

Texas considers bottle bill

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — If Texans lose work — even collecting litter — from banning throwaway drink containers, Rep. Ben Reyes says he would oppose such a curb.

Reyes, D-Houston, is chairman of a House subcommittee looking into the benefits and problems that might follow an Oregon-style switch to returnable drink bottles.

He said at a hearing Tuesday that some census tracts in his House district have unemployment rates as high as 11.5 percent.

"I've got a very deep concern with losing any jobs at all.

Some of my folks work for the highway department or the city, and some are doing litter control. . . My concern is what is going to happen to some of those jobs," Reyes said.

Reyes also praised Reynolds Metals Co.'s aluminum can recycling program, which a Reynolds official said collects over 40 percent of the aluminum beer cans sold in Texas.

"What you are doing is clean up your own house without somebody telling you to do it," he told Reynolds' district recycling manager, Leonard Sanchez.

Richard Tims, chairman of

the Texas Environmental Coalition, recommended a special tax on non-reusable containers, with the money dedicated to parks, trails and anti-litter programs.

Steve Hanson, who spoke for the Sierra Club, noisily dumped an armload of cans and disposable bottles in a waste basket as he entered the hearing room. He later apologized.

Hanson said he picked up the containers while walking from his car to the Capitol.

"The most pernicious litter is the beverage container," followed by the styrofoam cup, Hanson said.

Tom Carley, general manager for public affairs of Continental Can Co., said substitution of returnable bottles for disposable cans would eliminate half of his industry — and thousands of jobs.

"You are playing with the lives of thousands of people," Carley said.

He said bottles weigh so much more than cans, and take up so much more space, that beer and soft drink trucks would consume three million barrels of oil in additional fuel per year.

Joyce Klein, a member of Austin's City Environmental Board, said Oregon experienced no net loss of jobs when it forced its citizens give up cans in favor of returnable bottles.

She said she favored a mandatory deposit on beverage cans — rather than Tims' taxation approach.

Rep. Ron Waters, D-Houston, told Mrs. Klein that environmentalists are "up against" their own lack of consensus over bottle and can legislation as well as a united front of labor and industry.

Family claims settlement corrupt

By KEN HERMAN
Associated Press Writer
BROWNSVILLE, Texas (AP) — An Illinois insurance company, using surreptitiously-obtained medical information about a severely injured South Texas man, reduced by \$150,000 a settlement offer to the man's family, alleges a suit filed by the family.

The lawsuit, filed in federal court here Tuesday, said the information was obtained by a private detective agency in Denver from hospitals in Kansas and Texas and supplied to a Long Grove, Ill.-based insurance firm.

The detective agency and three of its employees were indicted by a Denver grand jury. The employees later pleaded guilty to theft-related charges and the corporation was dissolved by authorities.

James Lowell Bookout, injured near Santa Rosa in 1969 when he was knocked off his motor scooter by a low-hanging telephone wire, had brought suit against General Telephone Co. of the Southwest.

Bookout, now 25, was in a coma for several days and was initially hospitalized for two months. In the four years after the accident, he spent several months in institutions.

Some of the medical information concerning Bookout described him as suffering from severe mental problems, thus

causing his attorneys to doubt his ability to testify against the telephone company.

The lawsuit said American Motorists Insurance Co. paid on Bookout's medical expenses until April 1973 when it gave the man's family two weeks notice it would stop payments. The family filed suit the following month.

In October 1974, Bookout's family agreed to a \$300,000 settlement.

But the current lawsuit claimed the settlement would have been \$450,000 if the insurance company had not known of Bookout's mental problems.

Bookout's records were among those seized by officials during a raid on the Denver offices of Factual Service Bureau, Colorado Assistant Attorney General Jim Bayless said more than 1,000 medical files were found.

A spokesman for American Motorist said he was familiar with the Denver investigation of the private detectives.

"Our company was completely exonerated in that situation," said Stephen Lesnik, vice president of communications and public affairs. "If there wasn't this lawsuit, I could tell you a lot of things."

The private investigators' reports concerning Bookout's medical records — from Scott-White Hospital in Temple, Texas; Memorial Medical Hos-

pital in Corpus Christi; the now-defunct Seaview Hospital in Corpus Christi and the Menninger Clinic, in Topeka, Kan. — were mailed to the Bookouts in January by the district attorney's office in Denver.

The records had been used in a grand jury investigation of Factual Service Bureau. Copies of them were attached to the suit.

The suit claims the records were "secretly and unlawfully obtained" and seeks \$25,000 for invasion of privacy and \$2.5 million in punitive damages.

Factual Service Bureau was indicted in Denver and subsequently dissolved by the Illinois Secretary of State, Bayless said.

Copies of the documents mailed to the Bookouts from Denver include extensive physical and psychological background on Bookout's hospitalization.

The reports prepared by Factual Service Bureau mention

Scientists use two scales to date the various episodes involved in shaping the earth. The relative time scale is the method of examining the sequence of layering of the rocks and the progressive development of life seen in rocks with fossils. The atomic scale is based on the natural radioactivity of chemical elements within the rocks.

the confidential nature of the material and how difficult it was to obtain the information.

The reports cite "medical sources" for delivery of the hospital records.

One report, prepared from material from Seaview, said it was condensed because "his (Bookout) chart is as thick as a New York telephone book."

But Bayless said the records were obtained through the use of simple methods such as pretext phone calls where the caller would pose as a doctor's secretary seeking information.

Some of the records probably could have been legally obtained through the courts, Bayless said.

Administrators at the three Texas hospitals said Tuesday that it would be impossible to get the records by phone.

Joe Dickson, administrator at Scott-White, said Bookout's file there showed that authorization for release of the records was given to three doctors and an insurance adjuster in South Texas. He said the private detectives could have received the records through the doctors or the adjuster.

