

Don't Help Insects In Biting War

NEW YORK (UPI) — Are you making yourself "attractive" to stinging insects?

White or light-colored clothing is less provocative to bees than dark colors. Experienced bee-keepers

consider clothing color most important.

Smooth, hard-finished khaki, drill, or nylon clothing is less attractive to black flies and mosquitoes than blue denim or serge. Suede or other leather materials are irritating to bees.

Hair oils and perfume also should be avoided. The floral odor apparently attracts bees. Once entangled in clothing or hair, bees are inclined to sting, even if it was not their original intention.

Biting insects are more inclined to attack a moving object than a stationary one.

"To flail wildly at an approaching bee is one of the worst things to do," warns Dr. R. A. Morse, of Cornell University.

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"It usually is possible to retreat unharmed simply by using the hands with the fingers extended as a shield before the face and moving slowly from the vicinity," he said.

When stung, experts recommend looking for the stinger. It should be removed as quickly as possible with a fingernail in a scraping motion.

DUTCH TREAT

NEW YORK (UPI)—Dutch potatoes are a good winter dish. Core several pared medium potatoes and draw wiener through each. Place in baking pan with a pat of butter and salt on each potato. Add two cups of milk in bottom of pan. Bake in medium oven (350 degrees) for one-half hour, turn the potatoes, and bake another half hour.

Ontario, Canada is amending its Highway Traffic Act to forbid toys or similar trinkets to be used as windshield decorations. Stickers on windshields also are banned.

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THIS HUSKY CALF of the Charollaise strain is currently slated for entry in the 4-H show next fall by Nancy Matthews of Scott Valley. The calf was pictured on a drizzly morning in the barn lot at the Matthews farm. Main threat to the entry at the moment is the possibility that the calf with its present rate of gain will exceed the 1,250 pound weight limit.

Fast Draw Gunslingers Back In Western Picture

SAN FRANCISCO (UPI)—A new breed of gunslinger is stalking the West . . . and the East, the North and the South.

They are practitioners of "quick-draw," the art of extricating a pistol from its holster, cocking and firing it in one lightning move. Just like on television.

Inspired by TV's triggermen, "fast guns," as they sometimes call themselves, have banded together in an estimated 600 quick-draw clubs throughout the U.S.

What sort of hombre is this new horseless cowpoke?

"Basically, you have to be an extrovert, a show-off," said quick-draw club president Jerry Navratil, who from his black moustache to his black polished boots is a dead-ringer for his favorite TV character, "Paladin" (Richard Boone).

This resemblance is not all coincidence. The 43-year-old San Franciscan admits that "many amateur gunslingers, including myself, enjoy the public exhibition side of the sport because they aspire to the movies."

"I'd be happy with even a bit part," the rugged six-footer said wistfully.

Navratil, an avid reader of Western fiction and history since his youth, describes quick-draw as a "hobby . . . a way to relax . . . although you might call it a noisy way."

"A lot of my friends can't accept a hobby as exotic as gunslinging," he added, "yet they go out every Sunday and sock away at a little white golfball."

In pursuit of their special brand of relaxation, Navratil and 19 fellow members of the Gun Hawks, the club he founded, practice each Sunday on a rented section of a public rifle range.

They're not the only ones. The National Rifle Association magazine, "The American Rifleman," recently reported that "the quick-draw craze is sweeping America."

But the magazine added that the craze has been accompanied by a "mounting number of foolish and needless gun accidents" — numerous self-inflicted leg wounds and at least six killed in the U.S. during the past year by friends practicing quick-draws.

But Navratil insists clubs like his are not to blame. "It is the lone or the novice who causes

most of these accidents," he said. "The clubs do not tolerate any unsafe practices. They encourage the novice to observe all safety measures and they instruct the uninitiated in the safe use of a revolver."

Unlike TV stars, the Gun Hawks do not draw against each other. Their only "adversary" is an electric timing device which measures speed in 1-100ths of a second. The target is a cardboard silhouette of a man.

Navratil can draw, fire and hit the target in 32-100ths of a second, including the time it takes him to react to a gong set off by the timing device. Eliminating the "reaction time," he can do it in 17-100ths of a second—faster than a person can clap his hands from two feet apart.

Like Navratil, most Gun Hawks use large (.38 or .45 caliber), single-action (one-shot) revolvers. His favorite is a .45 Colt.

The culmination of the Gun Hawks' weekly practice comes at "shoot-outs," competitive matches held with two other Bay area quick-draw clubs or with gunslingers from other parts of the state.

Navratil also gives one-man exhibitions for churches and civic groups but claims his best audience is made up of his three sons, Mark, 12, Craig, 11, and Dana, 7, all of whom practice quick-draw with cap pistols.

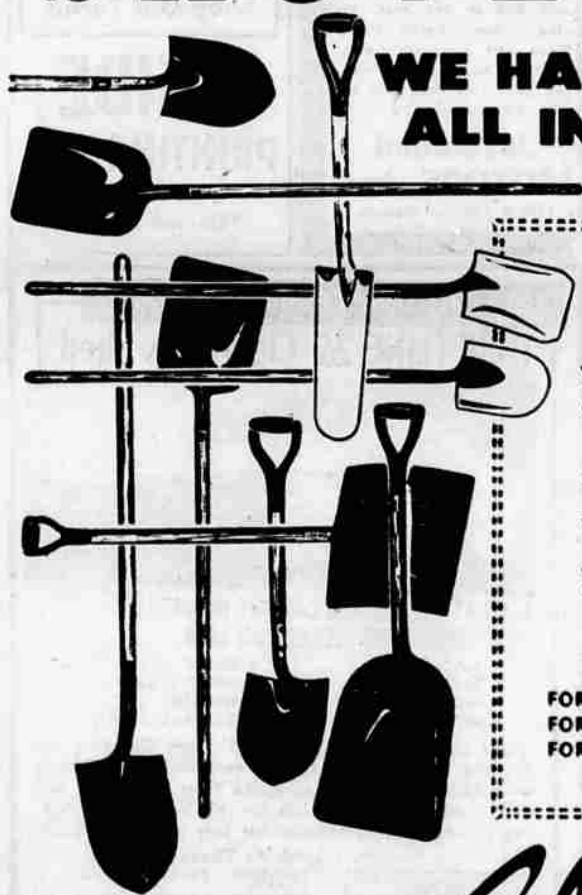
"Children are surprisingly fast because they have no mental blocks. With an adult, the slightest thing, a thought, a bad day at the office can slow down reaction time," Navratil said.

But he added quickly that "my boys haven't beaten me yet."

HEAVENLY CAKE

NEW YORK (UPI)—Lemon custard angel cake is extra good with orange topping. Bake packaged cake mix according to package directions. Cool. Frost top and sides with this mixture: Mix ½ cup instant nonfat dry milk crystals with ½ cup well-chilled orange juice. Whip three to four minutes or until stiff peaks form. Add two tablespoons lemon juice. Continue beating three to four minutes, or until stiff peaks form. Add ¼ cup diced orange.

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