

PENASCO VALLEY NEWS

AND HOPE PRESS

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Hope, N. M., Friday, February 21, 1947

SCHOOL NEWS

Dr. Puckett was working in the Hope school Wednesday.

School will be dismissed on Friday, Feb. 28 for the basketball tournament at Roswell. Season tickets can be purchased at the school office. Adult tickets are \$3 and student tickets are \$2. There will be eight sessions. All Thursday games will be played at the Roswell high school gym. Friday and Saturday games

will be played at the Institute.

Seventy-five library books were received this week from the Library Extension Service at Santa Fe.

Several pairs of roller skates of small sizes have been ordered for the school.

The 4-H Club had a meeting Wednesday with about 20 attending.

Seventh and Eighth Grade News

We wish to thank Mrs. Cauhape

for the very nice box of Valentine chocolates. The entire room enjoyed them, but Ray had double enjoyment. We are also grateful to the school for the ten new library books.

Our only regret is that ten books won't supply 24 students. However, the seventh grade received a set of new readers, and perhaps that will help the disappointed ones overcome their grief. The latest excitement is the discovery of the microscope.

Having read about "atomic energy" in a reader written before the days of the atomic bomb, the eighth graders are now understanding some of the statements they couldn't grasp then.

The excitement hasn't altogether taken the place of the Spelling Bee Contest enthusiasm though. Don Kincaid, Carolyn Young, Ray Jones, Clarence Forister and Betty Allen are learning the dictionary in their desire to compete in this spelling bee

to be held in Carlsbad in April.

Fourth, Fifth and Sixth Grade News

We had a nice Valentine party.

Thanks to the room mothers. Joyce and Jo Ann Parrish celebrated their birthdays Friday. All had a nice time. Our boys played the seventh grade in basketball Tuesday. The score was 17 to 18 in our favor. The sixth grade girls will present a play, "George Washington," Friday. Mrs. Marable and the rest of her room are invited.

"Diamonds Are Trumps." Whoever Owns the Koh-I-Noor, Phophesied An Ancient Soothsayer, Can Rule the World. But Only a Queen Can Be Able To Possess It and Not Be in Danger of Losing Both Her Throne and Her Life. Begin This Intriguing Story in The American Weekly, The Magazine Distributed With Your Copy of Next Sunday's Los Angeles

Examiner.

A Little About This

And A Little About That

Bernard Schneider was in Hope Tuesday from Artesia . . . Wayland Hodges was transacting business in Hope Tuesday . . . Rush and Charlie Coates left Monday on a fishing trip . . . L. E. Hall and son have been hauling gravel for Wallace Johnson . . . Superintendent Moore attended a superintendents' meeting in Carlsbad last Friday . . . Andy Teel attended a law enforcement meeting in Artesia Sunday afternoon; it was attended by officers and deputies from Carlsbad, Hobbs, Eunice, Roswell and Artesia . . . The new tourist court being erected by Mrs. John Prude is making steady progress . . . Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Mellard have moved to the Van Welch ranch near Weed . . . Bob Wood has been hauling hay from the Pecos Valley . . . Lee Glasscock must be figuring on feeding out a bunch of sheep . . . Pete Casabonne and Erven Wathen were discussing the weather in Artesia Monday . . . Ben Hill from Duncan was through Hope last week bound for Artesia . . . Lee Brantley and one of the Peterson boys from Mayhill were in Hope Tuesday and stopped in and had breakfast at the C & R Cafe . . . J. C. Bumgardner from Mariosa, Calif., was here last week . . . Chester Schwalbe is painting in the Booker building in Artesia . . . A number of Surveyors are working near Elk staking out the location of the new highway . . . Mr. and Mrs. Austin Reeves from Duncan were in Artesia Monday and visited at the Artesia Locker Plant . . . We saw D. D. Essex in Artesia Monday; he wanted us to be sure and . . . Mr. Cummins, who is opening a jewelry store in the lobby of the Booker building, was a former student under Superintendent Moore in Lake Arthur . . . Mr. Cummins was on the Lake Arthur basketball team and they played Hope on the cement floor just east of The News office . . . Mr. Cummins also believes in advertising; note his ad in this week's paper . . . C. D. Huff of Albuquerque, who is opening a shoe store just east of the L. P. Evans building in Artesia, informs us that he is now getting in his line of shoes and will be ready for the public March 1 . . . Mr. Huff is another man who believes in advertising . . . The Artesia Gas & Appliance Company also believes in publicity . . . No telling how many Propane and and Butane tanks the ad in The News has sold for them.

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Veterans Attention — A Veterans Administration Contact Representative from Carlsbad will be at Hope, N. M., at The Penasco Valley News office on every second and fourth Tuesday from 9 a. m. to 12 noon, to answer your questions about veterans benefits.

"Mothering Babies Nobody Wants." "No Matter Where They Come From, They're Ours Now," Says Mrs. Celia Read, One of California's Foster Mothers Whose Hearts Are Big Enough For All the Children Their Houses Can Hold. You Can Read This Story of Mother Love in The American Weekly, The Magazine Distributed With Next Sunday's Los Angeles Examiner.

.....ANNOUNCING.....

Artesia's Exclusive Family

SHOE STORE

Opening March 1, 1947

East Side of the L. P. Evans

Building, 114 W. Main

We Will Have in Stock—

City Club Shoes For Men

Velvet Step For Women

Weatherbird and Diamond Brand

For Boys and Girls

All Are Nationally Advertised Lines.

Expert X-Ray Fitted

Steel Arches

Combination Lasts

Shoes For Dress, Party, Casual,

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of every description for the farmer, rancher, lumberman. We have what you want or can get it for you.

L. P. Evans Store

Artesia, New Mexico



From where I sit ... by Joe Marsh

Mystery of the Rocking Chair

Ma Hoskins has a favorite rocking chair that's worn and shabby, with a noisy creak. Pa Hoskins has listened to that squeak for thirty years . . . and he decided to do something about it. So he bought a new rocker, and hid the other in the barn.

Ma allowed as how grateful she was . . . but when Pa missed her one afternoon, he heard a familiar sound that led him to the barn. There was Ma rocking happily in her old chair—squeak . . . squeak.

No need to tell you how Pa felt.

Quick as a wink he hid the new rocker and then brought Ma's old chair back to the house. Now when he hears that squeak, he looks at the mellow glass of beer he's drinking and says to himself: "She's just as entitled to her small pleasures as I am."

From where I sit, that's one of the reasons the Hoskines are the happiest, oldest-married, peace-fulest folks in our town.

Joe Marsh

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ANNOUNCING THE OPENING OF

Cummins House of Time

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 25th

Located in the Lobby of the new Booker Building, Artesia

**Diamond Engagement and Wedding Rings--Watches
Silverware--Jewelry--Rings Made and Stones Mounted
Watch and Jewelry Repair by a certified watchmaker--
Come in and see the hand made model time piece**

Cummins House of Time

Booker Building

110 South 4th

Artesia, N. Mex.

WEEKLY NEWS ANALYSIS

Accidents Kill 100,000 in 1946; State Department Maps Program; Seek Presidential Term Curb

Released by Western Newspaper Union.

(EDITOR'S NOTE: When opinions are expressed in these columns, they are those of Western Newspaper Union's news analysts and not necessarily of this newspaper.)



Russian Delegate Andrei Gromyko (left front) explains Soviet stand on disarmament while Alexander Cadogan of Britain (center) and Warren Austin of the U. S. (extreme right) listen attentively.

U.N.:

How to Disarm?

Sick of war, the U. S. and Russia remained sold on world disarmament, but as the two great powers in conflicting camps, they locked horns on procedure.

The atomic bomb remained the nub of the problem. The U. S. insisted that no adequate system of collective security could be devised until establishment of effective control over A-bombs, long-range rockets and other mass destruction weapons. The Russians, on the other hand, wanted the U. S. to surrender the A-bomb and disarm at the same time.

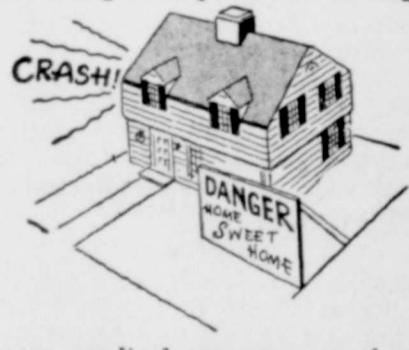
U. S. military experts reason that should the U. S. give up the atomic bomb without securing effective control and scrap ships, airplanes and tanks simultaneously, Russia would have a distinct advantage in case of future hostilities since she could quickly remobilize her ground forces. Thus, stripped of effective communication and power, the U. S. would stand empty-handed at the other end of the world.

No responsible official could stomach that prospect.

Mishaps Take Big Toll

Home, sweet home continued to be the most dangerous place in 1946, National Safety Council reported in its roundup of accidents for the year. No less than 34,000 persons were killed in their homes and over 5,000,000 incurred disabling injuries.

In all, 100,000 persons were killed and 10,400,000 injured in accidents for 1946, with an average of 1 out of 13 people in the U. S. suffering a disabling mishap. Based on wage



losses, medical expenses, overhead cost of insurance for accidents, production delays, industrial damage and property damage from traffic mishaps and fires, the economic loss was estimated at over 5½ billion dollars.

Automobile accidents claimed 33,465 lives; falls, 27,800; burns, 10,200; drownings, 7,300; railroads, 3,928; firearms, 31,100, and scheduled domestic air travel, 107. Only 1.2 passenger deaths were recorded for every 100 million passenger miles covered by commercial air lines.

WORLD TRADE:

Hit British Pact

Britain renounced any intentions of negotiating restrictive trade clauses with other countries following Secretary of the Treasury Snyder's protest to London over terms of an agreement with Argentina.

Under the disputed pact, Argentina would be able to draw on funds owed her by Britain in years when the latter sold more than she bought from the South American nation, but the money would have to be spent within the British empire. In this manner, Britain would prevent Argentina from draining valuable foreign currency, like U. S. dollars.

Snyder contended that the agreement violated the 3½ billion dollar loan recently granted Britain in that

it would prevent the free flow of trade promised in the deal. Should Britain extend the same provisions to India, Egypt and other countries, it would tend to choke free trade. In answering Snyder, the British government declared it had no intention to apply the terms to future trade pacts.

Marriage Aid

Alarmed by the rising divorce rate, the British Labor government proposed a new welfare service devoted toward stabilizing marriage. Bannering by the London press, the proposal attracted the keen interest of parliament.

Declaring that the service should not be a state institution, the government suggested that it be developed through existing facilities of religious and charitable organizations receiving state aid. In many instances, wise counsel may solve difficulties arising from temperamental differences or the ordinary problems of the day and prevent marital splits, it was said.

At the same time, the government said, there is need of education for marriage, parenthood and family life through enlightened co-operation of parents, teachers and pastors. Engaged couples should receive specific instruction and guidance before taking their vows, it added.

STATE DEPARTMENT:

Legislative Aims

While Secretary of State Marshall called for early congressional action on his request for full aid to the hungry in war-stricken areas overseas, the senate foreign relations committee indicated it would hold off consideration until receiving ex-President Hoover's report on food requirements for Germany.

Marshall made his request in a statement to the committee listing the department's legislative program. Other action sought included:

- Senate approval of the Balkan peace treaties signed in Paris February 10.
- Authorization for the St. Lawrence seaway.
- Legislation for entry of displaced persons into this country.
- Tax exemptions for persons making gifts to the U.N.

PRESIDENCY:

Rush Curb

Mustering its full strength, the Republican majority in congress pushed for passage of a bill by Representative Michener (Rep., Mich.) for limiting a president to two terms. Denying Democratic charges that the measure was "anti-Roosevelt," the GOP contended it was designed to curb the growth of autocratic power and put a historic U. S. tradition into law.

Michener urged speedy action on the measure to allow state legislatures now in session to ratify it as a constitutional amendment. In addition to congressional approval, three-fourths of the 48 states must ratify before it becomes effective. Should congress delay, Michener said, many legislatures may adjourn to 1949 before being able to act upon the proposal.

