

Heritage Trails

A Journal of the European-American Folk



THE BECKONING VISION
By Otto A. Krumbach

THE "WINNING OF THE WEST"
By Harold F. Wahl

J. R. R. TOLKIEN - MASTER MYTHMAKER CONCLUSION
By Robert Blumetti

WHAT? YOU NEVER HEARD OF ETHNOTHERAPY?
By Percival S. Harding

ITS BREAKING OUT ALL OVER!
By Elaine D. Rapp

AND MUCH, MUCH MORE.....

"A EUROPEAN-AMERICAN ETHNOLOGICAL VOICE"

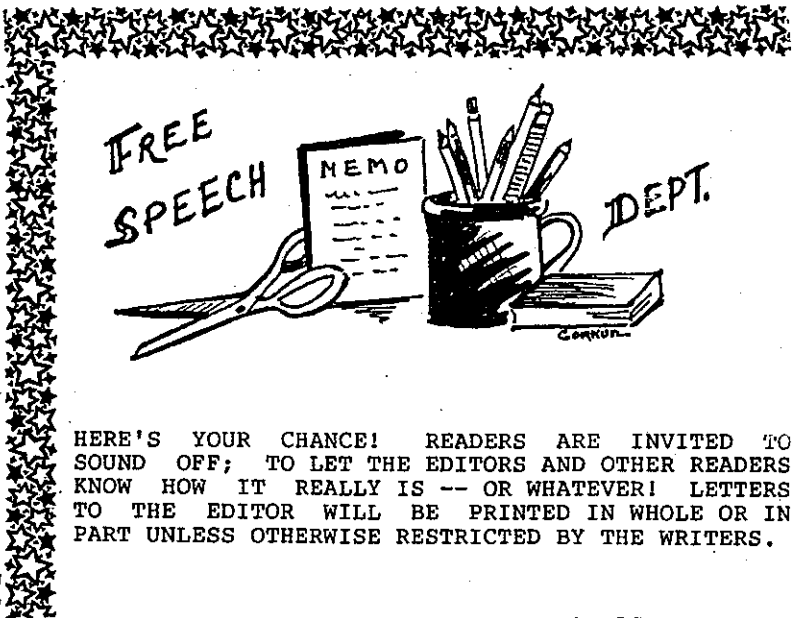
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HERE'S YOUR CHANCE! READERS ARE INVITED TO SOUND OFF; TO LET THE EDITORS AND OTHER READERS KNOW HOW IT REALLY IS -- OR WHATEVER! LETTERS TO THE EDITOR WILL BE PRINTED IN WHOLE OR IN PART UNLESS OTHERWISE RESTRICTED BY THE WRITERS.

July 30, 1984

THE STATE STEPS IN

Taking note of rising interest, the State of New Jersey is carrying out new ethnic programs which are probably very similar to those beginning to take place in all fifty states.

The New Jersey Historical Commission began a Multi-Ethnic Oral History Project in the fall of 1979. This one year effort was funded by a grant from the Ethnic Heritage Studies Program, U. S. Department of Education, and resulted in the collection of over 1,500 life histories of persons representing more than seventy of New Jersey's ethnic groups.

With its large and growing volume of information about ethnic New Jerseyans, the Commission obtained a grant in the fall of 1980 from the National Endowment for the Humanities to undertake an Ethnic Life Booklet Series. This project is presenting a series of booklets to aid in the teaching of ethnic studies to New Jersey high school students. Ten booklets and a teacher's guide will comprise the series.

The Commission also began an effort called the "Ethnic History Program" in January, 1982, which grew out of the Multi-Ethnic Oral History Project. This ongoing program seeks "to bring about a better understanding and appreciation of the pasts of various groups."

A fine New Jersey State ethnic festival program is being carried out with the cooperation of various state agencies such as the New Jersey State Council on the Arts, the Office of Ethnic Affairs, the New Jersey Historical Commission, and the New Jersey State Museum. Six annual New Jersey Ethnic Festivals, sponsored by the Ethnic Advisory Council and Office of Ethnic Affairs, have already been held during the summer in Jersey City's Liberty State Park. These programs are considered to have been very successful by all participants.

Improved communications about cultural heritage subjects would be a boon to many people who are as yet uninformed about what is happening. Heritage Trails can be of help with the cooperation of readers who would forward information about any phase of folk activity whatever which might be used in a regular issue or in directories of various kinds under consideration.

Editorial Staff

Dear Editors:

You seem to have kept it up pretty well...the general theme of the copy that is...but when are you coming out with more specific ethnic and folk information?

