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Elks

magazine
December 1977



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Even the coldest cynic melts a little under the warming spell of the spirit that reaches its highest manifestation in December. We give expression to it in our traditional Memorial Services in remembrance of our Brothers who no longer answer the roll. It glows in our compassionate concern for others. Brotherhood, which is the very heart of Elkdom, derives from the spirit of Christmas, a spirit with the miraculous power to reach and to move men regardless of faith.

All across America, on Elks Memorial Sunday members of this fraternity will join in renewing our fraternal ties with those who have preceded us. From this renewal we are strengthened in our brotherly bonds with the living. We remember and we are better for it.

As they have for more than a century, Elks Lodges will do all that they can to brighten the lives of little children and of others in this Yule season. It is a beautiful tradition, and much needed today despite welfare programs, for Elks benevolence is always person to person. It comes from the heart. That's where the spirit of Christmas dwells.

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the Elks magazine

VOL. 56, NO. 7 / DECEMBER, 1977

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 EDITORIAL OFFICES, 425 W. Diversey Parkway, Chicago, IL 60614

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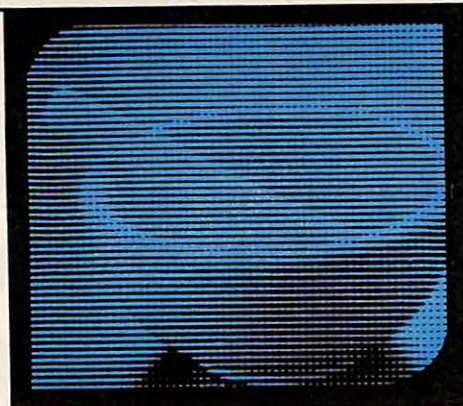
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MEDICINE AND YOU

by Larry Holden



NATION'S VICTIMS CASH IN ON SKIN BANK

With this issue, The Elks Magazine introduces Larry Holden and an all-new column. Holden attended Louisiana State University and received a degree in Journalism. He worked as a reporter, sports writer, photographer, feature writer and editor for daily and weekly newspapers in Louisiana. While serving as an officer in the U.S. Air Force he edited an award-winning monthly news magazine. Now a professional freelancer, Holden produces short stories, fiction and non-fiction books, and screenplays for a wide variety of American and foreign outlets. His byline has appeared in magazines and newspapers across the country.

Countless lives are being saved by the only U.S. national resource for human skin.

"We are the first skin bank that has endeavored to get a supply large enough to be a national resource, to actually furnish other facilities with needed skin for burn victims," explains Dr. Charles Baxter, director of the Skin Transplant Center for Burns and professor of surgery at the University of Texas Health Science Center at Dallas.

Such facilities hold the key of hope for the 300,000 Americans injured by fire every year. More than 12,000 of those people die, according to the National Commission on Fire Prevention and Control.

Although not the only skin bank—a place where human skin is stored—in the country, the Texas facility is the only one that ships skin to other institutions.

"The other four or five banks merely harvest enough skin for their own immediate use. They're doing very little preservation, but some of them are beginning to implement such activities," says Baxter.

"We harvested, or surgically removed from cadavers, about 1,000 square feet of skin last year," notes Ellen Heck, associate director of the transplant center and research associate of surgery, "and we shipped 350 square feet of it to 17 different facilities across the country."

Cadavers are used because you can take only so much skin from living donors without endangering their lives.

So what happens when an order for human skin cannot be filled because of a scarcity?

"If an order, from either an outside fa-

cility or from ourselves, isn't filled, many of the patients die," admits Baxter. "The ones that survive go through a great deal of pain and suffering, plus a long course of treatment. Also, the problems encountered later by such patients will be increased."

The availability of human skin that a skin bank affords means saved lives. "Many victims with less than a 40 percent burn die, unless they're treated at a burn center such as ours," says Baxter. "We've cut the death rate to zero for below 40 percent burn patients. Burns between 40 and 70 percent had a 40 percent mortality rate; we've brought it down to 25 percent. We've also cut the death rate for burns greater than 70 percent from 95 percent to about 70-75 percent."

So, how does the skin bank work?

A donor is needed. "The most common avenue we have for obtaining skin is a donation by the next of kin after a death," explains Ms. Heck.

"The back of Texas drivers' licenses are now printed with a uniform donor code, so that you can sign the form and donate any part of your body. Quite a few other states also have this system.

"About 60 percent of the families contacted are willing to donate once they understand the need for skin.

"Of course, we have donor forms available. These provide a pocket card for the billfold or purse and another card to file with the will or with their attorney or with other members of the family so that we will be notified at the time of death."

To obtain the necessary forms for donations, write to Skin Transplant Center for Burns, The University of Texas Health Science Center at Dallas, Southwestern Medical School, 5323 Harry Hines Boulevard, Dallas, Texas 75235 or call the center's 24-hour answering service at (214) 688-2609.

The skin is removed. The skin is taken from the back and the back of the legs of the deceased persons. "We've selected skin from those areas to minimize any complications concerning funeral arrangements," states Ms. Heck. The skin must be removed within 24 hours of death.

Baxter adds: "It must be noted that in the skinning of a cadaver the exact same procedure that is used in taking

a skin graft from a live patient is employed. The skin removed is only the thickness of about two sheets of paper."

The skin is stored. After the skin is neatly trimmed of "bad spots," it's smoothed over a nylon netting, which is then rolled up. The skin is in varying lengths, from six to 42 inches long, and 2½ to 3 inches wide. The skin-on-netting is then put in special heat-sealed foil packages. After one night in a regular freezer the skin is moved to a liquid nitrogen freezer where the temperature plunges to -196 F.

"We've kept skin frozen for as long as four months and it was in excellent condition," says Ms. Heck. "The need for skin is so great that it just doesn't remain in the freezer for too long."

The skin is used. "If a request comes from outside the burn center, we ship the skin in dry ice by airline for same day delivery," notes Ms. Heck. "Five to ten square feet of skin is the usual shipment."

At the point the skin is needed, it's removed from the freezer, thawed very rapidly in warm 37 degree saline solution, removed from the nylon backing and applied.

"An antibiotic material and a dressing are used to hold the skin in place until it sticks or begins to take," explains Dr. Baxter. "The skin begins to take immediately and it's well in progress by the fifth day after grafting. From that point on there are enough connections between the host and the graft for the patient to begin being somewhat mobile."

The homograft, human skin, is used as a semi-permanent covering. It lasts for varying periods of time, from several weeks up to a few months. The extended period of time the homograft can be left in place reduces the exposure to possible infection of the burned area.

"We like to keep the homograft in place until it can be replaced by autograft, the patient's own skin," states Baxter.

Finally, through the use of autografts and the natural growth of good tissue in and around the burned area, the patient's damaged skin is entirely replaced. The use of homograft buys the valuable time needed to accomplish the autographing.

So Dallas' Skin Transplant Center for Burns is successfully saving lives by supplying human skin to facilities all across the country. But Dr. Baxter isn't satisfied to be the U.S.'s only national source of homograft.

"We've basically been only a repository the last four years," he explains, "but now we hope to branch out to do various kinds of research, such as the stimulation of skin cells to cause them to grow faster. We feel that research is an important function of a skin bank."

While Larry Holden cannot diagnose, he is interested in any questions or comments of a general nature and news of developments in the medical field. Write to: Larry Holden, c/o The Elks Magazine, 425 W. Diversey Parkway, Chicago, IL 60614.

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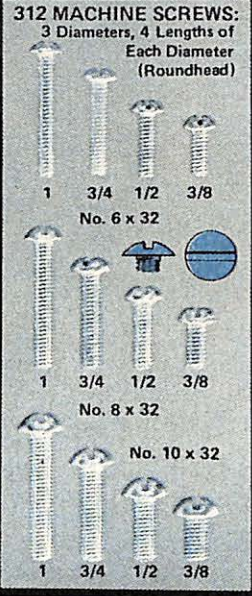
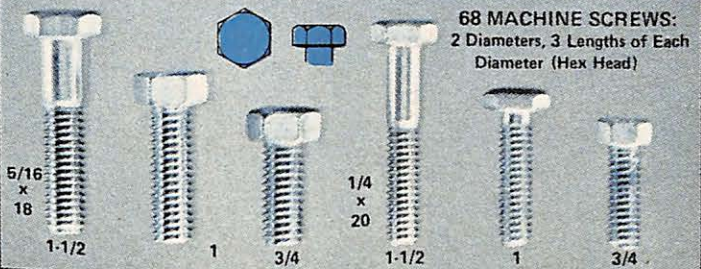
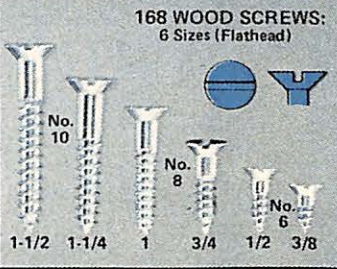
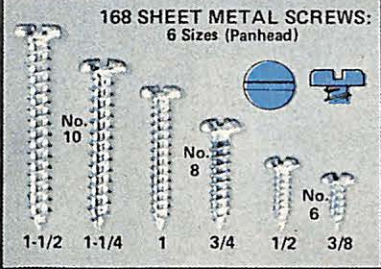
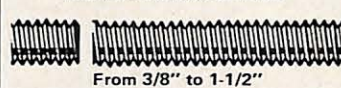
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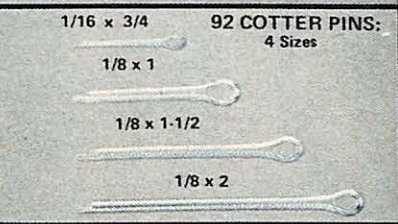
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AMERICA'S SECRET WEAPON-

BLUE JEANS

by Richard Wolkomir

Right after his election, Jimmy Carter issued a no-nonsense sartorial policy statement: during his off-duty hours at the White House, the President-elect firmly announced, he would wear blue jeans.

Had he revealed a new superweapon, he couldn't have sparked more hubbub. Around the world people buzzed over the Dungaree Question.

"We're delighted about the Carter statement," bubbled a Levi Strauss executive to reporters for the *Christian Science Monitor*.

But Pietro Dimitri, a leading Italian designer and three-time winner of the Coty men's fashion award, demurred: "In the country, is fabulous, but in the White House, I no think so—is tacky," he pronounced. "To wear casual clothes in the wrong place is tacky."

Norman Karr, executive director of the Men's Fashion Association of America, took the historical view: "I appreciate Carter's honesty in wearing blue jeans," he said. "This may be a watershed time—Andrew Jackson, when he became President, did away with silk knee breeches, went into long pants."

Meanwhile, the *New York Times* was polling just plain folks. Some liked the President's stand on jeans. But some worried about international repercussions.

"I'm not ready for a blue-jean image in the White House," an Iowa grain farmer told reporters. "I wonder how it looks to the world."

As a matter of fact, to the world it looked swell. If there's one thing American honored around the globe, it's blue jeans. These simple work britches that covered the legs that herded growing America's steers, farmed its plains, harvested its timber, built its railroads may have become America's secret diplomatic weapon. In fact, as an inaugural gift, Arab seamstresses working in a clothing factory near Nazareth sent the new President a dozen pairs of Israeli jeans, a true blue-denim gesture of international amiability.

Blue jeans have already conquered the world. At least, the world of fashion. French movie stars, Norwegian farm boys, Tunisian housewives, Tokyo taxi drivers—everybody wears jeans. Even on the other side of the globe the Iron Curtain

is no barrier to these quintessentially American trousers.

In Moscow, not long ago, a Russian youth handed a startled tourist from Indianapolis a fistful of rubles, pointed to the Hoosier's blue jeans, and cried: "I want you to go home naked!"

With Soviet citizens paying as much as \$140 for a pair of black market jeans, the U.S.S.R. is up to its beltline in a jeans crisis. At a Moscow trade show, for instance, Soviet rural cooperatives recently tried to hammer through an international exchange deal—their honey and jam for American blue jeans. And V. Morozov, of Chelyabinsk, complained to the government newspaper, *Izvestia*, that he'd been jeansless for four years—"Why is it so difficult to buy needed things?" he demanded.

"Our teenagers need jeans and jeans suits," the manager of a major Moscow department store has announced. "My opinion is that if the customer wants jeans, our industry must produce jeans and jeans suits."

It's not just teenagers, though. Not long ago Sergei Bondarchuk, the Soviet Union's top film star, visited San Francisco for a film festival and responded with a yawn to a city tour. What he really wanted, he said, was blue jeans.

Levi Strauss & Co., headquartered in San Francisco, invited Bondarchuk to tour one of their plants. He began with the pieces of a pair of Levi's in his size and followed them down the assembly line to completion. Then came the most exciting moment of all: trying them on.

"This is the highlight of my visit to the United States, the highlight," the star repeated to everyone he met for several days afterwards.

Hungarians are also crazy about jeans, according to the official newspaper, *Nepszabadsag*. About half of all trousers worn by younger Hungarians are now jeans, the paper says, adding that Hungarians are spending up to \$80 for western imports rather than buying Hungarian-made jeans for about \$15. Over a million pairs of jeans were sold in Hungarian shops last year, and thousands more changed owners in black market sales.

Meanwhile, Yugoslavia has launched an all-out campaign to stem the flow of bootleg blue jeans from the West. Re-



cently policemen discovered a wire across the Idria River between Yugoslavia and Italy, with 1,200 pairs of dungarees piled up on the Italian bank, awaiting transport into Yugoslavia. And Poland, Czechoslovakia, and Rumania are also being invaded by these britches from the American old west.

Iron Curtain countries are not alone in their worship of jeans. In Japan, fifty manufacturers churn out the coveted trousers under a hundred different brand names. And at chic shops in Bonn, Barcelona, Bangkok, Bombay, and Bogata these work pants are worth their weight in marks, pesetas, bahts, rupees, and pesos.

Other American symbols—the dollar sign, the bald eagle—may be shaky, even vanishing, but blue jeans are beautiful, with yearly global sales totalling in the billions. Britches between nations, they could be called. And, here in their natural habitat, jeans span other gaps, too.

Construction workers and truck drivers wear them. So do movie stars, rock singers, and window washers. Not to mention bank presidents out horse riding, teenagers out motorcycling, and mothers in their kitchens, baking apple pies. These trousers that grew up with the country are inherently American, uniting generations, social classes, races, and political viewpoints. And, in this age of women's liberation, jeans are truly a garment for both sexes.

Jeans have even become objects of art. Colleges and chic stores have mounted exhibits of jeans, displaying everything from chef James Beard's monogrammed denim apron,

Sal Minico's tattered jeans suit from the 1950's film, "Rumble On The Docks," and artist Andy Warhol's paint-spattered jeans to denim-covered mustache cups.

One of last year's publishing hits was the book "American Denim—A New Folk Art," full of photographs showing jeans elevated to fine art by their needle and paint-brush wielding owners. All these decorated jeans had appeared in a record-breaking exhibit at the Museum of Contemporary Crafts in New York City. They ranged from jeans with intricately embroidered scenes from the age of dinosaurs to flowers, animals, and fruit. One pair of trousers had the seat and abdomen encrusted with silver sequins while colored zippers writhed around the legs.

According to the book's author, Peter Beagle, such decorated jeans have become a new mode of American self

BLUE JEANS

expression, like bumper stickers. But most people still prefer their jeans to be just plain blue.

Of course, younger wearers may still wash their new Levi's five times before putting them on for the first time. Or they may rub out that hateful new look by rolling in them on sidewalks. Or swimming with them in salt water. Or sandpapering them. Some teenagers routinely subject a new pair of jeans to a year's burial. They may even buy special "pre-faded" jeans—at extra cost, naturally.

Adults, on the other hand, tend to wear jeans just as they come from the store. They get enough wear washing cars on Saturday afternoons, hiking, hunting, fishing, chopping wood, or climbing the back yard maple tree to rescue the family kitten.

America's love affair with blue jeans is nothing new, of course. But the prospectors, cowboys, and lumberjacks who wore the first pairs preferred natural aging. And no embroidered button-ups.

These new national symbols popped up just as America fulfilled its "manifest destiny," stretching from sea to shining sea. And their inventor was

that most American of Americans, a newly arrived immigrant.

A Jewish Bavarian, Levi Strauss emigrated to Kentucky in 1843. Then came the 1849 gold rush. Like other adventurous young Americans, 20-year-old Levi caught the fever. First he hustled to New York to collect bolts of silk, fine fabrics, and tent canvas from his brother's fabric store to swap for mining gear. Then he hustled aboard a ship and sailed down around Cape Horn, then up the Pacific to California.

When he docked in San Francisco, however, all but one roll of tent canvas was gone, sold to finance his trip. Wondering what to do, Levi met a miner who complained of trouser troubles—"Pants don't wear worth a hoot up in the diggins, and you can't get a pair strong enough to last no time."

Say—tough trousers? Tent canvas? "Why not?" Levi wondered. He hired a tailor. And soon the miners were raving over "those pants of Levi's." By 1853, everyone in the gold fields was wearing "Levi's," and the bearded proprietor of Levi Strauss & Co. had switched from canvas to a new fabric.

"Serge de Nimes" was the tough cotton twill that Levi imported from France's ancient Roman city of Nimes. Californians shortened the indigo-dyed fabric's French name, first to "denimes," finally to "denim." "Jeans" evolved from the word "Genoa," an earlier work

fabric loomed in the Italian seaport. "Dungaree" was an identical fabric developed in India. Some historians believe that when Columbus journeyed across the Atlantic to undiscovered America, the Santa Maria's sails were denim.

Inspiring the final touch for Levi's trousers was a whiskery old prospector named Alkali Ike. Because Ike habitually stuffed ore samples into his pockets, they were chronically ripped. He'd fuel up at the saloons and then roar off to his long-suffering tailor, Jacob W. Davis, to curse those puny pockets. Finally, Davis had a harness maker rivet the pocket corners of Ike's jeans with copper, and everyone in the mine fields thought that was a good joke on Ike.

But Ike was ecstatic, showing off his unripped pockets to everyone he met. When Levi Strauss heard about it, he promptly hired Davis as his production manager, patented the riveted pockets idea, and added the finishing touch to an American symbol.

Modern Levi's look much like those early models worn by Alkali Ike and his friends. You can see them on display at the Smithsonian Institution—snug, low on the hips, made of blue-dyed denim. And the pocket corners are still fastened with copper rivets.

Levi died in 1902. Unmarried, he left the business to the four sons of his only sister. And, today, Levi Strauss & Co. is the world's largest pants maker.

Jeans grew up with the country. Farmers and sheep men wore them. So did lumberjacks, fishermen, railroad workers, cowboys (drugstore and otherwise), telephone linemen, and elderly lady birdwatchers. During World War II jeans were even declared an essential commodity and sold only to defense workers.

Once jeans were simply the standard pants of the American workingman, and the earliest Levi's trademark shows why: burned into the leather patch are two farmers driving workhorses in opposite directions, trying—and failing—to rip a pair of jeans. Jeans were not only tough, but cheap, the pants of poor people. What photo from the dust-bowl era of the Great Depression fails to include a scrawny kid staring wanly into the camera, wearing a pair of threadbare jeans or overalls?

But during the early 1950s, movie heroes like Marlon Brando and James Dean made jeans a symbol of rebellion. Add a black leather jacket, engineer boots, a ducktail haircut, and you have the classic '50s hood—just like TV's "The Fonz."