Meanwhile, President Truman injected himself into discussion of the presidency by proposing that congress change the rules of succession to permit the speaker of the house to take over when the chief executive gives up office and no vice president exists. Under present law, the secretary of state succeeds in such a situation. Elevation of the speaker would permit the advancement of an elective officer, Mr. Truman said.

ANTARCTICA:

New Discoveries

The vast frigid Antarctic lying at the bottom of the world began to take clearer shape as a result of the Byrd expedition. No less than 125,000 square miles of hitherto uncharted wasteland were mapped by naval explorers in the first five weeks of polar operations.

Fliers photographed and charted 4 great bays, eight major mountain ranges, more than 20 islands, 3 important peninsulas and 2,000 miles of coastland. Most important single discovery was a vast bay cutting deeply into the continent from Franklin Roosevelt sea. It measured 180 miles in length and 120 miles in width.

Now on his fourth antarctic expedition, Byrd remained sold on the white-capped continent. He asserted that it contains a treasure-house of raw materials which could supplement U. S. resources depleted during the war.

PARIS:

Fashion Parade

Hens, roosters, eggs and rabbits were among the fashion themes of famed Parisian designers at the recent style showing in the French capital.

Schiaparelli set the farmland motif in hats and on prints, using cotton instead of silk, wool and synthetic materials. Mindful of the shortage of maids the world over, what with high wages prevailing in other work, Schiaparelli thoughtfully added de luxe aprons to dinner dresses for home service.

Simplicity was the theme in all designs, even in daring evening apparel, where it was effectively used to bring out the most of millady. Smartly tailored dresses, tailleurs and peplums were given a big play, although fancy prices, as high as \$600, put the originals out of the working girl's reach.

Le Long produced a knockout in a classic pink formal slashed to the waist in the front, back and sides.

FINANCE:

A Comer

Canny 49-year-old Robert R. Young continued to shake Wall street with his aggressive advances for a transcontinental railroad line.

Young, a former New York stockbroker who catapulted into the national limelight by joining in purchase of control of the vast Van Sweringen railroad empire for only \$510,000, heads the Alleghany corporation, which dominates the Chesapeake and Ohio, the Nickle Plate and Pere Marquette.

Operating through Alleghany, Young

is said to have increased his holdings in the New York Central to 309,000 shares and bought up almost \$18,000,000 in Rock Island securities. Control of these two lines would give him a run from New York to Chicago to New Mexico, from whence he could bargain for track rights to the Pacific coast, completing his dream of a transcontinental line.

An aggressive champion of railroad modernization to keep up with other competitive modes of transportation, Young repeatedly has assailed carrier interests for failure to improve their properties. He is a strong believer in advertising.

BUILDING:

Labor Pact

AFL building trades unions and Associated General Contractors of America set a pattern for postwar labor and management relations designed to minimize working disputes and speed completion of postwar construction.

Officials of the union and contractors disclosed their plan for industrial peace in a letter to President Truman. Under the agreement, parties to a dispute would submit their case to a joint national conference committee composed of representatives of labor and management for arbitration. The committee would have no jurisdiction over organization strikes.

The Associated Contractors represent all branches of the construction industry but principally builders of commercial structures, highways, roads, bridges, dams and other heavy projects. Unions involved include carpenters, teamsters, plumbers, roofers, sheet metal workers, painters and paperhangers, plasterers and cement finishers, stone cutters, marble polishers, lathers, bricklayers, hod carriers, common laborers, iron workers, granite cutters, electricians, boilermakers and engineers.

Other groups engaged on construction projects also can avail themselves of the services of the conference committee for settlement of disputes, it was explained.

AROUND THE HOUSE

To clean pancake griddles, waffle irons, and popover irons, wipe them after each use with a cloth squeezed out in clear, warm water.

Teas may be deliciously flavored by adding sprigs of curly mint, apple mint, orange mint, spearmint, or lemon balm.

Some of those pictures hanging on the wall are a sight when you take them down. Heavy wrapping paper glued tightly to the back of the frames will keep out dust and protect pictures.

Save the heavy folding bags in which gelatin is sold. These are ideal for transporting pickles or olives in a lunchbox.

When a hand scroll-saw blade has to be used in close quarters and it is impossible to employ the frame to hold it, slit two corks lengthwise and slip them on to the ends for finger grips. The corks can be placed anywhere on the blade, making it possible to hold the saw rigidly when drawn back and forth across the work.

Same Old Toby Is Most Popular Stage Character

The most popular stage character in American history has been Toby, the young comic hero of the majority of the plays presented by scores of small-time repertory companies since his creation in 1910, says Collier's. Owing to his success, Toby's make-up and costume have never varied, still consisting of freckles, red wig, blacked-out teeth, checkered shirt, baggy trousers and old felt hat; and virtually all of the hundreds of plays written around him have been based on the single theme—country boy outsmarts city slicker.



SEED CATALOG

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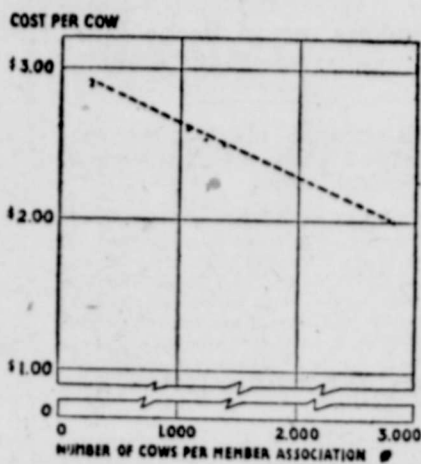
Co-Ops Can Lower Cost By Proper Management

By W. J. DRYDEN

An increasing number of farmers use artificial insemination in order to speed up dairy herd improvement and increase their income.

In the urge to expand rapidly, many farmers sometimes have overlooked the importance of technical problems in dairy husbandry, genetics and veterinary medicine.

By joining together within a certain zone, farmers may cooperate in forming an artificial breeding as-



sociation. This has decided advantages, chief among which is the financial one. To be successful the bulls purchased by the group must be outstanding—better than any one of the individual farmers could afford to maintain.

To properly conduct the insemination, the group should have available a qualified veterinarian. He need not be on a full time basis, but should devote sufficient time to check on all breeders as well as perform the actual insemination. If the organization is sufficiently large he could be engaged on a full time basis, devoting part of his time to disease control and preventative work.

Anchored Soil Will Defeat Dust Storms

Farmers in the Great Plains states are heeding a warning that another cycle of dry years may bring back the disastrous dust storms of the early "thirties," Paul T. Scott, South Dakota State college, writes in Capper's Farmer.

The farmers propose to beat nature to the draw by anchoring at least a portion of the susceptible acreage with hardy grasses.

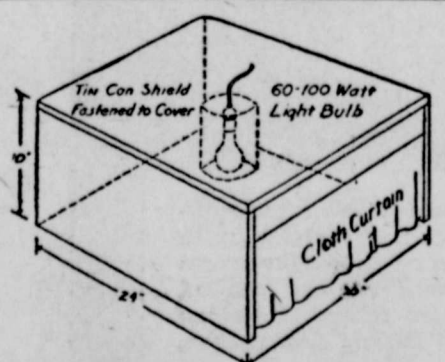
Most important discoveries made in the fight against erosion were the



Anchor the soil to prevent erosion.

adaptation of certain tame grasses and new methods of seed harvest for the Plains natives. Brome grass now has spread over the eastern portion of the Plains states and into the Corn Belt. Crested wheatgrass is proving a near-miracle as a land cover and pasture in the northern part. Mechanical processes have been developed for harvesting and seeding buffalo grass, the grammas and wheat grasses.

Backyard Brooder



Small Brooder For Backyard Poultrymen

This brooder, large enough for 25 to 50 chicks, is recommended by University of Maine. It can be made of wood or corrugated box the size indicated in the illustration, or slightly larger. Chicks can be brooded in the basement up to six or eight weeks.

IN THESE UNITED STATES

Old Leisure Time Diversions Still Prevail at Farm Parties

The old familiar phrase, "a good time was had by all," is still the best yardstick for a successful party, says W. R. Gordon, extension rural sociologist of Pennsylvania State college, who concludes from observations on 100 extension demonstrations that there is "no lack of enthusiasm among farm people for recreation."

Good times in the country and on the farm suggest "the leisure time experiences of our grandparents—the literary meeting, spelling bee, box social, maple sugar party and barn dance," he says. Most of these diversions have stood the test of time and are still popular. One of them, the spelling bee, staged a lively comeback last year throughout the state under sponsorship of the Pennsylvania State grange with the state-wide finals at its annual meeting in Wilkes-Barre last October.

"Owing to man's inherent weakness for eating," Gordon notes, "the box social has never completely lost its appeal. The barn dance, although it has moved from the barn to the school gymnasium, the fire hall or the community center, attracts young and old, just as it did generations ago."

But, he thinks today's good times in the country have even more rec-

reational variety. In addition to parties and square dancing, groups come together to sing and for roller skating. Contests include the traditional horseshoes, corn husking and log sawing, with baseball and softball added. Hay rides and hikes to



nearby places for cook-outs, doggie roasts and suppers divide attention with more extended trips, some of them by chartered bus, to places of interest.

One of the best features of rural recreation, as Gordon points out, is that "almost everyone is participant; there are few spectators."

Old Age Pension Provides Funds For Free Library

TULSA, OKLA.—A philanthropist on an old-age pension. That is the unusual position of 80-year-old J. W. Black.

Black doesn't have enough heat in his apartment to keep it cozy and his rooms are devoid of electric lights. But his basement living room is lined with 1,100 books which he has dedicated to the 2,000 children of his suburban Glenwood community, which has no other public library.

By skimming on his pension checks, Black recently managed to buy a new set of children's books. Many of the volumes, however, are gifts from persons who desired to help keep his private philanthropy alive.

"When I'm gone, I figure I will have returned \$2 for every \$1 I received from the state," Black contends.

Although no cards are kept in this unusual library, Black has missed few books from his shelves, crudely fashioned from apple crates. There is only one rule: "Read and return to 5244 1/2 Sand Springs Road and thank the dear Father for our library."

The library is a happy place, Black points out, adding that "the little folk fill it with their laughter and they can play games here too if they take the notion."

"You see, I know something about people," Black says, "and one thing I realize is that if we don't take care of these little fellows we will live to regret it."

Observance Sparks Defense Problems

CHICAGO.—With the purpose of focusing attention on national defense problems, the annual observance of National Security week is being revived this year after a lapse during war years. Dates for the observance are from Lincoln's birthday anniversary, February 12, to Washington's birthday anniversary, February 22.

The observance, which has been given official recognition of both the war and navy departments, is being sponsored by the Reserve Officers' association of the United States. The sponsoring agency is a nation-wide organization composed of reserve officers of all the armed forces interested in promotion of national defense. Officers of the association point out that graduates of officer candidate schools comprised 98 per cent of the army's officer strength during World War II.

Money Problem

NEW YORK.—Money problems come in big measure to the Corn Exchange Bank & Trust Co. A directors' report showed the bank handled \$45,958,750 in coins during 1946. Total weight was reported at 2,632 tons, enough to fill 133,400 ordinary money bags.

Time Payment

HERRIN, ILL.—Sixteen years after his wrist watch was stolen, Lester Turner received a \$20 bill in payment. The money was sent in an anonymous letter which stated "the watch is long gone but here is approximately the value of it."

"Off We Go" AVIATION NOTES

'FLYING FOOD'

Rapid strides are being made to bring the day of sky farm-to-market roads into the scope of everyday reality. From all indications it won't be too far in the future when the farmer will rely on air transport to fly an appreciable amount of his perishable produce to market.

Several of the nation's major airlines are conducting extensive experiments in connection with the speedy, efficient and economical handling of "flying food."

Guy M. Springer, a son of the fertile agricultural lands of Texas and the Midwest, who is general cargo manager for Capital Airlines, says: "We've been flying almost every type of farm cargo imaginable—but admittedly in small quantities. Recently we flew shipments of baby chicks from hatcheries in one large city to customers scattered throughout the South. This shipment proved it was economical to "sky-ship" chicks because of virtual elimination of the usual high mortality rate in moving baby chicks."

