

Unpublished Poems, Rare Letter Turn Up in Class

What connection did the Vermont poet Robert Frost have with a wagon train led by Brigham Young?

Actually, none. Their paths were separated by several decades and a couple of thousand miles. But, by a twist of fate, rare moments of the two American heroes have crossed paths in a Torrance classroom.

A letter written by a passenger in a wagon train led by Brigham Young a century ago was brought to Victor School by Diana Johnson, an eighth grader, whose great-great-aunt described the journey from Ohio to the West.

CLASSMATE Steven Kling, whose uncle, Jack Haagstron of New York, served as personal physician and close friend of Robert Frost, brought seven unpublished poems Frost had sent Haagstron before he died.

In the letter written to Diana's great-great-grandmother, the aunt told of an attack on their wagon train by Indians and described the scalping and murders that took place, after a third of the group broke away from the segment of the wagon train which decided to head north at Salt Valley, Utah.

Those of the Southern contingent who remained alive after the attack, the letter reveals, walked and hid in creekbeds to escape detection by the Indians. Eventually, after being picked up by a

wagon which had become separated from the others, the surviving pioneers founded Mesa, Ariz. Four families had perished in the attack, according to the letter.

INCLUDED in the unpublished poems by Frost were seven titles: "My Objections to Being Stepped On," "Something Dietary," "One More Brevity," "A Restoration," "Accidentally on Purpose," "Away," and "A Wishing Well."

Steven, who did a report for his English class on Frost, said his uncle had donated 15,000 Frost items to Amherst College. Personal letters written by the poet will not be opened to the public for viewing for 50 years, he reported.

The Mail Ego

By Terrence O'Flaherty

"Am I being played for a sucker? I don't think I quite understand The Smothers Brothers but I laugh at them anyway. Is there something I should know?"

Humor is difficult to analyze. It's better just to laugh and enjoy it. The Smothers Brothers are the freshest comedy team to hit the big time in years yet their type of act was very familiar to vaudeville audiences at the turn of the century. Essentially it's The Smart Guy versus The Hayseed. The humor comes when the yokel's reasoning makes more sense or is more acceptable to the audience. Tom appears to be

a bumbler but he knows exactly what he's doing. Occasionally he misses fire but more often his aim is perfect. He's part Gracie Allen and part Mortimer Snerd. As Jack Paar once said: "I don't know what they've got but whatever it is, no one is going to steal it."

"Was Gypsy Rose Lee ever married?"

Several times. Once I asked her who her last husband was, she couldn't remember his name. But then, Miss Lee has a habit of saying the first thing that comes into her mind. On March 14 she will fly to Germany to attend the Army wedding of her son, Erik Lee Kirkland, so one of

her husband's must have for-TV at University City Studios. If it is successful it may become a series. Morse had enough old radio scripts to last a decade on TV. The TV rights to another old timer, "Chandu the Magician," are being fought over by two producers at the present time. One of them is the producer of TV's "Tarzan." If you wait long enough everything comes back into fashion — including bent-wood rockers and Lydia E. Pinkham.

"Who directs President Johnson on his television appearances? He squints so much and talks so slowly that I wonder why someone doesn't tell him it's not attractive."

No one "tells" LBJ anything, according to Washington observers. They "advise." The President's television adviser is Robert Kintner, former President of the National Broadcasting Company. Kintner squints a lot himself. Maybe it's catching.

"The movies and TV have revived all the old spy stories and private eye stuff. When are they going to get around to revivals of the old radio mysteries that I grew up with? As I remember them, they were better than most of the shows we see today."

Carleton Morse's radio serial of the Thirties, "I Love A Mystery" is currently being made into a two-hour film-

son I've learned that it's the modern equivalent of the old park bench and practically any film that shows there is popular as long as they don't turn the lights on too quickly. Right?"

"If ABC is going to do a TV special on Humphrey Bogart, why doesn't Lauren Bacall narrate instead of Richard Burton?"

Miss Bacall has one of her own coming out this fall. She claims the ABC effort is "a cheap operation." Burton's version will beat hers to the air on April 23.

"I guess I'm just a little slow, but it took me quite a while to understand the appeal of a drive-in movie. Now that I have a teenage

This summer the drive-in movies will be able to test your theory. A new projection system was demonstrated here this month that will show outdoor movies in the daylight thus allowing the drive-in movies to open their park benches earlier in the evening when daylight savings time presents a light problem.

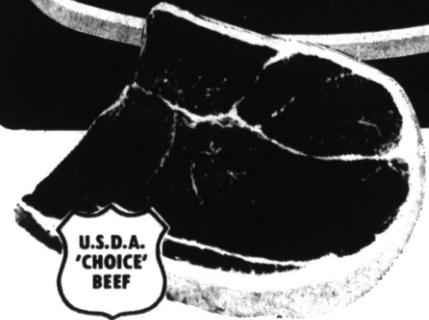
"We like the Monkees on television but we wish they would do something longer. When will they be in a movie?"

If you are patient the Monkees will eventually be into everything including comic strips, skywriting and paper dolls. Their first movie will be released by Columbia this summer.

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