



IS THAT SO!

Twins Pester Mom With Questions

By EUGENE BURNS

"Say, Ranger, if you think you get a lot of questions fired at you, you ought to have a set of twin boys growing up," writes Mrs. R. E. G., via the Boston Globe. "Here's a ten-minute sample: 'Mommy, how tall can a man grow?' and then his twin pops up with, 'How short can a man stay?' Before I can think of an evasive answer, the first comes in with: 'About how skinny can a man get?' but by that time I am trying to outguess the other twin's question: 'How fat? Then they want to know how far he can jump, how high? When I insisted that they put on galoshes before your feet turn stone-cold, one twin wanted to know—'When you say 'stone-cold,' just how cold does that mean?' while his teammate fired back without batting an eye, 'Mommy, what's the hottest?' Look, Ranger, can't you give me ammunition to keep them quiet for only five minutes?' and she signs the letter, 'Naturally yours...'

"Whew! Let me come up for air on this one.

To begin with, the best I can



find on a man's height is this: from an article by James Adams in True: Geoffrey Hudson, an Englishman, who lived from 1619 to 1682, was probably the smallest adult who ever existed. At 30, he measured slightly less than 18 inches.

In contrast, Patrick Cotter, an Irishman, who lived more than a century ago, stood 8 feet 4 inches in his socks—no elevator shoes as have some of today's modern giants, although his shoes measured 18 inches long!

For human weight, perhaps the spindleshank of all times was

Hopkin Hopkins, a Welsh lad, who lived to be 17. He tipped the scale at 17 pounds at 14 and then fell off to 12 pounds from that time on until his death three years later.

Although you may think you have the jumpiest children alive, the world's record broad jump is 26 feet and 8 1/4 inches, made by Jesse Owens of the U.S., May, 1935. There are several animals that can jump farther. These include the horse at 27 feet, the elk at 28, the cougar at 38, the impala at 40, and the white-tailed deer also at 40 feet. The wild animals, of course, were not specially trained.

As for height, Les Steers of the U.S. jumped 6 feet 11 inches in Los Angeles, June, 1941. Quite a number of animals can out-jump him. In fact, the jack rabbit has cleared 7 feet; the mule deer, 8, along with the lion, lynx and leopard; the horse has cleared 8 feet 6 inches; the American elk, 9 feet; but the all-time record goes to the little African kudu springer. This little fellow is credited with a high jump in excess of 20 feet.

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This Dummy's Not So Dumb!

By ELDON ROARK

MEMPHIS (NEA)—If it weren't for the fact they look so much alike, you'd never take Zeland Love to be Leland Love's brother, to say nothing of his twin.

Leland is a printer who also farms and invents for himself. He is friendly and talkative. But Zeland has never worked a day in his life. He comes out only after dark and is the strong silent type. Just puffs on his pipe and listens—but says nothing.

A close observer might think Zeland was a dummy. And that's exactly what he is.

But Zeland is no joke. He is the latest addition to Leland's auto-accessory inventions, the result of lonely night driving between his farm and his home.

Every time he had to stop at a traffic light or a stop sign at some dark, deserted spot, he thought how easy it would be for a thug to step out of the shadows, point a gun at him, rob him, and take his car. And then he'd seen women driving around by themselves at night, and think how risky it was.

The more he thought about it, the more he became convinced that everybody should have a companion on night auto trips out of traffic and away from bright lights. So he made himself a twin brother—old wooden-and-tin-headed Zeland—to serve as an after-dark guardian.

Zeland sits on the front seat, puffing away on a pipe that's kept going by machinery in his infield, and they get along just fine.

Once when Leland stopped at a filling station, the attendant didn't notice the fellow on the front seat beside the driver was a dummy. He got quite a shock when Leland introduced him.

Leland also has invented a compact folding cot and a camp stove. He says he can drive up to a



TWINS—Leland (right), and Zeland, a guardian after dark.

camp site, park, have his fire going and coffee boiling in five minutes. And his bed all made up, too.

You can't find pipe-puffing Zeland or the other gadgets in auto stores, though. Leland just makes working models of his inventions, gets patents on some, and puts them away.

"When I retire, maybe I'll try to do something with them," he says. "Too busy with my job and my farm right now."

Communists Now Claim First Stamp

By SYD KRONISH

It was bound to come sooner or later.

So it should be no shock to philatelists that the Communist world makes its claim to have invented the first postage stamp.

This time it is Yugoslavia which claims the first stamp. They say the adhesive was conceived early in the 19th century by Lovrenc Kosir, born in Slovenia.

The 8-cent U. S. commemorative for the 50th anniversary of Rotary International will be placed on sale at Chicago on Feb. 23, 1955.

The central subject is a globe symbolizing the world-wide scope of Rotary International. To the left of the globe is a flaming torch held aloft by a hand and arm. This symbolizes the carrying of enlightenment to all parts of the world. In the lower right corner is the emblem of Rotary International. Across the bottom is the wording "1905 Service Above Self 1955."

The basic design was executed by W. W. Wind who was commissioned by the organization to do the job.

Stamp collectors desiring first day cancellations may send their addressed envelopes to the postmaster at Chicago, Ill., with money order remittance to cover the cost of the stamps to be affixed. The outside envelope to the postmaster should be endorsed "First Day Covers."

Israel's newest commemorative stamp honors the 50th anniversary of its Teachers' Assn. The 250 dark blue depicts a lighted oil lamp symbolizing the teachers' share in the spread of knowledge.

The Teachers' Assn. founded in Zikhron Ya'akov had an active part in establishing Hebrew as the language of the community in all walks of life. The association has about 13,000 members.



Q—What is the origin of the word "sheriff"?

A—In old England, each shire, or county, had a headman known as a reeve. The title "shire reeve" gradually came to be run together in the single word sheriff.

Q—Where is the longest railway tunnel in the world?

A—The Simplon, under the Simplon Pass through the Swiss Alps near the frontier of Italy. It has a length of 12 1/2 miles.

Q—Into how many sections does the proposed new World Calendar divide the year?

A—Four quarters, each of three months, including 91 days, and each containing the same number of Sundays and weekdays.

Q—What substance is said to have given man his first knowledge of electricity?

A—Amber. The Greeks gave it the name elektron, since they found that amber, when rubbed briskly, could pick up straws and small bits of paper.

Q—What is the celebrated plant scientist, Luther Burbank, buried?

A—In his Santa Rosa, Calif., gardens, near the greenhouses in which he carried on his experiments.

Q—What galaxy is nearest to our galaxy and how old is its light by the time it reaches us?

A—The Great Nebula in the constellation of Andromeda. Light coming from it is 700,000 years old before it reaches the earth.

Qs and As

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