

Florida Fights Calypso Competition

Miami—Florida, the nation's vacation host, is warring this winter if its swank hotels, horse races and night clubs can overcome the lure of Calypso, rum and British accents farther south.

Many sun-glassed eyes are being cast in apprehension toward the Atlantic Caribbean, where the Bahamas, Jamaica and Trinidad are bidding with some success for an increasing share of the traveling Yankee dollar.

Florida tourist men, understandably reluctant to knock their own product, offer small speculation on how badly the Caribbean resorts may hurt them this winter.

But the competition has been a recurrent topic all year, even bringing a campaign pledge from newly elected Gov. Farris Bryant that he will work to help the state meet the off-shore threat.

January, February and March are expected to tell the winter's tale.

The American Automobile Association seemed to speak for most when it estimated the number of Caribbean vacationers as "relatively small" when arrayed against the number who would remain in Florida.

The island-hoppers, said the AAA in a special report, will include the "big spenders." But "Florida still leads as the prime cold-season vacation spot," the AAA concluded.

Encouraging Words

Other encouraging words included:

Charles F. Sharp, vice president of National Airlines: "We are confident the 1961 winter season will be good one for Florida. We are hoping it will be one of the best."

Eugene Weiss, president of the Miami Beach Apartment Association: "Our officers and directors report rentals are ahead of last year and the year before."

Wes Ficht, general passenger agent of the Seaboard Air Line Railroad: "So far as the Seaboard Railroad is concerned, Florida should have its best season since 1953."

Florida is not taking its Caribbean competition lightly, however. In a state where the care and feeding of tourists is the number one industry, complacency could cripple checking accounts as swiftly as a freeze of the citrus crop.

So this season, as always,

new attractions have appeared to augment the old:

—At Miami Beach, a \$600,000 renovation has swept automobiles from Lincoln Rd. in favor of fountains, plants and promenades. The noted shopping street has been transformed into a traffic-free mall.

—At Tavernier in the Keys, the first underwater park in the United States has been established two miles off shore in the Atlantic. More than 1,200 types of fish and marine life and 40 varieties of coral are there to tempt the skin diver, the scientist or the sightseer riding at ease in a rented glass-bottom boat.

—At Canaveral Groves, 12 miles from the missile test center at Cape Canaveral, a 90-foot observation tower has become a magnet for taxpayers wanting a personal look at the launchings that headline their newspapers. The rockets climbing on their fiery exhausts are clearly visible from the tower.

Established Attractions

More established attractions, of course, await the practiced spender as before:

—The first race horse

sprang from the starting gate Thanksgiving Day and scores of days of racing remain.

Gamblers also may wager legally at jai-alai frontons in Miami, Dania, West Palm Beach and Tampa, and at 13 dog tracks scattered down the state from Jacksonville to Key West.

—The 30,000 rooms in Miami Beach's 379 hotels stand ready for the tourist's tread. Such big entertainment names as Harry Belafonte, Joe E. Lewis, Johnny Mathis, Frank Sinatra, Mort Sahl and Sammy Davis Jr. are booked at clubs and hotels.

Room rates during the peak season from late January through March range from \$20 per person per day at such hotels as the Carillon and Deauville to \$200 a day for the penthouse suite at the Americana, an easy-living layout of three bedrooms, living room foyer, bar and terrace overlooking the sea.

—Along the Southeast Gold Coast, the blue marlin, tarpon, sailfish and bonefish abound. Charter boats—with bait, tackle, skipper and male included—are available at Miami

for about \$40 a half-day, \$75 a full day, usually with four fishermen as minimum ballast.

And for the blase who have "been everywhere" and "seen everything," Florida has something, too.

As Cassadega, seven miles from Deland, the Cassadega Spiritualist Association holds a three-month meeting beginning in January. Teachers and students of the occult gather from many states and several foreign countries to swap shop-talk about theosophy, transitory perception and communicating with the dead.

Oldest Soldiers Veterans of U.S. Indian Warfare

Washington—(UPI)—Since the last Civil War veteran died in 1959, America's oldest living soldiers have been a handful of survivors of the Indian Wars.

