



**MAKING FINAL REPAIRS**—Walt Seaser, Medford fireman, makes final repairs on one of several toy wagons the fire department is refinishing for needy children. Deadline for donation of toys for this year's program will be Dec. 12, according to Gordon Barker, fire chief. The firemen each year repair toys in their spare time which are distributed on Christmas morning by the Lady Lions.

### Domiciliary Furnishes Big Laundry Bill for Medford

By SID HOLLINGSWORTH  
Camp White—The Veterans Administration domiciliary furnishes a nest egg of considerable size to the Medford area in its annual laundry bill.

The bulk of the wash is handled on a piece basis. It consists of linen supplied for the members by the government, and personal items, which are laundered weekly for the men.

During the past year, 611,381 pieces were handled, an average of nearly 12,000 items a week, including 88,000 hand towels, 80,000 pillowcases, 66,000 sheets and 60,000 bath towels.

The personal laundry includes 50,000 shirts, 40,000 handkerchiefs, and 26,600 each of under shirts and shorts. There were 16,600 pairs of socks, 15,700 wash trousers and 11,000 whites.

**Government Items**  
Special government items include 25,600 aprons used in the dietetic service, 19,200 bedspreads, 24,000 dish towels, and 6,000 pounds of wiping rags. In all, there are approximately 50 classifications of laundry handled.

There were, for instance, 600 belts, 1,500 coats, 1,800 uniform dresses, 2,500 smocks, and 2,000 slippers. Also 250 table cloths, 50 dust mops, 200 operating gowns, 500 masks and 2,230 operating and cook caps.

The cost of this considerable laundry bill fluctuates but an estimate of 10 cents per piece was given by Engineering Officer Burt Sims.

In addition to this free laundry, a not inconsiderable amount is diverted through the canteen service to a laundry company in Medford. Manager Clarence Bryan estimates 122 bundles of varying sizes are sent out by his department each week. This personal laundry is paid for by members and personnel dealing at the canteen.

**Handling of Laundry**  
The handling of laundry, both personal and government, is a large scale operation at the domiciliary. Each section has an assistant leader in charge of the detail of picking up and handing out the articles after their return from the laundry.

The entire operation has been systematized under domiciliary procedure and every man who is able to make up his own bed, change linen once a week, his personal effects are picked up by the laundry detail which makes a tour one morning each week. His bed number is sewed on the clothing to be laundered. The returned wash package and ironed is called for the following week.

All of the soiled items are separated and placed in conveyors to be delivered to the central linen room, where Max Ament is in charge. Max has handled this job from early days and makes few mistakes.

**Other Full Time**  
The other full time employee is a seamstress, Edna Cox, who mends the torn or worn items before returning them to the sections. The engineering division supervises this phase.

George Parker, the leader in Section One, has eight men working the shifts for the 400 men in that wing. Walter Hollis, in charge of Section Two, has four helpers for more than 150 men, as does Ray Waterfield of A Section with 300. Jack Rubenstein, an attendant, assists in the more involved procedure in the wards.

In this section attendants are stationed in the wards to aid the handicapped veterans in changing linen and distributing their fresh change of clothing. A large number of men in this section, however, are able to assist the laundry detail as is done in Sections One and Two.

The only laundry facilities maintained at the domiciliary are a regular household washer and dryer, used for miscellaneous items needed in a hurry, or which are not included in the service agreement.

### Is That So?

By EUGENE BURNS  
Ranger-Naturalist

From the dawn of history, man has utilized the skins of animals. Even centuries before the beginnings of agriculture, when the forerunners of our present civilization led a nomadic existence the furs of animals were used by man as a protection against the elements. Hence, probably the oldest industry in the world was the taking of furs for clothing.

The early explorers and white invaders of Canada and the U.S. pushed into the west for fur. Probably no one factor was of more importance in the exploration of settlement of North America than the beaver, the world's second largest rodent weighing upwards of 60 pounds.

**Mark of Man**  
During my father's day, the beaver and sable were the hallmark of the university man during my days, the raccoon coat was the mark of the college Joe; and today, I see, there is a fad for women college students to pull the old raccoon coat out of the closet.

Today, furs are a billion-dollar business in America—mostly a luxury trade.

About 25 important fur bearers occur in North America. Muskrat, fox, mink, skunk, wolf, raccoon, beaver, marten, opossum, lynx and bobcat; seal, weasel (ermine when white in winter), badger, otter, fisher in times past; and such others as the bear, wolverine, ringtail cat, rabbit, squirrel and mole. The jaguar and ocelot of Central America, are used chiefly for rugs and novelties and the nutria, introduced from South America, is acquiring a ranking place in the fur trade.