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Texas women Producing political whizzes, beauty queens



Dear Abby

By Abigail Van Buren

DEAR ABBY: Boy, I have so many problems I hardly know where to begin. Right now my two sons, ages 8 and 10, are fighting, chasing each other through the house and screaming so loud I'm ready to knock their heads together! This morning my husband told me he promised the guys at work he'd open the fishing season with them, which means he'll be gone next weekend. (He forgot that Saturday is our anniversary.)

Our 17-year-old daughter came home from her date an hour later than her curfew, and I was half crazy worrying about her.

Maybe I shouldn't complain about my boys. My neighbor has two the ages of mine—one is in a wheelchair and will never walk, and the other is a deaf mute.

About my husband: I suppose I should thank God he's able to go fishing. My sister's husband died of cancer six months ago, and they'll never celebrate another anniversary together.

And my daughter is really a good girl. She's well-behaved and popular, and this is the first time she's ever come home later than she promised.

After writing this I realize that my problems aren't really as bad as I thought they were, but I think I'll mail it anyway. Some folks only think they've got serious problems until they look at somebody else's.

LUCKIER THAN MOST

DEAR LUCKIER: I'm glad you mailed it. I'm sure a lot of people will be better able to face their problems today because of your letter.

DEAR ABBY: I typed a long, newsy letter to my sister and she returned it with corrections in spelling and grammar.

I was very hurt, so I called her up and told her so. (We are both college graduates, but she works in the editorial department of a magazine.)

She apologized, saying that as a professional proofreader, she couldn't help herself. She also said I should appreciate her corrections and shouldn't be so touchy.

Abby, I do NOT appreciate her corrections. She has always been very critical of everything I do, and I've never been able to meet her standards.

I don't feel like writing to her anymore, knowing she will read my letter and look for mistakes.

Am I wrong to feel this way? Or is she wrong to proofread my personal letters? How would you handle this?

NOT PERFECT

DEAR NOT: You are justified in feeling as you do. Call your sister or write her a brief note advising her that if she can't control the urge to proofread your letters, this is "30"—meaning, "the end."

DEAR ABBY: We are from the West Coast and we're quite friendly with two couples who are from the East Coast. When we dine out together, my husband always asks the waiter for separate checks.

Our Eastern friends say they don't do it that way where they come from. They say they have everything put on one check and settle up afterward by splitting the bill three ways.

My husband and I don't drink, but the other couples always have a cocktail (sometimes two) before dinner. They also have an after-dinner drink.

Is this fair? How do you think this should be handled?

SAN DIEGO

DEAR SAN DIEGO: Exactly the way your husband has been handling it. And if your Eastern friends complain, tell them they aren't where they came from.

Hate to write letters? Send \$1 to Abigail Van Buren, 132 Lasky Dr., Beverly Hills, Calif. 90212, for Abby's booklet "How to Write Letters for All Occasions." Please enclose a long, self-addressed, stamped (24 cents) envelope.



Ask Dr. Lamb

By Lawrence E. Lamb, M.D.

DEAR DR. LAMB — Would you please put in the paper what a complete yearly physical examination should include? Some of us women have been going to the doctor and asking for a complete yearly physical and we feel it has not been complete. Our breasts and private parts were not examined. We were too embarrassed and did not know how to ask why; we just paid and left. We were really angry with ourselves for not asking why, thinking of our pride before our health.

If you would please print this it would help other women too. And maybe some of the doctors need to know what we women think about it.

I used to go to the doctor and the nurse would say undress from head to toe and we got a complete examination from head to toe. We were so happy if nothing was wrong, and happy we found it in time if there was something amiss.

It is so hard for some of us women to even ask for an examination. And that also makes us angry for having too much pride. We need your help.

DEAR READER — You've got it. I'm sure that most doctors do a complete physical and they certainly should. No examination of a woman in her child-bearing years or beyond is complete without a pelvic examination. The exception might be the young girl who has not had any sex life.

A Pap smear should be taken to check for any abnormal cells. This test was not done until the early 20s in the past. But in recent times, because of changing life styles, it has been agreed by many doctors that this procedure should start shortly after a girl first starts having sexual relations. It should certainly be done in

women in the early 20s and beyond. The Pap smear test might be omitted if a woman has already had a complete hysterectomy, as the risk of vaginal cancer is very slight indeed.

A breast examination should be done in all women. A lump can appear at any age and even though breast cancer is rare in the 20s it does occur. A simple examination is all that is needed in these cases to identify problems. In women a little older, breast cancer becomes the number one cause of cancer deaths; there should be no excuse for not doing a breast examination.

An examination should also include a finger examination of the rectum. Many of the cancers of the rectum and colon can be felt this way; these cancers are the second most common cause of cancer deaths in both men and women.

I am sending you The Health Letter number 10-2, Your Valuable Medical Examination, to give you a more detailed report on what men and women both should expect from an annual examination and why you should have one. Others who want this information can send 50 cents with a long, stamped self-addressed envelope for it to me in care of this newspaper, P.O. Box 326, San Antonio, TX 78292.

Not all doctors think you need a regular examination but I disagree. It depends on why and how the examination is done. Certainly, if you don't do the procedures that spot the major problem areas such as cancer and heart disease then you shouldn't bother, but that is an indictment of the quality of the examination, not its usefulness. A major portion of the causes of serious illness and death can be prevented for years or cured if found early enough.

(NEWSPAPER ENTERPRISE ASSN.)

BY ANNA QUINDLEN
 1978 N.Y. Times News

DENTON, TEX. — Shirley Cothran Barret wears a gold medallion of the state map around her long neck and on it a diamond stands for her hometown. Denton is, figuratively, a diamond in the rough, a collection of frame cottages and ranch houses and shopping plazas and college buildings outside of Dallas where Shirley grew up, went to school and got married. In between she went away for a year, to be Miss America of 1975, but when the year was over she came right back — more beautiful and poised than ever — to where she'd come from, and she settled down. "I guess," she says, "I'm just small-town inside."

