland took the action against the Oregon Department of Agriculture and its director, J.F. Short.

The company also asked for a temporary injunction restraining the department from enforcing the law.

The law, which requires that bread labels contain the minimum weight and weight size of loaves, is scheduled to go into effect Jan. 1.

The department reported that most bakeries already have submitted their new labels for approval.

Doomed Child's Father Offers To Share Toys

BOWLING, GREEN, S. C. (UPI) — The father of Vicki Wray, a 2-year-old threatened with the loss of her remaining eye by cancer, is a \$50-a-week millhand but he wants to share the countless toys donated to Vicki with "other underprivileged children."

Robert Wray, 39, who has eight other children, has asked the Salvation Army to distribute the excess playthings "to share the happiness of Christmas."

Unknown friends across the nation donated the toys and more than \$5,000 to Vicki, afflicted with retinal blastoma, a form of cancer that took her right eye last July.

State Rep. Bate Harvey of nearby Clover is in charge of a fund to help raise money for an operation for Vicki. The surgery was to have been performed at Durham, N.C., last week, but specialists postponed the operation because it was not immediately necessary.

Harvey said Vicki has received more than 300 cards and letters, one from two Charlotte, N.C., boys who enclosed 11 cents each. They told Vicki they wanted to share in her Christmas celebration.

4-H NEWS

The Kandy Kids

Officers were elected by the Kandy Kids 4-H Club at last meeting. They are Myrna Long, president; Darlene Thompson, vice president; Carol Foote, secretary; Shirley Roach, news reporter; and junior leader, Donna Bailey.

Plans to take cookies to an old folks home were discussed and the members agreed to carry out this project.

The program for the year will be made out by the president, and junior leader and the club leader.

Each member brought a center piece to the meeting to be exhibited and discussed.
Shirley Roach, Reporter

Lake Creek Wranglers
The Lake Creek Wranglers 4-H Beef Club elected officers at the December meeting, held at the home of Bob Fisher.

They are Laura Mae Noble, president; Willard Walsh, vice president; Cheryl Stanley, secretary; Bob Armitage, reporter, and Nancy Stanley, song and game leader.

The next meeting will be held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. E. S. Armitage at 7:30 p.m. Jan. 21.
Bob Armitage, Reporter

Dennis the Menace



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CHRISTMAS NIGHT

Apostolic Faith Church

3rd and Central

The Rev. Loyce C. Carver, Pastor

Christmas Music — 7:50 P.M.

40-Piece Orchestra — "March of the Three Kings"
60-Voice Choir — "Modern Christmas Choir"

Christmas Message

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GIFTS FOR EVERYONE!

OPEN MONDAY NIGHT UNTIL 9:00 P.M.

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Bulgaria To Try Official as Spy

VIENNA (UPI) — Communist Bulgaria will try a former official in its U.N. mission this week on charges of spying for the United States. It accuses Ivan-Assen Georgiev of receiving \$200,000 for his espionage work and spending much of it on women and immoral living.

The 56-year-old Georgiev, international lawyer and former counsellor to the Bulgarian mission to the United Nations, is charged with delivering Bulgarian political, economic and military information to the "American intelligence service."

The charges were announced Saturday night by the Bulgarian Telegraph Agency (BTA) which said Georgiev's trial would be held Thursday.

Portland Florist Taken by Death

PORTLAND (UPI) — Funeral will be held Tuesday for Hans Niklas, a prominent Portland florist.

Niklas, 72, died at a hospital here Saturday.

Gift Horse

IN THE ARCADE
126 EAST MAIN

MAKE YOUR PRESENTS KNOWN

Because of recent tragedy in family and illness, we take this means to thank all our friends, known and unknown, for the beautiful flowers and cards and wish all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. May God's blessings be with you.

Dr. and Mrs. Jouett P. Bray

IN MEMORIAM

JOHN F. KENNEDY

35th PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

May 29, 1917 — November 22, 1963

At the conclusion of the official 30-day period of mourning for our martyred President, we believe it is proper that we make this final formal tribute. The outpouring of sympathy, prayers and understanding that has followed the president's death is likewise a tribute to the nation. The British statesman Gladstone said it well:

"Show me the manner in which a nation cares for its dead, and I will measure with mathematical exactness the tender sympathies of the people, their respect for the laws of the land, and their loyalty to high ideals."

PERL FUNERAL HOME

Corner Sixth and Oakdale