In the 1960s, jeans briefly became symbols of youthful political activism. In the early 1970s, they became symbols of chic; just the duds for jetsetters who didn't mind forking over a hun-

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dred dollars for denim fancy pants at posh boutiques in New York, Paris, or Rome.

And today?

With a jeans-wearing peanut farmer from Plains, Georgia, in the White House, dungarees are just what they always have been: sturdy pants for everyone, symbolizing nothing in particular, except the American lifestyle of easygoing informality rooted in old-fashioned hard work.

Levi Strauss & Co. alone consumes 10 percent of all U. S. cotton today. The company employs 22,000 workers at 50 plants. And hundreds of other firms—such as Lee and Blue Bell—also churn out millions of pairs of the popular pants.

Last year, mills produced nearly 700-million yards of denim, up from 215-million yards in 1968. But, even though the price of jeans keeps rising, this country's seven major denim producers are hard pressed to meet the demand for the popular fabric.

Nor are other nations lagging. As American as popcorn, jeans are becoming as international as oil.

Partly behind it all may be enthusiasm for the old west—France alone has 60 "Wild West" weekend and holiday camps dotting the Gallic prairies. And American GI's and tourists modeling the trousers worldwide have spread the "denimitis" virus around the globe.

In Japan, for example, over 50 jeans companies are vying in what resembles the shootout at the OK Corral. "Ichiban"—number one—is a local brand improbably named "Big John." But Levi Strauss, number three, selling over a million pairs a year in Japan, is aiming for the ichiban slot. Wrangler, Lee, Canton, McCampbells, and other major U.S. jeans makers are also in the fray for the Japanese jeans-buyer's yen.

Levi's manager in Japan gloated for months over one coup—in Japan's grand prix he entered a blue-denim-colored racer, decorated with white stitching and Levi's logo. It broke down on lap two, but the publicity was sweet. And the battle goes on.

Since all Japanese denim is imported from America, some Japanese manufacturers are foxily labeling their jeans "Made In The U. S. A.," or stitching on the letters "U. S. A." or the American flag. One Osaka manufacturer has even registered the trademark: "John Levi."

Wherever you go, jeans are America's good will ambassadors. In France, for instance, children's magazines periodically retell the saga of Levi Strauss, and Radio Luxembourg once broadcast a special on the bearded 49er. Frenchmen know the story of the beloved britches better than Americans do.

(Continued on page 28)

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When I set down Susie's pan of meat and meal she wagged politely, and when I put down the puppies' dish they all fell promptly and thankfully into it with all four feet. But when I shoved Brute's dish inside his pen, he looked at me sullenly a moment, then went over and lay down in the corner. He would have gone outside, but the runway drops were down for the night against the winter wind. I shut the gate and left him, knowing that

after I had left the kennel he would eat what he wanted and spoil the rest out of pure cussedness.

A man knows naught of what a dog may love, nor why. A dog may forgive your bad temper and a heavy hand and thoughtlessness, and never reproach you for underfeeding or overwork, because he is a good dog and has made a decision for himself and will abide by it. On the other hand, a dog may hold your best in cold contempt and stalk past

your luxuries, holding against you some mortal offense of birth—his, yours, or both. There is no telling about such a dog, except that he does not want to be a good dog.

So it was with Brute. He wanted to be a mean, bad-hearted, no-good dog, and he was notably successful. You could force him into a kind of slovenly compliance with commands, but it wasn't worth the effort. And if you attempted to cross the border into in-

Brute's Christmas

by **Dion Henderson**



"Brute's Christmas" originally appeared in *Field and Stream*. It is reprinted by permission of the Larry Sternig Literary Agency.

timacy, he bristled into active hostility. Only when he was left alone did he seem satisfied. He was no trouble then, but quiet in the kennel, content to eat and sleep and mind his own business. When I put the snap on the kennel door and walked up the drive toward the house through the crisp winter darkness, I wondered for the hundredth time in six months why I continued to keep him. Then I wondered why in tarnation I ever interrupted the perfectly competent trainer who was going to shoot him as hopeless, and after that I speculated despondently on why it should take so long for such manifestation of insanity to rise through the murky depth of a Caledonian soul like mine.

There was no moon that night, but there was enough snow in the woods to make walking easy. I looked at the stars, very intense in the moonless sky, and hoped idly that we would have a white Christmas, for the kids' sake. Then I thought about Brute again, how sullen he was, a miserably unhappy dog.

Kids and dogs have one thing in common: they do not go bad without a reason. I have a theory that there is a solution to every such problem if you can find it, and it would be nice to add that there are no exceptions; but there are exceptions.

Among people who handle dogs there is a word: unbidable. It is a term of convenience used as though it were applied to dogs, when really it covers a whole situation with a dog and a man in the middle. Now, people who handle dogs are imperfect as any man, and more so than most; and while dogs as a whole are very understanding and patient and forgiving about the mistakes you commit upon them, sometimes a dog is not. But because you make so many mistakes, when you have a resentful dog it is hard to remember all the mistakes accurately and be able to sort them out so that you can label the ones that made him resentful. It is a great deal of trouble, and sometimes it is quite impossible. If you cannot eradicate the resentment the dog feels over the mistake you can't remember, you have a dog to whom you apply the word "unbidable" as though something were his fault instead of yours.

Now the best thing to do when you have an unbidable dog is to get another dog and hope that either you do not make the same mistake again or that this dog is more broad-minded about human frailties. You generally take the unbidable dog and present him to someone you don't like very well, where he either will turn out very badly and you can point to him as though the other fellow spoiled him,

or he will turn out very well and the other fellow will be so much in your debt that you can afford to be rude to him openly.

Sometimes, though, you find a dog who is offended by everyone he meets, and he will not forgive anybody anything; but you keep trying, and in the end you have a bad dog.

After six months it looked as though there was no goodness in Brute, or at least no key to it. Then I tried to make something good out of his badness. At least, I said, the kennel was safe with him inside. He was big for a setter, jugheaded and not afraid of anything. I had reached the point where I would settle for his being a kennel guard, which isn't much, but I am a very hard loser when it comes to dogs.

One night I came home late from town, and Betsy asked, "Who did you send down to the kennel this afternoon?"

"No one," I answered.

She shrugged. "I thought I saw someone down there. Maybe the paper boy stopped to look at the pups. Perhaps it was just shadows on the snow."

"Sometimes you find a dog who is offended by everyone he meets and will not forgive anybody anything..."

Our kennel is back on the edge of the big trees, and it's easy to make a mistake like that. But I guess it wasn't a mistake, because a day or two later the kennel door was hanging open when I came home. It had been fastened loosely with a padlock on an old stapled hasp, which had been pried loose. I scratched my head, looked inside to count puppies, was greeted with a morose grumble from Brute and withdrew, reassured that whoever had been snooping was likely scared half to death.

The reassurance didn't last long. We sat around after dinner thinking of all the other times someone might have gotten into the kennel, if Brute was really failing to sound the alarm. Anyway, the more we thought about it the more we worried about the pups, and I wound up rigging an alarm that didn't have any emotional problems—a trip wire at the kennel door connecting with a buzzer in the house.

It went off in the middle of a blizzard a couple of nights before Christmas; so there was some delay in our response. I pulled on an overcoat and boots and fought through the drifts to the kennel. There was considerable

uproar, with the pups yelling in various tones of soprano and Sue glowering in her corner. I turned on the lights and counted puppies thankfully. They all were there. Then I saw the open door. Brute was gone!

I turned out the lights and went back to the house. When Betsy heard about it, she said, "You ought to hurry and get a new lock on the door."

"Before they come back for the pups?"

"No. Before they try to return Brute."

For a moment I felt the same way. But I do not like dog thieves, even the unlucky ones. A man who steals a dog does not just take a more or less valuable piece of property away from you. The objection is not so substantial as that. It has something to do with the feeling that a sporting dog is the product of many generations of both dogs and men, that he is something that resulted from a combined effort down the years to refine and perfect a quality as intangible as emotion and as enduring as fame. When a dog is stolen out of his registry, something is taken away from the dignity of those past men and dogs who cannot defend themselves. Of course, most dogs are end products in themselves, because the quality they have is not more than they need, and they do not have any to spare when the time comes to pass it on. But as long as you have a dog you keep thinking that perhaps some miracle of experience will open the door of ancestral reserves and allow him to be everything his bone and blood promised for him. Thus a man who steals a dog is a man who monkeys with dreams he knows nothing about, and generally is a reptile at heart.

When I finished thinking about this, I was good and mad. Not many tracks were left by morning; drifting snow had done a good job on the trail. The thief had apparently kept to the driveway when he left; where the drive paralleled the Norway windbreak you could make out some sign. There were some dog tracks, and I thought the explanation for Brute's meekness might be explained by these, if they belonged to some lady dog who had been used for bait. But the tracks looked mighty like Brute's own. Only of course no one could control Brute without a leash, off the field, and this dog had been loose, by the wide pattern of the tracks. Anyway, it was a clean getaway.

I went back to the house and changed my clothes to go into town and have a few choice words with the sheriff. Tracing a dog like Brute would be quite a problem, because no one knew him or cared about him. A famous dog is relatively safe, at least from the professional thieves, because trying to

Brute's Christmas

hide a dog whom a million or so people can identify on sight leads to a very confined old age. Only very stupid people steal very famous dogs, and when it happens as it did to Sue's great daddy it is because the predatory nitwit who took him didn't know one dog from another.

Just as I was getting ready to leave the house someone knocked on the back door. It was a tall, lean man in an old army overcoat and a broad-brimmed hat with a big scarf wrapped around it from the crown down under his chin, on account of the wind. He had a kid with him, and the kid wore a coat made out of an old army blouse and a big scarf too, but no hat. The man looked vaguely familiar. Then I recognized him. He was the back-country stranger who had built himself a cabin in the tamaracks the summer before and started a grimly independent existence raising hogs and chickens.

"Come on in," I said. "Betsy, break out the Christmas cookies."

"Nope, thank you," the man refused. "Ain't going to set. Jed here has just got something to say."

"Yessir," little Jed said. His nostrils were pinched, and what I could see of his face would have been pretty white

even without the cutting wind. "I stole your dog, sir," he addressed the door knob with a stony stare. "I came onto your place unbidden, and I stole your dog, and I'm purely sorry."

He was certainly having a terrible time, and with good reason. So long as it had been a kid's doing, and had turned out this way, I stopped being mad.

"There were some mighty fine pups in that kennel," I said as gently as possible. "You didn't bother them."

"There's some folks," little Jed flashed back, "as don't know a good dog when they see him."

"Jed!" the man spoke sharply. "Mind your manners, boy."

"Yessir," the kid addressed the door knob again.

I coughed a little from the wind, and asked, "Where is the dog?"

"Here," the boy replied.

He put his fingers in his mouth and whistled shrilly, and I'll be darned if Brute didn't come bouncing up the driveway as merrily as a pup, stop companionably by the kid, and wag his tail. The kid's hand—clean, I noticed, but blue with cold—reached out and patted the ugly head. And Brute, so help me, licked the hand. At that little Jed suddenly broke down, kneeled in the snow, weeping, planted a wild

kiss on Brute's unbeautiful nose, then fled down the driveway.

The dog started to follow, and the kid turned, shouting, "Go back, damn you!"

Brute obeyed.

I leaned against the door, not feeling the wind any more, and tried to compose myself to some sort of resignation to loss of reason. This couldn't be happening! I believe in miracles, but in the modest six-bit variety rather than the large economy-sized super deluxe model like this. After seeing Brute wag his tail and lick someone's hand, I would have stood unstartled while little people sailed through the air on gossamer wings, picking purple flowers on the snow.

Jed's father still was standing there, a stern-looking man who had not spent much time laughing, maybe never had it to spend. He looked as though he was dreadfully embarrassed by what his boy had done, but was a little proud of how he'd done it at the end, and I didn't blame him a bit.

He said formally, "You reckon you got satisfaction?"

"About the way the dog left and how he came back," I said, just as formally, because there is a way to talk to these proud men. "After a while I'll stop at your place, and maybe we can talk a little."

"If'n you'd care to." His face had changed a little. "Right now me and mine still stands in the light of trespassers."

Just in time, I understood that he was making a Biblical reference.

I let a day go by before I followed it up. Betsy grumbled at the delay, because Christmas was coming. She had overheard the session when little Jed and his dad brought Brute home, and I had to take an oath I'd try to do something about it before she'd let me into the house. Around our place we don't ordinarily sell mature dogs, but I had a notion I wouldn't have much luck in trying to give one away in this case.

I was right. Jed's dad was very polite, very formal and quite inflexible. When I stepped into the desolate little cabin, Jed gave me that impersonal stare of a hurt youngster and nodded stiffly. Jed's mother didn't say much; neither, as a matter of fact, did Jed's dad.

"Ask the boy."

Jed said firmly, "No, thank you kindly, sir, we'uns don't take no charity nor no presents like that." A couple of tears squeezed out, and he got up and walked outdoors.

His dad said in farewell, "I'm obliged to you for the offer, and I'll thank you not to mention it again. This here's a hard world, and I can't nowise keep

(Continued on page 48)



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NEWS OF THE LODGES

Over \$28 million in pledges was raised by the Jerry Lewis Labor Day Telethon, which **Torrance, CA, Lodge** helped to collect by manning 50 telephones. Operating in the lodge, Elks and their families volunteered for the full 36 hours that the telethon lasted.

Sports equipment for therapy and recreational activities for 30 developmentally disabled children at the Dallas Mental Health and Mental Retardation Treatment Center was donated by **Dallas, TX, Lodge**. PER Hal Warren (back row, right) and Est. Lead. Kt. Lonnie Hart (back row, second from right) presented the items to the Center staff members.

A platform and ramp were built and installed at the trailer home of a junior high school student who has cerebral palsy by members of **Homer, NY, Lodge**. Under the leadership of Brother Gary Harrington, the project was completed by Don Hay, Est. Loyal Kt. Dave Becker, Esq. Harvey Healy, Brothers Tom McLyman, Jim Nadge, Trustee Dan Turner, Butch Norwood, and Paul Thoman.

Annual picnics and an Italian festival were great fun for all involved in the states of New Jersey, Connecticut, and Massachusetts. Veterans from the VA hospital in Lyons, NJ, enjoyed food

Sports equipment for Dallas children



and soft drinks supplied by **Cranford, NJ, Lodge** at their picnic. In Connecticut, patients from the West Haven Veterans Hospital joined the families of **Westport, CT, Lodge** at Sherwood Island State Park in celebrating the lodge's family picnic. Italian food was the main theme at the second annual Italian festival held by **Springfield, MA, Lodge**. The three day affair, which drew over 25,000 people who enjoyed various activities, proved to be the club's most profitable social event.

ER Roy Williams (left) and Americanism Chm. Sy Okun (right) of **Lompoc, CA, Lodge** joined Dennis Lang, parks department area supervisor for Santa Barbara County, in hoisting the flag donated by the lodge for Miguelito Canyon Park. The red, white, and blue flag pole was installed by Brothers Okun and Tom Adonis and Kim Perry, assistant park ranger.

Environmental concern prompted **Montague, MA, Lodge** to take over the town's recycling program which, due to the lack of manpower, was threatened with dissolution. Profit from recycling glass, newspaper, cardboard, and aluminum will augment the three-year-old lodge's funds donated to various charities. Plans were made for setting up two or three recycling stations where materials would be gathered.



Flag-raising at Miguelito Canyon Park

Over two years ago, Brother James Wolfe suffered from hemorrhaging behind the cornea, which resulted in blindness. Despite this handicap, he became **Gatlinburg, TN, Lodge's** Exalted Ruler. In adjusting to his blindness and learning to "see" with his ears, Brother Wolfe exemplifies the qualities of determination and pride.

Throughout the nation, the membership in Elkdom is continually growing and changing. In Texas, **New Braunfels Lodge** honored PER E. P. Nowotny for his devoted service as a member and as an ER for two terms by presenting him a life membership card. In Kansas, **Cherryvale Lodge** welcomed Lloyd Rash to the order. Brother Rash was initiated by his son ER Jack Rash. And in Washington, a record high of 144 Seattle-area candidates were initiated into **Lake City Lodge** by ER Richard Johnson. There are now nearly 8,000 members in the lodge.

A new policy was created by ER Thomas Morrell of **Fall River, MA, Lodge** concerning recognition of meritorious behavior. ER Morrell initiated an Elk of the Month program. The honored Brothers, including Peter Mattos, Roger Morin, Ray Boulay, John Szargowicz, and Ray Dagwaun, received certificates of recognition.

Westwood, NJ, Lodge honored PER and District Youth Chm. David Gangeri for his outstanding work with crippled children by awarding him a certificate of appreciation. Anthony Pavese, the crippled children's chairman, presented the award and thanked PER Gangeri for his dedication.



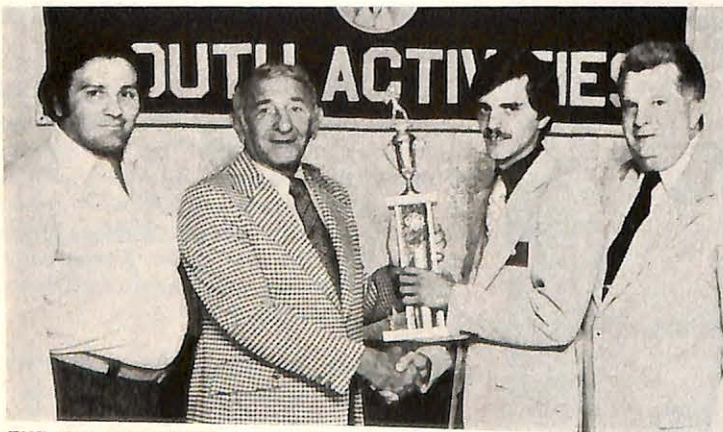
MISS ROSALIE Helwig received a new wheelchair from the Elks of Pawtucket, RI, at a ceremony held at the lodge recently. Among those on hand were (from left) PER Walter Petrucci, Chap. Everett Morin, ER George Shaheen, and Handicapped Committee Co-chm. Bill Malloy and Jack DiGiovanni. Funds for the chair were from the lodge committee and the state association.



A STANDING ovation greeted Nona McLain (right), wife of deceased Brother John McLain, when she arrived at North Miami, FL, Lodge to display the gold medallion she received from the Veterans Administration. ER Joe Kuhar congratulated Nona for her 15,000 hours of voluntary service and wished her many years of continued health on behalf of the lodge.



ELKS from Pennsylvania's Northeast District attended an evening affair at East Stroudsburg Lodge in honor of PDD Samuel Everitt (third from right). The well-wishers included (from left) Est. Lead. Kt. Robert Doll, Secy. Arthur Kitzman, ER Richard and Dora Klofach, Millicent Everitt, the PDD's wife, PER Clifford Fansen, toastmaster, and PDD John Hauser.



THE CHAMPIONSHIP trophy for the Elks Babe Ruth Little League team was accepted by ER Frank Mann, Jr. (second from right) during a baseball banquet sponsored by Hillside, NJ, Lodge. Abe Cohn (second from left), chairman of the local Recreation Commission, made the presentation while Joseph Cocuzza (left), manager of the team, and Youth Chm. George MacDonald looked on.



