

Herald and News

FRANK JENKINS
Editor

BILL JENKINS
Managing Editor

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Hal Boyle

NIAGARA FALLS, N. Y. — Many have dreamed of winning fame and fortune by going over Niagara Falls in a barrel.

Six people have done it. Three lived—three were pounded to death by the waters.

The only surviving victor of the falls now is Jean Lussier, who bounced and floated in a home-made rubber ball over the Canadian side of the cataract on July 4, 1928. He emerged uninjured.

Jean, a rugged former carnival stunt man, now works as a machine operator in an industrial plant here.

He will be 59 years old this year and next Sunday will attend the baptism of his fourth child—a five-week-old boy.

Lussier, who has escaped the bad luck that caught up with other conquerors of the falls, says he would like to go over the falls a second time. But with him it's strictly business.

READY

Show me the dough, and I'll go," he said. "But it will have to be this year or next—after that I'll be too old."

Jean would like to become the first man in history to go over the American side of the falls, which is particularly hazardous because of the rocks beneath.

He already has designed a three-layer rubber ball to be built around an aluminum frame. He says all he needs now is a sponsor willing to put up \$3,000 to construct the ball—and the \$10,000 fee he wants to make the voyage.

"I'll go over any waterfall in the world in a rubber ball," he said. "If the fall is too high, I'll put wings on the ball."

The first person to ride over Niagara Falls successfully was a doughy lady schoolteacher, Mrs. Annie Edson Taylor. Her barrel was a crude wooden barrel with iron hoops.

According to tradition at the last

moment she said "I don't want to go."

But her backers reportedly poured her two water glasses full of Scotch, closed the hatch, and pushed the barrel out into the current.

Mrs. Taylor emerged below the falls unscathed, sold souvenir cards of her exploit at a local museum, and died years later in the poorhouse.

An English daredevil, Bobby Leach, floated over the falls in an iron barrel in 1911. He forgot to strap himself in, and when he was pulled out of his metal cask he had a broken jaw and two broken kneecaps.

Leach had a rather unfortunate ending for a stunt man.

While touring New Zealand with his iron barrel in 1926 he slipped on an orange peel—and died.

Lussier was the first man to do the job scientifically. He spent \$7,000 and a year preparing. He constructed his rubber ball himself. He entered the ball at 3:05 in the afternoon, went over the 167-foot falls at 3:55, and came out of the ball at 4:23.

SLOW JUMP

How does it feel going over the falls?

"I kept bracing for a sharp jar, but it never came," recalled Lussier. "It was like making a ski jump in slow motion. The ball was under the water only a minute and five seconds."

In the next 14 years Lussier made a small fortune touring the world with his rubber ball and telling the story of his 78-minute exploit.

"I'm satisfied," he said. "It paid off for me."

Most residents say his talk of going over the falls again is only verbal dreaming, but little Jean Lussier is five feet five inches tall, weighs 154 pounds—says stubbornly:

"Show me the dough, and I'll go."

Bruce Brossat

The expert advice from Peter Edson and other Washington correspondents make it clear the real issue is not a wage boost but the union shop issue. In fact, this question is now paramount not just in steel, but in several other major industries.

What is a "union shop" control? It is one under which a worker is organized in a union, even 30 days after hiring to join the governing union. If he does not, he must either pay union dues anyway, or face discharge from his job.

In the contrasting "closed shop," nobody can be hired by the employer unless he is already a member of the union. This arrangement is now barred by law, but the union shop is not.

Large segments of American management nevertheless stoutly oppose the union shop, largely on the grounds that it amounts to violation of an individual worker's rights under the Constitution.

NO DECISION

The Supreme Court never has passed on the constitutionality of compulsory unionism. But it has ruled that a worker may not be denied employment because of union membership. It seems far-fetched to imagine it would go to the other extreme and insist upon membership as the password to a job.

There is something foreign to the American tradition in compulsion carried this far. Of course we must obey the laws and pay taxes and serve in the armed forces if called. But these are not the same as being compelled to attach oneself—financially or any other way—to any particular organization, society or group.

The basic union argument for the

union shop is that since the unorganized worker minority in a plant directly controls the wage gains and other concessions obtained in the bargaining process, these workers at the very least should help support the union.

"Free riders" is the term labor applies to non-joiners.

RIGHTS

This is not the place to argue the psychology or justice of the non-joiner's position as against the union majority. But whether he is being fair or not, his freedom to choose what working and social associations he shall make ought not to be penalized.

Put in the most brutal terms, a man in America must be free to be a heel if he wants to be. This is not said to grant labor's argument about non-joiners. It is just a way of saying that our guarantees of individual rights were not designed to prevent selfishness. They were framed to promote the maximum reasonable expression of the individual self.

In the same fashion, our criminal laws are aimed primarily at catching all the guilty, but rather at protecting the innocent. We practice justice on the theory it is better for 10 guilty men to escape punishment than for one innocent man to be penalized.

