



Inside Indianapolis

By Ed Sovola

AND THEY cut down the old elm trees. Soon the others will be ready to go. It makes me boil to see the useless destruction of plants and animals and humans.

Four elms remain in the War Memorial Plaza. They don't feel so good. Chances are high that next year they will have turned up their little roots.

All this makes me unhappy. I live in a hotel. You don't have trees, flowers, lawns in a hotel. The management did, however, paint my bathroom green. That's something.

No Bugs: Was Their Arteries

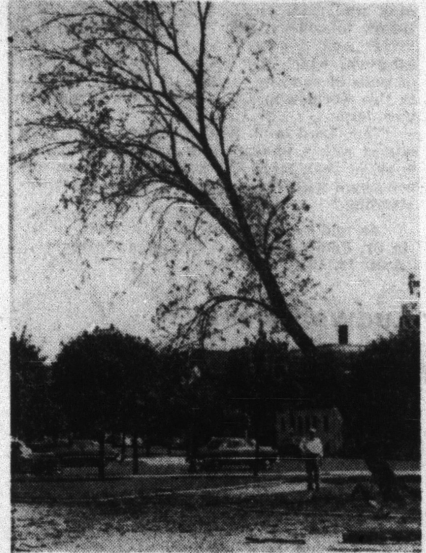
E. R. PALMER, landscaper, had the job of removing the eight elms. Last year 18 were hauled away. No, the elms didn't die of Dutch elm disease. Phloem necrosis killed the War Memorial elms. Phloem necrosis does to a tree what arteriosclerosis does to a human. The arteries get hard and stiff and pretty soon—curtains.

Mr. Palmer and his son, Joe, and two other rugged landscapers, Rupert Demming and Henry Evans, were pulling down an elm about the time I arrived. This upset me, too.

A tree, if it must, ought to be cut down with either an ax or a saw. And it should be cut down only for fuel, lumber and progress. Pulling the elm down with a cable, chain and winch, seemed to be the final blow. To die of phloem necrosis is bad enough.

The tree-cutting boss said he appreciated how I felt and suggested I take a double-edged ax and bring the elm down properly. It was only about 15 inches in diameter and the wood was dry.

"First lick looks big," drawled Mr. Palmer, as the initial blow dug into the trunk. I felt like



Another elm goes down . . . It seems to resist for one last proud moment.

Paul Bunyan. The second stroke made the chips fly. It was no trick at all. You see, Joe, Rupert and Henry were throwing chips.

Once the ax bounced back. Another time it cut in deep and I couldn't loosen it. In a short time the ax became quite heavy, my hands began to burn and my face turned the color of a cranberry. Mr. Palmer had an old cranberry in his pocket and we made the comparison. There remained about 14 more inches of elm to cut through.

"Had enough?"

"Uncle," I gasped, trembling from the effort. If you have an elm on your property and it's not getting greener around the edges, you'll be interested in what Mr. Palmer had to say.

Don't just cut an elm down and leave the roots in the ground. Many people tried that in Green-castle and it wasn't long before they were fighting termites. Termites can eat you out of house and rocking chair, you know.

Mr. Palmer's method of digging around the roots, cutting the main surface tree anchors and then pulling the tree down is designed to have the falling tree do some of the work. When the tree falls, it jerks up the rest of the roots.

With the use of the winch, Mr. Palmer can pull a tree down where he wants it. Very important in a residential district. If some of you home and elm owners are wondering what the cost of getting an elm is, you can figure on paying from \$50 to \$60 a tree. I'm glad my oak in University Park is only four inches high.

Mr. Palmer feels bad about the elms along Washington Blvd. in the 3400 block. He has a special reason for being sad. Thirty-four years ago, Mr. Palmer planted the elms. They're not old for Washington Blvd.

Felix (Star) Brown, superintendent of the War Memorial Plaza, says he is going to replace the elms with trees recommended by the Conservation Department. The Plaza was designed to have tall trees along with the short, round-topped Norway maples.

It's sad to watch an elm crash to the ground. The chain high around the trunk looks cruel. When the winch begins to turn, the elm seems to resist for a last proud moment. The branches shake and a tremor runs the length of the trunk. Top branches grab frantically for the sky as it keels over, slowly at first and then with a rush. The end.

