

Herald and News

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BILLBOARD

By BILL JENKINS

Another typical Sunday. Whether it be Bimini or Bend, Klamath Falls or Klamath, you'll find that it always turns dreary and dismal over the weekend if there is to be any shakeup in the meteorological pattern.

See by the papers that scientists have, by some hocus-pocus beyond my comprehension, used the atom to figure out how old the world is. Four and a half billion years. Back in the days of peg top pants and skimmers fastened to your collar.

But somehow it doesn't seem to make a great deal of difference in my outlook. More worried about tomorrow and the coming summer than I am about what happened in the dim and dusty past.

Mouse hunting has been so-so. Best day to date saw fourteen of the little rodents in the bag. Shoot-

ing 'em in the snow yesterday but couldn't be sure of the kill. They are just as good as pocket gophers at getting back into their holes. Fun though. Need a new and more powerful air rifle and a few cans of pellets.

Also some more mice.

There are nine post offices and sub stations in Oregon beginning with the letter "I" in case you're interested. They are Ideley Park, Imbler, Innaba, Independence, Ione, Ironside, Irrigon, Island City and Iree.

The Ford Times missed Oregon in the current issue, giving the Pacific Coast space over to Washington and California. Washington's Mr. Baker got it with a big story and color pictures, and California scored with a yarn about claming at Pismo Beach and a write up of Lazio's Seafood Restaurant in Eureka.

HAL BOYLE

NEW YORK (AP)—"A city to me," said Truman Capote, forking thoughtfully at a strawberry tart, "is a place where you can get up at 3 o'clock in the morning and buy a book or a shirt."

"It's a real sense of being a city, New York is the only city in the world. It is the only one open 24 hours a day."

Capote, recently returned from Rome, has somewhat outgrown his child-wonder-of-the-literary-world status of a few years ago. Critics then were divided over whether he was startlingly precocious or startlingly precious—whether he was a pale young genius or merely pale.

"I'm 28 now," he remarked at luncheon in the 21 Club, "and I've written four books and a play. I just finished writing the dialogue for an Italian film. No I'm working on my third novel and doing the lyrics for a musical play based in Haiti, called 'House of Flowers.' It's light and strange."

Capote, who talks with the artistic surety of Oscar Wilde, is blonde, blue-eyed and small enough to walk under the arms of a high school basketball center. He looks less like a sophisticated fawn today and more like a retired choir boy—or a rising young literary critic.

"I don't think writing for the films has anything to do with writing," he observed. "In writing for the films, the only important thing is the visual sense—the eye is everything."

But he did enjoy doing the dialogue for "Indiscretions of an American Wife," produced in Rome for Columbia Pictures by Vittorio De Sica.

"In Italy they don't rely so much on a script," he said. "They like to make things up as they go along. The film was shot in the Rome railroad terminal, and whenever they needed dialogue for the next scene I would go into another room of the station and write it."

"The Italian method of making a film wouldn't work with many Hollywood stars. If they tried it with Marilyn Monroe, it would be a disaster. But they have turned out some great pictures that way."

FRANK TRIPP

They are going to tear down the Fifth Avenue 1840 house where Mark Twain lived near the close of his life, 1904 to 1908. It is off New York's Washington Square, a four-story brick, corner of Ninth Street. An apartment will go up. There's a movement to preserve it.

If alive, Mark could scrawl off a thousand dollar paragraph about it some morning while eating breakfast in bed.

The old house is a far cry from Sam Clemens' Nevada lodgings of the 50's, when as a "terrible-tempered redhead reporter" he first signed a story "Mark Twain" in Virginia City's Territorial Enterprise; still publishing and 95 years old right now.

Lodgings such as the night the Enterprise celebrated the installation of Nevada's first "steam press" with pistols and countless magnums. The orgy ended in Mark's sleeping in a doorway, and a cold which kept him off the job three days.

