

Herald and News

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BILLBOARD

By BILL JENKINS
No matter how hard you try you can't get away from the weather these days.

You might like it to the Irish Sweepstakes. Everyone has heard a ticket on that and interest waxed high. And everyone takes a personal and vital interest in our unusual spring weather right now.

Everyone who has lived here long enough to qualify, which means at least twenty years, says that it is at least the most unusual spell of warm weather they have ever seen or heard about here. A warm Chinook that started early in the month, rain, sunshine that's warm instead of stinging cold, all the snow gone off the surrounding hills and going fast on the flat lands. It doesn't make sense. But there it is. Even the occasional snow flurries aren't anything to worry about.

Could this be the miracle spring?

According to the national reform association, a group operating out of Pittsburgh, the American people did away with \$3,810,485 barrels of beer in 1951. That apparently being the latest figure they had at hand.

After seeing that a lot of people will come roaring to the rostrum

to denounce the evils of drink. And probably rightly. If you can't handle the stuff you shouldn't drink it.

Which is neither here nor there as far as I'm concerned. But one is led to wonder if maybe the old time saloon, now a thing of the past, was such a menace as it was painted in its day. I have a sneaking hunch that there was less crime and dissipation per capita during the days of the hoiest saloon than there is now with the modern lounge or bar. We've traded in the free lunch for high priced jerky in minute bags of cellophane, and its conversational good for a noisy steam heater. We have substituted the noisy garishly lighted juke box for the honest conversation of a bygone day. And we've tossed out the men only sign along with the nickel beer.

Maybe the old gin mills weren't such a blot on the face of the earth after all. Not compared with the deadfalls we see springing up around here anymore.

Which reminds me that spring is really in the air. All the punchboards are now offering fishing gear as prizes instead of hunting stuff.

THE DOCTOR SAYS

By EDWIN F. JORDAN, M.D.
Viruses are no respecters of age, but some viruses certainly attack children more than grownups. Among the best known of such diseases are measles, mumps and polio—though all of them may attack a susceptible adult.

It is a little difficult to separate the viral diseases of children from those of grownups, but in addition to those mentioned, there are some others. For example, during the last few years, many communities have been affected with what is probably a viral disease, sometimes called the vomiting sickness, and spoken of more sedately by medical men as "epidemic vomiting and diarrhea."

The condition comes with remarkable suddenness and after a day or so the children seem to be entirely recovered. For this reason, it has so far been almost impossible to really study this disorder or to find out whether a virus is really responsible or not. At any rate, those who have had it—and I happen to know that it is not confined to children—get over it promptly and completely without any aftereffects.

There are other curious conditions which seem to spring up from time to time that are equally ob-

scure as to cause and treatment. Sometimes the children or grownups affected have symptoms similar to those of mild influenza or "flu." Indeed it is possible that such attacks may be caused by some virus which is responsible for more typical cases of influenza.

The past 20 years have yielded a great deal of information on many of the viral diseases. There is, however, a long way still to go. Much more has to be learned about the nature of viruses, the differences between the various kinds and the treatment of the diseases which they cause.

Probably, viruses are constantly in us or upon us, but often lie quietly without producing symptoms. There is good reason to believe that this happens in some cases. Then under the stress of fever or some other stimulant to the virus, they may start producing noticeable trouble.

The vast majority of children who are attacked by these vague viral infections recover completely without any aftereffects. However, the doctors would feel much better if they knew more definitely what is responsible for some of these outbreaks and felt more certain that they would remain comparatively mild, short and unlikely to produce complications.

FRANK TRIPP

"I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the first and the last." Yet man tinkers toward his Omega. A to H—how long to Z? When the Great Destruction? This is a parable.

Once upon a time there was a headstrong son who was educated out from under the influence of his father. He learned so much and became so wise that he set about to rationalize all that was about him—to belittle the works of his father.

The father was an inventor—a creator. He had conjured many things of beauty and utility. His devices were known to all mankind.

He was benefactor of the wide world. Yet countless millions gave him neither credit nor gratitude—in fact millions discredited him. Some ridiculed him.

It came to pass that his own son joined the scoffers, set himself father a conjurer of phantoms, the author of a bizarre philosophy.

He vowed that much his father had given to the world approached bungling, that he had played upon the superstitions of the gullible, fooled them as by magic and withheld simple scientific answers to seeming miracles.

The son set about to duplicate explainably, and make commonplace, all of the wonders achieved by his father—and on a production

basis. He entered upon a gigantic program to "debunk the world."

As time went on the son was able to recreate in his laboratory, and before the eyes of man, much of the handwork of his father.

Never quite so profoundly or well but with sufficient to raise doubt, even in the minds of some of his father's most loyal followers.

The father's legion was slipping. His concept became mythology to those who accepted the son's test tube answers.

However, there was one formula which the father had hidden well. Its diabolical potentialities were so horrifying that the father had never assembled its elements into the destructive force he knew them to possess.

This devastating secret baffled the son. Until one day he pieced together the atoms of energy which his father had concealed in order that mankind might endure.