"Then, too," says Springer, "we've flown a live bull calf from Birmingham, Alabama, to Washington where it was presented to President Truman. We've operated an aerial milk route from Milwaukee, Wis., to Knoxville, Tenn. And we've hauled about as many mushrooms as anyone would care to eat."

Despite these varied ventures, sky produce hauling still is an experiment. Definitely on its way to becoming another factual accomplishment of the airline industry—but still just an experiment.

The "aerial milk route" is a case in point:

From Milwaukee cow to southern distributor in six to 12 hours was the achievement of the initial deliveries. From morning milkings in Wisconsin, 40 gallons of fresh milk were moved by truck to Billy Mitchell field, Milwaukee's airport. Loaded on a plane, the milk was flown to Knoxville, where it was delivered less than eight hours later.

The movement of the fresh milk was accomplished with no extraordinary preparations. The liquid was cooled to about 35 degrees at point of origin and it remained cool throughout the flight. The same method has been used successfully in movement of seafood.

About the cost of sky-shipping milk?

At present, the bill for moving 10-gallon cans of milk with jackets by air is approximately five times the cost of moving them in baggage cars by rail—but mass shipments and a more efficient and light means of holding the milk (perhaps by cardboard containers) could cut the cost down appreciably.

The "flying stockcar" that winged a three-month-old Aberdeen Angus bull from the Deep South to Washington definitely was the forerunner of things to come. Presented to President Truman as a gift from Alabama livestock producers interested in developing stock breeding in the South, "Alabama's" trip was more of a stunt than anything else—but it proved that stock could be transported by air; efficiently, safely and economically.



ANOTHER 'FIRST'

Washington's Early Ventures Proved Key to Farm Progress

WNU Features.

Remembered as "First in War, First in Peace, First in the Hearts of His Countrymen," George Washington could lay claim to still another honor. He also was "First in Farming."

As America hails the 215th anniversary of his birth, agriculture acknowledges its debt to him. For Washington made contributions to farming's progress that benefit millions of people today.

The "Father of His Country" was a keen student of farming. He pioneered in soil conservation. He championed crop rotation almost before anyone else in the colonies tried it. He was one of the first to carry on experiments with clover as a soil-building crop. He introduced timothy hay to this country and was one of the first Americans to grow alfalfa.

Ahead of Times.

Three-quarters of a century before the science of soil chemistry was discovered, Washington worked to restore exhausted fields with fertilizer materials then available. He led the way in the use of farm machinery. He experimented successfully in livestock breeding and improvement of blood strains. According to his own account, he was the first American to attempt the raising of mules.

As a result of his success with farming, Washington became the richest man in the United States. When he died in 1799, his property included more than 48,000 acres of farm land. That included Mount Vernon as well as acreage in Ohio and elsewhere. Washington's landed estate was valued at \$530,000. Other property included additional buildings, equipment, livestock and various investments worth \$220,000.

Washington was 27 when he began his serious farming career in 1759. He had inherited Mount Vernon, married Martha Custis and received a handsome dowry in lands and chattels. For the next 16 years he was to devote himself to the land.

No Aid Available.

That was no easy task, however. The land he inherited was worn out by a century of single-crop farming. There had been no attempt at rotation or fertilization. Unlike the farmer of today, Washington could not turn to his county agent or to the research men at the state agricultural experiment station for facts to help him meet farm needs.

As an alternate to tobacco growing, Washington began giving increasing attention to wheat. His progressive attitude toward crop management showed itself in experiments such as steeping his seed in brine and alum to prevent smut.

Washington's wheat growing ventures proved profitable.

Washington's farm career was halted for eight years during the Revolutionary war. Peace in 1783 at last brought his release. When he returned to Mount Vernon he was one of the world's most famous men. Happy to be home again, he threw himself once more into his old occupation.

During his career as commander-in-chief of the Continental army he had observed at firsthand how agriculture was practiced in New York, New Jersey and other northern colonies. That broadened his outlook. He was more than ever convinced of the need for pastures and livestock to help conserve the soil. He was more wide-awake to the need for better tools.

Revives Old Soil.

There was plenty to be done at Mount Vernon. One of Washington's chief worries was the rundown condition of the soil, due to the poor methods followed by overseers during his absence.

Washington began to experiment with clover and other grasses as a soil conservation measure. He was prompted to do this by Noah Web-

ster, newspaper writer, editor and compiler of a dictionary.

In his experiments Washington tried every kind of legume known to Virginia farmers, and imported many other kinds of seed from England. Thus he introduced timothy to his countrymen. He found that clover and peas had a soil enriching power.

In an English journal he read about a new legume—alfalfa or Lucerne—which had been brought from Switzerland. He found that alfalfa, too, could enrich the soil.

Imports New Strains.

Washington found some time to keep an eye on his farming operations at Mount Vernon even during his terms as President from 1789 to 1797. He had extensive experiments conducted in grain and livestock breeding. He imported new strains of wheat from South Africa and Siberia. He sent to England for sheep and, by crossing with Virginia breeds, increased the wool clip by two pounds per sheep. He bred fine draft horses and had the best trotting, riding and field animals in Virginia.

Crop rotation occupied a good deal of his attention. One rotation he noted "favors the land very much; inasmuch as there are but three corn crops (i.e. grain crops) taken in seven years from any field, and the first of the wheat crop which is to succeed it; and which by being laid to clover and grass and continued therein three years will afford much mowing and grassing, besides being a restoration to the soil."

Washington was one of the first Americans to use farm machinery. He was especially alert for better methods of threshing grain than the age-old practice of treading and flailing. In 1797, two years before his death, he built a threshing machine evolved by William Bookers, who came to Mount Vernon and directed construction.

Thresher Fails.

The machine failed to live up to Washington's hopes. At first it threshed about 50 bushels a day, then fell to fewer than 25 and finally broke down completely.

The disappointing experience with the threshing machine did not deter Washington from trying other implements. He furnished his farms with every kind of improved tool that might do better work. Among these were a wheat drill, a corn drill, a machine for gathering clover seed and one for raking up wheat.

"As a farmer, Washington was generations ahead of his time," declares Zenas H. Beers, executive secretary of Middle West Soil Improvement committee. "His progress toward scientific farming set an example that any modern farmer might follow with profit. Washington's success in devising good soil management methods mark him as one of America's first conservationists."

During his Presidency, Washington was eager to improve the lot of agriculture. In his last message to congress he recommended establishment of a "board of agriculture to collect and diffuse information, and by premium and small pecuniary aids, to encourage and assist a spirit of discovery and improvement." That recommendation foreshadowed establishment of the U. S. department of agriculture three-quarters of a century later.

Ain't It So?

Youth must be served and the best service is discipline. The righteous are the best of us; it's the self-righteous who exasperate.

Fault is easy to find; confidence is easy to lose.

Laughing at oneself is all very well, but it might be more profitable to take time out occasionally to scold oneself.

Some men are made by circumstances, and a lot of others are unmade by them.

When the heart is right you can forget that the liver may be wrong.

Last Patroon Exercised
Feudal Rights Till 1839

America's last patroon, or lord of a vast tract of land occupied by tenant farmers, was Stephen Van Rensselaer of New York State (1765-1839). Until his death, he exercised feudal rights over his 400-square-mile manor, which included holding a court of law, appointing the clergy and compelling his tenants to purchase their commodities at his store. His income from rents, profits and court fines amounted to about \$1,000,000 a year.

OLDER PEOPLE!
Many Doctors Advise
HIGH ENERGY TONIC

Older people! If you haven't the stamina you should—because your diet lacks the natural A&D Vitamins and energy-building, natural oils you need—you'll find good-tasting Scott's Emulsion helps build stamina, energy and resistance to colds. See this wonderful difference—buy Scott's at your druggist's today!

SCOTT'S EMULSION
YEAR-ROUND TONIC

Prompt, Long-lasting Relief for
**MUSCULAR
ACHES-PAINS**
Helps Break Up Painful
Surface Congestion, Too!
RUB ON **MUSTEROLE**

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Outdoors in any
weather, feet keep
comfortable with SOLES
as well as Heels by
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AMERICA'S No. 1 HEEL
and sole
Tough and Springy

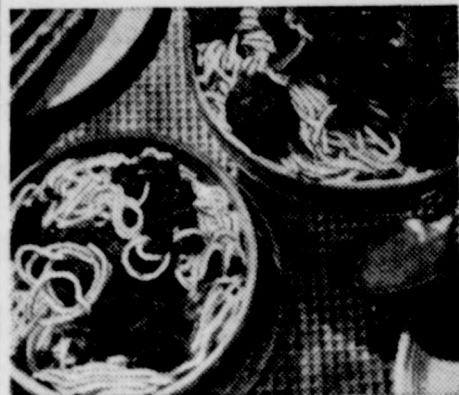
U. S. Savings Bonds

Kidneys Must
Work Well-

For You To Feel Well

24 hours every day, 7 days every week, never stopping, the kidneys filter waste matter from the blood. If more people were aware of how the kidneys must constantly remove surplus fluid, excess acids and other waste matter that cannot stay in the blood without injury to health, there would be better understanding of why the whole system is upset when kidneys fail to function properly. Burning, scanty or too frequent urination sometimes warns that something is wrong. You may suffer nagging backache, headaches, dizziness, rheumatic pains, getting up at night, swelling. Why not try Doan's Pills? You will be using a medicine recommended the country over. Doan's stimulate the function of the kidneys and help them to flush out poisonous waste from the blood. They contain nothing harmful. Get Doan's today. Use with confidence. At all drug stores.

DOAN'S PILLS

Serve Casseroles
For Late Evening
Snacks, Parties

Ingredients for this home style Italian spaghetti are simple and economical. The cooking time is brief but this dish can make you an enviable reputation.

Simple but Satisfying

There's still plenty of nippy weather ahead before spring breezes warm up the days and evenings, and there's nothing more welcome after the gang of youngsters has been out skating, skiing or coming home from a play than a sizzling hot casserole and a tossed salad.

Or if you have friends over and the evening begins to run out, there's no better way to wind it up than with a nice, homey oven dish to warm up the spirit and satisfy the appetite.

Make refreshments simple by tossing together the salad right after dinner—or at least getting things ready for the toss up. Also, prepare the casserole, store in the refrigerator and then about three-quarters of an hour before serving, slip it into the oven.

While we're watching our budgets, we're all looking for inexpensive dishes for entertaining. Utilize leftovers for casseroles, and make them stretch with such good foods as macaroni, spaghetti and noodles.

Here's an inexpensive but popular suggestion for late evening snacks:

*Italian Spaghetti

(Serves 6 to 8)

1/2 pound long spaghetti
1 pound ground beef
3 to 4 tablespoons cooking oil
1 green pepper, cut fine
1 large onion, minced
1/2 cup celery, cut fine
1/2 cup mushrooms, sliced
2 cans tomato puree
Salt and pepper to taste
Fry onion in oil until lightly browned. Add pepper, celery, mushrooms and cook covered until they are tender. Add tomato puree. Turn fire low. Place on top of sauce the ground beef which has been seasoned and formed into small balls. Cover and simmer for 30 minutes. Turn meat balls once.

Serve this sauce over freshly cooked spaghetti. Cook spaghetti in boiling, salted water until tender. Serve with grated cheese and meat balls.

One-Dish Meal.

(Serves 6)

2 cups diced carrots
1 1/2 cups diced celery
6 medium potatoes, pared and sliced
3 tablespoons butter
2 tablespoons flour
2 cups milk
1 teaspoon salt
1 cup meat stock
3 tablespoons sliced onion
1 cup canned or cooked peas
1 1/2 to 2 cups diced leftover meat
1/2 cup bread crumbs
3 tablespoons melted butter
Cook carrots, celery and potatoes separately in boiling, salted water until tender. (Leftover cooked vegetables may be used.) Melt butter, blend in flour, add milk and meat stock; cook over direct heat until sauce thickens, stirring constantly. Add salt. Combine sauce with remaining ingredients, except crumbs and melted butter, and pour into a two quart buttered



casserole. Combine crumbs and melted butter and sprinkle over top. Bake in a moderate (350 degree) oven for 35 to 40 minutes until top is browned and mixture thoroughly heated.

