

The Herald and News

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Poison

By BILL JENKINS
Buster and Slicker are dead. They were the two dogs pictured in this paper a short time ago with the big black bear shot in the Bly area by Harry Obenchain.

The two were apparently victims of a poison bait put out for coyotes some distance from the Obenchain ranch house.

It is sad to think of two dogs, a father and son team of golden retrievers, so full of life and so full of enjoyment in their wonderful outdoor world being snuffed out like that.

But, in the long run all we can do is voice that sorrow and hope for a better world someday. It is a situation that involves so many things that make any constructive thinking on the subject difficult. Sure, it is true that poison is a menace no matter how used. But, on the other hand, I suppose that we must admit that there is enough predator damage to warrant such poisoning.

Sure, you say, it is up to every man to keep his dogs at home where they won't get into trouble. And that is about like saying that we should keep all our children in the front yard and drive on the right side of the road. It is pretty tough to do all the time. Buster and Slicker were pretty much kept up. It just happens that they got out for a run on a day when the fresh poison was there. The poison, incidentally, was marked by a sign. But dogs can't read.

One person suggested a reasonable bounty on coyotes which would encourage more hunters to go out during the off seasons and keep their shooting eye in. This idea is a good one but runs into problems just like all the rest. There is the matter of posted land, of irresponsible hunters who cannot and must not be allowed around livestock of any kind. There is the enforcement problem. All kinds of road blocks.

I frankly confess that I do not know the answer. I am pretty well convinced in my own mind that we are heading into trouble with the whole poisoning program, from crop sprays to predator control. But where are you going to draw the line? Who is to say when we have reached the saturation point where the poisons themselves are doing more damage than the insects and predators they are supposed to control? How far can we go before we upset the balance beyond recall?

About all I can say is that we shall miss Buster and Slicker. That we must be on our guard and do our part to protect our pets as well as our livestock. At best, perhaps this incident will impress it on us that accidents can happen. It wasn't anyone's fault. It was just a chain of circumstances that paid off in death. Maybe someday our humans will smarten up enough to handle situations without that element of error.

I hope so.

Pearl Harbor

By FLOYD L. WYNNE
I wasn't there that fateful Sunday morning. But I have served with shipmates who were, and who lived through the terror-filled moments as America was caught flat-footed with her guard down, and we were hit by a scheming, ruthless enemy.

A number of times since, however, I have visited the place that today stands for "sneak attack," the place that is synonymous with "being unprepared to resist attack."

Today, 17 years after that scurrying attack, the waters of Pearl Harbor share the secret of the number of dead in the hold of the Arizona's hulk only with God.

Garlands of flowers float serenely over this hallowed tomb which one Sunday morning was a floating, living ship just awakening to the dawn of a routine Sunday morning. A living ship that moments later was to become a flame-ravaged, sinking, twisted mass of men and metal.

Yet, looking back at the 17 in-

tervening years between Pearl Harbor Sunday and today, one finds it the very symbol of the futility of wars.

In the intervening years, millions died or were maimed and crippled in the war that followed. Untold thousands were sacrificed on the altar of the ambitions of a scheming few bound on world domination.

Yet, today, we find ourselves friends with the Japanese people. The bitterness that consumed us during the bloody days of World War II has faded, and today, we link arms to face another scheming government, bent on the same world domination.

The ravages of World War II will never fade for many people and places. Hiroshima, Nagasaki brought bitter tears to the Japanese, yet, for them too, the bitterness is gone.

What did World War II accomplish, then? Historically, little or nothing. The imperialistic edge is gone from the Japanese sword, and has been replaced with a driving necessity to refashion herself on the pattern of the western world, yet retaining the best of the Japanese culture.

But, overall, Japanese-American relations are better today than they were prior to World War II. The war may have brought that understanding.

Asiatic nations have regained their independence from the Japanese conqueror, so the war has gained the Japanese nothing but bitterness and defeat.

Poor compensation for the price paid!

World War II did do one thing and that certainly wasn't for the good of humanity.

It set the stage for World War III by boosting another nation to world power where it may someday make a grab for power as did the Japanese.

The bitter lesson of unbridled warfare was lost completely on the Communist nations of the world. Instead of fearing war, they use it for their own purposes, and have indicated clearly that they, too, would stoop to a "Pearl Harbor" attack on the United States, if there were a chance it would succeed.

Seventeen years after that fateful Pearl Harbor Sunday comes the acid realization that today, as then, the search still continues for that will-of-the-wisp, "peace on earth."

Mickey Rooney

By HAL ROOPLY
NEW YORK (AP)—"You have to be true to yourself," said Mickey Rooney, whose fourth divorce is in the mill.

"You have to learn to understand your own faults. You can progress then—if you learn to understand yourself first."

It was 4:30 in the afternoon, breakfast time for Rooney, who is in the middle of a four-week engagement at his first night club appearance here.

