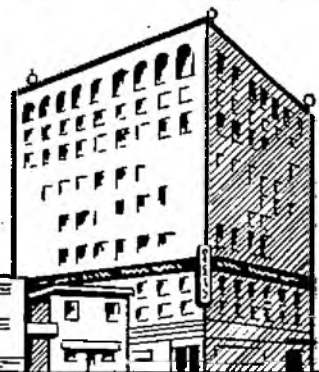
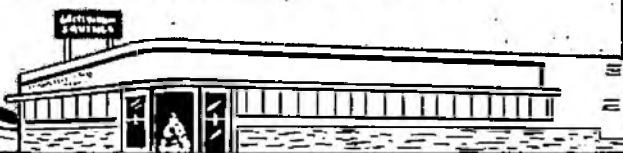


GREAT WESTERN SAVINGS THRIFT NEWS



CRENSHAW at 46TH • AX 3-8181 • LOS ANGELES 43, CALIF. • 7TH and HILL • TR 3875 • LOS ANGELES 14, CALIF.

Volume 6

MARCH, 1953

Number 3



**GOOD NEWS TODAY!
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This is your last chance to get a FREE Paper-Mate Pen when you open your new account for \$500 or more. Come in today and get yours! Offer ends after March 10th.

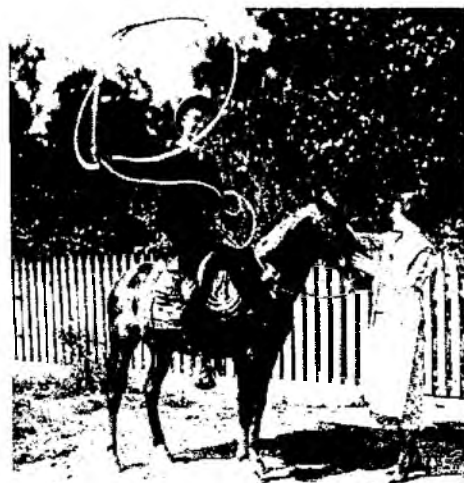
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DETAILS ON OUR SPECIAL
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Another Chapter in the Life
of that Great American . . .

WILL ROGERS



WILL ROGERS

*Last in a series of articles on the
life of Will Rogers*

In our last issue we told of Will Rogers' boyhood, his early travels, and his start in show business. When he returned home after his first two years of seeing the world, his father urged him to settle down to the "respectable" business of ranching, but Will refused. Show business was in his blood, and he was determined to make it his life's work. Betty Blake, his girl friend, agreed with his father. She too, wanted him to be a rancher, and when he proposed she accepted on condition that he give up the theater. He agreed, but one day in Butte, Montana, shortly after their marriage, all of their wedding presents and savings were stolen. Just about that time Will got an offer to play the Percy Williams vaudeville circuit for three hundred dollars a week. By now Betty agreed to his accepting the offer, and Will was in show business for life.

One day a friend suggested he an-

(Continued on page 2)

GREAT WESTERN SAVINGS
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WILL ROGERS

(Continued from page 1)

nounce the most difficult catch in his roping act. He did . . . and the audience laughed. Will was furious and thought they were making fun of him, but the manager assured him after the show that a laugh is the best thing you can get out of an audience. So Will tried it again. While he was attempting to jump with both feet inside a spinning rope, he missed. "Well," he drawled, "got all my feet in but one!" It brought the house down, and from that day on he had a running patter of observations as he performed his roping act.

Gradually, the patter developed a definite personality, from wisecracks to a philosophical point of view. He explained to his audience why he was able to tell the truth . . . because he never mixed up in politics. The curious ways of politics became the butt of his satire. "You know, the more you read about politics the more you have to admit that each party looks worse than the other." He played no favorites, either in party or personality, yet no one harbored a grudge against him because he was so good natured in his scorn. His criticisms were more like the healing advice of a friend instead of the deadly poison of a foe.

Will Rogers was one prophet who was not without honor in his country. A couple of colleges even tried to give him honorary degrees, but his sense of humor kept him from accepting. "Degrees have lost prestige enough as it is, without handing 'em out to comedians."

He thought of himself as an ordinary fellow talking with his neighbors. When critics referred to him as a public figure or statesman he always maintained, "I'm just an entertainer. All I do is watch the Government and report the facts." He even refused to call himself a humorist. "The facts themselves are humorous enough!" Once, after meeting Bernard Shaw, he remarked, "We've got a lot in common. Both of us know the world is wrong, but we don't know what's the matter with it."

