

Riley: mock 1789 Montana bicentennial/French Revolution piece?

Jeannette Rankin:

--use her anti-war votes in missile sites scene?

--WWI, her instinct proved out: Montana terribly hard hit

--WWII, less certain, US had been attacked

possible Riley column on Jeannette Rankin and WWI toll on Montana,
interspersed with missile site facts.

The Double Ought

--Jick or someone's phrase for Montana's 100th

• Montanians

famous ex-Monts: Bill Holm

Lester Thurow

Dirk Benedict

~~Jim~~ Macmally? - baseball pitcher from Billings

Dave

Hunt Hansen

Myrna Loy

Gary Cooper?

quote Malone & Roeder text o Mont. after h'stad boom
becoming a state of. old & young

The Montanians

Gordon's Ringling tug-of-war.

-Grossmont, Labor Day?

Myrna Loy of Helena: Riley column topic?

--was she ever in movie with Gary Cooper, also of Helena?

WINTER

"the nick of evernight, soon to begin"--LE Sissman, quoted by John Updike
~~EN~~ in NYTBR, May 14, '78 (in WRITERS file)

possible scene: lighting up an area for satellite pic--see "as Vegas NM Optic
clip in Maria ideas file.

The Montanans

possible scenes based on italic articles Nelson is writing:

--some memory of his from the 60's, when Baez's voice was in the air like a black satin flag and he and others were against the Viet Nam war. Jick perhaps tells him he was against both the behavior of them and the damned war. Perhaps a burial of contentious feelings over the war.

--something about Hugo and his teaching, perhaps a visit to Philipsburg or one of the other poem towns. Jick, reading the piece, recalls that Nelson took courses from "the poet Hugo". Possibly have Nelson quote Wm Stafford's obit of Hugo.

↑ --the prairie where Meriwether Lewis began the plains war with the Indians.

Annick's memory on KUFM tape

--Stafford's obit of Hugo in Writers' letters file, attached to my letter to Ripley?

The Montanian writer, Jick's ex-son-in-law, knew Dode Withrow; Dode has recently died, the very last of the Eng Crk ranching generation of Mac's time, and as a tribute the writer has Jick help him (thru remembered stories and styles of talk) write the reminiscence of those ranchers: the ranch-by-ranch description that was cut from Eng Crk.

The Montanians

schoolbusses as topic for Nelson column

The Montanians

Rocky Mountain oysters (calf and lamb) as Nelson column

--John Graves in From a Limestone Ledge, p. 83+, on castrating methods

The Montanians

packhorses and packstrings as a Nelson column topic?

The Montanians

check index of Directory to Montana's Oral History Resources (in Oral History file)
for possible Nelson column topics.

• Montanians

- stockguards: anybody in Mont. make them?
- Mont. gates: B is Hole pole gates distinctive? unique in Mont.?
- jackstay fences in rocky country, & B is Hole.

Nelson writes a column about Ross Toole's letter denouncing Vietnam protesters; thrust of it is, he has never forgiven Toole--it turns out the protesters were right--but Toole's views on conservation, etc., he shares. Ends something like the Republican politico's salute to FDR: God bless your gaudy guts.

use as one of Nelson's column topics:

--schoolchildren giving pennies for Charlie Russell's Mint paintings

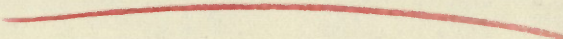
--quote from Hugo "Pishkun" poem abt Russell

Sept. 11, '75 diary entry about what shopping malls have done to towns.

from WPA "Cow Outfits" remnsce, in Shoestrijng/livestock file:

--exuberant 4th of July, with everyone drinking and betting all day long,
until toward end of the day "even the stage horses were taken out...and run
for a glass of beer."

--also has incident of elk branded during roundup.



suggestion from C, 4 Feb. '83 as I was telling her about reading Wright Morris's
The Home Place: put references to Garland-Stegner-Sandoz-Morris in some book?

--possible for The Montanans; Jick's newspaperman ex-son-in-law perhaps could do it.

--key this to one of Nelson's columns on homesteaders?

Riley does a symphony of roads, with the cost of distance in it?

Montanians

Nat. Geographic, CM Russell article, Jan. '86

The Montanians

from Bill Lang, Mont. funeral trip, Feb. 2-3 '86: he thinks the way to approach Charlie Russell is to view him as a storyteller; a crowd-pleaser. After having done the CMR special issue, Bill believes there wasn't a real Russell that can be found; he was persona, the entertaining gabby guy you run into in bar or cafe, who always holds you with a story. CMR's habit of always working with clay, keeping his hands busy, would fit with this: an attention-fixing device; so would the "storiness" of his paintings, and of course his quite good writing.

--ask Lang sometime: how to square CMR's crusty comments about women--schoolmarms, mod women who don't wear enough to pad a crutch, etc.--with his own promoter wife, Nancy.

--Bill says there's a good view of CRM in the MHS's Rankin (not Wellington; a CMR researcher now dead) collection of letters from CMR friends; particularly the view by a friend during CMR's brief Helena period, who disapprovingly watched CMR fall for a floozie.

The Montanans

Montanans are as proud of Charlie Russell as if he was ^{Bertrand}~~Burton~~ or Jane.

something to show.