At 38, Hollywood's ageless Puck is as bouancy and full of self-confidence as ever, but an air of friendliness has replaced the conceit that annoyed his earlier critics.

Mickey really never has been offstage since he crawled out before the footlights and got his first laugh when he was less than a year old. At 4 he played his first adult role—a midget—and he was the nation's top-drawing film star before he could vote.

"I guess I've been in at least 150 pictures," said Mickey. "But I like all mediums—night clubs, radio, television, movies. They all come under one tent: Show business."

"I don't feel any limitations, and there's nothing I wouldn't love to play—if I was tall enough

But I never have felt my height—he's 5 feet 3—'has been a handicap professionally."

Rooney's outside interests at present are concentrated on golf, matrimony, and music—but not necessarily in that order.

He has done the musical scores for a couple of films, he plays the piano now instead of the drums, and he likes to write semi-folk songs. He's a member of ASCAP.

Mickey is quite willing—up to a point—to discuss his marital problems, and if his repeated matrimonial strikeouts have hurt him he hides the scars well.

"I've had five wives," he said. "Four," broke in a member of his entourage.

"Well, so I'm a liar for one? I'm being divorced again now. But I'm still interested in getting married again."

"They don't scare me. I love girls. They're here to stay."

Mickey remains a perennial optimist.

"I get a kick out of everything," he said. "There are no problems that can't be solved."

"Happiness is inevitable, I believe. You just have to seek it. But if you do, you'll find it somewhere along the line."

"I have great faith in people. I never judge anybody at the first meeting—or the second meeting. It isn't fair."

"He can see you—but you can't see yourself."

Solid Guess

By JAMES MARLOW
Associated Press News Analyst

WASHINGTON (AP)—This looks like a solid guess for next year: no general increase in the tax rate and no general tax cut.

But the government needs money so what may happen is this: Some changes in the tax laws to plug loopholes; perhaps a boost in the gasoline tax or postal rates. And there is talk of boosting the tax on insurance companies, of removing some exemptions and preferences affecting individuals and corporations.

President Eisenhower expressed the brave hope of reducing government spending in his last two years in office. But spending is likely to go up, not down.

This year government spending will run around 80 billion dollars and government income—because of the economic slump—around 67 billions. This means a gap of 12 to 13 billion between government outgo and income.

And this week the No. 1 tax man in Congress—Rep. Wilbur D. Mills (D-Ark), chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee, where all tax changes start—said he doesn't see government spending next year running less than 80 billions.

Instead, he thinks next year the bill may be around 83 billions with revenue at no more than 78 billions. That would mean another deficit, this time of about five billions.

So the government's dilemma comes down to this if it hopes to live somewhere within its income: 1. Reduce expense. This is so tough to do—particularly because of the need for defense spending—that it can be almost ruled out.

2. Raise taxes generally on individuals and corporations. It's unlikely. The politicians don't want to have to face the voters in 1960 with a bigger tax bill in their hand.

3. Find some way to get more federal income from taxes without a general tax increase.

That could be done in a number of ways, such as those suggested at the beginning of this story.

Administration officials indicated last month Eisenhower is almost certain to ask Congress for a boost in the gasoline tax so the cost of superhighway construction

won't strain the federal budget. These officials also disclosed that Budget Director Maurice Stans and Postmaster General Arthur Summerfield recently conferred on the possibility of urging another increase in postal rates.

Mills offered various ideas on getting more revenue from taxes: such as removing some exemptions and tax preferences for individuals and corporations.

But from the way Mills talked to the Tax Foundation in New York this week it would seem his committee is going to move very cautiously, at least in 1959, in trying to get some changes through Congress, and perhaps try a little more in 1960.

Personality Guide

By DELOS SMITH
UPI Science Editor

NEW YORK (UPI)—According to a "pilot" study, the automobile driver who doesn't have accidents is more self-reliant and independent than the driver who does.

He is better natured, more ready to cooperate with other people, and more attentive to them. And he's more generous in his personal relationships and less afraid of criticism.

But the driver who does have accidents "tends to be more stiff, cool, aloof" than the driver who doesn't, and he is "more inhibited with unexpressed feelings of inferiority."

He likes things more than he likes people. He is more rigid in his ways and in his personal standards, and more self-centered and less concerned with the needs and wants of others than the accident-less driver.

The "pilot" study was made by Drs. Gerard G. Neuman and William R. E. Newman and James M. Howell of the University of Utah, Salt Lake City. They grant readily that their findings may not apply to automobile drivers as a whole.

But that wasn't the idea of their study. The idea was to find out if psychological science was sufficiently advanced to distinguish different characteristics in drivers who had been involved in accidents and drivers who hadn't been.

They felt their "pilot" study had shown that the science was sufficiently advanced. This could be mightily useful, they said in reporting to the American Public Health Association, since all authorities agree that the real answer to the highway safety question lies in the drivers of motor vehicles.

