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Scene From Top O' The Hill

By: Jack Kelly

If you know of or hear of anyone who wants to spend 80 bucks for a book, actually it is 3 books, be sure and tell them to buy the re-issue of the Original Edition of the Encyclopaedia Britannica. That is the way it was spelled then. They still used the diphthong. What's a diphthong? That's the combination of two vowels we used to use way back when. Even Colleges have forgotten them today, probably. In any event, this issue commemorates the 200th birthday of the Encyclopaedia. Today's new issue contains 28,000 pages, the original had only 2,689.

The original issue had not one word devoted to Civil Rights, Communism, or Ecumenism. Today's volumes devote more than 40 pages to each of those subjects. The subject of "horse-manship" appears to have held its own. Then and now, it had exactly five pages devoted to it. Unfortunately, the latest issue had dropped the "Cure for Baldness, listed in the first one. In the event the "cure" works, here it is: Take a fresh cut onion and rub it on the balding part of the head until the skin thereof becomes red and itching. (In the event this cure does not work, please tell your respective and respectable wives not to fuss with me because you smelled up the house with your onion-head.)

The 40 pages devoted to Midwifery, in this original issue, was so factual that the English Government censored it. King George III ordered all purchasers of the work to tear those pages from the work and destroy them. He then took it upon himself to see that all of the explicit "cuts" were destroyed so that no future edition could use them. The latest Britannica dispenses with the subject in a scant five paragraphs, with no cuts.

All purchasers of the original had to take their loose pages to a cobbler (shoemaker, for those who didn't know what a diphthong was) where they could choose whatever type of leather they wanted for the binding of their book. The great State of Maryland received only one sentence. "One of the British Plantations, located in North America, situated between 74 and 78 degrees west long, and between 28 and 40 degrees north lat." The State of Virginia fared a bit better. After giving its geographical location, it "bounded" the State with the north east and south as they are today but the west stated "—may be extended as far westward as we think fit." How about that?

The Religion Section will fascinate you. Catholicism appeared to be a thing of the past and Protestantism, except for Calvinism, was also practically disregarded. Where the original book

might have been short on Religion it was long on Veterinary. In that book it was called Ferriery, and the definition was "Ferriery is the art of curing the diseases of horses. The practice of this useful art has hitherto been almost entirely confined to a set of men who are totally ignorant of anatomy. It should not be surprising that their prescriptions should be equally as absurd as the reasons they give for administering them."

The original founders or compounders of this great work were in no sense modest men. One front page stated that the work was put together by a "Society of GENTLEMEN in Scotland." These Gentlemen of the Society were: Andrew Bell, Engraver; Colin Macfarquhar, Printer; and William Smellie, Editor. The printer illustrated the volumes but Brother Smellie wrote and edited practically the entire work. These three gentlemen assembled their book so that it could not be confused with or thought to be a mere "almanac". They listed it as a "Tool of Knowledge," which, as a "dictionary of the arts and sciences compiled upon a new plan in which the different sciences and arts are digested into distinct treatises or systems with the various technical terms explained in alphabetical order" and so on and so forth.

On the subject of the "Gentler Sex" the gentlemen showed a bit of discrimination, they identified it as "Woman — Female of Male. See Homo." That must have put those gals back in their place!

You get all of this and more for your 80 bucks (actually \$79.50). That is not too much when you learn that an actual original copy recently sold for over \$1,700. Definitely, we should have a copy in our library. Probably would get some students from UNC coming over to Burnsville to research it (would that be worth 80 bucks?), on the other hand, I bet it would have such a long waiting list that they couldn't get to it. In any event, if there are some things in it that you ought to know about, I just might mention some of them from time to time. Therefore, please do not get one for our local Library because people might check me out and that might prove annoying to me.

NOTICE

The Yancey County Girl Scout Neighborhood meeting will be held Friday morning, January 19, at 9:30, with Mrs. Garland Wampler.

NOTICE

The American Legion and Auxiliary will not meet on their regular meeting date, due to weather conditions. They will meet Feb. 27, at 7:00 p. m. for their regular meeting.



'WINTER WONDERLAND'

Qualifications For School Board Members

Discussed At Meeting

MULLOWHEE — School board members should be keen of mind, big of heart, tough of skin—and small of mouth.

They should be willing to work late for no pay, give up a large segment of their privacy, maintain an optimistic outlook in the face of general apathy and stay at least abreast of current educational trends, but preferably well ahead of them.

They must master budgets, understand something of more than 75 federal programs, support but never usurp the authority of superintendents and expect little public appreciation.

