

### Raising A Captive-Born Polar Bear Proves Tough

By HAL BOYLE  
CINCINNATI, Ohio, Dec. 20 (P)—For three generations the Stephan family has been trying to hand-raise a captive-born Polar bear cub—something never yet accomplished.

Their latest effort, "Bozo," one-pound offspring of the Cincinnati zoo's Polar bear lady, "North Star," died of malnutrition three days after birth.

Sol Stephan, third in line in a famed midwest veterinarian family, kept a day and night vigil over "Bozo." Glumly he has decided there is only one way to solve the problem of bottle-feeding infant Polar bears: "We're just going to have to milk an adult female Polar bear under ideal conditions. Then we can break down and analyze the milk and duplicate it."

**Tough Job**  
Milking a full-grown lady Polar bear, however, is to men what belling a cat is to mice. It's a good idea, but who wants to step forward to get the first pail? Polar bears—without regard to sex—are mean-tempered, vicious and can hit with either paw.

"If I could just knock out the mother with a drug like I use on lions and tigers," mused Stephan, "then I could get a sample of her milk."

"But you're fooling with a \$500 animal, and it's a major operation to give one an anesthetic."

He believes Polar bear milk is rich in fish proteins, but little

"Bozo" couldn't make the grade on a substitute diet of homogenized cow's milk, cod liver oil and sugar.

"I thought Bozo would make it. He had the will to live. He squeaked like a couple of kittens. I fed him off my finger. He took it but it might as well have been water. He couldn't digest it. I pepped him up a little on the third day with some weak whisky, corn syrup and orange juice—but he died in six hours."

**40 Trials**  
Stephan took the loss hard—the family has tried 40 times to save Polar bear cubs—but his 98-year-old grandfather, Sol A. Stephan, who has been treating zoo animals for 62 years, looked at him with twinkling eyes and said:

"Well, son, just keep trying." The Stephans have tried several incubators and innumerable

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### Trucks Race For Alaska

EDMONTON, Alta., Dec. 20 (CP)—Six trucks from Seattle, Wash., went through Edmonton Thursday with about 1600 miles still to go in a race to Fairbanks, Alaska. The drivers hope to reach Alaska by Christmas as part of their cargo is made up of toys and Christmas novelties.

### Federal Workers Figure Drops

WASHINGTON, Dec. 20 (AP)—Only 11 out of every 100 federal workers are in Washington, compared with about 14 before the war.

The civil service commission cited these figures today as an example of the government's decentralization program.

It said that of the 2,119,000 federal workers in this country last October, 224,700 were in the Washington area.

When the drivers checked through the Alaska highway control office here they reported plans to keep their vehicles rolling 24 hours a day on the trip north from Edmonton. The men will split driving shifts and expressed confidence they would reach their destination with time to spare.

Most of the trucks were loaded with hardware and building supplies. They left Seattle three days ago.

### Engineers Study New Flood Danger

PORTLAND, Dec. 20 (AP)—Army engineers attempted to allay fears today that the Willamette river might cut through to an old channel in the Corvallis area and turn 10,000 acres of farmland into an island.

Residents of the area said waters receding from the flood appeared to be working behind a revetment near Ingram island. They said they feared the revetment might collapse and the Willamette run through an old channel to join the Long Tom river.

Engineers here said they believed the new cut would be only a high-water channel, but added that repairs would start as soon as weather permits. Meanwhile the river here dropped below the flood mark.

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