



Dear Abby

Fish rain from the sky: 'We saw it happen'

By Abigail Van Buren

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DEAR ABBY: The man who told his wife he saw fish falling from the sky was not crazy; neither was he lying.

In the summer of 1926, I caddied at a local golf course. There had been a long drought that summer and the fairways were brown and dried up.

One afternoon while I was caddying, a sudden storm came up and a terrific thundershower followed. Rain came down in torrents, and with it came a shower of tiny frogs about the size of nickels. They were alive and jumping all over, thousands of them!

The golfers and I couldn't believe our eyes as we watched thousands of frogs come right down with the rain from the sky. We saw it happen.

WM. A. WALKER, EVANSVILLE, IND.

DEAR ABBY: Here I have gone all my 70 years without writing a letter to a columnist, but now Dear Abby has finally smoked me out. I can't sleep until I help out that poor devil whose wife thinks he needs to see a shrink because he said he saw it raining fish!

He may have. In some areas, summer storms are preceded by twisters which are in reality tornados that suck up an immense amount of water from a stream or pond, and with it all the life that is in it. It's converted into a "waterspout" and carried for miles before it's deposited in a shower of rain.

If anyone doubts this, write to me, and I'll spin some wonderful yarns about flying saucers.

F. C. MILLER, SAN DIEGO, CAL.

DEAR ABBY: I was raised on a farm in Minnesota, and as a boy I remember a storm coming up. It looked serious so we all ran to the cellar. In 40 minutes it was all over.

Afterwards, we went outside and saw our chickens going wild, eating tiny fish and frogs. We were inland at least 10 miles, so the only explanation was that a tornado had sucked them up out of a stream and had dumped them on our farm. This is not a fish story. I saw it with my own eyes.

FLOYD J. McMANUS, LAGUNA BEACH, CAL.

DEAR ABBY: I lived on a farm three miles from Ashland, Wis. A storm came up suddenly and afterwards I saw little tiny fish in the cowtracks around our barn. I'm no kid, Abby. I am 80 years old.

RICHARD HAGSTROM, ZIG ZAG, ORE.

DEAR ABBY: A friend of mine named Ed Brady heard something strike the roof of his home during a severe rainstorm, and the next day he found a big eel in his rainbarrel. He lived half a mile from the river. This occurred at Ouquaga, N. Y. Ed Brady still lives there and can verify it.

H. D. JOHNSON, WALTON, N. Y.

DEAR ABBY: I personally drove thru a "rainstorm" of tadpoles in western Missouri 14 years ago.

TADPOLES FALLING ON MY HEAD
IN DODGE CITY, KAS.

DEAR ABBY: I learned about how fish could be sucked up by a funnel cloud and dropped miles inland when I was a lad in public school in Holland, 55 years ago.

Y. Y. OUDSHOORN, VICTORIA, B. C., CANADA

DEAR ABBY: Of course it could have rained fish. It rained HERRING in Scotland in March of 1817. The "herring rain" lasted about an hour, and this is no fish story.

KIM LONG, WHEELING, W. VA.

DEAR ABBY: About 35 years ago while I was driving thru a thunderstorm near Hershey, Pa., dozens of tiny frogs came down and pelted the hood of my automobile.

DAVID E. GARNER, BALTIMORE

Problems? Trust Abby. For a personal reply, write to ABBY, BOX 69700, L. A., CALIF. 90069 and enclose a stamped, addressed envelope.

Christians Start Their Most Cooperative Venture

By GEORGE W. CORNELL
AP Religion Writer

NEW YORK (AP)—American Christians of nearly every kind have started their most broadly cooperative venture in modern times—to try to strengthen the commitment of this generation to Christ.

The year-long, interdenominational effort, began on Christmas Day with the first of a two-week period of noontime prayers for its success, involves both Roman Catholics and most of all Protestants.