LYNN CHAMBERS' MENUS

*Italian Spaghetti
Tossed Vegetable Green Salad
Hard Rolls Butter
Ice Cream with Cookies
Beverage
*Recipe given

casserole. Combine crumbs and melted butter and sprinkle over top. Bake in a moderate (350 degree) oven for 35 to 40 minutes until top is browned and mixture thoroughly heated.

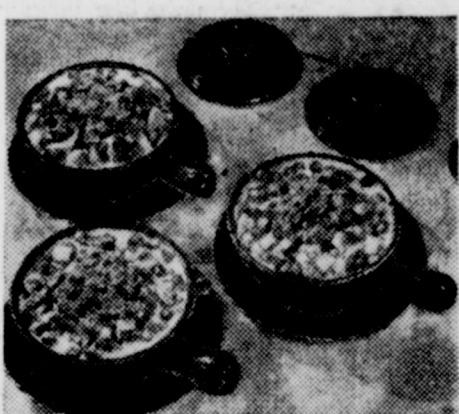
The goodness of apples and ham combine with macaroni in the following recipe to give you a dish for cool, tart evenings:

Ham and Apple Casserole.

(Serves 6)

6 to 8 ounces elbow macaroni
3 tablespoons butter
2 tablespoons mustard
1 1/2 cups milk
1 cup ground ham
1/2 teaspoon salt
1/2 teaspoon pepper
1/2 cup chopped celery
2 apples
3 tablespoons brown sugar
Cook macaroni in boiling, salted water for 10 minutes. Drain and rinse. Melt butter, blend in flour, mustard and milk. Cook slowly until thickened, stirring constantly. Combine all ingredients except apples and sugar and pour into a greased baking dish. Dice apples and spread over top of casserole. Sprinkle with sugar and bake in a moderate (350 degree) oven for 30 minutes.

Simple little tricks add a lot of eye appeal to certain simple dishes, such as this one. In this case, the cooked noodles are mixed with minced pimiento and green pepper and placed in a casserole. Then, press a "nest" into the center of the noodles and fill this with a mixture of creamed tuna fish. Serve with a colorful salad of sliced tomatoes and chunks of crisp lettuce, or a tomato aspic ring filled with cole slaw.



Leftovers take on glamor while clearing the refrigerator when used with spicy seasonings in this crumb topped casserole. White sauce helps adults and children get milk necessary in the diet.

Creamed Tuna, Noodle Nest.

(Serves 6)

8 ounces noodles
3 tablespoons each, pimiento and green pepper
2 tablespoons butter
2 tablespoons flour
Salt and pepper
1 1/2 cups milk
1 6-ounce can tuna fish
1 cup cooked green peas

Cook noodles in boiling, salted water until tender. Mix with pimiento and green pepper and make nest in casserole. Melt butter, add flour, salt and pepper to taste and milk. Cook until thick and smooth. Add tuna and peas and pour into noodle nest. Heat in moderate oven for 15 to 20 minutes.

Here is an easily prepared salad that is rich enough to satisfy winter appetites:

Calavo Beet Salad.

Calavo half shells
Lemon juice
Salt
Finely shredded uncooked beets
Thinly sliced green sweet pepper
French dressing
Salad greens for garnish
Hard-cooked eggs
Mayonnaise (optional)

To prepare calavo half shells, cut fruit into halves lengthwise and remove seed. Sprinkle cut portions of fruit with lemon juice and salt. Dress combined beets and pepper with french dressing. Place calavo half shells on garnished salad plates and fill seed cavities with vegetable mixture. Top each salad with a quarter of a hard-cooked egg. Garnish with mayonnaise, if desired.

Released by Western Newspaper Union.

ASK ME ?
ANOTHER ?

A quiz with answers offering information on various subjects

The Questions

1. What is a genre painting?
2. How does the United States rank with other countries in the consumption of tea?
3. What is a recidivist?
4. What song, first sung in "Clari, or the Maid of Milan," in 1823, became popular over night?
5. What is the capacity of the Constitution, the largest transport plane in the world?
6. Where was the first commercial telephone switchboard installed?

7. What two cities are the terminals of the Lincoln highway?

The Answers

1. One dealing realistically with scenes from everyday life.
2. Fourth, using 97 million pounds.
3. A habitual criminal.
4. "Home, Sweet Home."
5. It has sleeping space for 180 passengers or a military load capacity of 400 men.
6. In New Haven, Conn., on January 28, 1878.
7. New York and San Francisco.



Wax the cupboard shelves or cover them with oilcloth. Then dirt and spots wipe off easily.

Have you been dreading to throw away that old Irish linen damask tablecloth? If there are enough good-sized areas, why not make place mats or extra napkins. Additional napkins often come in handy when the children bring their pals in for a snack.

Too frequent pressing takes some of the life out of woolen fibres.

Liquid can be poured from a narrow-necked bottle faster and easier by shaking the bottle in a circular manner.

Select suitable cards for birthdays and anniversaries of your friends, address the envelopes, and keep them on file. Index by dates on which they should be mailed, then your friends will receive a thoughtful greeting from you on their special day. A small investment that pays big dividends in friendship.

DOES WONDERS FOR
CONSTIPATED MAN

Famous cereal keeps him "regular" without drugs

Discouraged about your constipation? Then read this sincere, unsolicited letter:

"I tried so many kinds of laxatives for constipation, but after a while they all failed to do their work. I started to eat KELLOGG'S ALL-BRAN some time ago and was surprised to find this wonderful product helped me as many laxatives had failed to do. I eat it every day now and am happy to say I feel like a new man!" Mr. B. Lee Ward, 115 Park Avenue, Edgewood 5, R. I.

Yes, eating ALL-BRAN regularly often brings lasting relief from constipation due to lack of bulk in the diet. For best results, eat it for breakfast every day—and drink plenty of water. Try it for ten days! If by that time you are not completely satisfied with KELLOGG'S ALL-BRAN, send the empty carton to the Kellogg Company, Battle Creek, Michigan, and get double your money back.

ALL-BRAN is not a purgative but a wholesome food made from the vital outer layers of whole wheat. Eat daily either as a cereal, or in muffins. Ask your grocer for KELLOGG'S ALL-BRAN.

From Start to Finish
...GOOD!

You will see the promise of perfect baking results with Clabber Girl's action in the mixing bowl... a promise fulfilled when your biscuits or cakes rise to light and fluffy flavor in the oven... right in the mixing bowl; light from the oven... that's the story of Clabber Girl's balanced double action.

For better baking use the baking powder with the BALANCED double action.

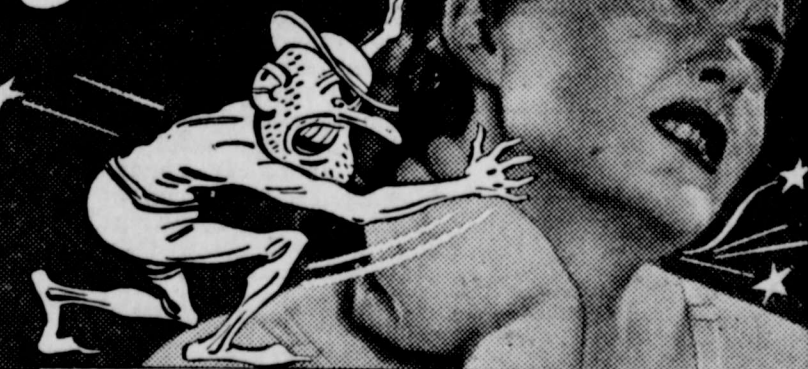
CLABBER GIRL
Baking Powder

Guaranteed by Good Housekeeping

Buy U. S. Savings Bonds!

IF PETER PAIN WRENCHES YOU WITH

STIFF NECK



● Rub in Ben-Gay for welcome, fast relief from stiff-neck pain. Gentle, soothing Ben-Gay contains up to 2 1/2 times more of those famous pain-relieving agents known to all doctors—methyl salicylate and menthol—than five other widely offered rub-ins. Insist on genuine Ben-Gay, the original Baume Analgesique. It acts fast where you hurt.

Also for Pain due to RHEUMATISM, MUSCLE ACNE, and COLDS. Ask for Mild Ben-Gay for Children.

QUICK...
RUB IN **Ben-Gay**

It's Really New!

One day an unknown writer was ushered into the presence of one of Hollywood's famous producers.

"They tell me you have a great play," said the producer, with a reassuring wave of the hand. "Go ahead and read it to me."

That was more than the author expected. Furthermore, he was afflicted with a severe stutter. But the chance was too good to miss, so he sat down and read the whole play, scene by scene.

When he had finished the producer yelled for his secretary.

"Sign this man at once," he cried. "He's got a new twist that's sure box office. Every character in the story stutters!"

When your little one catches cold-

Tonight... do what most mothers do to relieve miseries of children's colds: Simply rub warming, soothing Vicks VapoRub on throat, chest and back at bedtime. Results are so good because VapoRub's special relief-bringing action starts instantly... and keeps on working for hours during the night while the child sleeps. Often by morning most misery of the cold is gone. Remember, Mother... be sure you get the one and only Vicks VapoRub.

Gas on Stomach

Relieved in 5 minutes or double your money back. When excess stomach acid causes painful, suffocating gas, sour stomach and heartburn, doctors usually prescribe the fastest-acting medicine known for symptomatic relief—medicines like those in Bell's Tablets. No laxative. Bell's brings comfort in a 15 or 30 second time back on return of bottle to us. See at all drug stores.

WHY TAKE HARSH LAXATIVES?

Healthful Fresh Fruit Drink Makes Purgatives Unnecessary for Most People

Here's a way to overcome constipation without harsh laxatives. Drink juice of 1 Sunkist Lemon in a glass of water first thing on arising.

Most people find this all they need—stimulates normal bowel action day after day!

Lemon and water is good for you. Lemons are among the richest sources of vitamin C, which combats fatigue, helps resist colds and infections. They supply valuable amounts of vitamins B₁ and P. They pep up appetite. They alkalize, aid digestion. Lemon and water has a fresh tang too—clears the mouth, wakes you up, starts you going.

Try this grand wake-up drink 10 mornings. See if it doesn't help you! Use California Sunkist Lemons.

GOLD SEAL SEEDS

Western's 1947 Garden Guide. You will thrill to this splendid New Catalog. Everything in Seeds, Plants, Roses, etc. Free for the asking.

THE WESTERN SEED CO. DENVER.

COLD SUFFERERS!

666 STARTS RELIEF IN JUST 6 SECONDS

Get famous, prescription-type 666, for super-speedy relief from cold misery. Try 666 Cold Tablets, or 666 Liquid Cold Preparation today. Caution: Use only as directed.

Black Leaf 40 KILLS LICE. Cap-Bush Applicator makes BLACK LEAF 40 GO MUCH FARTHER. JUST A DASH ON FEATHERS... OR SPREAD ON ROOSTS



Duke McCale, private detective, is investigating the murder of Curt Vallancourt, who was about to marry Veronica Bigelow, heiress to thirty million dollars. She is the principal suspect. McCale learns of a deep plot to keep control of the great fortune in the family through a deal with Vallancourt. Shari Lynn, Vallancourt's former wife, is shot to death. Someone fires at McCale, wounding him in the shoulder. McCale hurries to the Bigelow mansion where Sybil, Veronica's mother, has been slugged. She was searching in an old trunk. McCale finds a large black silk handkerchief in the trunk that puzzles him. Miss Adelaide Bigelow is not able to place it, either.

CHAPTER XVI

He fingered it, feeling the coarse pull of the silk. A signal seemed to flow from the material in his hand along his arm, into his brain.

Suddenly, revelation poured over his mind like a searchlight. He jumped up. Placing a firm hand on Miss Bigelow's arm, he guided her, surprised and bewildered, to the stairway.

"We must go down immediately," he said. "Is everyone at home? You said Christopher Storm was here."

