

SANDYLAND CHRONICLE

Vol. 18 – No. 8

sandman43@att.net

August, 2018

NO TOBACCO DAY

Campaigns against the use of tobacco have been going on a lot longer than you might realize. Back in 1922, Gov. McRae of Arkansas issued a proclamation designating March 17, 1922 as “No Tobacco Day” in Arkansas. Here is his proclamation:

“Believing that widespread use of tobacco is a slow and insidious destroyer of the race, that its general use by men and women from their youth up, generation after generation, is unmistakable and certain degeneracy, to say nothing of the loathsomeness of the habit and the great expense to mankind, I feel that organized society should find the methods to check its use and to avoid its dire effects.

“I believe that people of this enlightened time will yield to the persuasions with kindly warnings and logical caution with regard to the use of tobacco in all its forms. I feel sure that it is a subject for educators and moralists, rather than for courts and statutes. If the tobacco evil is to be combated successfully, the people must be led into the light of reason; they must be induced to renouncing tobacco voluntarily rather than driven from it through penalties of the law.”

The decade of the 1920s is sometimes referred to as “The Roaring Twenties”. Dances like the Charleston were popular with the young people. Young women who were testing the accepted social norms were called “flappers”. Many young women had taken up smoking in public which was pretty much frowned upon by society in earlier days. Some of the older women may have dipped snuff or maybe even smoked a corn-cob pipe around their homes, but a woman smoking in public before 1920 was rare.

An article appeared in *The Nevada News* in 1922 entitled “American Girls Not So Bad” about American women taking up the habit of smoking. An English novelist is quoted in the article

SANDYLAND CHRONICLE

describing American girls as “unbalanced, cigarette smoking, undisciplined morsels of sex, luring men to find new lips to be kissed”. In addition to the smoking, the older generation complained about the bobbed hair and short skirts the young girls were wearing in the Roaring Twenties much like our parents complained about rock and roll music, hot pants, and mini-skirts in the 1950s and 1960s.

In defending their right to smoke, some American women in 1922 claimed Indian squaws smoked before America was discovered and that women were smoking pipes in public in London when this country was still a wilderness. They pointed to the fact that women were smoking in places of public entertainment in England twenty years earlier. America just needed to change its attitude toward smoking like the people of Europe had, they claimed.

Back in the 1950s, cigarette smoking on television was very common. Even some of the quiz show hosts smoked during the show. Gary Moore on “I’ve Got a Secret” was one of the worst and he later died from lung cancer. I remember a commercial on TV that featured girls in costumes like Chesterfield cigarette packs dancing on stage. Magazine advertisements promoted smoking in a big way. I have an old magazine which has several advertisements for cigarettes. One shows actor Robert Young (who later played Marcus Welby, M. D.) advertising Camel cigarettes with the slogan “Camels Agree with Your Throat”. Many of the ads featured well-known celebrities or sports figures. Most of the early ads showed men wearing nice business suits, but later ads featured more rugged men like “the Marlboro man”. The ads featuring women showed very beautiful ladies dressed provocatively smoking brands which claimed to be “milder”.

Another ad says Lucky Strike cigarettes give a “cleaner, fresher, smoother smoke”. An ad for Philip Morris says “Smoke for Pleasure Today, No Cigarette Hangover Tomorrow”. An ad for Chesterfield says they are the first to offer smokers a choice of regular or king-size which gives a 21% longer smoke.

SANDYLAND CHRONICLE

When I was a kid, we could buy a pack of candy cigarettes which were mainly sticks of sugar with a red tip like a lit cigarette so we could look like the grown-ups. It's a wonder I didn't take up the habit since my dad smoked and even sometimes rolled his own cigarettes with a little machine he had for that purpose. Many times I helped him roll his cigarettes. He would send me to the store when I was a teenager to buy him a pack of cigarettes or a plug of chewing tobacco. It was almost like he was encouraging me to take up the habit.

Finally, after much education about the bad effects of smoking on the body, laws were passed regulating advertising and sales of tobacco to minors. High taxes were placed on cigarettes in hopes that would curtail smoking and health warnings were placed on cigarette packages. Smoking was prohibited in certain places like hospitals and hotels offered non-smoking rooms.

The percentage of American adults who smoke is now about 14% which is the lowest since records have been kept. But while smoking has declined, the use of illegal drugs and abuse of prescription drugs is on the rise in America and we know that many of our problems today are the result of illegal drug use.

It seems many people think they must have something "extra" to make them feel good or to help them forget the pressures of the workday when they get home. Some people who complain loudly about environmental pollution think nothing of polluting their own bodies with some of these substances which have been proven to cause harm to the body.

