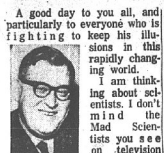


THE SQUIRREL CAGE

By Douglass Welch



A good day to you, and, particularly to everyone who is fighting to keep his illusion in this rapidly changing world. I am thinking about scientists. I don't mind the Midwestern scientists who see on television I mean where they invent a machine and you put two dollars worth of sugar and spice and everything nice and pull a handle and come out a beautiful girl in a low-cut evening dress. And she has no soul and the first thing she says is "How long you going to be around town, there, saint?" I mean there are times when the very red-blooded American boy, I think, would like to have a machine like that. But my point is, that kind of a scientist is not disturbing anyone's illusions, he is just enriching life. The scientist I don't like is the fellow who upsets established beliefs. For instance, like a couple of scientists at North Carolina State University who announced the other day that the Black Widow spider does not always eat her husband after the honeymoon!

He says, indeed, keep him around quite a while if she has become accustomed to his face. Nature does not require her to devour him. Apparently she has some choice in the matter. She only consumes him if the honeymoon has somehow failed to meet her expectations. "Well, Lover," she says, "dinner's ready." And he says, "Oh, good! Our first meal together! What are we going to have?" And she says, "You."

The North Carolina experiments show that the Black Widow may grant a stay of execution to her husband, but some other Black Widow—perhaps a bridemaid—will feel free to gobble him up on the bride's behalf. "Why, good heavens, then," says the bride, "you just want and ate up my husband! And the bridemaid said: 'It serves him right!'" And what scared me, she made this judgment impulsively and without any knowledge of the facts. I was watching her husband's face as she said it, and I noticed that he paled slightly. So another group of scientists tell us that what bugs modern men is not to require her to devour a woman—is having to think. At New York Medical College they are saying that man is not disturbed when he submits to normal hunger, thirst and romance drives. It is only when he is forced into mature thinking, when he is re-

quired to make decisions, that he develops mental ills. It's the abstract "conceptual thought process" which produces an anxiety reaction. I know this is hard to follow, Whitney, but will you bear with me? Let us say a man drives into the city from the suburbs. His driving is more or less automatic, a simple matter of unthinking motor responses to successive given stimuli. While all this is going on, however, he is wrestling with a concept—the concept of parking space when he arrives in the city. This is known as "conceptual parking space" and it actually doesn't exist, except in his mind. There is no parking space for him, and there never will be, but still he hopes so. He conjures up all kinds of pretty fantasies. As he drives near his destination, someone will pull out and leave him a parking space. As he stops to back into it, nobody else will steal it from him. And so it goes.

Confronted in the city with the reality that the parking space was a concept—and no more than a concept—he is frustrated, and he feels rejected, and he concludes he is socially underprivileged and nobody loves him, and I don't know what else. Personally, I wouldn't drive into the city for anything.

Doctor Tells House Group Of 'Pep Pill' Racket Among College Students

WASHINGTON (UPI)—An Oklahoma psychiatrist has told a group of college students who earn \$200 a week selling "pep pills" to their classmates, and peddlers who prospective clients are not federal agents.

Dr. John B. Griffith, head of the Oklahoma Mental Health Planning Committee, told his story Tuesday before the House Commerce Committee, which is considering legislation to stem illegal sales of prescription drugs.

The measure would tighten federal controls over "pep pills" which are stimulant amphetamine drugs, and over "good balls," which are depressant barbiturates.

Attracting Mobsters The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) estimates that half of the nine billion amphetamines and barbiturates made each year are sold on the bootleg market. Enforcement agencies say the trade is so profitable it has attracted organized mobsters.

Griffith told the committee he began to investigate the black market in the two types of drugs in Oklahoma City after becoming alarmed at their widespread misuse. He found plenty of surprises.

The doctor said he took over the 12-month-long investigation himself, aided by medical students and a newsmen, after a private detective hired to do the job disappeared.

Griffith said the first time he contacted a peddler the bootleg dealer asked, "how do I know you're a stupid doctor and not a smart FBI agent?"

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male student made \$200 during exam week selling the pills to his classmates who needed to stay awake to study for exams," Griffith said. "He got the prescription from his mother. A doctor had legitimately prescribed them to help her lose weight."

Through the contacts he made in the illegal market Griffith said he found that the

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Libby's BEEF STEW

FACTORY BANNED HIGH WYCOMBE, England (UPI)—Frank Murgett of the London Bait Company of Ealing, England, has appealed against the refusal of the Bucks County Council to allow him to set up a maggot factory in the village of Bledlow.

Murgett wants to breed maggots to be sold to hospitals for various forms of treatment, to zoos for feeding animals, to fishermen and to vegetable research stations for the pollination of plants.

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Coin Club Plans Sale

The Grande Ronde Valley Coin Club will sponsor a benefit coin auction in the near future to raise funds for the proposed authentic American Indian Art Center and Museum in La Grande.

Building of the center is planned by the Indian Festival of Arts for the preservation of the fast-disappearing Indian culture, for inspiration and encouragement of the Indian people and for greater understanding between Indian and white.

Old coins, gold coins, gold certificates, foreign coins, proof sets, in any numbers; a single coin, rolls and Indian cent or nickel will help swell the fund. Donations may be sent to Benefit Coin Auction, P.O. Box 183, La Grande, Ore. 97850, or send to Indian Festival of Arts Office, Sacajawea Hotel, La Grande.

In the FEBRUARY 14th Issue of Family Weekly

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Family To Fly East For Rites

Mr. and Mrs. Ron Hartley by Feb. 11 to Du Bois, Pa. to attend funeral services for Mrs. Hartley's mother, Mrs. Lulu Hartley, who died Feb. 9 from a lengthy heart condition. She was 72. She had visited in Klamath Falls in the past. In addition to Mrs. Hartley, two sons, William of Beaumont, Tex., and George of Rochester, N. Y., are among survivors.

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