

Aluminum May Replace Tin In Cans

CHICAGO (UPI) — The common tin can soon may be as rare in the kitchen as a wooden pickle barrel.

Most large can companies are studying the possibility of making cans of aluminum.

One firm (Ekco-Alcoa Containers, Inc.) is producing rigid aluminum foil containers with transparent tops and shapes to suit the food.

Another company (Continental Can Co.) introduced frozen food cook-in pouches at the National Packaging Exposition here, and announced that many more foods will be available in these pouches by the year's end.

The pouches, made of aluminum, plastic, polyethylene and paper combinations, enable the homemaker to buy the food, cook it and serve it without ever opening the container.

"This is just the beginning," said F. J. Close, of a third firm vice president in charge of sales development (Aluminum Company of America).

"During 1959, 220-million pounds of aluminum should go into packaging applications," he said. "By 1963, this should jump to more than 400-million pounds."

Here are some features of an aluminum can Close said the firm is working on:

—The housewife will be able to "rip the end off the can as easily as she can strike a match."

—The can will be lightweight and will keep food or liquid hot or cold "for a great length of time."

—Elimination of the soldered side-seam will make the can more pleasing to the eye and permit all-around printing.

A major hurdle to the production of such a can is the higher cost of aluminum, compared to the present tin plate.

But the companies feel the problem can be overcome, and that eventually aluminum will be priced competitively.

Some aluminum cans already are on the market. The first aluminum pressure can is expected to be in production in the six-ounce size by the end of the year.

Sardines, beer, and two types of cheese also are being packed in aluminum cans, said F. B. Newcomb of another manufacturer (American Can).

He predicted that at least 20 per cent of all cans within the next 10 years would be aluminum.

Driver School Plea Made

CHICAGO (UPI)—A safety education specialist has advised high schools to use the accelerator instead of the brakes on driver training programs.

Dr. Forest R. Noffsinger of Northwestern University's Traffic Institute deplored "the sputnik-impelled demand for some quarters for almost exclusive emphasis on science and mathematics education."

"We don't dare squeeze out driver education from our school program," he said. "For what will it profit our nation to provide such scientific excellence only to have it snuffed out because of incompetence in the necessary task of driving to and from work?"

"We must provide increased emphasis on driver education to protect our 'brains,' and this is particularly true in light of our rapidly increasing driving population," he added.



NO SOFTIES: Jerry Duffield (right), trail boss of the Bill Williams Mountain Men, congratulates John F. Monroe of Milwaukee after the latter became the only non-Arizonan to complete the club's tough annual horseback trek.

Mountain Trek Gives Thrill To Businessmen

WILLIAMS, Ariz. (AP)—Don't go around saying all modern businessmen are softies. Someone may bring up the Bill Williams Mountain Men.

The Mountain Men are an exclusive band of gents who punish themselves brutally just for fun to perpetuate the memory of the rugged trappers who carved an empire from the wilderness of the Old West.

For 51 weeks of the year they're doctors, judges or cafe owners. They live quietly in the Grand Canyon gateway town of Williams, which—like their group—was named for a Bible-totin' old trapper.

But late each winter they grow bushy beards, don buckskin clothing and give up comforts of home for a 5½ day, 165 mile horseback ride to Phoenix.

The trek is something of a publicity stunt with the ride timed to end at the Arizona State Fair-ground on opening day of the annual Phoenix Rodeo. But it's no lark for a tenderfoot.

It's an overland trip through steep, cold mountains and parching desert. The parttime adventurers ride all day, cavort and spin tall tales far into the night and then try to catch a few winks in bedrolls thrown on the hard, rocky ground.

The Bill Williams Mountain Men have been making their ride for six years and only 29 starters have gone all the way.

The only non-Arizonan to stick the full distance is John F. Monroe, a 63-year-old Milwaukee investment banker who did it this year.

Monroe quickly learned why so many who try it drop out along the way—saddle soreness.

"My face was badly sunburned when we reached Phoenix," he says. "But, man, you ought to have seen the other end."

Few outsiders get invitations to join the mountain men on the trek. Monroe got his quite by chance.

"A year ago," he recalls, "my wife and I were driving through northern Arizona when we saw this weird mob of buckskin-clad riders. We thought they were a bunch of unemployed sheepherders."

"When we found out what they were doing, we got acquainted with them. Later they asked me to make this year's trip, and they probably were laying odds I wouldn't last."

