

The Valley Jillers and Fillers

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something and do not know how, or what to write about. Anyway, I read them and learn that losses through harvesting and processing of grass and legume seed run as high as 50 per cent. This will not do; we have cut too much grass. This is why our topsoil goes down the creek and to the sea. I shall write my congressman.

See what I mean? Just the other day I saw a jiller that said "Texas is the largest wood producing state in the United States." This gave me quite a start; besides I had just been up on Mount Bailey overlooking Mars Hill and telling myself here are more trees than I ever saw anywhere, including Texas. All that I ever saw in Texas was mesquite and barbed wire fences, which give about equal shade.

I am sorry I read that item about Texas. I would rather have read about the peanut crop in Pakistan, or how many bears were trapped last year in Canada. My faith in jillers has been shaken. Do you think the man meant Texas was the largest state producing wood, and that he wrote it before Alaska was admitted?

CONNIE SCRUGGS

Or was this a typographical error? He might have meant to write "wool." That would have made sense to any old Texas sheepherder.

Rain is scarce in Texas. I heard a man ask his neighbor why he was throwing buckets of water on his roof, and he explained that he had always wanted to see if the roof leaked. But I know they have sun and wind in Texas. There is a story to the effect that one day the wind from the west was so strong that the sun was three hours late in setting.

Today I was reading an item about Kansas. Did you know that the name of Wichita, Kansas, is disputed? Some say its Indian meaning is "painted face." Others say it is "coon eyes." Now I ask you, what am I supposed to tell people, if by chance someone asks me the meaning of Wichita? I suppose I could compromise and say it means "coon eyes on a painted face."

Would you have thought it? Austria produced 71,958 TV sets in 1959 against 53,580 in 1958. No wonder people read little anymore. I bet you could never guess whom we should thank for introducing silk stockings. It was none other than King Henry II of France, in 1559. I am sure King Henry II never would have thought that today ladies would be wearing silk stockings of all colors. Had he known this I wonder if he would have put on that first pair.

I do not know what people will think of next. A new grapefruit knife has three blades. The main blade is curved, blunt-pointed and serrated to loosen the peeling. The two other blades help to separate the grapefruit from the inedible membrane between segments. This sounds almost too complicated to

(Cont. on p. 9, col. 3)

SANDY RAGSDALE

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