

# Pre-Fab Zoo Now On The Market; Adventurous Man Has New, Growing Line

By FRED DANZIG

NEW YORK (UPI)—The fine art of pre-packaged merchandising now extends to zoos.

You can buy them ready-made. Wyman Carroll, a tall, young free-lance wild game hunter of rugged good looks, is peddling zoos for a mere \$120,000 C.I. (Cages Included.)

His pre-fab zoo includes two giraffes, a pair of elephants, two rhinos, lions, tigers, jaguars, panthers, assorted small mammals, numerous reptiles and birds.

Before winter arrives Carroll expects to be off for East Africa, filling orders for perhaps three more currently zoo-less American cities.

The packaged, or starter-set, zoo is a natural outgrowth of Carroll's career. For about a dozen of his 29 years, he has traipsed and trapped his way through jungles to pick up suitable specimens for various customers all over the world.

Carroll has a complaint about some zoos.

"Too many of them have become static and haven't tried to reproduce the animal's natural habitat as closely as possible. Gorillas must feel dirt under their feet. And zoo directors must continually find new ways to make the animals healthier and happier with better diets and cleaner surroundings.

"You know," Carroll said, "in the jungle, lions eat entrails and viscera. But in our zoos, they get big chunks of meat. I once persuaded a zoo director to feed his cats on the jungle diet and the animals started to look better, with shiny coats of fur, bright eyes, and better health. But along came some old dowager-type lady complaining about the cheap food the lions were getting. The director went back to the chunk meat diet and the cats went back to their listless, dull ways, too."

Carroll's chief dream is to build a permanent animal world's fair. "We have the land near Naples, Florida," he said, "and all we need is about two-and-a-half million dollars. We'll place animals on islands so visitors can watch them as they appear in the jungle. We'll build life-size statues of animals that are no longer around, such as dinosaurs."

While he finds fault with the operation of many zoos, Carroll believes in the idea behind them. "I think there are definite cultural advantages to having zoos. Yes, we take away the animal's freedom, but in exchange, we give the animal food. They no longer must risk their lives in the search for food. We take them away from their enemies."

During his career, Carroll has been nipped on the arm by a 10-foot dragon on the island of Komodo in the South Pacific. He has wrestled pythons in Malaya; ridden rhinos in South Africa; been kicked by a wounded leopard; rubbed shoulders at night with gorillas; searched for blue whales off Alaskan waters and for the legendary abominable snowman in the mountains of Nepal. After 45 days of chasing around for the snowman, Carroll concluded: "I'm beginning to think it's just a story."

In traveling well over one million miles, he has collected about 150 pythons, 30 tigers, 16 rhinos, 10 giraffes and a comical and highly-prized proboscis monkey. He has been temporarily blinded by a spitting cobra and has suffered from malaria, dysentery and jaundice simultaneously. He also has picked up a facility for such languages as Indonesian and Swahili, not to mention Spanish, Italian, French and Portuguese.

Carroll is not impressed by people who kill wild game.

"On our expeditions, we only kill for the pot. We bring the animals back alive. As a matter of fact, I've let as many animals go as I've brought back and I've given away as many as I've sold. I have a great deification for natural history. I love these animals. I don't believe it takes any great courage to shoot them," he said.

The most dangerous animal in Africa, said Carroll, is the little ant. "They kill more people than wild game. The most dangerous animal in the world? I'd say the rat. They carry so many diseases."

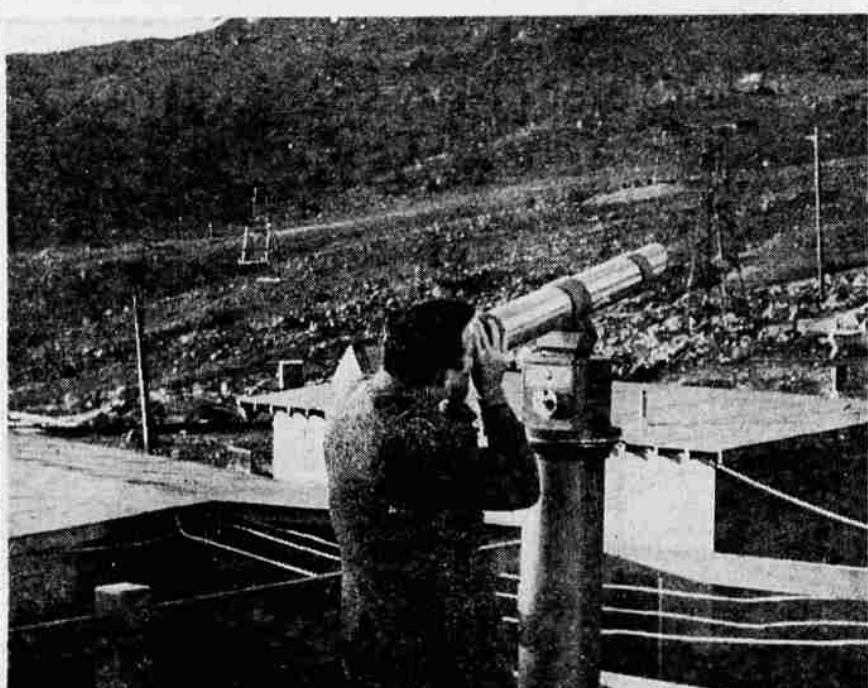
His future apparently was laid out when he was a small boy living in Norwich, Connecticut.

"My father gave me some maps of the world for Christmas when I was seven. I marked them up," Carroll recalled. "When my dad asked what I was doing, I told him I was planning future trips. I had laid out seven trips: To the Mato Grosso in Brazil; to Spanish Guinea; to the Belgian Congo; Asia, including China; to the Upper Amazon regions of Peru and to Alaska. My only divergence from this plan came when I couldn't get into China. I went to Alaska twice instead."



SKI SCHOOL chief Bud Johnson, left, seems to be hollering something like "bend your knees" to fellow instructor Buck Martin and pupil Peggy Hanratty at the Mt. Shasta Ski Bowl. Knees must be bent in skiing in order to keep the weight forward.

—Photo by Palmer



BOB SLOSS of the Alturas Modoc Record is shown here taking a close-up peek at Mount Shasta through one of the telescopes mounted on the deck of the new Mt. Shasta Ski Bowl.



A LIGHT FALL OF SNOW early in the season allowed Bud Johnson, Peggy Hanratty and Buck Martin to get in a little pre-season practice on a trip up the slopes. The picture graphically illustrates the scenery available to visitors to the Mt. Shasta Ski Bowl.

—Photo by Palmer

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