John D. Marsh
 Oakland, CA

Dear Mr. Marsh:

WHEW! WHAT A JOB THAT WILL BE. WE HAVE ON HAND A LIST OF ALL MAJOR ANNUAL FOLK EVENTS, AMONG OTHER THINGS. WE NOW MUST PUT THE INFO WE HAVE ACQUIRED INTO USABLE FORM. ANY SUGGESTIONS WOULD BE APPRECIATED.

EDITORIAL STAFF

Dear Editors:

I mentioned your publication about the European-American folk to some friends of mine. One of them said, "I don't know any European-Americans!"

Eleanor Walker
 Harbinger, Texas

DEAR MRS. WALKER:

WE KNOW WHAT YOU MEAN. YOU'D THINK WE CAME FROM MARS. BUT MORE PEOPLE ARE FINDING OUT WHO THEY ARE EVERY DAY.

EDITORIAL STAFF

Dear Editors:

I've been reading Colin Renfrew's material in National Geographic about the Danube being the cradle of European civilization which also suggests it started up long before the Sumerian and Egyptian civilizations developed. Could this be true?

Paul A. Kramer
 Chicago, IL

DEAR MR. KRAMER:

THE ACADEMIC WORLD IS BEGINNING TO TURN MORE ATTENTION TO THIS VIEW ALL OF THE TIME. WE'LL BRING YOU UP TO DATE IN A FUTURE ISSUE.

EDITORIAL STAFF

Dear Editors:

How about some material on the role of European-Americans in creating the United States...I don't mean the history, I mean the way the people lived and worked...

John C. Dancy
 Wilmington, Delaware

DEAR MR. DANCEY:

WE HAVE IT READY FOR YOU. HOW'S THAT FOR SERVICE? SEE OUR ARTICLE "THE WINNING OF THE WEST", AND THERE WILL BE LOTS MORE TO COME. DO YOU HAVE ANY GOOD STORIES?

EDITORIAL STAFF



The Beckoning Vision

McBerkow

The range of their vision is limitless. Their relentless drive to know has spurred them ever on. People of European origin have sustained a long exploratory effort which reflects their insatiable need to see what lies beyond the horizon.

First, the Caucasians may be seen in Paleolithic times, traveling far beyond their homelands which lie in the western portion of the Eurasian land mass and in North Africa, striking out to the east all the way across northern Asia to Amur River country, then further eastward to the Ashkalin and Hokkaido Islands in the Pacific Ocean north of Japan. It is so deep in antiquity, their precise treks can no longer be determined but they leave ample evidence of their early presence in these far-off lands. Mongolians will emerge in northern Asia in the future, and brown and wavy haired Chinese will later be seen in eastern Asia, to the wonder of their fellow Chinese people.

Other Caucasians about 10,000 B. C. travel from their North African homelands southward deep below the African rain forests into the White Mountain Highlands of Kenya in East Africa. In later years, other Caucasians travel eastward to Ceylon, mingle with the local people, establish roots, and emerge as the Sinhalese. Their exploratory urges lead to other migrations and settlements too numerous to list.

But it is the sea which offers the broadest pathways to new lands. Phoenicians sail around the entire continent of Africa about 700 B. C. Early writings by Herodotus and others indicate that sailors may already have the ability to sail across great ocean areas in their early explorations, far beyond the "Pillars of Hercules". Seeming evidence of early travels of Caucasians as far as the Americas exists. Skillful sailors can make use of the celestial bodies to guide them along their courses because heavenly guideposts are available to all who can not only see them but can comprehend their navigational value as well.

Before the beginning of the Christian era, Greek and Roman sailors build and sail great triremes, warships with three rows of oarsmen, carrying up to four thousand marines. Their vessels are so skillfully designed that modern engineering techniques cannot improve upon their features.

As Charlemagne's Empire reaches its height in the ninth century, daring Viking sailors are already sailing all of the seas around Western Europe, even into the Caspian Sea. They also fearlessly breast the waves westward, beyond "the end of the world" to reach North America. Irish sailors, too, are exploring the western "unknown."

By the fifteenth century, European

sailors are poised to explore the entire world. This is the last opportunity which exists to see the world's varied societies and peoples before the massive intrusion of modern technology changes and transforms cultural patterns forever. Following the lead of the great Vasco da Gama, European sailors from many different countries leave their home ports in all directions. Columbus "discovers" America which brings Europeans who colonize the lands they "discover" and they establish modern, industrial societies in many primitive areas. Early in the sixteenth century, Magellan aspires to sail around the world, a trip his vessels complete but he dies in the Philippines.

