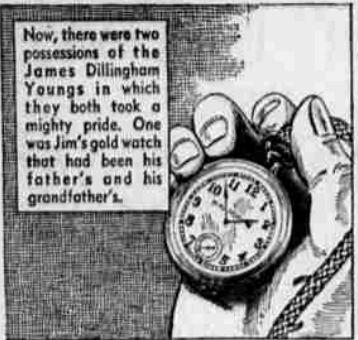


# GIFTS OF THE MAGI

BY O. HENRY



Now, there were two possessions of the James Dillingham Youngs in which they both took a mighty pride. One was Jim's gold watch that had been his father's and his grandfather's.



The other was Della's hair. And now it fell about her, rippling and shining like a cascade of brown waters.



Once she faltered for a minute and stood still while a tear or two splashed on the worn red carpet. And then she did it up again, nervously and quickly.

# Mansfield Denies Shakeup Due In Senate Leadership

WASHINGTON (UPI)—Senate Democratic Leader Mike Mansfield and the White House both vigorously denied a report that a shakeup in the Senate leadership was in the offing.

Mansfield, whose leadership came under criticism in a recent running debate on the Senate floor, said reports that he might replace 85-year-old Sen. Carl Hayden, D-Ariz., as Senate president pro tempore were "absolutely" untrue.

The reports, first published Tuesday and again broadcast today by the National

Broadcasting Company (NBC) said Hayden would be replaced by Mansfield who, in turn, would be replaced by Sen. Hubert Humphrey, D-Minn., Senate majority whip.

The report "seeks to bring about a discord and disunity within the Democratic party and its leadership in the Senate which does not and will not exist," Mansfield said.

White House Press Secretary Pierre Salinger said he was "unaware" of any discussions involving President Johnson of such a shakeup. "I have heard

nothing about it and I think I would have heard about it," Salinger told newsmen.

The speculation that President Johnson might "negotiate" for Hayden to step aside so Mansfield could ease himself out of the troubled leadership post was first raised Tuesday in a column by Charles Bartlett.

A major flaw in what some

regarded as a possible "trial balloon" is the fact that the post of president pro tempore traditionally goes to the senior senator of the party in control of the chamber. In this case, the next in line would be Sen. Richard B. Russell, D-Ga., chairman of the Armed Services Committee and leader of the Southern bloc.

The Senate might violate this tradition in an election, but it is highly unlikely—and Mansfield so indicated today.

Another flaw in the speculation was that such a shift would perhaps lead to an open fight for the majority leadership. Humphrey, as assistant leader, would be the most likely choice, but conservative members from the South and West might want to put up an alternate candidate.

# AF Claims Damage Vandalism

WASHINGTON (UPI)—The Air Force said today that damage inflicted on 61 jet training planes at an Arizona air base probably was the work of a disgruntled civilian employe or serviceman rather than an international saboteur.

"This is the sort of thing that happens from time to time," an Air Force spokesman said. "Some guy gets unhappy and goes and does some damage."

The spokesman speculated that a foreign agent would not have damaged the planes in such an "obvious" way.

The Defense Department said Tuesday that the T38 jet trainers were found to have electrical wires cut between the power system and the gears. The wires run along the outside of the planes and the damage was not difficult to detect, a spokesman said. All of the aircraft were stationed at Williams Air Force Base, Ariz.

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# 'Man-Will-Never-Fly Memorial Society' Plans Annual Workshop

By DICK WEST  
WASHINGTON (UPI)—The Man-Will-Never-Fly Memorial Society has kindly invited me to attend its annual workshop meeting at Kitty Hawk, N.C., next week.

I would like very much to go, but unfortunately I have been unable to get an airline reservation.

Nevertheless, I will be there in spirit — 100 per cent. Also 100 proof. The MWNFMS is a highly spirited group.

Its motto is: "Birds fly; men drink." When translated into Latin, the motto can be loosely interpreted to mean: "Man does not fly. Or anyway, not on one wing."

This year's workshop will be particularly significant because it coincides with the 60th anniversary of what the MWNFMS

calls "The Wright brothers alleged first flight."

Last year, it only coincided with the 50th anniversary of the so-called flight.

As everyone knows, an anniversary that is divisible by 10 is always more significant than an odd-numbered anniversary. Except those that are divisible by 25.

As usual, the workshop will feature a series of panel dis-

cussions revolving around the old controversy of "What really happened on Kill Devil Hill?" This much is known: On or about Dec. 17, 1903, a couple of chaps who gave their names as Orville and Wilbur Wright climbed to the top of the hill. One climbed back down again.

Many otherwise sensible people, including a number of influential government officials, have gone on record as believing that the other one flew down.

That theory is hotly disputed by the MWNFMS which was formed to defend the law of gravity against attacks by such radicals.

Under the rallying cry of "we said (pause) it couldn't be done," the society has sought to convince thinking men everywhere that the thought of man flying is ridiculous, which, of course, it is.

There are, however, two minor weaknesses in the society's case. They may be summarized as follows:

1. Why would the Wright brothers, or anyone else for that

matter, climb to the top of Kill Devil Hill unless they intended to fly?

2. If men cannot fly, why do they keep on building airplanes?

Although MWNFMS members

regard these questions as quibbling, they have resolved to meet the issue head on.

I wish them well, but I would have more confidence in the society if they had not sent my workshop invitation airmail.

# CHOSEN AS THE FAVORITE FOR THE NEW YORK 1964 World's Fair —

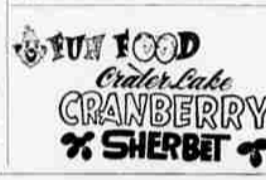


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