Great secrecy attended the discovery. Wars were fought for its possession. Millions of helpless innocents perished. Peace left the world.

Then, of a sudden, the sphere upon which man lived blasted into myriads of celestial meteors and whirled into space—for eternity.

Man could not control his own creation. His creation? No, he had created nothing—only meddled in his own destruction.

The father looked down upon his wilful son. He had suffered him to conquer darkness, swim under the seas, fly the stratosphere, talk through space, prolong life. He had encouraged his every useful research—and rebuked him not for centuries.

The father had obscured to the last the secret of the Great Destruction—until, in His wisdom, the civilization which His tolerance had preserved staggered beyond redemption.

Man, by his own deeds, became not worth saving—nor the synthetic world in which he lived. The son had ventured where the Father did not dare to tread.

The earth and all that once lived upon it were no more.

But the Father endureth in heaven.

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Harry Truman Plans to Write, Lecture

By ERNEST B. VACCARO

KANSAS CITY, Mo.—Ex-President Harry S. Truman, it may now be disclosed, has been assured of contracts providing him enough money to permit him complete freedom to say and write what he pleases.

This reporter was told by one of the former President's closest friends that Truman will write his memoirs for a New York publishing firm at a figure expected to run above half a million dollars

over a period of several years. In addition, Truman will make periodical, carefully selected lecture tours along lines of his own choosing.

The source for this report would not be quoted by name. Details of the agreement are being handled for the former President by Matthew J. Connelly, his No. 1 secretary while in the White House.

The source would not say what publishing firm is making the con-

tract. Connelly, who flew here Wednesday to help Truman set up private offices in the Federal Reserve Bank Building, is returning east some time this week.

Connelly will have his own offices in New York City, serving as a consultant on government and business contracts, but he will continue to represent Truman as his secretary.

The former President himself has refused to discuss his future since he has stayed out of the negotiations, but he did set a pattern for the contract. He believes anything he undertakes must be in such strict conformity with the dignity of the high office he held that no one can raise any question about the propriety of what he does.

Truman has turned down more than one \$100,000-a-year offer to serve as sales manager for manufacturing and other companies. He believes they might try to capitalize on the commercial value of a headline name in a way he considers beneath the dignity of a man who has served as president.

The agreement under which he will write his memoirs and deliver lectures will provide sufficient income to maintain his private office in Kansas City and his home in nearby Independence, Mo., as well as to travel, speak and do other miscellaneous writings.

He will be able to speak freely on politics. And no one who knows him thinks for a minute he will maintain for long his sideline role when the political polls boil.

The source of Truman's future plans said that the overriding problem now is to get Truman away from a real vacation and rest before he undertakes his memoir and lecture assignments. The plans now being set up do not contemplate his doing anything for the next six months other than reply to his personal correspondence and get adjusted to civilian life.

The plan is for Truman to take a long cruise in the South Pacific with Mrs. Truman and Margaret as soon as it can be set up. There is a possibility they will visit Hawaii.

In New York last night, Truman was quoted in an American Broadcasting Company program as saying that Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower's trip to Korea probably did some good.

Previously, Truman had twice referred to Eisenhower's campaign promise to go to Korea as demagoguery.

Bryson Rash, ABC correspondent, last night reported on an interview he had with Truman Jan. 15. Rash, appearing on a television program, said the statement on Korea was not cleared for release until after Eisenhower took office as president.

Truman was quoted as saying in the interview:

"It was demagoguery for a political nominee to say he was going to Korea with the implied promise to all the wives, mothers and sweethearts of the men at the front that he would end the war."

Rash said Truman then added that the trip itself "was not demagoguery. I was in favor of that and it probably did some good."

Army Chases Pipe-Stealers

JERUSALEM (AP)—An Israeli Army spokesman reported today that an Israeli Army patrol chased a band of pipe-stealing Arabs back into Egypt early Sunday after an all-night running battle.

In the action in the Western Negev Desert the Arabs were believed to have suffered serious losses, the spokesman said. The marauders were stealing irrigation pipes from a Jewish settlement, he explained.

It was the first serious clash reported on the Israeli-Egyptian frontier in recent weeks.

HAL BOYLE

NEW YORK (AP)—Once upon a time, when most guys slaved themselves to get that beautiful look and the girls died to get toothpick thin there lived a happy fat man.

The time is now. The man is Herman Hickman, the only ex-Yale football coach who has become one of television's biggest personalities.

Herman's career is proof that whoever said "Nobility Loves a Fat Man" must have been underweight and jealous. While other hefty counts their calories, he counts the dollars he makes out of being pleasantly plump.

"I guess I'm up to about 300 pounds now," he beamed contentedly as he dipped into a four-inch deep luncheon, serving of lamb stew. "But I have trouble finding a place to weigh. I either have to go to an ice house or a coal yard."

His guilty enjoyment of living overflows in several directions—eating his own cooking, creating poetry, smoking cigars, and telling tall tales of his Tennessee homeland. His philosophy of life can be summed up: "Keep interested in everything—but don't spread yourself too thin."

