

Around The Cracker Barrel . . .

A couple of weeks ago, in a crowded New York elevator, with the temperature in the nineties, I overheard a brief conversation. One man, tall, thin and cool looking, recited that old quote of Mark Twain's, to-wit, "Everyone talks about the weather, but no one does anything about it." The little man standing next to the speaker was short and fat, had one of those frames which seem to suffer intensely in the heat. In all earnestness he looked up at his companion and asked, "That sounds great, but did you ever think what a mess it'd be if we all had a hand in making our weather?"

Well, maybe it would be a mess, but I'll bet there'd be quite a unanimity during the past weeks, and we'd all vote for cool breezes. And now (it may be the least) I'm not just exactly sure whether it was Mark Twain who made that crack, or whether it was Will Rogers. If any of you have the energy to find out which humorist first said that I'd be interested in knowing. But right now there's no energy left for such research.

But thinking of Will Rogers reminded me of his fishing companion and good friend, Wiley Post. It was the latter, you will remember, who flew alone around the world in about seven days. When he returned from that trip I had the honor of travelling with Wiley for a few days and toast-mastering some banquets at which he was speaker. And someone would always ask him one question: "How did you keep awake?"

Wiley then went through a routine in which he demonstrated just how he kept awake for seven days and seven nights. The device he used was his own invention. He had a chunk of lead, which weighed about two pounds, attached to a chain which was about twelve inches long. He held this piece of lead in the palm of his hand, always with the palm up. The other end of the short chain was attached to a metal bracelet around his wrist. When he would nod ever so lightly his muscles would relax, and his hand would open. The chunk of lead would fall, and when it reached the end of the chain would give his wrist a mighty tug. It always woke him up.

It might be a good thing to attach a chunk of lead to the wrists of some of our foremost politicians. It would be wonderful if we could count on them staying awake to the needs of the people for as long as seven days. Maybe some manufacturer (not the duPonts) ought to make up a batch of these Wiley Post bracelets and send 'em to Washington.

Maybe it's the heat that's upon me. But it seems too hot to write anything the least bit serious; so we'll just go on about Wiley Post.

On that famous trip Wiley and the Winnie Mae almost ended in a disaster. Coming across that foggy strip of water from Asia to Alaska, Wiley Post lost his way, and his gasoline supply was very low. He scoured the country side for an open space to land, and finally when his gasoline gauge registered zero he saw a very small landing field. The field was one of those small strips operated by the Weather Bureau, and was so small that an attempted landing would certainly mean that the fast Winnie Mae would shoot right off the end before it could be brought to a stop. But this looked better than the side of some mountain, so Post corkers the ship down, and finally hit the runway. In spite of all braking it went off the end and crashed into a big tree. The prop was smashed, but no other damage was done.

Two young men came running out of a cabin, and were shocked to learn the identity of their famous visitor. What could they do for Mr. Post? Just let him sleep. The trip was all over. So they showed Wiley a warm bunk, and in a minute, he was asleep, the first in six days and nights. But the young men of the Weather Bureau felt they had a responsibility. They radioed Fairbanks, a few hundred miles away, and found a prop that would fit the Winnie Mae. One of the young fellows took off in their single motor plane, and was back in about four hours with the precious prop. The young men let their weather recording go hang as they mounted that prop. When it was done they wake up Wiley Post, and he was stunned at that act of kindness. Tears would always come down his face as he would tell that yarn.

The take off was difficult, but that plane could take off almost straight up. And Wiley Post left that outpost in Alaska, and flew on to glory and renown.

And I think of the day I walked behind Wiley Post and the President of the South Bend Tackle Company, as we inspected that fascinating plant where marvelous fishing tackle was made. And Mr. Post, with that black patch over one bad eye, didn't see that every piece of equipment he admired was being dumped into a hand truck following. And at the end of that tour Wiley Post was presented with thousands of dollars worth of fine equipment.

And I think of that day, a few months later, when the papers carried huge headlines that Will Rogers and Wiley Post had crashed in Alaska, while going into the wilderness to fish. Some of that equipment from South Bend was probably on board. And I thought of Alaska, the fabulous country which had almost taken the life of that intrepid flier once before.

So, even if Mark Twain did make that crack about no one doing anything about the weather, it somehow brought back memories of Wiley Post and his fate in Alaska.

