



## Small Worlds Around Us

By Lynn M. Watkins

### The Sunflower Always Will Be a Sun Worshiper

The sunflower was rightly named; no other flower known makes such an effort always to keep its sunny face toward the sun than this old-fashioned plant. No matter what happens it attempts always to face the sun. It is rather pitiful to see it try, on a cloudy day when the light is weak, to respond to the mysterious pull of light; whether it feels it or sees it is not understood. But it never gives up; all its life it will be a sun worshiper.

If efforts are made to keep the great flower from looking directly into the sun, peculiar and startling results occur. A screen placed directly between the flower and the source of light will cause the head to twist sideways, or curve in grotesque angles in order that the head can peep out. If forceful methods are adopted to keep the flower from the full rays, the plant actually will twist off its own head.

### A Composite

The botanists call the sunflower a composite because the head, which looks like a huge blossom, is really a compound or composite part, made up of a large number of tiny flowers. The entire blossom looks like a greatly magnified daisy growing on a giant stem which may reach 12 or 15 feet in height during a single growing season.

In some parts of the world, such as Egypt, India and Russia; the raising of sunflowers is an important industry. Millions of pounds of the striped seeds are used for human food, and from other millions of pounds a rich oil is extracted. In many sections of our own country the flower is considered a noxious weed, but Kansas saw fit to name it as their state flower. Today nutrition experts are looking hopefully at the oil contained in the seeds as a rich source of vitamins and

proteins as a supplement to our own diets.

Cockatoos, parrots, and macaws, the trio of birds recognized as the most intelligent of all the feathered creatures, have learned a long time ago that the seeds contain all the necessary food elements, and these birds can live long and active lives on nothing but the seeds.

### Into Its Own

A prominent milk company has selected the sunflower as a colorful background for the advertisement of its products, and concerns all over America are processing the seeds for medicine and foods. Perhaps at last this homely weed-like flower is coming into its own.

The sunflower grew in grandmother's garden, back alongside the henhouse, or along the dusty road that led to town, and when fall came and the great yellow heads drooped, and the bright yellow petals faded to brown, we knew the summer had gone; the sunflowers had lasted out the season.

(Released by The Register and Tribune Syndicate, 1959)

### WHAT'S IN A NAME?

Pearl Harbor - (UPI) - A man here goes by the name of Keoalaulionapalihaulliokekeoalau Kaapuwaokamehameha. His first name means: "the small-leaved koa on the verdant cliffs of the Koolau Mountains." His family name signifies: "the awa cup bearer of Kamehameha the Great."

## Use of Quarry to Be Discontinued

Use of the old granite quarry on the Old Military rd. by county road crews will be discontinued and another one put in use west of Jacksonville, members of the Jackson county court decided during a road inspection tour last week.

Dark Hollow rd. right of way has been cleared of brush for a width of 50 to 60 feet. Further work on the road is awaiting good weather, County Engineer Paul Rynning said.

Detours are still up on four bridges on the North Phoenix rd. and two on the Coleman Creek rd., the county court said. The bridges should be ready to use the first of next month, officials reported.

Work on Azalea rd. and Orr dr. is progressing. A layer of gravel is now being applied to complete the mat coat surfacing, Rynning reported.

The bridge on Wagner Creek rd. has been poured and should be ready for operation the middle of March, he noted.

### Missiles Made in Detroit

Detroit - (UPI) - Detroit long known as the Motor City, may have as much claim nowadays to the nickname "Missile Town, USA." This city of wheels, it is pointed out by Detroit Engineer, official publication of the Engineering city of Detroit, is one of the nation's top missile producers. The magazine said some made-in-Detroit missile products or parts include the Atlas, Bomarc, Corporal, Dart, Honest John, Jupiter, Lucrose, Little John, Nike-Hercules, Polaris, Redstone, Regulus I, Regulus II, Sergeant, Talos, Thor and several other classified projects.

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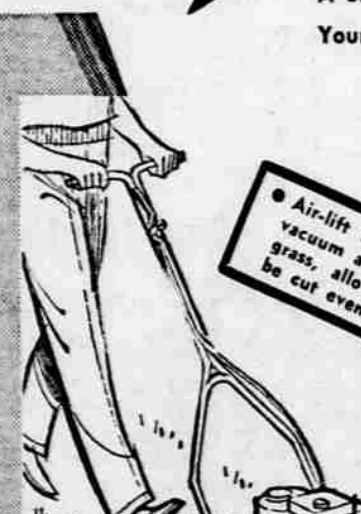
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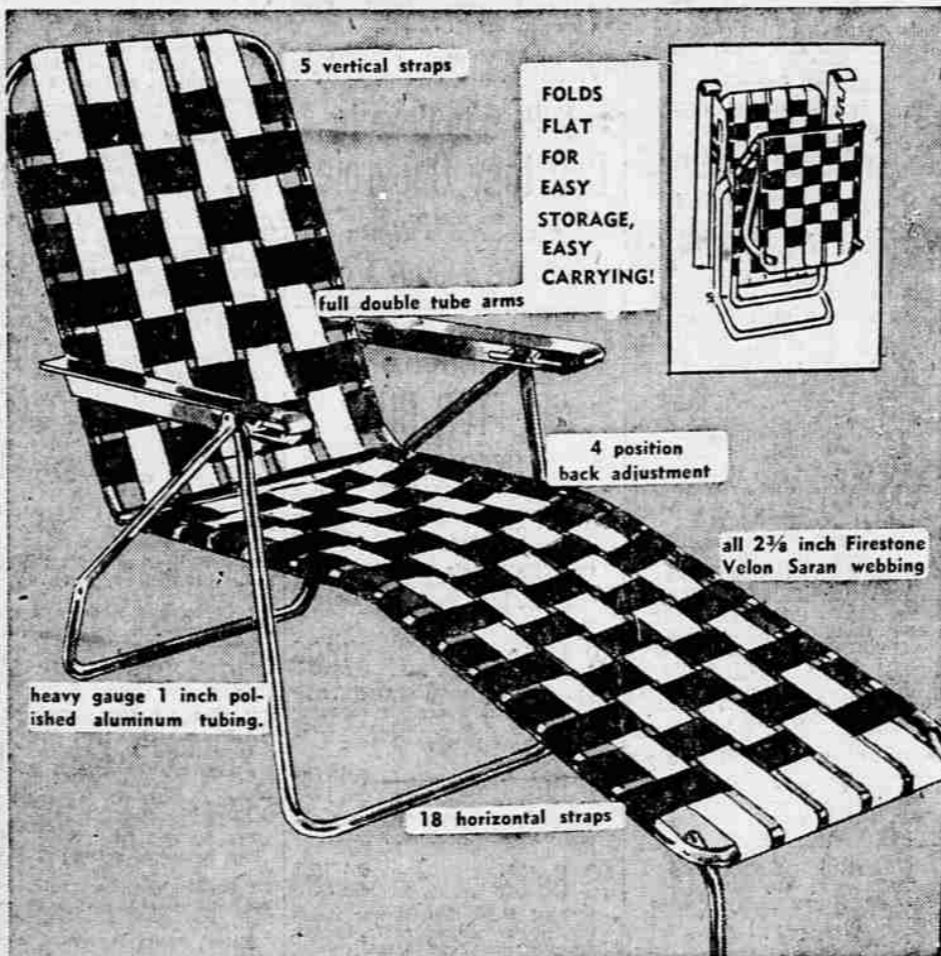
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