Frank Wallace, state entomologist, wasn't encouraging. With phloem necrosis and Dutch elm disease attacking the trees, Mr. Wallace thinks the situation is pretty bleak. He has a theory on how to control the beetles, but unfortunately, he doesn't have the money to see if his theory is right.

Spraying? Not Recommended

I ASKED him straight from the shoulder: Should a man with limited means take a chance and try to save his elms by spraying? Mr. Wallace said he wouldn't recommend it.

"If a person can afford the luxury of doing everything possible to save his elms, that's another story," said the entomologist. "We've disturbed nature someplace."

Ma Nature, you let my oak alone. I'll even say, please.

Loving Kindness

By Robert C. Ruark

NEW YORK, July 27—We will be unable to return a ruling on modern handling of the new soldier until some future date, at which time it may be possible to say whether it is best to coddle the recruit into competence. We deal today in loving kindness, in coffee, cake and housewives for the rookies. We used to kick them in the tail, early, to convince them that they are in the Army now.

The modern approach to the apprentice warrior grew from a political necessity. After all the howls the GI's filed at the end of the last war, it was necessary to soften up military indoctrination of the neophyte to satisfy his mama, first, and his congressman, second. So we built what the lip-service ladies called a "democratic" Army, whatever that might mean.

Mother's Darling Free

THE SERGEANTS, in this democratic Army, were supposed to say "please" when giving an order. They were never, never supposed to ruffle the civil liberties of mother's darling because mother's darling was like as not to raise a howl in his next letter home, and mama would be on the Western Union to her favorite Senator. Sweeping reforms were supposed to be made in favor of the enlisted man, in order to allow him to serve out his peacetime stint without damaging his dignity as an individual.

In times past I have circulated on both sides of the GI fence. I have condemned, out loud, some trespasses on the rights of the enlisted man, and have also laughed raucously at some of the complaints that emerged from the postwar hearings on the sins of the brass, the "caste-system" foolishness that occupied a lot of time in Washington.

It would seem to me today that an enlisted man should eat as well as any officer, and that he should be adequately clothed and housed. When he is not fighting he should have facilities for entertainment and relaxation commensurate with his station. He should not be subject to personal indignities stemming from officers, merely because they outrank him.

There are foul-up officers, of course, chickenhappy idiots, just as there are over-the-hill artists and chronic cunnythumbs among the enlisted men.

This has to be recognized together with the fact that officers are minority and men are majority, and that there is a reason for this fact.

An officer, on training and responsibility, is entitled to a free personal life and more privilege than the mass-produced GI. You cannot have champagne for everybody, and work for none, in anything so large as an army. Some command and some must be commanded. Since a military organization, to function, is necessarily based on the inequality of man, a democratic force is therefore impossible.

For this reason I think it may be wrong, as we enter into another war, for too much emphasis to be placed on "equality" in the services, when battle experience will soon destroy the delusion. In the speedy training of troops I think it is wrong to go too gently with them at first. You perform a disservice to the trainee, because actual war is neither gentle, reasonable nor considerate of the personal rights of the men involved.

Any veteran will tell you that the toughly trained soldier will live a great deal longer in combat than the rugged individualist. There is an axiom in the infantry that the man who keeps his tail down does not get shot in it.

Not Dignified Business

I DO NOT THINK you can "love" a youngster into becoming a competent fighting man. I think you have to make him pretty sore at life in general—at the service, at his superiors, at the war in general, at civilians, and at his opponents. I do not think you can allow him too much individual dignity, because he is not in a dignified business.

In the last war we had an axiom that advised you to keep your mouth shut, your digestion in good shape, and never, never to volunteer for anything. The French Foreign Legion embroidered this by exhorting its enlisted men to respect all sergeants, and, when things were bad, to refrain from making them worse, because the chances were they were bad enough already. A steady practice of these simple rules for living in a war, it seems to me, will still hold up as more valuable than a kiss from the kind sergeant as he tucks you in bed, with a motherly psychiatrist hovering just around the corner.

