

Is That So?

Now that we are entering the age of space ships, a trip to our closest heavenly neighbor, the moon may not be too far off. Case for a dry run to see what's up?

On the average, the trip is 239,000 miles. Once you get there, our earth will look four times as large because the moon is only 2,163 miles in diameter—a shade more than a quarter of our earth.

Yet because the moon's density is much less than our earth's it would take the materials contained in 81 moons to form our globe.

Because of the difference in size and density, there is a difference in gravity. In fact, the same exertion it would take to lift 100 pounds here on earth, will lift 600 pounds up there. Likewise, because of the lessened pull, a falling body there during the first second will drop only two feet and eight inches as compared to 16 feet down here.

As far as we know there is no air on the moon. But should there be a trace, its pressure would not exceed 1/750th that of our earth's surface, probably much less. That means all moon-trotters will have to carry their own supply of oxygen.

Now, since the moon has no atmosphere, there can be no wind.

As well, there can be no moisture in the air, hence no clouds, no showers, no rainbows. If any water exists at all, it will be frozen at the bottom of deep craters.

With the lack of atmosphere, of course, sounds are impossible. A cannon might be fired alongside you and never be heard.

On our earth the sky is blue, thanks to the scattering of the sun's rays in our atmosphere. Up there, it would be pitch black.

In that blackness, stars would not twinkle but they would be sharp points of light 20 times as bright as down here and we'd see a hundred times as many stars.

Sunshine Brighter

With no atmosphere to filter the sun's rays, the sunshine there is at least ten times as bright as on earth and probably mixed with deadly short-waves. And certainly, without heavy dark glasses, a human would be instantly blinded.

As with our earth, the moon possesses no light of its own—it reflects what it receives from the sun. (At full moon, the moon sends to us about 1/600,000th part of that given off by our midday sun.)

The days will be long. The moon makes one revolution in 27 days, seven hours, and 43 minutes around the earth—keeping the same face to us. So, a day on the moon is equivalent to almost a month with approximately two weeks of constant daylight and two weeks of intense darkness.

Because of the long sunshine for two weeks and the absence of the sun for the following two weeks, immense variations of temperature must exist.

At the hottest, the temperature perhaps never rises above the freezing point of water. At the coldest, something like 200 degrees below zero. Brrrr! Because there is no circulating air to moderate the temperature, the shade must be unbearably cold during bright daylight. In fact, the side of a bare hand exposed to the sun's light would be seared in a short time while the other side which was in shadow would be frozen.

Don't Take Camera

Such extremes would shatter most delicate instruments—so don't plan on taking your movie camera.

Looking at the terrain, there will be large plains—some extending 650 miles across. But mostly there will be craters. From our earth, where we can see 59 per cent of the moon's face, over 30,000 have been counted, many overlapping. Some have diameters ranging from a half mile to 100 miles with walls sometimes exceeding 20,000 feet!

With this preview, wouldn't

Court Records

POLICE COURT

Jacob Edward Olsen, violation of basic rule, \$10.
Glenn Walter Badley, failure to stop at stop sign, \$5.
Jerry Knapp, parked on wrong side of street, \$2.50.

DISTRICT COURT

Max H. Wimmer II, failure to transfer title, \$6.
Thomas C. Schultz, switched license plates, \$10.
Donald G. Lingren, reckless driving, \$30.
Elton D. Averitt, violation of basic rule, \$10.
Kenneth B. Fitzsimmons, violation of basic rule, \$25.
Henry R. Kilburn Jr., violation of basic rule, \$12.50.
Carl R. Hogstrom, failure to yield right of way, \$15.

CIRCUIT COURT

Sandra Lee Stanfield vs. Edward Daniel Stanfield, divorce complaint.

MARRIAGE LICENSE APPLICATIONS

James Alvin Carlson, 26, of route 3, box 76, Medford, and Lillian Harriet Murele Carlson, 26, Toronto, Ont., Canada.
Raymond Monroe Van Gelder, 60, of 804 Cedar st., Medford, and Elizabeth M. Buckley, 65, of 836 North Central ave., Medford.
George Ronald Triller, 24, of 1141 Second ave., Gold Hill, and Joyce Elaine Tepov, 18, of 1203 Fourth ave., Gold Hill.
Douglas Lawrence Smith, 20, of route 1, box 525, Gold Hill, and Gail Patricia Skyrman, 17, of route 1, box 6, Central Point.

