

Jerry McKelvy's

SANDYLAND CHRONICLE

Vol. 9 – No. 12 sandman43@att.net December, 2009

WHAT TYPE WEATHER WOULD YOU LIKE?

I see that the mayor of Moscow, Yury Luzhkov, has promised that there will be no snow in Moscow this winter. He has hired the Russian air force to chemically spray the clouds so they will dump the snow outside the city limits. The city already hires the air force to prevent rain on Victory Day in May and City Day in September at a cost of two to three million dollars out of their budget. I did not see any report of how successful that has been in the past.

The air force uses cement powder, dry ice, and silver iodide to seed the clouds. In 2008, a plane accidentally dropped a 55 pound sack of cement which came through the roof of a house.

The city of Moscow has very harsh winters and citizens usually have to trudge through snow from November to March. The mayor's plan will cost the city \$6 million which is about half the cost of what they spend to keep the streets clean each winter.

I guess billionaire, Bill Gates, has become bored with the computer business. He is now involved in a plan to stop hurricanes from forming. A patent is pending for his plan to use a large fleet of specially equipped ships which would mix the warm waters on the surface of the Gulf with the cooler waters from deep in the ocean. It is hoped that this plan would prevent disastrous hurricanes like Katrina that caused great damage in New Orleans and along the Gulf Coast.

Good luck, Bill. I hope you are successful.

These attempts to manipulate the weather remind me of Arkansas' own celebrity rainmaker, Homer Berry. Do you remember him? He was from Faulkner County, Arkansas, a retired Air Force major, and was once a football coach at Little Rock. His rain-making attempts were in the news frequently in the 1960s and 1970s in Arkansas and surrounding states. Farmers would contract with him to make it rain during dry spells to save their crops. One time he was paid \$600 to bring a 2 inch rain to eastern Arkansas and they got a little more than two inches. Of course, most of the state also got rain, but Berry claimed credit for it. He was once paid \$500 when rain fell at Little Rock at the precise time he had predicted it. He also claimed he could prevent rain and was hired by the Arkansas Livestock Show to prevent rain during the week of the state fair.

He would shoot particles of silver iodide into the clouds on a column of gas. He had a brick-lined barrel mounted in the bed of his pickup truck with a fire inside the barrel. He would drop his compound into the barrel and shoot the particles into the clouds. He was not always successful, but he claimed there was no such thing as a failure--just a partial success.

In an article from *The Victoria Advocate*, a Texas newspaper, dated 9-2-1962, Berry says he was retiring from rain-making and had plans to air condition Chicago and drive smog out of Los

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Angeles. He claimed he could lower Chicago's temperatures six degrees in summer and raise the temperatures 20 degrees in winter, but didn't say how he would do it. Other projects he had in mind were to prevent early frosts in Arkansas, provide a white Christmas for the kids, and to prevent late frosts from damaging the peach crop.

Mr. Berry's fame lasted for several years, but it soon fizzled out after a series of failures. I'm sure he is probably deceased by now. He was 55 years old in 1962.

Wouldn't it be nice if we could manipulate the weather--figure out a way to prevent hurricanes and tornados, make rain when we needed it, and stop rain when we have too much. If we believe the "experts", we are already manipulating the weather in a bad way. We are constantly hearing about climate change and global warming supposedly caused by industrial pollution releasing gases into the atmosphere. Don't expect global warming to cause you not to have to cut firewood or buy heating fuel this winter.

I'll be watching to see if the mayor of Moscow is successful in keeping snow out of his city this winter. I believe that he may have taken on something that is "above his pay grade". I would suggest he read Genesis, chapter 8, verse 22.

RULES FOR WINTER (from the 1-15-1885 issue of *The Nevada County Picayune*)

The following rules, published in *Farm and Fireside*, are worth heeding by those who believe that "an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure".

