

You and Your Pet

(Prepared under the auspices of the Southern Oregon Humane Society)

Have you ever been in the dog house? Well I can take a joke, because my boy is handy, and he built me a really nice dog house. But some of these boys don't know how really bad a dog house can be. And it isn't always the mean people who give dogs bad homes. Some of them are so over-kind that their over-kindness is balanced by under-thinking.

Now, in dog language we consider an under-thinking human one who tries so hard to be nice, but just doesn't understand.

Take Nellie, that cute little number down the street. Her boy meant so well when he built that great big dog house. Heating Plant

But in cold weather the only central heating plant in the dog house is the dog itself. Remember, a house just large enough to accommodate the dog is large enough. After all, we do like the outdoors best. The house is for sleeping only. And when nights get cold our bodies give off heat only in proportion to our size. So don't expect a Fox-Terrier to furnish the fuel to heat a house big enough to house a horse.

Then there is another thing, this business of placing the house. If you face it so that the house you humans live in will act as a wind-break, fine. That means our main entrance should face your back door. And after you're through with your handiwork, and have called in all the neighbors to show off what a swell carpenter you are, will you do one more thing? Nail a couple of two-by-fours on the bottom. This will keep the house off the cold, damp ground and make it so snug when the rains cause little streams to wind their way round your yard. Those two-by-fours will keep us from having the sniffles, too. Then there's paint. Well, paint doesn't mean as much to us dogs as insulation. A layer of building paper or tarpaper between the inner and outer boards will keep those nasty winds out.

Without Hardware
 A modern dog house should be without hardware. I mean none whatever. No trick doors or hinges. They suffocate us. Give me a good door flap made of good heavy canvas and I'm happy. Any dog can learn to nose his way in and out. But just leave the door big enough so you can reach in and clean out our bedding once in awhile.

Of course, we expect the roof to be leak-proof. But please give it enough angle so that it doesn't act as a hot-plate during the hot summer months. So you think being in the dog-house is pretty terrible, eh? Well, you poor humans, you don't know how really terrible it is. You don't know what it means to be chained to an old inverted packing case. You don't know what it means to have your bowl of water upset accidentally and no one to replace and fill it.

If you give it some thought, the dog-house can be made so comfy and so attractive it would really be considered a sort of little heaven instead of a purgatory.

And the funny thing is that it's just as inexpensive and just as easy to build a good dog house as it is a bad one.

HUMANE JOE



BIG FOUR MEETING—American Ambassador to France Amory Houghton (left) and Secy. of State Christian Herter take seats at meeting in Paris of Western "Big Four" foreign ministers, in effort to overcome Western disagreements before meeting with the Russians at Geneva.

Parents Warned of Children's Hazards

Parents of pre-school age children should be especially alert to the hazards youngsters might encounter while playing outdoors, Chief of Police Charles Champlin said recently.

He urged parents to start training their children at an early age to avoid playing in or near the street and never to run into the street.

The problem is especially critical this time of year, Chief Champlin said, because children are eager to play outdoors after long months of being inside.

"Parents should be especially careful to determine the whereabouts of children before backing out of a driveway in the family car or before delivery trucks leave," the chief said.

Every spring and summer, he added, the state has a rash of accidents in which a pre-school youngster is run over when he gets under or behind a car just as it is backing out of a driveway.

The Family Council

Editor's note: The Family Council consists of a judge, a psychiatrist, three clergymen, a newspaper editor, a women's editor and two writers. Each article is a summary of an actual report. The Family Council does not give advice; it merely reports on problems that have been dealt with by responsible agencies and counselors.

Gale B. — He wants his father to come live with us.
Max B. — The folks helped us when we needed them.

Gale B. — My husband and I are beating war drums these days over the fact that he wants his widowed father to come live with us.

We moved into our own nice home only about a year after having lived in chicken-coop apartments for years. I've been enjoying the space so much. Each of the kids has a separate room. If Max's father comes to live with us, the two boys will have to double up.

Max has two sisters, but they don't want dear old Dad. So why must I be stuck with him? Max says it may be only for a short time and then one of the sisters will want him. But I'm not too sure about that. Grandpa is none too easy to live with either.

Max B. — Gale very nicely forgets about the four years we lived with my parents rent free. That was when we were first married. We were both teenagers and the folks wanted to help us get our start. They kept us even after we had the first baby and that was none too easy for them.

One of my sisters has four kids and the other has six. They really have a full house. I just don't know where they could put Dad up, but I feel

that when they see all we do for him, they will be willing to take him part of the time. Dad is 70, but he is in good health and doesn't require any special care. He can take care of his own things.

The Council: If Gale and Max lived with his parents four years rent free, they certainly do have a moral obligation to help Dad in his time of need. Gale apparently was well able to put up with her father-in-law while she lived in his house. It is unfortunate that she finds things so different now that the tables are reversed.

However, it is always a mistake to make arrangements for a recently widowed person before he has had a chance to get his bearings. He must make a completely new adjustment to life. He doesn't really know how he wants to live.

The kind and sensible thing would be to invite Grandpa to come to "stay for a while" if he is feeling lonely in his own home or apartment. It is quite possible that after a few weeks of living with active and noisy youngsters, he will prefer the peace of his own place.

A man of 70 in good health can find lots to do to keep him busy. Of course, he may be lonely at times, but many older persons prefer loneliness and independence to a

bustling family life and the sense of being merely tolerated.

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The Jesuit missionary, Pontet, is believed to have been the first white man to have seen the Thousand Islands, St. Lawrence area, in 1653.

New Jersey was the only northern state not to abolish slavery before 1850. It had 235 negroes in bondage that year.

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San Francisco Among Favorites For Summit Talks

Paris — Speculation on the possible site of an East-West summit conference boomed again Friday with San Francisco among the favorites.