A CHECK for the American Cancer Society was given by Treas. H. F. Bertrand (left) on behalf of Hempstead, NY, Lodge to Nathaniel Bennett (center), town clerk and special events chairman. Brother Charles Weiler, chairman of the Society's local unit, thanked Brother Bertrand for the lodge's generosity.



THE MAYOR of Charleston, SC, Joseph Riley Jr. (left), presented a plaque to members of Charleston Lodge in recognition of their sponsorship of Elks National Youth Week. While members of the mayor's staff observed, ER George Bloodworth (front row, second from left), SP A. Herman Schwacke (third), and State Youth Chm. Allen Götter (right) accepted the token of a successful program.



A NEW SPRINKLER system will be installed at the Carl Sparks Stadium thanks to Puyallup, WA, Lodge's \$800 donation. Ray Tobiason (left), superintendent of Puyallup schools, accepted the funds from ER Dee Zimmerman who made the presentation on behalf of the local Brothers.



JEFF JENKINS (seated, left) and Fred Hodges (right) were among the residents of Retirement Ranch who welcomed Clovis-Portales, NM, Lodge members when they arrived with lawn furniture and \$150 worth of double knit material. Fannie Anderson (left), director of activities, and Virginia Teakell (fifth from right), assistant administrator, thanked State Vets Chm. Duane Jacklin (second from left), lodge Chm. Marion Klimek (third), and ER Don Flesher (right).



THE INITIATION of Dennis Mulligan (right) into Massapequa, NY, Lodge was viewed by the candidate's father Arthur Mulligan (left) and PER Edward Turner, both of whom journeyed from Hollywood West, FL, for the ceremony. A member for 25 years, the elder Brother Mulligan presented the flag to his son, who was proposed for membership by Massapequa's Brother Turner.



A MEMBER of Grand Haven, MI, Lodge pushed the Blodgett Hospital Burn Center fund drive over the top of its expected quota with an anonymous donation of \$1,000. Remarking that the contribution will make it possible to provide more hospital beds, Walter Perschbacher III (left), chairman of the western Michigan fund drive, accepted the check from Secy. Arthur Buitenwert, and thanked the Grand Haven Elks.



EAGLE SCOUT plaques were proudly displayed by Steve Plump (right) and Chuck Lesnick after they received the awards from Glen Cove, NY, Lodge. Youth Chm. Frank Cassano made the presentation on behalf of the lodge in recognition of the young men's achievements.



FOLLOWING 16 years of service as the lodge Secretary, Albert Skoglund (right), who was also the charter Secretary of Park Ridge, NJ, Lodge, retired from office. Congratulations were extended to the guest of honor at a testimonial dinner by Mrs. Skoglund (seated), ER John Stramiello, and PDD John Nordham, co-chairman of the dinner committee. The members presented a gold life membership card to Brother Skoglund.



INSPECTING the mock-up plan for Ballard (Seattle), WA, Lodge's new building were (from left) PGER Robert Yothers, PER Fletcher Cox, PER Robert Fortier, PDD Jim Cole, PDD Dick Mitchell, and GL Ritualistic Chm. Duncan McPherson. The gentlemen were at the site of the \$1,500,000 structure for groundbreaking ceremonies. The lodge plans to have the building completed in less than a year.



FOUR members of the Haas family attended the recent initiation of a fifth member, Frank (second from left), into Erie, PA, Lodge. Extending a welcome to the order were (from left) John of Erie Lodge and Tarentum Lodge's PER Joseph Sr., Trustee Paul, and Joseph Haas Jr.



A CITATION was presented to PER Anthony Stancato (second from left) of West Chester, PA, Lodge following the initiation of a class in his honor. ER Carroll Hillebrand (right) proffered the framed citation while Brother Stancato's sons Vincent (third from left), a member of the newly initiated class, and Stephen (second from right) joined their uncle Frank Stancato in congratulating him.

(Continued on page 36)

IT'S YOUR BUSINESS

by John C. Behrens



A GLANCE AHEAD REQUIRES A LOOK BACK

As another year ends and I write my 19th column about small business, proprietors, their frustrations and achievements, I think it's a good time and certainly a most appropriate season to reflect on some of the issues we've raised during the past 11 months.

Bill Binderman and I, for example, believed we offered a cogent argument for more discussion about a piece of legislation that called for the curtailment of certain practices by debt collectors. Although there have been abuses by some collection agents, we felt that congressmen should examine the subject more thoroughly before restricting the work of those trying to reduce the mounting bad debts that plague businessmen.

Congress didn't see it that way. The bill passed the House in April and the Senate okayed it in August with a few changes. Calling it a milestone in consumer legislation, President Carter signed it into law in early fall.

I talked with a co-sponsor of the bill, Congressman Frank Annunzio of Illinois, and Binderman recently about their reactions to the new law and how it will affect proprietors. Said Binderman in a recent letter: "What I feared would happen has emerged. My first call to a debtor after the bill passed got this reply: 'Why are you harassing me about this bill?' This comment came the first time I ever saw or talked to this person. The public and particularly the deadbeats have been handed a weapon to use when they don't want to pay."

But the West Virginia collection agency owner believes that state and national collection agency associations' efforts were successful in some instances. The new law which the President passed "will be one we think we can live with," he adds.

The part of the law that bothers Binderman the most, however, is the section that deals with harassment. "The public is going to club us to death with it. Phone calls are important. Why are phone calls made when we could very easily turn a garnishee in against wages? One reason is that some states have no means of enforcing payment. The time factor is also important. In West Virginia, for example, it takes four trips to the magistrate's court and additional trips to the clerk's court before a garnishment can be issued."

Binderman insists that such calls actually aid the debtor. "We feel we do him a favor . . . we prevent court action and save him court costs and his time going to court. The legal fees are added to his balance and the most important thing that will show up sooner or later is that his credit rating could be impaired."

Congressman Annunzio has a different view. "The Debt Collection Practices Act does set up guidelines for collectors, but they are fair and are the result of a careful balancing of the interests of debt collectors and consumers. Debt collectors have told me that they can conduct their business in a responsible manner working within the framework of the legislation. The act does not impose unreasonable restrictions. For example, as far as

time is concerned, it prohibits communication with a consumer only at unusual or inconvenient times. The bill assumes that a convenient time is after 8 a.m. and before 9 p.m. but if a collector has knowledge of circumstances to the contrary, then he may contact the consumer at other times.

"Opponents of the debt collection bill have continuously charged that it will help deadbeats . . . (yet) as indicated in your article ["It's Your Business," June, 1977] only a small percentage of consumers deliberately try to get out of paying their bills. Debt collectors do not waste their time going after chronic deadbeats. In the vast majority of cases, however, consumers are willing to pay but because of some unforeseen circumstances such as job loss or sickness, simply don't have the funds. Moreover, in many cases, it is not only consumers owing debts who are harassed. Individuals are also harassed because of computer error, billing mistakes, mistaken identity or mail order merchandising programs that do not work properly."

Says Binderman: "It all boils down to this: what I have said before at great length, I say again: the laws are not for those who intend to pay their bills but will be used by deadbeats to keep from paying."

Consequently, the debate continues . . . but in March, 1978, debt collectors will have to abide by a new federal code or face damage suits.

(Continued on page 26)

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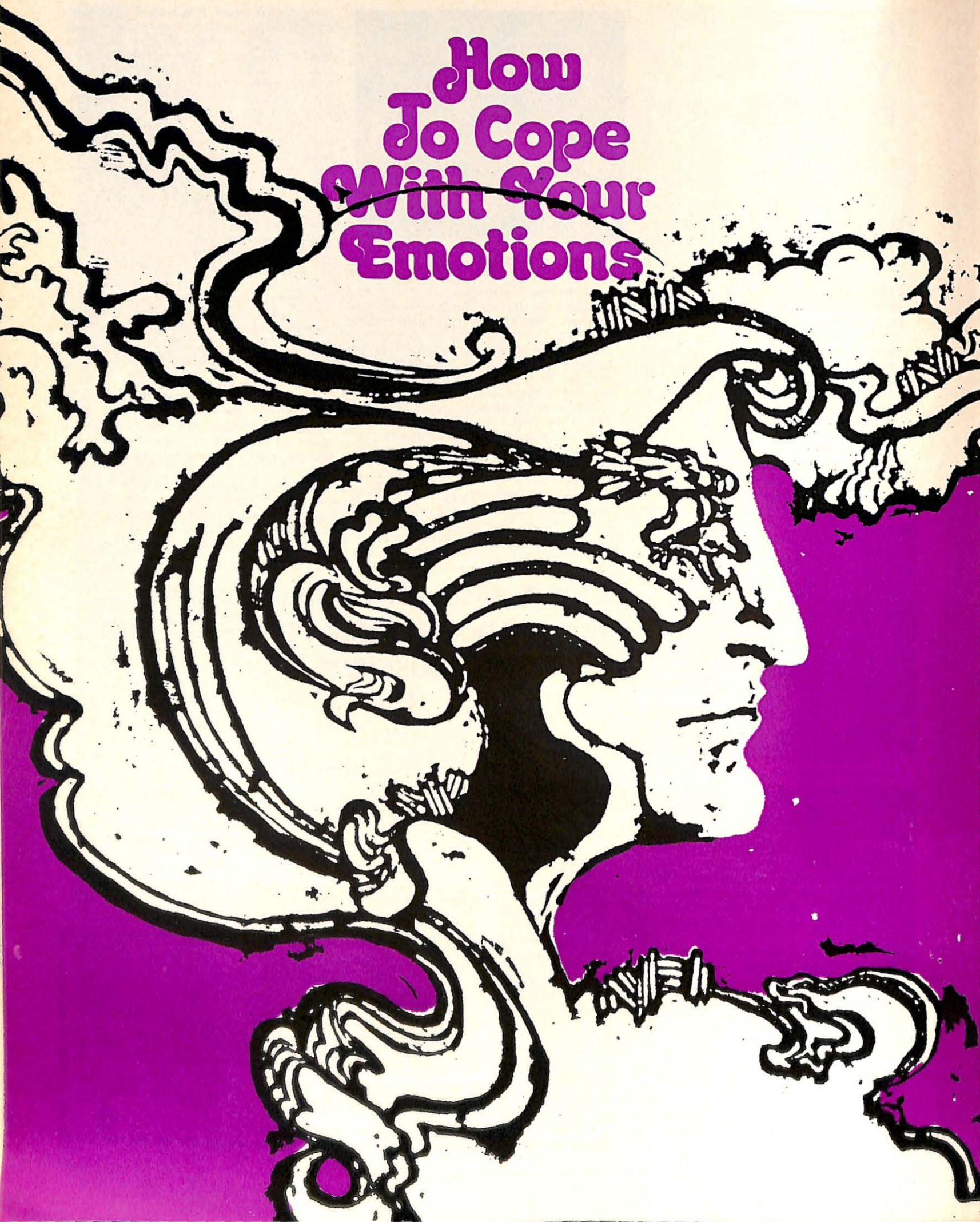
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How To Cope With Your Emotions



by Stewart Marsh

□ John Jones gets into an argument with his wife, which becomes very bitter and acrimonious. He enumerates her shortcomings, and she responds by pointing out all his faults. It turns into a shouting match. Afterwards, Jones remains upset for a long time. The welfare of the marriage seems threatened, and he is both angry and apprehensive.

Jones is experiencing a very intense emotional state. Anger and fear are quite common, but the emotions also include such states as jealousy, anxiety, despondency, joy and grief. These relate to emergency conditions, that is, objects or situations perceived by one to be either threatening or very desirable. At such times, we become stirred-up, and the degree of our arousal depends upon the intensity of the emotional state.

When we are unable to handle our emotions, they can make our lives miserable, destroying our peace of mind, and preventing maximum effectiveness on the job and in our relations to others. The emotions, when out of control, can also have an adverse influence on physical health. Specialists in psychosomatic medicine point out that emotional states are often a causative factor in high blood pressure, migraine headaches, ulcers and other bodily ailments.

It should not be thought, however, that emotional states in themselves are disadvantageous. Properly handled, the energies aroused by such states may work to our welfare.

The person who suffers from severe emotional disturbances should see his or her physician or a psychiatrist. We will be talking here about the so-called normal person. How can we effectively cope with our emotions?

To begin with, it is easier to cope with emotional states when we are willing to face up to them, recognize them for what they are. We sometimes seek to fool others and even ourselves.

Perhaps you have had the experience of having someone make a slighting remark about you, but then follow up: "Sorry, I didn't mean to make you sore."

Even though seething inwardly, perhaps you replied: "Sore? Why whatever gave you that idea?" Here, you didn't want to give the offender the satisfaction of knowing you were aroused.

We may seek also to mislead ourselves. For example, a husband and wife attend a social occasion, and afterwards the husband remarks to the wife that she appears to have had a good time chatting with the men.

"There was certainly nothing wrong with that," the wife replies. "Can it be that you are jealous?"

Even though green with jealousy, the husband emphatically states: "Ha! I'm not the least bit jealous."

Because of pride or other reasons, jealous individuals may refuse to admit even to themselves that they are jealous. Similarly, the fearful person may seek to convince himself that he is not afraid. Many people seem to confuse fear with cowardice, and hence do not want to admit to fear even privately.

Actually, however, it is entirely normal to be afraid when confronted with physical danger or psychological threat to one's ego. Only the fool and the robot are immune to fear. But courage consists in doing what needs to be done even though afraid.

When confronted by danger or threat, the person who faces up to his fears says to himself, as it were, "Yes, I'm afraid. No use trying to deny it. But now what am I going to do about that matter?"

If a person can recognize and admit to a felt emotional state, it becomes easier to deal with the situation. If fooling Mother Nature isn't nice, fooling ourselves isn't very smart.

In the second place, we need to exercise outward control when we experience anger, fear and other emotional states. Such control makes it possible to use aroused energies constructively.

It is vital here to distinguish between inner and outer reactions to stress situations. When we feel threatened, the emergency functioning of the automatic nervous system goes into operation. Internal changes may include these: the heart speeds up, blood pressure increases, the adrenal glands release stimulating adrenalin, the liver excretes glycogen to provide energizing blood sugar, and the sweat glands become active. We thus respond to a felt emergency with a rapid pooling of energy.

These internal changes are largely involuntary. It is possible through training, however, to exercise a degree of control over these processes.

When faced with danger or threat, it is usual to experience sweaty palms, a butterfly stomach, and palpitation of the heart. Ordinarily, we have little control over such reactions. But, and this is the important thing, we do have voluntary control over our skeletal muscles, and we should be able to determine our outward conduct and behavior.

Self-control is generally to our advantage when we are angry or afraid. It enables us to release our emotions in ways that will help instead of hurting us. Even when the situation calls for overt attack or escape, one does well to fight sagaciously, or to run to a safe hiding place. This is much to be pre-

ferred to blind rage or headlong unthinking flight.

Loss of outward control when we are angry commonly leads to trouble. Suppose the angry employee starts shouting at his boss or even hits him. The consequences to the employee may be serious. If one becomes abusive during a marital quarrel, it may intensify anger and abusiveness on the part of both mates, making it impossible to discuss differences objectively.

Self-control is also needed in the case of fear. When individuals panic in a public building during a fire or earthquake, to use an extreme example, it is often contagious, with people trampling over each other at the exits.

Fear aroused by the threat of economic insecurity or public embarrassment is not less real than that caused by physical danger. And when we allow our fear to control us, we become unable to deal with the threatening situation.

"When we are unable to handle our emotions, they can make our lives miserable..."

Third, we should seek to use aroused emotional energies in an intelligent manner. If you have participated in athletics, you know that it is usual to be keyed-up before a big game or match. But this becomes an asset if you can direct your energies so that you perform in a "heads-up" manner.

So it is, too, with other situations. A successful lawyer said, "I've found that once I become angry I can argue a better case in court." Similarly, a clergyman commented that he could pray and preach well when his anger was aroused by the injustices of mankind.

Fear, also, may work to our advantage if we can direct our energies in an intelligent manner. An experienced public speaker noted that he was usually nervous and apprehensive before making a speech, in spite of his long years of speaking. He felt that the adrenalin aroused by the situation helped him in making an effective presentation.

Aroused energies may be utilized in attacking personal and business problems, and in dealing with threatening or baffling situations. Thus, the angered employee, who feels that his boss is consistently unfair to him, does well

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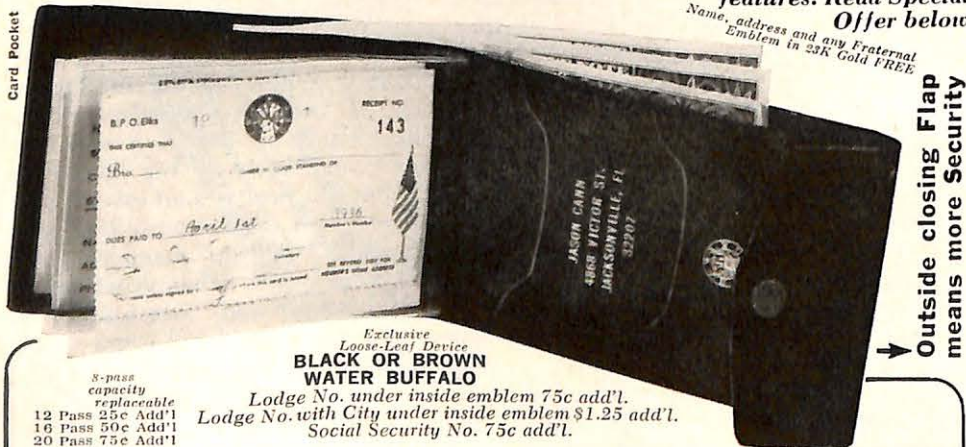
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to do something more than to take it out on his spouse when he goes home at night. He should seek to improve job performance, if this is called for, or look for another job with a less cantankerous boss.

Or the married person, who is continually upset by his mate, can find better ways of releasing his emotions than through abusiveness and violence. If the marriage is worth saving, one should seek to find the causes of conflict, and explore with one's mate possible ways of betterment.

Where action is called for in order to reach desired goals, it should be aimed at overcoming barriers, or removing the source of threat or irritation. Thus, the energies aroused by emotional states work to our advantage when directed by intelligence.

It may not be possible, however, to expend all of our aroused energies in dealing directly with the threat or irritation, and other outlets become desirable in this case. Physical exercise may help. I have a friend who likes to bowl when he is angry. He says that, not only does the exercise have a calming effect, but he can work off some of his spleen on the bowling pins.

Hard work often serves to release tension, and seems wholesome unless carried to an extreme. Constructive hobbies may also be a desirable outlet for excess energy.

Turning to a fourth point, where emotional states are triggered by unresolved emotional problems, it is important to seek to grasp the nature of the problem. Anger, fear and other emotional states are sometimes of an unrelieved and continuing nature, keeping us upset over long periods of time. We may be vaguely aware, or not aware at all, of the nature of the problem.

Where this is true, perhaps one can analyze the situation through careful reflection. What are the causes of our continuing emotional upset? What is the source of threat or irritation?

Which of our desires are being threatened or blocked? What is the nature of the barrier or barriers? How serious are they? How can we best deal with the situation?

Suppose the very worst happens? Need it be the end of the world? The apparent threat may seem less real after careful analysis. It may lose some of its anxiety or rage provoking dimensions.

After thinking the matter through, we may be better able to understand the nature of the problem and the cause of our continuing upset. Further, we may come up with possible solutions which turn out on trial to be effective.

