

Chunk of Glass Being Polished For Telescope

Corning, N.Y.—UPI—(Science Service) — For the next 24 months, specialists will be giving a gentle rubdown to a 4,000-pound chunk of glass.

The specialists will be grinders and polishers, and the chunk of glass ultimately will be an 84-inch telescope mirror slated for the Kitt Peak National Observatory, now being built 40 miles southwest of Tucson, Ariz.

Corning Glass Works here has shipped the huge mirror blank to Tucson where a special grinding-and-polishing shop has been set up.

The new mirror blank is the largest piece of glass ever produced by placing solid chunks of glass on a mold and sagging them into a single mass under temperatures of 2,300 degrees Fahrenheit. Sagging reduced bubble inclusions in the 13-inch-thick mirror blank. Borosilicate glass was chosen for the job because of its low expansion, thermal resistance, and mechanical strength.

One of six The 84-inch mirror will be off of six to go into the telescope. It will throw concentrated light rays from the stars toward the upper end of the telescope. The rays then fall on the eyepiece or photographic plate.

Secondary reflective pieces range from 29 to 24 inches. They will send light to observing instruments. Two of the smaller mirrors will be at the top of the telescope tubes and mounted on the central structure. These hyperbolic mirrors will magnify the image returned to the instruments behind the mirror cell. Other auxiliary flat mirrors will send light down through the telescope's polar axis into the laboratory room.

Kangaroo Hunters Make Good Money

Ivanhoe, Australia — UPI — Professional hunters are making good money these days skooting kangaroos.

Kangaroo meat sells for only fourpence (four cents) a pound for dog food; it is not a popular table delicacy here. But the skins sell for up to 17 shillings (two dollars) each — about 60 pence (56 cents) a pound, compared with 45 pence (42 cents) a pound for wool.

But it's not just a matter of packing up a pea rifle and letting fly. For a start, you must have an army-type .303 caliber rifle; nothing less will stop a roo, and even then the head must be the target.

One shooter in this town "just down the road" from Broken Hill — about 200 miles — said he was making \$225 a week from skins. He has not made more but he hasn't the time to skin any more kangaroos if he shoots them.

Asked whether shooting them would ever make a sizeable dent in the kangaroo population, one rancher replied: "Good Lord, no. The idea is to drive 'em onto the next bloke's place."

Pony Saves for Boy's Education

Perkins, Okla. — UPI — Three-and-a-half-year-old Rod Buck will be able to say someday that a pony helped put him through college.

Like many small boys, Rod expressed a wish for a pony. His parents, Shirley and Marvin Buck, shared a common interest in horses and rodeos, so they couldn't deny their son his wish.

But a high school teacher like Marvin can hardly afford the expense of keeping a horse. So the Bucks came up with this plan. A mare could pay her own way with a foal every year. And if they kept the fillies, added them to the brood mares and sold the colts, the ponies would even show a profit.

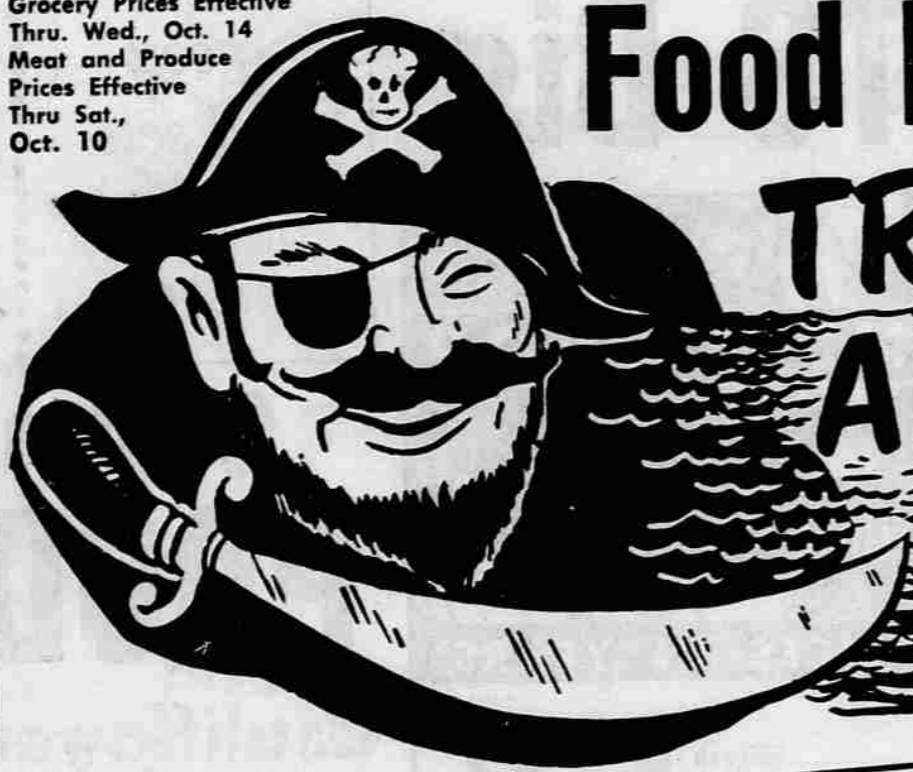
They decided this was the way to save for Rod's college education.

The first purchase was "Kewpie Doll," a 7-year-old black mare with a gentle disposition. Her first foal was born in June. Rod named her "Sugarfoot."