Denton is used to that kind of beauty queen boosterism; in fact, it's almost accustomed to raising Miss Americas, having produced two in recent years. It is used to women like Shirley.

Denton is rural town that turns out beauty queens the way some turn out motorcycle gangs. It's certainly used to unusual women, and so it may represent some sort of distillation of the phenomenon of the Texas woman, making her mark all over the United States with a combination of warmth, good humor, good grooming, and an ambition that is unmistakable Lone Star quality.

There is, of course, Phyllis George, the Miss America turned smiling sportscaster, who hails from Denton and whose mother says she is still Texas at heart. There is Farrah Fawcett - Majors and one-time co - Angel Jaclyn Smith. The actress Susie Blakely is from Texas, so is the political whirlwind Liz Carpenter, the president of Wells College, Sissy Farenthold, and actress Sissy Spacek.

The current Miss USA, Kim Toms, is a Texan; so is supermodel Karen Graham. Eileen Ford, the doyenne of the modeling business can rattle off the names of Texas girls in her elite employ as fast as the cars race by on the state's highways.

"Somehow Texas women always seem to have more time than anyone else; they're so relaxed, so calming to be with, and some of the most charming women I know," said Mrs. Ford, adding that if she were to leave New York, it would be for Houston.

"I guess they remember what it really means to be a woman—to be outdoors, to be active, to take care of yourself, to flirt, to like men. There are a lot of beautiful women down there, and a lot that just make you think they are beautiful."

There is a flip side to this: "To be plain in Texas," says a Washington political consultant who does not want her name used nor her angst advertised, "is a fate worse than death."

Why is this so? Well, some say Texas is the place where the Southern belle meets the pioneer woman, making a mix of the soft and the steely. The more cynical say that savvy Texas women hide a double-edged mind behind a wide smile, and use both to their own best advantage. And now may all be a question of role models, with Farrah hairdos everywhere, and young women watching football to watch Phyllis.

In Denton itself, Miss George and, to a lesser extent, Shirley Cothran, have become symbols to younger women of Texas tenacity and grace under pressure. Both women lost their first pageants — Phyllis to a drummer, Shirley to a roller skater — before going on to the big one.

The town itself is an inspiration, and in particular North Texas State University, which has earned the right to flash the words "Beauty Capital of the World" on the scoreboard at football games. In the last decade, the school has had the two Miss Americas, seven Miss Texas — who almost always make the semifinals in Atlantic City — some National Sweethearts for America, three Dallas Cowboy cheerleaders, a Miss Tall Universe, a Maid of

Cotton, and a Playboy playmate no one mentions much, as well as dozens of minor pageant winners.

Mrs. George, who says her daughter is still "as much of a Texan as anyone," thinks it's all in the way they raise their children.

"In a town like this," she said, seated beneath a larger-than-life oil portrait of her only daughter, "dancing lessons and piano lessons and school and church and sororities are all very important. And you see, that helps with the pageants. I think Texas'd win every year if they'd let us. There's lots of pretty girls in the world but the girls here are pretty and wholesome. They work hard to get what they want in Texas."

That opinion was seconded at North Texas, which recently snatched the Miss Texas pageant scholarship right out from under Texas Christian University. Filled with perfume, pastel dresses, and smiles, the imposing president's office had been lent to a crowd of beauty queens, among them two Miss Dentons, a finalist in Zeta Tau Alpha, Miss George's old sorority at the school. Charitable, they said that they didn't know whether Texas women were better, but that men certainly seemed to think so.

"I just did a boat show in Dallas and I heard a lot of guys

from out of town say the women in Texas were the best anywhere," said Celie Eubank, a North Texas Calender Girl. "There's a glow inside," added Pam Richey, the reigning Miss Denton. "We have the open land and the open hearts."

And to see how far that glow will go, one need look no farther than Lesly Braun, a graduate of North Texas who works at a Manhattan health club. Lesly never got to be Miss Texas, despite the fact that Mrs. George let her borrow the dress Phyllis had played the piano in for the talent part of the competition. So, down but not out, Lesly came to New York to Pursue a dream of dress designing, and here it didn't matter that she hadn't won Miss

Texas. Here she won Miss New York State. "People certainly have the idea that all pretty women live in Texas, and that's not fair," said New York's reigning titleholder. "There are a lot of good-looking men there, too."



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Your money's worth
By Sylvia Porter
Energy-saving in mobile homes

Of every 10 of you who already own a mobile home or are planning to buy one in the big homebuying season soon to get underway, an overwhelming nine of you have revised your attitudes to place energy efficiency among the top factors you consider in buying and to view what you spend for this efficiency as a sound investment.

In fact, your changed attitude remains constant whether the additional costs of the efficiency to you are quoted at \$500, \$1,000, or even \$2,000. No matter what your age, marital status, occupation or income, you are willing to spend money on such energy-saving features as increased insulation, an air-infiltration barrier, thermal doors and windows, weather stripping, caulking, power ventilation systems, etc.

Your strongest reason is your expectation that utility bills will continue to surge upward—and this is the area in which you want to slash your costs. To put it as simply as possible, you are seeking a home that is less costly to operate. Or in the words of John Vermeulen, product manager of Owens-Corning Insulation Operating, a division of the nation's leading insulation manufacturer:

"With the dramatic rise in operating expenses over the past five years, the same buyers demanding higher miles-per-gallon ratings in automobiles and a higher energy efficiency rating in their appliances are looking for homes with the low energy-per-month tag. The mobile home buyer is no exception."

The most significant finding in this survey, to me, is your willingness to invest now in savings on future fuel bills, no matter how high the surveyors raised that theoretical initial cost.

In fact, three of every five prospective mobile home buyers said they would even take on a higher mortgage to finance the costs of making their homes energy efficient.

