

Through
THE
Looking
Glass

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Counting imaginary sheep may bring sleep to some New Bernians, but Captain Dick Hourine got better results by reciting the names of States and their Capital Cities. Not only did it provide him with needed slumber, but transformed him into an authority on U. S. geography.

You just couldn't stump the Riverside philosopher. He could start with Maine and work over to California, or start in California and end up in Maine. Or if you preferred, he would name the states from North to South, or from South to North. Then he would start in the center of the nation and alternate, naming first an Eastern State and then a Western one.

What's more, he could name all the Capital Cities. If you mentioned a state, he would instantly give you the Capital. Given a Capital, he would name the State. And he could list them all in alphabetical order too.

Just by way of diversion, Captain Dick learned to do unusual things with the multiplication table, including reciting it backwards. He was one of New Bern's most persistent readers, and you had a tough time naming an author with whom he wasn't fairly familiar.

We always felt that Hourine's insomnia stemmed from a super-active mind. Not that Captain Dick was a worry-wart. As a matter of fact, he had a keen sense of humor that invariably bobbed up during even the briefest conversation. But his brain, and a remarkable brain it was, just wouldn't take a rest without considerable coaxing.

That's why the sheep counting routine didn't work for him. Adding them up, as they hopped over a make-believe fence, did nothing to improve his intellect. It was just a case of counting and still more counting, night after night. But the Hourine system not only put him to sleep but furthered his education.

Judging by what we've heard, many other New Bernians also experience trouble in cooperating with the Sand Man. Some try a hot bath, or a glass of warm milk. Others read themselves into drowsy exhaustion. The easy but dangerous way is sleeping pills. Captain Dick wanted no part of them.

Well along in his eighties, he bounced out of bed at 5 a. m. or earlier and headed for a downtown restaurant to get the first cup of coffee out of the urn. By 6 a. m. he was at his Riverside Iron Works office. Rain or shine, sleet or snow, he was always on time, although he was his own boss.

For years before he went into business for himself, Captain Dick was a railroad man, and he could spin yarns on end about his experiences. His sharp wit and his nose for human interest enabled him to recognize the comedy and the tragedy in events both major and trivial.

During his early days, before

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Freedom... Our
Cherished Legacy

Freedom is a tradition in our great nation. From the earliest beginnings, the courage of our Pilgrim forefathers made it possible. The will and faith of our people have kept it alive. It will remain ours with vigilance and dedication. So—the past, the present and the future are inextricably woven together. Through freedom. Today we give thanks for this precious legacy. We remember and cherish our tradition. We pray that freedom will become the inalienable right of all nations.