1. Never lean with the back upon anything that is cold. Never begin a journey until the breakfast has been eaten.
2. Never take warm drinks and then go out immediately into the cold air.
3. Keep the back--especially between the shoulder blades--well covered; also the chest well protected. In sleeping in a cold room, establish the habit of breathing through the nose, and never with the mouth open.
4. Never go to bed with cold or damp feet.
5. Never omit regular bathing, for unless the skin is in active condition, the cold will close the pores, and favor congestion or other disease.
6. After exercise of any kind, never ride in an open air carriage, or near the window of a car for a moment; it is dangerous to health and even to life.
7. When hoarse, speak as little as possible until the hoarseness is recovered from, else the voice may be permanently lost, or difficulties of the throat be produced.

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8. Merely warm the back by the fire, and never continue keeping the back exposed to heat after it has become comfortably warm--to do otherwise is debilitating.
9. When going from a warm atmosphere into a colder one, keep the mouth closed so that the air may be warmed by its passage through the nose, ere it reaches the lungs.
10. Never stand still in cold weather, especially after having taken a slight degree of exercise; and always avoid standing on ice or snow, or where a person is exposed to a cold wind.

CONTINUING TO LOOK BACK

“Choose our changes for us.” Yes, when the old brother at Bluff City, Arkansas, prayed so earnestly for us way back when—when what?? When I did not fully understand his words. But I have remembered these words all these years, and they continue to be just as meaningful to me now as they were to this older man and to those of us who prayed along with him. We needed help then, and today we still need help! You see, we were thinking of making a big change, and even though each of us is aware that life is full of changes, there was still some anxiety attached.

We did, however, finally make that one big decision—we were going back to America. It was not an easy decision of make from many standpoints—one of these was a shortage of teachers at the school, and secondly there were many needs at both the school and on the farm. At this time, Lloyd had completed ten major construction projects, made many improvements for the farm, taught two classes at school, and had been involved in many other needs at the mission. One of the big needs was teaching Bible classes.

This was in 1974, and I had given a lot of thought to Lloyd’s and Mike’s situations. They had not set their feet on American soil since 1969. They needed a change of pace! The decision was made—WE WERE GOING TO AMERICA! And we did!

During our extended stay in the States, we did a lot of thinking, talking with others, and praying about our situation and about our commitment to spread the word of God in Zambia. We wanted to return, but our question at that time was “Where do we go from here?” We had seen a great need in many areas. Lloyd had seen a very great need for a Bible school where men could be taught and trained to go out and preach the gospel to lost souls—their friends and neighbors in their own country and in their own language.

To make a long story a bit shorter, we did not have a sponsor, we did not have a plan to present to the church, and yet we would need support! Prayers are answered, we knew, and one day we received a letter from a good friend, Mary Triplet, the widow of the late George Triplet. George had been killed in a motor bike accident in Zambia, and Mary was left with a house and farm. She needed someone to live in the house and take care of it until she could decide what to do with the big farm. After talking this over with friends and relatives and receiving enough money from them, another decision was made—WE WOULD RETURN TO ZAMBIA.

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Our first stop was in Kalomo where we picked up our furniture and car, and then to Livingstone where the house and farm are located. Lloyd knew this place very well, because we had visited George and Mary many times when we worked at Kalomo. Lloyd began making plans to rent the place and start a Bible school where he could train men to preach. Would his dream come true? The second phase of our work in Zambia began.

Early in December 1976, Lloyd wrote a letter to brethren in the States that might give you an idea of our early days in Livingstone. May I quote parts of his letter:

“The big news here is that we have started Zambia Bible Training Centre. I am sending a brief report of the Hensons’ early days. Not knowing the language of the people with whom we work, we are forced to use an interpreter. It is difficult to find someone who can tell the people what we are saying when we go to preach at most places.

“To improve my work, I first arranged for two young men to live here and work with me. I knew two young men from Namwianga who might fill the need I had. They would go out and preach every Sunday. They finished grade ten and could speak the English language very well. Then I got four more young men with the help of the Christians in other places. Now there were six students who were willing to train and live on a subsistence allowance for two years. They would have food and money for personal expense and could have a garden to help with their food. By the end of the month, we had started ZAMBIA BIBLE TRAINING CENTRE.”

More later, but for now.....