Of course, the buyers agreed there were benefits in greater comfort, quiet and the increased resale value of energy-efficient manufactured homes, but the single most compelling motivation remained the possibility of reducing future monthly heating and cooling bills. And Vermeulen notes that the actual costs of making a mobile home energy efficient need not come anywhere near the \$2,000 level.

The cost of the improvements could be "more than offset by the amount of money a homeowner could save in lower heating and cooling costs." And the manufactured housing industry could make the switch

to producing energy-efficient housing with the many production efficiencies already in use. No costly retrofitting or design modifications would be necessary.

As for mobile home dealers, they're enthusiastically in accord, with a full 75 per cent of dealers surveyed in a separate series of in-depth interviews also placing the benefits of lower heating and cooling costs far above greater comfort, increased quiet and a higher resale value of a manufactured home.

Most of the dealers hesitate to promise customers specific dollars-and-cents savings on the reasoning that "with different customer life-styles, it's hard to predict a specific figure." But a year-long research program by Owens-Corning Fiberglas and Arkansas Power & Light Co. suggests that the truly energy-efficient mobile home can reduce heating and cooling bills as much as 59 per cent a year.

"Sure your initial cost is a little higher," admitted one dealer, "but a better home is a sound investment." Other advantages identified by dealers included: fewer service calls, fewer complaints and more referrals from satisfied customers.

There is simply no denying that the energy-saving concept is catching on with the U.S. public—no matter how long our Congress fiddles with a basic energy policy and how fouled up the White House's relations with the nation's lawmakers on appropriate energy legislation become.

Without White House-Congressional leadership, we are moving on our own to cut our costs, not necessarily with such oft-recommended steps as 55-mile speed limits, car pooling, rigidly regulated thermostats, etc. But fixing our homes to keep heat inside in winter and keep heat outside in summer has become a nationwide goal. And with reliable figures to underline the possible savings, we'll move more and more.

WHITES Home and Auto

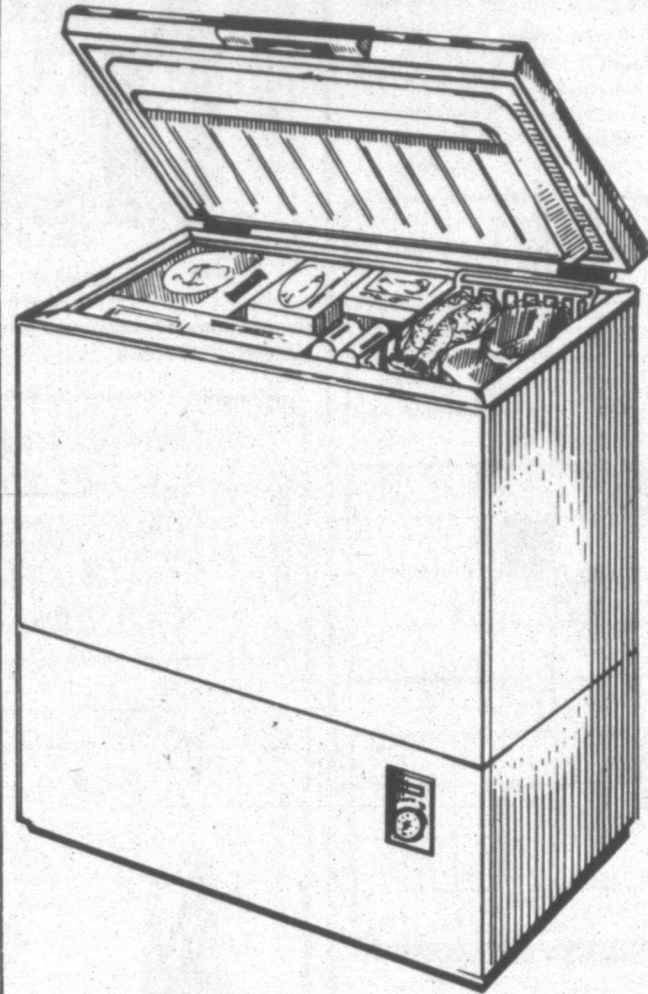
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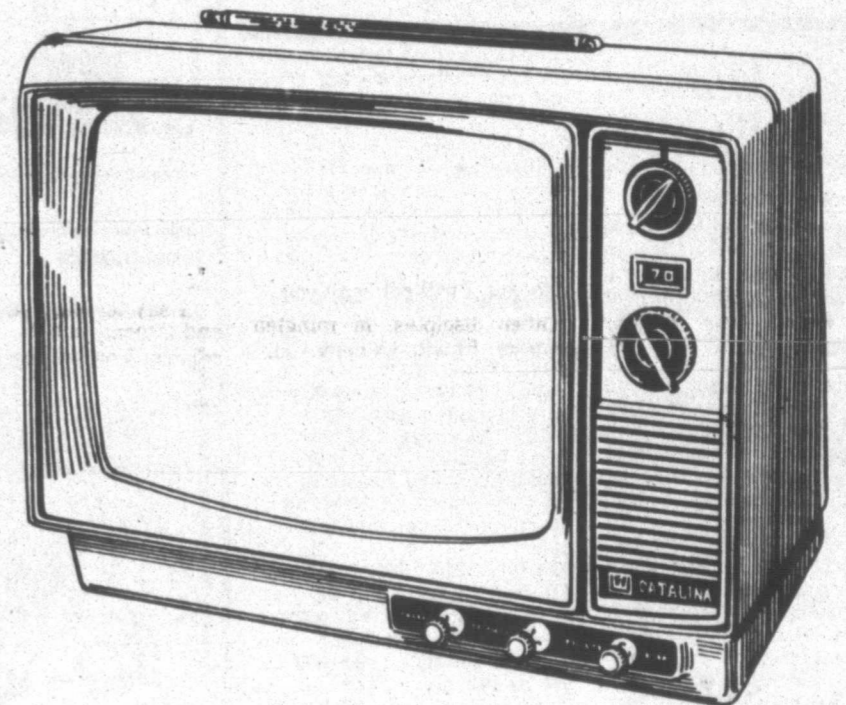
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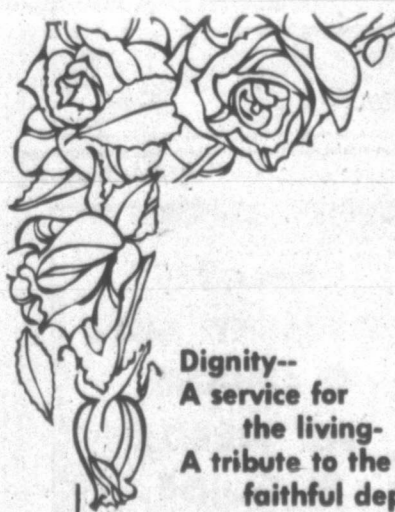
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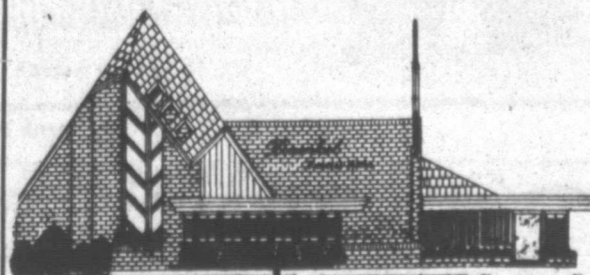
SPARKLING FINDS

