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TUESDAY, JANUARY 27, 1959

'Can't Take Any Chance Of Being Blown Overboard'

A Male Lament

By ROBERT C. RUARK

PALAMOS, Spain (AP)—I have been known to seize a slave and lay about me with the subject of feminine fashion has come into vogue, especially when the bank accounts of the crowd pick of some French sissy-boy with a perverted sense of humor.

Perhaps a recent cold snap has mellowed me on the distasteful side, causing me to turn and read my own sex for considerable foolishness in the apparel arts. This came sharply into focus the other day when I was confronted with the necessity of losing either my life or my life. It's a good thing, perhaps, this life of mine, but you can always buy a new hat. I considered my wind-tossed locks the wheels of the passing truck, and let the breeze shuffle my sparse locks all the way home.

IMPRACTICAL

If there ever was an impractical article, it is the traditional hat—or those days, the iron Kelly, or derby—a slimy prop on a pickle which is easy prey for the street sweeper. More than five knots. Blue Cross is long-suffering, but how much continued punishment can it absorb from a flat-chested? Better a flat fedora than a fractured femur.

The ordinary Hamburg or snap brim does not protect the ears or nose from frostbite, and has no consideration for the back of the neck. It costs its price a hundred times over if you continually redeem it from the cute blonde foot-pads who set upon you in the public places.

COSTUME JEWELRY

A man's hat is not functional headgear. It is costume jewelry, and is basically sillier looking than most of the confections worn by women. Very few men can wear a hat at all, especially these unfortunates with no trim, and iron bows in the back. I would say that gamblers, some cowboys, Mexicans, some Spaniards who live around Cordoba are the only living men who should be allowed to wear hats. I have seen them on Jimmy Walker, Jim Lewis, and John Nance Garner. The first was an actor, the second a ham, and the third a cowboy. The rest more or less resemble Happy Hooligan with his tomato can.

Men have more or less been freed from the restless hat. Short, floppy overcoats, until the vest came back not so long ago and now they change you extra for it. Also, it's supposed to be a different color and of an unmatching material. Men wear little hats, and some of them do not buy gloves instead of mittens to keep their fingers warm.

People's Platform

Time To Change

Charlotte (AP)—The most democratic countries in the world are those in which the legislative body is elected by popular vote. The administration of government proceeds under the direction of the elected majority. That is, the directing hands are selected by the elected majority of the members of the legislative body.

We have just had an election in which the present federal administration has failed to secure approval of the electorate; therefore the present administration at Washington, headed by Mr. Eisenhower, is not representative of the present sentiment of the people of the United States. This annals the leadership of the present administration in this country and inevitably lessens the prestige of the foreign policy of our government in other countries and not the least among our allies.

Here the congressional committee on foreign affairs must assume more important than anything we should begin to hear something about the international situation more definite from the recently elected Democratic representatives.

—HOYT EAVES

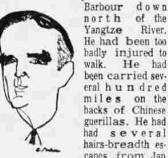


Snapshots From The Past

Lamphier Battles The Odds

By JOSEPH ALSOP

WASHINGTON (AP)—The day they brought the message in the forward air base in East China staged a celebration. The Japs had shot Red Barbour down north of the Yangtze River. He had been too badly injured to walk. He had been carried several hundred miles on the backs of Chinese guerrillas. He had had several hairbreadth escapes. His captors, a celebration was in order.



SYMMINGTON (AP)—Lamphier, a celebration was in order.

Later in the evening, after a good many "kan peis" of the local This man, someone said, "Don't tell us about how you got the Japanese admiral." An odd look crossed the major's handsome young face. Perhaps he was tired of describing the last seconds on earth of Adm. Isoroku Yamamoto, commander of all the Japanese Emperor's ships in the Pacific. Yet he told it well, all the same.

One all but saw the brilliant interception—the two little American fighters coming in on the flank of the big Jap bombers and their six escort Zeros, just at the planned interception point over a steamy, palm-fringed South Pacific island. One all but watched the grim fight against these fearful odds—the American's quick, deadly first attack, the two bombers flaming and falling, then fighters diving and twisting in the bright air, and the Zeros also bursting into quick, hot flame, and the two American planes turning for home at last, their mission miraculously accomplished.

THE LEADER

One held a breath. Indeed, until the major finished: "But the man who got the admiral was Tom Lamphier. I was the wing man. He led the attack. We each got a bomber. But he got the first one, and the first one had Yamamoto in it. There is a current reason for digging this snapshot of the forgotten past out of memory's album. This same Tom Lamphier, when the major talked about for much of the rest of that happy, long ago evening, is again being talked

The Missile Gap Is Widening

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

WASHINGTON (AP)—SPURNING appeals for a bipartisan law reform bill, Secretary of Labor James H. Call today rebuffed Republican senators behind the scenes to keep their names off the bill introduced last week by Sen. Jack Kennedy of Massachusetts and Sen. Ervin of North Carolina, both Democrats.