Fifth, it is not uncommon, however, for people to have trouble understand-

ing the nature of an emotional problem, in spite of their best efforts to do so. Or one may not know what to do about a baffling situation. Talking it over with a wise and trusted friend may be of help in this case. Or it may be worthwhile to visit a consulting psychologist or a psychiatrist. Group therapy or counseling may also be helpful, providing the sessions are conducted by a qualified and reputable psychologist or psychiatrist.

Attitudes toward psychiatrists and consulting psychologists on the part of the public tend to be polarized. Some people have great confidence in these professionals, and a few affluent persons seem to be overly dependent on them.

There is a story about a woman who phoned a friend in tears. "I just heard that my husband wants a divorce."

"So what?" replied her friend in an unsympathetic manner.

"Well," said the woman, "My psychiatrist is out of town, and I really don't know what to think."

On the other hand, there are a number of people who seem unduly skeptical of psychological therapy. The latter is not a cure-all, but, when carried out by reputable specialists, it has an important place among the therapies available to us today.

Seeking help is not a sign of weakness, but rather a realization that a wise counselor may be able to aid you in viewing your problems objectively. The wise friend (or psychologist) may help you to talk through your problems, gain insight into them, and aid you in figuring out possible courses of action which may help.

Finally, along with work and the effort to deal effectively with the problems of living, it is important to seek moments of relaxation. This may help us in avoiding or overcoming undue tension resulting from emotional problems. For those who have trouble relaxing, there are various techniques of relaxation which one can practice at home in one's leisure-time, or even on the job during slack moments.

The trick here is to relax the muscles of the neck, shoulders, arms, legs and abdomen. In this manner, one is able to unwind. Books by reputable authors have been written about helpful techniques of relaxation, and are usually available at the local library or bookstore.

A relatively new method of therapy offers training in relaxation. It is called biofeedback. In a clinical setting, sensitive monitoring devices are attached to the patient, which inform one of changes in bodily processes such as muscle tension, hand temperature, blood pressure, and brain activity.

(Continued on page 32)

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ANOTHER YEAR'S JOURNEY...

by Jerry Hulse

Glancing at the calendar I ask myself what became of the year now ending. Once again during the past 12 months we have traveled together dozens of places—all by way of these pages. Although I failed to keep a log of the mileage, it would have to be 100,000 miles, at least. Our journeys began in January in Great Britain, followed by Baja, Fiji, Tahiti, Hawaii, New Zealand, New Orleans, Hong Kong, Japan, Mexico and the Mississippi.

I recall with great affection our afternoon at Castle Combe in Britain's Cotswolds. Few villages—anywhere—match its beauty. Possibly you recall that special inn, the Manor House, where we sat before a roaring fire, sipping sherry and listening to the rain; it ran in rivulets down the leaded windows, and afterward we strolled along the River Bybrook. It is my desire one

day to return to Castle Combe in the springtime, when the meadows are white with daisies and yellow with buttercups.

Fiji was another favorite, particularly little Beachcomber Island with its powder-like beach, its umbrella of palms and endless sunny days. If memory serves me correctly, there wasn't a single automobile on the entire island; only outrigger canoes and a vast ocean to explore.

Being an island freak, I relished our visit to Huahine, which, you recall, is Tahiti's neighbor island. Huahine turned out to be a combination of Tahiti and Moorea with peaceful country lanes, rainbow-colored lagoons, valleys choked with tropical blooms and beaches without a single soul.

There was similar tranquility in New Zealand. I'm sure you haven't forgotten the pilot's words as we approached Auckland: "Ladies and gentlemen, please fasten your seat belts and turn your watches back 50 years." In New Zealand the serenity was deafening. We explored plains and valleys, verdant hillsides, lakes and fjords, forests and meadows where the grass was so deep we nearly lost our way. We came away

having found a peacefulness many of us had forgotten—or possibly never knew.

There is one discovery I failed to mention during the year and this is Shepp Ranch, a particularly marvelous hideaway in Idaho. I mention it now as a vacation possibility for 1978, particularly if you are seeking a wilderness region. For those who can't do without Johnny Carson or Merv Griffin, try Miami or San Francisco instead. At Shepp Ranch the vacationer says farewell to civilization—goodbye to telephones, tv, radios, cars, crowds and smog. A private corner of heaven, Shepp Guest Ranch exists in the wilds of central Idaho, disturbed only by the voice of the Salmon River and the cry of the wind. Warren, the nearest town (pop. 5), lies 15 miles to the south. And then there's Dixie (pop. 18). It's up north. The nearest "big town" is Riggins, 40 miles downriver, and it has fewer than 500 souls.

A haunting, roadless country, the area surrounding Shepp Ranch represents one of the last expanses of untouched wilderness remaining in America. Moss-covered logs lie in the dampness of forests, and eagles wheel high overhead; horses graze on the hillsides and wild flowers show their faces among alpine meadows. Such is the setting of this ranch, 180 miles north of Boise and 15 miles upriver from road's end.

As peaceful as the dawn itself, Shepp Ranch is reached only by boat or raft, or else from the heavens—like the eagles which soar with such grace. Dropping into the mile-deep canyon (America's second-deepest gorge), the single-engine air taxi settles onto a dusty, unpaved runway after the pilot first buzzes the field, frightening off cattle and horses. After this, it's back to the days of Davy Crockett. For the next precious few days, guests at Shepp Ranch fish and hunt and ride into dark forests of ponderosa pine. Others wade along Crooked Creek or else laze beside the Salmon, Idaho's fabled River of No Return.

It was through this mile-deep gorge the Lewis and Clark expedition struggled (unsuccessfully) to establish a route to the Pacific in 1805. Save for an occasional hunter's shack, it remains the same: White water boils among rapids and mountain goats cling to precarious perches high on precipitous mountains.

Incongruously, the ranch boss himself is a dropout from the world of neutrons and radiation. Jim Campbell, ex-nuclear physicist, has made peace with the earth and himself. While doing a stint with the Atomic Energy Commission in Idaho Falls, Campbell was attracted to Idaho's wilderness. Moonlighting as an outfitter, he began run-

ning float trips on its rivers. One day he passed Shepp Ranch and the love affair took flame. Returning in 1973, he bought the property and hung out his shingle: Ex-nuclear physicist offers peace on the trail of Lewis & Clark.

Among last summer's packages was a fly-in ranch vacation priced at \$45 a day, plus \$70 for the round-trip air hop from Boise in a single-engine Cessna. (What with inflation, next year's cost will be a trifle higher.) Included in the deal are enormous ranch-style meals, a bunk, unlimited riding, fishing and rafting.

With facilities for only 20 guests, Campbell's wilderness ranch does a bang-up job of releasing visitors from the pressure cooker. Meals are served in an old-fashioned ranch house by Campbell's 25-year-old bride, Anita, a wisp of a girl with long blonde hair and a pioneer enthusiasm for getting the job done. For her, each day is similar to Thanksgiving, nine months of the year. Just the other night she served 15 guests plus eight ranch hands, preparing a huge turkey, mounds of stuffing, potatoes, vegetables and three pies filled with home-grown cherries. Washing the last dish at 10 p.m., she was up at 5 o'clock the next morning frying sourdough pancakes, sausage and eggs for the same hungry group. If it's a fat farm the vacationer is seeking, scratch Shepp Ranch off the list. The calorie count is shocking, and that's putting it mildly.

Sixteen-year-old Skip Howe, the son of Idaho's director of tourism and development, spends his summers at Shepp Ranch hand-cranking homemade ice cream, popping pop corn and helping himself to Anita Campbell's oven-fresh brownies. Charlie Shepp, an early prospector, arrived on the Salmon River in 1898 in search of gold. Instead, he found contentment. Joined by another prospector, Pete Klinkhammer, Shepp built the still-standing ranch house with whip-sawed logs and determination. The old prospector hauled buckets of water from Crooked Creek and fish from the Salmon. Shepp died in his 70s and Klinkhammer lived to be 90. ("There's very little stress in these parts," says Jim Campbell.)

Later, an Idaho postmaster, Paul Filer, turned up at Shepp Ranch with a "mortgage, a prayer and a chunk of baling wire." Filer built a bridge across Crooked Creek, felled trees with a gasoline-powered chain saw, floated 1,000-gallon drums downriver for water storage, put up cabins, dynamited unruly rapids and created the ranch's still unpaved airstrip. Without Filer the guest ranch as such might never have existed. Where Filer left off, Jim Campbell took over—refurbishing the cottages, rounding up a stable of horses

and putting in a garden filled with vegetables and fruit trees. As a result practically everything served at Shepp Ranch is home grown.

Game abounds in the hills. Trout swells both river and creek. Because of the river's generosity, dozens of families camped along its banks during the Great Depression. Except for an occasional homesteader, today it is deserted. And this suits Jim Campbell just fine. A bearded, affable dropout, he disdains the idea of salary or pension; he's bitterly contemptuous of crowds, deadlines and such.

When I awoke one morning he was standing on a ladder outside my door picking cherries for Anita's pies. Contentment shone on his face and why not?—What with game in the hills, fish in the river, berries in the thickets, fruit on the trees and a garden filled with fresh vegetables.

His guests are unabashedly envious. Campbell's spread takes in 136 acres. An alluvial fan at the confluence of Crooked Creek and the Salmon, it is surrounded by national forest—hundreds of miles of virgin territory. Besides operating his guest ranch, Campbell conducts six-day float trips down the Snake River into Hells Canyon, the Middle fork of the Salmon and the Salmon itself. And because Campbell is a strict conservationist, the rafts are navigated by oars rather than motors.

Rafters on the Salmon generally stay overnight at Shepp Ranch. The tripper is asked to provide only the sleeping bag. Another six-day package combines a river-horseback adventure (four days on water, two days on land). Next year Campbell intends to schedule a super 10-day trip to include rafting down the Salmon and overnighting at Shepp Ranch, with a four-day ride into Idaho's lake country and back to Shepp Ranch. This one will figure out to about \$600 per person. (Write for a brochure to Shepp Ranch, P.O. Box 3417-LA, Boise, Idaho 83707.)

Shepp Ranch opens in March and closes December 1, with river trips beginning as early as April. During March and April, when wild flowers bloom profusely, thousands of bear, deer, elk, bighorn sheep and Rocky Mountain goats crowd the riverbanks. Later, as temperatures rise, they disappear again back into the mountains. With all the wildlife, only one real threat dogs the visitor: the river itself. It changes people. After five or six days sometimes they go home, quit jobs they've always hated and suddenly find themselves free of the pressure cooker. A case in point is Jim Campbell. He's the guy who used to fool around with neutrons, radiation and "other assorted unhealthy goodies." ■



The Christmas Spirit Of Charity

*R*eading through the pages of Charles Dickens's Christmas Carol, we find characters and situations not unlike those encountered in Elkdom. If Dickensian London is similar to modern America during the yuletide season, one exception must surely be noted. The absence of Dickens's Ebenezer Scrooge in the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks is evident, as the generous spirit of giving characterizes the Elks' Christmas.



As Marley's ghost recognizes, mankind is everyone's business. Because of his selfishness in life, the ghost is condemned to wander among the living unable to lessen the suffering he observes. The Elks' spirit goes forth in life with Logansport, IN, Lodge's presentation of a check for over \$800 to the Marion Veterans Hospital for the disabled veterans' Christmas fund.

When Scrooge journeys with the Ghost of Christmas Past, they visit his former employer Mr. Fezziwig and witness a joyous Christmas dance. Just as the fiddler charms Fezziwig's guests with his violin's voice, a young magician entertains children at Atlanta, GA, Lodge's Christmas party.



Scrooge finds the Ghost of Christmas Present amid a heap of turkey, geese, mince pies, chestnuts, and a plentiful assortment of other yuletide foods. Similar ingredients for a Christmas feast are prepared for 104 needy families by Plantation, FL, Lodge.



In contrast with Scrooge's refusal to soften the feeling of want by supporting a charity fund during Christmas time, Great Neck, NY, Lodge donates a check to St. Francis Hospital. During the visit gifts are given to all patients.



Revealing from beneath his robe the children of Want and Ignorance, the Ghost of Christmas Present shows Scrooge the need for beneficence. At Falmouth, MA, Lodge, Santa visits with the lucky children. The town's senior citizens also benefit from the lodge's generosity at a special dinner provided for them.



Tiny Tim with his crutch has a special stool by his family's glowing fire, and the Elks have a special interest in the handicapped throughout the nation. Joining with the American Legion, Van Nuys, CA, Lodge sponsors a Christmas party for patients suffering from muscular dystrophy. They also have a children's party and distribute baskets to the needy.



The visits from the Christmas Spirits do affect Scrooge, who remarks on the immeasurable value of the happiness Fezziwig gave to others. At a Christmas party sponsored by Tenafly, NJ, Lodge and the Lions, Santa gives joy to the youngsters from the Northside Forces Center in Paterson.

The Spirit of the Elks in the past and present has indeed proven to be a charitable one. Let us look forward to brightening the Ghost of Christmas Yet to Come, and
 God bless you merry gentleman!
 May nothing you dismay!



SANTA'S HELPERS

CHRISTMAS CHARITIES 1977

Once again, Elks subordinate lodges will be practicing the principles of charity and Brotherly love as they prepare for the coming Christmas season and the many Christmas charity programs.

If your lodge has not participated in such a program in the past, why don't you consider starting a Christmas charity program this year? The favorable local publicity to be derived will definitely enhance the image of Elkdom. Of more importance is the feeling of satisfaction that comes from any worthwhile charitable project.

We present many ideas from lodges across the nation. Select one and work to make it a success: Christmas parties for orphans, crippled children in hospitals, exceptional children, and Elks' children; food and toys for the needy; senior citizen Christmas parties; parties and gifts for hospitalized veterans; bicycles for orphanages; meals on wheels for shut-ins; visit and give gifts at homes for the aged.

The following lodges had exceptional Christmas charity programs during December, 1976, and are to be congratulated:

Van Nuys, CA; San Rafael, CA; Great Neck, NY; Albuquerque, NM; Atlanta, GA; Pembroke-Hanover, MA; Park City, UT; Tenafly, NJ; Logansport, IN; Falmouth, MA; and Plantation, FL. Anderson, IN, submitted a beautiful booklet on a very comprehensive Christmas charity program—unfortunately, all pictures were in color and could not be used.

Naturally, we can't recognize all Elks lodges with a picture in *The Elks Magazine*, and the Grand Lodge does not conduct a contest for Christmas charities, but we will use a limited number of pictures in the December, 1978, edition of *The Elks Magazine*.

Black and white glossy pictures with printed captions of your Christmas charities program should be mailed to: Charles E. McGinley, Chairman; Grand Lodge Activities Committee; 220 Lansdowne Drive; Verona, PA 15147, no later than February 15, 1978. IMPORTANT—pictures cannot be returned unless they are accompanied by a self-addressed envelope with sufficient postage. DO NOT send your pictures to *The Elks Magazine*.

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It's Your Business

(Continued from page 17)

Small Business Department?

No action, meanwhile, has been taken on Prof. George Doyle's proposal [July and August, 1977, "It's Your Business" columns] that the federal government create a cabinet post and a department of small business. Several readers thought it was a good idea. Said Chet F. Straw of Tacoma, WA, "In my opinion, your article represents the thinking of most true small businessmen in the United States today." Curtis A. Seirft of Rossville, GA, wrote that "we really do need a department of small business. Making a living as a small businessman has been uphill all the way and seems to get harder each year."

But Ed Chadderton of Sharon, PA, took me to task for my October column about the summer of 1977. I quoted a paragraph from an article in American Business magazine by Carlyle Douglas which said that benefits are growing twice as fast as wages and some management and accounting experts believe American employers are going to have to make cost-cutting arrangements in their benefits or prepare for drastic reductions in earnings.

"Not true," Ed says, "there is no case but one: cut wages. The truth is the truth . . . everyone knows the truth but won't admit it . . . By stabilizing wages on every job and I mean every job, for five years, you would find the end of inflation. By holding every wage exactly at present level on every job (or better still, reduce every wage 10 percent) inflation would begin to slow down immediately. Then let people work to promote themselves to

higher paid jobs. If they want more money, they can work harder, produce better, or get a second job. Then the good people will get ahead. Everyone must know that only wages cause inflation. If they haven't thought about it let me tell them. Just think what strikes do to heat up inflation.

"Stop the wage spiral and strikes. Do not house and feed people unless they work—work hard and produce well. Production and competition will bring prices down on every single item purchased . . . Personally, take me back to the depression. Anyone wanting to work could (and did) and made a better living than today. When a job was done in those days, the one doing the work was proud of it. Then, as now, some people don't want to work."

Ed's got a point. Rising wages and benefit packages (which are frequently considered as one by employees and the public) have created problems. The natural question, though is who can roll back wages and how? I don't know of a political leader with the guts to demand such federal (or state) legislation. It would take a most drastic step; the kind only a dictator or czar would have the power to enforce at the highest level of government. Even if it could somehow be accomplished, how could such legislation (assuming that we would remain some sort of democracy) be supervised in a country that has enough trouble keeping its political office holders honest?

What do you think?

Address your questions and comments to John C. Behrens, c/o The Elks Magazine, 425 Diversey Parkway, Chicago, Illinois, 60614.

In Remembrance

PGER Hobert Lee Blackledge



Together to pay final tribute to Past Grand Exalted Ruler Hobert Lee Blackledge during his funeral in Kearney, Nebraska, were these Grand Lodge members. They are (from left) PGERs Willis C. McDonald, Robert A. Yothers, Frank Hise, R. Leonard Bush, John L. Walker, George B. Klein, GER Homer Huhn, Jr., PGERs Francis M. Smith, Horace R. Wisely, Robert G. Pruitt, Raymond C. Dobson, E. Gene Fournace, and Gerald Strohm.

YOU AND RETIREMENT

by Grace W. Weinstein



YOUR HEARING

At least 40 percent of those over 65 have some hearing disability. Fifteen million Americans, all told, are estimated to have some hearing loss. Ten million have never received medical attention. Three million use hearing aids—and many of those aids have been purchased directly from salesmen without benefit of medical advice. More than \$30 million a year, according to the American Speech and Hearing Association, is wasted on hearing aids that cannot help the purchaser.

Two new sets of government regulations may make a difference. The first set, promulgated by the Food and Drug Administration, went into effect in August, 1977. The second, by the Federal Trade Commission, is still (as of October, 1977) under consideration. The FDA rules hold that hearing aids may be sold only when the customer presents a written statement of examination by a physician; this provision is actually enforced, however, only for children since customers over the age of 18 may waive the medical evaluation. The FDA also requires that manufacturers provide a detailed brochure, telling buyers what hearing aids do, how they work, and how to use them. The proposed FTC rules, supported by the American Speech and Hearing Association and by the American Association of Retired Persons, would require dealers to provide a 30-day trial period, restrict uninvited door-to-door sales (where many abuses take place), and ban false and misleading sales practices.

Until such regulations are adopted and enforced, your best protection is knowledge. There are two major types of hearing loss. In conductive hearing loss, where the problem lies in the outer or middle ear and sound is muffled, medical or surgical treatment is often helpful. In sensorineural or "nerve" hearing loss, where the problem is in the inner ear, there is both loss of loudness and distortion; this type of loss is often helped with a hearing aid. You can't tell which you have, however, without a medical examination.

