

THE MONDY MORNING

CHRONICLE

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THEIR KIN, NEAR KIN, AND FRIENDS

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NOTICE

In the interest of ecology
The Mondy Morning
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EDITORIAL FOR WHATEVER IT'S WORTH

I suppose everyone has some suggestions for Mr Clinton when he becomes president in January and Margaret and I are no exceptions. We have found that we are able to work rather hard from about 7 AM to about noon but the afternoon finds us short of energy. Now we are convinced that if Mr Clinton will just get congress to pass a law declaring 14 half days to the week, it would be of great help -- especially right now while we are trying to get our house all fixed up for sale. We have found that we can accomplish quite a bit in half a day but not much in the last half of each day. Now if we just had 14 half days, we could do about twice as much. Now Brecken is on speaking terms with him so I am thinking that maybe she could use her influence to see what can be done about it. If any of the rest of you have any influence, maybe you could put in a good word for the suggestion. Of course, maybe you are satisfied with just 7 days in a week instead of 14 half days so I can't expect much support if you are.

Back in Issue 31 (Oct 19) I wrote a bit about "The Freedom of Choice" and the "Right to Life" and I expected to have a lot of people up in arms about it, but I suppose it was not read by very many people. At least I was not deluged with letters. Heard not one comment until yesterday -- then, guess who arose to the challenge, Good Pat. You will find her column later in the paper.

Actually I got two letters from Pat and they arrived at exactly the time her issue of the Chronicle was picked up by the mail-girl and they were too late to be included in last week's Chronicle.

And there is a letter from Peg Barnhart with a list of names she has recently run across from the 1920 Census. Whenever I see a letter from "Pegasearch" I open it at once for it always contains some new names or something about our ancestry. If any of the readers of the Chronicle are really interested in our ancestry or in doing research into the background of their relatives, there is no better source than Pegasearch, 6020 Blackwell Den Road, Warm Springs, AR 72478. Her "Cemeteries of Randolph County" which also lists several cemeteries in

surrounding counties, is a gold mine of information. You will find her letter in this issue. Thanks a lot, Peg. When we move to Taos, perhaps you can talk Bob into paying us a visit. Peg, I truly appreciate you for all the help you have been to us.

I guess I was asleep or out of town or something when the August 6, 1992 issue of the Pocahontas Star Herald arrived. It had a section devoted to memories of the CCC and almost all of the front page was written by HC Mondy. I did not know about it until one of my former students sent me a copy of it. Last year (1991) when we had a class reunion of the boys I had in my radio school in Little Rock back in '41, we all wrote our memories of the CCC and they were all published in a book. One of the boys sent my letter to Pam Rankin and she published it. Had I known that it would be published there, I might have withheld some of the contents. Anyway, I shall write Pam and send her another letter, one that expresses my appreciation a little better. It is like this: When we read about the CCC it is the statistics that seem to predominate; 67,000

miles of roads cut through the forests, 40,000 miles of firebreaks, 150,000 stock and check dams that we built, etc, etc. But, impressive as these stats are, they are secondary to the real and lasting value to the nation. We got a vision of things greater than our past and today there are hundreds of college graduates that are the result of that vision. When I was gathering the information for our reunion report, I saw that in case after case, the children of the men I had taught had become doctors, lawyers, nurses, teachers, engineers, physicists, and a multitude of other professions that certainly changed the face of America even more than the contour lines on the hillsides or the dams in the valleys.

THANKSGIVING

It's over for this year -- and we were able to give away a lot of the left-overs. However, there is quite a lot of turkey left so I guess I'll be having turkey soup one of these days. There were 15 of us who sat down to the table which was truly laden with food. Eight of the attendees were cooks and each prepared enough for twenty people so there was scarcely room for the plates around the table. But there was lots of room for jollity so for a long time, while the candles burned lower and lower, we sat around the table and visited. I made a few announcements (e.g. "beginning tomorrow you can start playing Christmas Carols") and some things for which they could be thankful

(e.g. "The election is over") and then I told them to eat up and enjoy themselves, for this was probably the last Thanksgiving they would celebrate the day in this house; that we were moving to Taos some time next spring. Lots of cheers and a few saddened faces.

FROM PEGASEARCH

"...Was looking through the 1920 census for Randolph County and came across the following entries. There may be others and I will pick them up when I do a more thorough search, but for now you can add these to your list."

In Shiloh township:

J. C. Mondy
Loyd Mondy

Mary
Harry (That's me)
Jessie A.

Nancy J. Mondy (Aunt Dee)

Martin
Martha
Willard (Millard?)
Henry Pratt

Daily Mondy

Francis E.

In Foster Township

Fred Mondy
Edna R.
Vera M.