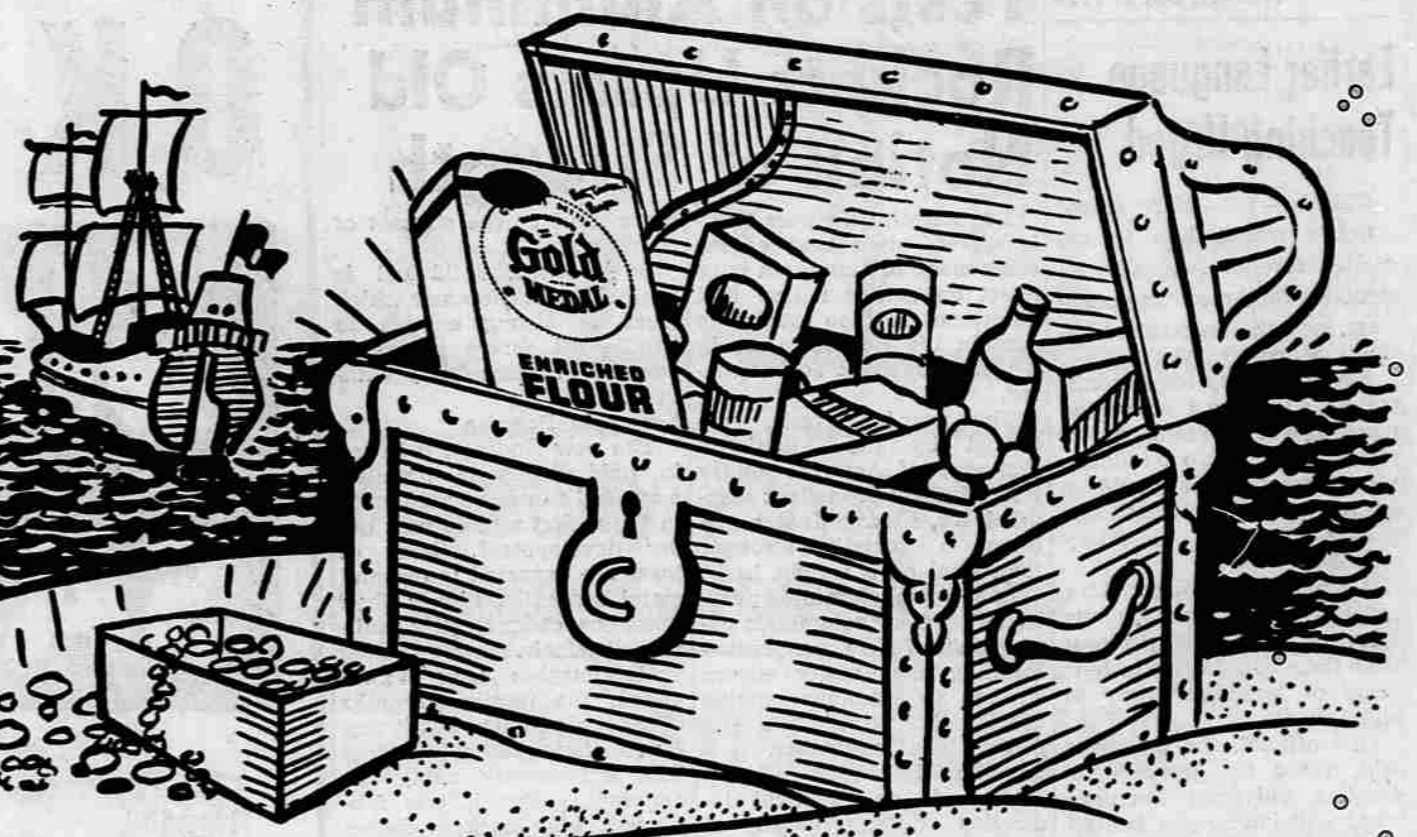
So now Rod has two playmates — and a good start on a solid investment for his future.

Oysters R Getting Fewer New York (UPI) — Oyster fanciers can expect higher prices as the season advances. The crop of prime oysters has been diminishing year by year and this year is expected to drop 5 million pounds to about 35 million pounds 20 years ago.

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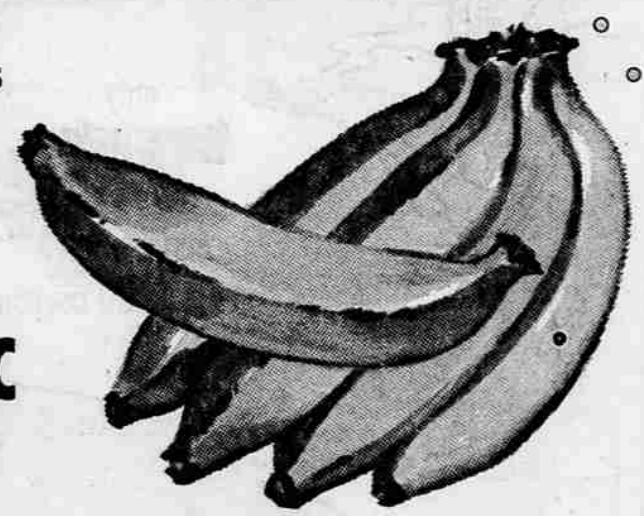
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