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. (AP) — Prospectors at Arkansas' Crater of Diamonds State Park uncovered some 371 gems during 1977, the state Department of Parks and Tourism reports. The 91,849 diggers came from all 50 states and 15 foreign countries.

Largest find of the year was a 4-carat, 25-point, canary yellow stone discovered in August by George Stepp of Carthage, Ark.

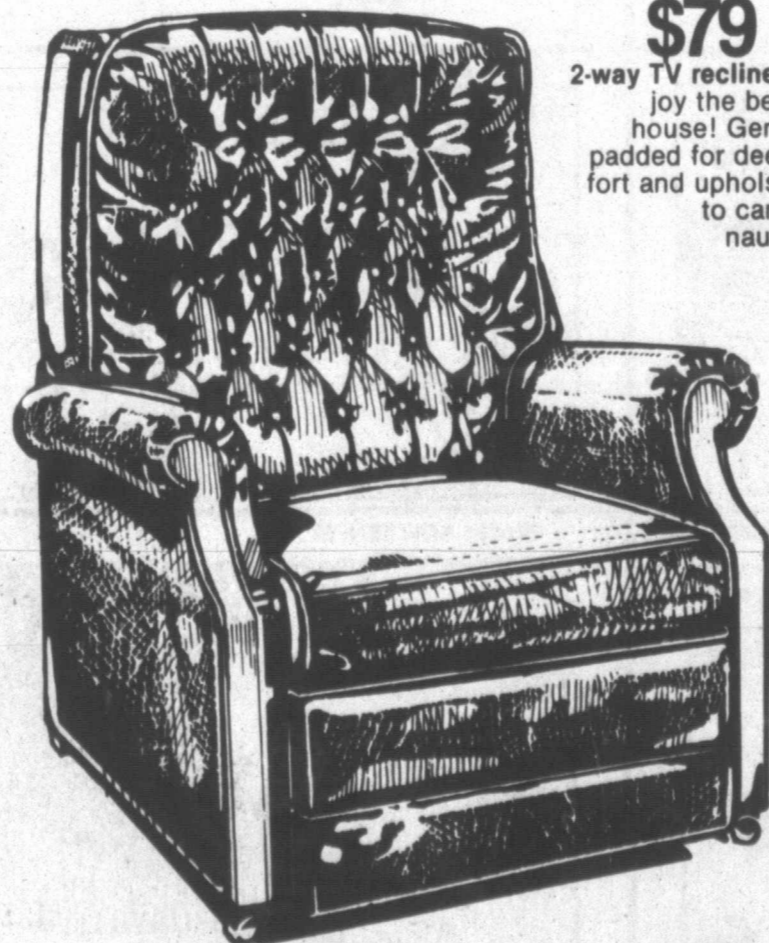


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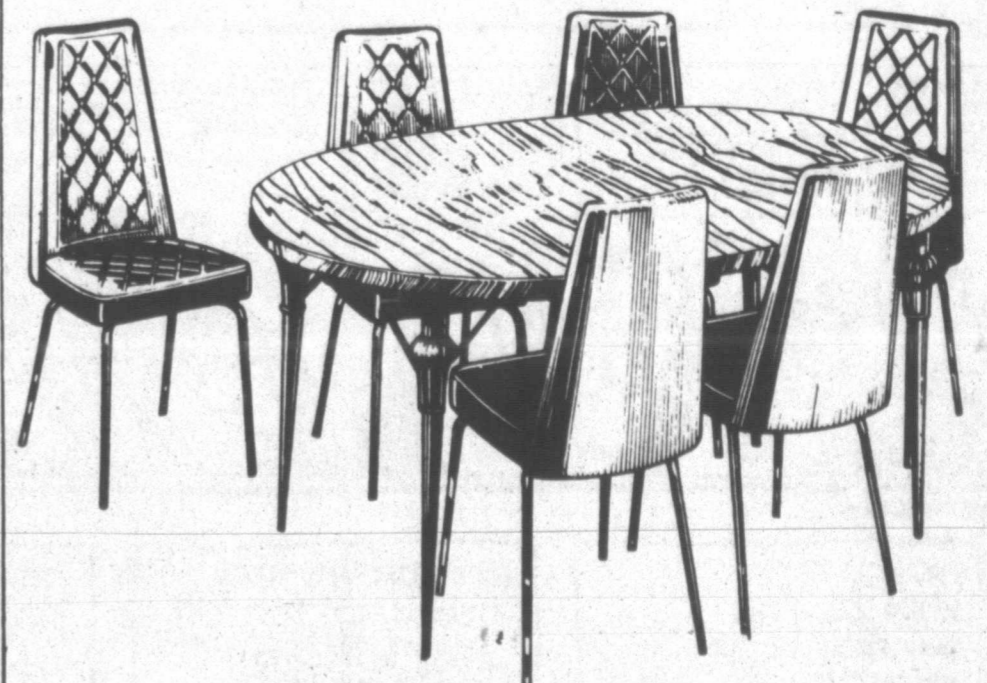
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Today's Crossword Puzzle

