

About Two Youngsters Who Made Pen Wipers for Zulus

By FRANK TRIPP

We were talking about a bottle of milk for every Hotentot. "I can well remember my first concern for the heathens," Tom Wrigley said to me.

Whereupon I recalled being likewise concerned when Tom and I were kids. We made pen-wipers for the Zulus.

We both became newspapermen and there were times when we had use for pen-wipers but just what the Zulus had for them they never wrote us. It took us years to find out.

The pen-wiper enterprise back in the early 90s, though intensely juvenile in our case, was on a production basis; the first assembly line that either of us remembers.

As a rainy day diversion we had no objection to assembling at the church for this worthy cause. The spiritual needs of the Zulus, and their shortage of pen-wipers, had been deeply impressed upon us.

Yet in retrospect I suspect that our devotion was somewhat influenced by the candy, cakes and tea cream which were features of the occasions. We made more pen-wipers than the polygamous Zulus had wives — at least one for each of them.

Explanation

Maybe I'd better explain what a pen-wiper is — or was. Writing tools have so changed that a pen-wiper has become as much a museum piece as is a quill pen.

Before came pens of gold everybody used steel pens stuck into pencil-like holders and dipped into small-necked bottles of watery ink which rusted the pens if not wiped dry. You can find an improvement on them at the post office — yet not much improvement at that.

Thus a pen-wiper was a must on every desk. They ranged from a dish of shot, a sponge or an old handkerchief to somewhat elaborate gadgets.

Every Christmas was sure to bring three things into the household and very likely several of each of the three, for the gift from the heart those days was something the giver had made.

The three certainties were sheets of colored tissue paper sewed into a pad, for dad's shaving kit; horribly executed burnt leather pipe racks to hang on the wall — and pen-wipers.

Misc

Well, those pen-wipers which Tom and I made for the Zulus were quite contraptions to emanate from kids of eight or nine. There was a mouse on top of them. It was not entirely for decoration. The mouse's

nose fitted into the concave part of the pen and his back would wipe the convex part.

Research reveals that the Zulus had cats. This may have created the demand for stuffed mice — to entertain heathen cats. Even so, there was no need for all of the work that went into the many layers of varicolored cloth upon which the mouse reposed in the finished product.

This simulated throne for the rodent created the production and assembly line. The kids cut out various sizes of cloth circles until there was a goodly thickness of them with a stuffed mouse mounted in the center. I remember the industrious lady who stuffed the mice. She was Minnie Kelley.

No Record

Unfortunately there is no record of the number of converts influenced by our labors. There is evidence that pen-wipers reached the heathens, though none that ours reached the Zulus.

It may be that the good women who occupied our time to the temporary relief of our mothers were only keeping us interested with the Zulu story and were merely fore-runners of the baby sitter. Maybe they never sent our pen-wipers to the Zulus at all.

Nevertheless, pen-wipers showed up, along with discarded plug hats, as bribes to benighted tribes to give heed to their eternal salvation.

An old news picture among my treasures shows a heathen with a ring in his nose and a mouse-topped pen-wiper otherwise — and you can guess how.

Tom and I are awfully proud to look back upon our early contribution to the heathens.

And we recommend it as about the only effort overlooked in the modern manner of urging the Hotentot to our breasts.

British Repairing U. S. Ships

LONDON, (AP)—British shipyards are beginning to earn dollars for Britain by overhauling American ships. Wallsend-on-Tyne shipyards have completed the overhaul of the U. S. owned tanker Meacham and now are awaiting the arrival of the 10,448 ton oil tanker Umatilla for general repairs.

E. J. Hunter, director of the firm, is visiting the United States in search of further orders.

The Italian port of Leghorn is called Livorno in Italian.



POSTER GIRL FOR MARCH OF DIMES—Wanda Wiley, age 8, of Austin, Tex., has been chosen poster girl for the 1950 March of Dimes campaign. Wanda is one of six children of Mr. and Mrs. Earl N. Wiley of Austin, and the second member of the family to suffer polio.

Coffee Usage Has Changed But the Old Taste Remains

By ARTHUR EDSON

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15 (AP)—Coffee, so much in the news now, once was considered something more than a fine drink. Back in the 1700's it was looked on as a cure for almost all that ails you. Richard Bradley turned out a fascinating little book in 1721 called "The Virtue and Use of Coffee with

Regard to the Plague and other Infectious Distempers."

Bradley, a Londoner, contended that if coffee had been known during the Great Plague, the disease never would have been so disastrous. And he advanced this as proof:

"In some parts of Turkey where the plague is almost constant, it is

is seldom mortal in whole families, who are rich enough to enjoy the free use of coffee; but the poor sort, who want that benefit, seldom escape."

Nor was that all, in Bradley's opinion. "If a mother drinks frequently of it when she is with-child, the infant will not be troubled with worms, during its first years," he wrote.

"Other authors assert, it cures consumptives, swooning fits, and the rickets, and that it helps digestion, rarefies the blood, suppresses vapours, give life and gaiety to the spirits."

But even Bradley conceded that you can't have everything. "disallows the use of it to such as are paralytic, and likewise such as are troubled with melancholy vapours, or have hot brains."

So if your brains are hot, don't turn to coffee for solace. Still, doesn't it look as if you get a lot, even at 85 cents a pound?

The whole history of coffee is wonderful, especially the legend of how man first learned of its value. Kaldi, an Arabian goatherder, noticed in the year 850 that his goats "not only kept awake all night long, but spent it in frisking and dancing in an unnatural manner."