Captain Cook, an English explorer, "finds" the Hawaiian Islands in the eighteenth century. The American sailor, Commodore Matthew Perry, "opens the door" of Japan in the year 1853 when he sails into Uraga harbor. Although well aware of the existence of the rest of the world at this time, it is not until after this visit the Japanese choose to mingle with outsiders. Also in Asia, the Chinese choose to remain behind their "Great Wall".

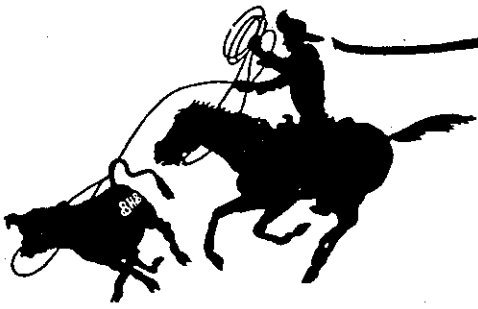
People of European origin continue their explorations during modern times. They explore the Arctic and Antarctic areas, as well as all other known areas of the world above sea level. They begin extensive explorations of the ocean depths probing for knowledge which will be useful to sea navigation, help to provide possible future food supplies, and enable nations to secure wartime advantage.

Even more spectacular voyages take place in current times. Explorations by people of European origin extend far from the earth itself to the limitless reaches of space! Men have already been sent to the moon and missiles of many kinds have journeyed to distant planets and even beyond our solar system to probe the heavenly reaches which hold the stars.

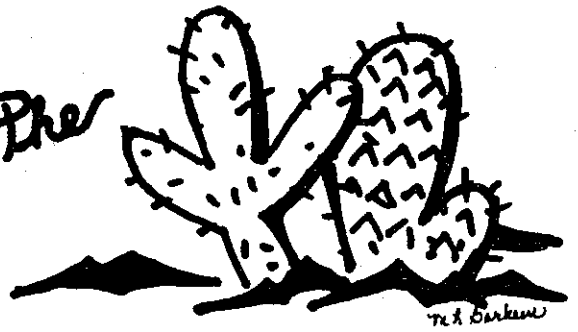
Other kinds of remarkable probings are also now being carried out. It is not only the physical explorations of the world and of space which are taking place. Searchings of the most intimate kind are being made within the "inner space" of people to discover their true physiological processes. Even their mysterious neurological systems are yielding some long-held secrets.

Despite all of the visions which have already been revealed, a review of past explorations shows that humans are only poised at the starting place of true knowledge about their environment and themselves. Ever more secrets will be revealed because the need to know will not be denied. People of European origin will reach out to touch the stars -- even as they look inward to learn new things about themselves.

Otto A. Krumbach



The Winning of the West



The buffalo roamed widely. The Indian scouted the terrain, but only after Europeans brought horses. The magnificent land lay fallow through the millenia and did not yield its fruits to improve the lot of man. Only in recent years was the great American West transformed from a seeming barren "desert" or "wasteland", as it was at first presumed to be, into a productive land which burst with edible vegetation which could meet the needs of large numbers of people in the world. The Herculean task was accomplished by the European-Americans who settled the area and struggled mightily against staggering odds to survive and, some of them, to ultimately prosper.

The glamorous cowboy had romanticized life "on the open range", but it was not all fun even for him. The primary cause of cowboy deaths was pneumonia, caught while sleeping on the ground during periods of cold and rain. The second cause of untimely demise was being dragged in a stirrup while chasing runaway cattle. But still, they had it easy because it was the real settlers, the "sod-busters" and the farmers, who turned in the truly heroic performances in the transformation of the land.

Life was hard and short, especially for pioneer women during the nineteenth century development of the west. It was filled with back-breaking work, health problems far from medical help, economic insecurity, and loneliness. The wind itself endlessly moaned its doleful tune on the prairie to provide a fitting musical background to the frightening prospects ahead.

But the land was not fully conquered in "the olden days". As a young and romantic Easterner, I played a unique and awesome role in the final effort of the pioneers to assert a responsible mastery over its processes. It was in the year 1932 in Milesville, South Dakota. The temperature was 108 degrees, from sunrise to sunset - our work day - all spring and summer long. No shade on the "fruited plain" because there were no trees.

Not much was around. To the north and to the south were the Badlands and two Indian reservations; to the east and west were hundreds of miles of flat prairie, covered with thousands of acres of wheat and corn, and range. In the western distance, the Black Hills loomed darkly through the haze, like a somber shadow.

What was I doing here - a city boy from the East? Following the wanderlust which often propels the European, I was working as a hired hand, for ten dollars a month, and keep. The keep was two meals a day - of milk, eggs, potatoes, and bread - and a swig of home-made corn liquor before breakfast, urged upon us as we arrived in the kitchen from the bunkhouse! Old Theo Tavernier, who owned some 2,000 acres, insisted upon our morning "nip" to sustain us all day in the fields. At sunset, our all too monotonous meals were taken, after which we fell exhausted into our bunks, to recover for the

morrow's grueling labor.

