

THE Natural THING

by Paul Steiner

A Jamestown, N. Y., teacher warned a 15-year-old pupil that only a broken leg would be accepted as an excuse for missing the next day's examination. The pupil went out to play football and promptly broke his leg.

Twelve Camden, N. J., fire companies raced to put out a fire at the On-the-Spot Fire Extinguisher Service, which makes and services extinguishers. As might be expected, the fire was out when they arrived.

Thieves in Fort Worth, Tex., took \$114 from the office of a drive-in theater which was showing the film, "Everything I Have Is Yours."

When a Gaffney, S. C., man was arrested for assault and battery, he fled the county jail, hitchhiked 20 miles to Spartanburg, and came back the following day accompanied by a bondsman who bailed him out by posting \$500.



A Pittsburgh, Pa., woman told a judge that she endured an annual Christmas beating from her husband for eight years but decided to sue for divorce when he started beating her on other holidays, too.

A motorist, whose car slid into a ditch near Memphis, Tenn., flagged down a crack passenger train and asked that the locomotive pull it out.

In Pretoria, South Africa, J. Van Marsen, chairman of the local Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, announced that he would not permit his wife to wear a sealskin coat.

Less than an hour after a building inspector checked and condemned a city-owned warehouse in Port Huron, Mich., it collapsed.

A Waterbury, Conn., judge acquitted a motorist of a drunken-driving charge.

The defendant's name: Alfred Innocent.

In Phoenix, Ariz., the thieves who stole a householder's "Dog for Sale" sign came back the following night and made off with the dog.



The darkroom of a Syracuse, N. Y., high-school camera club recently was put on exhibition to raise money for the school's foreign-student program. Admission was 25 cents for individual customers, \$1.50 for those with girls.

A Wadsworth, Ohio, couple report that a family of sparrows in their backyard had trouble getting in and out of a wren house, so they showed up one day with a woodpecker in tow. The woodpecker pecked away at the hole two days until he had enlarged it enough to suit the sparrows. Then he flew away.

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