

HOT BATHS

Oberbaden, Switzerland, is noted for sulphur baths which reach a temperature of 117 degrees.

Strange But True

By F. H. MacArthur

Pleading poverty as the reason why he stole 38 cents L. M. Kersey a resident of Florida had on his person when searched by the police, \$17,000 in cash.

For several days Maurice Magnes, 85, of Limerick, Ireland, used his spare time digging his own grave.

He was lining the grave with bricks, using mortar made of milk and sand. One day while he was returning with the milk from a local farm, he slipped, fell, and died on the spot. He was buried in his own grave.

By walking an eighth of a mile in snow barefooted, James Ankerman of Kitchener, Ontario, won a \$5 bet. The late Fred MacLean of Cornwall, often walked that far from his shack to Macgregor's spring in the middle of winter just to get a pail of water.

Walking half a mile to and from his home every day just to keep in shape Alexander Cameron of Elmadaie, 102 years old has hiked some 1728 miles since his complete retirement 12 years ago.

About 20 years ago, Mrs. Charles Fortunato, of Fund de Lac, Wis., lost her purse, containing \$28. She died some time later.

Recently the purse was mailed to relatives of the woman. It contained this note: "Am returning the original \$28 plus \$40 interest. Signed Honest Joe."

There's always a first time for everything, so John Bergama, 80, of Sibley, Iowa, had his hair cut.

An astronomer says Mars is moving through a dense fog. We could say the same thing about the earth and its inhabitants.

Research has created everything for a modern kitchen except a woman who will stay in it.

The easiest way to say the fewest words is to say only the things worth while. Too many persons talk too much and say too little when they do talk.

What we call a jellyfish is in reality a marine animal. It's only a slimy creature but it is armed with thousands of tiny harpoons which it shoots out from small poison sacs in its tentacles.

By this process it actually harpoons its prey, and when the poison paralyzes its enemy — the jellyfish sucks it up into its mouth.

Incidentally, all species of jellyfish sting but some are more virulent than others.

This strange creature of the sea is phosphorescent at night. I have seen their dim glow on more than one occasion from the deck of a ship; watched them expand and contract as they swam.

A parcel of mail 34 years late turned up in the spring of 1953 when Geoffrey Hattersley Smith of the Defence Research Board, and his assistant, Robert Blackadar, of the Geological Survey of Canada, travelling by dog sled came upon a cairn atop the roof of the world, 500 miles from the North pole.

The letters were those left in the Arctic for Amundsen who died in 1928, and were recently delivered to H. S. Bent, Norwegian minister to Canada.

Add a painted insect-spray gun to your fireplace equipment. It makes a fine miniature bellows to blow air into a balky fire.

Lots of folk might profit by the realization that hardening of the heart ages much faster than hardening of the arteries.

Just as you can't make a purse out of a sawdust bag, you can't make vegetables taste better, by seasoning them with something that doesn't taste good in the beginning.

Peering over one's spectacles is not a sign of bad eyesight. It's just a habit. It was a common custom in horse and buggy days.

Most grandmas peered over their spectacles when they were knitting or darning and the village cobbler did the same thing when he was tacking a sole on your shoe.

In the 1890's glasses with half lenses were often worn by near-sighted people. Clamped to the back these spectacles allowed the wearer to peer over the top for viewing distant objects.

This odd practice defeats the purpose of the glasses and certainly adds nothing to one's appearance.

Unless the lenses are worn directly in front of the eyes they lose their value, so the eye specialists tell us. They can't do their job correctly while teetering half way down the nose.

Miss Bertha Legg of Indiana, Iowa, who in 30 years saw at 900 funerals, sane by recording at her own funeral. Strange but true.

Believe it or not, but the tracks made by the birds around your backyard in winter have a story too tell. If you can read it, the aimless tracks of Hungarian partridge may and usually does mean they need your generosity if they are to survive the winter.

The lone print of a woodpecker may be a sign that the bird flew away because no food was in sight. The sparrow, one of our commonest birds, hops and thus leaves paired prints in the snow. You can tell the difference between the tracks of a starling and those of a robin by noting the difference in length. The starling's tracks are a quarter of an inch longer than the robin's. The crow's track is 3/4 inches long, with the hind toe print about one inch long.

SANTIAGO, Chile. (AP) — Dr. Jaime Vidal, professor of legal medicine at the University of Chile said Sunday the preserved body of an Indian "princess" found in an Andean ice cave is apparently that of an Indian "prince."

The change in sex identification — reputedly 400 or 500 years old — has not yet been made officially. A report from a group of scientists is expected today.

Richard Schaedel, an American here organizing an anthropological department for the University of Chile, said the body is an extremely valuable find because the way body oils have been preserved for at least 400 years.

Prosperous Days For Blood Indians On Alberta Reserve

CARDSTON, Alta., (CP)—These are prosperous days for the 2,176 Blood Indians on their 353,000-acre reserve between here and Lethbridge, 40 miles northeast.

Cashing in on the natural resources in their territory, the Bloods have boosted their tribal bank balance to \$663,000 from \$532,000 in the last year. The funds are held in trust in Ottawa, earning five-per-cent interest.

The tribe achieved the increase while maintaining its own social welfare and security programs, and acting as interest-free banker to stake Blood families on the way to home, farm and ranch ownership.

The band revenue for the last 12 months is estimated at \$435,500, comprising \$347,000 from agricultural leases issued to white farmers, \$11,000 from grazing leases, \$67,500 from petroleum leases and \$10,000 from royalties on gravel and coal.

Private Income Too

Apart from band funds, individual incomes brought the Bloods more than a million dollars from private agricultural operations, wages, treaty money, family allowances, old age pensions and other sources.