Early symptoms of hearing loss, symptoms which should lead you to an examination, include: frequently asking people to repeat themselves, straining to hear what is being said, cupping a hand over your ear in an effort to hear,

inability to distinguish between similar words, a tendency to favor one ear, difficulty in identifying the location of a voice or sound, inability to hear the ticking of a watch, drainage of fluid, ringing in the ears, and/or dizziness.

With any of these symptoms, consult your family physician. He may refer you to an ear specialist and/or to an audiologist. The ear specialist, or otologist, is a physician trained in evaluating diseases of the ear; he can rule out other problems and may be able to combat your hearing loss through medical or surgical treatment. The audiologist is professionally trained to measure and evaluate hearing, to determine the need for a hearing aid and to determine which aid is best. The hearing aid retailer should be your last stop.

Go to a competent local retailer; do not buy a hearing aid through the mail or from an itinerant salesman. Before you deal with a particular retailer, however, the Better Business Bureau suggests that you find out: How long has the retailer been in business? Does he have an established office? Is he a member of the National Hearing Aid Society or its local affiliates? If your state requires licensing, is the dealer licensed? Does he stand behind his product and clearly spell out the warranty? Will he honor the warranty or require that you deal with the manufacturer? Can he provide rapid and efficient repairs?

The audiologist will recommend the best type of hearing aid for you, among the 1200 models on the market. In trying a particular aid, however, you will want to consider: How is the quality of the sound? Does it help you to understand speech in quiet places? In noisy places? Is it comfortable to wear? Are the controls (tone control, volume control, telephone switch) easy to operate? Is the price all-inclusive?

What are the costs of upkeep? You won't really be able to answer all of these questions while in the store; try to arrange a trial or rental period so that you can use the aid in your daily life. You may have to pay a rental fee, usually applied to the purchase price if you do decide to buy, but it is well worthwhile.

Appearance is of major importance to many purchasers, but should be a secondary consideration. Hearing aids for mild to moderate hearing loss may be in the ear, behind the ear, or built into eyeglass frames; for severe hearing loss, many aids are body models. Where there is a choice, many people elect the eyeglass model, feeling that it is less conspicuous, but audiologist Richard Carmen, author of *Our Endangered Hearing* (Roda Press, 1977), points out that eyeglass models pose certain problems: you can't separate the hearing aid for repair, but must send along the glasses as well; you can't rest your eyes by removing your glasses without also removing your hearing aid; and life expectancy of the aid is much shorter because of increased handling.

If you do buy a hearing aid, know what to expect. Hearing aids will not restore lost hearing ability, re-create natural sound, or separate meaning from background noise. By making all sounds audible, including background noise, the aid may at first make everything more confusing. You will have to learn to discriminate sound, to "tune out" those you do not want to hear while focusing on those you do. This can be tiring, especially at first.

To get the most from a new hearing aid, the New York League for the Hard of Hearing suggests, get used to it slowly, building up from a few minutes a day to several hours a day over the course of a week. Start in quiet familiar surroundings, don't wear the hearing aid, at first in noisy places or when you are tired or nervous. Adjust the volume with the help of a friend speaking nearby in normal conversational tones. Once adjusted, do not change the volume.

If you do buy a hearing aid, take care of it. The BBB suggests: Keep your hearing aid dry. Avoid excessively high temperatures. Remove dead batteries immediately. Avoid twisting cords or bending tubing. Turn the aid off each time you remove it. Do not attempt to repair it yourself.

If you are hearing impaired, it will take some time to get used to using a hearing aid, and to communicating with people. If you have normal hearing, but live with someone who has suffered a hearing loss,

(Continued on page 32)

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America's Secret Weapon

Blue Jeans

(Continued from page 9)

Which is not to say that Americans don't love their jeans. For love them they do.

An ancient cowboy recently contributed a button from his Levi's jacket to the company's museum—it came from his innards, he said, blasted there decades earlier by a gunslinger's bullet, probably saving his life. A Michigan housewife sent in for renovation the jeans she'd split leaning over her washing machine, explaining that she couldn't part with them after wearing them all through school, courtship, early marriage, and as her first post-maternity clothes after the birth of each baby.

A fifty-two-year-old construction worker wrote in that he'd reached that birthday only because his jeans' belt loop held onto a crane that accidentally swung him over the edge of a skyscraper. And a railroad worker related the story of a switchman who'd joined two cars with a knotted pair of blue jeans when the coupling broke—the pants held the two cars together for the two miles into the next station.

For 125 years now, on-the-go Americans have worn jeans for play and for work. And why not?

They're tough trousers that can take

lots of wear, whether you're astride a horse, a tractor, a steel girder, or a soda fountain stool. And, with the ads promising they're "Guaranteed to Fade, Wrinkle, and Shrink," jeans have come to symbolize the active, out-of-doors, adventurous life that Americans consider theirs, even if their closest approach to it is watching "Charlie's Angels" or "Kojak" on the color tv in the rec room.

Besides, as fashion designer Bill Blass has said: "It is the best-cut trouser of all time."

Says Levi Strauss executive Bud Johns: "They're the most masculine garment going for a man—yet, it's very hard for a woman to look more sexy than she does in a pair of jeans."

They're the Aladdin's Lamp of trousers—whatever you want, they've got. The favorite britches of generations of Pecos Bills, Mike Finks, Paul Bunyans, and Hot Rod Harrys, jeans have become a true symbol of the American way of life. And sexy, too. No wonder they've conquered the country.

Not just this country, either. Around the world folks are plunking down their hard-earned rubles, marks, francs, and yen for those trousers that made Alkali Ike so happy on the California gold fields. Maybe the United Nations needs a new flag—blue denim, with copper rivets.

PUBLIC IMAGE CONTEST

Each of our lodges has a public image. Do you as a member or officer of your lodge know how non-Elks in your community regard your lodge? It is up to the Exalted Ruler to strive to improve his lodge's image. The Grand Lodge knows the importance of a good lodge image, so to encourage the officers and members to keep a permanent record of their achievements they sponsor the annual Public Image Contest.

The rules of the contest are simple. All you do is compile photographs, newspaper clippings, summaries and copies of television and radio scripts that cover your lodge's participation in and sponsorship of the activities that improve and benefit your community. Anytime that your lodge does something to benefit the elderly, young, handicapped or underprivileged, the news media coverage of this should be compiled for your brochure. Also, your programs such as Citizen of the Year, Law and Order Night, Boy Scout and Girl Scout sponsorship, Eagle Scout awards, and sponsorship of football, baseball, and hockey youth leagues should be covered in your brochure.

Be sure that the things your lodge does are known to the public. Get acquainted with those in your community who are employed by the news media and keep them informed as to what is going on. They will do the rest for you. Keep a file of the above events for the year so that you can compile it into brochure form for entering in the Public Image Contest. Submit the brochure to the undersigned by March 1, 1978, along with a letter from your lodge secretary certifying your lodge membership.

The representatives of the winning lodges will receive awards at the Grand Lodge convention next July. First-, second-, and third-place awards in each of five divisions (according to lodge membership) will be awarded. Winning lodges will also be announced in *The Elks Magazine*.

Please review the article entitled "Our Public Image" in the September, 1977, issue of the Grand Lodge Newsletter. If you haven't already done so, make plans to participate in this important program and contest.

James R. Kenney, Member
GL Lodge Activities Committee
1105 Verde Drive, Apt. D
Colorado Springs, CO 80910

MAJOR PROJECTS

This is part of a continuing series on the state major projects. All state chairmen have been contacted by The Elks Magazine and have been asked to forward information for upcoming articles.

Rehabilitative care and vocational training for the physically or mentally handicapped residents of **Alabama** take place at the Elks Memorial Center. For 18 years the Center, which operates under requirements set by the State Department of Education and the State Health Department, has enabled people over 14 years of age to become self-supporting citizens.

The Center consists of a domiciliary with medical facilities and is manned by full-time professionals. Collaboration with the Vocational Rehabilitation Service and the State Department of Education has given the staff access to residents of the entire state. At the present time the Center prepares from 75 to 100 people yearly for an active role in the world.

A new \$7½ million operation is in the planning stages, and the Alabama Elks hope to begin work on it sometime in 1978. The 23 lodges in the state participate in raising funds for their major project. Every January a Cadillac is raffled off, bringing in proceeds of from \$55,000 to \$65,000. There is also a suggested annual quota per member of \$10. The Elks have expended \$800,000 on the Center.

Self-support and independence for the handicapped is foremost on the list of priorities at the **Kansas** Elks Training Center. Since 1966 over 2,000 people from sixteen years of age and up have found an opportunity to develop their potential working skills at the Center. The major goal of the program is to nourish attitudes and capabilities which an individual needs to become a productive member of society, and it rejects the tradition that the handicapped are only qualified for the most menial and low-paying jobs.

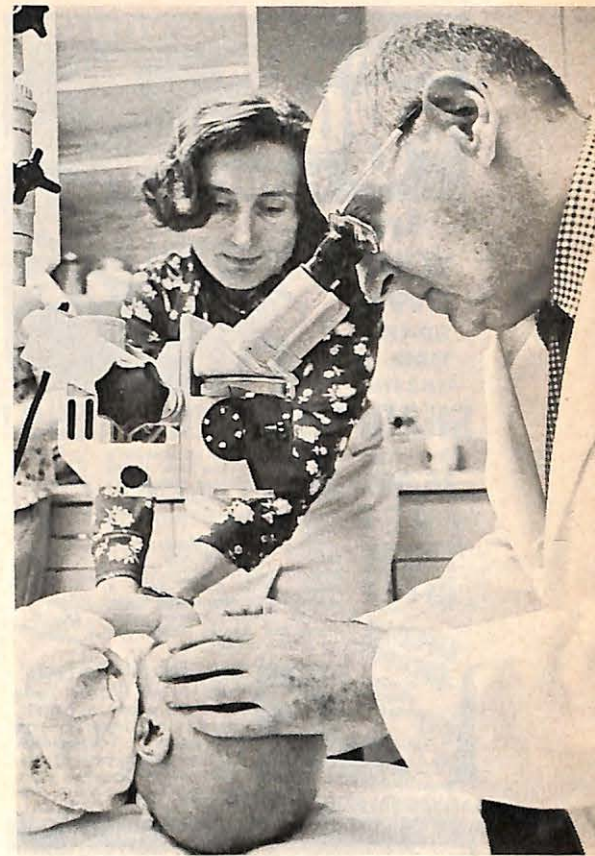
In 1963, a small workshop for handicapped males was opened in Wichita, Kansas, by the Sedgwick County Association for Retarded Citizens and the Starkey Developmental Center. Staffed at first by volunteers and part-time workers, the

success of the program motivated hiring of full-time professionals and the creation of a second center for handicapped females. This growth of the center coincided with the Kansas Elks' pursuit of a major project. In 1964, the Elks officially adopted the program, whereupon it became the Kansas Elks Training Center for the Retarded, Inc.

Today the Center has an average daily attendance of 160 trainees and has expanded to encompass the admission of persons with any disability. The staff includes 60 professionals, paraprofessionals and consultants, and the services now cover seven programs which are: psychological and vocational evaluation, work evaluation, work adjustment, training services, job tryouts, job placement, and finally, follow-up services.

The Center is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities and is approved by the Kansas Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services, the Veterans Administration, the Services for the Blind, CHAMPUS, and the State Board of Education. Admission to the Center usually involves an interview and tour, a review of medical, psychological, and social background, and the approval of the Admissions Committee. Priority is given to Kansas residents and the program does not serve those who are actively psychotic, severely mentally retarded, or abusive to themselves or others, nor those who need a psychiatric day program.

From the small workshop established in 1963, the program has expanded to such an extent that it became necessary to acquire new facilities. In 1976, the Center bought a new 25,000 square foot building with a large adjoining parking lot which will become the corporation's first permanent home. Located in downtown Wichita, the structure will accommodate the admittance of 200 persons a day. The new facility will allow the expansion of the Evaluation and Training Program



Doctors Tongue and Swan at the Elks Children's Eye Clinic.

at the location of the original workshop.

Since the Elks took over the Training Center, the annual budget has grown from \$30,000 to \$1,500,000 and the Elks continue their monetary support in supplying almost eight percent of the Center's income. The greater portion of the income comes from a combination of fees for the service, production income, and federal grants.

The outstanding success of the Center is evidenced by the fact that an average of 150 handicapped people from the program join the competitive job market every year. The philosophy of 'real work for real pay' as a method of therapy has proven to be a useful concept in the process of rehabilitation. Thanks to the Elks Training Center, many handicapped people in the state of Kansas are self-supporting and productive members of our society.


Since 1949, the Elks of **Oregon** have been involved in a statewide project which handles the examination, research, and treatment of children's eye problems with the skill, education, and services that specialized facilities have made possible. Conducted by the Department of Ophthalmology at the University of Oregon Health Science Center in Portland and by the State School for the Blind in Salem, the program is now centered in the new Elks Children's Eye Clinic, which opened in March, 1976.

The Clinic includes a specialized infant examination room with a ceiling mounted microscope, television, and videotape installation which permits visual projection live, or by tape, of patient data. A highly specialized ultrasound unit in-



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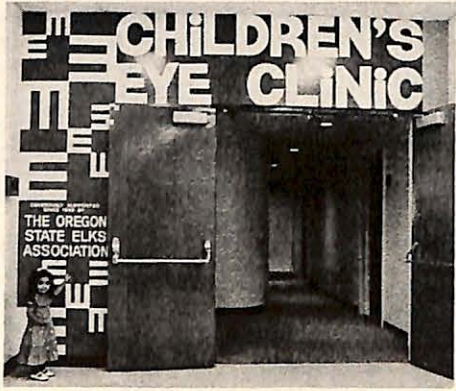
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Major Projects

stalled in the room allows the visualization of the interior of the eye and adjacent areas by sound waves. The unit made it possible to diagnose a number of disorders which previously would have required surgical exploration or even removal of the eye. Other facilities at the Clinic include four examination lanes, a field room, an orthoptic suite, three waiting areas, administrative offices, an admitting area, and nurses' stations.



The new Oregon Elks Eye Clinic

In the past 28 years, 26,000 children have made 102,653 clinic visits. The most common non-surgical eye conditions treated by the staff include amblyopia, refractive errors, eye infections and inflammations, eye injuries, eye coordination problems, and genetic eye diseases. About one out of every five children at the Clinic requires major eye surgery: the most common operations performed are connected with severe disturbances in eye alignment and coordination, droopy

eyelids, cataracts, glaucoma, cancers, and eye injuries.

Any child between birth and 19 years of age is eligible for care at the Clinic. The financial obligations of each family are considered separately and depend on, among other things, income, family size, and debts. Approximately 32 percent of the patients are insured or pay in full, 26 percent are welfare cases, and 42 percent pay partially or not at all. Referrals are made by doctors and by the lodges, or the child's family may make an appointment.

"Vision for the future demands legislation and public education today" is an idea the Clinic tries to carry out through teaching medical students, conducting research, instructing the public, and of course, treating the children. The Elks' role in the operation of the Clinic is based on donations from individuals and lodges, and the special memorial contributions. Over a five-month period, \$43,751.14 in special donations was collected. At the opening of the new Clinic, \$200,000 was contributed for the purchase of necessary equipment. New equipment, for which there is a continuous need, is pledged by lodges, Elks, and the Elks' ladies.

The Oregon State Elks Association relies on statewide fund-raising events and the generosity of its members for the proceeds which have supported the project. A 50¢ per capita contribution is the only amount requested. Approximately \$100,000 is disbursed annually. The Brothers have begun the sponsorship of an Elks Eye Injury Prevention Poster Contest in an attempt to fight unnecessary visual loss. Their continued support of and dedication to the Clinic have already started that fight.

Elk Of The Year

The selection of the Elk of the Year should be made early in February and the name of the recipient should be forwarded to Grand Secretary Stanley F. Kocur, 2750 Lake View Avenue, Chicago, IL 60614. An Elk of the Year certificate and a GER lapel pin for the Brother to be honored will be issued by the Grand Secretary's office. Plaques on which the certificate may be mounted are available from the Grand Secretary's office at a nominal cost. The certificate and pin should be presented at a lodge meeting, or at an Elk of the Year dinner at which the honored Brother's family and friends can be in attendance.

The Elk of the Year Program was designed to give recognition to those of our Brothers who are not current lodge officers, but who contribute so much to the welfare of the local lodge. One more basic rule—only ONE Brother may be chosen per year—NO TIES!

Please do not send any Elk of the Year material to *The Elks Magazine*.

Stanley O. Mascoe, Member
 GL Lodge Activities Committee



NEWS OF THE STATE ASSOCIATIONS

The formation of the Association of Past State Presidents, as an amendment to the bylaws, was approved by delegates at West Virginia's meeting held in Wheeling on August 12-13. Distinguished guests in attendance included GER and Mrs. Homer Huhn, Jr., PGER Wade Kepner, the state sponsor, Publisher/General Manager John Ryan of *The Elks Magazine* and his wife, former Grand Forum Chief Justice Thomas Goodwin, and GL Youth Activities Committeeman William Rosen.

It was reported that \$5,100 was expended on the two camps for crippled children, which the Elks maintain in the northern and southern sections of the state. New officers, including Vice Presidents Thomas Thornton of Princeton; Albert Yanni, Moundsville; W. C. DeWeese, Morgantown; Secy. Donald Finnegan, Weirton, and Treas. Ralph Adams, Huntington, were among the 679 registered conventioners who feted outgoing-SP Paul Duffy at a ball on the night of the 12th and welcomed new SP Charles Dunnington of Fairmont Lodge during a ball held on the 13th.

West Virginia Elks planned their mid-year meeting for April 21-22, 1978, at Martinsburg Lodge and their annual conclave for August 11-12, 1978, at Fairmont Lodge.

The name of the Texas Elks Crippled Children's Hospital was changed to the Texas Elks Foundation for Handicapped Children, Inc. This change and a new program were adopted by an overwhelming majority of delegates present in El Paso June 16-18 for the 52nd yearly meeting of the Texas Elks. Outgoing-SP Claude Phillips, the presiding officer, welcomed distinguished guests then-GER George and Ruth Klein, PGER George Hall, the state sponsor, and his wife Gertrude, and Grand Trustee Edward Schlieter. There were 810 members and their wives at the proceedings.

Named the state's Elk of the Year was Judge J. J. Vogel of Kerrville Lodge. Dan Henderson of Harlingen Lodge was chosen the new editor of

the *TESA News*. He succeeded Floyd Ford, who had resigned the post. Mainland Lodge earned the right to compete nationally by placing first in the ritualistic contest. El Paso Lodge ranked first, Houston, second, and Galveston, third, in the amount of money raised for the hospital fund. The total contributions were the highest in the 25-year history of the organization.

Installed as the 1977-1978 officers were President Joseph Matthews, President Elect Howard Hall, Vice Presidents Dick Elliott, James Truesdell, Al Cagnola, Otis Rhyne, Lee Zastovnik, Bill Hill, Alfred Mecca, Charles Rudloff, R. E. Talley, John Golden, Secy. Ellis Leatherwood, and Treas. John Ceolla.

The fall conference was slated for November at Longview Lodge. Amarillo Lodge will host the 1978 annual convention.