Spuds Au Gratin

By Frederick C. Othman

WASHINGTON, July 27—Crouched behind a breastwork of boiled potatoes in cans with Technicolor labels and dried mashed potatoes in wax paper boxes was Rep. Eugene D. O'Sullivan (D. Neb.), who finally was goaded into roaring:

"If the people want their potatoes au gratin, they should get 'em au gratin."

He'd bided his time for two days while his fellow gentlemen tried to figure out for the benefit of the Secretary of Agriculture methods for disposal of his unmet millions of pounds of butter, eggs, milk, cheese and potatoes. The statesmen got into a loud and cheery argument about cheese.

Suggests 2-for-1 Sale

THEN THEY took up butter. Rep. Clifford R. Hope (R. Kas.) suggested that one way Secretary Charlie Brannan could get rid of his butter hoard was to advertise to the housewives of America a two-for-one sale. For every large, economy one-pound set of butter they purchased at the regular price, they'd get one free.

Brannan said he didn't think that would work. A gentleman at the press table suggested that he organize a nation-wide pancake picnic, on the theory that this would sop up his buttery surplus. Another urged that when winter comes he give away with each bottle of rum a stick of butter. The latter suggestions the secretary did not hear; the members of the House Agriculture Committee were making too much noise. At intervals Rep. O'Sullivan inquired plaintively when he'd be allowed to have his say. The chairman finally recognized him.

From a large paper sack he produced his canned potatoes, which he said could be sliced, or

fried, or turned into potato salad. He also hauled out his potato powder, which he said became mashed potatoes instantly when sprinkled into hot milk.

"I notice that most grocery stores sell canned boiled potatoes and potato flour," he said. "Now it goes against the grain with me to see potatoes bought by the government, dyed blue, and dumped at the farm. It just ain't right."

What he wanted to know, he said, was why couldn't the government take mobile canning factories to the farms where they buy potatoes and put 'em up in tins? And why couldn't it make powder out of a few hundred thousand other tons of spuds?

That is not the answer," insisted the secretary of agriculture.

"Well, this can contains boiled potatoes," said the gentleman from Omaha. "And this package makes mashed potatoes. It cost me 19 cents."

"Too expensive," retorted Brannan.

"Well, it saves the potatoes," said Rep. O'Sullivan. "And it saves the housewives a lot of work."

Cheese and Potatoes

CHAIRMAN HAROLD D. COOLEY (D. N.C.) banged his gavel. He said the Secretary owned a lot of cheese. Eighty million pounds to be exact. "Why couldn't he just put that on the potatoes and sell 'em au gratin?" demanded Rep. Cooley. "That was O'Sullivan's idea," said the secretary. "The gentleman then changed the subject. Rep. O'Sullivan said put his canned potatoes and his powdered potatoes back in their sack. He hadn't managed to persuade anybody, maybe me. And I'm afraid I don't count."

The Quiz Master

??? Test Your Skill ???

Who coined the phrase "cold war"? This phrase was first used by Herbert Bayard Swope in 1946. Bernard Baruch picked it up and brought it to public attention in a 1947 speech.

How do the Hebrew and Yiddish languages differ? Yiddish is a German dialect, developed under Hebrew and Slavic influence. Hebrew is the ancient language of the Jews, now the language of the State of Israel.

What is the leading freight commodity handled by the railroads of the United States? Bituminous coal ran first in carloadings and tonnage. Approximately one-seventh of the freight revenues of American railroads is derived from bituminous coal traffic.

Have any states legalized "mercy deaths" in case of incurable sickness? No state in the Union has legalized the so-called "mercy deaths."

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Hoosier Heroes—

Serves On Carrier Off Korea

New Pack of Devil Dogs Signs Up Here



"I solemnly swear" . . . Five young men take the oath of enlistment in the U. S. Marine Corps Reserve. Lt. Daniel McConnell of the 16th Marine Battalion, Indianapolis, administers the oath to (left to right) Pvt. Harry Courtney, Sgt. Ernest Sims and Recruits Jerry O'Brien, Jim Moore and Robert Becker.



Operation of a 60-millimeter mortar, favorite Marine weapon in jungle combat of the last war, is explained by Sgt. T. L. Finch Jr. at the Marine Armory. Looking on (left to right) are Pfc. Robert Turner, Cpl. Jack Orebaugh, Cpl. Ray Mink, Pvt. Edwin Elliott and Cpl. Ray Sturn.



