



Scribe Dips Into Mail Bag And Answers Questions

By CHARLES MERCER
 NEW YORK (AP)—If you doubt that people care about television in the summer, dip a hand in our mail bag.

"Dear Sir:
 Why is it that every summer when school is out and I could stay up and watch TV that they take the cowboy shows off and put the old ball game on? They should know little children don't like old ball games. I am eight years old."
 "Winnie P.
 Baltimore, Md."

"Dear Winnie:
 You'll have to speak to your father about this problem. If he insists on watching the old ball games, you insist on his buying another old TV set for you."

This Department's recent discussion of the weaknesses of the rating theory and star theory of television programming has brought a spate of mail, all endorsing our criticisms and none requiring a direct answer—except thanks.

Especially encouraging was a letter from a television sponsor, Benzal, director of advertising for the company which sponsors Circle Theater.

"This is just to let you know that here is one advertiser who agrees with you completely. I have long felt that these two (rating and star, theories promoted not only bad programming, but poor advertising as well."

"Dear Sir:
 Why don't you ever mention the TV serial 'Guiding Light'?"
 "Anonymous"

"Dear Anonymous:
 Now I have."

Making Movie From Best Seller Termed Tough Job

By BOB THOMAS
 AP Motion Picture Writer

HOLLYWOOD (AP)—How they could get a movie out of Dan Whitehead's best seller, "The FBI Story," seemed a puzzle.

The book had a wealth of fascinating data, but no central story line. So when I learned that Warner Brothers was off and running with the film version, I went out to Burbank to investigate.

I sought out director Mervyn LeRoy, the Rooney-sized movie maker and race track tycoon.

"How on earth did you get a script out of 'The FBI Story'?" I asked him.

"Toughest job I ever tackled," said LeRoy, brandishing his omnipresent cigar.

I dutifully followed him to a nearby set that depicted Okla-

homa in the oil rush days. It was realistic as all get-out, even to the mud on my shoes.

"This is where Stewart goes on his first case," LeRoy said. "The banker is killing off the rich Indians to get their oil rights. It's a tough case, but the FBI solves it. I've got 180 sets on this picture, more than I've ever had on a picture before."

Did J. Edgar Hoover see the script?

"Did he? Of course, he read it. So did the attorney general. They have given us terrific cooperation in preparing the story. We'll shoot part of it in Washington. Also at the FBI training grounds at Camp Quantico, in New York, St. Louis and the Bronx."

How does the picture end?

"Think I'm going to tell you," he snorted.

Obviously not, I concluded as he stalked off to toss some directions at the crew. Still not having solved my case, I sought out James Stewart for an explanation of how the story was licked.

"I think the problem was solved in a very ingenious way," he explained. "The Whitehead book was largely a straight history of the FBI. The picture script tries to tell the story of the FBI through the eyes of one man and his family."

It begins in 1924, when the bureau of investigation is pretty badly hit with corruption. I get married and decide to quit. But I go to Washington and meet the new chief, J. Edgar Hoover (who isn't portrayed in the picture). I come away so impressed with him that I decide to stay on."

The film will then show many of the famous cases the FBI licked, such as Baby Face Nelson, Machinegun Kelly, John Dillinger, the Colorado plane bombing, Nazi subversives in Latin America and a Communist surveillance in New York.

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Japanese Use Psychology To Fight Summer's Heat

TOKYO (UPI)—The Japanese are fighting summer's heat with the next best thing to air-conditioning—psychology.

In terms that the average, sweating man will understand, they are trying to think themselves cool.

This is no simple feat, and the Japanese have spent centuries perfecting an elaborate set of gimmicks to help their mental air-conditioning systems to function smoothly.

One is the wind-bell, a simple, charming device that captures the faintest breath of a breeze and magnifies it into a tinkling little sound. Almost every home and office has one.

Most Gardens are equipped with water spouts that release a tiny trickle of water. The constant "drip, drip" sound was used quite effectively by medieval torturers to drive their captives mad, but

Explorer V Still Mystery

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP)—The disappearance of Explorer V still was an apparent mystery today. The Army forged ahead with plans for two more satellite launches.

The Army still had no official comment on the cause of the latest failure two days after a powerful Jupiter-C rocket roared skyward on what appeared to be a perfect launching.