A contribution of \$75,000 to the Children's Hospital at Newington was made by the Elks of Connecticut during their June 3-5 annual conclave held at Middletown Lodge. The representatives of 35 of the state's lodges also began planning a \$200,000 project establishing at the Newington hospital a unit to be known as the Elks Child Psychiatry Unit. The convention was called to order by outgoing-SP Francis Joyce, who welcomed the nearly 500 Elks and ladies and special guests SDGER Arthur Roy, GL Committeeman Edwin Maley, and GL Committeeman Alfred Mattei of Massachusetts, who delivered the keynote address.

Elected to office for 1977-1978 were SP George Lambert Jr., Norwich; Vice Presidents Alan Lyon, Willimantic; Joseph Palmer, Naugatuck; Francis Reinholz, East Hartford; Lawrence Volpe, Bridgeport; Secy. Thaddeus Pawlowski, Norwich, and Treas. Edward Szewczyk, Enfield. During the business sessions reports of the various standing committees were presented by the chairmen. The convention-goers relaxed Saturday evening at the President's Ball.

On Sunday the annual memorial ser-

vice was held at 11 o'clock. Past GL Committeeman and State Secy. Thaddeus Pawlowski delivered the eulogy.

Responsibility for arranging the 1978 convention was accorded to the Southwest District.

Twelve of the thirteen lodges within the state of Arkansas were represented at the May 21-22 annual convention hosted by Texarkana Lodge. During the business session the members discussed the major project, which supplies the Children's Colony in Conway, AR, with equipment for their rehabilitation program. Dignitaries who attended the meetings included then-SDGERS Charles Lilly and Jerry Bowers, and then-DDGERS Harold Perry and Marlow Moore. There were 208 members registered for the convention.

Heading the roster of 1977-1978 officers is SP Maurice Bell of Hot Springs Lodge. He will be assisted by Vice Presidents Fred Carter of Jonesboro Lodge; Clarence Bassham of Rogers-Bentonville Lodge, and Secy.-Treas. Paul Clark, also of Hot Springs Lodge. Among the social activities held during the convention was a banquet attended by 418 Elks and their guests.

Highland Lodge in Hardy, AR, was chosen to host the October fall meeting.

St. Cloud Lodge hosted the June 16-19 Minnesota Elks Association, Inc., convention. Among the special guests was the state sponsor, PGER Francis Smith, who joined the 245 registered delegates in listening to the Saturday banquet's principal speaker PGER Glenn Miller.

Donald Ritland of Austin Lodge was selected to serve as 1977-1978 State President. Also installed were Vice Presidents Sheldon McRae, Bemidji; James Leigh, St. Cloud; Norman Schultz, Hopkins; Robert Brown, Rochester; Secy. George Carlson, St. Paul, and Treas. Wayne Searle, Rochester.

The mid-year conference was planned for November in Minneapolis, and the next annual meeting was scheduled for June 15-18 in Mankato.

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Cope With Your Emotions

(Continued from page 21)

States of relaxation are accompanied by changes in these internal processes, and the patient is made aware of this. The clinician encourages the patient to think pleasant thoughts and to relax the muscles, and the patient can judge his or her progress toward relaxation from the feedback supplied by the monitoring devices. A number of individuals profess that biofeedback has helped them to overcome a condition of chronic stress.

Meditation has become popular today, and many people believe that meditation has been of help to them in avoiding or overcoming undue tension. One should be aware that there are different forms of meditation, and that they often have a definite religious orientation.

It seems possible, however, to practice certain kinds of so-called meditation simply as a psychological technique. For example, one concentrates on one's

breathing, seeking to shut out all other thoughts, and thus to achieve a state of relaxation.

Here again, the local library or bookstore will usually have a number of books on meditation. If interested, one does well to explore, and to gather information about the various forms of meditation. Then you can better decide if you want to try one of them.

To sum up, some philosophers have extolled the reason, teaching that the emotions are akin to a disease, therefore to be eradicated or excised. Even if this were possible, however, a life devoid of emotional states would seem quite dull, except perhaps to the metaphysician who believes that the summum bonum resides in the contemplation of geometric forms.

Affective states help to make life interesting and productive when properly handled. But a life controlled by the emotions resembles a sickening ride on an airplane tossed about by unseen air pockets. We need to direct the energies aroused by emotional states so that they work for rather than against our welfare and happiness. ■

You and Retirement

(Continued from page 27)

there are things you can do to help. Speak clearly, but don't shout. Look at the person to whom you are speaking, and try to be sure that you face the light. Be patient with misunderstandings. And, if the person doesn't understand what you are saying, rephrase it rather than repeating it.

If you have normal hearing, too, protect it. Follow these tips from the New York League for the Hard of Hearing:

- ✓ Maintain good health; many general physical problems also cause hearing problems. If you're over 65, include a hearing test as part of your regular physical examination.
- ✓ Earaches? or ear infections? Go di-

rectly to doctor or clinic. Do not treat yourself with old medicine. Remember: an untreated ear infection can lead to permanent hearing loss.

- ✓ Do not put anything smaller than your elbow in your ear. Q-tips, pencils, etc. will only push things farther in, not remove them; if wax or objects must be removed, see your doctor.

- ✓ Stay off airplanes when you have a cold; your hearing may be damaged.

- ✓ Avoid exposure to loud noise; buy ear protectors if you must be in noisy places.

- ✓ Tell your doctor immediately if prescribed medication makes your ears ring; another medication should be prescribed instead.

- ✓ If you notice any changes in your hearing, get help as soon as you can. ■

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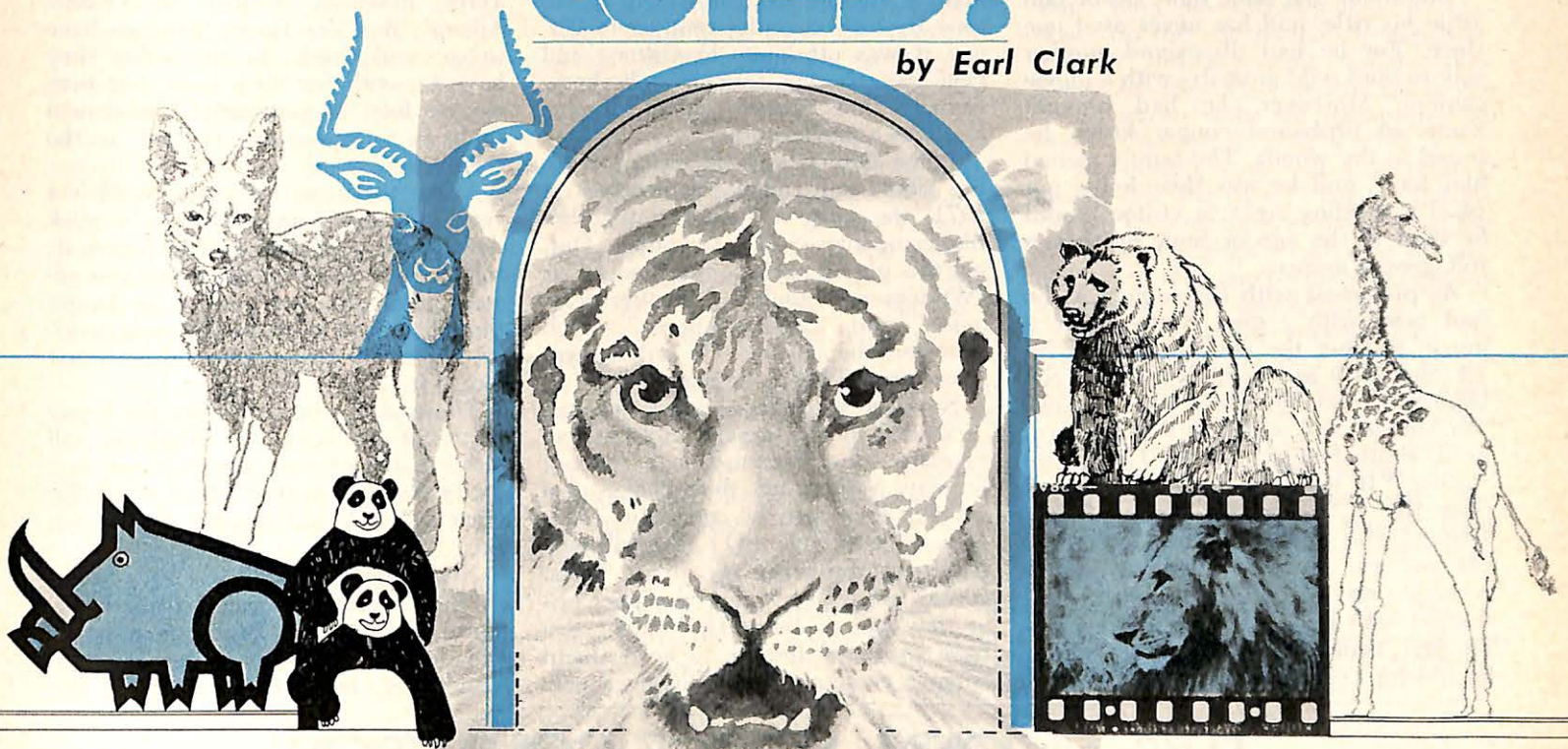
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THESE MOVIE STARS ARE WILD!

by Earl Clark



□ The closest most people get to movie stars is on a sightseeing bus that toils them past the secreted mansions where the great folks live, or the remote chance of spotting them in a jampacked Hollywood restaurant.

But there's one place where you can see film stars going about their daily chores, and ogle them to your heart's content. However, you won't get their autographs, or even shake hands with them. For all these stars are wild animals!

Their home is the Olympic Game Farm, an 86-acre tract near the town of Sequim, on Washington state's Olympic Peninsula about sixty miles northwest of Seattle. Some 220 wild animals are housed on this farm, many of them are rare and endangered species.

But there's a unique distinction between the Olympic Game Farm and other such wild animal preserves or zoos. For this is a "working" farm—meaning that almost every one of these animals has appeared, is appearing, or will appear on television and movie screens across the nation.

The first thing visitors to the game farm see is a signboard listing the dozens of major films in which its "residents" have starred. And that doesn't include innumerable cameo appear-

ances in other films, TV commercials, and short features.

For example, the co-star of NBC's long-running "Grizzly Adams"—along with actor Dan Haggerty—is Bozo, a 400-pound grizzly who, just like human actors, has a stage name, in this case, Ben. (Actually, the bear is a female, born and raised on the game farm.)

But Bozo doesn't hog the limelight at this star-studded game farm. Stroll past almost any enclosure—cougars, wolves, foxes, raccoons, tigers, otters, skunks, bobcats, or what have you—and you'll find the occupant has a list of screen credits that would be the envy of many an Oscar winner.

This bucolic home where the animals roam was a dairy farm when Lloyd Beebe took it over in 1943. But Beebe's great love was the wilderness Olympic Mountains that loomed up only a few miles distant. There were cougars in those mountains, and occasionally one would slip down into some foothill farm and pick off a lamb or a calf. The animal was regarded as a no-good predator then, and the state offered a \$75 bounty for every cougar kill.

When a cougar was suspected in an area, the call went out to Lloyd Beebe.

For even in this homeland of loggers, Indians, hunters and sportsmen, he was regarded as the greatest woodsman of them all, and his feats became legendary. The average backpacker can spend a lifetime in these mountains and never see the elusive cougar (known in the Rockies as a mountain lion, and in the Southwest as a puma). But Beebe bagged 118 of them in 16 years of hunting.

Natives told of the time he strangled a wildcat to death with his bare hands when it leaped out of a tree into the middle of his dogs that had surrounded it. Or the time he was surprised by an angry bear that roared out at him from a hollow cedar stump, and Beebe dispatched him with an ax.

Assigned to get a full grown cougar for the Seattle zoo, Beebe treed one with his hounds, made a noose on the end of a long pole, climbed the tree, lassoed the cougar, and he and his wife dragged the writhing, snarling animal down from the tree and out of the woods on a sled improvised from boughs.

When an elk hunter became lost in the jungle-like coastal rain forests in 1948, Beebe led a rescue party that finally found the man's clothes on the bank of a creek into which he had

THESE MOVIE STARS ARE WILD!

plunged in a vain effort to swim to safety to the nearby Pacific Ocean. Beebe then went back to work on his dairy farm, but the rest of the search party was crippled or bed-ridden by the arduous expedition.

But about that same time, Beebe laid aside his rifle, and has never used one since. For he had discovered another way to hunt wild animals—with a movie camera. Moreover, he had brought home an orphaned cougar kitten he found in the woods. The family named him Jerry, and he was their house pet (and a startling sight to visitors) until he died at the age of four, by then a full grown animal.

As proficient with the camera as he had been with a gun, Beebe made a movie starring the cougar, along with 18 other birds and animals native to the Olympics and his then four-year-old son Melvin, and sold it to Warner Bros. as a short feature titled "The Little Archer." It was shown in theaters all over the U.S. and in Europe. Walt Disney, who was just getting into wildlife movies, saw the film, and liked what he saw—so much so that he contracted with Beebe to do wildlife films for him. Beebe's first film of the many he did for Disney was "Bear Country,"

still occasionally seen on TV reruns.

Gradually the dairy herd disappeared, and the Beebe farm became a Northwest outpost of the Disney studios. More and more species were added to the original few cougars and bears, until the farm came to house a collection that would be the envy of many a big city zoo. But during all the time Beebe was under contract to Disney it was off limits to visitors, and even neighboring farmers only knew vaguely that Beebe's game preserve also was a movie studio.

When Disney stopped making wildlife films and ended the contract in 1971, the farm was opened to other film companies—and to the public. During this period such popular movies as "Wilderness Family," "Frontier Fremont," and "Grizzly Adams," which spawned the current TV series, were filmed with Beebe's animals.

Now the game farm draws upwards of 25,000 tourists a year, and has had as many as a thousand on a summer Sunday. Visitors get their choice of a walking tour past the enclosures (\$2), or a drive-through (\$1) that will take them past browsing elk, bison, bears, zebras, yaks, llamas and other species—or they can do both. They might also have the good fortune to be on hand when a camera crew is filming a new

TV episode, or when one of the trainers is instructing a protegee in some new stunts that in a few months will be seen in an adventure film.

But how do you teach a potentially murderous wild animal to perform docilely in front of a camera?

"It's a matter of rewards," explains Terry Rowland, trainer of Grizzly Adams' "Ben"—or Bozo. "Animals have to eat and drink. In the wilds they have to work for their food, but here we use food as a reward. The critical thing is to make the reward at the right time.

"Take the bear, for example. He's a very inquisitive animal. Toss a stick down in front of him and he'll paw it, roll it over. If he picks it up, you reward him with food. Now he knows that all he has to do to get some goodies is pick up that stick—and he won't forget it."

Those of us who remember the Uncle Remus stories from our childhood will recall that Bre'r Bear was depicted as a lumbering dull-witted foil for all the other animals, particularly the clever Bre'r Rabbit.

Not so, says Rowland.

"Bears are the smartest of the animals," he contends. "Bozo, for example, can do ten or twelve things on command—that's better than most dogs! We

ELKS NATIONAL SERVICE COMMISSION

"So long as there is a disabled veteran in our hospitals, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks will never forget him."



At a recent event sponsored by Florida Elks for veterans of the VA Hospital in Miami, (standing, from left) State Vets Chm. and PDD John Rosasco, PDD James Dunn, mayor of Coral Gables, and George Gavigan, director of hospital special services, chatted with one of the residents.



Mr. W. D. Ross (center), newly appointed administrator of the Loma Linda VA Hospital, spoke to the Brothers of Pomona, CA, Lodge about the progress of the new hospital and the services that will be provided for veterans. ER Dave Haywood (left) and Vets Chm. John Porto thanked Mr. Ross for his visit to the lodge.

A commendation award for sustained support of the volunteer services program at the Durham VA Hospital was recently presented to Arthur McDade of Durham, NC, Lodge by John Arledge, hospital director. Brother McDade, who is a deputy representative of the program and who has helped with recreational activities for veterans, received the certificate during a volunteer recognition ceremony.

had a movie scene recently where the director decided he wanted Bozo to unlatch a door—something she'd never done. I had her opening that latch within ten minutes!"

And the dumbest of the dumb animals?

"Rabbits," Rowland promptly replies. "And skunks."

So much for Uncle Remus.

There are tremendous differences between animal species, and between individuals within species. No two are alike, no matter how similar they may appear to the uninformed observer.

"Some are athletes, some are awkward," says cameraman Ron Brown, a onetime USC football player who has been with the game farm eleven years. "Some are wary, some shy, some slow. You might say some are Jesuit priests—others are candidates for Alcatraz!"

It's easiest, of course, to train animals from infancy, and the game farm has a steady supply of infants, not only from its own breeding, but orphaned cubs found in the wilds by Game Department officers or by sportsmen.

It's all well and good when you're putting an animal through his paces in the relatively safe confines of the game farm's enclosures. But how are they kept in control when a movie is being filmed in the distant mountains of Utah

or Arizona, which are the locales for most of the "Grizzly Adams" stories?

Trainer Rowland accomplishes this by using hand signals along with vocal commands. Thus when he instructs Bozo to sit, stand, or lie on top of him, he not only speaks the commands but at the same time gives the bear an associated hand signal. Even without a word being said, then, the bear sits, stands, or lies down for the trainer—and is promptly rewarded (she loves marshmallows!).

So on location, when sound cameras are running and nothing must be heard by the viewer except the actor's words, Rowland remains out of camera range, making his hand signals to the bear.

And there's no danger that the bear will take a liking to her new surroundings and go bounding off into the forest.

"These animals would be lost in the wilds," explains Bill Robb, the young and knowledgeable manager of the game farm. "The cage is their security, and they aren't interested in going back to anything except that. On the farm, their working area is bounded by an electric wire. They know that if they hit it, they get an unpleasant shock. So when we're filming, all we have to do is circle the area with a string—they associate that with the shock, and won't

cross it. We've never yet lost an animal that we took into the mountains or anywhere else."

Most films starring the game farm's animals are done in distant locations. They can't be transported by air, as airlines refuse to carry wild animals unless they're tranquilized—and the game farm never tranquilizes its residents. So they do their own transporting, by specially built trailer cages. These are constantly on the go as the farm's screen stars are transported all over the West.

"It wouldn't work unless we made it pleasurable for them," Robb explains. "So we 'reward' them in the trailers, too. When we back up a trailer to the animal's pen, they can't wait to go bounding into it. They love to travel!"

Besides banning tranquilizers, the game farm does not alter any of its animals—except to deodorize the skunks. Animals are not spayed, nor are claws or fangs removed. This would make it dangerous for trainers except for a basic bit of learning that every animal undergoes. This shows them through their own experience how sharp their claws or fangs are.

When handling a bear cub, for example, the trainer will contrive to get one of the bear's paws, or even his lip, (Continued on page 47)

THE JOY OF GIVING

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Three members of one family, John (second from left), Felix (third), and Frank Radleigh (fourth), became \$100 participating members at a recent meeting of Lyndhurst, NJ, Lodge. Foundation Chm. and PER Roy Rawson (left) and ER Edward Rich presented certificates to the Brothers and congratulated them.



Trophies and plaques awarded to Hoxie Lodge for leading the state of Kansas in National Foundation donations were displayed by (from left) PER Myron Dietz, PER Bill Vickers, Est. Lect. Kt. and lodge Chm. Virgil Ziegler, PER Jerome Heim, PER Gerald Schaffer, and ER Charles Buechman. The six Brothers were among the members who helped Hoxie Lodge achieve first-place standing in per capita donations for the past three years.