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BEVERLY HILLS NEWS

By DOROTHY KELLY
PHOTO BY HAN 4346

Good Neighbor Policy

The George Murphys are back home at 32066 Verona Circle after being in Seane county, Pa., for nearly seven months on business. They are so happy to be back on home territory but their little daughter, Mary Ann, is the happiest of all to be with all of her little playmates once again. A potluck picnic in Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Reynolds yard was decided upon to welcome them home. Those who attended to welcome the Murphys home were the Pearls and son, Doug, Betty and Floyd Reynolds, and Dorothy and Jim Kelly and children.

Home Again

All four of the Joldersmans are back again at 22331 Arlington after a two weeks vacation spent visiting Millie's folks in Iowa and Al's folks in Holland, Mich. Diane enjoyed it all and even little Tommie weathered the long journey nicely. Millie's sister and husband, Mr. and Mrs. Harold Borr, and son, Douglas, came to the potluck picnic to see the Tigers play last Friday. Mr. and Mrs. Paul Coffman, Millie's other sister, also went with them. The Coffmans, with their son, came out from Detroit to spend the 4th with the Joldersmans.

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Werstine of Arlington drive and Chuckie Patsy have returned from a two weeks' vacation at a lake cottage near Trenton. Shirley Dusbaber was with the second week and the three youngsters say they lived in the water except for the few hours they were asleep.

Families Leaving

It is so nice to be able to write about newcomers, but we feel badly when we have to say we are losing an old resident. The Lester family, who reside at 4447 Arlington drive, left last Friday for Santa Monica, Cal., where Taylor has accepted a position with the Douglas Corporation. Jack Staran came from Waukegan, Ill., to spend a few days with Cleo Bailey. That in itself sounds quite simple but it is the first time that he has been in our losing the Bailey family. For when he returns this weekend he will take little Susie back with him so Cleo can really get down to brass tacks with her packing.

Son is Born

Mr. and Mrs. Edward Anderson of 32255 Auburn Circle, announce the birth of a son, Doris Arthur, June 30 at Harper hospital. Irene and David are both doing fine and there is still hope for Andy if he calms down long enough to take a deep breath.

Down on the Farm

Tommie Doe and his father are in North Carolina for a week to look over his dad's dairy farm. The farm is located near Asheville and the two men like to go down occasionally just to look things over. Katie staved home with the boys at 4210 Seminole.

Lucky Campers

All of the young folks in the neighborhood, who were lucky enough to pick these past few weeks for camp, have certainly been enjoying it to the fullest extent. Marilyn Burdick, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harold J. Burdick of Arlington drive, is at Hale, Mich., at the YWCA Camp. Her sister, Beverly, who was married recently to Tom Stratton and is living in Detroit and both are attending Wayne University. They spent the holidays on the Thursday with another couple, Burdick's sister, Mrs. Reiling, is visiting them to help fill the gap that is left with both the girls gone.

Bob Carter left Saturday for Williams State Park near Mandan. He went with a group of boys from Scout Troop R. O. 11. Bob Carter spent several days at home last week with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Carter, who reside at 4283 Arden Place. Bob is in the school of nursing at the University of Michigan.

Double Celebration

Mr. and Mrs. Reed E. Palmer of 19180 Riverside drive, celebrated occasions last Sunday. The first of July is their wedding anniversary and July 4th is Pal-

mer's birthday, so their three girls, Judy, Linda and Janet and his parents, Judge and Mrs. Ervin R. Palmer, of Detroit, helped them celebrate.

Out-of-town Weddings

Mary Cucchi spent last weekend in Fort Wayne where she attended the wedding of a classmate of St. Marys of Notre Dame. The week she and another classmate, Shilling's Shilling, went to a lake near Lafayette. Pat, Mary's sister, went to Grand Haven with Tricia Kane of Huntington Woods to spend a week. Later, they will go to St. Clair for second week of their vacation. Pat and Mary are the daughters of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Cucchi of 18225 Devonshire.

Mr. and Mrs. Lewis W. Morely, 17819 Beechwood avenue, have just returned from Hartford, Wis., where they attended the wedding of their son, Dr. D. H. Morely and Miss Monica Steyer. The wedding was held at the home of the bride's grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. John Friday. Mrs. W. G. Williams and her two daughters, Dorothy and Louise of Atlanta, Ga., accompanied her parents here and are visiting at the Morely home. Dr. Morely will honeymoon in northern Michigan for a few weeks and will visit here later in Philadelphia, Pa.