Called "Key 73," its theme is: "Calling Our Continent to Christ." Taking part are fundamentalists, conservatives, liberals, moderates and small and large denominations that previously have shunned ecumenical activities, such as the big Southern Baptist Convention and Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, as well as ecumenical-minded, mainline denominations.

"It is the widest, joint effort in the history of North American Christianity," said the Rev. Joe Hale, of Nashville, Tenn., United Methodist director of ecumenical evangelism and a member of the "Key 73" executive committee.

"It has groups working together that have never worked together before. It may do more to build a united Chris-

tian front than anything we've ever done."

A central factor drawing such inclusive participation is that each denomination and organization may take part in ways, and to the extent, it chooses, so as not to compromise its position or practice.

It offers "a new style of participation," said the Rev. Dr. Thomas F. Zimmerman of Springfield, Mo., general superintendent of the Assemblies of God and chairman of the "Key 73" executive committee.

However, the five years of planning has been on a cooperative basis and various joint endeavors, both nationally and locally, are contemplated. Altogether, about 150 denominations and groups are formally participating.

They range from major, historical bodies such as the Episcopal Church, numerous Roman Catholic dioceses and the United Church of Canada to black denominations, Pentecostal groups and evangelistic organizations such as Youth for Christ and Billy Graham's association.

The plan was sparked by a 1967 interdenominational meeting arranged by Baptist theologian Carl F. H. Henry, former editor of Christianity Today.

MISS PERME, MR. DEAKINS WED IN AFTERNOON CEREMONY



The First Presbyterian Church in Harrison was decorated in holiday splendor for the wedding Saturday afternoon, December 23rd, at 2:30 o'clock when Miss Evelyn Charlotte Perme became the bride of Phillip Conner Deakins.

She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joe Perme, 202 South Hickory and he is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Clell W. Deakins, Hill Top, all of Harrison. Rev. J. Russell Skorburg performed the double-ring ceremony. Mrs. A.E. Milburn, Jr. provided pre-



POLLY'S POINTERS

Housewife with Problem Needs Fringe Benefit

By POLLY CRAMER

Polly's Problem

DEAR POLLY—My problem concerns the washing of a white Colonial bedspread with fringe. Mine is cotton and can be washed in a heavy duty washing machine, BUT the fringe comes out in knots and this makes the spread look just terrible. I patiently sit and try to work out the knots but it takes lots of time and lots of patience. Surely someone has solved this problem and can help me.—MRS. F. T. B.

DEAR POLLY—My Pet Peeve is with diaper bags. They simply are not constructed strong enough to last any length of time. Before you know it, the straps are splitting and the tops are tearing off. They have such sharp edges at the bottom corners that my hose are constantly being "picked." I am sure many mothers would be willing to pay more for a better quality bag. After my last diaper bag fell apart I bought a duffel bag and have found it much more satisfactory.—JANET

DEAR POLLY—There are many ways Una Mae can use those old plastic flowers she hates to throw away. Break the individual flowers from the stem and use them for gift wrapping, on a pipe cleaner handle on a nut cup, or as parts of a collage picture. Sprays of such flowers can also be used for bedroom or nursery curtain tie-backs.—FRANCES

DEAR POLLY—Una Mae could make Flemish florals with the old plastic flowers she does not want to throw away. Thoroughly wash the flowers and then rinse well. Allow them to dry overnight as one drop of water will spoil the finished effect. Tie about 12 inches of cord to each stem. Prepare the following mixture in a large deep container such as a big coffee can. One pint light oak gloss varnish, one pint turpentine, one teaspoon dry gold dust powder—stir well. Dip dry plastic flowers, one at a time, into the mixture and hold over the can until all dripping stops. Hang upside down, by the cord, on a clothesline with newspaper underneath the line to catch any remaining drips. Dry at least one day. Trim stems and arrange as desired. You have to see such an arrangement to believe how lovely it can be. Do not try to save any leftover mixture for re-use as it does not work.—MRS. A. M.



