



FREEWAY CONSTRUCTION—Construction on Highway 99 freeway, which has been underway for several months in the Grants Pass area, works its way east along the foothills towards Rogue River. The construction may be seen in the center left angling to the top right. Present Pacific Highway 99 is visible on the lower right along Rogue river. Only freeway work in the Medford area is near the Seven Oaks interchange in Central Point. Major freeway construction in Grants Pass is the Redwood interchange which will handle traffic of Highways 99, 199 and 238. Also under construction there is a new bridge across Rogue river which will handle north-bound traffic and eliminate a present bottle-neck in through town travel. (Hale Aerial photograph, Grants Pass)

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Small Worlds Around Us

By Lynn M. Watkins

The Bessybug Takes Care of Its Young

The Bessybug and its offspring live together. An odd state of affairs, even in the world of insects where the unusual is commonplace. Even a casual acquaintance with the Bessybug reveals many amazing traits.

It's so unusual for an insect to take care of its young that the actions of the Bessybug are beyond our comprehension.

The Bessybug is no stranger. Anyone who has ever kicked a rotted log apart has undoubtedly disturbed several of these large, shiny black, hard-

shelled bugs. They are nearly two inches long, with short, forward-bent horn on the top of the head. Some people call the bug the "horned" beetle.

Strange Place

It's a strange place to live, inside a rotted log, eating wood and having the ability to digest and derive nourishment from it, a rarity among even insects. The termite has to harbor tiny, animal organisms in its alimentary tracts but the Bessybug has a stomach that can accomplish wood-digestion all by itself.

The larva of the Bessybug grub. These grubs live with the adult Bessybugs who take

care of them about the same way a mother cat feeds and protects her kittens, even going so far as to chew up pieces of tough wood, then feeding it to the hungry larva.

The Bessybug makes an angry, grating noise when disturbed, by scraping one part of its body against another part. The fat grubs also have a "voice" of sorts, creating with their legs a faint, grating noise.

Here is where the close association between adult Bessybugs and immature larva becomes a little unbelievable, for there are some thinking persons who venture the theory that this "chatter" that goes on more-or-less constantly between the adults and the children may be some primitive communication between parent and offspring.

What Conversation? But what could they possibly tell one another? The larva have never been out in the world, they have experienced no adventures. Or does

Mama Bessybug try to impart some sort of information to her children? There couldn't be any exchange of ideas, for it's doubtful if either the parents or the fat grubs ever had an idea in their life.

And all Bessybugs perform

in exactly the same manner. There does not appear to be any outstanding personal aptitude in any individual. They all follow along on the narrow-gauge track of their ancestors.

So we leave it right there; right back where we started from; in the chamber of the old rotten log, where Bessybugs and their fat, crawly children are "talking with one another."

(Released by The Register and Tribune Syndicate, 1959)

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New York — (UPI) — A mail order wig business, including do-it-yourself toupees, is booming. Trade sources report that mail orders for hairpieces, cropped to any length and of any hue currently account for more than 10 percent of the total wig trade. Prices range from \$10 for a toothbrush mustache to \$400 for a luxurious full wig.

MORE CATTLE RUSTLING

Dallas, Tex. — (UPI) — Cattle rustling is more widespread today than in the Wild West of the 1870s, according to the Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association. With "hot" cattle bringing as much as \$300 a head as against only about \$5 in the old west, it is estimated that losses from rustling run into millions of dollars a year.

KEEP IT CLEAN

New York — (UPI) — Industry's housekeepers spend about \$10 million yearly for materials to keep skyscrapers, stores and terminals clean, reports Chemical Week, a McGraw-Hill publication. And this business, which is done on a contract basis, is growing steadily for these firms as the post-war building boom creates more and more customers.

Cancer kills more men than any disease with the exception of diseases of the heart, the circulatory system and complications therefrom.

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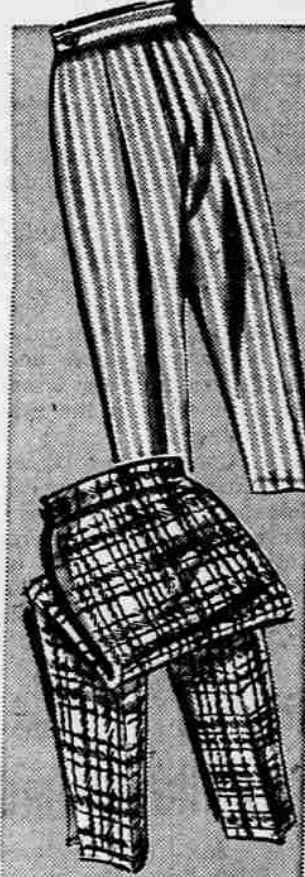
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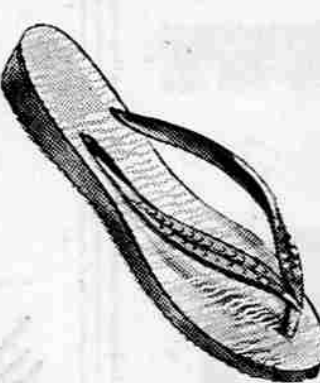
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