In Columbia Township

Calvin Kazee
Rachel
Marion Kazee
Riley
Andrew
Robert
??Williamson

In Little Black Township
Simon P Samons
Margania

Herbe M. (m)
Phelan L. (f)
Troy E.
Charles O.
Lavada

James J. Samons

Lola B.

William Samons

L Prewilla
William E
Henry C
Gilbert B
Bertha J
May D.

In ??? Township

John A Sammons

Willis L. Hawkins
Susie L.

(The ages and state of birth was included and if any of you want more information on any of these, let me know.)
Peg's letter continues:

"As you can see I did this hurriedly ad forgot to copy the birthplaces for one family (Aunt Dee's family) and the township for another. I will go through this census again and pick up the missing items. I have been extra busy this past month and have gotten quite a bit of new material which keeps me busy upgrading my files.

"Holiday greetings to all." Peg Barnhart
Thanks Peg -- we always look forward to your letters.

FROM PAT

(This is Pat's response to my discussion of the abortion issue. I wish more of you had written on the issue, maybe we could

have had a good roundtable debate. Here's Pats reply.)

"You may not want to print the following which is in response to your comments on "Freedom of Choice" versus "Right to Life". You sounded as if you couldn't quite decide on this problem and of course, I have to put my two cent's worth in. But what really prompted me to respond was a newspaper story in yesterday's Corpus Christi Times of a girl who was barely 15 years old who was killed in an automobile accident when her boy friend tried to turn in front of an oncoming car.

She was an unwed mother who left TWO BABIES orphaned! One is two years old and the other is about six months. She had been reared by her grandmother who proclaimed in the newspaper article on the tragedy that "she was very proud of her". She had dropped out of school when she was twelve when the first illegitimate child was born, and she had hoped to be a cheer leader. This was obviously a child with unreal goals, if any. Often this scenario is repeated here many times as each generation becomes yet another welfare recipient. I am glad people have options to help them, but when their way of life becomes unrelentingly repetitive ad infinitum, guess who pays for them? Our poor grandchildren. And they are going to have enough problems with the deficit, higher taxes, and finding standing room on earth.

"Back to your comment on "Freedom of Choice" versus

"Right to Life". You say you are for both. I firmly believe that the key word is responsibility.

Were these women who now seek abortions really "inviting a child into their bodies"? That's probably the last thing they were thinking of, and I can hardly believe that they were extending that kind of invitation. It's more like irresponsible self gratification (it takes two so I am blaming both parties) or in some cases, poverty and money for drugs play a role. But for whatever reason, the high incidence of mere children producing children is a national disgrace. They too must be responsible for any consequences. That includes not only becoming parents at an age when they themselves are too immature to be good parents, but also they must be willing to accept the actuality of sexually transmitted diseases or even death from AIDS.

"I think not many of us are are happy with the idea of abortion, but if great emphasis were placed on family planning, this solution more often would not be necessary. Too many taboos against family planning, some created for populations living several thousand years ago are unsuitable for today, but are constantly preached by some churches and urged by some of our political leaders. The result is only to set us back in the area of responsibility and population control.

"These are my personal ideas and it is not my intention to cram these ideas down the throats of any one else, even

both the "Pro Choice" and the "Right to Lifers" are guilty of doing this.

"But I do not see many of the "Lifers" taking any measures to adopt or help those unwanted children that they are out so militantly to save. Nor do I agree with their ads on TV that "everyone has a right to be born". I would modify that to "EVERYONE HAS A RIGHT TO BE BORN -- BUT BORN INTO A STABLE FAMILY THAT WANTS A CHILD, THAT WOULD LOVE AND PROVIDE FOR IT PROPERLY". Why bring a child into the world to parents on drugs or into a family that already has ten children? Perhaps into a life of abuse and crime? The quality of life is more important that reproducing in quantity. Reproduction does not usually take much talent. There are simply not enough adoptive parents to provide good homes for all of these, even if the courts would remove these children out of some of the bad homes. All of which puts me on the Pro Choice side but I wish they would push family planning.

"One big added factor, of consequence to every living person and those of the future. Our world's natural resources are finite and many of them, which we all must share, are not renewable. With the unbridled growth in the world population has come all of the huge ghastly problems of today; hunger, pollution, crime, viral and bacterial epidemics such as AIDS, the new resistance to miracle drugs, loss of rain

forests, marshlands, etc., etc., far, far into the night.

OVERPOPULATION IS THE NUMBER ONE WORLD PROBLEM, one that is most difficult to solve. Just take one look at those poor hungry people in Somalia or the ethnic wars that are breaking out all over. Overpopulation is the root cause. And it's been going on for a long time. It was overcrowding that sent those barbarian hordes overrunning all Europe back in the fifth century -- remember all those Goths, Visigoths, Vandals, and others? The Vandals, don't forget, gave us our word vandalism. St Augustine wrote *The City of God* as an apology to the Roman people, Christians by now, for God's letting the barbarians overrun Rome in 410 AD! With the population situation as bad as it already is, what will be world be like when we have twice as many inhabitants? We will not solve these enormous world encompassing problems facing us by being irresponsible! And we must SLOW THE POPULATION GROWTH! Whew! You really handed me a soapbox.