One spokesman said it may take several more days before complete telemetry reports on the flight are analyzed and the answer found. The military usually withholds these announcements.

In the only activity Monday, a Snark intercontinental guided missile blasted into the night on the start of a 6,000-mile journey across the Atlantic. The trip toward target took about 10 hours. The results of the test were not announced.

The 69-foot Snark was fired by crewmen of the 35th Guided Missile Squadron of the Strategic Air Command.

The Snark probably will be assigned as the first Snark operational unit which is expected to be set up soon at Presque Isle, Maine.

Explorer V was equipped to probe the far reaches of a severe radiation field now being investigated by Explorer-IV as it whirls through space.

Scientists need more detailed information about the radiation belt so they can protect the first space travelers against the bombardment of the rays.

Scientists already have learned that the rays double in intensity every 60 miles, but the cause, extent and type of radiation still is not known.

The radiation belt starts about 600 miles in space. Where it ends is not known.

Petition Continued

HOLLYWOOD (AP)—A petition to reopen John Barrymore's estate has been continued until Oct. 14.

The actor's son, John Barrymore Jr. opposed the reopening when the estate's executor, Gordon W. Levey, asked for it.

Young Barrymore said he opposed the reopening because it might involve inclusion of income from a possible movie production of Gene Fowler's "Goodnight, Sweet Prince," a biography of Barrymore Sr.

Levey said the issue involves the television rights to three old Barrymore films, "Svenhult," "Moby Dick," and "The Mad Genius."

Young Barrymore asked the court to explore the executive's motives further.

"DENNIS THE MENACE"



"MOTHER, I'M GOING TO BABY SIT FOR THE MITCHELLS. WOULD YOU LOAN ME ONE OF YOUR TRANQUILIZERS?"

GOP, Democrats Nominate Senate Candidates In NY

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
 NEW YORK (AP)—New York City lawyer, or to Dist. Atty. Frank S. Hogan, also of New York City.

Keating, like Wagner, voiced no interest in the Senate race.

The general outlook in Alaska was for a 2-1 victory for statehood advocates.

Congress gave a go-ahead for the referendum several months ago when it passed an Alaska statehood bill.

In Mississippi, five incumbent members of Congress are opposed for Democratic renomination, which is tantamount to election.

They are Sen. John Stennis and Representatives Tom Abernethy, James Whitten, Frank Smith and John Bell Williams.

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New Lights Aid To Deter Crime

NEW YORK (UPI)—The replacement of old-style street lights with new mercury vapor units has contributed to a 71 per cent decline in violent crime in five areas of New York City, a city official said Monday.

Charles G. Keenan, acting chief engineer of the Bureau of Gas and Electricity, said, "There is a connection between good street lighting and crime."

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Robbery Believed Motive For Rich Widow's Slaying

CARMEL, Calif. (UPI)—Police suspected robbery today as the motive for the murder of Mrs. Helen Maude Edgren, wealthy and eccentric widow of a nationally known sports cartoonist.

Mrs. Edgren's body was found Monday in the bedroom of her secluded home, clad in a nylon nightgown and wrapped in a tangled bedsheet. A blue and white linen guest towel was around her neck.

Deputy Coroner Robert Wallace said she had been strangled two to four days before.

Mrs. Edgren was known to carry large sums of money in her purse, occasionally as much as several thousand dollars. It was her custom to withdraw \$30 every day from the bank. No one knew what she did with the money. She was a careful spender.

A friend, Mrs. Mary Gould, discovered the body. She had missed seeing Mrs. Edgren on her daily strolls.

Entering Mrs. Edgren's home by an unlocked back door, Mrs. Gould went upstairs and found the body on the floor. She called police.

The room was in complete disarray, indicating Mrs. Edgren had put up a fierce battle despite her 80 pounds.

A number of small coins were strewn about the room. A handkerchief containing only \$20 lay on her bed.

Mrs. Edgren's husband, Robert W. Edgren, was a famed cartoonist and sports writer. In the early days of his career, he did cartooning for the San Francisco Examiner and the old New York Journal. He died in 1939.

The Edgrens had one son, Robert Jr., who is a professor of psychology at Mills College in Oakland.

Ancient Greek lamps burned olive oil.

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