## Louis' Lunch: A little bite of history.



One day in the year 1900 a man dashed into a small New Haven luncheonette and asked for a quick meal that he could eat on the run. Louis Lassen, the establishment's owner, hurriedly sandwiched a broiled beef patty between two slices of bread and sent the customer on his way, so the story goes, with America's very first hamburger.

Take with you a little bite of history.

Louis' Lunch

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## Bizarre Planet



PATALIA, India (Chicago Tribune) You've got a problem on your hands. An infestation of monkeys is rampaging through your country, running amok in government ministries, snatching purses from women, stealing children's lunchboxes, and defecating in water tanks. Well why don't you break out the 12-gauge and declare open season on these simian scallywags? You can't! You're a Hindu, and you consider monkeys sacred to the moon goddess Hanuman. Yes, in addition to explosive racial tension, lack of food and infrastructure, and the threat of nuclear war with Pakistan, God has seen to fit to smite India with a plague of destructive monkeys that makes Dunston Checks In look like small beer. But some have found a way out of this dilemma: monkey jail. The first Big House for our primate cousins opened in Patalia, Punjab province, and now houses 13 inmates of the region's most hardened monkey criminals. But just like with real prisons, there are annoying dogooders trying to bring down the system: "You can't treat them in the same way as humans, as bad and good," said an animal rights activist, arguing that the monkey should be rehabilitated and released into the forest rather than jailed.

LONDON (Daily Telegraph) In civilized Western Europe, however, where hordes of malicious monkeys are not terrorizing the citizenry, the Germans have once again created an invention that will revolutionize the modern world. No, it's not Lutheranism or genocide, it's a toilet voice alarm known as the "WC Ghost" that automatically scolds a man who tries to urinate standing up. This may be a tough sell, since the German slang for "wimp" is the onomatopoetic "sitzpinkler" [one who urinates sitting down], but the inventor Alex Benkhardt has made the scolding voice sound remarkably like German Chancellor Schroder for added authority. A planned British version may use a voice similar to Queen Elizabeth's. Sharing a stall with a crowned head of Europe...lovely.

CALGARY (Calgary Herald) Jumping from the wacky Brits to the wacky Brits to the wacky Brits to the hilarity of our benighted Northern neighbor. In August, four prostitutes testified against a seventeen-year-old john who had patronized all of them: The youth had robbed all four after having sex with them. But in addition to being underage, said john was also very stupid: while robbing one of the prostitutes at knife-point, he discovered an eviction notice in her purse and gave her his phone number, asking if she would like to rent an apartment from him.

LOS ANGELES (LA Times) But just to prove that this column is guilty only of mild bigotry, we proceed to our very own U. S. of A., though California is arguably a country to itself. There, an ongoing dispute between owners of pet ferrets and the state finally reached an end. Apparently, ferrets are banned as crop menaces, but that has not discouraged rogue Californians from harboring the devious rodents. The government agreed to grant licenses to ferret owners who paid a \$75 licensing fee—but the catch is, all the money must go to a study investigating whether the state can tolerate more ferrets.

ORLANDO (CNN) And in other crazy parts of our fair republic, that petty principality known as the Magic Kingdom has once again belied its promise of happiness and joy by means of a man in a dog suit. Michael Chartrand, a worker hired to dress up as Goofy, was accused of attacking two photographers while in costume. Incidentally, Chartrand was only recently acquitted of fondling a thirteen-year-old girl while dressed in a Tigger costume. In the assault case, however, Chartrand's lawyer was ready with a knock-down defense: as she put it, "Of course he was goofing around because he was Goofy!"

The Yale Record