However, officials said it was not discussed at last week's meeting of the Big Four western foreign ministers. They stressed that no decision will be taken before the East-West foreign ministers' meeting which opens at Geneva May 11.

Possible sites that have been mentioned besides San Francisco include Quebec, Geneva, Vienna and Paris.

Supporters of San Francisco were said to favor it because it would enable President Eisenhower to attend without leaving the United States.

The Canadian government already has officially offered to play host to the conference at Quebec.

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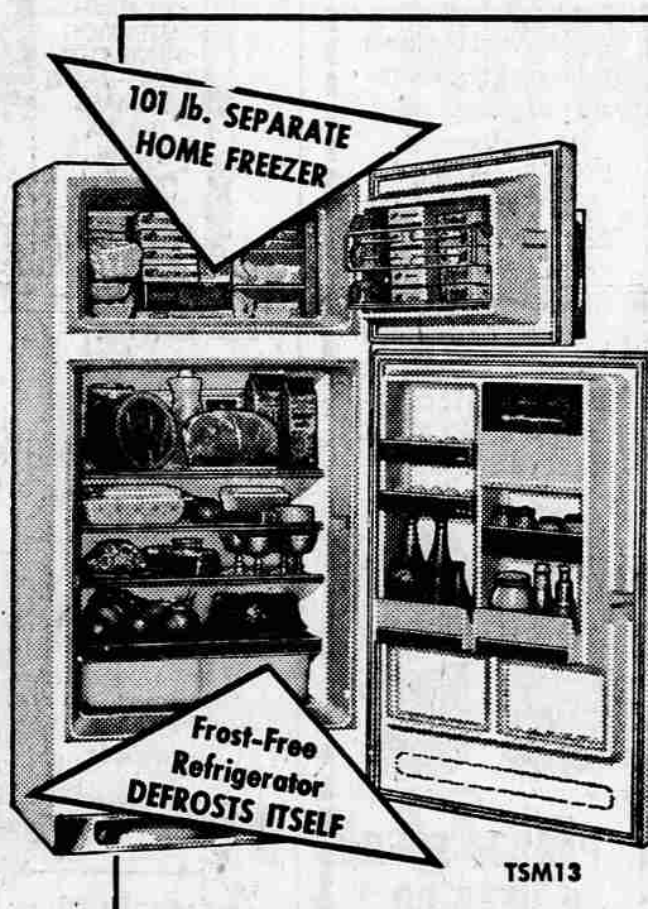
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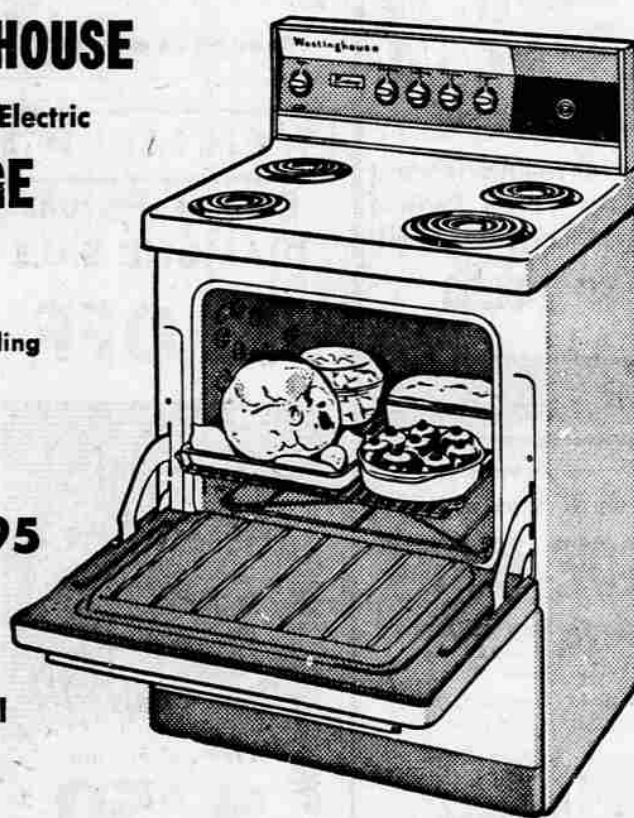
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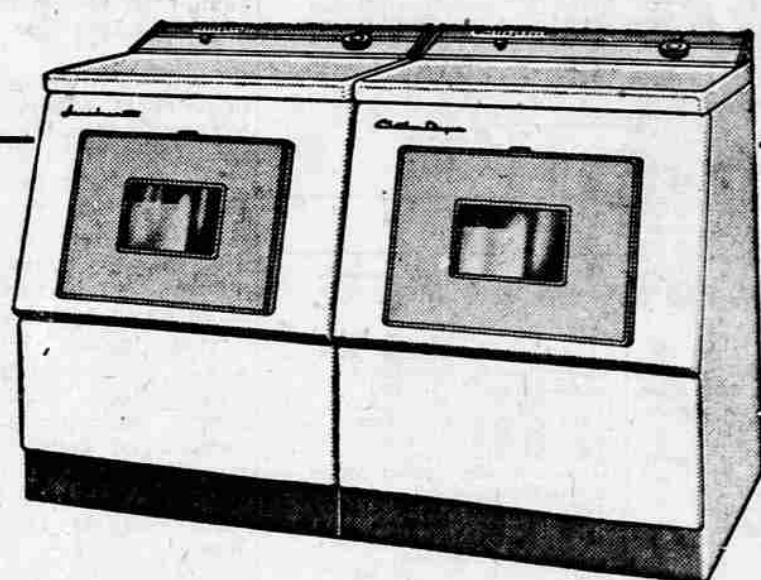
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