If we draft laws or contentions agreements to force unselfish behavior, we may soon be forcing other kinds of "wise and necessary" behavior. And then where would our freedom be?

They'll Do It Every Time



James Marlow

WASHINGTON (AP) — That whipping boy of the steel dispute, the Wage Stabilization Board, is in for a fresh beating.

The Senate Banking Committee Wednesday suggested drastic changes in the WSB setup.

Now the board has 18 members, of whom six represent organized labor, six industry, and six the public.

The Banking Committee thinks that the board should be made up of public representatives only.

The board now can recommend ways of settling a union-management dispute. The committee thinks it should be stripped of this power.

PRIME TOPIC

What the committee proposes can't happen, of course, unless the full Senate and House approve. Until they do, if they do, WSB will provide Congress with a prime topic for conversation.

Ever since its recommendations in the steel dispute the WSB has been taking a beating from those who disagreed with it while its friends, particularly labor unions, patted it on the head.

Besides suggesting the steelworkers should have a union shop, an idea which didn't add to the industry's happiness, the WSB recommended the workers be given a raise of about 26 cents an hour.

Cheap Foreign Mail Ban Eyed

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Post Office Department can't prevent foreign governments from mailing literature throughout the United States on low-cost mailing permits, Rep. Norblad (R-Ore.) was told this week.

The Astoria congressman had projected to the department that U. S. taxpayers were paying the bill to help Bulgaria and Hungary subsidize this country.

He asked the department to cancel permits or refuse to accept mailings made thereunder as long as the matter presented is mailable and otherwise conforms to the requirements.

Donaldson said that on previous protests, similar to that by Norblad, the solicitor for the department has ruled that the material is mailable.

Soldier Gets Death Decree

NUERNBERG, Germany (AP) — Pvt. John F. Vignault, a 19-year-old American soldier, was sentenced to death Thursday for murdering two Germans and stealing their car.

The little sharp-faced soldier from Goffs Falls, N.H., stood quietly and showed no visible signs of emotion as he heard the sentence pronounced by the U. S. Fourth Division court martial of 10 officers.

This was believed to be the first time since the war that an American soldier was sentenced to death for killing a German.

The slayings had aroused German feeling. Many residents from the victim's home town, Neustadt, attended the trial held in the same courtroom where 11 top Nazis were doomed to death by the International War Crimes Tribunal.

Many of the spectators were brought to the trial in official American automobiles to show the Germans that American justice would be fair in trying to curb soldier violence in Germany.

Vignault had confessed the double shooting in a signed statement accepted as evidence.

His defense counsel had claimed the soldier was mentally subnormal, the "victim of a poverty-stricken childhood."

Vignault went on trial nine days ago for the killing of Karl Eckert, 26, a businessman, and Lothar Schosser, 26, another German, on a lonely highway on April 19.

Dr. E. P. Jordan

Some problems are extraordinarily difficult to answer.

Q—My husband and I have been married less than a year and our ages are 30 and 39 respectively. We are both in reasonably good health and would like to have a child.

Do you think we would be wrong in bringing a child into the world at this late time, or would you advise us to try adopting a child or is there an age limit on this too?

A—Many couples of the ages given do have healthy children. The first step, from the medical standpoint, is for both husband and wife to be carefully examined to make sure that there is no physical reason why they should not have children.

In considering either a natural child or an adoption, the home and prospects of the child should also be weighed. In other words, such things as the fact that the mother would be over 50 and the father over 60 when the child was 10 years old should be faced in advance.

All of these things should be frankly discussed by the couple themselves and with their doctor.

Q—I have been troubled with what has been diagnosed as pneumonia for several days, but for the past few years I have had fever only occasionally, but still feel weak and have a dull, aching pain in the upper part of my back. What could this be?

A—This is a rather unusual question. It suggests a chronic virus pneumonia or pneumonitis, and while often long-lasting, this is exceptionally long. It would seem that some active steps should be taken, such as a long period of rest in bed or possibly a change in climate, and the doctor should advise just what these steps should be.

Q—People say that sun-bathing is helpful for infections, but if the sun shines through a window glass, it loses its value. Is this true?

A—Ordinary window glass filters out most of the ultra-violet rays and some of the other rays for sunbathing. For this reason, sitting in the sun shining through a window does not have the same effect as exposure to direct sunshine. However, sunlight is not a cure-all.

Q—My 3-year-old boy has bitten his fingernails down so that they bleed, and a kind of purple break-out on his fingers. He seems to have lots of pep, but in underweight, craves candy and cookies, and won't eat a regular meal.

A—This child seems both nervous and perhaps poorly nourished. Both of these factors should be carefully studied to see if he cannot be put in better health.

Q—Would histamine tablets cause the joints of the knees to shrink and the muscles and ligaments to snap and crack? J. P. L.

A—Almost certainly not.

Q—What is the difference between sunstroke and heat exhaustion?