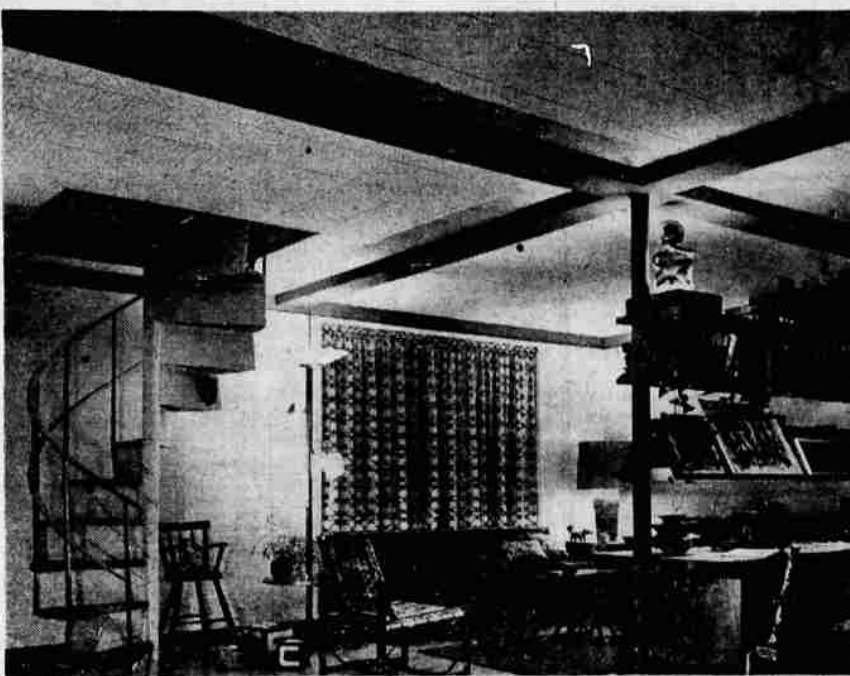
The rub of the saddle isn't the only discomfort.

"Dropping down from the cold, wild country of 7,200 feet into the heat of the desert is a rugged ordeal," says Monroe. "And the rocks under your sleeping bag hardly equal the luxury of the Waldorf-Astoria."

"But the companionship of those men ranks as one of the great events of my life and made it all worthwhile."

The respect was mutual. Monroe's determination convinced the mountain men. They made him an honorary member.

The mountain men don't make the return trip by horseback. They are too sore from the one way ride and too tired from four days and nights of whooping it up in Phoenix.



A DISTINCTIVE AIR of luxury can be added to the basement recreation room through the use of softly textured acoustical tile on the ceiling. The material is surprisingly low in cost, and can be installed easily by the average home handyman.

NEW PRODUCTS

NEW YORK (UPI)—A new 8-mm. movie camera enables you to switch film in mid-roll. You also can use it as a projector.

Made by Longines - Wittnauer Watch Co. of New York, the camera is powered by batteries and uses economy roll film instead of more expensive magazine load. At any time it can be converted into a projector with three speeds operating on either AC or DC current, says the firm.

For big lawns comes a mower that you drive like a car. The Mower Car, made by Homelite Corp., Port Chester, N.Y., has a three-speed automatic transmission and a variety of other controls both for movement and cutting. Extra power for heavy cutting or climbing steep hills is obtained by putting additional pressure on the foot pedal.

Here are a couple of new parlor games. Concentration, based on the format of a television show of the same name, calls for matching hidden items with numbers to work out picture puzzle solutions. It's made by Milton Bradley Co., Springfield, Mass. Name The Trademark involves the flashing of 26 cards, each bearing a well known trademark, and the subsequent attempt to identify them. Concoctors of this one are Hoyt Howard and Mitch Havemeyer of the Persuasive Arts Center of New York.

The "Tenna-Table" serves the dual purpose of television stand and antenna, eliminating those so-called rabbit ears and the outside antenna. Each leg is electrically insulated from the others, and connected into various combinations to make the antenna. A knob in the front of the table regulates antenna orientation, according to the maker, Transvision, Inc., New Rochelle, N.Y.

Sleeping comfort both indoors and out is offered by a combination sleeping bag and comforter made by Stylecraft Comfort Corp., New York. The so-called Comfort sleeper is insulated with "Dacron" polyester fiberfill. Zipped open it becomes a plaid comforter for a double bed.

The frustration of a wobbly door hanger that slips its trolley at inopportune times may be a thing of the past, says Kennatrack Corp., Elkart, Ind., which has come out with a new top mount hanger. Eight low-friction nylon wheels on grease grooved axles allow the hanger to become disengaged with the flick of a screwdriver tip, but it will never come loose in ordinary handling even while supporting doors weighing up to 100 pounds, says the firm.

Dumas Milner Corp., Jackson, Miss., has come up with an improved formula for its Pine-Sol—an all-purpose cleanser, disinfect-

ant and deodorant. The formula is said to make the product effective against 99 per cent of all household germs.

The "Savannah," the United States' first atomic merchant vessel, will have a cruising radius of 350,000 miles compared to the present average of 10,000 miles.

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