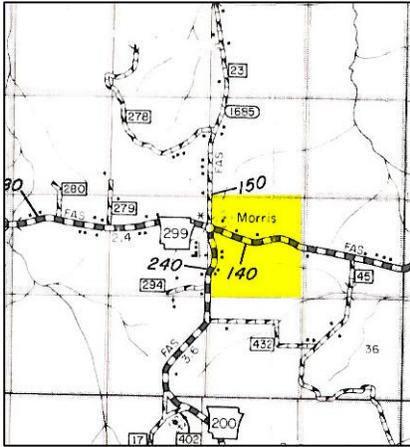
The Nevada County Picayune had this warning about tobacco use in 1884:

"In men, small doses of tobacco excite the intellectual faculties. Repeated doses produce palpitations, disordered vision, and decrease of memory".

From *The Nevada County Picayune* in 1884: There are four men living near Bourland's Store within three miles of each other who have living, 57 children, and none of them has been married but once. (Note: Bourland's Store was in the central part of the county and had a post office in 1884)

SANDYLAND CHRONICLE

HONEAVILLE



Nevada County once had many small communities that have long been forgotten. One of those was Honeaville. There was a post office at Honeaville from 1885 until 1891. It was named for William Honea who was postmaster and the application for the post office says it was located in the southwest quarter of Section 26, Township 12 South, Range 21 West. That section of land is located at the intersection of Hwys. 299 and 200 at Morris (highlighted in yellow on map at left). The post office was probably located in his home.

Many of these old communities were named after a prominent family living there and most of them submitted local news to the county newspapers. The name of the Honeaville local news column was “Honeaville Happenings”. It seemed like every community tried to out-do others in coming up with a name for their news column. Willisville’s column was called “Willisville Warblings”. The Rosston column was “Rosston Racket” and Boughton had “Boughton Babblings”.

Here are a few items I have from the *Honeaville Happenings* local news column in *The Nevada County Picayune*:

Sept. 10, 1885 -- A new pony mail route has been established from here to Bourland’s Store and two new post offices, Laneburg and Honeaville, are the way offices.

Oct. 1, 1885—We have a new post office at Honeaville. Some of the boys have nicknamed it “Slocum”. I hope the people can get out their mail regularly from now on. Everybody that wants to get their mail changed must order it to Honeaville.

Oct. 1, 1885—Early Monday morning, O. R. McDaniel, W. T. Jobe, Sylvester Honea, Green Blake, and a few others went out bear hunting. Several were jumped near the Edmunson Crossing and Esq. Cook’s place and Green Blake killed one of them. There has been sign of three bears in the neighborhood for some time. I have one of the fore-feet of a bear at “Slocum” to show for itself. I have just eaten a fine mess of the meat.

April, 1886—Dr. W. T. Jobe is permanently located at Honeaville and offers his professional services to the citizens.

Aug., 1887—Honeaville is on a boom. O. R. McDaniel, merchant, plans to build a new store house with a Masonic and Wheel hall upstairs. Prof. Lambert’s school is mentioned.

Sept. 29, 1887—“Men! Men! “Why stand ye all the day idle?” when any average hand can make from seventy cents to one dollar per day. Labor is in demand.

SANDYLAND CHRONICLE

Oct., 1887—The new store of McDaniel & Gentry is about complete.

May 28, 1888--Miss Jessie Beatheney, daughter of Mr. Beatheney who lives near Rosston, died the 12th of this month.

Oct. 30, 1890--We learn from Mr. J. S. Almand, that Mr. D. B. Turner and Miss Ada Almand, of Honeaville, slipped off to Texarkana Monday and were married. Mrs. T. is the daughter of our friend, J. B. Almand.

Feb., 1891—We learn that the post office at Honeaville has been discontinued for want of a postmaster. In this age mail facilities are necessary for an enlightened people... Of course, some public spirited citizen will agree to act as postmaster..... We learn that J. B. Hannah has applied for the job.

Mar., 1891—The Honeaville choir, directed by Prof. Hannah, has ordered a lot of new books. If you want to hear the sweetest music on earth, come to old Caney.

GINGERISM

Gingerism is a relatively new word referring to humans with red hair. I had never heard that word before. Scientists say only about 1 to 2 percent of the human population has red hair. Prejudice against red-haired people goes back thousands of years and continues today. In medieval times, some red-haired people were considered witches and burned at the stake. It is said that many children with red hair are bullied at our schools and discrimination may continue in later life. Men and boys are discriminated against more than women and girls. It is said that this discrimination is especially prevalent in the northern European countries where red hair is more common.