**Prices Fantastic**  
Prices for some luxury fur animals have been fantastic. The all-time record of \$35,000 was paid for a pair of silver foxes back in 1912 as far as I know. In more recent times, the biggest prices quoted is \$10,000 for an 18-ounce chinchilla exhibited in Toronto, Can., on February 12, 1936. This makes the animal worth about 16 times its own weight in gold.

For coats made of cloth woven of animal fur, the dearest is that of the South American vicuña, the most beautiful of all woven fabrics. Although there are perhaps 1,000,000 vicuñas living today, only one person in every 4,000,000 can enjoy the beauty and warmth of this golden-brown fabric because of the scarcity of the supply. The hair, incidentally, is about .00043 inches, wonderfully strong and resilient. In comparison a blonde human hair—the finest—is

### Four-Year Honeymoon Comes to End in SF

San Francisco — A four-year, 56,000-mile honeymoon trip came to a head here recently for Dr. William F. Holcomb and his wife, Marilya.

They sailed Sept. 30, 1933, aboard their schooner, the Landfall II, and visited countless islands and six continents. Their schooner went aground and was nearly wrecked near the island of Bali.

coarse indeed. Such a coat may cost about \$1,000. However, the most valuable fur coat of all time was a unique azure blue mink coat purchased at Paris for the late Mme. Eva Peron (died June 1932) at an undisclosed price.

(Released by McClure Newspaper Syndicate)  
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 true-life adventure, the best nature observation or 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 submissions will be considered. Sorry, I simply can't answer your many friendly letters. Please address your letter to: IS THAT SO? c/o Medford Mail Tribune, box 573, Sausalito, Calif.

When John Quincy Adams ran for president for the first time in 1820, he received only one electoral vote. Monroe had a total of 231.

In one drop of blood, the amount of a gas used, there are approximately five million molecules of red corpuscles and about 5,000 white corpuscles.

Content of the air at sea level is found to be about 21 per cent oxygen and 78 per cent nitrogen by volume.

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9<sup>95</sup>  
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Penney's fashions a beautiful bare-leg look with Seamless Gaymodes (they out-compare any nylons in the country). Conventional or non-run micro-mesh.

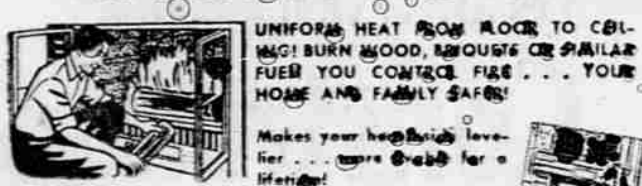
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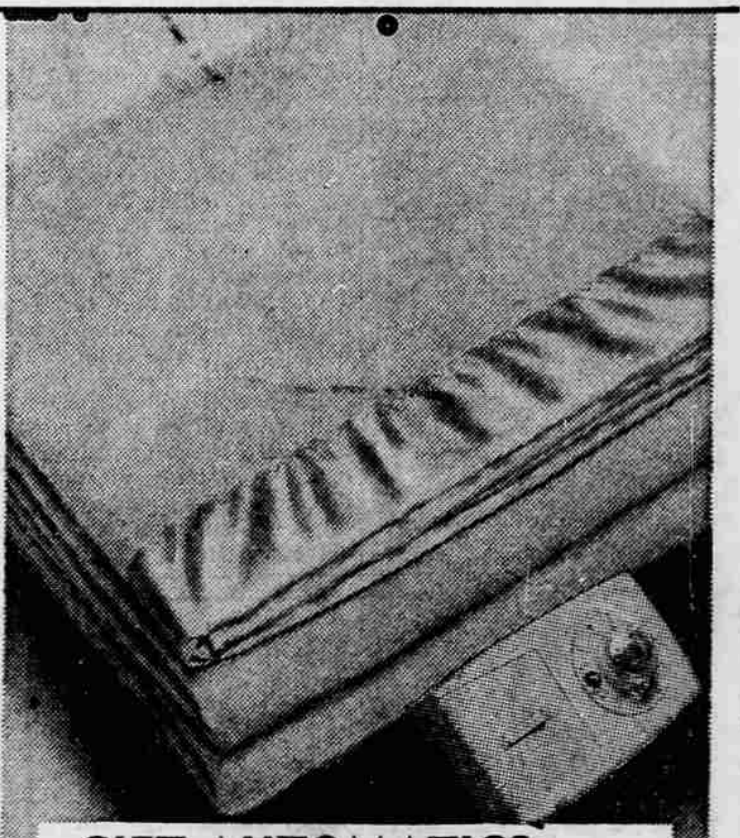
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\*In lukewarm water



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