- ACROSS**
- 1 Compass point
 - 4 Brings about
 - 6 Active person
 - 12 Dine
 - 13 Military fugitive
 - 14 Hindi dialect
 - 15 Mere taste
 - 16 First word on the wall
 - 17 Auto wheel type (pl.)
 - 18 Margarine
 - 20 Spore
 - 22 Untried
 - 24 Heraldic cross
 - 25 Put off
 - 29 Break
 - 33 Mime
 - 34 Flat-bottomed boat
 - 36 Recent (prefix)
 - 37 French article
 - 38 Continent
 - 39 Photograph
 - 40 Aromatic gum resin
 - 42 Tidal wave
 - 44 Hearing organ
 - 46 Big leaguer
- DOWN**
- 1 Babylonian deity
 - 2 Tenpenny
 - 3 Diminutive suffix
 - 4 Lady
 - 5 Have debts
 - 6 Epochs
 - 7 Precipitation
 - 8 Fool
 - 9 Spoken exam
 - 10 Advantage
 - 11 Iron coating
 - 19 Sole
 - 21 Facile
 - 23 Marries
 - 25 Surface
 - 26 Singer
 - 27 Copycat
 - 28 Old Dutch coin
 - 30 Indian coin
 - 31 Furrow
 - 32 Arizona Indian
 - 35 Coarse file
 - 38 Biblical king
 - 39 Snooty person
 - 41 Soldiers of revolt
 - 43 Third largest planet
 - 45 Fortification
 - 47 Cicatrix
 - 48 Bull (Sp.)
 - 49 Bedouin
 - 50 Surf roar
 - 52 Animal flesh
 - 53 Housetop feature
 - 54 Chinese currency
 - 57 Belonging to the thing

Answer to Previous Puzzle

L I S D A H E A D
 G U A Y U P P E R C U T
 U R G E F L O R E N C E
 I K E C O O N E E D
 B O O D I N O
 E N R A P T S E W A G E
 O U R O S L O L O W
 I R S E P E E C L U E
 T A H I T S H E E T S
 S E C T L I M
 C H A R T O C A B A
 P A L A T I N E O N E S
 A N T E A T E R O D E S
 S A L T S P E N

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12			13						14	
15			16						17	
18			19		20		21			
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25	26	27		28		29		30	31	32
33			34		35			36		
37			38					39		
40			41		42		43			
		44		45		46				
47	48	49		50		51		52	53	54
55			56		57			58		
59			60					61		
62			63					64		

Astro - Graph

by Bernice Bede Osol



Your Birthday

March 23, 1978

You may dream about those faraway places you'd like to visit, but true success and happiness will be found in your own backyard this coming year. Don't miss seeing the forest for the trees.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) You could make a big mistake where your work is concerned if you permit your attention to wander. Concentrate on the task at hand. Having trouble selecting a career? Send for your copy of Astro-Graph Letter. Mail 50 cents for each and a long, self-addressed, stamped envelope to Astro-Graph P.O. Box 489, Radio City Station, New York, NY 10019. Be sure to specify your birth sign.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) Your optimism can make you gullible in business matters today. Your common sense won't desert you if you'll only rely on it.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) Any doubts you have about a major decision that affects the family should not be ignored. Discuss it with all parties concerned and proceed cautiously.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) You're barking up the wrong tree if you think today's tasks can be swept under the rug. Postponing the job only adds extra headaches.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) A self-

centered outlook today impels you to be extravagant with your own resources as well as those of others. The indulgence could be costly.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Comparing your family members' abilities to outsiders' talents is unrealistic and insulting. Don't expect more of your kin than you're able to give.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) You're restless, easily bored and the normal tensions of the day could unduly irritate you. Your disposition changes when you bury yourself in your work.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) Don't be taken by a friend's tale of woe today. Before opening your heart and your purse, do some independent investigating.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) It's just a figment of your imagination if you think others can't wait to help you today. Success will be denied unless you do the job yourself.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Don't jump to conclusions based upon hearsay or partial information. It will be inaccurate and you could find yourself in over your head.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) There's a warning for you to tread cautiously in using friends in business situations. This is one day where sentiments don't blend well with commerce.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) Don't let a family member make you feel guilty because you want to spend some time with friends today. It's selfishness on his or her part.

STEVE CANYON



By Milton Caniff

SIDE GLANCES

By Gill Fox



"The nice thing about progressive education is that it's finally progressing right back to basic education."

