



**Small Worlds Around Us**  
By Lynn M. Watkins

**Mosquitoes March On In Defiance of Man**

The Roman legions were once almost invincible in battle, but they were licked to an itching standstill by a bug. They were out-numbered, out-fought, out-witted and outraged. From the swamps at the outskirts of ancient Rome, the mosquito hordes came to make a monkey out of Napoleon, Caesar and all the rest.

People at that time, not knowing much about the disease-carrying mosquito, believed the "air of the night" was the cause of sickness. When darkness came, all windows and doors were closed tight to keep out the night air. But it wasn't the night air, it was the mosquito. And those little demons, like those we still have today, were normally more active during the hours of darkness.

The Roman legions have marched back into the silent pages of history, but their tormentors survived. A culture, and what was a pretty good facsimile of a civilization, passed into the limbo of antiquity, but the tiny, seemingly frail mosquito lived on; laying her eggs, developing from a wriggling, grotesque larva into a winged, stinging insect. She and her kind, then as now, possessed no physical strength or intelligence. Inherited instinct.

They followed only the established pattern of their inherited instincts; but they changed or deviated; but they lived and continued their kind. They were stronger, more adaptable, more capable than all the Roman legions that marched with bands playing and flags flying. The very weak outlived the very strong.

The battle between man and insect has been long and tiring. There is a frightening strength in numbers and the ability to adjust to changing conditions; that is where the insects have it over us like a tent.

Since the crumbling of that old Roman culture and the death of all those who felt they were great, and the later draining of the swamps near Rome that furnished places for the winged hordes that out-fought and out-lived the mighty, other great ventures of man have been attempted, and some abandoned, because of the mosquito. Railroad construction and the digging of mighty canals have been interrupted, and not so long ago, just because some of the descendants of those pesky creatures that licked the brave Romans, several millions times removed, are still as busy, and in places as dangerous as ever.

Today, with modern methods, we stand a better chance of mosquito control. Now we, too, have tremendous strength; unlimited inventive genius, and punctured skins. We are also fighting mad at the female with the sharp beak, the high hum and the blood-thirsty appetite. But don't let's kid ourselves; for if you live to be a couple of hundred years old, and I hope you do, even then you won't have to spend much time out of doors before a mosquito will "hum" along from somewhere and bite you.

(Reprinted by The Register and Tribune Syndicate, 1960)

**City Prisoners Taken to County**

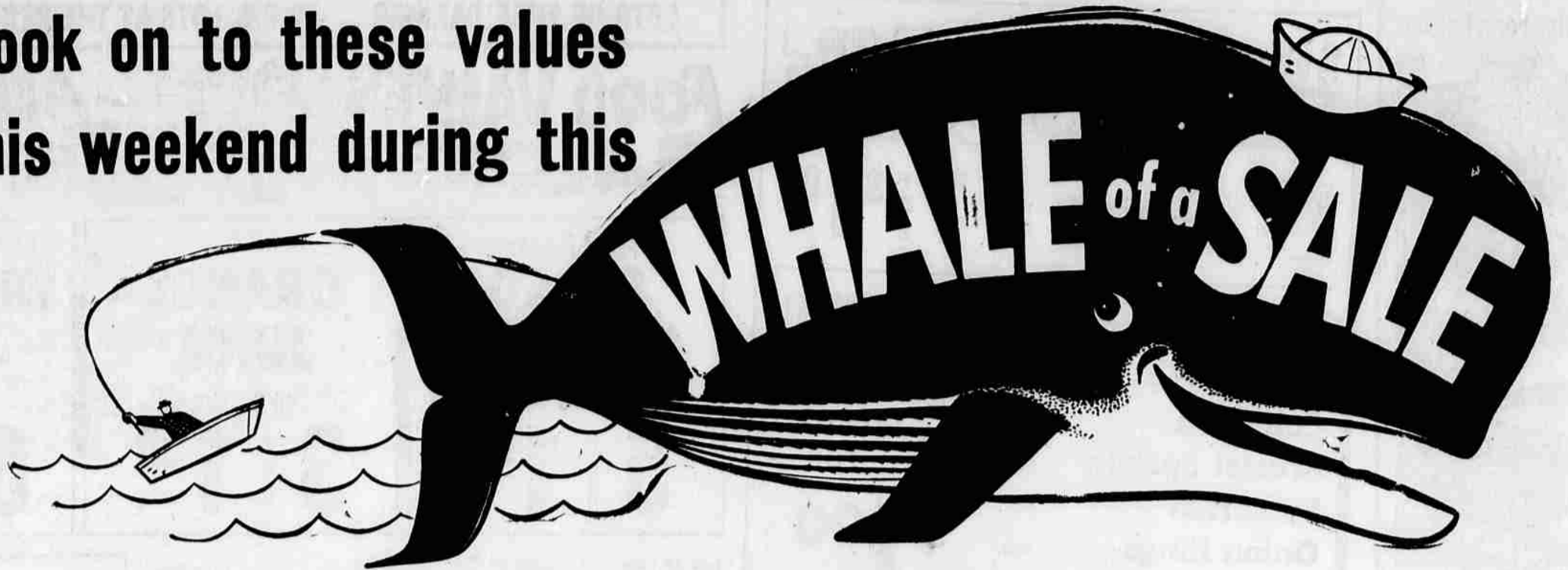
Five city prisoners were taken to the Jackson county jail yesterday by city police so remodeling work in the jail area may get under way today.

It was reported that seven prisoners were serving terms in the city jail. One prisoner was scheduled to be released this morning, and another prisoner, who is a trustee, will be lodged in the women's cell and will remain at the police station.

Police officials said that remodeling of the jail area is expected to be completed in a week. A new wall will be constructed in the jail area and new plumbing installed. Persons sentenced in municipal court during that time will be taken to the county jail.

**MORE CONVINCED**  
London—(AP)—Lord Glasborough, a long-time campaigner in Parliament for more auto parking space, was delayed leaving the church after his wedding Tuesday because his chauffeur couldn't find curb space.

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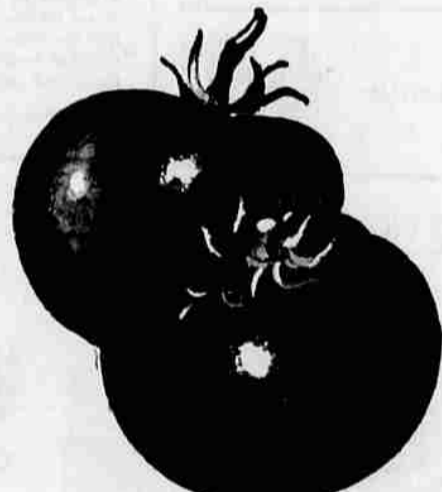
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