I came across an article in *The Nevada County Picayune* way back in 1892 on this topic. According to that article, tradition says both Absalom and Judas had red hair, but Leonardo da Vinci in his painting of *The Last Judgment* painted Judas as having black hair. All over Europe red hair was associated with treachery and deceitfulness. Red-haired people were considered to be untrustworthy or having a hot temper. In England, a man named Thomas Hughes said, "I know learned men who will never admit a red-haired person into their service. An old French proverb says, "Salute no red-haired man nor bearded woman nearer than thirty feet off, with three stones in thy fist to defend thee in thy need". In Sweden, the prejudice against red hair was explained by the belief that the traitor, Jarl Ashjorn who betrayed King Canute to his death had red hair. Even the ancient Egyptians had a horror of red-haired persons, mainly because they associated red-haired people as being foreigners whom they despised. Red was also symbolical of Typho, the evil spirit, therefore anyone with a ruddy complexion was suspected of being in league with the evil one.

SANDYLAND CHRONICLE

There have been some well-known people who had red hair. The list includes, Helen of Troy, Cleopatra, Aphrodite, Queen Elizabeth, Winston Churchill, Willie Nelson, Lucille Ball, Thomas Jefferson, Vincent Van Gogh, Mark Twain, and Napoleon. Many think that David in the Bible had red hair. The Bible does say in I Samuel 16:12 that David was ruddy, had a beautiful countenance and was goodly to look to. The word "ruddy" means a reddish complexion which leads some to believe he had red hair, but David spent much of his time outside. The sun could have given him a reddish complexion.

There are many old superstitions in folklore about red hair. One says to avoid getting on a ship with someone who has red hair because red hair brings bad luck to ships. Others say rubbing the hair of someone who has red hair brings good luck. I remember an episode on The Andy Griffith Show in which Barney was rubbing Opie's red hair before going fishing with a man thought to be a jinx. It turned out in that show that the boat leaked and sunk while they were fishing, so evidently rubbing Opie's head didn't work in that instance.

There is a movement underway in this country to make red-haired people "a protected minority" from discrimination. They want laws passed to make discrimination against red-haired people illegal just like other forms of discrimination.

Summer Fun - by Don and Charlie Mathis Tip of the Month

As most of the South is experiencing the summer heat wave, try this fun, outdoor activity and stay cool! My son and I invented a game we call "Squirt Ball" about 20 years ago.

First, hook up long lengths of water hose with water sprayers to two faucets. If possible, attach one hose to a faucet in the front yard and one to a faucet in the back yard. Then, set up two goals at opposite sides of the yard. Try sawhorses, soccer nets or traffic cones for goal posts.

Once the course is set, blow up a beach ball and place in the yard between the two goals. Both players grab a hose and start squirting! The beach ball will move quickly around the yard when it's sprayed with the hose. The player to spray a stream of water on the ball to move it to the goal the most times wins!

It's a great way to have fun, beat the heat, and a great way to water the lawn too!

DEAR RACHEL

Rachel ???
Cardholder Services

Dear Rachel,

I will say that you are a very persistent girl. You have been calling me for years offering to lower my credit card interest rate. I appreciate the offer, but I rarely use a credit card and when I do, I always pay the entire amount to avoid paying the high interest rates.

You have a pleasant voice and I suppose that is one reason you were hired for the job. I sometimes get the same type calls from your friends, Heather and Tiffany, and maybe some others. I can see why Cardholder Services wanted girls with such beautiful names. Who would want to talk to someone named Gertrude, Maude, or Bessie?

I realize that your call is just a robo-call. You just recorded that brief message that is being sent out to thousands of people across the country each day. Maybe you get a royalty for each time your voice is used. You should have thought of that when you agreed to work for Cardholder Services.

I suppose a few people may even take you up on your offer. I have heard of folks getting into trouble by giving out personal information over the phone, so I always hang up or let the answering machine take your call. I will say that sometimes the frequent calls can be very annoying, especially when I have just dozed off for my afternoon nap or when you call at meal time.

Maybe you could work out a deal with a company that makes alarm clocks and have a recorded wake-up message for all those lonely men in the world. Waking up to a nice message from you would be much better than waking up to an obnoxious buzzing sound.

SANDYLAND CHRONICLE

I don't guess we will ever meet, but I just wanted to let you know that I do get your calls and I apologize for ignoring them. I have put my name on the "Do Not Call" list, but for some reason, that doesn't seem to work. If you get this letter, I would ask that you please not call me anymore. It is a waste of your time and mine.

Good luck in whatever you decide to do with your life. Surely, there is some type work out there more suitable for a girl like you. Maybe you could get a job as a receptionist or some similar type job where you could actually meet people and talk face to face.

By the way, I noticed that the name Rachel is losing popularity for baby names, dropping from #77 in 1996 to #982 in 2015. I wonder if that could be because so many people think of all the annoying calls they receive from you and don't want to hear that name ever again.

Best wishes,

Jerry in Arkansas

