

CURIOS and ANTIQUES

By FERDIE DEERING

At least, people didn't forget about their businesses to play Mah Jongg or miniature golf when those fads were sweeping the country. That makes this chain letter craze the most maniacal hysteria, probably, this nation has ever seen—and that's saying something. At the same time, it must be remembered that the principle of the chain letter is strictly in keeping with the American plan of living and especially with the American plan of government. Federal, state and local governments insist on spending more money than they can possibly see any hope of collecting; the American family buys more merchandise on credit than it can pay for and it seems as if the payments will never stop coming due; the chain letter enthusiasts insist that anywhere from 81 to 81,000,000 times as much money will be taken out of the chains as is put into them. In fact, many chains are "guaranteed" to pay off certain amounts of money.

Chain letter exchanges that make the frantic excitement of the New York Stock Exchange look like a Sunday school picnic by comparison are breaking out all over the country. Herbert Beck, night clerk at the Harris, tells us an exchange sprang up in the lobby there the other night and the furor became so great they almost demolished the office. There's no telling what a man will do when he gets that gleam in his eye, whether he has bought and collected or is waiting to collect. Others are reported here in town now.

Here is our version of a letter that would be a cinch—for the sender:

THIS IS A CHAIN OF STRICTLY
LIMITED LINKS
Are You One of the Missing
Links?

Ferdie Deering, Ada, News,
Ada, Oklahoma.
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Ada, Oklahoma.
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Ada, Oklahoma.
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Ada, Oklahoma.

"Trust Us to Spend All We Get"

This letter is unusual in that you have a choice in the amount you send. Simply make five copies of this letter, attach a dime, quarter, dollar, five or ten dollar bill to each, place in an envelope and deliver one to each of the addresses given above. Do not add your own name because you won't get anything anyhow and just think how much fun you'll have in not getting any chain letters. The way we figure it, if everybody in the United States plays this chain (and it seems like they are), even if contributions are limited to 10 cents per person, we should come out 10c X 125,000,000 or about a billion and a quarter dollars ahead, which would at least be successful in bringing prosperity to us.

Zeke Simmons is being treated at a local hospital for shock he received when he opened an envelope and discovered it did not contain a chain letter.

There have been a lot of wise-cracks about the good old state of Arkansas being a foreign country. (Eh, Dr. Sugg?) Churchill Thomas, Gilman Mackin and others on a recent scientific expedition to Pine Valley (down in the Kiamichi mountains) are now almost certain that Arkansas really is a foreign country. They were marooned by high water caused by the unusually heavy rains of a few days ago. Finally they learned they could get out by making a detour through Arkansas. They started west again and the first place they came to after they crossed the Arkansas state line was America, Oklahoma.

The most boresome persons we can think of, just offhand, are those who insist on recounting their previous night's bridge game and reviewing the good plays they missed.

Lightnin' (Homer) Ledbetter of local Little Theater fame was announcing a program being presented by that organization at

Clarita recently. As he was telling of the masterful production about to be offered, his eyes wandered over the audience and discovered the presence of Dick Holland, former East Centralite from Coalgate. Lightnin' just stopped in the middle of a sentence and exclaimed: "Well, I see we have Dick Holland in the audience with us tonight!"

Those two ladies on East 110th street could have earned a nice profit over and above their justice court fines the other day if they had advertised their bout and charged admission. It seems they live in the same house and have a partnership clothes line. As might have been expected, they both wanted to use it at the same time. In the course of the ensuing argument one of them swatted the other with a board. They battled and the board changed hands. The loser (?) came down, filed a charge of assault and battery against the other. The defendant, accompanied by her husband, appeared in court, pleaded guilty, paid her fine and filed a similar charge against her complainant. The other woman, then, accompanied by her husband, appeared, entered a plea of guilty and also paid a fine. Whether they got the clothes line business finally settled is not known at this time.