



Grist

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Commentary

Ali Baba—Or One Of The 'Boys'?

An old platitude has it that 'it takes a crook to catch a crook'. This isn't true, of course, for while one crook may be in the "know", it takes good police tactics to close the trap, and equally good effort to get a conviction. We cite this old saying only as a means of bringing to light a borderline form of piracy referred to in a more generous manner as 'coat-tailing' or, to use a word enjoying current popularity, 'featherbedding'.

Ali Baba, of Scheherazade fame, was a featherbedder of sorts, for he profited from those who had gathered a stockpile of loot—"liberated" is the word sometimes used. This practice we neither invite nor condone. Anyway, old Ali was in pure luck when he pronounced the magic word "sesame", for a dazzling cave of riches opened unto him. Too bad it was just a fascinating tale and never did really happen.

But to you, it has happened and continues to happen. True, there's no cave, no jewels, no jars concealing bandits. There is a kind of magic word, or words, however, and they're pronounced 'GRIST' and 'PLOWBACK'.

We'd like to pose this question: Can you honestly say that you have read these two papers and found nothing that interested you, or have found nothing in them which you could put to use in either its original or some modified form? If so, you're in a class apart and don't really need either of these papers.

On the other hand, if you're in the majority of those who find GRIST and PLOWBACK items of value, you will have found that you have saved yourself some time, money, or effort along the way. Unfortunately, we seldom get told what is being used, for editors, like the deceived spouse, are usually the last to know!

But back to Ali. He wound up on the right side, and after the business of some hot oil poured in jars, and things like that, he did the honorable thing and reported the whole unsavory mess to the local gendarmerie. At least, that's the moralistic version written for the younger generation.

Who, on the other hand, reports the findings of those little gems hidden in

these pages? In the words of the late, great Bert Williams: "NO-body!"

All commentaries and editorials should, we are told, point up some moral. Not to be outdone, and in order to run true to form, we've got one—in fact, several: "Acknowledge the other fellow's effort", or "Give credit where credit is due", or "He arrives first who finds the best short-cuts". Applied in reverse order, we commend to all readers these time-tested and proven techniques: a.) Train yourself to recognize those short-cuts others have spent hours in creating, and which they were thoughtful enough to offer you; b.) Don't hesitate to admit you got the idea from somebody else. Such admissions make you larger, not smaller, in the eyes of your fellow men; c.) Demonstrate your gratitude for someone else's help through a spoken or written word. Doing this brings him further recognition—often the only reward he gets, or expects.

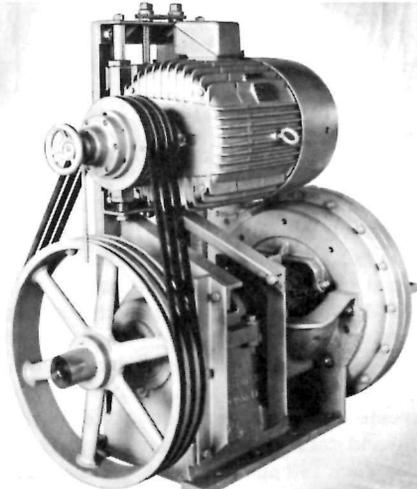
As we said, Ali Baba was a featherbedder of sorts, but he made his contribution to a better society through a little effort. He got the 'gang' in trouble, but you can't possibly get anybody in the hot oil by subscribing to these three morals.

—Amislo

MOTOR MOUNTS ELIMINATE BELT MAINTENANCE PROBLEMS

A newly developed automatic motor base has spring tension adjustment which maintains correct drive belt tension at all times. Belt slippage is eliminated.

Excessive stretch of drive belts on

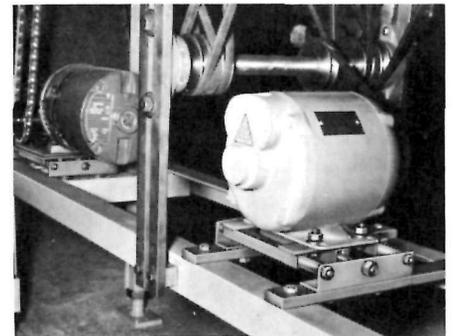


starting torque is overcome by spring action of motor base which cushions overload shock. Correct belt tension, under all conditions of motor load, becomes the constant feature of the belt drive while movement of the motor back and forth provides the compensating feature for varying load requirements.