Theo and his wife, Marie, had emigrated from Belgium in the early part of the twentieth century, to seek their fortune in the promised "land of plenty." They brought very little with them, except the will to work hard to build a future as European-Americans. Now, they had three grown off-spring, Theo, Jr - foreman; Bill (my age), man of all work; and Anne, just graduated after two years of normal school at Belle Fourche, and seeking a teaching job.

Our "skimpy" diet was no different from our neighbors' (people within 20 miles). I had met some of them on Saturday nights in town, which consisted of only two buildings - a feed store and a meeting hall. They were the Skladanys, Knudsens, Auerbachs, and MacKenzies, and all dated their Dakota arrivals at the same time as the Taverniers, and had enjoyed with them some twenty years of the good life. Now, all were equally poor. Poor? 2,000 acres of South Dakota farmland, and poor? How about that corn - thousands of spikes as far as the eye can see? How about that wheat? Tons of it dropped by the combines two weeks ago.

Look around once more. What are those dense black clouds over the corn, while the sun beats down everywhere else? They are not clouds, but billions of voracious grasshoppers, devouring every succulent kernel, like an army giving no quarter. There are so many of these insects that driving a car is a chore, as the grasshoppers are caught in the honeycomb of the radiator causing a quick boil-over every few hundred feet, but furnishing delighted chickens with a repast of roasted grasshopper! No corn would be harvested this season!

What about the wheat? The combine had dropped thousands of sheaves, where they were now dry and ready for shocking, our present job. As we would reach around each bundle, we would find our hands encircling a rattlesnake, which had taken advantage of the only shade available. Across the mown wheat fields we collected the rattles of hundreds of the snakes that had not survived the blades of the combines - for which we collected a small bounty. In 1932, the height of the Great Depression, marketing the wheat was impossible. It was with heavy hearts that we set fire to every shock!

No corn! No wheat! How about the cattle? We spent many hours hazing the cows and calves which had wandered far afield, in ravines and dry washes, searching for sustenance. But there was no grass, and no water! Many were already dead; all were emaciated beyond belief, and had to be destroyed. Only a few were saved.

That whole area of South Dakota was now a "dust bowl". The treeless plains had not preserved what little rain had fallen. Over the years, trees and shrubs had been sacrificed for arable land to grow the wheat, corn, and grass. Now there was nothing! Not for the Taverniers nor any of their neighbors!

Continued on Page 8

WHAT? YOU NEVER HEARD OF ETHNOTHERAPY?

There is something new under the sun! An article which appeared in the New York Daily News on May 18, 1984, written by Paul La Rosa, gave the details. It explained all about "Ethnotherapy, a relatively new form of group therapy that is aimed at helping us accept our ethnic identity, whatever it be."

Mr. Joseph Giordano, Director of the Center on Ethnicity, Behavior and Communication for the American Jewish Committee, is quoted as saying, "Only by acceptance of your ethnic identity can you feel better about yourself and enhance your self-esteem. We all have ambivalent feelings about our ethnic background, but it is what we do with those feelings that count."

The article further expounded upon specific mental problems encountered by an Italian woman, a Jewish male, and Blacks in general, which resulted from poor ethnic identity, although there was no suggestion that ethnotherapy would be useful for only certain categories of people.

It was pointed out that, "unlike most psychologists who downplay background, ethnotherapists believe it is all-important." Giordano was further quoted as saying, "There is still a lot of debate about ethnotherapy in the mental health community, but whether they like it or not, ethnicity is there."

The article stated ethnotherapy goes back to psychologist Price Cobbs, who coined the term while working with blacks for his 1968 book "Black Rage". He was assisted in his studies by another psychologist, Judith Weinstein Klein, "who did much of the pioneering work."

This field of thought quite naturally brings up the images by which Americans of European origin are projected in today's academic processes and entertainment fare. Close examination might reveal that negative connotations related to highly selective past experiences of people of European origin, as well as to their presumed present unfavorable characteristics are quite prevalent.

If ethnotherapy has merit, its principles might be of some use in countering the feelings of morbidity, despondency, and low self-esteem felt by so many youngsters of European origin today. Clear dissertations could be given to young people based upon past, real ethnic accomplishments and present positive traits. These would suggest the promise which might lie within any person of his or her background. If ethnotherapy is still an unproved theory, nothing would be lost.

Percival S. Harding

IT'S BREAKING OUT ALL OVER!

They do more than just go to the polls to be the first state to vote in primaries. The people here are leading in many areas including superior ethnic programs, such as this one, carried out in a special building, all its own.