Earlier, Kennedy had invited Mitchell to cooperate in writing a labor reform bill that would keep it out of politics. Back from the secretary came this blunt ultimatum: "There will be no memorandum on politics."

Cooper's Plight

Caught in the middle was Sen. Jack Cooper, Kentucky Republican, who had already promised to join Kennedy in sponsoring the bill. Sen. Clifford Case, New Jersey Republican, had also expressed interest in it.

Then Mitchell stepped in. He high-pressed the gentle Cooper, sent an emissary named to see Case. Both bowed to the political ultimatum from the Labor Dept. Cooper explained apologetically that he was still free to vote for the Kennedy bill. Case suggested that the bill be

Who keeps their heads warm?

Women. They either wear ear-muffs, or knit caps, or just plain to a scarf over their hair and ears. They wear mittens. They wear stadium boots, fur-lined, in rough weather. Even if they have to kick them off in the foyer of a rich saloon. They wear these leotards, now, warm wool socks that keep right on going upstairs so that they become pants. A leotard isn't nothing more than long-handled drawers with a fancy splash. And them as can afford it.



Cactus Jack Garner On Him It Looks Good

THE BABES WIN

I shall continue to cavil at the capricious whims of the Paris designers, who have enslaved the poor, dear folks who wish to look fashionable and ugly, too. But I got to stand down on one thing: For comfort, the babes have it all over us, and in that easily won and easily lost battle of a solid kernel of one thing: Comfort, summer or winter. And when all is said and done they don't look much sillier than anything male you see on Madison Avenue.

Juvenile Courts: Checkered Good & Evil

VERY little but sound and fury has come of Union County's "kissing case" in which two Negro boys were sent to Morrison Training School. But the rude jolt of nationality should serve to turn North Carolina's eyes to the checkered good and evil in her juvenile justice.

The state's vehicle for dealing with under-aged lawbreakers, as a current series in The News shows, is at its best where larger cities have taken charge of state law to set up regular juvenile or domestic relations courts. It is at its worst in less densely populated counties where the clerk of court legally and traditionally puts on the robes of juvenile justice. What it amounts to is a strange contraption indeed, about 90 per cent horse-and-buggy.

In horse-and-buggy areas, clerks of Superior Courts are saddled, without extra compensation or facilities, with the delicate job of making sure that children who wander at an early age outside the law have some chance to be rehabilitated and take their place as adult, law-abiding citizens. Ninety-one of 100 counties in North Carolina suffer from this lag. Haverly, Mockingburg is not among them; but the problem extends over all but six counties and a few larger towns, which have built their own courts.

So long as the present system's abuses are tolerated, North Carolina will continue to invite trouble, laxness with procedure and harmful notoriety.

What are those abuses? At the root of them lies the lack of uniformity itself. Clerks of Superior Court, in most cases deeply involved in regular duties, judge juvenile cases. In this delicate sphere of justice, the most careful and

specialized training would seem to be demanded. Yet many clerks lack basic training for handling delinquents—though they are victims of the system. They are often too busy to keep adequate records; and many cases are dispatched hurriedly, without careful inquiry into family conditions and background or psychological deficiencies in the youngsters who have broken the law.

But the fault does not lie in the courts alone. The facilities for taking care of juvenile delinquents, both before and after hearings, fall short of what we need.

State law properly prohibits children being detained in jails where adult criminals also are detained. But where else can they be sent? Informed spokesmen are emphatic: we need a system of boarding detention homes, where children may be put in custody while awaiting the gathering of information on their cases and hearings themselves.

Training school vacancies seem to be scarce. One judge informed The News that he has requested, but has not received, four needed vacancies.

In the many cases where, for reasons of age, or triviality of offense, committing offenders to training schools is out of the question, there is no suitable and uniform probation arrangement. Often, juvenile court officials keep no check on youngsters who have appeared before them.

Juvenile courts are unique, for in every case there is a strong chance that lawbreakers may be completely rehabilitated. At ages under 16, there are no "hardened criminals" but only children whose faults cry out for sensitive diagnosis and discipline. Over most of North Carolina, we have neither.

The Lonely Man From Cripple Creek

TAR Heels took scant notice when Lamar Stringfield was into the traditional songs of the North Carolina mountains for his inspiration. This Tar Heel folk tradition was immediately recognizable in compositions such as CRIPPLE CREEK (from his pioneering suite), MOONSHIVER, MOUNTAIN DEW, BY LINDY'S CAR, MOUNTAIN SKETCHES, LEGEND OF JOHN HENRY and others.

He was taking native materials, seasoning them with creative genius and rendering them into high art. Perhaps the people he lived among did not think that this was important. Perhaps they thought that, since Stringfield did not compose like Mozart or Beethoven or Wagner, he was not producing anything "significant." If this is what they thought then they couldn't have been wrong. Our civilization will be crystallized and remembered only through the creative artists who are at work today. They need encouragement and understanding. Most of all they need an audience, if they are musicians. Stringfield received precious few of these necessities during his later years.

