

On the Air

By ELEANOR WIESE

"How do they get them to do all those things?"—the animals that is, in the fascinating Walt Disney nature studies and animal adventure films.

Jack Couffer, director and cameraman for Disney Wildlife Productions, obviously is the man who knows, and he has written a captivating book about photographing animals, "Song of Wild Laughter."

This is not a man talking about camera trickery, but an artist vividly describing with admiration and love how he works with his animal friends. "How do you get them to do those things?" According to Couffer, "It is a question, unfortunately, that is no more easily answered than it is accomplished."

Often good results can be obtained in the classic technique of waiting, of hiding in the blind, of observing with a camera. However, Couffer explains, when wild animals must perform as actors to create a story that is actually closer to a drama than it is to a study of nature, different techniques are required.

Couffer describes his methods this way: "With every character, in every situation, there is a different approach toward trial and error, luck and judgment, trickery and training."

Most often, though, it is trickery which gets results. The trickery I am speaking of is not a camera trick, no something 'done with mirrors.' By trickery I mean a process of outsmarting an animal, the trick of fooling him into doing a special action before the camera, of tricking him into becoming an actor without his knowing it."

Getting a wild untrained animal to move from one place to another is relatively easy by using bait. Getting the animal to assume a particular attitude or expression when moving is something else again. This is done by the right selection of bait—something "that will make our subject curious, hungry, eager, cautious, bold, angry, afraid, or whatever. The bait may be a piece of food, water, the animal's mate, a competitor, its offspring, a curious sound or smell, anything which experimentation or simple hunch tells us will be the right thing for the situation."

Couffer describes in detail some of the more spectacular devices, aside from these simple ruses, resorted to for such assignments as getting a grizzly bear to charge into a hollow log, get stuck, roll in it down a hill and crash into a tree at the bottom.

It seems perfectly natural that a man who can capture beauty on film can also create vivid pictures with words. Couffer is explaining the problems relating to photographing a harem of sea lions in the Galapagos Islands when he writes, "Senorita, the friendliest belle of the harem, the epitome of femininity, became our star. She tempted the others to greater confidence. The few that were at first timorous—wallflowers, as it were—came forward at her example, swimming closer, darting in graceful flashes of bending bodies, disappearing, leaving only brilliant bubbles shimmering upward toward the surface. No bird high on the wind was more in command of the wild freedom of flight than these creatures of the sea, no fish so endowed with the plastic grace, the supple curving body, the kindness of eye, the rapport with man. Their animal loveliness exuded a warmth unknown even to those other ocean dancers, the unfurred, cold-skinned dolphins."

Reading a book like "Song of Wild Laughter" is a pleasure in itself, but understanding the dedication of the man behind the camera will also add to the enjoyment of Disney's wildlife films.

ETERNAL LIGHT, 10:30 a.m. Sunday KBES-TV. An episode in the life of labor leader Philip Murray is dramatized when he is talking over tentative union demands at contract time.

DISCOVERY, 12 noon Sunday KMED-TV. Saint-Saens' "Carnival of the Animals," with the Ogden Nash lyrics, is performed by the Baird puppets.

DIRECTION '64, 3:30 p.m. Sunday KBES-TV. Some contradictions in the "affluent" American economy are dramatized in David Ebin's satire "Prosperity Strikes Back." Set in a circus side show, a featherbedder explains to the Siamese twins, Paul Q. Affluent and Peter Far From Affluent, how he's saving the country from a depression.

NEWS ENCORE, 3:30 p.m. Sunday KMED-TV. David Brinkley, "Our Man in Hong Kong," reports on slums and refugees from the Communist mainland. First shown in 1961.

ISSUES AND ANSWERS, 4 p.m. Sunday KBES-TV. Former President Eisenhower is interviewed at his Gettysburg, Pa., farm by newsmen.

SUNDAY, 4 p.m. KMED-TV. Methods of teaching problem children in New York are reviewed by Dr. Gerald Lesser of Harvard's Laboratory of Human Development.

Eagle Point High Has Standard Rating

EAGLE POINT—Eagle Point High School in District 9 has been given a standard rating on a self evaluation inventory submitted to the State Department of Education for approval.

A standard high school in Oregon is one which is fulfilling the requirements of the law of the state pertaining to high schools and is meeting the minimum standards adopted by the State Board of Education.

The Eagle Point school board, administration and faculty were commended by the State Department of Education for the vigorous effort displayed in making provisions for good facilities and a well rounded program.

Especially noted was the way in which the school program conformed with each requirement cited in the evaluative criteria. Also mentioned was the "concerted effort demonstrated by the school board and administration in striving to provide the best education for the boys and girls of the community."

ROME (UPI) — South Viet Nam's Mme. Ngo Dinh Nhu was secluded Friday, behind the walls of a Roman Catholic convent.

Three Positions in Southwest Forest District Cut

Services provided by the State of Oregon Department of Forestry will be curtailed to a considerable extent as a result of the rejection of the 1963 Legislature's tax program in the referendum election, State Forester Dwight L. Phipps has announced.

The post election executive order reduced general fund allotments \$238,499.