It could be that Mark was thinking of that night when, amid his Fifth Avenue comforts, he had Katie Leary phone his friend Andrew Carnegie and tell him that he had a cold.

Katie Leary was his townswoman who was housekeeper for the Clemens family for 40 years. After Sam's death she conducted a rooming house on 86th Street where Clemens were wont to gather and remain; among them Bill McLaughlin, who told me these stories.

"One time when Mister Clemens rang for me, he let me stand unnoticed for several minutes, while he wrote," said Katie. "When he looked up he said, 'Oh, you are here, Katie. Close the door; not that it lets the cold in—but because it lets the coziness out.'"

Another time cold really was Mark's problem. He said, "Call Mr. Carnegie, Katie, and tell him I have a cold and to send over some Scotch whiskey."

Two days passed and Mark told Katie, "Call that old Scotch



ALONG NATURE'S TRAIL

by KEN McLEOD

Joaquin Miller in writing about his early activities in life is always indefinite in relating his experiences and adventures presenting material without any definite degree of continuity. He had so many different approaches to the adventures in his life that it is very difficult to get a clear vision of them without a careful analysis.

In the Oregonian for Sunday, Oct. 23, 1928, Beatrice Beebe writes of an interview with Joaquin's youngest brother George, which gives us some background for analysis of Joaquin's book "Unwritten History, or, Life Amongst the Modocs."

"George Melvin Miller," writes Beatrice Beebe, said: "But you see he and another boy, Will Willoughby, started out to school together one morning, and what happened en route made them decide to run away from home. The road to the schoolhouse would about the foot of the peaceful valley. There were many nice large rocks planted at the top of that cliff, seemingly for the special delight of small boys, so the two lads climbed up and amused themselves by rolling rocks until disinterested put an end to their fun and the fear of dire consequences into their hearts. One lovely big rock was not careful where it was going and collided with a gentle cow, doing considerable damage to her pride as well as to her anatomy. The boys fled in terror, which increased as the days passed, so, after their school hours were finished they talked things over and decided to make their way as speedily as possible to the southern part of the state, where they were sure they could secure work in the mines."

"We waited for Nat to come home and when a few days had passed and neither of the boys had put in an appearance, the two fathers set out on horseback to overtake them; but the boys had too good a start, and so the men returned home alone. Father had great faith in Nat. He was always reliable and old for his age. We did not see him again for some years."

"He found work in the mines, but was not strong enough to do a man's labor, so he helped with cooking and washing of dishes in camp. He kept a diary all this time. I remember one of the entries ran like this: 'I don't know what you ask me when shall I go home? I really cannot tell sir.'"

"I really haven't half the chance to go there. As I have to go to hell, sir." "So I imagine there were times when he longed to see the home folks, although he was never really alone when with Nature."

"I was but a very little chap when he did return, but I can see him yet in his head in buckskin costume. After the work in the mines had proved to be too heavy for his strength, he lived among the Indians and had hoped to be able to aid the red man in his dealings with the whites toward securing of equity. But the violent opposition and prejudice of the white people made this work impossible and so he came home to continue his schooling."

"He attended the old Columbia College, forerunner of the University of Oregon, located on what was then called College Hill—now the College Great district of Eugene—and became an excellent scholar of Latin and Greek. When he graduated in 1859 he was valedictorian of his class and wrote his valedictory address in poetry. One stanza only of it I recall: 'We are parting, school-mates, parting, And this evening sun will set On gay hearts with sorrow starting. On bright eyes with weeping parting.'"

"Shortly after this occasion the college building was destroyed by fire. Beatrice Beebe asked Mr. Miller, 'And did he then give his life to writing?' Mr. Miller replied: 'Not immediately. He followed the footsteps of my father and became a teacher, going to a little school not far from Vancouver, Washington. While there he became interested in the Salmon River mines. He soon joined forces with a man by the name of Mossman and ran the Pony Express from the mines to Walla Walla. This he did winter and summer until he had accumulated \$10,000 in gold. Then he came home, spread the money on the floor, and told my parents to take what they needed. He always thought of them first. With the remainder he set up a printing establishment in Eugene and published the Eugene City 'Review.' On the side he studied law. All went well until the government forbade him the use of the mails on a charge that he was a sympathizer with the Southern Confederacy."