"As I said, these are just my ideas. Thanks for letting me express them Whether it's good or bad, I think that abortion is here to stay for a while, especially with Clinton as President. (Poor Clinton, what a job he has ahead of him.) I wish him luck. I think perhaps Bush's stand on the issue of abortion helped a lot of women to decide not to vote for him. As an independent

voter for many years, I clearly did not have a candidate again. I disliked all the candidates. I guess I just cannot find it in my heart and mind to vote for anyone egotistical and arrogant enough to want to be President. I would like to vote for a statesman, but they seem not to be politician enough to get elected. Tsongas seemed quite interesting to me. We'll see more of him and Rudman. Cheers." Pat

TO PAT

You might be surprised to find how closely I agree with you. I have some other ideas about the situation the world is in and some further words on abortion but I will save them for the next issue. Thanks for your contribution to the paper. Maybe others will be good enough to express their opinions. And thank you Pat, for the following letter.

PAT'S LETTER

Every year I try to be the most thankful person in the nation. Jonathan Swift, who wrote *Gulliver's Travels* said, "Ingratitude is the cardinal sin". So there is one sin I can avoid. And to prove it, I am listing some of the things for which I am deeply grateful as Thanksgiving approaches:

First, that humanity (which includes myself) is at the top of the food chain -- unless you live in India where a man-eating tiger might think otherwise. . Since I am not a man, perhaps I can safely visit India, though traveling to India ranks just below Lower

Slobovia in winter on my list of places to go. But anyplace you live, it is better to eat than to be eaten.

I am thankful I have two hands and two feet, rather than four feet for it would be quite tough to type. And who ever saw a zebra painting? I could have used a pair of wings if anybody is listening for the next creation, but not wings at the expense of hands. Hands are divine.

I am grateful that fleas, sand flies, and mosquitoes are not as large as eagles, though I could have done without them altogether.

I think that large strawberries are delightful and am glad that they are not as teeny as blue berries, though many wild ones are. However, strawberries could reasonably have been as large as watermelons without endangering the universe. And olives too, plus avocados and peanuts. In fact, nuts of any kind. *[Now Pat, I disagree about the olives. I do think olives have their place in our food but I maintain that the only reason for serving them is that they taste so bad they make everything else taste good by comparison. When I see them on the table I immediately think, "Something in this meal must taste awful, otherwise the hostess would not have put olives on the table.]*

I am very grateful for the invention of deodorants since the Creator saw fit to give us body odor as a defense against hungry animals. We could have had poison fangs, a stinger, or horns which would

have been dangerous in bed. Proof of the odor idea: just walk down any junior high school hall and your nose will tell you why early wild animals did not totally demolish humanity.

I am grateful that I do not like spaghetti for if I liked it I would eat it and I hate it. I am thankful that as a child I played baseball and cracked many of my knuckles, thereby ruining a great career as a concert pianist -- which would be more pressure than I could Handel, or Chopin or Wagner. Probably their pianos had more keys than mine and certainly they had more fingers on each hand.

I give thanks almost every day that the sky is blue and trees are green (mostly). Think how wild and tiresome our world would be with bright red sky (all day) and purple or orange trees (all seasons). Not a pretty sight. We would be so over-stimulated that we would all have to live in caves, and so regress in our progression toward civilization. And we might get tired of having only fascinatingly drawn animal motifs on our walls.

I am pleased not to be living on Pluto or Jupiter though I fancy having a longer day than we have on Earth. This must have been a slight miscalculation made when women did not have as many labor saving devices to use and clean and put away.

I am grateful that shrimp do not grow on trees as peaches do. Think of the stink as they inevitably would fall to the ground when they got over

ripe. Gas mask companies could be both grateful and profitable because each shrimp tree owner would have to own several of these in order to rake up under the trees.

And this I appreciate; that wearing a bone poked through the septum of the nose (unless you are a Borneo aboriginal) is considered maudlin. A nation of allergy sufferers with bones in their noses ... needs no further explanation. *[Pat, I have one "nose peg" that is about 9 inches long and the size of a pencil that was worn by an old man of the Wongai tribe in South Australia. The ends have a ball of spinnefex resin on them which must be at least five mm in diameter, so he must have had a large hole. I also have two beautiful ones about 3 or 4 inches long, made of highly polished bone (looks like ivory) that were worn by men of the Pitjantjatjara tribe not far from Alice. But since the Abos did not use handkerchiefs (and had no sleeves) I guess the pegs were not too cumbersome.]*

Let's give thanks that carnivorous plants that attack insects are quite small and non-aggressive toward people.

