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## Scene From Top O' The Hill

By: Jack Kelly

A few weeks back, when I had a brief stay in Washington, Blanche and I got a lucky break and became part of a meeting of home-folks away from home. This came about when, cut of the blue, so to speak, we received an invitation to attend the Coletta nuptials. That is a high-class word for a wedding. Anyway, we attended not only the nuptials but the pre-nuptials luncheon besides. It was a fine spread, that luncheon. Lots of real nice people as guests, including us, and, of course, the bride-and-groom-to-be.

It beats me how these Burnsville boys let these local girls get away from them. It just does not make any sense. That Celia Coletta made as beautiful a bride as any you have ever seen in any picture wherever you saw it. Her dress, which I merely thought was quite attractive, was, according to Blanche, the most beautiful bridal gown ever created. Blanche must have been right because at the wedding everyone's eyes were centered on the Bride to the exclusion of all others — except mine. I watched the Bride's mother, one of my favorite Burnsvilleites, who looked very lovely in her own gown and the facial expression that only a mother of a bride can have. Anyway, at the wedding reception at the Kennedy-Warren, everyone talked of nothing except the bride and her gown. Just for a joke, I commented "Wasn't it a shame that the groom forgot to wear a tie." All of those people took the remark seriously and none of them had so much as looked at the poor Groom during the entire ceremony. He could have had a rabbit's ear hanging out of his nose and no one would have seen it.

The reception itself was tremendous. Especially if you like champagne and people. I like both articles. We had a fine table. A table for six. We had four Burnsville people and two out-land foreigners. Blanche and myself, Ransom Higgins' granddaughter, and that very lovely and vivacious Clevenger girl whom we had last seen as a child. The two "foreigners" were the husbands of the other two ladies. Both husbands are not only fine looking men, they are smart and intelligent. Both of them proved that by marrying the girls they did.

At this same wedding, we had us some real, genuine, bona fide foreigners. There were several ladies with wrap-around dresses, sort of a sarong, I guess, and they had a brilliant jewel of some sort that looked as if it was pressed into their foreheads. I wanted to enquire how they wrapped those dresses around them so that they would stay up and also how they kept the stone in their foreheads but Blanche disuaded me. That means she

said "Don't you dare!" I know one thing. If one of those gals who wore that wrap around ever got into a square dance and someone made a mistake and grabbed a chunk of material instead of an arm, why that gal would go atwirling across the room and everybody would know how the fool-thing worked. I sure hope the Colettas invite some of them to Burnsville. If they do, I will throw the Square Dance. Everybody's invited.

I had thought that Ransom Higgins' grandson-in-law was the finest chap a gal could grab when I first met him but now, after meeting this fellow named Cahill that the Clevenger girl latched onto, I have put them down as a tie. He is quite a lot of good man too. Now, you are probably wondering what kind of a fellow the Bride Groom is. I would like to tell you but I can't do it. I only met him a couple of times during the entire affair and he was acting like a proper Groom. So how can you tell. Definitely he is good-looking, intelligent, and has a charming personality, based upon the few words I had with him. After all, he had no time to waste on a guest, he was entranced, properly so, with his Bride. That is how come I know he is intelligent. I could see he was good-looking. As to his charming personality, I was convinced of that by the fact he had charmed Celia Coletta into marrying him.

Papa Pete was there too.

There ought to be a law passed to take care of the male contingent of a wedding party. No one expects anyone to pay attention to the bride-groom but it would appear the two fathers-in-law should get a little attention. After all, without those two eminent gentlemen, there would not have been a wedding.

At our table, only four Burnsville people and those who married into the clan, we were real nice. We were drinking Pete's champagne and eating Pete's food, so we invited Pete to join us for a bit, after the festivities got going. We even had the Groom's mother over for a visit and a drink at our table. In fact, we had as many visitors as the Wedding Table had. It was a real splendid affair, and we enjoyed it to the fullest extent. It was well worth the headache I had the next morning. However, since Pete still has three more daughters, I hope he will spare them so that I can be back in physical shape to enjoy them.

The Bride-Groom assured us he will visit when they return from their five or seven week European Honeymoon. When he does, then I can give you the real low down on him and I feel certain it will be highly complimentary.

"The secret of being a bore is to tell everything." — Voltaire, "L'Enfant Prodigue."



COLOR TIME IS HERE — The brilliant hardwoods overhanging the road that leads to the top of Grandfather Mountain, N. C. are

approaching their Autumn best in the season that sends thousands of visitors to the mountains. Color should be at its best

at the various mountain elevations for the remainder of October.