That’s all, folks,
Pearl Louise Henson

MATTRESS MAKING AT BLUFF CITY (from the 6-19-1941 issue of *The Nevada County Picayune*)

The Bluff City Home Demonstration club meeting on mattress making was held June 16. Three mattresses were ginned and a large percentage was finished during the day. The women met earlier to make the mattress ticks. Mattress making at Bluff City is being done at the church. It is the best place because of the size. Comfort making will be done later in the same place. Bluff City has already made 11 shirts and 4 slips and expects to make four more shirts and several pair of bloomers. The men of the community will be invited to the next meeting.

POPCORN CHRISTMAS TREES—A RECIPE FROM 1941

Pop 1 cup of raw popping corn. Remove as many un-popped kernels as possible and return to skillet. Mix together 16 marshmallows which have been cut into quarters and popcorn, replacing lid of skillet until marshmallows are partially melted. Remove lid and form marshmallows-popcorn mixture into shape of trees, first using a cardboard circle 3 inches across as base and shaping up from that. There should be a hole in the center of the cardboard so that when tree is finished it can be set atop a low candle holder. It will be necessary to push holder through hole in cardboard about one inch into popcorn tree. This will hold tree firmly. Stick a small candle in top of tree before popcorn becomes too firmly set. Small colored gumdrops stuck on tree represent candles.

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ADVICE TO HUSBANDS

By Chas. S. Kinnison

(published in the 6-6-1929 issue of *The Nevada County Picayune*)

The key to happy married life
Is -- do your best to please your wife.
If she believes that white is black,
It doesn't pay to argue back
And if it's hard for you to see
Why two plus two should equal three,
So long as SHE believes it so,
You might as well admit it, Bo!

And if she cannot prove her claim,
That doesn't count. It's all the same.
You shouldn't ask your wife, my son,
To prove her case--it isn't done.
Her intuition stands supreme
However odd her claims may seem.
However wrong she may appear,
Just say to her -- "All right, my Dear."

Just smile at her, and don't be cross,
But let her think that she's the boss--
And let her run the domicile
To fit her own peculiar style.
And though you may not like her hat,
Don't ever, ever tell her that!
Although it may not suit your eyes,
Be sure to praise it to the skies.

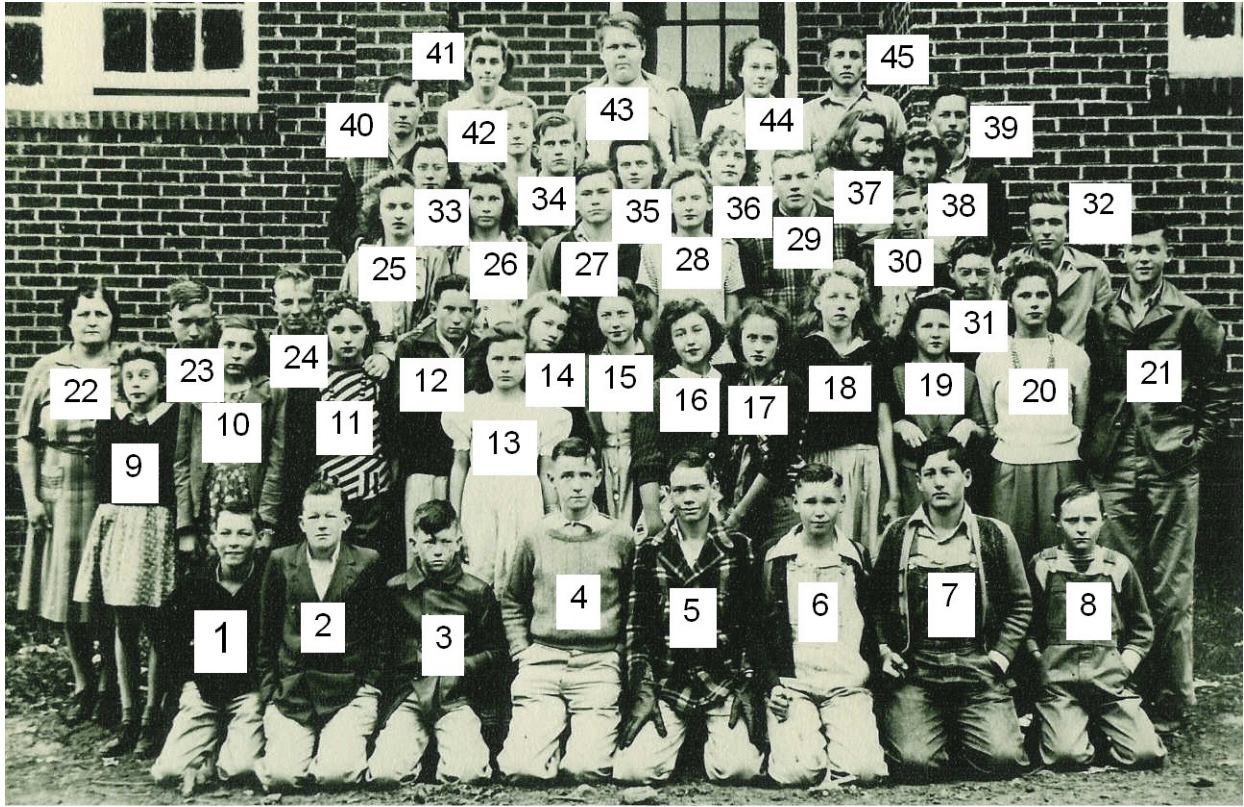
And when she gets a dress that's new
Admire it, lad--whate'er you do!
However bum the thing may fit,
Don't ever, ever speak of it.
Whatever tact you try to use,
To tell her that--you're bound to lose,
And if she claims that black is white--
Remember this--she's **LIKELY** right.