Turned out the gay things had been on a coffee jag.

In spite of the popularity of coffee, man always has had a difficulty getting a decent cup of it. Back in 1721 Bradley wrote of a traveler to Constantinople who reported on coffee:

"It was sold in many public places there, where he calls coffee houses, where the Turks sit chatting most of the day, and sip of a drink called coffa, in little China dishes, as hot as they can suffer it; black as soot and tasting not much unlike it."

The description was so apt that I dropped around to my favorite restaurant for a check. Sure enough, it still tastes like soot.

WANT BRIGHTER COLORS?

Rain drops puts a "rainbow" round your wash line... actually reveals the hidden brightness of wash-faded colors.

RAIN DROPS

Recommended by Good Housekeeping

at your Grocers

How to avoid a dingy, musty wash ... even when you dry indoors!

WHEN bad weather forces you to dry indoors, it doesn't mean your laundry must be dingy-looking or musty-smelling.

Simply launder with Clorox, and your white and color-fast cottons and linens will be snowy-white, color-bright... and fresh as a spring breeze! Not only that... Clorox removes stains, makes laundry sanitary, too!

And because Clorox is extra-gentle and lessens rubbing, it conserves costly linens and saves you money! Enjoy all of these benefits by starting the thrifty Clorox habit today!



Here are still more Clorox benefits!

Sink, drainboard, wash basin, tub and toilet bowl may all look clean but actually harbor harmful germs. When you use Clorox in routine cleaning, you not only remove stains and deodorize, you disinfect... provide added health protection for your family!

Directions on Label

You get these **2 BIG EXTRAS** with **CLOROX**

1. GENTLER BLEACHING ACTION
...longer life for linens!

2. GREATER DISINFECTING EFFICIENCY
...added health protection!

CLOROX... AMERICA'S FAVORITE BLEACH AND HOUSEHOLD DISINFECTANT

Extra Rich in MEAT!

BEG-MORE

DOG AND CAT FOOD

Extra Rich in MEAT!

AT YOUR GROCERS

BEG-MORE

DOG AND CAT FOOD

Extra Rich in MEAT!

Wonderful Flavor

It's always a pleasure to drink Schilling! Thermo-Regulated roast assures uniform good flavor, always richer and more delicious.

TWO KINDS—DRIP OR PERCOLATOR

Schilling Coffee *has it!*

PICTSWEET

FROZEN-FRESH

COB CORN

NOW!

AT LEADING FOOD STORES!

Thanks to PICTSWEET, you can enjoy this summertime treat the year 'round! Two fine ears of Golden Corn... firm, tender, delicious kernels... as fresh as though you had just picked them from your own garden... in each cellophane-wrapped package... wonderful to look at... even more wonderful to eat!

Picked-Sweet ... Stay Sweet!

...at the same time, get THESE TWO OTHER TOP VALUES!

PICTSWEET

FROZEN-FRESH

Sliced STRAWBERRIES

PICTSWEET

FROZEN-FRESH

GREEN PEAS

DISTRIBUTED BY
ZERO DISTRIBUTING CO.
P. O. BOX 1022, KLAMATH FALLS, OREGON PHONE 8490-4847

For Women Only

(WHO BAKE AT HOME)

THE WOMAN'S ANGLE

THINK OF IT—THIS NEW FLEISCHMANN'S DRY YEAST NEVER NEEDS REFRIGERATION

I KNOW—KEEPS MONTHS ON THE PANTRY SHELF

SO FAST RISING—ITS EXTRA-ACTIVE

YES—YOU CAN ALWAYS COUNT ON IT

FITS ALL MY FAVORITE RECIPES TOO

ALL YOU DO IS SPRINKLE ON TOP OF LUKEWARM WATER, LET STAND 10 MINUTES, THEN STIR WELL

HOORAY—buy 3 packages at a time. Keep it handy. Stays active—always ready to use—always dependable.

3 times as many women prefer FLEISCHMANN'S YEAST

for the Holidays...

Mince Meat Tarts

CROWN COOK-OF-THE-MONTH

Mrs. Arthur C. Hayes
Aberdeen, Washington

Christmas tarts...fragrant and spicy...are a treat for the holidays on any day. Follow this recipe of Mrs. Arthur C. Hayes of Aberdeen... and be sure to use Crown Best Patent Flour.

Enriched with vitamins and minerals, Crown Best Patent is milled from the Northwest's finest hard wheat...constantly tested in Crown's own Celia Lee kitchen. Try Best Patent in your baking today. You'll agree with Mrs. Hayes who says, "Crown's even-textured qualities are perfect for cakes and cookies as well as for bread and rolls." That's why the best cooks in town, use Crown!

CROWN MINCE MEAT TARTS

3 cups Crown Flour, sifted

2 tsp. baking powder

1/4 tsp. salt

1/2 cup butter or margarine

1/2 cup brown sugar

1 egg, beaten

1 tsp. vanilla

1/2 cup milk

Sift flour, baking powder, and salt together. Cream butter, add sugar gradually. Add egg and vanilla; then flour, alternately with milk. Beat till smooth. Chill for 15 minutes. Roll 1/4 inch thick. Cut into 2 1/2-in. circles. Place 1 tsp. Mince meat on half the circles. Top with plain circles. Press edges together tightly. Bake in hot oven (400°) 10 to 12 minutes. Yield: about three dozen.

Crown Best Patent Flour