The famous "square needle" produces an apprehensive look on Pvt. Meredith Smith as he goes through the physical phase of indoctrination. Pharmacist Mate 2-c John Kidder administers shot.

Celebrities Add Glamour To Drive for Recruits

Already the "best in the 13-state area of the Fifth Army," which Indianapolis and Marion County "potential GI's" will be called up for pre-induction physical examination.

The first 72 from Southwest Indianapolis' Draft Board 52 start through the mill at 8 a. m. Monday.

Others to Follow

Following, although not necessarily in succession, will be men from Board 49 (Northeast), Board 50 (Northwest) and Board 51 (southeast).

Members of Draft Board 52 have been asked to furnish two additional men to replace a former GI and a draft-exempt registrant who received orders to report for physical examination yesterday.

Mrs. Helen Mitchum, clerk of the four boards, said the men had failed to keep their boards notified of change of status under the draft law of 1948.

Meanwhile, Selective Service of-

Columbus Navy Airman Aboard Valley Forge With Pacific Fleet

Harold B. Shultz Jr. Writes His Ship In Action But It's All Right

Airman Harold B. Shultz Jr., Columbus, was among the first American Naval personnel to see action in the Korean fighting. He is serving aboard the U. S. S. Valley Forge, a large aircraft carrier which was in the Western Pacific when the war began.

His parents, Mr. and Mrs. Harold B. Shultz, received a letter from their son which was dated June 29 saying that, the ship had been in action but was all right.

The 20-year-old airman has been in the Navy nearly four years and aboard the Valley Forge for a year. He took his boot training at Great Lakes Naval Training Center.

Sailor Shultz advised his friends to join the Navy if they were coming into service.

Pfc. Robert B. Graham, Franklin, is a member of the First Marine Division of the Fifth Marines.

His parents, Mr. and Mrs. James E. Graham, live at 551 Center St. in Franklin.

Pfc. Graham, who is 20-years-old, was graduated from Franklin High School with the class of 1948.

Sgt. Charles L. Waples, a veteran of six years' service in World War II, is again serving his country.

Sgt. Waples re-enlisted two years ago, and was stationed at Ft. Lewis, Washington before leaving that station about three weeks ago.

Formerly of Elwood, Ind., he is the brother of Mrs. Carl Shinnott of Scipio, Ind. His outfit is the 23d Infantry.

Pfc. Melvin R. Heath is in Sappora, Japan, with the 31st Division.

Known to his buddies as "Dutch," the 19-year-old serviceman joined the Army in July, 1947 with a buddy, Pvt. Robert Sheets, of the 19th Infantry Regiment.

Friends for four years before they joined the service, the boys were together a year in service before being separated. Pvt. Sheets is now in Korea.

Pfc. Heath took his basic training at Ft. Knox, Ky., and then was shipped to Japan. There he completed his requirements for a high school diploma. Pfc. Heath attended Tech High School.

He is the son of Mrs. Helen Grubbs, 1324 Ringgold Ave.

Cpl. Walter Macy is serving with the 20th Air Force which is based on Okinawa.

Cpl. Macy enlisted in the Air Force for a three-year hitch in August of last year. He was employed by the Railway Express Agency before he enlisted.

He was sent to Randolph Field, Texas, where he was a driver for Col. Otis O. Benson Jr. Macy received his promotion to corporal while at Randolph Field. In February he was shipped to Okinawa.

His mother, Mrs. Elmer Chance, lives at 5659 Hardegan St.

Cpl. Robert E. Crall, 20, son of Mrs. Mildred Scott, 2519 E.

Washington St., was in the 1st Marine Division which left California for the Far East last week.

Cpl. Crall, who enlisted when he was 17, had spent a leave here from May 23 to June 15. He attended Warren Central High School. He spent the first two years of service policing Guam.

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A graduate of Technical High School, where he played trumpet in band, symphony orchestra and dance band, Cpl. Eslick enlisted in June, 1949.

He was trained at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Tex., and at bandsman's school, Washington, D. C.

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