HUGH PRUETT

By J. HUGH PRUETT
Astronomer, Extension Division Oregon Higher Education System

Answers to questions recently received from several readers will likely be of interest to others.

1. "Can the distant planet Uranus be seen with the naked eye?" When nearest the earth, Uranus' brightness is rated as 5.74 magnitude. Magnitude 6 is generally given as the dimmest visible without optical aid. (The higher the number, the dimmer the light.) So on a clear, moonless night, far away from artificial illumination, an observer with excellent eyesight can barely glimpse this remote planet.

2. "Is Venus now near inferior conjunction or superior conjunction?" Venus moves on an orbit that is nearer the sun than is the earth's orbit. It is lost in the sun's rays for some time when passing almost between us and the sun (inferior conjunction), and when on the far side of the sun from us (superior conjunction.) Venus is at superior conjunction last Friday, so will be too near the sun for evening observation for some time.

3. "You recently wrote about digging a hole entirely through the earth, getting all the air out of it and dropping a man into the hole. How could you get all the air out of it?" I don't know. I do know the experiment would not work if the air were left in the hole for it would be extremely dense at the earth's center.

The same correspondent asks if the man would not stop when he reached the earth's center even if I had pumped all the air out of it?

RESCUE
TOKYO (AP)—A disabled Japanese freighter was rescued by a patrol boat in the Japan Sea today after its distress signal was picked up 2,500 miles away in Manila and relayed to Tokyo.

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Bruce Biossat

The story of Red China is one of the most muddled chapters in modern world history.

Debate centers on such questions as how the Communists managed to conquer mainland China, how close Mao Tse-tung is tied to Russia, whether China's aggressive actions in Korea and Indo-China are Kremlin-inspired or home-grown, what course the Red Chinese wish to pursue in the future.

Many American public figures have long assumed that Red China was bound hand and foot to Moscow. British and some other Western diplomats have taken the contrary position that the actual and potential differences between Mao and Malenkov may be considerable.

These diplomats now report increasing evidence of jealousies developing between Peking and Moscow. If these reports are correct, they do not reflect a situation that could be happily received in the Kremlin.

For the condition of dependency which Americans assume exists is certainly one the Russians desire. And if differences with Mao have mounted, Moscow must be concerned about eliminating them, or somehow getting China more firmly under heel.

As part of this strategy to make China a dependency, Russia has of course always posed publicly as the great champion of Mao's regime—demanding a seat in the UN, urging conferences with Red Chinese participation, and the like.

While some in this country may accept this as proof of close ties between the two countries, it may be only a device designed to produce that condition. And the last truth very likely is that the last thing Russia wants is world acceptance of Red China as a big power in its own right.

For Red China in the UN and in the big power conference table would be a nation of mounting independence. It would have new outlets, new contacts with other countries. It would be listening to the West directly, instead of filtered through a distorting Russian screen.

So when Russia shouts for recognition of Red China in world councils, it probably does not want it. What it really wants is credit for appearing as China's champion while at the same time it helps to make Communist China as obnoxious as possible to the Western world.

Understanding this possibility does not mean we should therefore recognize Red China and admit it to the UN—just to defeat Russian hopes of Chinese dependency. But we should at least realize that Russia's "big brother" act may be a phony.

The Doctor Says

By EDWIN P. JORDAN, M. D.

Readers quite often ask questions like today's first which puzzle patients and doctors as well.

Q—Can you say something about the relationship between fatigue and coronary thrombosis?