A—"Sunstroke" is the term applied to retention of heat in the body resulting from loss of heat control by the nervous system. Heat exhaustion comes from obstacles to the loss of heat from the body and can occur in high temperatures other than those caused by the sun. The symptoms of the two are rather different, and the outlook is much better in heat exhaustion than it is in sunstroke.

Variety Set For Festival

Program for the grade school instrumental festival at Pelican Court tonight at 8 p.m. was announced Thursday by Andrew Loney Jr., city schools music director.

Selections to be offered by the various participating groups are as follows:

All-City Orchestra — Siesta by DeLamater.

Combined Beginning Strings — Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star; Little Waltz in G and Lightly Row.

Combined Beginning Band — Chorale, Shadowland and Easy Steps.

March.

Combined Intermediate Strings — Sweet and Low, Largo and Lucia.

Combined Intermediate Band — March Onward, June Night, Moonlit Glade and March on the Hike, all by Buchtel.

S.P. Increases Dividend

NEW YORK (AP) — Directors of Southern Pacific Co. Thursday increased the quarterly dividend to \$1.50 from \$1.25 and announced plans for a 2-for-1 split of the stock.

The dividend is payable June 23 to stockholders of record June 2.

President D. J. Russell announced stockholders will be asked at a special meeting Aug. 5 to approve a proposal to double the number of authorized shares and the same treatment with an occasional garden hose adding to dampening.

They skipped the men's dormitories after word got around that the treatment there would be even worse.

At midnight the wandering crowds drifted away and Thursday morning this was the summary: A quantity of clothing collected and more coming in from the boys who had other things on their mind Wednesday night, one student, Robert Richardson, 19, Sweet Home, in good condition in a hospital. And another, Ann Moyes, a junior, nursing a cut foot. She stepped on glass when someone tossed a bottle through a Carson Hall window; he fell off a truck.

JAP AMBASSADOR

TOKYO (AP) — Eikichi Araki, first Japanese ambassador to the United States since the sneak attack on Pearl Harbor, began saying his farewells Thursday preparatory to leaving for Washington.

AN EASY WAY TO HAVE A PIANO

You can rent a lovely new upright piano from the Louis H. Mann Piano Company, 125 N. 7th, at a low monthly rate. After a reasonable time you can, if you wish, change from rent to purchase. The rent already paid is all credited to your purchase account and no other down payment is necessary. The monthly payment is a little higher than rent, or, if you prefer, you can continue to rent.

Grants Pass Deadlocked On Daylight Time Snarl

By The Associated Press

The Grants Pass City Council turned up with a 4-4 tie vote Wednesday night, the first tie recalled in some 18 years, and it was on the issue of Oregon's great debate—daylight saving time.

The tie meant that the ordinance proposing last time was defeated and Grants Pass is to stay on standard time.

Unless, that is, it changes its mind. Other Oregon city councils have done that, some going one way and some another. Others, like the one at Grants Pass, could not decide which way to go.

At Lebanon the council had three meetings before everybody concluded that confusion would be official. There the downtown stores moved their clocks, neighborhood stores did not nor did the city hall or schools. Some mills seemed confused with one having some shifts daylight and others standard.

At McMinnville the council voted for standard time, then changed its mind and voted for daylight. The Sweet Home council which voted for daylight is being pressed by petition-circulators to go back to standard.

Medford approved DST, then upheld the mayor's veto of it. As of Thursday this appeared to

BLM Head Gets New Post

WASHINGTON (AP) — Daniel L. Goldy, former regional administrator for the Bureau of Land Management in Portland, is being sent to Seattle in a new government capacity.

He has been named Pacific Northwest-Alaska regional director for the Labor Department Bureau of Employment Security.

For the past year Goldy has been deputy director of the European Labor Division of the Mutual Security Agency.

Texan to Paint Elizabeth

LONDON (AP) — Elizabeth II has chosen an English-born Texan to paint her first portrait as Queen. Buckingham Palace disclosed Thursday.

The artist is Douglas Chandor, of Weatherford, Tex., who was recommended to the Queen by Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt. Chandor was born at Woldingham, Surrey.

Spellers Seek U.S. Crown

WASHINGTON (AP) — The 25th annual National Spelling Bee came up with an unprecedented number of fancy spellers Thursday, and when the youngsters knocked off for lunch after eight rounds, there still were 21 left in the contest.

Only 30 fell by the wayside during the opening rounds.

Best proof of the fact that experience counts in spelling bees as everywhere else? Six of the contestants have been here in previous years — and all six were still going strong for the ninth round.

The youngest speller here — (and the judges say he may be the youngest ever to come to a spelling bee final) — went out in round eight.

He was Raymond Sokolov, a sixth grade youngster from Hampton school in Detroit.

Raymond is only ten, and so short his feet came nowhere near touching the floor when he sat down.

He fell over a man-sized word, "assonance."

Two others went out in round eight, Freddy Gust, 14, of Logan, W. Va., and Mary Ruybal, 14, of Rockford, Ohio. Freddy missed "camellia" and Mary went out on "homily."

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and his BRAZOS VALLEY BOYS

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