But Herman himself is gaining weight on a schedule that would turn an average man into a skeleton. In addition to the daily television program for the Robert Burns Club, he cooks all the meals in his home in about 100 books and sandwiches in about 100 after-dinner speeches a year.

His recently touring takes him all over the country. He talks to all kinds of groups—Boy Scouts, coaches, insurance executives, and women's clubs.

"I enjoy an audience of women," he said, "because they like to hear their size."

Herman gets a lot of fan mail from women, and says:

"I must look comfortable. They never suggest that I reduce." It might be because some women still like to see a man as robust, cheerful and friendly as Hickman. His own wife, Helen, has never tried to put him on a diet.

"I guess I started her out right," he said. "I've been doing all the cooking for 20 years. We put up a kitchen first, then built a house around it."

Helen eats as much as I do, but doesn't put on a pound. She's a good cook about letting me mess up the kitchen, and then cleaning up after me."

Herman is proud of being president of the Connecticut Amateur chefs, and likes to "mix the Connecticut and Southern styles of cooking."

Here is the menu for one of the recent "snack meals" he concocted for his fellow amateur chefs:

(1) Italian ham wrapped round Persian melon slices.
(2) Jellyed consommé with sour cream and chopped chives.
(3) Chicken Brunswick stew made from the meat of a four-pound hen stewed with onions, corn, fresh lima beans, corn off the cob, fresh tomatoes, Italian red peppers and garlic. Served with his own homebaked cornbread.

(4) Pecan Pie and Italian coffee.

Hickman is known as one of the better dressed fat men around town. But he has no particular aversion to how fat he looks. He says he is only 40 or 50 pounds overweight, maybe he should avoid checked patterns," he said. "Striped suits might help him hide his size."

But when you're 325 pounds overweight, there is only one way to dress—so you're comfortable.

Herman is about the most comfortable looking man in Manhattan.

JAMES MARLOW

WASHINGTON (AP)—The world will watch President Eisenhower as he watches the world.

So in 1949 there was another meeting at Geneva, to revise the 1929 agreement made there. The United States and Russia took part. One sentence agreed to in 1949 later became very much a sore point in the Korean War.

This sentence, part of what is called Article 114, says simply: "Prisoners of war shall be released and repatriated without delay after the cessation of active hostilities."

When the United Nations refused in Korea to send back to the Communists prisoners who didn't want to go, Russia's Foreign Minister Andrei Vishinsky pointed to that Article 114, agreed to in 1949, and said in effect:

"The U.N. stand is a direct violation of Article 114."

The United States argues this way: Refusing to return prisoners who are afraid to return does not violate Article 114 because, for one thing, it doesn't say prisoners who don't want to return have to be returned.

Further, the U.S. argument goes, the agreements reached at Geneva were all done for humanitarian reasons. That is, to protect prisoners of war and keep capture nations from retaining them against their will.

And says the U.S., it would be inhuman to make prisoners, who feared for their lives if sent back to the Communists, return to what might be certain death for them.

Soviet Russia liked this principle so much that it was embodied in the Soviet Constitution of 1936 in a clause providing asylum for political fugitives.

After World War II Russia was accused of deliberately holding back prisoners it had captured—particularly German and Japanese—who wanted to return to their homelands.

This was contrary to previous understandings among nations about war prisoners—that once the war was over they should be returned home at once, if they wanted to go.

And there had been several international agreements that prisoners who wanted to return home after a war should be sent home at once. For example, there was

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Collins To See Van Fleet

SEOUL (AP)—Gen. Van Fleet, Army chief of staff, will see Gen. Collins, chief of the Far East command, today for a meeting with James A. Van Fleet, Collins said.

Collins said Van Fleet and his staff will be in Seoul today for a meeting with Gen. Collins.

Collins said Van Fleet's change in United Nations command in Korea, he said, was a "big step" in the Korean War.

Collins said he was at first hand what the situation is like.

The grateful Koreans gave their highest salute today.

Van Fleet told news that if any attempt was made to lead a war was planned in Korea, he would lead it.

President Truman said he was pleased with the change in Van Fleet's command in Korea. He said he was glad to see Van Fleet's change in command in Korea.

Korean Army said it would hold the entire area a year if the United Nations decided to start a battle line.

Reds Down Top War

SEOUL (AP)—The U.S. military police of World War II over North Korea, Fifth Air Force said.

Cannon fire from a MIG-15 presumed to be a North Korean plane had destroyed the jet and was damaged.

He is listed as missing. He was credited with 13½ German planes shot down. He was credited with 13½ German planes shot down.

A Fifth Air Force said other pilots in the area were not sure if the jet was destroyed or not.

He said there was a heavy loss of life in the area.

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Gifts Top 4 Billion

NEW YORK (AP)—All philanthropic gifts and bequests made in the United States during 1950 are estimated to have totaled more than \$4,300,000,000.

The Joint Price Jones Company, Inc., New York fund-raising and public relations consultants, made this estimate yesterday when it released the results of its 22nd annual survey of philanthropy in 10 major American cities.

MOTHER DIES
MANCHESTER, N. H. (AP)—Mrs. Emma C. DuPont, 78, mother of 10 daughters and nine sons, died yesterday.

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