"Yes. They are all here somewhere. Must you see them all?"

"Not yet."

He strode ahead of her on the third floor hall. He reached the floor of the second floor drawing room before she was halfway down the second stairway.

As he went in, Karen stopped playing. She sat cold and austere at the piano, letting her long fingers rest quickly on the keyboard. She turned toward him as he quickly crossed the room to her side.

"You drew \$800 at your bank this morning," he hurled the statement at her. "Why?"

A sullen smile turned up one corner of her mouth. She shrugged. He waved a hand in exasperation.

"Very well. You don't talk. You do know why the murderer did not kill Sybil this afternoon?" He was aware that she drew away from him. "That was a mistake, wasn't it, not finishing the job?"

She set her mouth in a hard line. He looked his exasperation. He shrugged then and turned to the door, where stood a startled Miss Bigelow.

In the library once more, McCale called his own number.

"Hullo, boss."

"Did you get those pictures? A list? Read them off."

"Okay, coming through. A couple of football players; some guys in a canoe; a petty officer; a jockey (no horse); a marine, kind of dejected-looking; an army lieutenant; and whoops, an acrobat!"

"Uh uh. Just what I thought. Okay. Hop on over here."

"Where are you?"

"Oh, I forgot to tell you. The Bigelows. Make it snappy. This is the kill."

He dialed headquarters, asked for Donlevy.

"Donlevy, I'm at the Bigelows'. Can you get over here on the double quick? I've solved the Vallancourt-Lynn business. Proof? Of course I've got proof. Yeah. In twenty minutes—sooner if you can. Good-bye."

McCale and Miss Bigelow were in the library. He leaned against the mantle and spoke in a soft, ruthless voice.

"This is the end, Miss Bigelow. It will be all over in a few minutes. The police are on their way."

"Strange," he said. "Both you and I saw the murderer the afternoon of Curt Vallancourt's death. Besides that, all the clues have pointed in the same direction. I, at least, should have remembered the complete picture of that afternoon."

"Clues? Pointing to—?" She shook her head.

"Yes—a figure in the dark outside the house that afternoon. Sybil bathed in sherry in order to drown out what she saw. A visit by Karen to The Abbey Club the night before. A picture missing from the collection of Shari Lynn's admirers. A revolver in a family, where, to everyone's knowledge, a revolver had never been owned, and last, but not least, not at all the least—this."

He drew the black silk handkerchief from his pocket. Her brow wrinkled.

"But—but I still don't understand."

Murder in Plain Sight

by GERALD BROWN W.N.U. FEATURES



He went on, softly, inexorably. "The trouble in solving this crime lies in the fact that in the failure of the original plot, everyone had a motive. You are aware by now of the plan to gain control of the Bigelow millions through Curt Vallancourt. Stephen met Curt in Chicago, through Victoria or vice versa. Curt and Victoria had an affair, even though he was married to Shari Lynn at the time. He and Shari probably had some sort of arrangement, for the only business Vallancourt practiced was preying on wealthy women."

Miss Bigelow's chin came up. She seemed to be steeling herself for what she knew was to come.

"Vallancourt probably intended to marry Victoria until he found that the Bigelow fortune was controlled by you, to be passed on to Veronica at her marriage."

"To Veronica's husband, Mr. McCale."

"Yes, yes." He held up his hand. "How he obtained that information is theory, but not illogical theory. In view of the nonchalance of his character at that time and the open, too worldly outlook of both Victoria and Stephen, it is not wrong to assume that, in a moment of rancor, they told him. Possibly they mentioned that he was barking up the wrong tree—that while you allowed Vicky and Stephen generous allowances, the real gold bags were Veronica's, with your and Sybil's approval, of course. Yes, the whole thing must have been hatched before Victoria and Stephen came home to prepare the way, for in the meantime Vallancourt had to divorce Shari Lynn, no doubt promising that when he got his hands on the money and had salted away a few million, he would renege and remarry Shari."

"How horrible." She shuddered. "But Stephen and Victoria? What would they have gained?"

"While McCale Talks The Murderer Escapes"

"That's where the real Machiavellian touch came in. Victoria, no doubt, thought Curt would marry her eventually and that they would live on Veronica's money. You see, there were two women Curt fooled."

"Fooled?"

"Of course. But to go back a bit, Victoria brought Curt home as a friend she had run into in New York. He wooed Veronica, who forgot her childhood romance with Christopher Storm overnight in the excitement of the biological spell Vallancourt was able to cast. Everything was going fine. The wedding over, a few months for Curt to manipulate the Bigelow money, and Victoria would have Curt. Stephen would have—he thought—Karen."

Miss Bigelow closed her eyes in anguish. McCale continued in a rush of words.

Even Christopher Storm was convinced of Vallancourt's sincerity. He had met Curt that morning and in a rush of boyish feeling had deeded The Nest, the house he had built for Veronica and himself. That left the others out in the cold. Better now that Veronica should marry Storm than Vallancourt, if he was going to turn his back on them. Storm, at least, would see that they had their allowances, maybe something more. But Curt, in his complete aboutface, could not be relied upon. He might cut them off completely, in disgust with himself and them, too. You can't take chances on a reformed rake. He is liable to become very self-righteous and unapproachable. You see? Curt Vallancourt had to die."

Miss Bigelow's eyes remained closed. She was breathing heavily. McCale hurried on.

"Vallancourt, of course, had told only Veronica, to whom he had made full confession, and Christopher Storm because he was forced to, and Shari Lynn. Shari Lynn, fatalistic in all things, probably more so about the enigmatic Curt, set out to do a little blackmailing. Knowing that he hadn't come clean to the four who were in the plot, she started plans for extortion. She got in touch with Karen and threatened to let the cat out of the bag before the wedding bells rang. Although they all knew that something was wrong, that there was a rat somewhere, Karen decided to be on the safe side. She took \$500 with her to The White Abbey for Lynn that night. She surprised Vallancourt with her, and believe me, surprised was the word for Curt. He was utterly nonplussed when Karen walked in. She was observed by my secretary and myself; by her husband who was there on his own account, probably to watch for Shari Lynn. Sybil was there, too. She and Karen met on the steps. No doubt she was upset over the

rumor that Curt had been seen with the Lynn woman, and in her muddled way, wanted to see for herself."

Hard bunches showed against McCale's jawline and his face looked relentless in the shadows.

"The next afternoon, Curt Vallancourt was shot on your doorstep."

Miss Bigelow sat up straight, shaking herself out of her reverie.

"We—we saw the murderer?" she whispered.

"Yes," he answered slowly. "Think back. What was it we saw?"

"Why," she faltered, "there was a woman with red hair. Veronica!"

"No," he said. "Not Veronica. That was Shari Lynn—in a red wig."

She gave a cry of surprise. "Then—"

"No. She did not shoot him. She was not near enough. She saw who did and tried to blackmail afterward, to her sorrow."

"Then it must have been the other one—the other woman—the one in the raincoat."

"That was Sybil. She saw the murder, but in her confusion did not recognize the murderer—then. Think, Miss Bigelow. When we looked out of the window two or three times in those few minutes before the shot—think. Wasn't there someone else there? Someone already waiting?"

He picked up the black kerchief and dropped it in her lap. She stared at it blankly for a long horrible moment. Then she understood.

"Yes—yes," she said, finally. "Awful—for Sybil. Oh, God!" She buried her face in quivering hands.

In the silence that followed, McCale heard a soft footfall outside the door. Someone was tiptoeing quickly, furtively, toward the service stairs.

In a flash it came to McCale that during the time he had spent in preparing Miss Bigelow for the coming arrest, his lengthy explanation, his gift of gab—had given someone the needed few minutes to plan escape. For a moment he felt panic, not knowing what to do next, where to turn. Excitement raised the hair on the back of his hands. He controlled himself with a titanic effort of will.

Not stopping to explain to the old lady who sat motionless, he raced out into the hall, threw open the front door. He was in a frenzy. He ran down the front steps into blinding sleet.

For a moment, he was utterly befuddled. Anger mounted in him like a flame—anger at himself. He had lost. He turned to retrace his steps when he heard a sound near him. He looked into the dark wetness and saw a form materialize out of nothing and walk toward the curb. He recognized the snug-fitting pants, pea jacket and round hat of a sailor.

He stepped up to him quickly, fumbling for a cigarette, and said, "Got a light, buddy?"

"I Should Have Noticed That Sailor"

A match flared suddenly and McCale looked up over the flame to stare into the dangerously narrowed blue eyes of Stephen Bigelow.

The man gave a growl, making a quick gesture with his right hand.

"I wouldn't do that," McCale said, his voice harsh. "This block is lousy with police. You'd better come quietly. Every one of them has a gun. They've got a bead on you right now. They'll shoot—to kill."

Then Bigelow said, "Not before I get you, they don't." He fumbled in his coat and laughed hysterically.

In that instant, McCale's knee came up with all the force he could muster. Bigelow gave a sharp cry of agony and doubled up on the sidewalk, tripping McCale as he went down. It was not until that moment that Rocky loomed up out of the fog.

"Gosh!" McCale heard Rocky say as he gripped the fallen man under the shoulders, bringing him upright. "The Navy! You sure this is the guy, Duke?"

"No less," McCale gingerly felt the wounded arm on which he had fallen. "Mr. Stephen Bigelow in the uniform of Uncle Sam. He joined the navy once—remember? He must have saved his suit. Oh yes, and his pistol. By the way, see if his black kerchief is missing." It was.

Bigelow mounted the steps between Rocky and the officer. All the fight was gone from him.

A squad car slid up to the curbstone as McCale turned to follow the trio. He walked over to it and opened the door with a flourish.

"Welcome!" He bowed as Donlevy stepped out. "Late as usual, Lieutenant."

(TO BE CONTINUED)

JUST BORN

Followers

Marine—Is Evelyn your oldest sister? Little Dorothy—Yes. Marine—And who comes after her? Little Dorothy—You and three sailors.

Celebration

Sign in an apartment (first floor) window: PIANO FOR SALE. Sign in next door apartment (first floor) window: HURRAH.

To the average woman there are two kinds of secrets—those too good to keep and those not worth keeping.

Classified Department

BUSINESS & INVEST. OPPOR.

Dealers wanted for the new Skyline Knife Type all purpose feed mills. And the Skyline Hydraulic Loaders for Ford, IHC and John Deere tractors. Write or call R. V. LEHNER, Box 36, Ness City, Kans.

CLOTHING, FURS, ETC.

NYLON HOSIERY 51 gauge, 1st quality. Immediate delivery. \$1.85 per pr. postpaid. Minimum order of 3 pr. State size. Send money order and save C. O. D. charges. JACK'S HOSIERY SHOP 130 Locust St. Reading, Pa.

NYLONS—FIRST QUALITY \$2 PER PAIR Includes Postage STOCKING SHOP Carmel-by-the-Sea, Calif. Box 950

FARM MACHINERY & EQUIP.

IDAHO RED CEDAR POST maker wants sale carload lots, low prices. Write Hugh Chisholm, Bonners Ferry, Idaho.

WESTERN RED CEDAR FENCE POSTS Sale by Carloads. BONNER CEDAR CO., Sandpoint, Idaho

FARMS AND RANCHES

RANCHES FOR SALE Southern Montana. 51,000 acres, 18,000 deeded, 33,000 lease. 53 miles running water, carry 2,500 to 3,000 cattle; 36,000 acres, 14,000 acres deeded, 22,000 leased, 22 miles live water, will carry 2,000 cattle or 1,000 cattle and 2 bands of sheep; 20,000 acres, 6 miles from railroad and town, 10,000 acres deeded, 10,000 acres leased. In South Dakota. Anyone interested contact J. F. WAINNER Route 8, Lakewood, Colorado Phone Lakewood 305W.

20-ACRE RANCH near Grand Junction in choice portion of valley. 10 a. delicious apples, 2a. peaches, pears, apricots, plums, and Concord grapes. Remainder open ground. Well built seven-room house with built-in kitchen. Pressure water system. Packing shed with grader, drive-in fruit cellar. Orchard truck and other equipment go with place. \$14,500. Phone Clifton, 36R11 or write D. H. LEA, Grand Junction, Route No. 1.

