



**SINBAD IS NO SAILOR**—Sinbad, owned by Mr. and Mrs. G. B. Leach, 5033 South Etna Street, is a 3-year-old Siamese cat mother of what is believed to be a record or near record litter of full-blood Siamese kittens. Usually Siamese produce four to five kittens in a litter. These hungry, white fellows with smoky paws, noses, ears and tails will be fawn when grown. Sinbad has produced two litters of half-'n-half and two of all Siamese blood in her short life. She winked at the photographer and permitted fondling of her kittens that are just getting their eyes open for a look at the world. —Photo by Ellis

## Lack Of Equipment Hurts Science Field

By **JERRY BENNETT**  
NEA Staff Correspondent  
WASHINGTON (NEA)—A severe shortage of classroom laboratory equipment in the public schools is blocking efforts to improve science teaching.

Thousands of students are having to study complicated chemistry, physics and biology courses in laboratories which lack microscopes, electricity and even water. Others are missing out on a sound scientific background simply because their classrooms aren't big enough for them to carry on individual experiments.

These conditions are revealed by officials of the U.S. Office of Education and the National Education Association. They believe the lack of teaching apparatus is one of the most drastic problems facing education today.

"This need restricts the effectiveness of even our best teachers," declares Dr. Lyman Ginger, president of the education association.

"Instructional equipment can almost be termed a forgotten need," he says. "The great pressures on the schools to put a roof over the heads of all children have often prevented the adequate equipping of the classrooms that have been constructed."

Dr. Ellsworth S. Obourn, science specialist for the Office of Education, declares:

"Even though we do improve the quality of teachers, they can't do a good science teaching job until they have the facilities and equipment that make this possible."

He explains that the only way students can effectively learn science is by conducting laboratory experiments. That's why he's so concerned about schools where as many as 35 pupils have to use one microscope or conduct experiments with dilapidated, obsolete equipment.

Some school labs, he says, don't even have running water. Others don't have any outside areas to grow plants needed for some experiments.

Dr. Obourn has seen many of these conditions himself. Others have been reported to him by teachers and science department supervisors. The Office of Education is conducting a nationwide school survey to get a more detailed picture of the situation.

Results of a similar survey involving 5,000 high schools already are being compiled by the education association's research experts. They show that 50 per cent of these schools lack a direct elec-

trical current in their physics laboratories. More than 85 per cent don't have a calculator available for mathematics instruction. And only one school in five has a graph board in all its math classrooms.

Dr. Ginger declares the nation's public high schools need at least 90 million dollars worth of scientific equipment and apparatus before they can do an effective teaching job.

Dr. Obourn, however, believes that a lack of funds is no excuse for schools not stocking their student labs with necessary equipment. He explains that students and teachers can make a lot of the apparatus themselves.

"It would be a good exercise for pupils to give them the specifications and have them build the equipment," he says. "In a few years a science teacher could have a fairly good array of materials." He reports that some schools are already using such improvised equipment.

Dr. Obourn feels that even teachers in rural areas, where the equipment shortage is especially severe, could find valuable items in auto junk yards and radio and TV shops which could be turned into useful apparatus.

The Office of Education official reveals that in some underdeveloped areas of Southeast Asia, "the entire physics programs are being taught with equipment made in the schools' physics shops."

Some equipment, however has to be purchased, Dr. Obourn says, since it is too complicated for most students or teachers to make.

Commercial manufacturers are constantly turning out new, low cost, elaborate school apparatus that keeps pace with the latest scientific advances. Available for classrooms today, for instance, are small diffusion cloud chambers, special gadgets to teach methods for controlling electron motion and high-powered microscope projectors.

John Brown, the abolitionist, was born May 9, 1800, at Torrington, Conn.



CHECK YOUR CAMPFIRE  
**KEEP OREGON GREEN**

## Packers Study Meat Grading

Southern Oregon meat processors and packers will study the possibility of a pilot meat grading program in their area to obtain information on costs and effectiveness of a statewide service. This direction was taken at a conference at State Department of Agriculture headquarters in Salem recently.

Chester Liechty of the department's animal industry staff presided at the conference and presented rough figures on costs per man and per hour on several types of statewide programs. He explained it is difficult to determine the exact costs of such a program as so many factors are unknown—including the volume of cattle to be graded, lodging and travel costs for the grader, and the number of plants willing to commit themselves to the program.

A state grading service must be self-sustaining on a fee basis from the plants applying for the service.

Dr. Andrew Taylor Still, of Macon, Mo., was the founder of osteopathy.

## Take Care Not To Stumble Over The Summer Hazards

By **MR. FIX**  
Distributed by NEA Service  
Summer's the time to refresh your memory on "take care" routines in pursuing your chores around the house and yard. The season adds two hazards to the usual list of potential troubles.

In the first place, the general atmosphere of the season is conducive to a somewhat addled approach to things. "Take it easy" is the feeling in the air, and accidents take no holidays.

Secondly, you are physically more vulnerable to minor injuries. The jacket and work gloves of fall and winter have been shucked in favor of slacks and an old shirt. There's more of Mr. Handy Man out in the open, ready to be snagged, nicked, bruised and skinned.

Specifically: Take special care with tools. Make sure that handles of garden implements are smooth. If yours are roughed up, sand well and wipe down with linseed oil.

Wear inexpensive work gloves when handling any rough chores. So they're hot. So you're protected. Use them when moving such things as concrete block, rough lumber, or what-have-you. Should your hands blister, wear gauze gloves while working, until blisters heal.

If you're refinishing metalwork, wear gloves when using steel wool. A pair of gloves kept in the car trunk pay for their keep on the rare occasion when you must change a tire or "get out and get under."

If you plan to use a caustic solution or an acid for any purpose, take no chances. Roll down your sleeves or put on an old jacket.

Don rubber gloves and wear goggles. Your chest may be hairy, but a caustic solution that splashes will bite right through the fur, if you're not protected.

If you should nick or scrape yourself, take care of the injury right away. A first-aid kit costs little but pays off in protection, and

your home shop should number one among its tools.

If you don't have one, now's the time to remedy the lack.

It should contain: adhesive bandage, tape, gauze pads, gauze bandage, antiseptic, cotton and the type of strip bandage so handy for minor cuts.

If the injury is minor, wash surrounding area and wound thoroughly, apply medication and bandage.

If any material appears to be buried below the skin, or if you suffer a puncture wound, apply first aid, of course. But, by all means, see a doctor as soon as possible.

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