

CURIOS & ANTIQUES

BY FERDIE DEERING

ONCE A FIREMAN, always a fireman is the motto of the laddies who keep Ada's fire loss at a minimum. A few days ago Ollie Coleman and John Harvey Gay, firemen, and a companion, variously reported and denied as Arthur Floyd and a gentleman named Ranes, went to Oklahoma City. En route they passed one of the big modern busses that has an exhaust pipe looped through the rear chassis and baggage rack a la Rube Goldberg so that it resembles a cross between a steamboat smokestack and a calliope whistle. They observed the smoke coming from the top of the bus and concluded that some newspapers on top were burning. Each claims that he knew better all the time and was just doing it to humor the other but they turned around and chased the bus for five miles, more or less, before they got close enough to see their mistake. We maintain they were justified in their attempt to do a good turn, even if it displayed a lack of knowledge of modern motorized vehicles. The fire department needs a new truck anyway.

If all the kids in Ada who ride bicycles were placed on a street where there were no automobiles, it still would be a miracle that so many of them escape being run over.

CLIFFORD KAY, Irazel-Atlas softball enthusiast, asserts that Lester Denny's home run last Monday was the highest and longest ever hit on the H-A diamond. It travelled approximately 300 feet, which is some blow for a softball batter.

If the star players are on the home team, it's talent; if they're on the other team, they're "ringers" or "professionals."

HELEN BYRNE, The News society editor, admits that one of her pet peeves is to have people caution her "Now, please don't be offended—" when they start telling old maid jokes; probably because she still hasn't voted for a president. . . . Ted Sherman's habit of removing the "insides" of biscuits and cornbread and eating only the crust irritates his wife. . . . "They just don't wear 'em any more, by gosh," suffused Paul Hughes after an almost futile attempt to give away a certificate good at an Ada store for a new pair of men's supporters.

Those who speak loudest and longest in favor of freedom of speech and press also are the quickest to try to prevent stories about their mistakes and other misdeeds getting into print.

ASTONISHMENT: Assistant Postmaster Wilbur P. Lee, Superintendent of Mails Earl Sumner and others from the local p.o. attended a meeting Saturday at Oklahoma City where the average length of service of attending employees was 35 years, this, in the face of the fact Oklahoma has been a state only 29 years. Sumner has been in the Ada office 29 years, M. E. Qualls has been there 23 years and Lee a few months less than Qualls. Incidentally, Lee has the rubber stamp that postmarked the last letter mailed in Ada, J. T., on Nov. 15, 1907, before Oklahoma became a state. The date has never been changed.

Wonder if the horse-and-buggy owner got as many miles out of a gallon of corn as the modern motorist gets out of a quart?

GENE AUGUSTUS, Ada's genial Santa Claus who already is counting the days until Christmas, has started proceedings to bring his mother from Athens, Greece, to live in Ada. Her name is Irene Frigidakey and she is 67 years old. The last time Gene saw her was in 1927 when he went to Paris to attend the American Legion convention—and that was the first time in 14 years. Gene was born on a boat when his parents were coming to this country to live. Gene's father died and his mother married again, accounting for the different name and making it more difficult for her to secure re-admission to the United States.

The September Progress Edition of The Ada News is due to reveal many facts of Pontotoc county's natural resources and history of which even many of Ada's oldest citizens are unaware.

MISCELLANY: Earl Turley admits that his wife reads portions of this weekly babble to him. . . . Kivett, Ada's new electrician, on the other hand, told us he was a voluntary reader. . . . Ty Williams, former East Central student and now a senior law student at O U., is working hard in the Pitts field this summer so he won't have to work so hard while going to school next year so he can work harder on his lessons; figure that one out. . . . The U. S. Coast and Geodetic survey has imbedded a bench mark "E-57 1934" in a pillar at the Frisco passenger depot. . . . H. R. Antle informs that the Stonewall fault outcropping at the bridge over Clear Boggy between Ada and Pittstown takes the traveler back two million years as the formation changes from Pennsylvanian into Mississippian.