The forester said 27 positions will be affected by the department cutback which resulted. Three positions will be lost in the Southwest Oregon District, Curtis Nesheim, of the State

Forestry Department, revealed here Friday.

There are six positions in the local staff supported by the general fund. Three or 50 per cent will be cut. The other positions are financed by dedicated funds which cannot be cut by the current program.

The three positions affected are one farm forester and two forest inspectors, Nesheim said.

Hardest hit throughout the state were the forest inspection and farm forestry services for the same reason that they were in this area. Forest inspection lost nine positions out of a total

force of 34, while farm forestry services lost four out of nine jobs.

Nesheim said all of this cutback has been made on the basis that the curtailment will

have to stand. The action of the special session of the legislature could change the picture.

Phipps indicated that people from high level down through the ranks were affected and

\$35,000 in Damages Sought in Complaint

A suit seeking \$35,000 general damages has been filed in Jackson County Circuit Court by Emmett E. Carpenter, 1008 Queen Ann Ave., as the result of an automobile accident Oct. 9, 1962, at the intersection of Hawthorne Avenue and Jackson Street.

Defendant is O. T. Heyerman, 125 Winema Way, operator of the other vehicle, according to the complaint.

Also being sought is \$1,581.34 for medical expenses, \$1,500 for lost earnings and \$251.95 for damage to the Carpenter pickup truck.

Renewed Interest in Conservation Asked

GRANTS PASS (UPI)—Dr. Elmo Stevenson of Southern Oregon College called on the Oregon Association of Soil Conservation Districts to bring renewed interest in conservation to educators.

He spoke at the group's 15th annual convention here Thursday night.

He said conservation is of the utmost interest to a state which depends on natural resources, such as Oregon to have a strong program in elementary and secondary schools.

Rep. Robert Duncan, D-Ore., told an association luncheon Thursday that growing population makes land reclamation a legitimate activity of govern-

ment. He said that agricultural surpluses are somewhat burdensome to the economy today, but in the long run will be among the nation's greatest assets.

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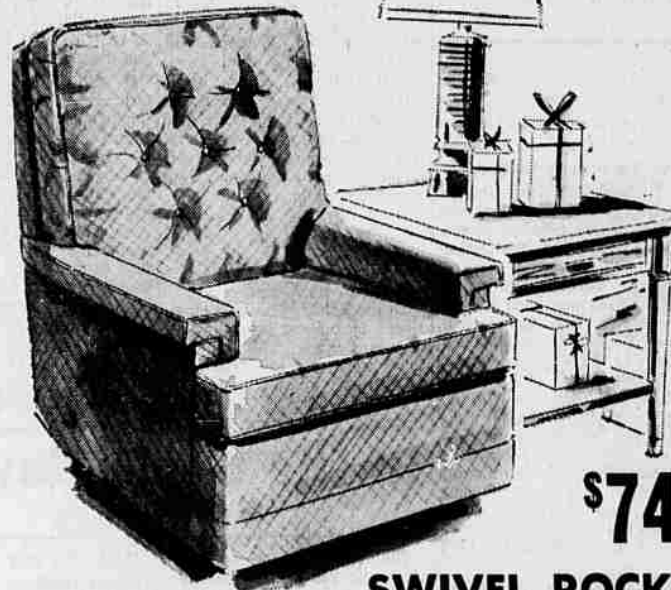
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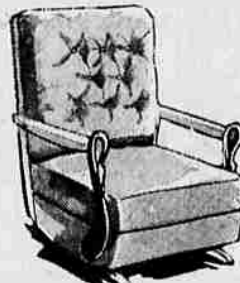
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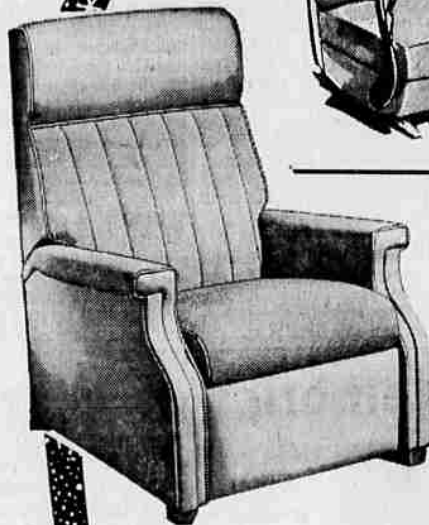
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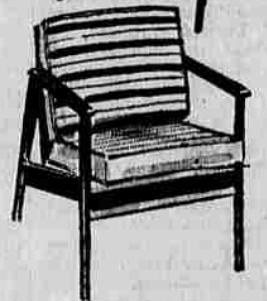
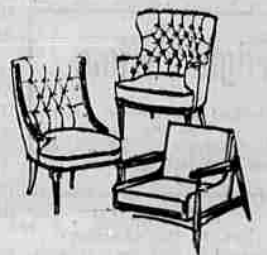
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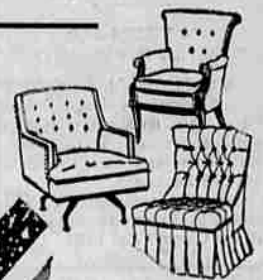
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