THIS MONTHS OLD CAR PHOTO



This is a picture of what was known as the Mattie McKelvy Clark house which was located in the Rocky Hill community (Goose Ankle) of Nevada County. Obie and Lillie Mae Odell are pictured here. They may have been renting the house at the time this picture was taken. Several families lived in this house over the years. I'm not sure of the date of the picture or what model car this is. It looks like something from the 1940s. The house is no longer standing.

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CALE SCHOOL PICTURE -- 1944

1. Jake Glass; 2. James Glass; 3. Cleotha Ingram; 4. Henry Blakely; 5. J. B. Kirk; 6. Billy Joe McBride; 7. Glenn Morrow; 8. Billy Haddox; 9. Zelda Jetton; 10. Lavern Glass; 11. Julene Curtis; 12. Clinton Mitchell; 13. Phena Glass; 14. Jeanie Loe; 15. Adalene McDade; 16. Virginia Biddle; 17. Elsie Dee Kirk; 18. Hazel Crouse; 19. Helen Godwin; 20. Catherine Kirk; 21. William Ingram; 22. Mrs. Ethel Almand (teacher); 23. Junior Delaney; 24. Leon Ridling; 25. Pauline Hicks; 26. Virginia Benton; 27. Billy Ray Story; 28. Ruth Brown; 29. Olen E. Loe; 30. Billy Hugh Delaney; 31. Bennie Martin; 32. Charles Huskey; 33. Faye Glass; 34. Adron Hicks; 35. ___ Mitchell; 36. ___ Carpenter; 37. ___ Story(?); 38. Daisy Lee Dillard; 39. Joel Green; 40. J. W. Glass; 41. Myrtie Green; 42. Ila Rae Garrett; 43. Charles Willingham; 44. Vernell Green; 45. Robert Carpenter

Identified by William Ingram and Vernell Loe: Let me know if you have any corrections to this list or if you know the names of those not identified.

The following poem was written by Fred W. Smith of Waco while stationed at Camp McArthur when the great flu pandemic was raging about 1918-1919. Now that we have another flu pandemic going, many can identify with his description of the misery associated with the flu.

The 1918 flu was most deadly for ages 20 to 40. It came on quickly and rapidly developed into a very serious type pneumonia. Many died within a few hours of coming down with the disease. It is estimated that 20 to 40 million people died worldwide from the Spanish flu (also known as La Grippe). You might want to consider getting a flu shot if you can find one.