DEAR GIRLS—Several years ago we printed such an answer and the flowers I did to try it out were first used singly to decorate a wreath of Christmas greens and the next year they were part of my gift package trimmings.—POLLY

DEAR POLLY—Recently I was helping clean a sick neighbor's jalousie windows. One was in need of repair and would not open. I used a thin spatula with a cloth to get between the glass strips. This window turned out as clean looking as the others and with even less work.—JOHN

(NEWSPAPER ENTERPRISE ASSN.)

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nuptial organ music and accompanied Mrs. Jack O'Brien as she sang, "Oh, Perfect Love" and "The Wedding Prayer" as the newlyweds knelt on the leather prie-dieu.

Fresh Scotch pine roping and wreaths, accented with red velvet ribbons, decorated Christmas trees, and red poinsettias with gold wrap, laced with Scotch pine, and accented with red velvet ribbon, decorated the church. Arrangements of white gladioli laced with Noble Fir filled the gold altar vases and gold urns at the steps leading to the altar. Pine and velvet decorated the pews which were reserved for the family.

Given in marriage by her father, the bride wore an Empire gown of ivory peau de soie, fashioned with the bodice of re-embroidered Alencon lace accented with pearls, which featured a scalloped, sweetheart neckline and long lace sleeves which were tied at the wrists with satin bows. A satin sash and bow accented the high waistline. A wide panel of lace from the knee to the floor accented the slim skirt which swept into a built-in chapel train from the added fullness in back. A floor-length veil, embellished with a panel of matching lace, fell from her matching lace and satin chapel-cap. She carried ivory sweetheart roses laced with Ming Toy fern in a colonial design, from which cascaded miniature white satin bells with clappers of Ming Toy fern. Small metallic gold bows topped each bell, and ivory satin and gold metallic ribbon formed a cascading shower.

Mrs. Dolores Perme Banks of Tulsa, Oklahoma, served her sister as matron of honor and Miss Susie Winston of the University of Arkansas was the bridesmaid. Their gowns were of Hollyberry and burgundy velvet with ivory peau de soie trim. They carried red carnations laced with glittered burgundy button flowers and gold-tipped leather fern from which cascaded miniature satin wedding bells, accented with gold metallic ribbon. They wore sprigs of holly with velvet bows in their hair.

Little Miss Mandy Elizabeth Banks, niece of the bride, carried petals in her holly-trimmed basket. She wore a floor-length Hollyberry velvet gown and holly accented with velvet ribbons in her hair.

Walker Deakins served his cousin as best man with Wayne Ruff as groomsman. Richard Conner, another cousin, Gary Perme, brother of the bride, Bill Burge, and Mike Letson ushered.

Miss Bernice Villines registered the guests in the foyer of the church where fresh pine with red satin ribbon decorated the windows and entrance to the church. A small Christmas tree with red poinsettia lights, accented with fresh red carnations, graced the registry table.

At the reception in Westminster Hall of the church immediately following the ceremony, the bride's table was covered with white satin, centered with a round Christmas cloth on which sat a gold urn of white gladioli, red carnations, and star-dusted Scotch pine, accented with fresh holly. Five-branched gold candelabra, decorated with holly, held red tapers. Serving the three-tiered wedding cake and sparkling red punch from the Cambridge crystal punch bowl were Misses Susie Winston of Fayetteville, Cathy Hurley of Alpena, and Mesdames Bill Burge and Mike Letson of Harrison. The newlyweds received beneath a holly-decorated arch with decorated 7-branched candelabra on each side burning red tapers.

For her daughter's wedding Mrs. Perme wore a dusty rose, A-line crepe, styled with metallic silver braid outlining the low neckline and extending to the waist in back from which boxed pleats gave added fullness to the slimskirt. She wore matching dusty rose accessories. Mrs. Deakins, mother of the groom, wore a beige double-knit, two-piece dress with matching bone accessories. Their corsages were small dusty pink Cymbidium orchids with metallic trim to match their gowns.

