

Is That So?

By EUGENE BURNS
Ranger-Naturalist

"I'm heading for the big outdoors on my first camping trip and I need a new outfit," writes a reader. "What's best to buy?" He adds the familiar refrain, "I don't have money to spare."

Who does have money to spare? But whether for a trip to the seashore or mountains, for riding or swimming, hunting or fishing, almost anyone can be more "at home" and comfortable in the outdoors and save at least 50 per cent of the outdoor clothing bill by observing a few basic principles.

First of course comes appropriateness—to buy only that which fits the place you are going, the season, the use you will put it to, and bearing in mind one's own personal com-



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fort. Some people are adaptable, others are not. This all means that you must take note of such practical factors as hot days and frosty nights; mosquitoes and midges; rain, wind and dryness; even sagebrush and cactus.

Next is the factor of limiting yourself to the minimum. Whether you are heading for the city or the country, the beach or the mountains, regardless, cut down on the clothes you take with you. Whatever you need, you can always buy—besides you'll usually do better. (There's one exception—your footwear. If you must wear boots or moderately heavy walking shoes, purchase them well in advance and break them in before you go on your vacation. Remember this, without fail, or you may ruin your trip. Sneakers, of course, need no breaking in—but if you are used to heels, the flatness may bother your arch considerably.)

Restrain Self on Buying

Even though you do plan to buy your clothes where you are going—restrain yourself. Buy as few clothes as possible. You'll find many an outdoorsman gets by with the clothes he is wearing.

Now as to what is best and most appropriate, study what the "working" residents—not the drugstore dudes—are wearing. The daily, hard-working wranglers, guides, foresters, timber cruisers. In short, the people who camp out, sleep out, and spend a good share of their lives working in the country where you are going to take up a two to three weeks residence. Through tough experiences, these men know what clothes work out best in all weather. On their experience and selection, you can be sure you are going to buy the best for your money.

To get down to cases, let's take the matter of plains or desert country. Here most of the plants are tough and many have thorns to snag clothes. Against these, you'll have to fortify your shanks with boots and hard-woven trousers. Better make it cotton jeans, but the real heavy working kind.

Even in hot deserts, if you are at some altitude, nights will usually be nippy, perhaps even bitterly cold. For this, have a woolen shirt. It's good not only for chilly evenings but also helps keep the intense midday rays of the sun off your spine.

Cotton Shirt Suggested

In lower, country, perhaps nights remain warm and humid—for these a cotton shirt may work out all right. But yet, a light wool shirt will do the job even better.

For early spring and late fall, when there are winds and cold rains and even snow threatens, it is good to have a light waterproof outer garment. For this, I prefer one with a hood. But during midsummer, you'll find few outdoorsmen wearing waterproof gear despite rains. They know that, when working, enough heat is generated by the body to get them just about as wet from sweat inside the waterproof garments as from rain without them—and a lot more uncomfortable and hot with the rainproof gear. After all, one

can dry out quickly enough after the shower, or if its a prolonged rain, by a campfire. As for those clothes to wear during the rain—again, better make them woolly—even though wet, wool retains warmth.

For cool evenings a sweater, wool jacket or heavy outside shirt is good. I'd say, a woolen timber cruiser jacket with lots of pockets is ideal!

Expect Rain

Farther north, even though days can be hot, nights almost always are cold and rainy days should be expected. For this, better be equipped with long-sleeved woolen shirt, woolen trousers—both hard woven to resist brush and wear. And, in addition, perhaps full-length lightweight woolen underwear and heavy woolen socks. This double-layer outfit will give the best protection from both the weather and insects, particularly mosquitoes. To protect the face from the latter, better have a cheesecloth head covering and for the hands some gloves even though these things can be miserably warm during midday.

To top it off, wear a lightweight felt hat—not a cap. The brim gives protection from the sun, prevents water from running down the back of your neck and keeps out most of the bits of twigs, fir needles and leaves.

Once you gain outdoor experience, you'll find yourself cutting down on your gear piece by piece and making compromises because you'll know that you can't have everything and so you must therefore take that which will give you the maximum of good things, bearing in mind the season, place and use. As for price, in the long haul, you'll save money by buying good quality camp clothes.

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In The Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

I'd like to quote for your thoughtful attention a couple of brief paragraphs from the financial news.

Defense Secretary Charles E. Wilson, former General Motors president, sold his 40,000 shares of General Motors stock two years ago in order to be able (under the law) to take his present cabinet post. He received \$65 a share, which amounted to a total of about \$2,600,000.

"AT WEDNESDAY'S OPENING PRICE OF \$128 A SHARE, HIS FORMER HOLDINGS WOULD BE WORTH \$5,120,000."

WHAT is to say:

In order to serve his country as secretary of defense Wilson gave up a salary running well up into six figures and accepted a salary far down in the five figure list as a member of the President's cabinet.

In addition (in order to qualify himself to "serve his country well," as Davy Crockett did) he divested himself of 40,000 shares of GM stock for which he then received \$2,600,000 but which at this week's prices would have been worth \$5,120,000.

SO FAR, so good.

Let's not fool ourselves—or permit anybody else to fool us. It's ALWAYS GOOD when able Americans are willing to make great personal sacrifices in order to serve their country.

Ever since he became secretary of defense Wilson has been subjected to constant harassment by cranks and radicals. He has been particularly harassed by

the demagogues in congress and by the left-wingish, parlor-pink commentators and columnists.

QUESTION NO. 1:

Who has shown REAL patriotism—Wilson, or his harrasing critics?

QUESTION NO. 2:

HOW ARE WE GOING TO GET GOOD MEN TO SERVE THEIR COUNTRY IF THEY ARE TO BE SUBJECT TO CONSTANT HARRASSMENT?

QUESTION NO. 3:

If the time ever comes when able Americans are no longer willing to make personal sacrifices in order to serve their country at times when their particular talents are greatly needed, where is our country going to end up?

Standard Oil Company Introduces New Gases

Two new gasolines were placed on sale to Pacific Coast motorists last week by Standard Oil Company of California, the first of the higher octane fuels turned out by Standard's recently completed catalytic reformers at Richmond and El Segundo.

Octane ratings and other qualities have been substantially improved in both grades, Chevron Supreme and Chevron.

The new refining facilities are the two largest units in the company's current \$50,000,000 program designed to improve gasoline quality.

Bridgeport, Conn. —(U.P.)—A bold thief entered the home of Police Supt. John A. Lyddy and took an old-model .38 calibre revolver from a desk drawer.

United States May Ask \$750,000 From Russia

Washington—(U.P.)—The United States may ask the Navy Neptune patrol plane destroyed off Alaska by Soviet jet fighters.

Total damages involved in the June 23 incident could climb much higher when injuries to the plane's 11 crewmen are determined by American officials.

The United States Thursday told Moscow in a note that it will accept an unprecedented Red offer to share damages to the plane and its crew on a 50-50 basis.

Hastings, Neb.—(U.P.)—A farm woman was honest in answering that part of a questionnaire pertaining to her method of garbage disposal. "Three hogs, a sheep and a flock of hens," was her answer.

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