The new programs are offered in a sparkling, away-ahead Ethnic Center housed in an authentic "heritage" building, donated to the city of Nashua, New Hampshire, in 1959, by Miss Chandler, together with maintenance funds, provided the building is used in conjunction with the Public Library which pays for its contents. There is even additional private funding for the Center, including an individual donation to pursue Lithuanian cultural subjects.

But a building and material do not automatically produce vibrant programs. These must be conceived by the inspired person who just happens to be in charge of the Ethnic Programs offered. She is Ms. Nelly Mitchell, a young French woman who brings a creative mind to the completely new challenge of providing exciting and relevant programs of interest to various ethnic groups.

The ethnic programs begin with books about different cultures and nationalities and they are kept up to date by foreign periodicals. These include publications from France and Spain, in their native languages, and from Lithuania, Greece, Germany, and Canada, to name just a few.

Much more than reading material is provided. Last year the Center sponsored monthly activities focusing on certain groups including a Black Culture month and a Celtic month. Ms. Mitchell hopes to expand this type of program with a Franco-American month this year which could spur a Hispanic month, Greek month, and other ethnic months, depending upon local interest and support. In addition, the Center sponsors individual folk craft and art programs using local talent which is often of the highest caliber.

No one said it would be easy, and tremendous problems remain to be solved to establish really satisfying ethnic programs, according to Ms. Mitchell. The first and possibly greatest problem lies in the complete lack of coordination which is characteristic of most ethnic and folk activities. Local people start their own programs often unaware of other groups involved in similar pursuits, so each group must find its own way. Another difficulty is posed by the varied folk interests which are so diverse it is difficult to just keep up with them. They range over crafts, music, art, and lore, as well as museum projects, and other special activities such as preserving local heritage buildings.

Ms. Mitchell hopes to respond well to the varied interests by devising such programs as ethnic cooking, music by Chopin, and other subjects which might be considered of special ethnic value. No one needs to be told that the challenge which Ms. Mitchell has accepted is awesome, but readers of Heritage Trails around the country and in Canada will be interested to know how her programs fare in the months and years ahead.

Elaine D. Rapp



How fanciful it all seems. A little old lady who talks to her flowers! An over-enthusiastic gardener who plays classical music to his garden plants! The claims now being made that plants actually respond to sound and speech are not easy to believe. But can it be that we are only now rediscovering magical powers already well known by our folk ancestors?

The ancient Indo-European and the later Celtic, Nordic, Greek, Roman and Slav peoples all believed in many gods and goddesses. Each of them was associated with specific powers and characteristics. Some of them were related to certain metals and colors. Not so well known, is the frequent transformation of pagan deities into plants and flowers which was presumed to have taken place. Another little known fact seems to be that it was believed the gods and goddesses especially loved colorful flowers because of their beauty.

It is from views of this kind that the mythology which surrounds flowers and plants arose and also prompted the acts of dedication to them which are a part of European cultural history. Sometimes the very names of flowers and trees were linked to the names of gods and goddesses. It was even thought that flowers sprang from the blood of fallen heroes.

In one legend, the Myrtle is said to be the creation of the Roman Goddess of Love, Venus, who was crowned with its blossoms at the judgment of Paris. She is also associated with the Violet and the Rose. Even today, a young man in love will send the woman of his choice a dozen Roses to communicate his feelings.

Apollo, the Roman Sun God, was given the Cornel (Dogwood) tree as an offering. Apollo was borrowed from the Greeks, as was the ritual of offering the heliotrope, whose name in Greek means turn-to-the-sun -- the flower which turns to Apollo. In similar reverence, Minerva, the Roman Goddess of War and Wisdom, like her Greek counterpart, Athena, was offered the olive branch to assure victory and a fruitful peace.

Holy places were also directly related to plants and living things. A temple surrounded by Oak trees was consecrated to Jupiter, the God of Thunder and Father of the Skies, at Dodona, in Greece, also the site of the famed oracle of Zeus, where thunderstorms rage more frequently than anywhere else in Europe. It was the Ash tree which was dedicated to Mars, the Roman God of War, because it was believed Mars constructed Ashen poles to make weapons for his warriors, the Amazons.

The Poppy was offered to Ceres, the Earth Mother, but so was the Narcissus because of its narcotic perfume. Juno, Queen of the Heavens and wife of Jupiter, was identified with the Lily and the Iris. Dis, the Roman God of the Underworld and Death, was pacified with Cypress trees.