## NO VICTORS IN A RIOT

IN A RIOT THERE ARE NO VICTORS. The losers include everybody—the rioters, the victims, law enforcement, the community, the State and the Nation.

Causes of riots can be counted by the score. A study of the overall problem indicates, however, that the widespread violence in our country to some degree is a direct outgrowth of the civil disobedience movement. In recent years, some leaders of dubious stature have made a grandiose gesture of willfully violating laws they deem to be unjust. For the most part, these individuals, although admittedly guilty of breaking the law, have gone unpunished. Young thugs and misguided teenagers, seeing others defy authority and the courts with impunity, have been led to believe that any crime under a banner of complaints is justified. Consequently, they ignore the law and roam through their communities creating violence and terror. Certainly, those who espouse the theory of civil disobedience and authorities who free guilty violators must share a portion of the blame and responsibility for the turmoil in our streets. It should be abundantly clear that the doctrine of civil disobedience is a doctrine of self-destruction.

Stern, decisive action is needed when a street disturbance begins. Justice is not served when a growing horde of vandals and looters is appeased and their pillage overlooked lest "a show of force might provoke them to greater violence." Quiescence does not satisfy rioters. Procrastination or uncertainty on the part of authorities denotes weakness or concession to a mob. Thus, the offenders are encouraged, and their violence gains momentum.

A judicial self-appraisal by the news media of their riot coverage might also be in order. Some media have already taken action in this regard. There can be no quarrel with the all-important role of keeping the public informed as quickly and as completely as possible. No one rightfully expects riots to be played down or salient facts withheld.

On the other hand, militant agitators, hate-mongers, and publicity-seeking rabble rousers who incite riots have a fear of overexposure. They know that television, radio, and front-page news stories are the best and quickest means of getting their views before the public. Thus, they seek attention from the news media. In riot reporting, objectivity and balance, always key factors of responsible journalism, help expose distortion and reduce the special treatment of those who advocate violence. Strict adherence to high journalistic principles is a valuable public service in matters affecting public safety.

Many proposals have been advanced to help eliminate the causes of riots. Just as there is no single cause, there is no single remedy. I do know, however, that the answer will not be found in sociological remedies alone. If our system of law is to survive, then the law must be enforced. Those who break the law, acting alone or in concert, must be detected and arrested, promptly prosecuted, and given proper, substantial punishment. In halting riots and removing crime from our Nation's streets, this should be the first order of business.

J. Edgar Hoover, Director  
October 1, 1967

(Reprinted from the FBI Law Enforcement Bulletin)

## YARD INVENTORY

Is your yard contributing its share toward making your home the eyepleasing restful place it should be? Now is the best time of year to take a good look around the place, says Mr. E. L. Dillingham, County Extension Chairman.

The vivid colors of the fall flowers and shrubs are at their peak and the memory of the early season flowers is still with us. Could you add a shrub in that blank spot by the fence to complete that good neighbor screen? Would some low grow-

ing shrubs soften the harsh reality that the foundation only supports the house? Is that tree you planted to shade the bedroom from the hot afternoon sun growing as fast as it should? Perhaps your Azaleas look pale and the cool nights have made the lawn appear to have suddenly turned to crabgrass?

Beautiful home grounds don't just happen. Neither are they created with one afternoon of wishful thinking. This, however, is where the process must begin.

Once a course of action is decided upon, get all the information available on the particular problem at hand. In the case of the trees, shrubs, flowers and lawn, one of the first questions is the fertility status of the soil. Many new residents of North Carolina may not be aware that the Soil Testing Division of the Department of Agriculture provides a free service to all residents. Mailing cartons and specific instructions for taking the soil samples are available at the Extension Office.

Mr. Dillingham, emphasized the importance of providing adequate and specific information along with the soil sample. In the case of shrubs, be specific as to the kind of shrubs. Lime and fertilizer applications suitable for Abelia will lead to the eventual death of Azaleas, Camellias and Rhododendron. The same applies to lawn grasses. If soil is limed enough for good growth of Bluegrass, Centipede Grass would likely suffer from iron deficiency.

Diagnostic services and suggestions for disease control is also available at the plant Disease Clinic at North Carolina State University. Detailed information about the selection and culture of trees, shrubs, flowers and lawn grass is available at the Extension Office. Does your yard measure up to your expectations?

