



**Small Worlds Around Us**

By Lynn W. Watkins

(Register & Tribune Syndicate, 1962)  
Plant That Lives on Air, Called Air-plant, of Course

It hardly seems possible, but there really is a plant that actually lives on air. The air-plant, so named because it does receive its nourishment from the air, is a prosaic relative of the pineapple. It has solved the high cost of living by using the only free thing we have, and plenty of it. Perched, monkey-like, in the crotch of a tree, it gathers its invisible food from the atmosphere and intercepts the rain before it reaches the

ground. The final end to its life cycle is little more than a slow and painless process of dehydrating tissues. Produces Babies Usually, before it does "curl up and die" it produces one or more baby air-plants growing robustly upon the aged leaves, ready to continue the species. The backward curling, rather stiff leaves of the true air-plant form at their base a natural reservoir that retains a supply of water for the

plant's use during periods of prolonged drought. The leaves also are concave on their upper surface which tends to funnel what rain or dew that forms into the little cistern. Dead insects drawn in this stored water, their decomposing bodies adding somewhat to the food the plant needs. Bits of broken leaves from other plants also decompose in the water, adding their bit to the food supply. By such methods the air-plant cheats a little, but air will do no

insect or decaying vegetable matter is available. During the early spring a stiff, erect flower stalk grows up from the rosette of long, pointed leaves and bears a reddish-brown flower. It is not a pretty blossom, but it suits the air-plant. From this peculiar flower many seeds sift out. Some are carried by air to lodge on some other "landing field," where the young plant will develop a system of "holding leaves" which grasp the near-

est solid support and hold the newly born air-plant. Grows Large Living on air, the young plant, if unmolested, will reach a considerable size in a year's time; may even develop into an object as large as a half-bushel basket. And does it all on air. Should a wind or some other force dislodge the plant from its perch, the curled, stiff leaves often will catch and hold to the first twig, branch or rough tree-bark it

touches. If this happens, the "clasping roots" at the base of the plant will take hold and encircle the perch. These holding fingers will grip the branch tightly and the plant will start to right itself into a position where the rain and dew can feed into the storage vat. Should the air-plant fall upside down on the ground, death eventually will follow; it cannot even get "a breath of air." Its preferred habitat is above the earth, up in a tree

**ONE BIG PARTY** Milwaukee - (UP) - Frank J. Jazdzewski, 67, veteran member of the Milwaukee County Safety Commission, was fined \$100 Tuesday for reckless driving while returning home from a party for another safety commission official. The judge who imposed the fine also attended the party. where its half-dry tissues can absorb that mysterious "something" that is contained in air and water.

**Hallmark**  
**FATHER'S DAY**  
CARDS FOR  
SUNDAY, JUNE 17  
When you care enough to send the very best  
**Swem's** 217 E. Main Medford

# WEEKS & ORR

## SOUTHERN OREGON'S SLEEP CENTER!

We believe we have the finest selection of sleep furniture in Southern Oregon—not only in quantity & price—but also in QUALITY... featuring such nationally famous brands as Simmons, Sealy and Serta—at a price range to suit every pocketbook.



### Forget Sentiment! Retire your Overage Mattress

Twenty-five million overage mattresses are being used in America tonight.

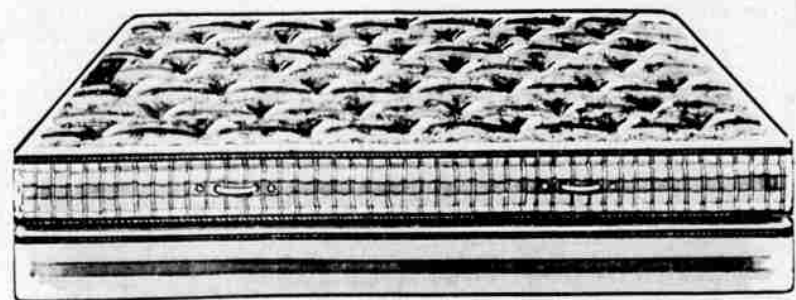
Yet most medical authorities agree that an old lumpy, saggy mattress can hurt your rest. On this kind of mattress it's harder to get to sleep. Your sleep isn't as deep as it should be. You are more likely to wake up feeling tired.