Similar beliefs and relationships between their divine deities and living things may be seen in all of early Caucasian and later European "heathen" beliefs before Christianity. But the European preoccupation with the beauty of flowers and plants continued in Christian Europe. Roses and Lilies are thought to be the Virgin Mary's own flowers, and there is a tradition that St. Thomas refused to believe in her bodily assumption into Heaven and asked that her tomb be opened. This was done and it was found to be full of only Lilies and Roses!

In 1661 an interesting story was published by Sir Thomas Hall, entitled Indictment of Flora. Flora was the Roman Goddess of blossoming plants. A temple was built in her honor in 238 B. C. April 28th was the day of the Floralea, which the people of Rome celebrated annually with dancing, games, and the playing of rather indecent farces. Flora, and her celebration of the rebirth of the beauty which accompanied Spring, survived the fall of Rome throughout most of Europe until May Day celebrations were abolished in England in 1644. The celebration of the Floralea was considered scandalous by the American Puritans.

In Sir Thomas Hall's tract, Flora is brought to trial before a jury which includes Pliny, Charles II, Parliament, and Ovid, while the Holy Scriptures are used as law. The following charge is made: "Flora, hold up thy hand! Thou art here indicted by the name of Flora, of the City of Rome, in the country of Babylon, for thou, contrary to the peace of our sovereign lord, his crown dignity, hast brought in a pack of fanatics, ignorants, atheists, papists, drunkards, swearers, swashbucklers, maidmarians, May-pole stealers, etc..."

After various statements the Judge then sums up the case: "Flora, thou hast been indicted for bringing an abundance of misrule and disorder into church and state; thou hast been found guilty, and art condemned both by God and Man, and I, therefore, judge thee to perpetual banishment, that thou no more disturb this church and state, lest justice do arrest thee".



It was after this that the followers of Flora settled down quietly to more innocent games on the Village Green, and Maypoles were raised once more to celebrate the coming of Spring.

So it is that we have advanced from the imaginative conceptions of our European forebears to recognize today what may be scientific truth about the "magic" powers which may yet lie in plants and flowers!

Robert Blumetti

master myth maker--

J.R.R. Tolkien



Conclusion

Two interesting sources of European myths and legends which greatly influenced Tolkien were the Arthurian legends and the Siegfried legend of the Nibelungen Lied. One of the central themes in Tolkien's Lord of the Rings is the Return of the King of the Ancient Kingdoms of Arnor and Gondor. The character Tolkien created is called Aragon, who is the personification of King Arthur. Like Arthur, he typifies the mythical hero in European legends. Descended from noble lineage, his true identity has been kept secret. He carries a broken sword possessing supernatural power and he is the talisman who will assert his birthright when it is made whole again. He is reared by foster parents and upon reaching manhood, must journey upon quests and have adventures which will eventually develop his kingly powers. He leads knights called "The Rangers" in battle and he serves in the armies of foreign powers. Like Arthur, who is befriended and fathered by Merlin, Aragon is guided by Gandolf, the Wandering Wizard.

Once Aragon reaches Gondor he must prove himself worthy of kingship. He proves to have the qualities of a leader which is common in European myths. Like Arthur, when once he becomes King, he unites a chaotic and disorganized world. The origins and deaths of both heroes are shrouded in mystery. Both are reputed to be asleep waiting for the day when they will return--they are not presumed to be dead.

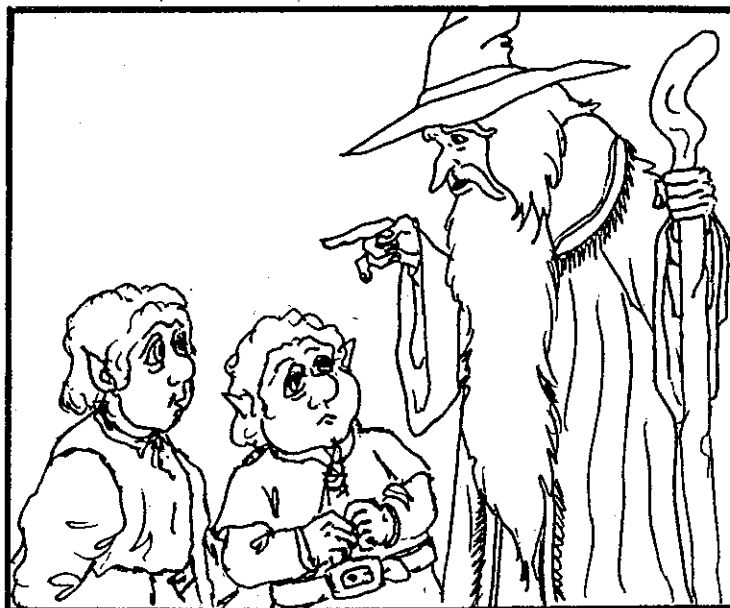
Another and more startling similarity between Tolkien's legends and those of King Arthur is the characterization of the "Wizard". Tolkien's Gandolf and the Arthurian Merlin are so alike that it is hard to tell them apart. In popular imagery, Merlin is depicted as an old man dressed in long robes, wearing a pointed hat, and possessed of a long, white beard. Merlin travels about the countryside appearing when and where need calls. This is exactly the personality which Tolkien creates for his wizard. Both wizards are believed to be descended from supernatural beings, not of this earthly world. They are in possession of hidden powers and are able to see future events, at least at times. In both epics, the wizards are not the main, heroic figures in the stories but prove to be the main movers of events and sources of strength for the forces of good in the struggle against evil.