Foundation Chm. Estes Bachman (second from left) of Easton, PA, Lodge thanked Secy. Edwin Reiss (left) and PER Martin Barr (third from left), both of whom are participating members for a second time, and Brother Harold Morrison for their donations. The three gentlemen were among 29 new National Foundation members who contributed funds during the year.

NEWS OF THE LODGES

(Continued from page 16)



MODEL TRAIN rides for children highlighted the annual family night at Storm Lake, IA, Lodge. Helping Brother Roy Moore (seated), who designed and constructed the train and served as the engineer, were PER Charles Slagle (left), conductor, and Brother Jerry Poff, who was the safety commissioner. The event drew about 100 Elks families who enjoyed, in addition to the train ride, a magic-memory act and rides on the town's fire truck.



L. G. ROARK (second from left) was recently honored on his 90th birthday by Eureka Springs, AR, Lodge. Brother Roark, the oldest living member and a charter member of the lodge, received a plaque from ER Robert Chyrchel. The birthday party was attended by members and their families, including the honored Elk's wife Bessie Roark (left) and their daughter Hortense Weaver.



A NEW TRAILER CAMP was opened recently by Muskegon, MI, Lodge. Situated on Lake Michigan, the camp covers 69 acres with 1,500 feet of lake frontage and has 40 sites available for Elks. Three Brothers recently spent an afternoon playing horseshoes at the camp, which is two miles from the lodge.



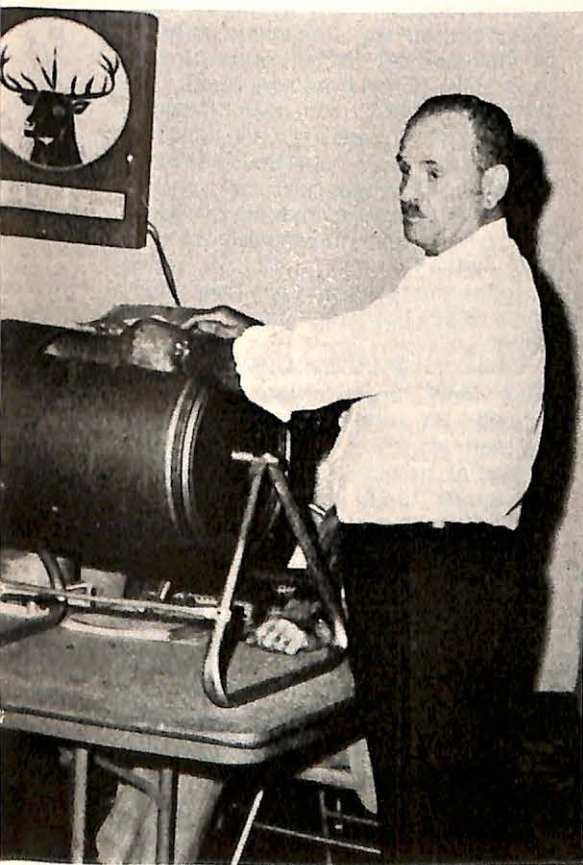
IN HONOR of DDGER Norman Green (front row, center) during his recent visit to Logansport, IN, Lodge, several sons of Elks were initiated into the order. Among those present for the ceremony were PGER Glenn Miller (front row, second from left), Brothers William Krantz (left), Chris Mehaffie (second from right), George Petrie (right), and (back row, from left) Esq. William Gever, Thomas Kragh, Joseph Mylet, Thomas Mylet, and Gary Smith.





IN RECOGNITION of the charitable activities enacted by Sand Springs, OK, Lodge, a week was proclaimed Elks National Foundation Week by Mayor Charles Keightley (center) of Sand Springs. Reviewing the mayor's proclamation were ER Charles Henry and Chm. Dallas Williford.

DURING the visit of DDCER John Golden to Tyler, TX, Lodge, a class of nine new members were welcomed to the order. Among those initiated were the two sons of ER Pete Mendolia Sr. (center). The proud father congratulated Joe (right) and Pete Mendolia Jr.



DIRECTOR Robert Steinhour of the Illinois Crippled Children's Commission pulled the winning ticket at the state's North District raffle for handicapped children. The raffle is held annually to support the state major project.

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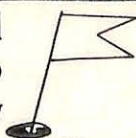
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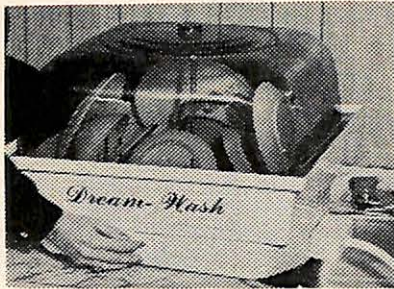
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ELKS FAMILY SHOPPER

More for your money

by Mike LeFan



HOLIDAY SEASON

The holiday season means you'd better watch your wallet because there are lots of opportunities to empty it. There are also a few bargains to be had. Check out the pre-Christmas promotions. If you see something you know is on sale, then buy. Just be sure it's what you want and that the price is truly reduced.

Whether buying for yourself or for gifts, clothing bargains lead the list: save on beachwear, resort and cruise wear, children's clothes, women's and children's coats, children's hats, men's and boys' suits, men's shoes, and baby needs.

Save, too, on blankets. Used cars are good buys.

Shop the after-Christmas sales for savings on leftover toys, Christmas cards, decorations, and other holiday items that didn't sell. Get a headstart on next year.

Supermarket Snoop reports nice savings on these fresh produce goodies: turnips, rutabagas, brussels sprouts, celery, broccoli, cauliflower, mushrooms, parsnips, sweet potatoes, cranberries, tangerines, tangelos, coconuts, oranges, and pears.

Christmas is a time when many men think of diamonds for wives and sweethearts. The increased fire and brilliance of the new Radiant Cut diamond introduced by the Radiant Cut Diamond Corp. is a beautiful possibility. They're offering a spectacular 79.34 carat flawless yellow diamond for only \$1,500,000—but it will be named for its purchaser. If your tastes run in a simpler vein, your local jeweler has

smaller gems likely to suit your needs.

When buying Christmas toys, it's important that they be suited to the child because toys teach as well as entertain. And you don't want shoddy toys. Get a free booklet on *The World of Children's Toys and Play* from Toy Manufacturers of America, Inc., Dept. MM, 200 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10010. It's good info year round.

The **MAKER'S MARK** personalized electric branding tool may be the Christmas gift idea you're looking for. You may want to give one to yourself. It's a nifty way for the craftsman and hobbyist to identify his handiwork in wood or leather. And the **OWNER'S MARK** model lets you brand your name on many possessions.

Each tool is engraved to read "Handcrafted By . . ." and the name of the user set in two lines of type in a solid brass branding head. The **OWNER'S MARK** tool says "Property Of . . ." and is great for marking wooden lawn furniture, leather golf bags, and many other items as theft protection. As a special to readers of "More For Your Money," the manufacturer is offering the first tool for \$21.45 (which includes shipping), and a second interchangeable branding head for only \$9.95.

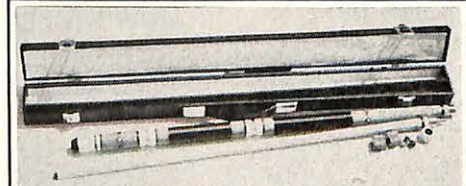
Either the **MAKER'S MARK** or **OWNER'S MARK** can be ordered singly for \$21.45. Be sure to specify whether you want **MAKER'S** or **OWNER'S MARK**, and print names clearly. Order from Craftsmark Products, Dept. MM, P.O. Box 6308, Marietta, GA 30065.

Remember the recent question from



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Treat yourself or give for Christmas. A. 16" necklace \$16.95, 18" \$19.95, matching bracelet \$15.95. B. 16" necklace \$23.95, 18" \$26.95, matching bracelet \$21.95. C. 16" necklace \$28.95, 18" \$31.95, matching bracelet \$19.95. Postage Paid, Satisfaction Guaranteed. **Midas Touch, 850 Hartzell, Pacific Palisades, Calif. 90272.**



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Mrs. Jones of Fairmont, WV, about an electric teapot? The Lipton Company has a special tea for use in automatic coffee pots. It sells for about \$2.25 per 12-oz. can. It's supposed to brew for about a penny per cup, compared to 7 cents a cup for coffee.

Planning a holiday trip? Worn tires, improper pressure, and overloading should head your safety list. Check tire pressure every two or three weeks and before leaving on trips. You need your own accurate tire gauge to do that. Order a pro tire air gauge model MG/60 for \$5.65 from Precision Gauge Co., Dept. MM, Rt. 5, Box 256, Adrian, MI 49221. Or you can telephone your order to (517) 263-6252.

"Dear Mike: I personally conducted a test using Intermatic brand timers to automatically turn on and off the electric water heater on a schedule which did not interfere with normal required use of hot water. The electric meters registered the difference between using a timer one week and not using it the next week for a ten week period. Depending on your use of hot water, my test showed you could save from \$58.44 to \$108.84 annually here using the timer. A worthwhile savings without inconvenience or sacrifice,"—Dan Nighswander, Lodge No. 1519, Sarasota, FL.

Earthbooks Lending Library is a unique and cheap way to rent or buy do-it-yourself books. For full details, send a stamped, self-addressed business-size envelope to Earthbooks Lending Library, Dept. MM, Textor Rd., Box 556, Harmony, PA 16037.

"Dear Mike: We have been trying to find a tin can canner without success. Maybe one of your readers can supply the name of a manufacturer,"—Leon Wagner, Oceanside, CA.

Okay, readers. Tell me what you know.

Cassette tapes (blank) make a good gift item. But if you're like most folks you don't really know much about the things. A spokesman for Ampex, a cassette manufacturer, offers these tips for selecting high quality cassette tapes: First, examine the plastic case to see that there are no rough edges or bits of plastic in the holes on the front or along seams. All seams should

be tightly joined. Any cassette will rattle some when shaken, but if it sounds like a can full of BBs, avoid that cassette. Tape guides that rotate are best. For technical reasons, you should select tapes no longer than 90 minutes (C-90). Longer tapes tend to have poorer fidelity and shorter lives, according to the Ampex spokesman.

Do-it-yourselfers, be sure you get English instructions when you buy imported kits and projects (ever try to assemble a cuckoo clock with German directions—and you can't read German?). Check too whether you need metric or American size tools.

Is the price of coffee getting to you? A professional food service manager has written a booklet about his method of brewing more cups per pound. You could save 50 percent on each cup of coffee using your regular brand and not special equipment. The booklet outlines several other ideas too. Price: \$3. However, if you use the methods described, you'll save that much money in a couple of weeks. Order *Ground Coffee Economy*, by Larry Catlin from Coffee Clinic, Dept. MM, 3866 Center St., Tacoma, WA 98409.

New *Bargain Calendar for 1978* shows you best buys month by month. Hang it on your wall, keep it where you make your shopping list, or wherever—but get a copy. It's the same kind of valuable info you see at the beginning of this column each month, plus more. Send \$1 and a stamped, self-addressed business-size envelope to More For Your Money, 1802 South 13, Temple, TX 76501.

Send me your moneysaving tips. Each one used will earn a small prize plus eternal renown.

Money Saver of the Month: Thanks to reader Raymond Wolff of Anaheim, CA, who says you can keep sink and bathroom drains free-running by avoiding soaps containing cream, which tends to stick in the drain. And once a week pour a cup of Clorox (or other chlorine bleach) in drains and let sit at least four hours, then use as normal. You're welcome. ■

Send questions and tips to Mike LeFan, c/o More For Your Money, 425 W. Diversey, Chicago, IL 60614.

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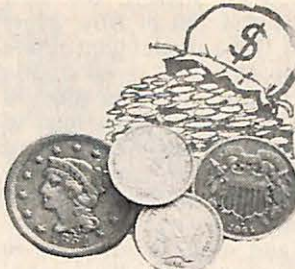
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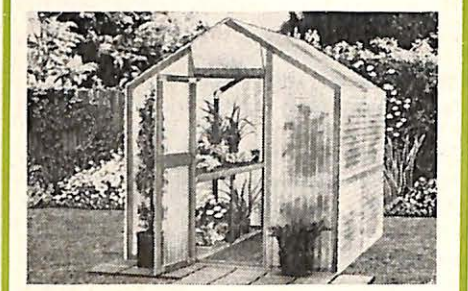
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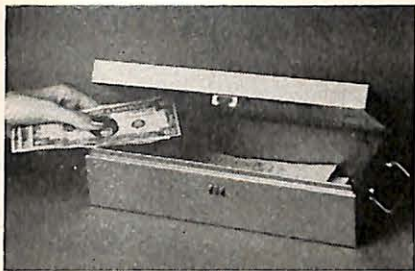
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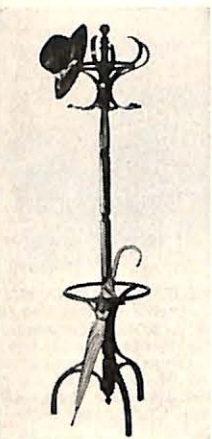


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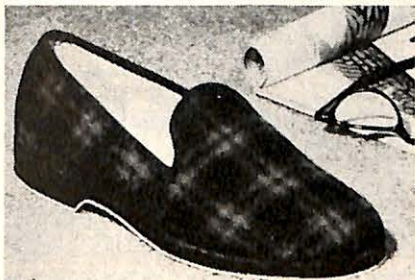
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<h4>SOUNDSTAGE IV</h4> <p>SONGS (ARTIST)</p> <p>Ghost of a Chance (Mel Torme) When I Take My Sugar (Shep Fields Orch.) Side by Side (Kate Smith) Harbor Lights (Shep Fields Orch.) Woodchoppers Ball (Woody Herman Band) Swanee River (Tommy Dorsey Orch.) Best Things in Life Are Free (Frank Sinatra) Elmer's Tune (Lawrence Welk Orch.) Cuddle Up A Little Closer (Ink Spots) Flat Foot Floogie (Louie Armstrong) Little Brown Jug (Glenn Miller Orch.) That Old Devil Moon (Johnny Desmond) Somebody's Taking My Place (Ted Weems) Sophisticated Lady (Duke Ellington Orch.) Wish You Were Here (Judy Garland) Don't Squeeze Me (Lena Horne)</p>	<h4>SOUNDSTAGE V</h4> <p>SONGS (ARTIST)</p> <p>Velvet Moon (Harry James Orch.) I Wonder Why (Bing Crosby/Judy Garland) I Had the Craziest Dream (Harry James) Ain't Misbehavin' (Fats Waller) A Slow Boat to China (Dick Haymes) I'll Be Around (Anita Roy) Tuxedo Junction (Glenn Miller Orch.) Song of India (Tommy Dorsey Orch.) Blue Skies (The Sportsmen) Habanera (Glenn Miller Orch.) If I Had a Benny Goodman Orch. Red Sails in the Sunset (Sportsmen) Swing Low (Tommy Dorsey Orch.) People Will Say We're in Love (Kate Smith) Rock-a-Bye Basie (Count Basie Orch.)</p>	<h4>SOUNDSTAGE VI</h4> <p>SONG (ARTIST)</p> <p>You Do Something to Me (Frank Sinatra) Kalamazoo (Glenn Miller Orch.) All of You (Johnny Desmond) Me and My Shadow (Shep Fields Orch.) Music Maestro Please (Tommy Dorsey Orch.) All or Nothing at All (Billy Daniels) Oh, Look at Me Now (Dick Haymes) At Last (Glenn Miller Orch.) Coffee Time (Les Brown Orch.) But Not Like You (Benny Goodman Orch.) Sunday Kind of Love (Anita Roy) April in Portugal (Ted Heath Orch.) I've Got the Sun in the Morning (Bing Crosby) This Love of Mine (Tommy Dorsey Orch.) Linger Awhile (Shep Fields Orch.) The Man With a Horn (Harry James Orch.)</p>																								
<h4>SOUNDSTAGE VII</h4> <p>SONG (ARTIST)</p> <p>Say It Isn't So (Ted Weems) Rock-a-Bye Your Baby (Judy Garland) Chattanooga Choo Choo (Glenn Miller Orch.) Maria Lena (Tommy Dorsey Orch.) April in Paris (Count Basie Orch.) The Poor People of Paris (Lawrence Welk) Don't Worry 'bout Me (Mel Torme) Poor Butterfly (Benny Goodman Orch.) Marie (Tommy Dorsey Orch.) Isle of Capri (Shep Fields Orch.) Sentimental Journey (Les Brown Orch.) American Patrol (Glenn Miller Orch.) Fame & Fender (Frank Sinatra) Just You, Just Me (Frank Sinatra) My Heart Stood Still (Dick Haymes) Frenesi (Al Goodman Orch.)</p>	<h4>SOUNDSTAGE VIII</h4> <p>SONGS (ARTIST)</p> <p>Serenade in Blue (Glenn Miller Orch.) When My Sugar Walks (The Sportsmen) So Far (Dick Haymes) Prelude to a Kiss (Duke Ellington Orch.) Stompin' at the Savoy (Benny Goodman Orch.) There Are Such Things (Tommy Dorsey Orch.) Got the World on a String (Bill Daniels) A Fine Romance (Shep Fields Orch.) Blue Moon (Les Brown Orch.) Cherokee (Charles Barnett Orch.) Full Moon Empty Arms (Lawrence Welk Orch.) I Know Why (Glenn Miller Orch.) It Ain't Necessarily So (Pres Prado Orch.) Jeepers, Creepers (Louie Armstrong) Tennessee Newsboy (Frank Sinatra) Moonglow (Al Goodman Orch.)</p>	<h4>SOUNDSTAGE IX</h4> <p>SONGS (ARTIST)</p> <p>I Found a New Baby (Benny Goodman Orch.) I've Got My Love To Keep Me Warm (Les Brown) I'll Never Smile Again (Tommy Dorsey Orch.) Let's Put Out the Lights (Shep Fields Orch.) I Can't Believe That You're in Love (Mel Torme) Blue Champagne (Glenn Miller Orch.) Stardust (Al Goodman Orch.) Sleepy Time Gal (Harry James Orch.) Hold Tight (Andrew Sisters) Tenderly (Kate Smith) I Can't Get Started (Johnny Desmond) Polka Dots and Moonbeams (Frank Sinatra) Claire De Lune (Glenn Miller Orch.) This Time the Dream's on Me (Dick Haymes) Chasing Rainbows (Lawrence Welk Orch.)</p>																								
<h4>SOUNDSTAGE X</h4> <p>SONGS (ARTIST)</p> <p>Ten O'clock Jump (Count Basie Orch.) There Must Be A Way (Shep Fields Orch.) Anvil (Glenn Miller Orch.) I Can't Give You Anything (Mel Torme) Who's Sorry Now (Kate Smith) I Don't Want to Walk (Anita Roy) Sunny Side of the Street (Tommy Dorsey) Come Rain or Come Shine (Kate Smith) Sleepy Lagoon (Harry James) Drigo's Serenade (Glenn Miller Orch.) There's a Small Hotel (Johnny Desmond) Don't Be That Way (Benny Goodman) Champagne Waltz (Lawrence Welk Orch.) Once In A While (Tommy Dorsey Orch.) Begin the Beguine (Al Goodman Orch.) Why Was I Born (Frank Sinatra)</p>	<p>To: SOUNDSTAGE® PRODUCTIONS P.O. BOX 26383 MILWAUKEE, WI 53226 DEPT. EL-12</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> INDIVIDUAL SELECTIONS — I wish to order individual tapes as indicated on the coupon. I have enclosed 7.98 for each selection ordered plus 1.00 postage & handling 1-5 units — 2.00 — 6 or more.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> ENTIRE LIBRARY \$65.00 - I wish to order the entire library. I have enclosed 65.00 (plus 2.00 postage & handling). Includes free 10.00 case.</p> <p>PLEASE CHECK <input type="checkbox"/> 8 TRACK <input type="checkbox"/> CASSETTE <input type="checkbox"/> RECORDS AVAILABLE</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> VISA <input type="checkbox"/> MASTERCHARGE <input type="checkbox"/> IN FUTURE</p> <p>Check FOR INFO.</p> <p>Card # _____ Expires _____</p> <p>Signature _____</p> <p>Name _____</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 8 TRACK <input type="checkbox"/> CASSETTE</p> <p>Address _____</p> <p>City _____ State _____ Zip _____</p> <p>Phone _____ Age _____</p> <p>Wisconsin residents add sales tax.</p>																									
<h4>SOUNDSTAGE®</h4> <p>Check Selections</p> <table> <tr> <td>I</td> <td>II</td> <td>III</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>IV</td> <td>V</td> <td>VI</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>VII</td> <td>VIII</td> <td>IX</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>X</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Dealer Inquires Invited</p>	I	II	III	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	IV	V	VI	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	VII	VIII	IX	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X			<input type="checkbox"/>			<p> FREE</p> <p>With the entire library order you will receive, as a free bonus, a handsome carrying case for storing your tapes. This case has a retail value of \$10.00</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> SOUNDSTAGE PRODUCTIONS 1977 SATISFACTION GUARANTEED OR MONEY BACK</p>	
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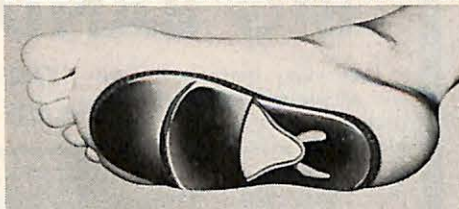
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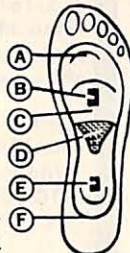
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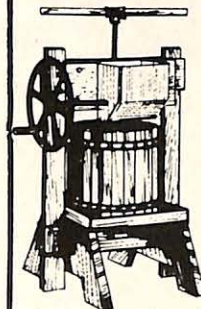
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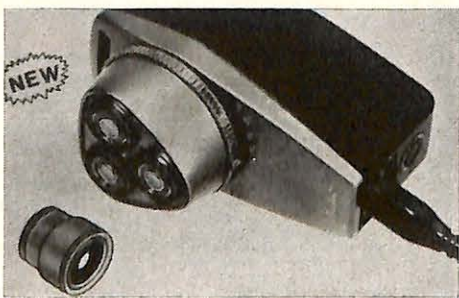