A—The basic cause of coronary thrombosis is the formation of a clot inside one of the arteries supplying blood to the heart. The clot forms in a blood vessel which has been thickened by deposits of fat, or calcium-like substances. It is hard to see how fatigue, at least over a short period, could have anything to do with this process.

Coronary thrombosis will appear in those who are perfectly fresh and well as well as in those who are fatigued, but actually no one is yet certain whether or not fatigue may or may not bring on more quickly an attack of coronary thrombosis.

Q—Will deep bruises lead to cancer?

A—Ordinarily, no. There are some forms of cancer, particularly sarcoma of the bone, however, which do seem to start quite often after injury.

Q—What causes a person's joints to crack?

A—Ordinarily, cracking joints are the result of ligaments slipping across the joint surfaces. They do not carry any significance for disease or health. I assume that this is not the kind of cracking that one gets in degenerative joint disease.

Q—X-rays have revealed a stomach hernia in a patient. Is there much danger involved in surgery for this condition?

A—The answer depends partly on the size and location of the hernia. However, in general, in good hands, the surgery would not carry any risk to life.

Couple Weather Marriage Aloft
DENVER (AP)—Newlyweds Max and Mary Wilk were back on earth today, motoring on a Texas honeymoon trip after their marriage yesterday 23 stories above mile-high Denver.

Calm and comfortable—the temperature was 70 degrees—the couple smiled and kissed after the Rev. Erdmann Smith pronounced them man and wife. They and their attendants stood on a wooden platform laid across the steel framework of the Denver Club Building, where Wilk, 55, is a steelworker.

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AA Group Doesn't Want To Close Saloons, Only To Help Chronic Cases

(Editor's Note—This is the fifth in a series of articles dealing with the disease of alcoholism and what Alcoholics Anonymous is doing to combat it.)

By LYLE DOWNING

History states that in ancient days, lepers were required to wear bells around their necks so that the populace would be warned and could quickly scatter at their approach.

Alcoholics do not wear bells but in the acute stage of their illness, the mere sight of them will cause former friends and business associates to scatter. All alcoholics, if they persist in their drinking, eventually reach a stage where they are virtual outcasts.

Many an alcoholic has been the subject of remarks like these: "Here comes that drunken bum. Bill, let's get on our way before the poor mug gets a chance to put the arm on us for some money."

Q—Is Alcoholics Anonymous a temperance movement?
A—No. AA has no religious or moral endorsement or approval. While many AA's believe in sobriety, they know it is not their job to force it on anyone. They have no desire to deprive the other fellow of any pleasure he gets from drinking.

Q—Is AA a religious society?
A—AA is not a religious society since it requires no definition of belief as a condition of membership. It is not allied to any organization or sect. Its membership includes Catholics, Protestants, Jews and a small number of atheists or agnostics.

Q—What does AA membership mean?
A—Membership in AA is no financial obligation of any kind. The AA recovery program is available to any one who has an honest desire to stop drinking. Whether that person is flat broke or the possessor of millions, that important consideration is that he or she is in no way dependent upon financial support from outside contributions as a condition of membership.

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Use Atoms For Age of Earth Billions

The age of the sample. The proportion of lead 206, to the original amount of uranium 238, is the sample.

The study of the lead atoms made on the University of Chicago's mass spectrometers by Patterson and Harrison is now of the California Institute of Technology; George Tilton, of the Carnegie Institute of Washington, and Mark Ingraham, a professor of physics at the University of Chicago.

The study, published in the University of Chicago reports, tended that the meteorite had existed in its present state for billions of years.

Korean Train Derails, 51 Dead

SEOUL (AP)—A rickety South Korean train plunged off the tracks last night after hitting a tree 10 miles south of here. The death toll reached 51 today.

More than 100 persons were injured, 83 of them serious enough to be taken to hospitals.

Many victims were school children.

Army and Air Force doctors went to sort the dead from the living near-freezing temperature.

Both the truck driver and crew were killed.

The first three wooden cars of the train piled up behind engine and splintered.