By Eugene Burns
Ranger-Naturalist

it be well to save enough for the return trip? In such a dreary, lifeless, conversationless, bleak



orb there's a good chance you'd want to come back if only to complain about the overcast, the fog, or the rain.

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Free: By special arrangement with the editors of the Encyclopedia Americana, my panel of judges will award each week to the reader who sends me the best question on nature and wildlife a complete 30-volume set of this world-famous reference work in a handsome Sealcraft binding. Each week, new questions will be considered. Sorry, I simply can't answer your many friendly letters. Please address your questions to: IS THAT SO! c/o Medford Mail Tribune, Box 575, Sausalito, Calif.

Crash Survivors Arrive at Homes

Portland — (U.P.) — It was an especially Merry Christmas for a United States Army corporal and his mother in Portland.

Cpl. Oley Adamson arrived home yesterday from his army post in Europe. But he had quite a time making it.

The 22-year-old soldier was one of the survivors of the crash of a DC-3 plane Wednesday night in the Monongahela river near Pittsburgh, Penn. Ten of the 23 servicemen aboard the plane were drowned.

But his experience was all but forgotten Saturday in his happy Christmas reunion with his mother, Mrs. Lydia Adamson, at her modest apartment in Portland.

A Eugene man, Cpl. Charles L. Lutje, also a survivor of the ill-fated liner, arrived home Friday night to spend Christmas with his wife and one-year-old baby. He and the co-pilot were the last ones off the plane, swimming ashore through the icy waters.

Cpl. Aage Tostemark, also of Eugene, was released from a Dravosburg, Penn., hospital and was on his way home Saturday night from Fort Lewis, Washington.

Young Man Drowns In Freak Accident

Levittown, N. Y. — (U.P.) — A young husband was trapped and drowned in an automobile Saturday when his wife was hurled from the driver's seat in a freak chain reaction accident.

The Christmas tragedy occurred when Rover Repp, 22, ran into the rear of a car driven by Richard McCabe, 49, at an intersection traffic light.

M McCabe's gasoline tank exploded, hurling him to the pavement.

Joseph Fannon, 29, and his wife, Muriel, arrived at the intersection just as the explosion occurred. The blast threw Mrs. Fannon from her car and sent the vehicle careening through a wire fence, down an embankment and into water about five feet deep in a rain catch basin.

Man Seeking Sign Killed by Train

Santa Ana, Calif. — (U.P.) — Funeral services were pending here Saturday for Lonnie Winters, 52, who was killed when a train hit him after he stepped from his car on a fog-bound railroad crossing to look for a street sign.

The victim's wife, Mrs. Esther Winters, and Margaret Oehlin leaped to safety Friday night when they heard the train approaching.

Earlier in the day, John Beauchamp, 33, of Santa Ana, was killed when his car went out of control on Laguna Canyon road and hit a tree.

Accidental Shot Kills Daughter of Policeman

Miami — (U.P.) — The two-year-old daughter of a policeman shot and killed herself Saturday with his .38 caliber pistol while he was inside a grocery store wishing a friend a Merry Christmas.

The father, Arthur Locke, said he and a companion, Roy E. Smith Jr., left the officer's car only a few minutes. He said his daughter, Sherry Ann Locke, who would have been three years old Jan. 6, apparently found the pistol which was kept under the right side of the front seat of the car.

East Berlin Raps Paris 'War Pacts'

Berlin — (U.P.) — The East Berlin city administrator said Saturday in a Christmas message that West Berlin "must not be included in the Paris war pacts" providing for German rearmament.

"That would lead to an aggravation of the situation in Berlin, and could have dangerous results on more than 2,000,000 West Berlin residents," the message said. It was published in the Communist press.

It was the first Communist threat against West Berlin in many months. The hint at a renewal of the Berlin blockade was implied but not expressed.