An estimated \$322,500 was netted from wheat sales, \$10,000 from rye, \$11,000 from barley, \$30,000 from oats, \$2,500 from flax, \$60,000 from hay and green feed and \$102,500 from livestock sales. They also received \$2,500 for furs.

That is how the money filled the tribesmen's purses. How do they spend it?

The individual incomes are enabling tribesmen to enjoy a much higher standard of living than ever before. Big sums are being used to expand farming and ranching operations.

Put To Good Use

Band funds are being put by for many purposes, including three important programs — housing, farming and cattle ranching—designed to set ambitious blood families on the path to success. Each project is financed with band money and advances are repaid on easy, interest-free terms.

Under the ranching program, the Blood Indian council each year selects 10 applicants to launch into cattle ranching. Each must put up 10 tons of hay for winter feed, then is advanced five cows in calf by the band, on the understanding that the advance will be repaid with five steer calves in three years.

More than 50 families have been started as cattle ranchers. Dams and water systems are being built, improving living conditions on the reserve. Relief is provided for the needy and some special pensions are maintained.

Monthly per capita payments from the band funds are also made to the Bloods. In December, every man, woman and child in the tribe received a \$15 bonus. Payment for the first five months of 1954 is \$10.

VALUABLE EXPORT

India exported about 678,000,000 yards of cloth in 1953.

Navy Program Said Lagging

VANCOUVER (CP) — Vice-Admiral Edmond Mainguy, chief of Canada's naval staff, said Wednesday the navy is "behind" on its 1954 recruiting and expansion program.

He said at a press conference here that the 1954 target is 100 commissioned ships and 31,000 permanent force officers and men.

The ship-building program was behind because of a lack of certain technicians, strikes in some cases, and holdups in certain equipment production.

Recruiting had surged this year, he said, possibly because of higher pay and "rumors" of unemployment.

The navy was "still rejecting 50 per cent of the men who come to us for enlistment."

The number rejected because they could not pass an intelligence test was 10 per cent of the total rejections, and no greater than rejections for physical defects, over-age, citizenship qualifications and other reasons.

No Official View On Fluoridation By Ontario Gov't

TORONTO (CP) — The Ontario government is not prepared at the present time to approve or condemn the fluoridation of water as a tooth decay preventive, Health Minister Phillips said in the legislature Wednesday.

He said the health department had full files on both sides of the much-debated question.

Dr. Phillips said his department had been in contact with the Canadian Medical Association and the World Health Organization on the subject.

He quoted a letter from the CMA which said: "This association has not endorsed any research project on fluoridation and it seems regrettable that many people are reading into our reports certain recommendations which may or may not be there."

From the WHO letter, Dr. Phillips read: "This organization has not expressed any official view on water fluoridation."

Would Equip Police In Montreal With Station Wagons

MONTREAL (CP) — Councillor Gerard Gauthier of Montreal advocates replacing most regular police cars with station wagons, equipped to handle "any situation."

His idea is to make the police force more efficient in emergencies.

"At present," he says, "police cars are usually the first on the scene of accidents, street fights

Doubts Russia Can Upset Gold Market

OTTAWA (CP)—Graham Towers is doubtful that Russia is sufficiently powerful to upset the world's gold markets.

He suggested also the United States may change its tune about raising the gold price if ever the U. S. becomes a substantial seller of the monetary metal.

The Bank of Canada governor told the Commons that in recent months Russia probably sold about \$100,000,000 worth of her gold in Europe.

Gold prices on the world's free markets have dropped sharply in recent years, but Mr. Towers said Russia entered the selling field.

Gold currently is selling on the free markets at about the official rate of \$35 an ounce in United States funds, down from its post-war high of about \$60.

There is no certainty in the Western world just how much gold Russia holds, but there have been "wild guesses" that it is between

and small fires, but they are not equipped to handle the situation without the aid of ambulances and fire department vehicles.

Full Equipment

If station wagons were substituted for a certain number of police cars—which have no more advantages than the normal private car—they would be able to carry such things as stretchers, fire extinguishers, oxygen masks, short-folding ladders and bullet-proof vests.

Councillor Gauthier says city council adopted a resolution on the lines of his suggestion last year but "nothing has been done about it."

Cost of vehicles would be \$5,000 each, he estimates.

\$4,000,000,000 and \$6,000,000,000, Mr. Towers said.

This would compare with about \$32,000,000,000 held by the U. S. Psychological Effect

He agreed that the addition of Russian gold on a market that is already weak would have natural and psychological influences, but he maintained Russia "is not big enough" to upset the world markets and said he would be "amazed" if she tried it.

Mr. Towers said that U. S. has been a substantial buyer of gold and countries which are buyers are not likely to boost prices.

"If they have to sell it, that might be a different matter," he added.

Gold-producing countries, particularly South Africa, have made repeated appeals to the U. S. to boost the official price, which has remained unchanged for the last 30 years.

Mr. Towers said a price boost, if not accompanied by heavy inflation, would benefit all of Canada. It would assist Canada's gold mine operators, most of whom are receiving federal subsidies because they cannot make ends meet. And it would increase international trade which also would aid Canada's trade.

However, Mr. Towers was convinced that the U. S. congress would not approve of a price boost unless it would aid the U. S. internal economy.

QUEEN'S CHAPLAIN WEDS

BOSTON, (AP) — Eighty-year-old millionaire Mrs. Ethel L. Paine Moore, descendant of a signer of the Declaration of Independence, and Canon Charles E. Raven, 66, Queen Elizabeth's personal chaplain, were married in fashionable Trinity Church Wednesday. The ceremony was performed by the Rt. Rev. Henry Knox Sherrill, presiding bishop of the Episcopal Church.

INDIAN EXPERT

Silas Rand, Nova Scotia clergyman who died in 1889, compiled a grammar and dictionary of the Micmac Indian language.

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