

Antiquing with Joel Sater

(See introduction on Page 1.)

"Connoisseur, World Traveler,
Man Of Mystery"

Some years ago at a flea market a big, strapping fellow with a ring in one ear said to me, "I've got to clear all this stuff out this afternoon, I'm flying to Europe tomorrow." I thought he was kidding. How could anyone attend a flea market and do all that has to be done to get ready to go to Europe in one day? I just didn't have faith in Daniel Sourbeer.

Several weeks later I met a friend who has been to England on business. His first remark to me was, "Guess who I saw walking down Petticoat Lane in London, Danny Sourbeer!"

Some of the stories Danny tells about antiques and antiquing are so "way out" as to seem unbelievable. But over the years I have discovered that I might as well believe him be-

cause not once have I ever heard anyone prove him telling a "tall one." Yet many times I've stumbled across newspaper clippings and total strangers that in some way verified one of Dan's stories.

He told me many times that he does shows all over the South. Then one day I got a long distance phone call from a lady who was looking for a fellow with a beard who had a goblet she had neglected to buy at a show in Atlanta, Georgia. Of course the man she sought was Dan Sourbeer, who says he has 34,000 goblets.

At a recent show Daniel and I had a long talk. Among other things he told me that his display was worth over \$1,000,000. He showed me four handsome diamond rings he was wearing

which even to my unpracticed eye were clearly worth over \$10,000. He opened the flap of his handsome green brocade jacket to show me the label. "Sex (no misspelling) Fifth Avenue." He showed me a Sevres Vase about three feet high in perfect condition and with no hesitation asked me to pay \$125,000 for it (I wasn't exactly a good prospect.) He showed me a piece of china owned, he said, by Marie Antoinette. He described a museum in Nuremberg which he had bought. He tossed a skating case onto a table, opened it and displayed one of the most handsome collections of American Paper money I've ever seen. And it's value of well over \$100,000 was verified to me by a numismatist a few hours later. He showed me two lamps made of black jade which he priced at \$55,000. I stepped on a piece of cloth lying on the floor to look closely at an oil painting and he said, "Joel, you're standing on the Empress of China's petticoat."

Well, I never knew the Empress of China well enough to know exactly what her petticoat wardrobe consisted of, but I am bewildered enough by Mr. Sourbeer to believe that I really did stand on one of them."

Dan is moving his shop to St



Daniel Sourbeer, Antiquer extraordinary, with Chinese Madonna which he says is from the Peking Palace. The price? over \$4,000.

Petersburg, Florida. He's gracious, entertaining and one of the most colorful antiquers I know. If you're ever down there you'll find visiting him a unique experience, if you find him home.

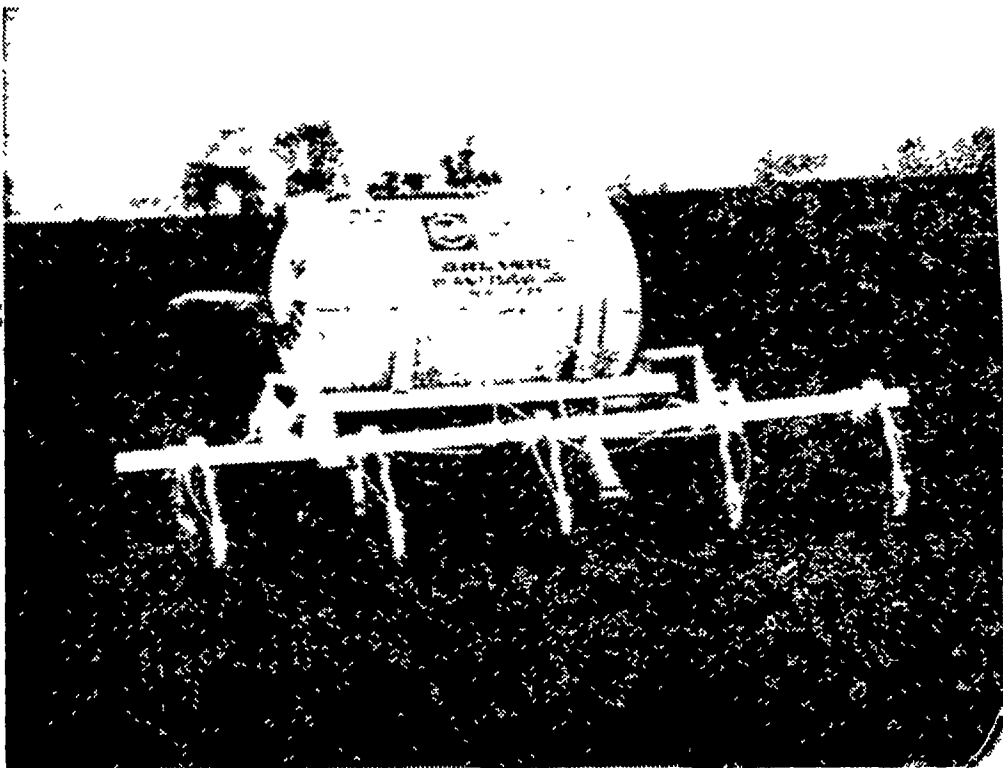
By the way, I asked if he'd take \$120,000 for the Sevres Vase and he answered "No." I asked him would he deliver it if I bought it and he again said "No." So I had to pass it up.

I welcome letters and inquiries

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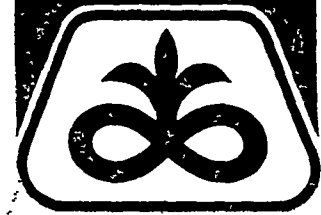
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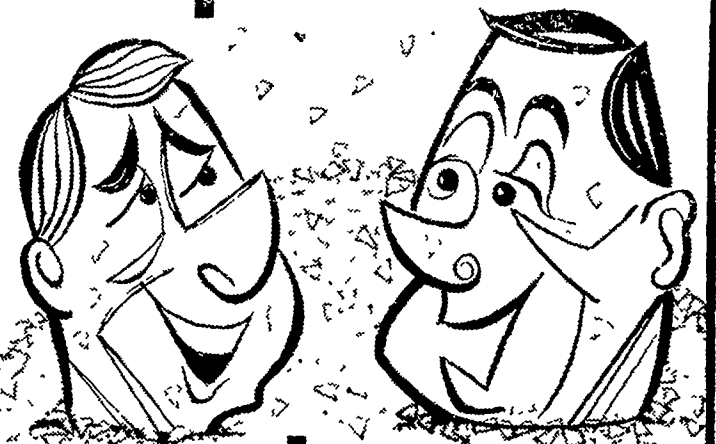
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