

# ABNORMAL ABSURDITIES

By DWIGHT NICHOLS et al

**THE COFFEE CLUB**  
A few years ago we devoted much attention to the Coffee Club, and now that price of coffee has increased per pound with a cup still costing a nickel the club has revived.

One of the things that makes the Coffee Club an attractive club is that it is unorganized. Maybe it holds the distinction of being the only unorganized organization in the land today.

The club is a most informal group, unenrolled and uninitiated. The membership consists of those who drop in at Pete's for a cup of Java.

This august body is capable of discussing anything from the merits of United Nations to demerits of a second-best hand in poker.

Recently the club has some new recruits. Some of the old faithful are Ivan D. Anderson, B. R. Underwood, Roy W. Forehand, O. E. Triplett, Ray Landsberger, Nat Sosnik, George Wells, "Red" Davis, Bob Day, Ed Day, Palmer Horton, S. L. Whitaker, et al.

Coffee drinking is not unlike eating eggs. When eggs are high in price they are good to taste and much in demand. Now that the price per pound of coffee is up the Coffee Club members naturally feel they are getting more for their nickels.

There is no problem too large for the Coffee Club to handle, because the club does nothing but talk and they can solve a big problem by talk just as well as a little one. Recently the question came up about how to find out how many feet each way it would take to make a square acre. Everybody said they had forgotten how to work square root except one, and he

said he had never known how.

The Coffee Club is a utopian congress. It has no officers, no dues and no duties. Sometimes it reminds us of the man who said he was going to run for office on a platform of "free liquor, good looking women, no taxes and no hell."

There is much curiosity among members of the club concerning the exploits of other members. Which reminds us of the draftee who was being fingerprinted upon entering the army. The burly sergeant told him to wash his hands. "Both of them?" he asked. After a pause the sergeant said: "No, just one of them. I want to see how you do it."

These Coffee Club members like to conserve energy. In fact, that following yarn is told about one of them in his earlier years: A lad, who had no great liking for soap and water, was observed by his father washing the forefinger of his right hand.

"What's the idea of washing only one finger?" he inquired.

"The boy next door has asked me to come over and feel his baby sister's new tooth," explained Tommy.

**Pores Knob Home Club In Meeting**

Nineteen members and one visitor were present for the December meeting of the Pores Knob Home Demonstration club on Friday afternoon, Dec. 9th, at the community house with Mrs. Kenneth Broyhill and Mrs. Jesse Johnson as hostesses.

The meeting was opened with a quiz contest on the Christmas story conducted by Mrs. C. M. Ashley. The club collect was repeated in unison. The secretary read the minutes of the last meeting and called the roll. The president presided during the business period. Plans for a community holiday party were completed. Both old and young will enjoy this party on Wednesday evening, Dec. 23th, at the community house.

The sale of Christmas seals was checked. Plans for a floor finishing demonstration were made, which will be some time the first of the year.

1950 Heart Sisters were drawn. The new officers for 1950 were recognized and they will preside at the January meeting.

Mrs. C. M. Ashley received a birthday gift as she had the nearest birthday to the club meeting.

Mrs. Annie H. Greene, the Home Agent, showed a Christmas picture which was "A Little Girls' Christmas Dream." It was very much enjoyed. She also gave recipes for Christmas candies and conducted a couple of entertaining games.

At the close of the fun Mrs. Broyhill, assisted by Mrs. P. M. Lowe, served delicious refreshments.

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## Senator Says Coffee Drinkers Will be Gouged 650 Million

Washington.—Senator Guy M. Gillette (D-Iowa) charged yesterday, on the basis of a Census Bureau survey, that the coffee drinking public has been or will be gouged for \$650,000,000 by recent "manipulation" of the coffee market.

The survey was made at the request of Gillette's Senate agriculture subcommittee, which has been investigating soaring coffee prices and the "spread" of prices generally between what the farmer receives and the consumer pays.

Gillette said the survey showed there has been "definite manipulation" of the market. But, he said, the most "astounding fact in the survey was the disclosure that more than 100,000,000 pounds of coffee "disappeared" in this country between Oct.

1 and Dec. 1.

Rumors of a shortage during this period caused housewives to raid grocery stores to stock up, despite constantly steeper prices. Gillette's \$650,000,000 estimate was figured on the basis of a 20- to 25-cent a pound price rise on annual imports of about 2,640,000,000 pounds per year.

U. S. farms now produce about 75 per cent more than in 1910 and nearly 40 per cent more than in 1935-39.

## Vandenberg Visits In Southern Pines

Southern Pines.—General of the Air Force Hoyt Vandenberg flew into Southern Pines yesterday afternoon for a two-hour surprise visit to his parents, Mr and Mrs. Collins Vandenberg, who are wintering here in a convalescent hospital.

He landed at Knollwood Airport in an army B-17 at 2:15 p. m. and took off for an undisclosed destination about 4 p. m.

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