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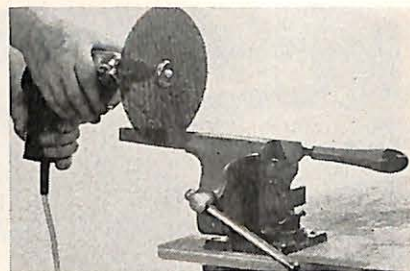
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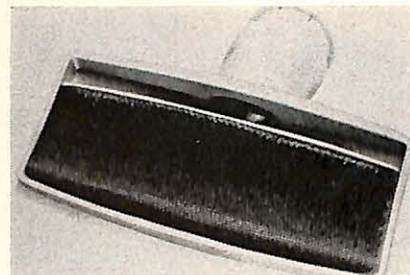
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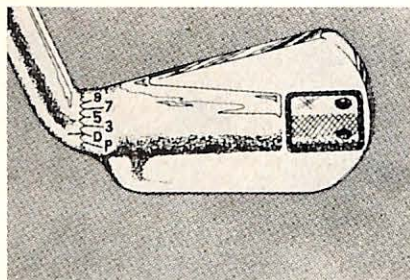
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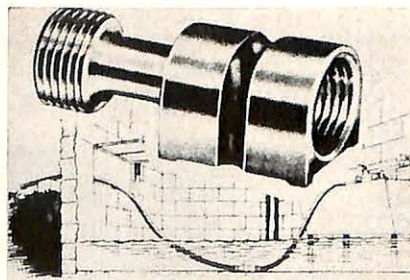
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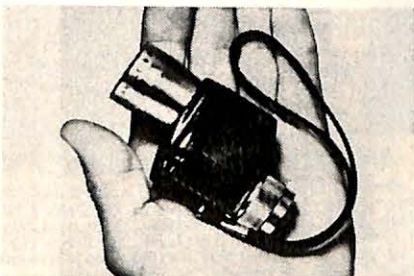
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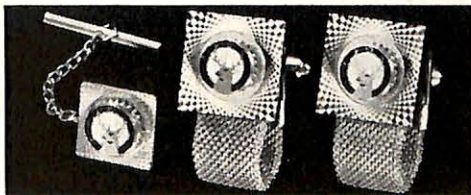
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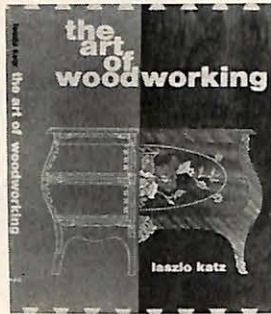
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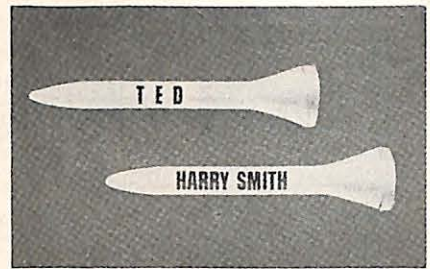
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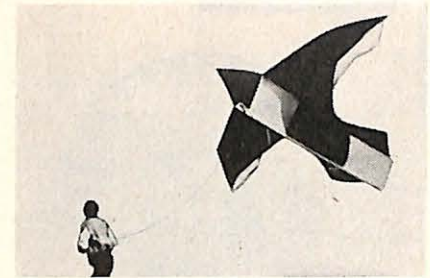
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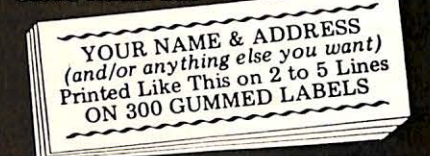


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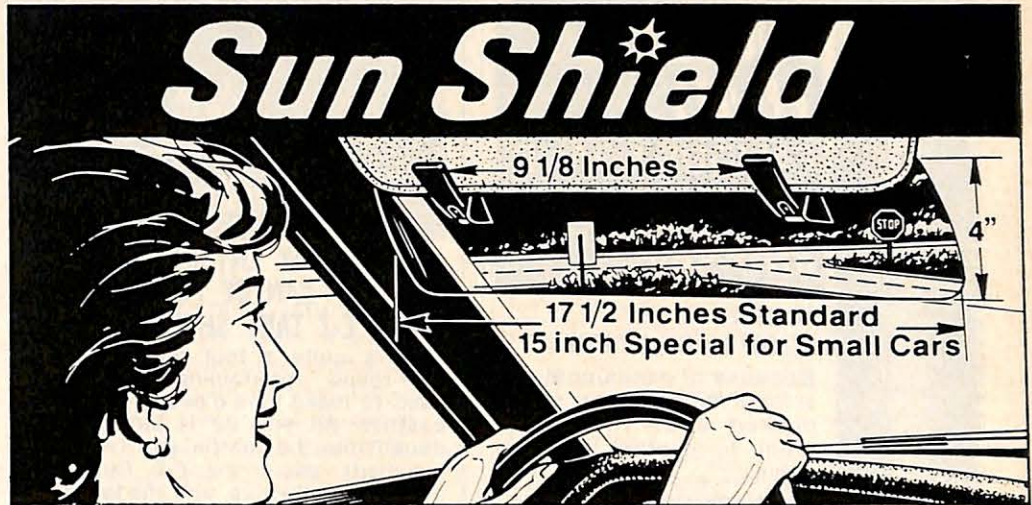
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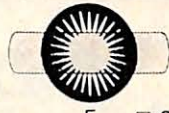


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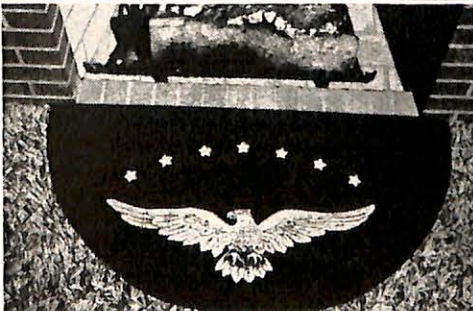
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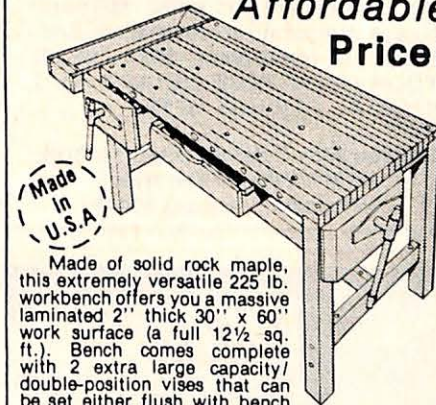
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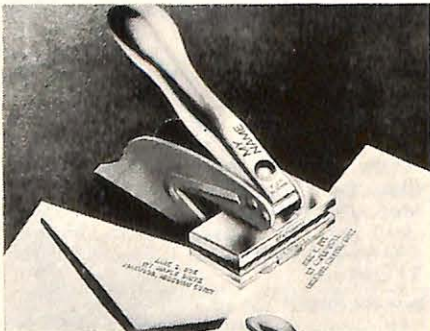
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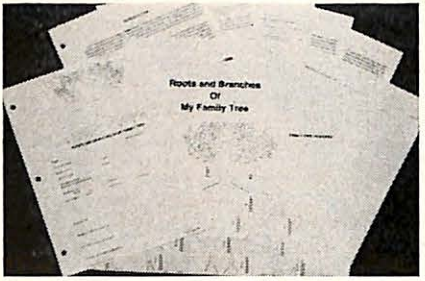
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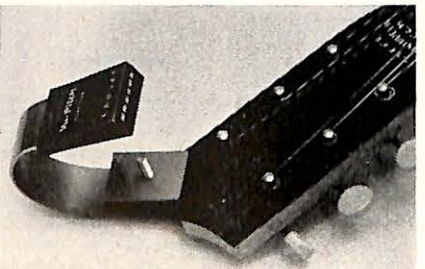
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THESE MOVIE STARS ARE WILD!

(Continued from page 35)

under the other paw when the bear digs its claws in. The animal immediately discovers this is painful. From then on he may "mouth" the trainer or paw him, but just as your pet dog won't really use the full bite of his teeth when you're roughing it up with him, the animal won't either—not because he's solicitous, but because he associates that with his own pain.

"If you get bitten or scratched, you've done something wrong," Rowland says. "After you've worked with these animals a few years, you learn to recognize the signs when they're angry. In the case of a bear, the hair around the lips will begin to stand. That's when you back off."

Terry's brother Bob, another camera-trainer, wandered into the conversation, and I noticed livid scratches on his cheek. "Didn't he back off soon enough?"

"I hate to admit it," he grinned. "But I got that when I was cutting chicken wire. The fact is, in 31 years of the farm's operation, no one has ever been hurt working with these animals."

One reason is that people at this game farm, from Lloyd Beebe on down, respect the animal kingdom. This is exemplified in the game farm's collecting and breeding animals on the endangered species list. These include ocelots, Siberian tigers, black, spotted and clouded leopards, South American jaguars (less than a hundred are left in the world), caracal cats from Egypt, and golden cats from Southeast Asia—where the Vietnam war exterminated a great deal of rare and exotic wildlife as well as humans.

But even the endangered species may find themselves working for their keep. Thus Tammy, a huge and rare Siberian tiger, was trucked to Yakima recently as the star attraction for a convention of tire salesmen whose company uses a tiger as its symbol.

The old barn that once housed a herd of cows looks like any other barn from the outside. But inside, it is one great big movie studio, housing such examples of the cinematographer's art as make-believe grottoes, caves, hill-sides and camp sites. There is a styro-foam "log," covered with bark, on which Charley the Lonesome Cougar (he—or rather, she—is still on the farm) rode down a river. There are birchbark canoes made by Quebec Indians, klieg

lights, cameras, and a host of props and flats that can be trundled into place to simulate any kind of scene from the Grand Canyon to the Arctic.

Adjoining the barn are some rustic sheds and old farm equipment that have been the setting for many a "homestead" scene. Winding through the farm is a rippling creek with moss-covered trees and rocks. This too has appeared in countless films. The game farm even has a 250,000-gallon aquarium, surrounded by a half dozen or so viewing ports from which cameras can capture what appear to be underwater scenes.

About the only real crisis in the farm's existence occurred in 1975 when a number of the animals, particularly among the cougars, began succumbing to a strange disease. It was finally determined to be anthrax, and the source was traced to horse meat that had been fed to the animals. The horses, as it turned out, had been infected by saddle blankets a dealer imported from Pakistan, which had been harboring bacilli that carried the dread malady. The farm lost 56 of its animals to that scourge, including some of its most filmed cougars.

Otherwise the chief cause of death is old age. Game farm animals tend to have a life span about double that of their peers in the wilds. One reason is that they're much better fed.

"Some zoos are so restricted in their budgets that they have to mix in dog and cat food for their animals," Robb says. "But our animals get what to them is a thoroughly nutritious diet. From the game department we get deer killed on the highway. We also get horses and cows that have died on farms in the area, and our animals get the whole thing, from fur to entrails—just as they would in the wild."

In addition, when a nearby bakery went out of business, the game farm bought its huge oven, on which it turns out 8- to 10-pound loaves that would be unpalatable to humans, but are packed with the nutrients on which animals thrive.

No doubt about it, these animals are well fed, and well cared for. But they deserve it! After all, the world's largest zoos count it a good day when their attendance can be multiplied by thousands. But for the past quarter century, the Olympic Game Farm's residents have been enjoyed not by mere thousands, but by millions, in theaters and on television screens around the world.

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Brute's Christmas

my boy from finding it out sooner or later.

(Continued on page 12) I allowed that was true enough, and we parted with all the ceremony of a couple of old-time diplomats.

At home again, I stopped at the kennel and looked at Brute. He was sulking in his pen, morose as usual, but with something more, too. He was hurt and unhappy. You get so that you can tell, and in a way it's a good sign. A dog who does not love anything is like a man in the same condition: he cannot be hurt at all, and that makes him either a very good workman or a very bad one, and one is nearly as unsatisfactory as the other unless you're looking for a special kind of workman. But once a dog or a kid or a man feels badly about the way something has turned out, you know that he has been touched in his heart, and if ever you want him to take up his responsibilities you had better move quickly, or you will lose the only chance you have a right to expect.

So I stood looking at the ugly Brute, not knowing what communication there was between him and little Jed, and—worse than that—not knowing how to keep them from losing it and leaving a kid bitter and resentful too. Presently I was pretty mad again, but this time at the world in general, because it makes tough rules that kids have to grow up and learn. That's about as futile a way to waste time as there is; so I gave Brute an extra ration of meat that I knew he wouldn't eat anyway, and stamped up to the house.

Betsy was stringing Christmas decorations, and the kids were in a panic because the fireplace was very sooty and Santa Claus was bound to get his suit all dirty. My child Amy said that not only was she worried, but so was Sam, who is maybe the world's most famous shorthair when he isn't snooz-

ing on Amy's bed. As a matter of fact, Sam did look worried when Amy mentioned it, and I sought refuge by helping Betsy before Amy went into it any further. For some reason I never have just a nice comfortable, average dog. Either they're Brutes or they're Sams, who can make me feel quite backward and uncouth whenever they want to.

We had a lot of fun decorating the house and teasing the kids. Then I remembered Jed and the cabin in the tamaracks, and it wasn't so much fun any more. I told Betsy what I'd found out: how Jed had been coming in through the woods to the kennels all fall and winter, talking to Brute through the wire, sometimes for hours on end, and how he'd finally broken in once and taken the dog out, but brought him back, conscience-stricken, before he got all the way home. And then how he'd finally come back and taken him for good, and how he ran away from his dad when his dad found out, and his dad had tracked him relentlessly through the storm that morning before they brought Brute home.

After that we did not talk about it any more, because I have known lonely men like Jed's pa before, and you do not push them into doing things.

Then it was Christmas Eve, with the kids in bed and the house full of people making the annual holiday rounds, standing around the bowl on the buffet and singing. Suddenly there was a knock on the back door. Jed's dad stood there, his face bleak in the reflected light. It was snowing a little and the crystals melted on his jaw.

"I'd admire to have a word with you," he said. "I hate to mention business on a night like this."

"It's all right," I said. "What kind of business?"

It was an effort for him to get it out. "Sort of wondered whether you'd sell me that dog."

I didn't answer so fast. This was a

time to tread lightly and let policy look after itself.

"I might," I said. "For a fair price. He's a high-bred dog."

He seemed relieved. "I was a-feared you'd try to tell me he was no-account and try to give him to me again. I don't want to cheat you none, and I'll pay a fair price."

I nodded profoundly, because that seemed safest.

"I come prepared," Jed's dad said. "None of my folks ever had no high-bred bird dog, but I got money in my pocket that's more money as I ever heard of anybody paying for a dog back home."

He held out the money in a hand I noticed was clean and blue with cold. There were eight one-dollar bills, a fifty-cent piece, two quarters and ten dimes.

I hesitated judiciously, then took it. "It's a fair price for him," I said, and I guess it was.

"Done," Jed's father said and relaxed suddenly. I didn't realize how tense he'd been.

"You know," he confided, "this'll make a mighty fine Christmas at our place. I was feelin' kind of poorly, because that's about what we had set aside for Christmas presents, and no matter what we got Jed it wouldn't of been no good to him, and that would of made it no good for us. This way the old woman and me get a Christmas present for nothing."

I got Brute's registry out of the file and signed the transfer, then put on my coat, and we walked down the path to the kennel. It was crisp and clearing up now, and the people in the house were singing carols.

In the anonymous intimacy of darkness, Jed's dad said, "It ain't no wise fittin' for a boy to cry himself to sleep on Christmas Eve."

"Well," I said, "it's a hard world. A boy has to learn."

"It don't hurt none for him to learn a little at a time," Jed's dad said. "I'm purely sentimental that way."

"Me, too," I said.

The door swung open, and the dog who was the fruit of all the years since Mohawk and Gladstone, and who was worth every cent of ten dollars, came out quietly, and the the two of them walked down the drive in the eerie shadowed light of winter night in the woods. I thought how I would remember Brute with a warmth that does not remain for some dogs who were better and braver and who tried harder to be good for me. Brute was a kind of prodigal. He took away a cherished theory about how you can find some good in any dog, and then he gave it back, all proved up to date—just in time for Christmas!



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