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POSITIONS OPEN FOR EXPERIENCED MEN AS HEADS OF DEPARTMENTS Dry Goods and Ladies Ready-to-Wear Combined Men's Wear and Furniture in Group of Industrial Retail Stores in Southern Arizona Applications Must Show Qualification Age—Salary Required BOX B, WNU, DENVER, COLO.

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MAYTAG WASHERS Your clothes will dry much faster if you will replace the worn rolls on your Maytag Washer with new rolls. A complete stock at your local Authorized Maytag Dealer or write Factory Distributor.

Maytag Rocky Mountain Co. Colorado Springs - - - Colorado.

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DENTAL TECHNICIANS' SCHOOL Men, Women, G.I. Approved. Write Director, 1112 East Evans, Denver 10, Colo.

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SODA FOUNTAINS. America's finest Bob-tails, 20, 30, 40, 50 gallon fountains, complete with carbonators and compressor. WALK-IN REFRIGERATORS, complete with blower and compressor, all steel, 5 ft. x 6 ft. x 5 ft. REFRIGERATORS, reach-in, 4 doors, 30-42 cu. ft., complete. BEVERAGE COOLERS, 20, 40 case, all dry, the modern way of refrigeration. FREEZERS, Home and Farm, all sizes. Immediate Delivery.

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DENCKER PRODUCTS, Dept. 8, Bixby Station, Long Beach 7, California.

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CAP GUNS, BALLOONS, METAL TOYS. Excellent sellers, lowest prices. Wholesale only. Price list upon request. Wentworth Sales, 117 N. Wabash, Chicago 5, Ill.

FRESH TREE RIPENED GRAPEFRUIT and oranges, \$4.90 bushel, express prepaid. N. W. BIRCH - - - MISSION, TEXAS.

PERSONAL

PURCHASING and ADVISORY SERVICE We will find it, used or new, if it's in Denver, and advise. Service charge, \$2.00. DENVER PURCHASING SERVICE Box 2751 - - - Lakewood, Colo.

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300,000 PEACH, apple, pear, apricot, plum and prune trees, a complete assortment of over 700 varieties, including berry plants, roses, shrubs, shade and flowering trees, etc. Buy western-grown stock—hardy, healthy and thrifty. Large or small planters insist on Tualatin Valley Nursery record-bearing, True-to-name strains for greater profits. Send for Free 44-page catalog. TUALATIN VALLEY NURSERIES, Sherwood, Oregon.

Ain't It So?

Youth must be served and the best service is discipline. The righteous are the best of us; it's the self-righteous who exasperate.

Fault is easy to find; confidence is easy to lose.

Laughing at oneself is all very well, but it might be more profitable to take time out occasionally to scold oneself.

Some men are made by circumstances, and a lot of others are unmade by them.

When the heart is right you can forget that the liver may be wrong.

Last Patroon Exercised

Feudal Rights Till 1839

America's last patroon, or lord of a vast tract of land occupied by tenant farmers, was Stephen Van Rensselaer of New York State (1765-1839). Until his death, he exercised feudal rights over his 400-square-mile manor, which included holding a court of law, appointing the clergy and compelling his tenants to purchase their commodities at his store. His income from rents, profits and court fines amounted to about \$1,000,000 a year.

OLDER PEOPLE! Many Doctors Advise HIGH ENERGY TONIC

Older people! If you haven't the stamina you should—because your diet lacks the natural A&D Vitamins and energy-building, natural oils you need—you'll find good-tasting Scott's Emulsion helps build stamina, energy and resistance to colds. See this wonderful difference—buy Scott's at your druggist's today!

SCOTT'S EMULSION YEAR-ROUND TONIC

Prompt, Long-lasting Relief for MUSCULAR ACHES-PAINS

Helps Break Up Painful
Surface Congestion, Too!

RUB ON MUSTEROLE

KID O'Sullivan SAYS

Outdoors in any
weather, feet keep
comfortable with SOLES
as well as Heels by
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AMERICA'S No. 1 HEEL
and sole
Tough and Springy

U. S. Savings Bonds

Kidneys Must Work Well-

For You To Feel Well

24 hours every day, 7 days every week, never stopping, the kidneys filter waste matter from the blood. If more people were aware of how the kidneys must constantly remove surplus fluid, excess acids and other waste matter that cannot stay in the blood without injury to health, there would be better understanding of why the whole system is upset when kidneys fail to function properly.

Burning, scanty or too frequent urination sometimes warns that something is wrong. You may suffer nagging back-ache, headaches, dizziness, rheumatic pains, getting up at night, swelling. Why not try Doan's Pills? You will be using a medicine recommended the country over. Doan's stimulates the function of the kidneys and help them to flush out poisonous waste from the blood. They contain nothing harmful. Get Doan's today. Use with confidence. At all drug stores.

DOAN'S PILLS



Serve Casseroles For Late Evening Snacks, Parties



Ingredients for this home style Italian spaghetti are simple and economical. The cooking time is brief but this dish can make you an enviable reputation.

Simple but Satisfying

There's still plenty of nippy weather ahead before spring breezes warm up the days and evenings, and there's nothing more welcome on a crisp evening after the gang of youngsters has been out skating, skiing or coming home from a play than a sizzling hot casserole and a tossed salad.

Or if you have friends over and the evening begins to run out, there's no better way to wind it up than with a nice, homey oven dish to warm up the spirit and satisfy the appetite.

Make refreshments simple by tossing together the salad right after dinner—or at least getting things ready for the toss up. Also, prepare the casserole, store in the refrigerator and then about three-quarters of an hour before serving, slip it into the oven.

While we're watching our budgets, we're all looking for inexpensive dishes for entertaining. Utilize leftovers for casseroles, and make them stretch with such good foods as macaroni, spaghetti and noodles.

Here's an inexpensive but popular suggestion for late evening snacks:

*Italian Spaghetti

(Serves 6 to 8)

- 1/2 pound long spaghetti
- 1 pound ground beef
- 3 to 4 tablespoons cooking oil
- 1 green pepper, cut fine
- 1 large onion, minced
- 1/2 cup celery, cut fine
- 1/2 cup mushrooms, sliced
- 2 cans tomato puree
- Salt and pepper to taste

Fry onion in oil until lightly browned. Add pepper, celery, mushrooms and cook covered until they are tender. Add tomato puree. Turn fire low. Place on top of sauce the ground beef which has been seasoned and formed into small balls. Cover and simmer for 30 minutes. Turn meat balls once.

Serve this sauce over freshly cooked spaghetti. Cook spaghetti in boiling, salted water until tender. Serve with grated cheese and meat balls.

One-Dish Meal.

(Serves 6)

- 2 cups diced carrots
- 1 1/2 cups diced celery
- 6 medium potatoes, pared and sliced
- 3 tablespoons butter
- 2 tablespoons flour
- 2 cups milk
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 cup meat stock
- 3 tablespoons sliced onion
- 1 cup canned or cooked peas
- 1 1/2 to 2 cups diced leftover meat
- 1/2 cup bread crumbs
- 3 tablespoons melted butter

Cook carrots, celery and potatoes separately in boiling, salted water until tender.

(Leftover cooked vegetables may be used.) Melt butter, blend in flour, add milk and meat stock; cook over direct heat until sauce thickens, stirring constantly. Add salt. Combine sauce with remaining ingredients, except crumbs and melted butter, and pour into a two quart buttered

LYNN CHAMBERS' MENUS

- *Italian Spaghetti
- Tossed Vegetable Green Salad
- Hard Rolls
- Ice Cream with Cookies
- Beverage

*Recipe given

casserole. Combine crumbs and melted butter and sprinkle over top. Bake in a moderate (350 degree) oven for 35 to 40 minutes until top is browned and mixture thoroughly heated.

The goodness of apples and ham combine with macaroni in the following recipe to give you a dish for cool, tart evenings:

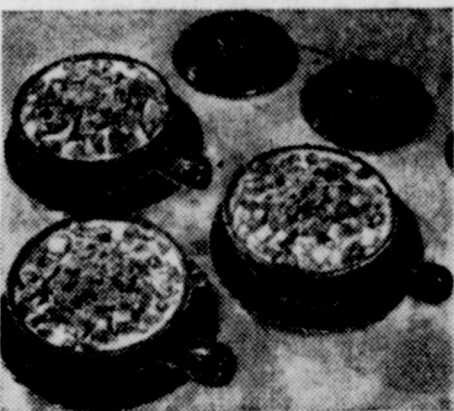
Ham and Apple Casserole.

(Serves 6)

- 6 to 8 ounces elbow macaroni
- 3 tablespoons butter
- 2 tablespoons mustard
- 1 1/2 cups milk
- 1 cup ground ham
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 teaspoon pepper
- 1/2 cup chopped celery
- 2 apples
- 3 tablespoons brown sugar

Cook macaroni in boiling, salted water for 10 minutes. Drain and rinse. Melt butter, blend in flour, mustard and milk. Cook slowly until thickened, stirring constantly. Combine all ingredients except apples and sugar and pour into a greased baking dish. Dice apples and spread over top of casserole. Sprinkle with sugar and bake in a moderate (350 degree) oven for 30 minutes.

Simple little tricks add a lot of eye appeal to certain simple dishes, such as this one. In this case, the cooked noodles are mixed with minced pimiento and green pepper and placed in a casserole. Then, press a "nest" into the center of the noodles and fill this with a mixture of creamed tuna fish. Serve with a colorful salad of sliced tomatoes and chunks of crisp lettuce, or a tomato aspic ring filled with cole slaw.



Leftovers take on glamor while clearing the refrigerator when used with spicy seasonings in this crumb topped casserole. White sauce helps adults and children get milk necessary in the diet.

Creamed Tuna, Noodle Nest.

(Serves 6)

- 8 ounces noodles
- 3 tablespoons each, pimiento and green pepper
- 2 tablespoons butter
- 2 tablespoons flour
- Salt and pepper
- 1 1/2 cups milk
- 1 6-ounce can tuna fish
- 1 cup cooked green peas

Cook noodles in boiling, salted water until tender. Mix with pimiento and green pepper and make nest in casserole. Melt butter, add flour, salt and pepper to taste and milk. Cook until thick and smooth. Add tuna and peas and pour into noodle nest. Heat in moderate oven for 15 to 20 minutes.

Here is an easily prepared salad that is rich enough to satisfy winter appetites:

Calavo Beet Salad.

Calavo half shells

Lemon juice

Salt

Finely shredded uncooked beets

Thinly sliced green sweet pepper

French dressing

Salad greens for garnish

Hard-cooked eggs

Mayonnaise (optional)

To prepare calavo half shells, cut fruit into halves lengthwise and remove seed. Sprinkle cut portions of fruit with lemon juice and salt. Dress combined beets and pepper with french dressing. Place calavo half shells on garnished salad plates and fill seed cavities with vegetable mixture. Top each salad with a quarter of a hard-cooked egg. Garnish with mayonnaise, if desired.

Released by Western Newspaper Union.

ASK ME ? ANOTHER ?

A quiz with answers offering information on various subjects

The Questions

1. What is a genre painting?
2. How does the United States rank with other countries in the consumption of tea?
3. What is a recidivist?
4. What song, first sung in "Clari, or the Maid of Milan," in 1823, became popular over night?
5. What is the capacity of the Constitution, the largest transport plane in the world?
6. Where was the first commercial telephone switchboard installed?

The Answers

1. One dealing realistically with scenes from everyday life.
2. Fourth, using 97 million pounds.
3. A habitual criminal.
4. "Home, Sweet Home."
5. It has sleeping space for 180 passengers or a military load capacity of 400 men.
6. In New Haven, Conn., on January 28, 1878.
7. New York and San Francisco.

Household Hints

Wax the cupboard shelves or cover them with oilcloth. Then dirt and spots wipe off easily.

Have you been dreading to throw away that old Irish linen damask tablecloth? If there are enough good-sized areas, why not make place mats or extra napkins. Additional napkins often come in handy when the children bring their pals in for a snack.