The result was loneliness and isolation. But that masterpiece that was in him never came. It was lost somewhere. The loss is really ours.

Slovak and Transylvanian origin, Stringfield dipped generously into the traditional songs of the North Carolina mountains for his inspiration. This Tar Heel folk tradition was immediately recognizable in compositions such as CRIPPLE CREEK (from his pioneering suite), MOONSHIVER, MOUNTAIN DEW, BY LINDY'S CAR, MOUNTAIN SKETCHES, LEGEND OF JOHN HENRY and others.

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It Might As Well Have Been Spring

IT might as well have been spring. Lying flat on his back on the bleached brown of the winter's grass he surveyed the giant vault of October blue from the tips of his shoes upward and backward until the tilt of his head stopped his gaze short of the other horizon.

Nowhere did he see the slightest flick of white to mark a cloud's encroachment across the heaven. Nearer were the bright, silvery trunks of the oaks, gums and beeches looking upward as he did, stretching their ever-smaller arms to embrace the sky. Beside them dense green puffs which marked the tops of yellow pines disclaimed all argument of those color-conscious, nature-unaware

folk who declare blue and green don't mix. From out of the South came a wind, a gentle breeze like that of May, which held none of the harsh lashing of its brother from the North. The pines celebrated its arrival with graceful murmurings of appreciation and dignified bows of thanks.

And up in the top of the tallest gum a brown, wizened, burly gumball chimed in with a fast jig, lest his small gesture be lost in the mass moving of green fronds. Lying on the ground, how he wished he might have joined in the celebration. But he had to be satisfied with knowing it might as well have been spring.

From The Franklin Press

SIZE DOESN'T COUNT

EVERYTHING is done better in a big city. It is done better, in proportion to the wealth of the city.

Of all the fallacies generally accepted by the public, that one, surely, is the most long-lived. It is also farthest from the truth.

Illustrating how wrong that assumption is are figures cited recently by the New York Times, they deal with New York City's school buildings.

Better than one-fourth of New York's schools, reports the Times, are about 50 years old or older. Then it gives this revealing breakdown on the age of buildings still in use:

112 were built between 1901 and 1910. 97 between 1911 and 1920. 40 between 1921 and 1930. 16 between 1931 and 1940. 8 in the Civil War decade. 4 between 1851 and 1860. And 1 was built in 1841—117 years ago.

The announcer was doing his first commercial for a new sponsor. With cameras centered on him, the announcer smiled, took a deep draw on the sponsor's cigarette, blew out a ring of smoke and signed blissfully. "Man, that's real coffee!" — CARLEAD (N.M.) CURRENT ARGUS.

Many a parent finding fault with his child's report cards would do well to shield that child in his armor—his own report cards.—LAUREL (MISS.) LEADER. CALL.

Compare that picture, in the biggest and one of the richest cities of the world,

Mitchell Battles Kennedy-Ervin Bill

WASHINGTON (AP)—Stripped of everything but anti-racketeering reforms, Amendments to the Taft-Hartley Law should be handled in separate legislation, he said. The house-led senator from Massachusetts thrust up a southern Democrat to cosponsor the bill. They introduced virtually the same bill that passed the Senate last year 88 to 1.

Obstacles Ahead

The line senator who voted against it, Nevada's right-wing George Malone, was defeated for reelection. But it will encounter more GOP obstacles this year, rolled in its path by no less than the secretary of Labor.

Embarrassing Hitch

Republican leaders are trying to straighten out an embarrassing hitch in their plans for the 150th birthday of Abraham Lincoln. The problem is that they introduced a law which they can't work in two places at the same time, and was voiced in a closed-door meeting of House Republicans by Rep. Alvin Bentley of Michigan, whose grandfather founded General Motors.

Bentley's remarks raised a GOP colleague that they had helped adopt a resolution

birthday of the Great Emancipator to Feb. 13 or St. Valentine's Day in order to get more Republicans back in Washington for the Lincoln birthday celebration.

Atomic Planes

Despite low priorities and lack of funds, the Air Force has successfully tested an atomic engine that could operate at 10,000 miles. The engine is still cumbersome, however, to be installed in a bomber.

The air generals are now scratching for money to reduce a size and weight of their atomic engine. They foresee a future fleet of atomic bombers patrolling the skies as flying missile bases. In other words, if and when we are kicked out of Morocco, France, Spain, atomic planes could take their place.

Real Purpose

This was the real purpose behind the dramatic launch of a 1,000-mile Bold Orion missile from a B-53 bomber in supersonic flight. Airborne missile carriers, powered by atomic engines and carrying 10,000-mile missiles, could patrol the skies indefinitely without refueling and could launch a missile attack from any point in the atmosphere.