I am trying hard to be grateful for politicians though the only reason I can come up with is that without them many a cartoonist might starve. Reason enough. We need the laughs.

We should all be grateful that human children are not born in litters like cats and dogs.

And we should be

grateful for an educational system that leaves only half of the people illiterate -- it isn't entirely the fault of the school system. No one is forced to be illiterate unless he chooses to be.

There are hundreds of things that we can be thankful for but they have been mentioned in the past so many times that they are passe. This list includes living in a country where there are options for help if you are hungry, cold, homeless, ill, etc. though these can certainly be improved upon. We must include a stable government -- look at poor Somalia. Though the world ethnic groups are all shooting at each other, at least the Berlin wall is down and not everyone here in the USA owns an automatic rifle that can blow a deer into half inch chunks.

Last, but not least, I am grateful for a nice husband who waits patiently for his lunch while I Type out silly stuff like this.

I guess this is enough to prove that I am properly thankful. Happy Thanksgiving to you all. Gratefully yours, Pat.

TO PAT

The readers of the Chronicle are thankful for your interesting and thought provoking columns. Now I have a request: What is the derivation of "COMPLEAT? I keep running into the word, especially in the form of "The Compleat Angler", and "The Compleat this or that" in computerese these days. The

word does not appear in Webster's Twentieth Century nor the Britannica Dictionaries.

MORE QUAKES

1992 has produced more earthquakes than any year in history we are being told. We didn't feel the one that came on Thanksgiving -- too far away, but the one that arrived this morning was quite "feelable". It was a 5.4 shock up near Big Bear, on the same fault that practically destroyed Landers last June. I was reading at the breakfast table when I felt it and I thought Margaret was shaking the table until I realized she was across the room. Just a slight rolling motion that started the chandeliers swaying in a twisting motion. I guess we will be missing our "friendly little reminders" that the earth is not so solid and that the hills are not so permanent when we move to Taos

FROM SPRINGFIELD

(From Bessie, 11/22/92)

"Dear Chronicle Cousins and Friends:

Rain, Rain, Rain! We have had it for about a week, not real hard all the time, but we are very wet. And, we are expecting more. We went to Republic to see the Christmas parade. Doug was in the band. Of course it rained during most of the parade. It wasn't as cold as last year and it wasn't a hard rain, just a constant drizzle. But we enjoyed the parade.

It rained most of last night and was still raining when Bertha, Norma, Bert, and I left for Joplin this morning. Just

west of Mt Vernon we ran into a snow storm and it snowed on us the rest of the way to Joplin. No snow in Springfield.

We are glad to report that Charlie is much better. He is leaving the hospital Monday afternoon (11/23) They had to get a hospital bed set up for him so Lela had to rearrange the house. He will have to remain in bed for at least another week. He said today that he would probably have to learn to walk all over again as it had been so long since he had been on his feet. He has had to lie on his back and to be very careful not to move his leg. Lela is getting along pretty well -- some days her knee swells worse than other days. We hope she does not over-do herself when Charlie gets home. In addition to worrying about Charlie, her sister had surgery while Charlie was in the hospital. Her sister seems to be getting along ok and is already back at her home.

Dolly is much better and went back to work last Thursday. I am getting better; my sinuses are still bothering me.

We heard on the news this morning that there were tornadoes near Houston -- sure hope they missed Russell and RA. We didn't hear what cities were hit. [*Bessie, our daughter-in-law, Geri, who lives on the south west side of Houston saw one of the tornadoes -- it did no damage to their property. but that is too close for comfort.*]

Bertha talked to JE. They were ok and making plans for Thanksgiving. Their kids will be there with them.

I don't yet know how many of my family will be here but we will have a big dinner anyway.

(11/23) Charlie came home from the hospital about 5 o'clock, said he made it pretty well.

I just talked to Herman and Lillie and they are both feeling pretty well. Lillie's brother is going in for surgery on his knee tomorrow morning.

Just talked to Son, Buster, and he reports that he got one deer. Now they have two for Kevin got one the first day the season opened.

Today is another gloomy day and it looks like rain. The report is that we have two more days of bad weather coming.

Hope all of you have a healthy and happy Thanksgiving Day. (Bertha & Bessie)

* * * * *

It is Saturday afternoon and I received Bessie's letter in today's mail. Since there will be no more letters before Monday and that will be too late, I suppose I might as well put this issue to bed. For your entertainment between now and Christmas I can recommend: Best Christmas Pageant Ever, An American Christmas Carol,, A Christmas Visitor (Australian), and all seven of the "Scrooges" that are floating around. If you don't have a copy of my "Scrooge Revisited" I'll send you a copy. I have several short Christmas stories I wrote for my granddaughter - I'll be glad to send you a copy.

L O V E