Both the bride and groom were honor graduates of Harrison High School and he graduated this December from the University of Arkansas College of Nursing four-year-program. He plans to go into the specialized field of Inhalation Therapy. Mrs. Deakins will receive her Secretarial Science Degree in May, upon completion of the two-year-program at the University of Arkansas. She is a member of the National Collegiate Association of Secretaries.

After a short honeymoon Mr. and Mrs. Deakins will live in Fayetteville. For travel, she wore a belted, winter-white knit

Loyal Workers Homemakers

The Loyal Workers Extension Homemakers had their Christmas party Dec. 19, in the home of Mrs. Arlus Baughman.

President Lucille Custer presided. Mrs. Custer gave the thought of the month "When a man is wrapped up in himself, he makes a pretty small package". Hymn, "Fairest Lord Jesus" was led by Mrs. Paul Alexander. Pledge to Flag was given. Mrs. D. C. Nickoll gave the devotional from Luke 2:8-11. Mrs. Nickoll also read several Christmas poems including a "A Christmas Prayer" by Rev. Billy Graham.

Roll call, "A favorite holiday dish" was answered by 12 members and one guest, Mrs. Jack Lott. Eye openers were presented by Mrs. Geo. Whitman and Mrs. Arlus Baughman. Mrs. Whitman showed a napkin ring made of white felt with sequins. Mrs. Baughman showed the members through her new home and also displayed pictures she had painted.

Songs, "Joy to the World" and "Silent Night" were led by Mrs. Alexander. Mrs. George Whitman presented treasurer's report and last month's minutes. Mrs. Elmer Dees was in charge of the entertainment. Mrs. N. R. Hodges read "Christmas is a Season for Giving" by H. Rice. Mrs. Whitman read "To You". Mrs. Dees read a poem "Christmas Prayer" by H. Rice. A poem "The Day Before Christmas" was given by Mrs. Boone Wilford. Mrs. Whitman gave a reading "The Stable

dress with three-quarter, bell sleeves, horizontal self-designing emphasized the slim lines. Her accessories were brown and gold and her corsage of red carnations with holly trim. If.

Locals . . . and . . . Socials

Lt. and Mrs. Steven Greenhaw of Columbus, Miss., visited his aunt, Mrs. John R. Newman, Thursday afternoon enroute to Guthrie, Okla., for a Christmas visit with her parents and at Hillsboro, Kan., with his parents. Lt. Greenhaw received his wings on Wednesday at graduation exercises at Columbus Air Force Base. Mrs. Greenhaw, a journalism major, graduated last week from Mississippi State, receiving her degree in journalism. Lt. Greenhaw will be assigned to Altus, Okla., for two months and then will be stationed in Washington state.

"Keeper" by G. Howard. Mrs. Fannie Taylor read the poem "The Night Before Christmas" as the members formed a circle and passed gifts.

Secret pals were revealed and new names drawn for next year. The club presented Mrs. Baughman a gift for her new home.

Next meeting is January 23rd, at 1:30 p.m. with Mrs. Fannie Taylor.

Happy Birthday

MONDAY, December 25

Fon Wagner
James Brown
Mosco Cash Jr.
Sue Carole McElroy
Frieda Gulley
Mrs. James A. Hudson
Virginia Booker
Mrs. Myrtle Smith
Raymond C. Whitney
Steve Williams
Pearl Still
Anita Jeanne Tucker
Sharon Wilson
Howard Jean Hefley

TUESDAY, December 26

J. C. Hudson
John Goss
Kay Jeannine Rogers
Norma Cross
Clara Fuller
Glenda Faye Phifer
Donald Ray Phifer
Clarence Bingham
Kevin Middleton
Debra Faulkenberry
John Charles Washington, Jr.
Randy Lee Milam
Dottie Marie Milam
Jacqueline Kae Chaney

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