Their "pilot" study results call for really large-scale psychological investigations of drivers, they said. If enough are studied by the most advanced psychological and statistical techniques, then you could know in advance which drivers were more likely to have accidents than other drivers.

How this knowledge could be applied, they did not say. That's a matter for law-makers rather than scientists. Conceivable, a driver who tested out badly might find it harder to get a driver's license or liability insurance for his car.

Their "pilot" study went this way: They took 17 Salt Lake City policemen who had had no accidents and eight policemen who had had two accidents in the past year. All 25 were put through nine psychological tests. The scores of the 17 and of the eight were then averaged and compared.

Needless to say, so many tests took many hours to give. The scientists thought that with further studies it might be possible to devise one test which would take 30 to 40 minutes to administer. It would be possible to give such a test to unlimited numbers of drivers.

Vets Mail

Even though she is not the veteran's legal widow, a woman may be eligible for widow's benefits from Veterans Administration if she married the veteran without knowing that a legal impediment to the marriage existed.

VA said today that a 1957 law authorizes such payments under certain circumstances.

VA pointed out that under the law, if the purported marriage was entered into in good faith by the woman, VA may consider it to have been a valid marriage, provided:

(a) It would have been valid had the legal impediment not existed;

(b) The couple had resided together for five or more years immediately prior to the veteran's death; and,

(c) No claim for VA gratuitous death benefits has been filed by a legal widow who is found to be entitled to the benefits.

Before enactment of the 1957 law, the establishment of legal widowhood was a prerequisite to widow's benefits from VA.

They'll Do It Every Time



Twin Murder Victims Buried

PHOENIX, Ariz. (UPI)—Gus Greenbaum, former president of the swank Riviera Hotel in Las Vegas, Nev., and his wife were buried here Friday less than three

Judge Denies 'Proof Offer' In Beck Trial

TACOMA, Wash. (AP)—The income tax evasion trial of former Teamsters' Union president Dave Beck recessed for the weekend shortly after noon Friday when the judge denied a government move to introduce testimony concerning some Beck transactions.

U. S. District Court Judge George H. Boldt denied the government "offer of proof" regarding transactions which occurred after the 1950-53 period of the Beck indictment.

The judge ruled the evidence was not now of "sufficient probity," but said the government may be allowed to introduce the evidence at a later date.

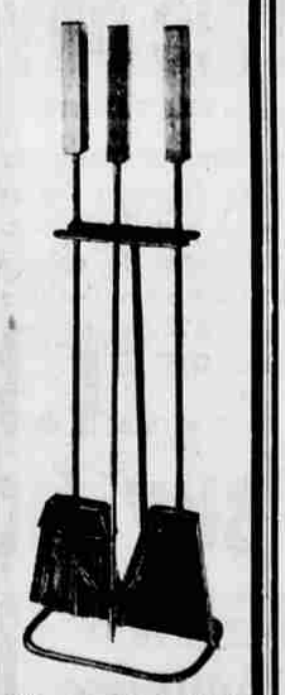
Prior to the recess A. M. Burke, official of the Occidental Life Insurance Co. of California, testified that Beck's assets in 1951 totaled more than one million dollars. Beck submitted a financial statement listing his net worth at \$1,052,716.65 when he applied for a \$273,000 loan from the company, Burke said.

The insurance executive said Beck, on trial for evading \$240,000 income taxes, listed his liabilities at \$234,000 in his loan application.

Assistant U.S. Atty. John S. Obenour asked Burke if he ever had been advised that Beck owed money to a Teamster entity.

"Not to my recollection," Burke replied. The defense has contended the increase in Beck's net worth during the period covered in the indictment was due entirely to borrowings from the Teamster Union, which have been repaid.

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Expect Control Of Malibu Fire

MALIBU, Calif. (UPI)—Complete control of the Malibu fire, which raged over 20,000 acres in three days, was expected Saturday. The job of mopping up hundreds of hot spots in inaccessible canyons in the Santa Monica Mountains, however, may take most of next week, a Los Angeles County Fire Department official said.

Some 300 firefighters have been left on the lines to insure protection against new flareups along 20 per cent of the 38-mile fire perimeter where control is not yet complete.

The more than 2,000 firemen who battled the major blaze at its height Tuesday and Wednesday were assisted in the fight by greatly decreased winds and an increase in humidity.

The sheriff's department estimated property damage at \$237,000, including the loss of the \$36,500 home of actor Lew Ayres. Some 40 buildings, including 29 houses, were destroyed.

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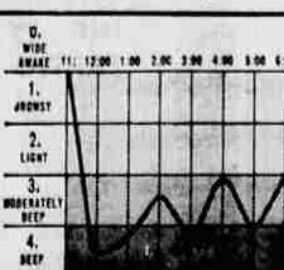


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PAUSE THAT SWEETENS SALISBURY GREEN, England (UPI)—A thief who raided a shop here Friday sat down and ate a Christmas pudding, a big hunk of Madeira cake, several fancy cakes, a piece of cheese, crackers and a handful of candy.

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