Will was a restless man. Although he built himself a beautiful estate in the Santa Monica hills, his love for travel never waned. He always said he liked to go away just for the fun of coming back.

In 1935, he had worked and traveled strenuously for several years, and he was tired. His wife told him it was time to take a rest, but Will's friend, Wiley Post, was about to start on a flight across Siberia to Moscow, and Will wanted to go along. One evening

(Continued on page 4)

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Thrift News is published periodically to encourage savings, safe investments, and home financing by members of the Great Western family.

ADOLPH SLECHTA, President

Volume 6

MARCH, 1953

Number 3



ADOLPH SLECHTA, President

EDITORIAL

QUITE A MONTH . . . March. It means the coming of Spring, complete with gusty days, crisp nights . . . and the Income Tax Man. Yes, this is the time of year when Dad spends a rugged evening or two filling out his tax forms . . . and probably griping about it for all to hear.

This is one of the great privileges we Americans enjoy . . . the right to gripe when we feel like it. You know, good-natured griping is a healthy thing. It gives us the opportunity of blowing off a little steam when the going seems rough, and it's this privilege of ours to grumble when we're disgruntled that helps prove the worth of our democracy.

America is founded on personal liberty, and that freedom which is endowed upon each one of us is the firm foundation this country is built upon. Sure . . . we may fuss about the high cost of living . . . we may rant and rave because the guy we voted for didn't get in . . . we may gripe about taxes . . . but with all real Americans it's "good-natured" griping. We know we can object to anything . . . or everything . . . without fear of being penalized. It is our privilege as Americans to think . . . to vote . . . to work as we choose. That's simply the American way of life.

So when you sit down to figure your income tax this year, go ahead and gripe if you feel like it. But take a moment or two to thank God you live in America . . . where personal freedom comes first, last, and always.

**3½% INTEREST
PER YEAR
Will Be Paid June 30, 1953
EACH ACCOUNT INSURED TO \$10,000**

DID YOU KNOW THIS ABOUT LOS ANGELES?

WILSHIRE BOULEVARD is the longest and widest boulevard in the United States. Because of its length, the numbering system begins at both ends.

FOR MANY YEARS the Santa Monica end of Wilshire was called Nevada Avenue, and for awhile it was an auto race track. Many famous racers got their start there, including Barney Oldfield.

ONE OF THE FIRST AIRPORTS in the country was located in a field at Wilshire and Western.

MACARTHUR PARK was once the city dump containing a muddy pond called the "Dead Sea" . . . (for reasons plain to smell!)

CRUDE PETROLEUM is running under Wilshire Boulevard and must be regularly pumped out to avoid explosions. There is a large manhole near Wilshire and La Brea from which a tank truck regularly pumps the crude petroleum . . . probably the only boulevard in the world with such oily activity beneath its surface!

THE AVIATION INDUSTRY in Southern California is greater than all the rest of the world combined. Employment among our aircraft and parts manufacturers represents more than 12% of the entire state's manufacturing employment.

WILSHIRE BOULEVARD has more varieties of climate at the same time than any other street in the world. It isn't at all uncommon for the temperature to vary as much as fifteen or twenty degrees between the ends of the boulevard. Humidity has been known to vary as much as three points for every mile of the 16 mile stretch, and there has been a difference of five inches in annual rainfall.

Yes, Los Angeles is quite an "unusual" town . . . but most of us who live here . . . whether natives or lowans . . . love it . . . smog and all!

AYE! IT'S THE BONNY TRUTH!

YOU CAN STILL GET A

FREE

PAPER-MATE

PEN...


BUT YOU'LL HAVE TO HURRY!



We have extended our FREE gift offer for a few days more. After March 10th you'll be too late to get a FREE Paper-Mate Pen when you open your new account for \$500 or more... So hurry... hurrrry, hurrrrry!

HERE ARE THE FIVE BIGGEST ADVANTAGES OF SAVING AT GREAT WESTERN

1. Your savings earn a BIG 3½% interest per year.
2. Your savings account is insured to \$10,000 by the Federal Savings and Loan Insurance Corp.
3. Save-by-mail plan means more convenience for you.
4. Money received by the 10th of any month starts earning interest from the 1st.
5. Great Western has TWO convenient locations: in the Greater Crenshaw Area, Crenshaw at 46th; in Downtown Los Angeles, Corner 7th and Hill, the entire Second Floor.



**CRENSHAW
BUSINESS HOURS**

9:00 A.M. TO 5:00 P.M. DAILY
MONDAY - FRIDAY

9:00 A.M. TO 12:00 NOON
SATURDAY