The Veterans Administration has 41 of the old-time Indian fighters on its rolls. Two of them—John C. Ford, 96, and Clinton R. Hamilton, 93, are living with their memories at the U. S. Soldiers' home in Washington.

A UPI reporter went to interview them with the idea of finding out what they think of the kind of Indian warfare that is waged nightly on television. But Ford and Hamilton were unable to render an expert judgment on that—because of failing vision, neither is able to watch TV.

They were ready to talk about other things, however.

Indian Scout

Ford said he served as an Indian Scout in the Dakota Badlands during 1890-91.

"I served in the backwoods all the time," Ford recalled. "There were usually two of us on scouting patrol. We were away from our main headquarters most of the while. We'd camp out whenever we could get out of danger."

"We'd use sign language with our hands (he demonstrated by holding up three fingers on his right hand) to talk to the Indians."

"All that was a long time ago. I don't remember it very well now."

"I find it best," he added gently, "best for me, to let time go by. I don't try to take hold of it. I just let it go."

Hamilton, still spry and an easy conversationalist, although hard of hearing, said he was born in Collinsville, Ill., on Dec. 3, 1867.

"When I was nine I ran away from home," he said. "I lived with a Sioux Indian chief for five years. He wanted to learn to speak English. I learned Sioux, and later, Mexican. But I haven't been able to use it lately, so I'm rusty at it."

The old soldier mused aloud about Indian customs that had intrigued him.

"Indians never whipped their children. Instead, they'd tie their left arms to a stake and leave them in the sun for a few hours. Indian children were the most obedient I've ever known."

Sitting Position

"The Sioux Indians buried their dead in a sitting position, facing south because the Indians love the south wind."

"An Indian chief with four daughters was a rich man, because the braves would trade him horses for his daughters."

Both Ford and Hamilton expressed high regard for Indians and said Indians have been treated shabbily by the whites, who took over their country.

"I'm not going to talk about Indian battles much," Hamilton asserted, "because the last time—a few years ago—that I gave an interview to the newspapers, I told 'em Custer and 287 of his men got killed at Little Big Horn because Custer didn't obey Benteen's orders to wait for him and went ahead to the Indian encampment on his own."

"I also said the Indians wouldn't have caused any trouble or fought at Little Big Horn if the government hadn't taken their lands, previously given to them by treaty, and left them with no game or anything to eat so they had to raid the white farms for cattle to keep from starving."

Get Into Trouble

"Telling it that way got me in some trouble. But it's true just the same."

Hamilton proudly showed an invitation he'd received to attend the 1960 National Union of the United Indian War Veterans in San Francisco. He was sorry he couldn't have been there.

"There used to be about 40 of us Indian War Veterans here at the home," he said. "But all those fellows are gone, now."

PATENT RATIO

Washington—Out of every 1,000 patents granted by the U. S. patent office, about one is issued to a woman.

Chicagoan Finds 'Gold' Buried in Unlikely Places

Chicago—(UPI)—Van Allen Bradley, who hunts for gold in such unlikely places as your attic and my basement, uncovered twin nuggets in two "strikes" last year.

Bradley made the unusual finds vicariously—for he does most of his treasure hunting through others. His tools are a typewriter and well-thumbed catalogues. The gold he seeks is rare books.

Bradley is literary editor of the Chicago Daily News, writer of a syndicated newspaper column, "Gold in Your Attic," and author of a book of the same name.

"A reader in the State of Washington sent me an old overland guidebook that had been carried west across the plains and mountains from Illinois by her grandfather in 1852," Bradley said.

Small Book

It was a small paperbound book, "Travelers Guide Across the Plains," by P. L. Platte and Nelson Slater. Just the sort of "trash" your grandfather bought and your grandmother wouldn't throw away and your mother left in an old chest because she was allergic to dust.

"But it was a long-sought bit of western Americana," Bradley said.

It was rare because it was a first edition and no complete copy was known to exist. One catalogue carried an estimate of \$800 on it.

Bradley sold the book for the owner, on her instructions, of course, "at a price well above the \$800."

A few months later, Bradley said, another reader found another copy of the book in California.