Too frequent pressing takes some of the life out of woolen fibres.

Liquid can be poured from a narrow-necked bottle faster and easier by shaking the bottle in a circular manner.

Select suitable cards for birthdays and anniversaries of your friends, address the envelopes, and keep them on file. Index by dates on which they should be mailed, then your friends will receive a thoughtful greeting from you on their special day. A small investment that pays big dividends in friendship.

DOES WONDERS FOR CONSTIPATED MAN

Famous cereal keeps him "regular" without drugs

Discouraged about your constipation? Then read this sincere, unsolicited letter:

"I tried so many kinds of laxatives for constipation, but after a while they all failed to do their work. I started to eat KELLOGG'S ALL-BRAN some time ago and was surprised to find this wonderful product helped me as many laxatives had failed to do. I eat it every day now and am happy to say I feel like a new man!" Mr. R. Lee Ward, 115 Park Avenue, Edgewood 5, R. I.

Yes, eating ALL-BRAN regularly often brings lasting relief from constipation due to lack of bulk in the diet. For best results, eat it for breakfast every day—and drink plenty of water. Try it for ten days! If by that time you are not completely satisfied with KELLOGG'S ALL-BRAN, send the empty carton to the Kellogg Company, Battle Creek, Michigan, and get double your money back.

ALL-BRAN is not a purgative but a wholesome food made from the vital outer layers of whole wheat. Eat daily either as a cereal, or in muffins. Ask your grocer for KELLOGG'S ALL-BRAN.

From Start to Finish
...GOOD!

You will see the promise of perfect baking results with Clabber Girl's action in the mixing bowl... a promise fulfilled when your biscuits or cakes rise to light and fluffy flavor in the oven... right in the mixing bowl; light from the oven... that's the story of Clabber Girl's balanced double action.

RIGHT in the Mixing Bowl
LIGHT from the Oven

For better baking use the baking powder with the BALANCED double action.

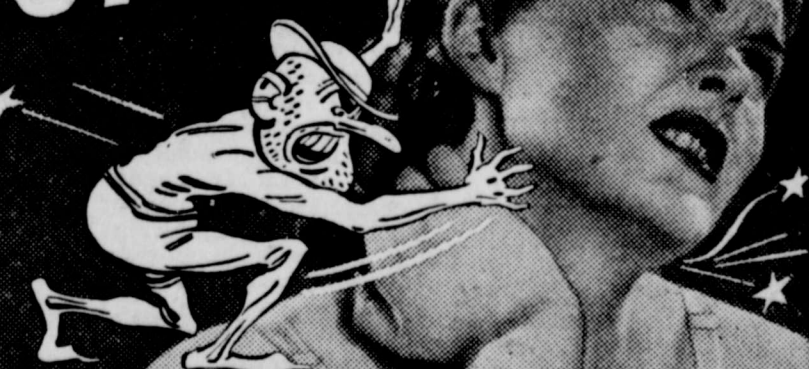
CLABBER GIRL
Baking Powder

Guaranteed by Good Housekeeping

Buy U. S. Savings Bonds!

IF PETER PAIN WRENCHES YOU WITH

STIFF NECK



● Rub in Ben-Gay for welcome, fast relief from stiff-neck pain. Gentle, soothing Ben-Gay contains up to 2 1/2 times more of those famous pain-relieving agents known to all doctors—methyl salicylate and menthol—than five other widely offered rub-ins. Insist on genuine Ben-Gay, the original Baume Analgesique. It acts fast where you hurt.

Also for Pain due to RHEUMATISM, MUSCLE ACHE, and COLDS. Ask for Mild Ben-Gay for Children.

QUICK...
RUB IN **Ben-Gay**

It's Really New!

One day an unknown writer was ushered into the presence of one of Hollywood's famous producers. "They tell me you have a great play," said the producer, with a reassuring wave of the hand. "Go ahead and read it to me."

That was more than the author expected. Furthermore, he was afflicted with a severe stutter. But the chance was too good to miss, so he sat down and read the whole play, scene by scene.

When he had finished the producer yelled for his secretary.

"Sign this man at once," he cried. "He's got a new twist that's sure box office. Every character in the story stutters!"

When your little one catches cold-

Tonight... do what most mothers do to relieve miseries of children's colds: Simply rub warming, soothing Vicks VapoRub on throat, chest and back at bedtime. Results are so good because VapoRub's special relief-bringing action starts instantly... and keeps on working for hours during the night while the child sleeps. Often by morning most misery of the cold is gone. Remember, Mother... be sure you get the one and only Vicks VapoRub.

Gas on Stomach

Relieved in 5 minutes or double your money back. When excess stomach acid causes painful, suffocating gas, sour stomach and heartburn, doctors usually prescribe the fastest-acting medicines known for symptomatic relief—medicines like those in Bell's Tablets. No laxative. Bell's brings comfort in a jiffy or double your money back on return of bottle to us. See at all druggists.

WHY TAKE HARSH LAXATIVES?

Healthful Fresh Fruit Drink Makes Purgatives Unnecessary for Most People

Here's a way to overcome constipation without harsh laxatives. Drink juice of 1 Sunkist Lemon in a glass of water first thing on arising.

Most people find this all they need—stimulates normal bowel action day after day!

Lemon and water is good for you. Lemons are among the richest sources of vitamin C, which combats fatigue, helps resist colds and infections. They supply valuable amounts of vitamins B₁ and P. They pep up appetite. They alkalize, aid digestion. Lemon and water has a fresh tang too—clears the mouth, wakes you up, starts you going.

Try this grand wake-up drink 10 mornings. See if it doesn't help you! Use California Sunkist Lemons.

GOLD SEAL SEEDS

Western's 1947 Garden Guide. You will thrill to this splendid New Catalog. Everything in Seeds, Plants, Roses, etc. Free for the asking.

THE WESTERN SEED CO. DENVER.

COLD SUFFERERS!

666 STARTS RELIEF IN JUST 6 SECONDS

Get famous, prescription-type 666, for super-speedy relief from cold misery. Try 666 Cold Tablets, or 666 Liquid Cold Preparation today. Caution: Use only as directed.

Black Leaf 40
KILLS LICE
Cap-Brush Applicator makes "BLACK LEAF 40" GO MUCH FARTHER
JUST A DASH IN FEATHERS... OR SPREAD ON ROOSTS



Duke McCale, private detective, is investigating the murder of Curt Vallancourt, who was about to marry Veronica Bigelow, heiress to thirty million dollars. She is the principal suspect. McCale learns of a deep plot to keep control of the great fortune in the family through a deal with Vallancourt. Shari Lynn, Vallancourt's former wife, is shot to death. Someone fires at McCale, wounding him in the shoulder. McCale hurries to the Bigelow mansion where Sybil, Veronica's mother, has been strung. McCale finds a large black silk handkerchief in the trunk that puzzles him. Miss Adelaide Bigelow is not able to place it, either.

CHAPTER XVI

He fingered it, feeling the coarse pull of the silk. A signal seemed to flow from the material in his hand along his arm, into his brain.

Suddenly, revelation poured over his mind like a searchlight. He jumped up. Placing a firm hand on Miss Bigelow's arm, he guided her, surprised and bewildered, to the stairway.

"We must go down immediately," he said. "Is everyone at home? You said Christopher Storm was here."

"Yes. They are all here somewhere. Must you see them all?"

"Not yet." He strode ahead of her on the third floor hall. He reached the floor of the second floor drawing room before she was halfway down the second stairway.

As he went in, Karen stopped playing. She sat cold and austere at the piano, letting her long fingers rest quickly on the keyboard. She turned toward him as he quickly crossed the room to her side.

"You drew \$800 at your bank this morning," he hurled the statement at her. "Why?"

A sullen smile turned up one corner of her mouth. She shrugged. He waved a hand in exasperation.

"Very well. You don't talk. You do know why the murderer did not kill Sybil this afternoon." He was aware that she drew away from him. "That was a mistake, wasn't it, not finishing the job?"

She set her mouth in a hard line. He looked his exasperation. He shrugged then and turned to the door, where stood a startled Miss Bigelow.

In the library once more, McCale called his own number.

"Hullo, boss."

"Did you get those pictures? A list? Read them off."

"Okay, coming through. A couple of football players; some guys in a canoe; a petty officer; a jockey (no horse); a marine, kind of dejected-looking; an army lieutenant; and whoops, an acrobat!"

"Uh uh. Just what I thought. Okay. Hop on over here."

"Where are you?"

"Oh, I forgot to tell you. The Bigelows. Make it snappy. This is the kill."

He dialed headquarters, asked for Donlevy.

"Donlevy, I'm at the Bigelows'. Can you get over here on the double quick? I've solved the Vallancourt-Lynn business. Proof? Of course I've got proof. Yeah. In twenty minutes—sooner if you can. Good-bye."

Involved Motives Are Unravelled

It came—as he held the receiver a moment too long at his ear. He heard Donlevy put down his instrument. Then, so nearly after it that the sound was almost simultaneous, came another soft click, as someone else carefully cradled a receiver.

McCale and Miss Bigelow were in the library. He leaned against the mantle and spoke in a soft, ruthless voice.

"This is the end, Miss Bigelow. It will be all over in a few minutes. The police are on their way."

"Strange," he said. "Both you and I saw the murderer the afternoon of Curt Vallancourt's death. Besides that, all the clues have pointed in the same direction. I, at least, should have remembered the complete picture of that afternoon." "Clues? Pointing to—?" She shook her head.

"Yes—a figure in the dark outside the house that afternoon. Sybil bathed in sherry in order to drown out what she saw. A visit by Karen to The Abbey Club the night before. A picture missing from the collection of Shari Lynn's admirers. A revolver in a family, where, to everyone's knowledge, a revolver had never been owned, and last, but not least, not at all the least—this."

He drew the black silk handkerchief from his pocket. Her brow wrinkled.

"But—but I still don't understand."

He went on, softly, inexorably.

"The trouble in solving this crime lies in the fact that in the failure of the original plot, everyone had a motive. You are aware by now of the plan to gain control of the Bigelow millions through Curt Vallancourt. Stephen met Curt in Chicago, through Victoria or vice versa. Curt and Victoria had an affair, even though he was married to Shari Lynn at the time. He and Shari probably had some sort of arrangement, for the only business Vallancourt practiced was preying on wealthy women."

Miss Bigelow's chin came up. She seemed to be steeling herself for what she knew was to come.

"Vallancourt probably intended to marry Victoria until he found that the Bigelow fortune was controlled by you, to be passed on to Veronica at her marriage."

"To Veronica's husband, Mr. McCale."

"Yes, yes." He held up his hand. "How he obtained that information is theory, but not illogical theory. In view of the nonchalance of his character at that time and the open, too worldly outlook of both Victoria and Stephen, it is not wrong to assume that, in a moment of railway, they told him. Possibly they mentioned that he was barking up the wrong tree—that while you allowed Vicky and Stephen generous allowances, the real gold bags were Veronica's, with your and Sybil's approval, of course. Yes, the whole thing must have been hatched before Victoria and Stephen came home to prepare the way, for in the meantime Vallancourt had to divorce Shari Lynn, no doubt promising that when he got his hands on the money and had salted away a few million, he would renege and remarry Shari."

"How horrible." She shuddered. "But Stephen and Victoria? What would they have gained?"

"That's where the real Machiavellian touch came in. Victoria, no doubt, thought Curt would marry her eventually and that they would live on Veronica's money. You see, there were two women Curt fooled."

"Fooled?"

"Of course. But to go back a bit, Victoria brought Curt home as a friend she had run into in New York. He wooed Veronica, who forgot her childhood romance with Christopher Storm overnight in the excitement of the biological spell Vallancourt was able to cast. Everything was going fine. The wedding over, a few months for Curt to manipulate the Bigelow money, and Victoria would have Curt. Stephen would have—he thought—Karen."