West Berlin is not legally a part of West Germany, and would not be remilitarized under the Paris agreements. West Berliners would not be drafted into the West German army, and West German troops would not be stationed there.

Christmas Eve Crash Kills 3, Injures 6

Sacramento — (U.P.) — A three-car Christmas eve accident claimed three lives Friday night and caused injury to six others south of here.

The dead were Albert James Massey, Stockton; Pearl Edwards, Stockton, and Benjamin Schmidt, Lodi.

The injured were Martha Schmidt, wife of Benjamin; Barbara, 15, their daughter; Arthur Ackerman, 17, Elaine Ackerman, 12, his sister; and Charlene Mettler, 17, all of Lodi; and Foley E. Hutchinson, Stockton.

The California highway patrol reported Hutchinson crossed the center lane of a two-lane road and ran head-on into a vehicle driven by Schmidt. Hutchinson's car then bounced into one driven by Charles C. Quigley, Auburn, Calif., the patrol said. Quigley, a private at Ft. Lewis, Wash., was not injured.

The accident occurred on U.S. 99 between Sacramento and Lodi.

Gambler Released After Being Cleared

Los Angeles — (U.P.) — Jimmy Utley, 51, a gambler, was released from city jail Saturday after police determined there was no evidence which connected him with theft of some \$3000 in watches, unset diamonds and rings found in his apartment.

Two other suspects are free on writs of habeas corpus. They are Frederick Stein, 47, and Stanley Adams, 42, Mrs. June Collins, 46, was released under \$1,000 bail and Leroy B. Malouf, 31, is in jail after failing to post \$20,000 bail.

Jenner To Sit as One-Man Committee

San Diego, Calif. — (U.P.) — Sen. William Jenner (R-Ind.) will sit as a one-man committee here Wednesday to hear testimony from retired Adm. C. Turner Joy, of La Jolla, chief delegate for the United Nations during the Korean truce talks.

Jenner represents the Senate Internal Security subcommittee studying diplomatic and military policies.

Father of Four Regains Sight for 'Best Holiday'

Oakland, Calif. — (U.P.) — Tony Russo celebrated his best Christmas ever Saturday.

The 33-year-old father of four children has regained his sight. Russo who has been blind in one or both eyes since he was 14, had his first day of normal vision Friday following a third corneal transplant.

Could Not Work
His sight went bad in 1936 and from 1942 to 1953 he was classified as "industrially blind," which meant he could not hold a job that required vision and could get around only with a white cane.

Then in May, 1953, Russo's eyes failed completely.

A year later he underwent a successful corneal transplant on his right eye, but the same operation on his left eye failed. Three weeks ago a second transplant was tried on the still bad left eye. The bandages were removed Friday.

Russo could see.

With his "new" eyes Russo happily spent Christmas with his wife, Naomi, and four children, Janice, 13; Shelley, 3; Toni



MONKEYS ISS CRAZY — Koss the Chimp goes in for a little horseplay (or is it chimp play?) as he plays the part of Santa Claus. He is kept busy on the phone making up gift list for all the animals in Philadelphia Zoo.

Barriers Lowered In Holy Land

Bethlehem, Jordan — (U.P.) — Barriers to travel through the Holy Land between Israel and Jordan were lowered Saturday on the day of peace for Christian pilgrims from many lands.

Arab Jordan, at peace with Israel only by grade of a shaky armistice, opened its frontiers to the pilgrims dedicating the day set aside for celebrating Jesus' birthday to visiting the holiest shrines in Christendom.

The pilgrims passed through gaps in the barbed wire marking the frontier to walk the ancient way to Bethlehem.

Diplomats and United Nations representatives traveled the road the Three Wise Men used when they followed the star long ago. But for most of the pilgrims the route led through the Mandelbaum gate in Jerusalem and past the Garden of Gethsemane, near which the Arabs now maintain a frontier post.

Christmas day dawned bright and clear, adding zest to the pilgrim to this tiny town.

Train Makes Unslated Stop to Give Gift of Money to Poor Family

Saugus, Calif. — (U.P.) — The Owl, Southern Pacific's speedy train between Los Angeles and San Francisco, turned into Santa Claus Saturday to make an unscheduled stop here.