"I sold it for its finder to the Chicago book dealer who bought the first," Bradley said. It brought less than the first, Bradley said, because "the second find reduced the rarity of the book."

In the rare book market, Bradley said, western Americana is the booming field right now.

"Collectors are scrambling for books about Mormons, gold mining, pioneer days in Oregon, California and Colorado, and overland guides," he said.

"This was the last frontier. People want to know what happened to their ancestors. Rare first editions are going up fantastically in price."

Steady Mail

Bradley, himself a rare book collector who owns "probably \$50,000" worth of first editions, gets a steady flow of mail from readers reporting discoveries, asking questions about their finds or seeking advice on how to cash in on their dusty treasures.

He answers some questions or tells of some of the discoveries in his weekly column. He tries to acknowledge every letter, although he can't answer them personally.

Bradley said his readers have found rare first editions of almost all the classic books, including "The Scarlet Letter," "The Red Badge of Courage," and "Adventures of Huckleberry Finn."

"But so far no one has found 'The Murders in the Rue Morgue,'" he said. "We're still looking for that one."

Fewer than half a dozen copies of the 40-page, paper-covered first edition of Edgar Allan Poe's "Rue Morgue" are known to exist.

They sold in 1843 for 12½ cents a copy. Today a first edition in good condition is worth \$25,000.

Grange News

Butte Falls Grange

The Butte Falls Grange held its regular meeting recently with Master Ben Fulton presiding.

Lecturer Mrs. Ann Coltrin presented a program by introducing Nat Etzel of the Eagle Point High school Future Farmers of America program. FFA member Steve Geren discussed the FFA program.

Installing officer Ted Fredenburg installed Mrs. Kizzie Edmondson as chaplain, and Everett Moore as steward. Kizzie Edmondson was welcomed back after an absence.

Mrs. James Kreloff and Victor Kreloff were obligated in the third and fourth degrees by Ted Fredenburg. HEC chairman, Mrs. Ann Coltrin, reported that the chairman had received certificate with four gold stars showing all reports of the year were on time. Next meeting of the club will be at the home of Mrs. Ben Fulton, Feb. 14.

The social hour refreshments were served by Ted Fredenburg and Mr. and Mrs. H. J. Arnold. The next grange meeting will be March 6.

Washington—When John Quincy Adams ran for president for the first time in 1820 he received only one electoral vote. Monroe had a total of

New French Prison To Be Like Modern Hotel

Muret, France (UPI)—A "good modern and decent life for long-term prisoners."

The jail will be open only to those who have received a sentence of at least 10 years. The outside appearance will be somber, with an 18-foot high concrete wall, on top of which small walks will enable guards to patrol day and night.

Somber Exterior

Inside it will be like a dream house, at least for those prisoners who have good conduct privileges. The inside will be divided into two main quarters, the first reserved for "good" prisoners where they will live like gentlemen farmers, and the second

where the "toughs" will have a harder life.

The main novelty for a French jail will be the prisoners' cells. They will look more like studios, each of them equipped with running hot and cold water and central heating.

Shower rooms will be plentiful. A large library along with reading rooms, television rooms and a cinema will be available.

A chapel also will be built in the prison. A modern stadium with sports instructors and a swimming pool will be at the disposal of prisoners.

Modern Farm

A modern farm will be in-

stalled in the prison and the prisoners will produce a large part of their food. They also will test new ways of farming.

A small hotel will be available to visitors. The small town of Muret, which has only 5,204 inhabitants, has been famous so far only because former President of the Republic Vincent Auriol was born there.

The jail is expected to be finished in three years, replacing a prison in the Loire Valley built in 1804 in a former convent dating from 1099 which the government wants to restore as a historic monument.



QUITS DRIVING—Mrs. Eunice Cochran gives a last look as she turns in her driver's license for good. Mrs. Cochran, who is 90 years old, says that with traffic getting thicker and faster, it just isn't fun to drive any more, so she voluntarily turned in her license at the Santa Monica, Calif., police station. A driver since 1915, she has had only one citation in 1939 when she didn't see a "No U Turn" sign and made the illegal turn. She has never had an accident. (UPI Telephoto)



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