Miss Bigelow closed her eyes in anguish. McCale continued in a rush of words. Even Christopher Storm was convinced of Vallancourt's sincerity. He had met Curt that morning and in a rush of boyish feeling had deeded The Nest, the house he had built for Veronica and himself. That left the others out in the cold. Better now that Veronica should marry Storm than Vallancourt, if he was going to turn his back on them. Storm, at least, would see that they had their allowances, maybe something more. But Curt, in his complete aboutface, could not be relied upon. He might cut them off completely, in disgust with himself and them, too. You can't take chances on a reformed rake. He is liable to become very self-righteous and unapproachable. You see? Curt Vallancourt had to die."

Miss Bigelow's eyes remained closed. She was breathing heavily. McCale hurried on.

"Vallancourt, of course, had told only Veronica, to whom he had made full confession, and Christopher Storm because he was forced to, and Shari Lynn. Shari Lynn, fatalistic in all things, probably more so about the enigmatic Curt, set out to do a little blackmailing. Knowing that he hadn't come clean to the four who were in the plot, she started plans for extortion. She got in touch with Karen and threatened to let the cat out of the bag before the wedding bells rang. Although they all knew that something was wrong, that there was a rat somewhere, Karen decided to be on the safe side. She took \$500 with her to The White Abbey for Lynn that night. She surprised Vallancourt with her, and believe me, surprised was the word for Curt. He was utterly nonplussed when Karen walked in. She was observed by my secretary and myself; by her husband who was there on his own account, probably to watch for Shari Lynn. Sybil was there, too. She and Karen met on the steps. No doubt she was upset over the

rumor that Curt had been seen with the Lynn woman, and in her muddled way, wanted to see for herself."

Hard bunches showed against McCale's jawline and his face looked relentless in the shadows.

"The next afternoon, Curt Vallancourt was shot on your doorstep."

Miss Bigelow sat up straight, shaking herself out of her reverie. "We—we saw the murderer?" she whispered.

"Yes," he answered slowly. "Think back. What was it we saw?"

"Why," she faltered, "there was a woman with red hair. Veronica!"

"No," he said. "Not Veronica. That was Shari Lynn—in a red wig."

She gave a cry of surprise. "Then—"

"No. She did not shoot him. She was not near enough. She saw who did and tried to blackmail afterward, to her sorrow."

"Then it must have been the other one—the other woman—the one in the raincoat."

"That was Sybil. She saw the murder, but in her confusion did not recognize the murderer—then. Think, Miss Bigelow. When we looked out of the window two or three times in those few minutes before the shot—think. Wasn't there someone else there? Someone already waiting?"

He picked up the black kerchief and dropped it in her lap. She stared at it blankly for a long horrible moment. Then she understood. "Yes—yes," she said, finally. "Awful—for Sybil. Oh, God!" She buried her face in quivering hands.

In the silence that followed, McCale heard a soft footfall outside the door. Someone was tiptoeing quickly, furtively, toward the service stairs.

In a flash it came to McCale that during the time he had spent in preparing Miss Bigelow for the coming arrest, his lengthy explanation, his gift of gab—had given someone the needed few minutes to plan escape. For a moment he felt panic, not knowing what to do next, where to turn. Excitement raised the hair on the back of his hands. He controlled himself with a titanic effort of will.

Not stopping to explain to the old lady who sat motionless, he raced out into the hall, threw open the front door. He was in a frenzy. He ran down the front steps into blinding sleet.

For a moment, he was utterly befuddled. Anger mounted in him like a flame—anger at himself. He had lost. He turned to retrace his steps when he heard a sound near him. He looked into the dark wetness and saw a form materialize out of nothing and walk toward the curb. He recognized the snug-fitting pants, pea jacket and round hat of a sailor.

He stepped up to him quickly, fumbling for a cigarette, and said, "Got a light, buddy?"

I Should Have Noticed That Sailor

A match flared suddenly and McCale looked up over the flame to stare into the dangerously narrowed blue eyes of Stephen Bigelow.

The man gave a growl, making a quick gesture with his right hand.

"I wouldn't do that," McCale said, his voice harsh. "This block is lousy with police. You'd better come quietly. Every one of them has a gun. They've got a bead on you right now. They'll shoot—to kill."

Then Bigelow said, "Not before I get you, they don't." He fumbled in his coat and laughed hysterically.

In that instant, McCale's knee came up with all the force he could muster. Bigelow gave a sharp cry of agony and doubled up on the sidewalk, tripping McCale as he went down. It was not until that moment that Rocky loomed up out of the fog.

"Gosh!" McCale heard Rocky say as he gripped the fallen man under the shoulders, bringing him upright. "The Navy! You sure this is the guy, Duke?"

"No less," McCale gingerly felt the wounded arm on which he had fallen. "Mr. Stephen Bigelow in the uniform of Uncle Sam. He joined the navy once—remember? He must have saved his suit. Oh yes, and his pistol. By the way, see if his black kerchief is missing." It was.

Bigelow mounted the steps between Rocky and the officer. All the fight was gone from him.

A squad car slid up to the curbstone as McCale turned to follow the trio. He walked over to it and opened the door with a flourish.

"Welcome!" He bowed as Donlevy stepped out. "Late as usual, Lieutenant."

(TO BE CONTINUED)

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LESSON FOR FEBRUARY 23

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THE GOOD SHEPHERD

LESSON TEXT—John 10:7-18.
MEMORY SELECTION—I am the good shepherd; the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep.—John 10:11.

An open door! How inviting! Jesus had just been talking to the man once blind (John 9) who had seen the temple door closed against him. It shut him out from all the sacred traditions of his people, but it turned him to Jesus, who presents himself in our lesson as "the door of the sheep."

I. The Door of the Sheep (vv. 7-10).

The preceding verses of chapter 10 are important, for they identify Jesus as the true Shepherd. He speaks of his people as his sheep.

Flocks were sometimes kept in the field at night, as was the case on the night when Jesus was born in Bethlehem. But ordinarily they were brought into a sheepfold, where many flocks gathered for protection. A shepherd was on guard at the door. Thieves would climb the wall to steal sheep, but the true shepherds, when they came in the morning to lead forth their flocks, entered by the door. They called out their own flock by name.

It is said that only sick sheep will follow a stranger, which may explain why so many false isms of our day appeal to the sick and lead them away from the Good Shepherd.

Do you know his blessed voice? Have you responded to his call? Will you follow him? Decide now.

Consider the beautiful figure of the shepherd as the door of the sheepfold. When the sheep enter the fold to rest, he is the door. When they are ready to go out to feed in green pastures again, he is the door.

Note that they go in and out. Belonging to Christ is not bondage. If any man enter in by Christ, the Door, he is free to go in and out, to find pasture, to live for and to serve him.

"The Door"—what a striking figure! It is a means of entry, the only way in. Every door has two sides and the side we are on determines whether we are inside or outside—saved or lost. Children often sing:

"One Door and only one,
And yet its sides are two—
Inside and outside;
On which side are you?"

Then repeating the two first lines comes the direct testimony and question,

"I am on the inside;
On which side are you?"

II. The Keeper of the Sheep (vv. 11-13).

We think of sheep as peacefully grazing on the hillside—an idyllic picture in the summer sunshine. But there were dangers to meet. It is so with Christ's sheep too, and then he is there to keep them. The wolves come out as the shadows gather. They come to kill and to scatter. Where then is the shepherd? If he is only a hireling, serving for what may "be in it" for him, he will flee.

How perfectly this pictures religious leaders, who, in spite of their swelling words and ingratiating manners, desert the flock in the hour of adversity. Fair-weather friends are they, who disappear when darkness and danger appear.

In the darkest hour Jesus is nearest at hand. He never fails. He has no fear, for has he not tasted the bitter death of Cavalry's tree for you and me? He is the Good Shepherd. He gave his life for the sheep. Those who have put their trust in him shall never be put to shame.

III. The Saviour of the Sheep (vv. 14-18).

He laid down his life for the sheep. Ah, yes, it is all too true that evil men laid wicked hands on him and crucified him. Their guilt is awful. But it is clear from Scripture that until the hour had come for Jesus to be made sin for the redemption of man, they could not touch him (see Luke 4:29, 30; John 8:59).

When the time came, Christ laid down his life in accord with "the determinate counsel and foreknowledge of God" (Acts 2:23). He died for us, not as a martyr to a cause, or the victim of an accident or miscarriage of justice, but willingly, and for the glory of God.

Yes, he died for us, but he also died for every lost soul who will hear his voice. There are "other sheep" about whom the Lord is deeply concerned. Are we?

Gems of Thought

TURN back if you are afraid of difficulties. Progress is beset by difficulties, all of which must be overcome if you are to find success.

A word of encouragement often gives new inspiration to the despairing and starts him on his way with a new song in his heart.

Practice it. If it works, preach it.

Kindness is the key to the human heart the world over.

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Living must be justified through service.—Marion Booth Kelley.

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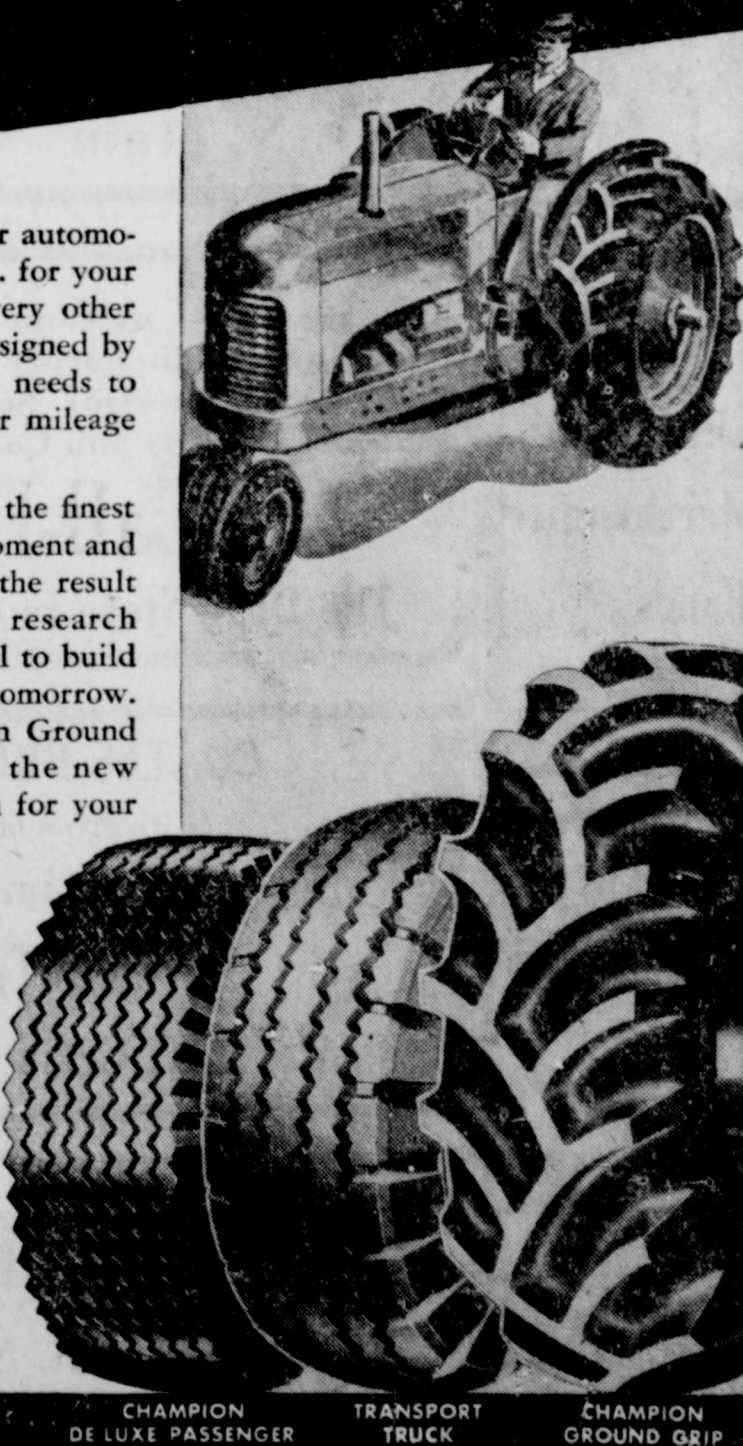
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