

Perkin' Along

C. Perkins

May 6, 1950

Dear Editor:

Some time ago I said I would talk about the bees, but finding it such a complicated subject I am going to talk about the skunks. (and I am not referring to democrats or republicans either). Just plain skunks; friendly little creatures, too!

Recently the news carried an article about how skunks had invaded the town of Paris, Ontario, and the people were at a loss as to how to get rid of them.

There was a time when a pair of skunks took up abode under my home and I had to get rid of them. I should have liked to have made pets of them but we had neighbors! So here is a tip to the people of Ontario.

I made a simple box trap to catch Mr. Skunk and I caught him but he made such a fuss that he overturned the trap and escaped. So—next night I staked the trap to the ground; that would surely solve the problem. Mr. Skunk got in but he made such a fuss that he got the lid of the trap up and escaped again! The next night I weighted the lid of the trap with a heavy rock and thought, now Mr. Skunk, I've got you. Lo! Next morning I found that Mr. Skunk had chewed a hole at the rear of the trap where the stick enters, large enough for him to again escape.

As I look back after these many years I am really sorry that I didn't make pets of those two skunks, because as I have said, they are friendly creatures. But the next night I had the hole around the stick of the trap lined with sheet metal so Mr. Skunk could not gnaw his way out. That did it. Next morning I had a skunk on my hands, in the trap.

How to get rid of him? I asphyxiated him by means of a hose from the gas stove to the trap. The next night I got Mrs. Skunk the same way. They say asphyxiation is a painless death but I still feel sorry for those two poor little skunks. They must have been very hungry to fall for my ruses, or perhaps they had more confidence in human beings than human beings have in skunks.

Now these skunks were not too obnoxious as to odor. There were a few times when we thought we

could smell something, perhaps imagination.

They gave me a break by failing to emit even a faint skunk odor. They were so quiet in the trap that I lifted the lid slightly to be sure they were there.

The persistence of the odor of the skunk secretion is highly over rated and exaggerated. A week or so before my experience a neighbor, about 200 feet away, shot a skunk in his woodshed and we could smell it plainly at our house. I went over there next day and there was no odor left.

If I ever get the opportunity to again meet with skunks I am going to give the skunks a break.

C. L. Perkins

BUILDING HUMAN HABITS

By Pleasant Herbert Lawton

Carol Polyps build until their work has crowned the sea. As they make broad foundations for their structures, so should we make foundations broad enough to crown eternity.

Building human habits is a most important thing. Requiring every effort that the human mind can bring. To bear upon the subject, when the mind is in its spring.

The younger you can start a line of habits good for you. The broader will foundations be when structures risk to view. Because you build foundations broad, your life will be more true.

To wait until Old Satan lends a hand to shape your life, Means a harder, longer battle if you want to win the strife; And if you lose, your heart will feel remorse cut like a knife.

So don't, Dear Friend, neglect to watch each thought and act always; Like Carol Polyps, tho so small, they're building every day. As God is love, you can't go wrong if you have learned to pray.

Central Point, April, 1950

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Locals

Mrs. Edna Gripskov left for her home in Junction City Saturday morning, after visiting at the L. H. Camp home for several days.

Mrs. Martha DeHass is ill in Community hospital with pneumonia.

Mrs. L. D. Booth returned home Friday from the home of her sister, Mrs. Fred Lester, Mossy Rock, Washington, where she had been at the bedside of her mother, Mrs. Flora McCorkill. Her mother is slightly improved, following an attack of virus flu.

Mrs. John Tharp is spending this week end in Eugene with Mr. Tharp, who is in training at the Pacific Fruit and Produce company plant there.

Here Tuesday evening for the Dance recital of Helene's pupils were Mrs. Paul Bumenstein and young son, Paul Davy from Eugene and Theron Gordon from Oregon State college, Corvallis. Miss Blumstein accompanied them on their trip north.

Last week end Mr. and Mrs. Charles A. Meyer and Charla-Jo visited at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Barham, Salem and also with friends in Eugene and McMinnville. In Eugene the Meyers also, went house-hunting for the summer session at University of Oregon.

Henry Booth visited his parents, Mr. and Mrs. L. D. Booth Saturday and Sunday, returning to Bridal Veil where he is working for John Robison in his construction work.

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Monday afternoon Mrs. L. H. Camp had a tea, honoring Mrs. Vicki Brewer, who is returning to her home in Michigan after spending the past five months with Mr. Schall, and also Mrs. Ruth Helfrich, who is leaving soon for her new home in Eugene and Mrs. E. E. Scott, just returned from an extended trip and visit with her daughter in the Canal Zone.

This Saturday Mr. and Mrs. H. P. Jewett are taking Miss Anderson, Lucille Harnish, Jean Hamilton and Laurel Jewett to Springfield for a meeting of advisors and officers of Girls Leagues in Oregon. Mr. and Mrs. Jewett will visit with the family of their son, Mr. and Mrs. Hal Jewett and Grace in their new home.

Attending the meeting of the Siskiyou district, Oregon Federation of Gardens clubs at the Grange hall, Rogue River, Tuesday, May 9 were Mrs. John Holmer, Mrs. Edward Jones and Mrs. Bob Kincaid. The hall was decorated with displays of lilac and tulips.

Mrs. Millie Walker, of Gold Hill, a cousin of Mrs. Frank Miller, had dinner with the Millers Monday evening.

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Mr. and Mrs. Albert Thompson, route 1, are the parents of a second daughter, Julie Irma, born May 5 at Sacred Heart hospital. Her sister is Kathy Lou.

Visiting at the Bert Caster home was Mrs. Caster's grandmother, Mrs. Abbie Harris, Snohomish, Washington. From here she went to visit at her daughter's Mrs. C. E. Horne, Ashland.

From the office of the grade school principal, Mr. C. A. Meyer, comes this announcement: if your child has lost any clothing during the year, please check and see if it is in the box in upper hall of grade school building.

The Medford Garden club met Thursday, May 4 and named Mrs. Wallace Freeland, Beall Lane, as president for the coming year.

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