

Cowboy Artist Creates New Art Technic With Paintings on Leather

Old Gun Wound That Kept Him Out of Saddle Started Unusual Career

By Oren Arnold

If you've ever spent an hour among the intricacies of any stockyard, you would never think of looking there for a significant development in the fine arts or imagine that a \$1000

beautiful combination of leather tooling and coloring, notwithstanding the fact that his dad once licked him for "messing up the barn door!"

Bill was a convalescent in Whipple Barracks, a United States veterans' hospital, nursing a machine gun wound from the World War. Bill's life was in danger, but—as he expressed it—"my mind was worse off than my body, lying there wishing I was in a saddle." He was "plumb miserable" indoors.

One day he got hold of a lady friend's purse, took an old screwdriver and tooled a ranch scene on the plain leather back, just for fun. Experi-



Creator of a new technic in painting is Bill Lee, Arizona cowboy, shown above with one of his unusual works.

oil painting could be done on the hide of a range calf.

But Bill Lee, long and lanky Arizona cowboy, upset tradition and confounded the critics, using a small metal tool and a paint brush to create a new technic.

When Bill Lee was a boy on a northern Arizona cattle ranch, he learned the process of tooling simple ornaments on leather saddles and chaps. At odd times, too, he drew Indians and landscapes on the side of the barn, using colored crayons snatched from school.

Twenty-five years later, Bill evolved a novel and

menting further, he begged some paints and colored the scene.

"Bill, it's marvelous!" the young lady exclaimed, when she saw it.

The boys say that raw-boned bow-legged Bill Lee from the range turned redder than an Arizona sunset. But the lady begged him to try his tooling and painting again.

"It ain't nothin'," Bill tried to tell her.

But she disagreed and he went in to develop the idea. Hospital authorities obtained some real tools and good leather for him.

After a year or two of it, his reputation was

How Movie Trainer Taught Buck To Steal Live Baby

Here is another of the interesting and instructive articles telling how the famous movie dog trainer, Carl Spitz, teaches animals to perform before the cameras. Explanations of other stunts will appear regularly in this magazine. Watch for them.—Editor.

mouth. It was no trouble at all to get him to pick up the basket. But the live baby did disconcert him. Buck, who loves children, could not figure out what that live baby was doing so close to his nose.

"Therefore, we practiced with a big doll. Each



It was some job teaching Buck, the shamefaced St. Bernard shown above, to steal a live baby—for movie purposes, of course. But Trainer Carl Spitz finally accomplished the trick and even taught Buck to look guilty!

THIS stunt is known as the "baby stealing trick." It rates as one of the cleverest ever pulled by a trained dog, anywhere or at any time.

Buck, the giant St. Bernard, was required to sneak into a room, pick up a basket with a live baby in it and then slink away with it.

Buck had to be careful not to spill the baby and yet he had to crawl, sneakingly along, not in his usual happy dog trot, but as if he were actually stealing the child.

His job was to achieve burglar-like movements. This could only be done by his bodily actions and the expression on his intelligent, broad, brown and white face.

Burglar-like, too, he had to walk quietly, but with shifty tread until he got the basket full of baby behind the barn, the designated hiding place.

THIS is how Carl Spitz, owner and trainer, taught Buck to carry out the stunt:

"To begin with," said Spitz, "Buck had the advantage of my grammar course, which was explained in a previous article.

"He had already learned to hold objects in his

made. The popularity of his productions have given him a new financial standing and a great new happiness—all of which is aiding the physical cure.

Bill can take the hide of a calf, a hide carefully made into velvety, flexible leather, and in a week make it into a thing of surpassing beauty. His "masterpiece" to date is such a production—a calf skin still showing the form of the beast, with a view of the Grand Canyon tooled and painted on it.

Still unaware of the high degree of artistry involved, Bill made a couple of these, and when tourists saw them they grabbed them up at once. Bill raised the price materially, on the next one but it made no difference. Now, apparently, his price is commensurate only with his nerve!

For variety, he takes square pieces of leather, or rectangular pieces and does paintings about the size of the average framed picture in a living room on them. Usually they are sold before they are finished.

time we went through the business, I ran alongside of him to the hiding place behind the barn. We had to be careful to keep within camera range, for this was a movie stunt. At the barn I called, 'Drop it.'

"We repeated this three times. I saw Buck was catching on, and the next time we substituted the live baby for the doll. Buck still didn't like the idea of the live baby. He is kindness itself. So he, of his own accord, licked the baby's face. It was his way of making friends with the child. Fortunately, the baby did not cry, but laughed. This made Buck feel better and the next time we tried it, Buck stole the baby in fine shape.

"That was not the end of the trick, however. The sequence called for Buck to be 'discovered' with his theft.

"How to make him get that guilty look upon his face? With the basket in his mouth, I ordered, 'Put your head down. Shame on you. The very idea, stealing a baby! Shame!'

"And because a St. Bernard is an emotional creature, it was no time until Buck was feeling heartily ashamed of himself. Consequently, we achieved a very fine shamefaced look for the camera!"

