

Yanks Buy Junk Antiques From Old English Castles

By TOM A. CULLEN
LONDON (NEA)—The British are learning that many a rubbish heap conceals a gold mine, and that fortunes are to be found at the bottom of dustbins, now that the antique boom is on in America.



CASH FOR TRASH — Britons are learning that Americans will pay cash for their trash. Here crates are being filled from the "boneyard" with English junk. Once the English had to pay the junkman to haul the stuff away, now they have found that the Americans will pay for the rubbish — and handsomely, too.

Atomic Stockpile Plan Backed By Cuban Events

GENEVA (UPI) — The United States told the 17-nation Disarmament Conference today recent events in Cuba prove the necessity of adequate verification to prevent stockpiling of rockets and other nuclear weapons.

U.S. Ambassador Charles C. Stille said the fact the Soviets had successfully hidden rockets in Cuba "is the best proof that if a state was determined to engage in secret deployment of strategic weapons, it could also do so undetected, at least for a certain period of time, in the proximity of another state which would be the potential victim."

"How much easier this would be in the distant and inaccessible heartland of some other state," Stille said, in a clear reference to Soviet missile sites in Central Asia.

The American negotiator used the Cuban example in appealing to the Soviet Union at today's 129th plenary session of the conference for more details of an alleged "compromise" proposal on retention of nuclear weapon delivery vehicles.

Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei

Udall Urges Coast Park

WASHINGTON (UPI)—Interior Secretary Stewart Udall today urged Congress to turn a 40 mile strip of land along the Oregon coast into a national recreation area.

Udall testified before a Senate Public Lands subcommittee in behalf of a bill offered by Sen. Maurice Neuberger, D-Ore., to create the Oregon Dunes National Seashore.

Udall urged quick congressional action because "land values within the area are increasing at about 10 per cent a year. As development continues the area suitable for public use shrinks proportionately."

Private land within the area is now valued at \$7.5 million, he said.

The area includes about 44,000 acres of sand dunes, seashore forests and fresh water lakes.

Mrs. Neuberger told the committee her bill is the product of many conferences among congressional committees, federal, state and county officials. She said its management and development policies are "aimed at achieving the maximum of public enjoyment and recreation."

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Thanks to the American craze for the old and the scarce, the British are cleaning out their attics and their cellars. As a result, Britain is enjoying a thriving export trade in junk with the United States.

"Americans pay cash for trash," is the byword in London's Portobello Rd., which is the heart of junkland here.

Take chamber pots, for example. These items were once kept carefully hidden from view. But American tourists bought 5,000 chamber pots in Britain last year—for use as punch bowls.

Or take Victorian pianos: Londoners once had to pay rubbish men to cart them away, but now there's a demand for them, preferably minus their guts. Americans turn them into liquor bars, or put hi-fi sets inside.

Tin bathtubs of the variety known as "hip baths" are now being rescued from refuse dumps, and sold to Americans who plant flowers inside them.

Disembowelled grandfather clocks, apothecary jars, moustache cups, stuffed birds—all are readily snapped up in the United States.

As one antique dealer pointed out to me, "If this keeps up America will turn into a vast dumping ground for British rubbish."

A man responsible for the revival of the junk trade here is Brooklyn-born George Knapp, 62, who likes to think of himself as a pioneer in the field of the low-priced antique.

Knapp numbers among his satisfied customers Jacqueline Kennedy, who bought four copper coaching horns from him last year to give away as Christmas presents.

"I have two shipments a month going to New York and one to California," Knapp told me. "Last year my trade was worth more than a million bucks."

The Brooklyn dealer, who chain-smokes cigars, was quite candid as to his sources of supply.

"I get practically all my stuff for America from trash heaps," he explained. "Men called totters have arrangements with rubbish men and demolition men. They sell the junk they get to 15 runners whom I employ."

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EVERYTHING GOES — Antique man, George Knapp, right, shows a prospective customer an antique Victorian monkey. Americans will buy anything, he says.

"If I am short of items to fill the cases I am sending to California I find something to add from a room I've called the boneyard. California is two years behind New York so they take almost anything."

In addition to the totters and the runners, Knapp does business with men called knockers, who go door-to-door urging housewives to rid their attics and cellars of old junk.

"The knockers are usually well educated, and they concentrate on country villages that have not already been picked over."

Pointing to a pile of tarnished silver meat covers which he had bought from a ship that was being scrapped, Knapp declared, "You wouldn't think that anyone would want those lids, would you? But some American will take them, polish them up and plant flowers in them. Americans will buy anything as long as it is priced fairly."

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OSU Library Remodeling Advocated

SALEM (UPI)—In a talk that pinpointed some of the building problems of higher education, Oregon State University President James Jensen presented a case Tuesday for remodeling the old OSU library.

He spoke to the Ways and Means Education subcommittee, which is deciding how much money the legislature should approve for college buildings and where it should come from.

A new library currently is under construction at Oregon State. Jensen said the university would like \$750,000 to turn the old one into a modern language laboratory, a mathematics department, a closed-circuit television center, 37 offices and 26 classrooms.

However, he said, with \$100,000 the university could make use of the building for a modern language laboratory, 16 offices and 6 classrooms.

What is the thinking behind the university's building request?

—Jensen said OSU might be

able to attract Peace Corps training with the modern language laboratory.

—The mathematics department should be near the new computer center the university is acquiring through federal and national science grants. The computer will be near the old library.

—With a little more work, closed-circuit television might not only

become a supplement to live teaching, but also relieve some of the growing teaching load.

—Classrooms are needed for growing student populations.

—And offices are needed so that the professors will have a place to study, research their work and meet with students.

The subcommittee recognizes these needs. But it also recog-

nizes that similar needs exist on all the state campuses, and the state is painfully short of funds.

Said Rep. John Mosser, R-Beaverton: "Existing space is vanishing." He questioned whether the small sums available should be spent for remodeling, or for new buildings, or both.

The committee continued to consider how to finance buildings.

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