THE WIZARD OF ID

By Brent Parker and Johnny Hart



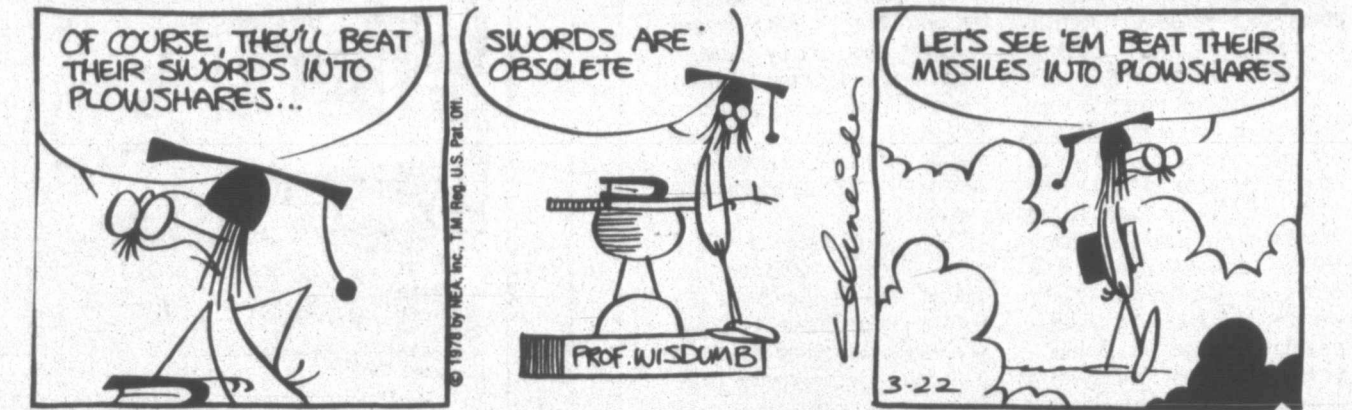
FUNNY BUSINESS

By Roger Bollen



EEK & MEEK

By Howie Schneider



B.C.

By Johnny Hart



PRISCILLA'S POP

By Al Vermeer



WINTHROP

By Dick Cavalli



MARMADUKE

By Bred Anderson



ALLEY OOP

By Dave Graue



BUGS BUNNY

By Steffel & Heimdal



THE BORN LOSER

By Art Sansom



FRANK AND ERNEST

By Bob Thaves



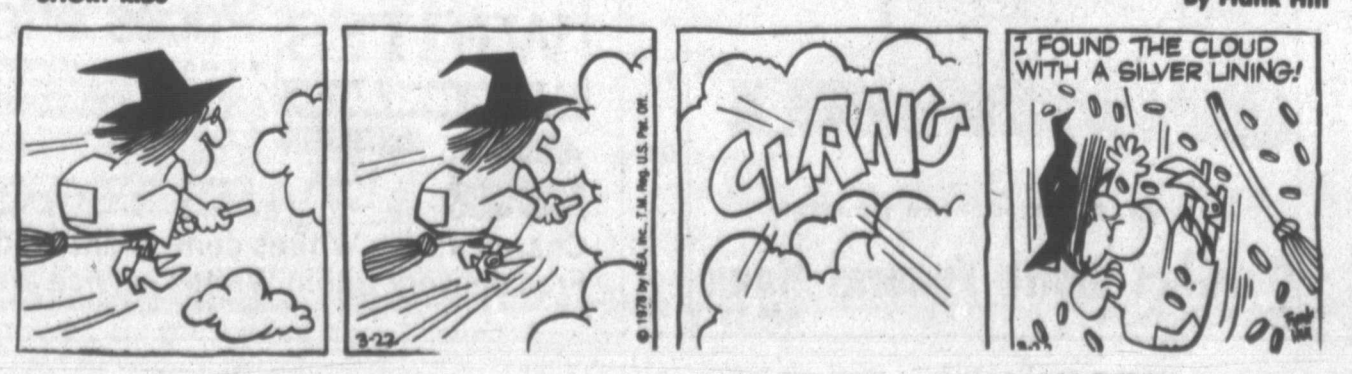
PEANUTS

By Charles M. Schulz



SHORT RIBS

By Frank Hill



DC gets rich from farmers' trek

WASHINGTON (AP) — Estimating the number of farmers who have come to Washington since last fall to demonstrate for higher prices is like trying to count the number of cattle in a stampede.

American Agriculture, the farmers' strike group, says its about 200,000, but no one's keeping an accurate count.

One thing is certain - the cost of protesting is expensive. Hotels where many of the farmers stay have rooms going for \$42 a day and up. With meals, it costs about \$75 a day to stay in Washington.

And that doesn't include transportation to and from the farmers' home states.

Jerry Wright, an American Agriculture spokesman, said Monday at the group's national office in Springfield, Colo., that the farmers are paying for the Washington trips out of their own pockets, although some neighbors and communities have helped raise money to send delegates here.

At the Agriculture Department, officials said that a recent count of letters sent to Agriculture Secretary Bob Bergland included about 4,400 in support of the protesting farmers and 26 who challenged American Agriculture's goals and its methods for gaining 100 percent of parity for farm commodity prices.

Mrs. Kenny Kilichowski, of Ardoch, N.D., said in one of the letters that she and her husband have been farming for eight years and she's disturbed because "we have to pay the same prices as any other consumer, yet we do not get a 'cost-of-living' raise increase"

as many non-farm workers do. "We won't make it with old and outdated equipment, either, if something isn't done," she said.

Mrs. Cecil Brown, Dumas, Texas, chided Bergland for "your inaction and procrastination" which she said is deplorable. "You were appointed to represent the American farmer, not the consumer."

Bergland has mentioned a number of times that federal checks totaling \$1.7 billion are being mailed to wheat and other grain farmers for 1977 crops to help make up the difference between reduced market prices and "target" prices.

Larry Dittich, Meadow Grove, Neb., wrote to Bergland: "Big deal; \$1.7 billion will be paid back to farmers. That's not even one damn airplane."

From Hamer, S.C., Gurnie Rowell expressed a feeling of many farmers in the Southeast who were hit by drought losses last year along with falling commodity prices.

"We know unless we get relief we cannot survive much longer," Rowell said.

Mr. and Mrs. Leo Barnard from Spring Valley in Bergland's home state of Minnesota offered one of the letters disagreeing with the farmers. They said that government-guaranteed parity prices would be "too expensive" and would lead to too many federal controls on farmers, a view the secretary has maintained.

"Farmers should also be taught management of the farm and farm income, rather than be given handouts," the Barnards said.

News watch

ATLANTA (AP) — Larry Flynt, owner of Hustler magazine, breathed without a respirator for a full day as he continued his recovery from bullet wounds, infection and pneumonia, doctors said.