Don't put up with one of these rest wreckers another night. Come in and see what a difference a new mattress can make. Lie down on a Beautyrest and experience its luxurious comfort. We guarantee you a head-to-toe body-fitting rest that beats any other mattress old or new.

And you can own a Beautyrest for only \$79.50.

Beautyrest Standard Sizes \$79.50

Beautyrest Super-Sizes \$89.50 up



### Serta "Perfect Sleeper"

- Smooth-top construction—no buttons, no bumps!
- Extra levelizing layer!
- quilted borders that won't break down!
- Super-quality covers, doubly durable!
- All these plus: Patented Sertaliner construction... slender ribbons of steel to help prevent Fatigue Build-Up!

**\$79.50**  
JUST EACH



Expecting Summer Guests?

For That Needed Extra Bed Choose From Our

## CONVERTIBLE SOFAS!

26 to Select From!

For the Living Room—For the Den. Many styles... many colors... many fabrics in Contemporary, Colonial or Early American designs. Choose from such fine brand names as HIDE-A-BED by Simmons, Redi Bed by Sealy, Riviera and others. You'll enjoy a handsome sleep sofa for sitting comfort by day—complete sleeping comfort by night for guests or for your own family. Come in and see our excellent selection.

**\$169.50**  
Up

### EASY TERMS

No carrying charges or interest. We carry our own contracts. At Weeks & Orr you pay only for the merchandise. There is no extra charge added to your payments.

### NOW OPEN FRIDAY NIGHTS

For your convenience. If you aren't able to shop during the day, stop in Friday nite and shop at your leisure.



Shop all three huge floors filled with fine furniture at Weeks & Orr, Southern Oregon's Oldest and Largest Furniture Store.

114 West Main Street  
Phone 772-9351

EVERYTHING FOR LUXURIOUS, STRETCH-OUT COMFORT

## Sealy King-Size Sleep Set

ALL SEEN IN HOME



Look at all you get:

- Luxurious 76 x 81 1/2" Sealy mattress
- 2 Sealy box springs to match mattress
- 2 King-size Pacific sheets: Contour bottom sheet, 108 x 122 1/2 top sheet
- King Size Beacon electric blanket with dual control

all 6 pieces FOR ONLY

**\$199.95**

4 pc. plus 2 durable pillow frames \$219.95  
4 pc. plus steel frames and 2 pc. plus wood headboard \$249.95

Save on everything you need for luxurious sleeping with this tremendous King Size Sealy sleep package. Sealy mattress is almost 7 feet long for stretch-out comfort. Matching box springs give added support. Pacific percale sheets and Beacon dual control electric blanket complete the package.

CONVENIENT TERMS

## NOW! CHOOSE THE Sealy Posturepedic® THAT PAMPERS YOU MOST

**INNERSPRING POSTUREPEDIC®**

In your choice of comfort—gently firm or extra firm. Be good to yourself (and to your back) with the Posturepedic that's right for you. Prefer added firmness that doctors often recommend? Choose the extra firm Posturepedic. Like a gentler touch? Try the Princess Posturepedic with a luxury layer of foam. Both give healthful support you need. **\$79.50**  
Full or twin size... matching foundation same price

**FOAM RUBBER POSTUREPEDIC®**

Healthfully correct support in a new form of foam rubber. Posturepedic is the first and only foam rubber mattress to give you the comfort you want and the support you need—no matter what side of it you sleep on. Exclusive Duro-life® Core won't sink, sag or relax its healthful support. Exclusive Duro-Edge of 50% firmer foam rubber prevents sagging borders, broadens sleeping area. **\$159.00**  
Full or twin size... Sold only in sets