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Circulation: Possibly 14 - At least 12

May 24th, 2016

VOLUME 11

2nd Edition

VICTORIAN GOVERNMENT SENDS AN APOLOGY OUT TO THE GAY COMMUNITY FOR PAST LAWS

EXPLANATION GIVEN TELLING WHY SUCH LAWS WERE REQUIRED AT THE TIME

May 24 2016-

The Victorian Government has issued a formal apology to males who were criminalised and jailed under old state laws up until 1981.

A government official, who preferred to remain anonymous, told our reporter that there was good reason for the government to introduce those laws at the time.

"You must understand", the official said, "in those days, there wasn't anything around to vaccinate healthy people and the chances of catching the 'Gay' virus was very real".

"In today's environment, we have vaccinations coming out the wahzoo, which also brings us back to the gays".

The official went on to say that it was a well known scientific fact from as far back as the early to mid 1900's that gayness could be passed on just by looking at an infected person.

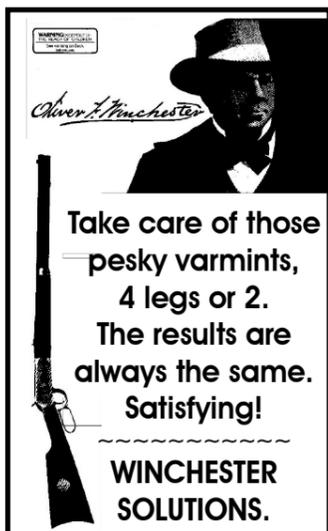
"Science has made such incredible leaps forward since then and now we can all rest assured, knowing that we at last have protection from any sort of gayness".

KILLER TURTLE ATTEMPTS TO HIJACK JETSTAR PLANE

May 24, 2016

Passengers had a close shave on an aircraft bound for Tasmania, when a giant killer turtle, in a bid to reach Cuba, threatened to run amok, slashing the throats of travelers and air crew alike.

It took brave customs officers to subdue the wild creature which has been declared a terrorist and in a shocking new revelation that has just come to light, it was found to be unvaccinated, putting all those on board at risk.



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Compiled & printed by
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DID YOU KNOW?

1- Charles Goodnight, on his first cattle drive to Colorado invented the chuck wagon by revamping an Army surplus wagon. Devising the cowboy version of meals on wheels, the wagon was complete with compartments for bacon, beans, coffee, spices, flour, and liquor.

2- Theodore Roosevelt was sent to live in North Dakota for health reasons. He fell in love with the West and wrote a book titled "Ranch Life and the Hunting Trail" before becoming a US president. The book was illustrated by famous Western artist Frederick Remington.

3- After surviving decades of notorious outlaws, retired U.S. Deputy Marshal and Cromwell, Oklahoma marshal, Bill Tilghman was shot and killed by a corrupt Prohibition Officer in 1924. He was 70 years old.

DISCLAIMER

The Dry Gulch Gazette wishes to advise that any articles printed in this newspaper are not necessarily the opinion of the paper, its staff or associates. In fact, we're stuffed if we know how this stuff gets printed in here.

BEHIND THE HEADLINES

Old Victorian laws criminalising homosexuality 'profoundly wrong', Premier says in apology

Victorian Premier Daniel Andrews has formally apologised in State Parliament for old laws that treated people as criminals for being gay.

Mr Andrews delivered the apology in Parliament in front of a number of men, some of whom were jailed for being gay.

"It is never too late to put things right," he said. "It is never too late to say sorry and mean it. There was a time in our history when we turned thousands of young men into criminals ... this was profoundly wrong."

Until 1981, thousands of men were charged with homosexual offences and faced penalties of up to 15 years' jail.

Mr Andrews said the Parliament introduced laws that sanctioned homophobia, and it had a responsibility to apologise.

"I can't possibly explain why we made these laws and clung to them and fought for them," he said.

"It is the first responsibility of a government to keep people safe. But the Government didn't keep LGBTI people safe. The Government invalidated their humanity and cast them into a nightmare." Mr Andrews said everyone had the right to equal treatment.

"If you're a member of the LGBTI community, and there's someone in your life that you love, a partner or a friend, then do me a favour: next time you're on a tram in Melbourne, hold their hand," he said.

"Do it with pride. And defiance."

Opposition Leader Matthew Guy joined the apology and said the past treatment of the state's gay community was shameful.

"We now, as a Parliament, apologise to the victims of policies of intolerance [and] oppression that resulted in outcasting, depression and sadly even suicide," he said.

"I offer my formal apologies for any past policies, for past practices that led to the disgraceful treatment of those in our gay community.

"This apology is long overdue. It is about time and it is right."

Freshwater turtle found on plane at Hobart airport an 'invasive species', will be euthanased

A small turtle found in a plane's luggage compartment in Hobart will be euthanased, authorities say. The reptile dropped out of an overhead compartment onto a seat as passengers on a Melbourne-to-Hobart Jetstar flight were getting ready to disembark.

The reptile landed on the foot of passenger Patrick Kelly, who was reaching for his baggage shortly after his plane touched down on Sunday afternoon. "At first I thought it was a toy turtle sort of statue — and then it moved on my feet," he said.

It was a Murray River short-necked turtle, a freshwater species often kept as a pet. Nobody on the plane came forward as its owner. "They [flight staff] did ask if anyone on the plane had lost a turtle, people found that pretty funny," Mr Kelly said. "A flight attendant picked it up with a napkin and took it away." Mr Kelly said the turtle appeared to be in good health. "It looked to be moving its little webbed legs fine and sticking its head in and out," he said. "It certainly didn't look too scarred from the flight." Bemused passengers started asking how the turtle ended up in a luggage compartment.