Flynt, who was shot from ambush in Lawrenceville, Ga., March 6, remained paralyzed from the hips down Tuesday. He was placed on a respirator last week when he developed pneumonia after several operations to repair damage caused by the gunfire.

His local attorney, Gene Reeves Jr., remained in guard condition in a Lawrenceville hospital.

HAMILTON TOWNSHIP, N.J. (AP) — In a major step toward opening Atlantic City's first casino by Memorial Day, the New Jersey Casino Control Commission has granted permission for Resorts International Hotel to open its dealers school.

The casino commission Tuesday also gave Resorts International permission to buy 1,200 slot machines in anticipation that the firm's board of directors would vote this week or next to apply for a temporary gambling permit.

RICHFIELD SPRINGS, N.Y. (AP) — Mayor Edward Marzeski, in jail on charges of arson and second-degree murder, has been elected to a second two-year term.

He scored a 245-52 victory Tuesday over a write-in candidate.

Marzeski was charged last week in connection with a New Year's Eve fire in which a 73-year-old man died. Two Herki-

mer men have been charged with Marzeski, a Democrat who also serves as a councilman on the Richfield Town Board. Marzeski is also a former Richfield town supervisor and served many years as village clerk.

BALTIMORE (AP) — Government attorneys say they need 17 additional days to respond to appeals briefs filed by suspended Gov. Marvin Mandel and his co-defendants.

In a brief mailed Tuesday to the 4th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in Richmond, Va., prosecutors pointed out the defense attorneys were granted two delays totaling 50 days. If the court grants the prosecutors' request, the briefs will be due April 10.

Mandel, W. Dale Hess, William A. Rodgers, Harry W. Rodgers III, Ernest N. Cory Jr. and Irvin Kovens were convicted Aug. 23 of mail fraud and racketeering.

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. (AP) — Lawsuits pending against a small feeder railroad and two other companies now total nearly \$220 million in the wake of a derailment last month that ruptured a chlorine tanker, killing eight persons.

Four damage suits have been filed against the Atlanta & St. Andrews Bay Railroad, BASF Wyndott Chemical Co. and GATX Corp., stemming from the derailment just north of Youngstown.

The latest suit to be filed in U.S. District Court was brought Monday by a Panama City couple, James and Madeline Miller, who inhaled chlorine gas. They are seeking \$26 million.

Judge jails mum man

HOUSTON (AP) — The state's key witness in the bribery trial of Ed Riklin was in jail today and the defense attorney called it another "legal briarpatch" in the case.

State District Judge Thomas Rount ordered Nukie Fontenot Tuesday to identify the man who had helped hide loot from a 1975 residential robbery or go to jail. Defense attorney Mike Ramsey, who had asked the question, contends the identity may be significant to Riklin's case.

Fontenot, a pawn shop operator, said he had promised the man he would never tell, so Rount held him in contempt of court and ordered him locked

up until he agrees to answer the question.

Without complete cross examination of Fontenot, the trial should be stopped, Ramsey contended.

Prosecutors John Holmes and Henry Oncken argued the question is not relevant and that Fontenot's reluctance to answer it will not harm their case.

Riklin is charged as the man who arranged for Fontenot to pay an alleged \$60,000 to bribe Garth Bates, a former state district judge, in exchange for a sentence of probation on Fontenot's robbery case.

Bates was convicted in 1976 and stripped of his post.

Phillips sets rodeo

The agriculture department at Frank Phillips College at Borger will conduct a 4-H and FFA livestock judging contest at 10 a.m. Thursday, March 30 on the vocational campus at Bonavista.

The contest will be under the direction of Ed Zweischer, head of the agriculture department. Students may enter.

Also at Frank Phillips, the college Aggie Rodeo club will sponsor an amateur rodeo at the Borger Sheriff's Posse Arena April 7-9.

Events will start at 7:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday and 2 p.m. Sunday. Tickets are \$2.50 for adults, \$1.50 for students and free for children less than age six from members of the club or

by calling extension 65 at the college.

Entry fees are: bareback bronc, \$25; saddle bronc, \$25; calf roping, \$25; barrel racing, \$20; team roping, \$25, and bull riding, \$25.

Entries may be made by calling James Marlin Rodeo Stock, (806) 273-9255 or by calling the college agriculture department. Books will be open for entries from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. March 30 and 31.

Don Carter
Salutes the Customer
of the day
Dobbie
Grantham

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For two good reasons!

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Effective ANNUAL YIELD COMPOUNDED DAILY	5.39%	5.92%	6.72%	6.98%	7.79%	8.06%
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*Substantial penalty required for early withdrawal.

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- 2 tough fiberglass belts help fight impact, puncture damage
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TUBELESS BLACKWALL SIZE	EVERYDAY LOW PRICE EACH	PLUS F.E.T. EACH
A78-13	\$22	1.71
B78-13	\$23	1.82
D78-14	\$26	2.07
E78-14	\$27	2.19
F78-14	\$29	2.34
G78-14	\$31	2.47
H78-14	\$33	2.70
G78-15	\$31	2.55
H78-15	\$33	2.77
L78-15†	\$39	3.05

†NO TRADE-IN NEEDED. *Available in whitewall only. Whitewalls available in all other sizes, \$3 more each.



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\$64-\$112 off 4.

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TUBELESS WHITEWALL SIZE	ALSO FITS	REGULAR PRICE EACH	SALE PRICE EACH	PLUS F.E.T. EACH
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DR78-14	175R-14	\$59	\$41	2.32
ER78-14	185R-14	\$62	\$43	2.40
FR78-14	195R-14	\$66	\$46	2.58
GR78-14	205R-14	\$70	\$49	2.76
HR78-14	215R-14	\$74	\$53	2.96
GR78-15	205R-15	\$76	\$55	2.83
HR78-15	215R-15	\$82	\$59	3.03
LR78-15	235R-15	\$91	\$63	3.34

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24, 24F, 74	380	46.95	38.88
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