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THE FLU

When your back is broke and your eyes are blurred,
And your shin bones knock and your tongue is furred,
And your tonsils squeak and your hair gets dry,
And you're doggoned sure that you're going to die,
But you are scared you won't and afraid you will,
Just drag to bed and have your chill,
And pray the Lord to see you through,
For you've got the flu, boy, you've got the flu.

When your toes curl up and your belt goes flat,
And you're twice as mean as a Thomas cat,
And life is a long and dismal curse,
And your feed all tastes like a hard-boiled hearse;
When your lattice aches and your head's a-buzz,
And nothing is as it ever was,
Here are my sad regrets to you--
You've got the flu, boy, you've got the flu.

What is it like, this Spanish flu?
Ask me, brother, for I've been thru,
It is by misery out of despair;
It pulls your teeth and curls your hair;
It thins your blood and breaks your bones,
And fills your craw with moans and groans,
And sometimes, maybe, you get well--
Some call it flu; I call it Hell.

CHIDESTER SCHOOL IN 1931

Chidester High School will open for work on Monday, September 21 at 9:30. All patrons are asked to attend the opening of the school and encourage the teachers as much as possible.

The faculty is as follows: H. R. Nichols, Superintendent, Buster E. Gean; Principal and coach of all boys athletics; Miss Mary McDonald, foreign languages and English; while Mr. Nabors will teach social science, and Mr. Gean mathematics and science.

Grammar School: Miss Sarah McGill, principal, fifth and sixth grades; Miss Bessie Benton, third and fourth grades; Miss Eva Goodwin, second grade; Miss Helen Millen, first grade and coach of all girl's athletics; Miss Hazel Guffey, music.

We are expecting the best school we have ever had in the history of Chidester and there is no reason why we should not have it. We want all patrons to stand behind the school at all times.

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Our school is out of debt and should have no trouble in carrying our school program out to the fullest extent in every way.

Mrs. Sarah McGill will furnish a car and deliver the children from old districts 4 and 6 each day. Mr. Bruce Adams will drive the bus from old districts 65 and 7; Mr. Hubert Harvey will drive the bus on the old Center Point district route and Miss Dessie Lampkin will drive the Lester route bus and deliver the children from old districts 60 and 8. She will also be the librarian for school each school day.

OLD KENTUCKY NUT CAKE (a Betty Crocker recipe from 1938)

1/2 cup shortening (part butter for flavor)	1/2 tsp. salt
1 1/4 cups sugar	3/4 cup milk (see note below)
2 eggs	1 cup coarsely chopped nuts
2 cups flour	1 tsp. vanilla
2 tsps. baking powder	

Cream shortening, add sugar gradually, and cream thoroughly. Blend in well beaten eggs. Sift flour once before measuring. Sift flour, baking powder, and salt together and add to creamed mixture alternately with the milk. Add the nuts with the last addition of flour. Blend in the vanilla. Pour into well greased and floured cake pans. Bake 35 minutes for layers in a 350 degree oven. When cool, spread Creamy Caramel Icing between layers and over top and sides of cake.

Creamy Caramel Icing

1 tablespoon sugar	6 tablespoons melted butter
1/4 cup top milk or cream	3 cups confectioners' sugar

Melt (caramelize) sugar in a heavy saucepan over low heat until it is medium brown, stirring constantly to keep it from burning. Scald top milk or cream with butter and blend slowly into the caramelized sugar. Cook until the lumps are dissolved--stirring constantly. Remove from heat. Gradually add confectioners' sugar, beating all the time until all is added. Continue beating until icing is smooth and creamy and of the right consistency to spread smoothly on cake. Note: If icing stiffens up too much, blend in a little cream to make it spread easily.

Question: Would it make any difference if I used water or milk in my cakes?

Answer: Water is inclined to make a little more fluffy cake than one made with milk, and I often like to use half milk and half water as the liquid for my white cakes. The chief reason for using milk when you make cakes is to add the food value which is contained in the milk, but if you feel your family is getting plenty of food value in other foods and that cake is more or less an extra in the diet, you can economize by using part water or all water in place of the milk.