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Gift Horse

A lady in a faded gingham dress and her husband, dressed in a homespun threadbare suit, stepped off the train in Boston, and walked timidly without an appointment into the president of Harvard's outer office. The secretary could tell in a moment that such backwoods, country hicks had no business at Harvard and probably didn't even deserve to be in Cambridge.

She frowned. "We want to see the president," the man said softly. "He'll be busy all day," the secretary snapped. "We'll wait," the lady replied. For hours, the secretary ignored them, hoping that the couple would finally become discouraged and go away.

They didn't. And the secretary grew frustrated and finally decided to disturb the president, even though it was a chore she always regretted to do. "Maybe if they just see you for a few minutes, they'll leave," she told him.

And he sighed in exasperation and nodded. Someone of his importance obviously didn't have the time to spend with them, but he detested gingham dresses and homespun suits cluttering up his outer office. The president, stern-faced with dignity, strutted toward the couple. The lady told him, "We had a son that attended Harvard for one year. He loved Harvard. He was happy here. But about a year ago, he was accidentally killed. And my husband and I would like to erect a memorial to him, somewhere on campus."

The president wasn't touched, he was shocked. "Madam," he said gruffly. "We can't put up a statue for every person who attended Harvard and died. If we did,



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Street, North Manchester 260-982-8125

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Signs of The Times

Sign over a gynaecologist's office:

DR. JONES, AT YOUR CERVIX

In a podiatrist's office:

TIME WOUNDS ALL HEELS

On a septic tank truck:

YESTERDAY'S MEALS ON WHEELS

On a plumber's truck:

WE REPAIR WHAT YOUR HUSBAND FIXED

On another plumber's truck:

DON'T SLEEP WITH A DRIP, CALL YOUR
PLUMBER

On a church's bill board:

7 DAYS WITHOUT GOD MAKES ONE WEAK

At a tire store:

INVITE US TO YOUR NEXT BLOWOUT

On an electrician's truck:

LET US REMOVE YOUR SHORTS

In a non-smoking area:

IF WE SEE SMOKE, WE WILL ASSUME YOU ARE
ON FIRE AND TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION

On a maternity room door:

PUSH. PUSH. PUSH.

At an optometrist's office:

IF YOU DON'T SEE WHAT YOU'RE LOOKING FOR,
YOU'VE COME TO THE RIGHT PLACE

On a taxidermist's window:

WE REALLY KNOW OUR STUFF

On a fence:

SALESMEN WELCOME! DOG FOOD IS EXPENSIVE!

At a car dealership:

THE BEST WAY TO GET BACK ON YOUR FEET -
MISS A CAR PAYMENT

Outside a muffler shop:

NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY,
WE HEAR YOU COMING

In a vets waiting room:

BE BACK IN 5 MINUTES. SIT! STAY!

In a restaurant window:

DON'T STAND THERE AND BE HUNGRY, COME
ON IN AND GET FED UP

In the front yard of a funeral home:

DRIVE CAREFULLY. WE'LL WAIT.

At the radiator shop:

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Another septic tank truck reads:

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A friend of mine just started his own business in Afghanistan. He's making land mines that look like prayer mats. It's doing well. He says prophets are going through the roof.

—Doyle Hullinger

Consider This...
By Guest Writer

Continued from page 1

this place would look like a cemetery".
"Oh, no," the lady explained quickly.
"We don't want to erect a statue. We thought we would like to give a building to Harvard."

The president rolled his eyes. He glanced at the gingham dress and homespun suit, then exclaimed, "A building! Do you have any earthly idea how much a building costs? We have over seven and a half million dollars in the physical plant at Harvard."

For a moment the lady was silent. The president was pleased. He could get rid of them now. And the lady turned to her husband and said quietly, "Is that all it costs to start a University? Why don't we just start our own?" Her husband nodded. The president's face wilted in confusion and bewilderment. And Mr. and Mrs. Leland Stanford walked away, traveling to Palo Alto, California where they established the University that bears their name, a memorial to a son that Harvard no longer cared about.



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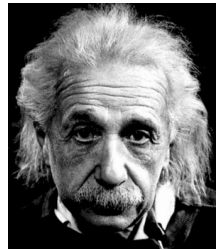


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A teenage boy had just passed his driving test and inquired of his father as to when they could discuss his use of the car. His father said he'd make a deal with his son: "You bring your grades up from a C to a B average, study your Bible a little, and get your hair cut. Then we'll talk about the car."

The boy thought about that for a moment, decided he'd settle for the offer, and they agreed on it.

After about six weeks his father said, "Son, you've brought your grades up and I've observed that you have been studying your Bible, but I'm disappointed you haven't had your hair cut."



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The boy said, "You know, Dad, I've been thinking about that, and I've noticed in my studies of the Bible that Samson had long hair, John the Baptist had long hair, Moses had long hair and there's even strong evidence that Jesus had long hair."

His father replied, "Did you also notice they all walked everywhere they went?"

Thank you, Eunice K. for sharing the haircut story with our readers. Now that's at least 2¢ worth of wisdom.

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"Till next time...

—Old Coot

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