Like the German composer of The Ring of the Nibelungen, Richard Wagner, Tolkien resurrected ancient western myth and gave it new relevance, compatible with today's western man. Tolkien, in a way, has kept alive a portion of their past for modern, Anglo-Saxon peoples some of whom are amalgamating into a new European and European-American people, and made it a part of their conscious psychic image. Many other similarities between the Tolkien and Wagner stories are cited in Lin Carter's excellent book, Tolkien, A Look Behind the Lord of the Rings.

But Tolkien is not serious reading and contemplation alone. Some of the greatest

delights associated with his works may be derived from musical renditions and poetic recitations! Great companies of distinguished artists have made countless albums to immortalize his writings. Some songs are even sung in Elvish! The title of Tolkien songs have irresistible appeal. Here are some of them: "The Road Goes Ever On", "Upon the Hearth the Fire is Red", "In the Willow-Meads of Tasarinan", "In Western Lands", "Namarie", "I Sit Beside the Fire", "Errantry" and more.

Tolkien, himself, may be heard in recitations. Some of his readings include, "The Adventures of Tom Bombadil", "The Mewlips", "The Hoard", "Perry-the-Winkle", "The Man in the Moon Came Down Too Soon", "The Sea Bell", and many more. Some of his renditions are in Elvish which is a real language Tolkien created. It has a most pleasing quality to the ear.

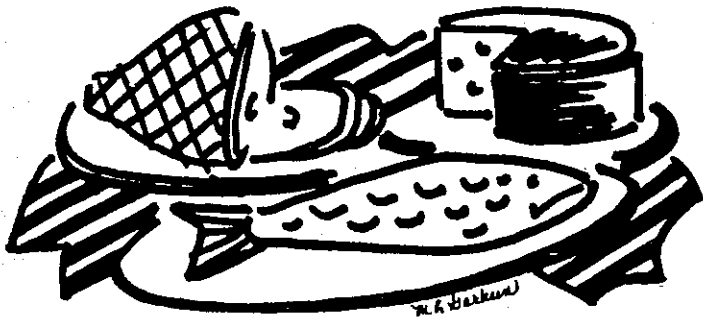


SAM, FRODO & GANDOLF

In the past ten to twenty years, Europe and America have witnessed a renaissance of interest in folklore, legends and myths. The modern, comparatively sterile world of machines, concrete, and polluted air, seems to have caused people to seek relief in their subconscious minds where fairies and goblins still delight and plague knights in shining armor, and young heroes battle giants and dragons to prove their manhood. There has been an explosion of romantic story telling. Sword and sorcery sagas, Greek, Norse, and Arthurian legends are sources for movies and toys for children.

It may be that many people today must return to their pasts to gain comfort and security about their roles, and to find a harmony with nature which is an important part of folklore. Tolkien not only played a part in this birth of interest in mythology, but may well have precipitated much of it. His works were propagated long before the renaissance of romanticism took flower in the 70's and 80's. I believe Tolkien will go down in history alongside such greats as the Brothers Grimm, Hans Christian Anderson, and Richard Wagner.

Robert Blumetti



Ethnic Culinary Corner

Here is another fine recipe providing a taste treat that will be long remembered. It has been well kitchen tested to the delight of staff members! The recipe was sent in by subscriber Sue-Ryn Hildenbrand to whom we can all extend our heartiest thanks for another superior example of ethnic cooking.

FALSCHER WILDSCHWEINBRATEN

3 lbs. Boneless Rolled Pork 1/4 cup Water
 10 Juniper Berries Crushed 1/2 cup Sour Cream
 2 Tsp. salt 1 Tbsp. Flour
 1 Tsp. black pepper 1 Tbsp. Red
 4 Tbsp. Salad Oil Currant Jelly
 1/2 cup dry red wine

Rub meat with Juniper Berries, Salt, Pepper, and let stand for 15-20 minutes. Heat Oil in Dutch Oven; brown meat on all sides. Add Wine and Water; simmer for about 1 hour. Remove meat; keep warm. Drain off excess fat. Combine Sour Cream, Flour, and Jelly; stir into drippings. Cook until thickened. Serve over meat. 6-8 Servings.