School board members — some new, some veterans—from throughout Western North Carolina Monday heard these and other words of advice at a special seminar for new school board members conducted by the Western Carolina University School of Education and Psychology and the North Carolina State School Boards Association.

Dr. Guy Burchfiel, WCU director of public relations and associate professor of education, told the seminar group that "at no time more than today have we had more need of men and women of integrity and courage to serve on boards of education."

School boards throughout the state, he said, need people of intelligence, "people who are willing to think and serve without any political axe to grind and without any motive of self-enhancement."

A 10-year veteran of school board service in Henderson County, Mrs. J. O. Bell Jr. of Hendersonville advised new members that "one of the most important things you will need is the ability to keep your mouth shut." Considerable courage, a respect for the dignity of all persons, a sincere interest in children, a willingness to give unstintedly of time and work and a readiness to lend total support to the administrative staff also help, she said.

No more important task confronts a local board than the preparation of the school budget, according to Dr. R. M. Ainsley, head of the university department of school administration and personnel. He said that in North Carolina more local funds must be found to supplement state appropriations for educa-

tion. Many school systems fail to receive some funds which by law belong to them, he said, citing such funds as court fines, forfeitures and revenues from dog taxes.

Dr. Jerry Rice, WCU professor, warned that local boards in North Carolina must recognize a growing militancy on the part of teacher organizations seeking higher pay. Teachers unions and similar organizations are demanding and getting more pay and fringe benefits, he said, and are, in some instances, winning a larger voice in the establishment of educational policies which affect them—a role heretofore reserved solely to the school boards.

Dr. Robert Phay, associate director of the Institute of Government in Chapel Hill, cautioned against antagonistic attitudes on the part of board members on the subject of salary negotiations. "More Money is going to be essential for the development of education in North Carolina and the teachers have apparently decided that negotiations and sanctions are the effective means at this time."

Dr. Hugh Daniel of Waynesville, a member of the Haywood Board of Education, said North Carolina boards will make "a serious mistake" if they rule out the possibility of collective bargaining on teacher pay occurring in their administrative units.

"It won't help any to get mad about it, either," he said. "Unless we develop sound policies concerning employment, we'll find ourselves negotiating not with the teachers in our schools but with some thousand dollar a day lawyer."

Dr. Phay said one western superintendent doing graduate work at UNC last year predicted, on the basis of his research, that "school desegregation is going to look like a Sunday school picnic compared to what we are heading into in the way of teacher negotiations."

Dr. Ray B. Sizemore, WCU professor and an expert in the field of school curriculum, said board members should guard against the sin of meddling in administrative affairs, just as superintendents should not trespass on to the policy-making grounds of the board.

GARDEN TIME

By: M. E. Gardner

Now is a real good time to begin making plans for your 1968 home vegetable garden. Since I have advised, so many times, concerning land preparation and satisfying the needs of your particular soil type for lime and phosphorus, we will confine our discussion to suitable varieties—some older, some new.

This list has been prepared by the All-America Selection Committee after testing in 26 locations in the U. S. and Canada. All-America trials are sponsored by the American and Canadian seed trade associations.

Here is the list: bush snapbeans, Executive; bush lima bean, Fordhook 242; beet, Ruby Queen; broccoli (hybrid), Cleopatra; brussel sprouts (hybrid), Jade Cross; cabbage (hybrid), Emerald Cross; savoy cabbage (hybrid), Savoy King; cantaloupe (hybrid), Samson; carrot, Gold Pak.

Early sweet corn (hybrid), Golden Beauty; main crop sweet corn (hybrid), Iochief; cucumber (hybrid), Spartan Valor; endive, Batavian Full Heart; lettuce (loose leaf), Salad Bowl; mustard, Green Wave; okra, Clemson Spineless; lettuce, Buttercrunch.

Sweet Spanish onion, Utah strain; Yellow Valencia; parsley, Paramount; pea, Freezonian; pepper (hybrid), Bell Boy; radish, Cherry Belle; spinach, America; squash, Early Prolific Straightneck; squash, Italian (hybrid), Chefini; bush winter squash, Gold Nugget; winter squash, Hercules Butternut; tomato (hybrid), Spring Giant; turnip (hybrid), Just Right.

It is obvious that this is a highly selective list of varieties. It is not offered to replace the list of recommended varieties to be found in our Garden Manual prepared by the Extension Service. Rather, it supplements the list and will give you something new to plant in your 1968 garden. Incidentally, if you do not have a copy of the Vegetable Garden Manual, get one from your county extension office or write me. It is a good bulletin, very practical, illustrated and one you will enjoy adding to your garden library.