STILL WINNING WORLD TITLES AFTER 29 YEARS.....

WILLIE HOPPE

THE VETERAN BILLIARDIST SHOWS HIS MARVELOUS PHYSICAL CONDITION AND MASTERY OF THE GAME BY TAKING THE WORLD'S THREE-CUSHION TITLE WITH AN EXHIBITION SHOT.....

HERE'S TO THE 48-YEAR OLD CHAMPION, WILLIE HOPPE!..... HE HAS WON EVERY WORLD TITLE IN BILLIARDS..... HE HAS WALKED THOUSANDS OF MILES AROUND BILLIARD TABLES, AND WHEN HE SETS HIMSELF FOR A SHOT HIS NERVES ARE LIKE STEEL..... BELOW HE TELLS OF THE IMPORTANCE OF KEEPING HEALTHY NERVES AND GOOD DIGESTION.....

WHEN WILLIE WAS 5, HIS FATHER WAS TRAINING HIM TO MAKE THE SHOTS THAT WERE TO BECOME WORLD FAMOUS. THIS WAS IN CORNWALL, N.Y., IN 1892.....

CAN YOU STAND ON THAT BOX ALL RIGHT, WILLIE?

IT'S O.K., DADDY!

IT'S ALMOST UNBELIEVABLE.

HE'S A WONDER ALL RIGHT.

AT THE AGE OF 13, HOPPE COULD DEFEAT LEADING EXPERTS IN TOURNAMENT PLAY..... THE GALLERIES WERE DUMBFOUNDED BY HIS AMAZING MASTERY OF THE GAME

GOOD LUCK, WILLIE!

THANKS! I'LL DO MY BEST.....

C'EST IMPOSSIBLE, MONSIEUR!

MAIS NON! L'AMERICAIN—HE HAS WON

HIS FIRST WORLD TITLE..... THE 18.1 BALKLINE CHAMPIONSHIP..... WON IN PARIS WHEN ONLY 19!.....

ANOTHER MILE AND I'LL CALL IT A DAY.....

HOPPE SPENT WEEKS BEFORE EVERY MATCH DOING ROADWORK..... HE KNEW THAT HE MUST BE PHYSICALLY FIT TO HAVE THE HEALTHY NERVES REQUIRED IN CHAMPIONSHIP BILLIARD PLAY.....

THIS SHOT WILL SETTLE THE MATCH.....

IN 1910, HOPPE TOOK THE 18.2 BALKLINE TITLE, AND HELD IT FOR 11 CONSECUTIVE YEARS

AFTER 35 YEARS OF PLAY, HOPPE AT 48, STARTLED THE WORLD OF SPORTS AGAIN LAST NOVEMBER AS HE CHALLENGED FOR THE WORLD'S THREE-CUSHION HONORS.....

JUST FINE—TODAY WILL TELL THE STORY—AND I THINK I'M RIGHT FOR THE FINAL EFFORT

WE'RE WITH YOU, MR. HOPPE!

HURRAH FOR HOPPE!

WHAT! WONDERFUL NERVES!

HE'S THE IRON MAN OF BILLIARDS

TWO AND ONE-HALF HOURS LATER HOPPE WINS!..... THE GAME'S GREATEST HERO HAS NOW WON EVERY WORLD BILLIARD CHAMPIONSHIP!.....

DIAGRAM OF HOPPE'S MOST STARTLING SHOT—THE FORCE MASSE (TRIP IT, SOMETIME.....)

WITH A TERRIFIC MASSE STROKE, HOPPE MAKES HIS BALL COME OFF THE OBJECT BALL, HIT THE END CUSHION FOUR TIMES, AND COME OFF THE SIDE RAIL TO STRIKE THE YELLOW BALL

LATER THAT NIGHT.....

DON'T YOU HAVE TO WATCH YOUR DIGESTION?

DO HAVE ANOTHER HELPING OF WELSH RABBIT, MR. HOPPE!

GOOD DIGESTION IS IMPORTANT, OF COURSE—I'VE FOUND SMOKING CAMELS A VALUABLE AID TO DIGESTION.....

I TRAVEL A LOT—EAT AT ONE PLACE—IN ALL SORTS OF PLACES—SO I MAKE IT A POINT TO SMOKE CAMELS AFTER MEALS AND BETWEEN MEALS FOR THE SAKE OF MY DIGESTION.....

Signature of Willie Hoppe

TRY CAMELS FOR THE AID THEY GIVE DIGESTION

OUR MODERN GRAB-A-BITE EXISTENCE MAKES INDIGESTION ALL TOO COMMON. SMOKING CAMELS DURING MEALS AND BETWEEN MEALS PROMOTES DIGESTIVE ACTION AND A FEELING OF WELL-BEING. CAMELS SET YOU RIGHT! THEY ARE MADE FROM FINER, MORE EXPENSIVE TOBACCOS—TURKISH AND DOMESTIC—THAN ANY OTHER POPULAR BRAND

(WAVE) R.J. REYNOLDS TOBACCO COMPANY WINSTON-SALEM, NORTH CAROLINA

For Digestion's Sake—Smoke Camels