Chagrined passengers, all in a hurry to get to Los Angeles for Christmas dinner, smiled when they saw engineer H. H. Bock jump from the train and deliver a welcome Christmas present to Mrs. Clara Youngblood and her children—who range in age from 8 to 15 years.

Bock and the entire train engineer returned and the Owl resumed its trip southward.

The \$118 Mrs. Youngblood had received was collected from the crews who daily had seen the Youngblood children bashfully waving as the train sped through Saugus.

WHO GETS THE WORM?

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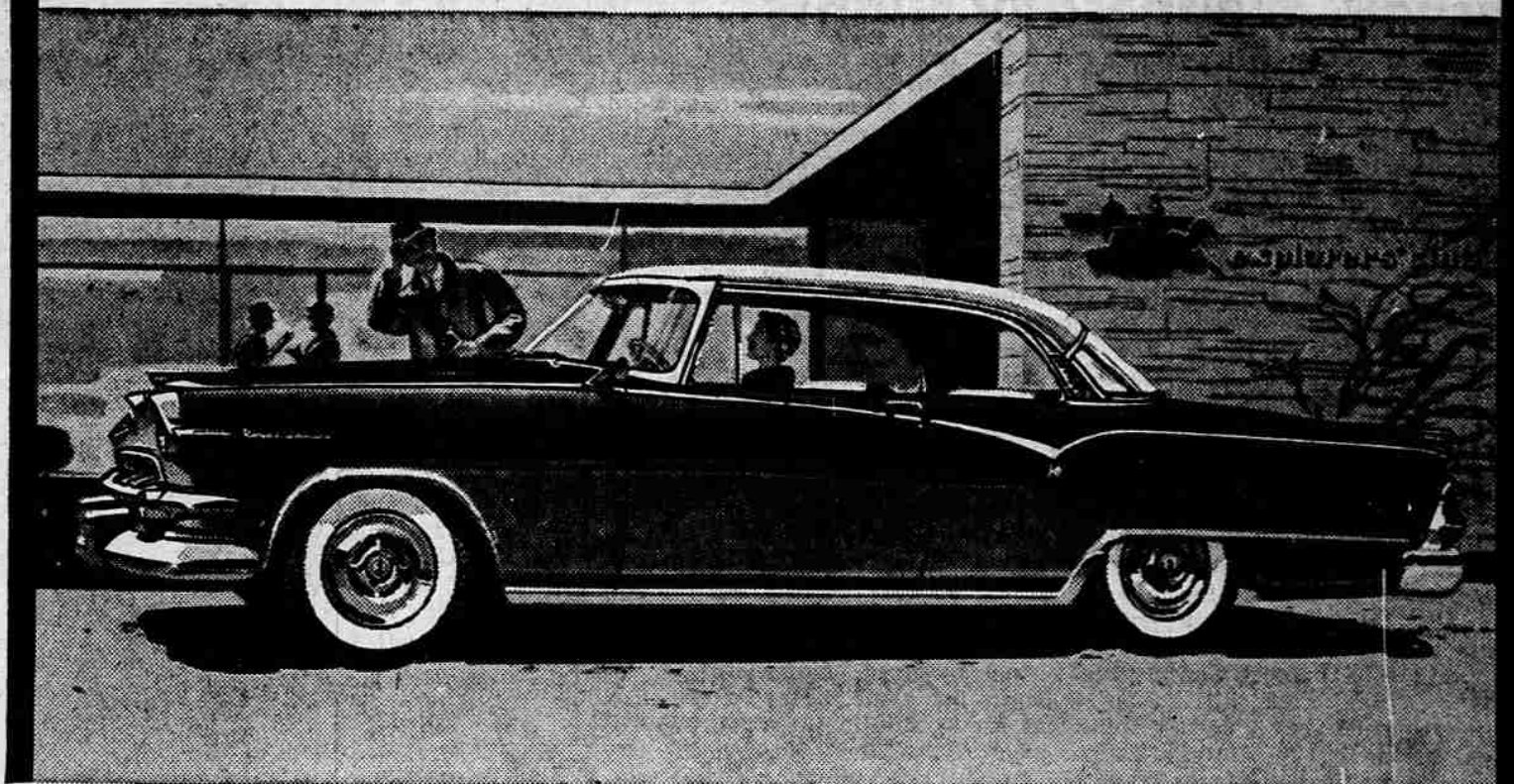
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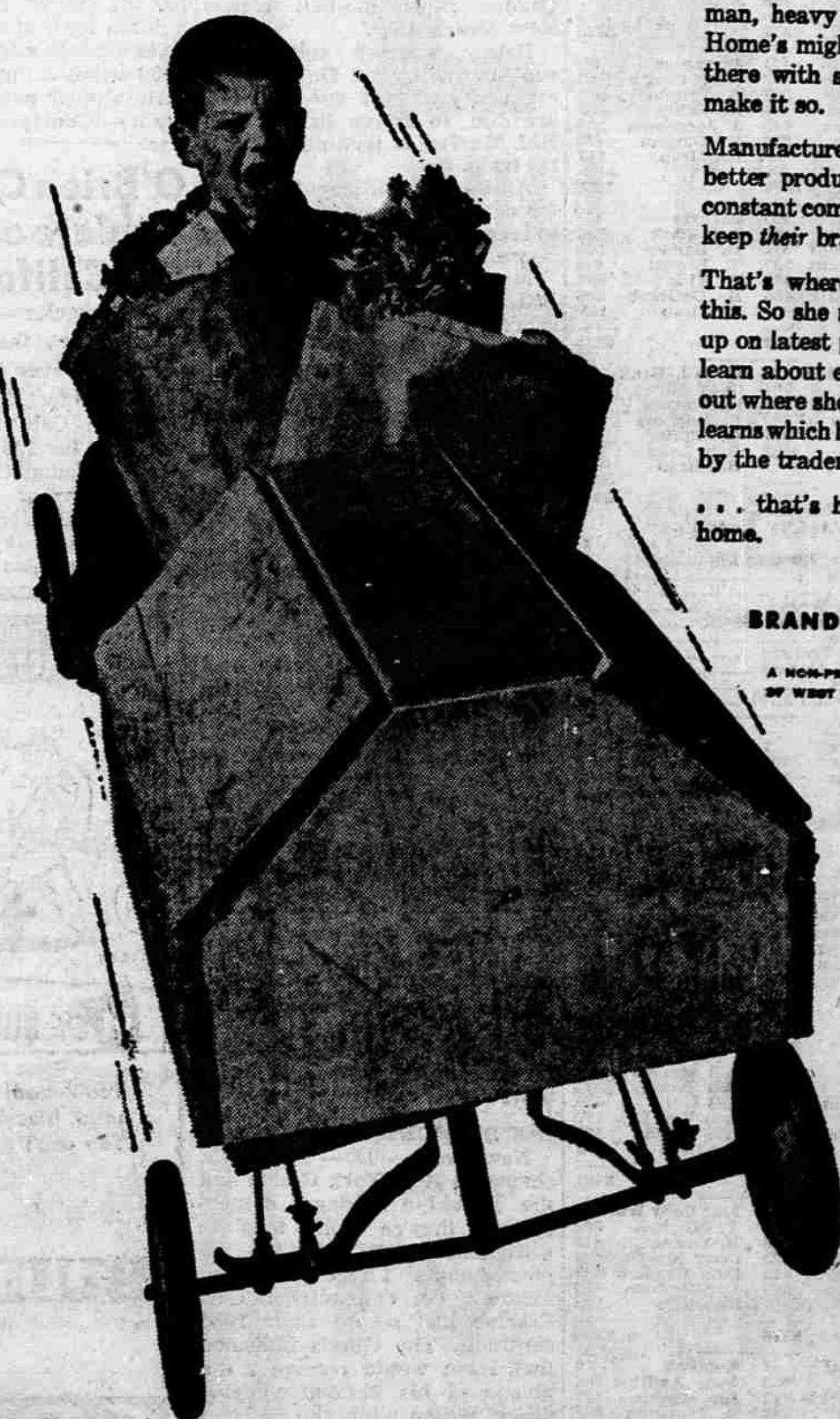
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