Summer Work

Jo Pickens is at Harbor Springs for the summer months, where she is employed at the Harbor Springs Club. She's one of 22 college girls who were accepted by the club for summer employment.

Weekend Activities

Eleanor and Earl Grizdale really got away from it all last weekend with a few days of relaxation at Higgins Lake. Two-year-old Larry is spending weeks with his grandma, and Louise and Larry, the three-month-old twins, stayed right at home under the watchful eye of an obliging neighbor.

Mr. and Mrs. John Dear and son Jack of Berkshire spent last weekend at their cottage at Upper Pathstone. Mrs. Dear and Jack will be out most of the summer with John going for the weekends. Dear's niece and her husband, Mr. and Mrs. Bob Quail, of Berkeley, with their children, Johnnie, Johnnie and Sharon, spent a day swimming and visiting last week.

Mr. and Mrs. Carl Pallas of Auburn Circle had a picnic at Upper Straits Lake last Sunday. Bernie's two sisters, Alice and Rosemary Groesbeck, and her brother and sister-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Groesbeck and Alice's girl friend, Dottie and Rosemary's fiance, Edward Lachosky and Kathy Kelly were their guests.

Mr. and Mrs. August Mohr, and son and daughter, John and Marie, left early Saturday morning to spend the weekend in the thumb. Mr. and Mrs. Carlos Danville and her son, Hugh of Auburn Circle spent the weekend with Danny's mother, Mrs. S. L. Warren, at her cottage at Lake Chemo.

Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Border of Arlington drive has with their weekend guests, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Richards and son, Tom, and Mary Ann Phillo of Webster Grove, Mo.

Organize Reserve Officers Auxiliary

A group of wives of local Reserve Officers have had their first meeting together at the home of Mrs. Julian B. Wilson on Eaton road in Berkeley. The purpose of the meeting was to organize an auxiliary association. Another meeting is being planned for Wednesday, July 20 at the home of Mrs. Ralph Williams, 16037 Humphrey drive, Beverly Manor, and all wives of reserve officers regardless of the branch of service are invited to attend. If interested, please call Mrs. Williams.

The Navy's transport plane, Constitution, is called Modoc 89 because the United States' constitution went into effect in 1789.

Social Briefs

Over the Independence Day weekend, Mrs. William F. Hillman, Country Club with Mr. and Mrs. A. O. Thacker.

Mrs. and Mrs. Spencer D. Hopkins entertained at a Sunday dinner recently for bride-elect of July 9, Miss Jeanne Marie L. Hommedieu and her fiance, Steele L. Sellers.

Mr. and Mrs. Bennett Root of Webster street have returned home from Minneapolis, Minn., where they were the houseguests of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Partridge who formerly resided here in Birmingham.

Dain Millman, Jr., is expected home today for a 28-day leave. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. D. W. Millman of Yorkshire road, Miss Hillman, with Miss Martha Sharpless, left last Friday for Waldron Wood where they will attend the Presbyterian camp there for a week.

Mr. and Mrs. John P. Mochan of East Maple avenue announce the birth of a son, William Michael, on June 24 at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital.

Mr. and Mrs. Theodore T. Fritling of Oakland avenue and their daughter, Julia have gone to Wawatom Beach on the Straits of Mackinac for a month's vacation.

Tomorrow evening, Mrs. S. E. Sellers of Arlington drive will be hostess to members of the wedding party at the rehearsal dinner in Orchard Lake Country Club. Her son, Mr. and Mrs. F. H. Hartner's daughter, Mrs. Fred Rheinfrank of St. Clair.

Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Wittingham of East Long Lake road have returned home from Fort Lauderdale, Fla., where they have been staying since last fall.

To celebrate their 27th wedding anniversary, Mr. and Mrs. Ben Rubi of Puritan road dined last Saturday at the Orchard Lake.

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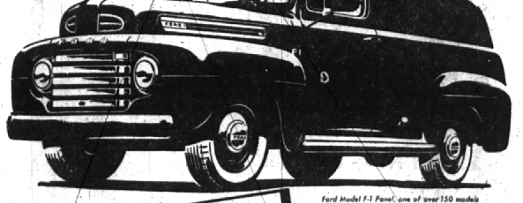
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