Elaine D. Rapp

Con'd from Page 4. THE WINNING OF THE WEST

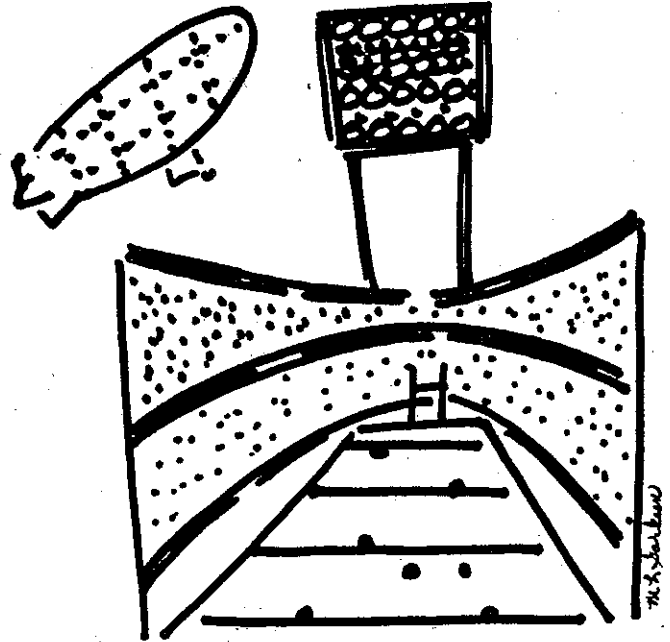
On a day in August, the Skladanys, Knudsens, Auerbachs, MacKenzies and Taverniers assembled their families and belongings and, without looking back, headed westward - for California, where there were jobs to be had - picking fruit! Only Anne stayed behind, as I volunteered to help her search for a school-teaching job, before I headed east, and toward home.

Despite the disastrous experiences of so many pioneering Americans, their courage, perseverance, and faith would one day be rewarded by the return of the lands to productive use by the application of now-tested techniques of farming and land preservation. They have left us a magnificent legacy of which we may all be proud.

In later years, I had one occasion to pass over Milesville, South Dakota, on an airline flight from Oregon to New York. Below, the obviously rich fields of grain, and grass, seemed to wave to me. I saw trees and other foliage dotting the plain. But I saw more than this. I saw pioneers who had made this all possible and I felt a deep sadness that I could not share my views with anyone.

I did not know then that I would one day write this tale for a receptive audience of my fellows.

Harold F. Wahl



AMERICAN FOOTBALL

Naturally, it all started in college, the seat of all learning. The world game of soccer turned into a unique American game, football! The European-American tradition in college gridiron lore can be delineated no better than by recalling the famous names on Notre Dame's teams of the 30s and 40s - the fighting Irish! But hold on a moment. There were so many Poles, Germans, Scandinavians, Hungarians, Russians, Italians, and others - in addition to the Irish - that the teams were actually European-American!

The Four Horsemen of this fabulous era were Stuhldreher, Miller, Crowley, and Leyden. At this same time, Fordham's Seven Blocks of Granite were Lombardi, Wojciechowicz, Franko, Paquin, Berezney, Babartsky, and Jacunsky. Believe it or not, Stanford's Rose Bowl team of 1940 gained national fame as a popular song-hit the radio waves entitled, "Banducci, Kmetovic and Gallarneau", the team's most popular heroes.

Professional football is replete with stars who display the traditional European interest in healthy bodies and a readiness to engage in competitive sports which spanned the Olympic games. The Football Hall of Fame reveals this fact. Here is my choice to make up an All American team made up of European-Americans. Their names are legendary and self-explanatory to all sports fans:

Offense		Defense	
WR	Fred Biletnikoff	DE	Gino Marchetti
TE	Mike Ditka	DE	Andy Robustelli
OT	Joe Stydahar	DT	Merlin Olsen
OT	Bruiser Kinard	DT	Leo Nomellini
OG	George Musso	LB	Joe Schmidt
OG	George Connor	LB	Ray Nitschke
C	Alex Wojciechowicz	LB	Dick Butkus
QB	Sonny Jurgensen	CB	Pat Fischer
HB	Red Grange	CB	Roger Wehrli
HB	Hugh McElhenny	S	Jack Christiansen
FB	Bronko Nagurski	S	Larry Wilson
K	Jan Stenerud	P	Dave Jennings
Coaches: Vince Lombardi, Tom Landry			

Yea team!

Harold F. Wahl