The makers of the automatic motor base, Manheim Manufacturing and Belting Co., of Manheim, Pa., report that the base eliminates virtually all belt drive maintenance and greatly increases belt and motor bearing life. Design of the base insures correct alignment of driving and driven pulleys and also eliminates the necessity of relocating motors to take care of belt stretch.

The motor bases are available from stock for all size motors from 1/2 horsepower through 125 horsepower. Bases are available for both horizontal and vertical mountings. Special bases up to 500 horsepower are available.

Further information can be obtained by contacting the manufacturer in Manheim, Pa.



DITTO ON THE DOUBLE

Need more legible copies than one Ditto (or other spirit process) master will make? Type two masters at the same time, suggests Jacob Bassan, Statistician, WASO, Branch of Statistics Analysis.

Roll the two blank masters into the typewriter simultaneously. (If you wish to avoid the necessity of mirror reading on the second master, slip a sheet of carbon paper in front of the second master.) Best results on their IBM electric typewriter were achieved by using a pressure setting of "O", Jake says.

It's as simple as that!

PARK PRACTICE



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" . . every creative act is a sudden cessation of stupidity."

—Edwin H. Land

FLORIDA INDIAN STYLE REMADA

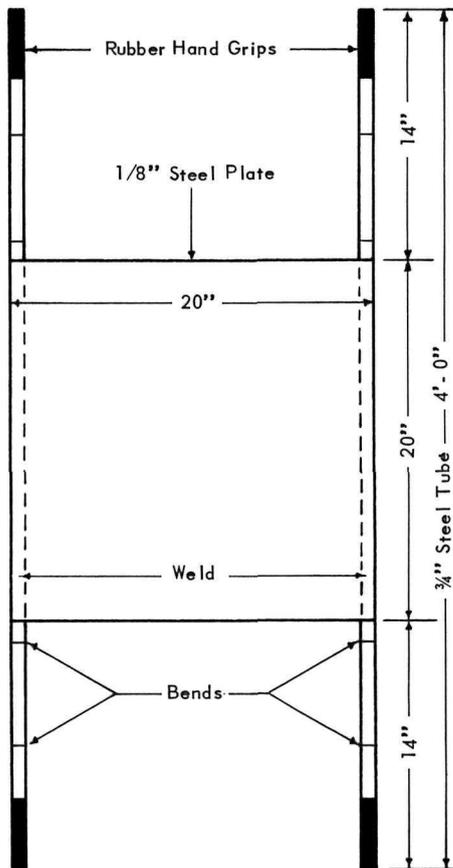
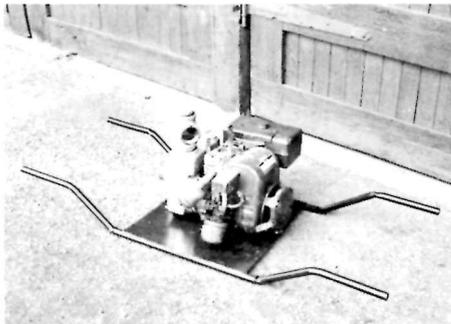
GRIST has published photographs of several types of remadas. Lloyd M. Pierson, Superintendent, De Soto National Memorial, submits this one from Florida.



The native rough timber and palmetto fans used for thatching fit into the natural scene. The shelter protects the two exhibits shown in the photograph from sun and weather, and during the annual De Soto pageant, it serves as an additional Indian type dwelling. While the pageant is in progress the exhibits are camouflaged with animal skins.

SUMP PUMP CARRIER FOR "PACKING IN" WHERE THE GOING'S ROUGH

From Mesa Verde National Park, Arthur J. Hewitt, Jr., Archeologist, reports an improved way of getting a sump pump to leaks in their 28 mile water pipe line, some of which lies in remote sections which can be reached only by "packing in." The sump pump was originally mounted on a low, two-wheeled push type carrier which was difficult to manage over rough terrain and which did not provide a sufficiently solid base when the pump was in operation.



R. B. Coppinger, Foreman II (B&J) and Joe Eberling, Foreman II (Automotive Mechanic) designed and constructed the two man carrier rack and base for the pump shown in the photo and sketch. In addition to easier transport across rough ground and a solid operating base for the pump, transport of the rig in a pickup is more convenient and damage is less likely since pump and carrier lie flat on the truck bed.

The rack is constructed of 3/4-inch tube

and a 1/8-inch steel plate (see sketch for dimensions). The plate is welded to the pipe, and the pump is bolted to the steel plate. Angling the pipe makes handling and carrying the rig easier.

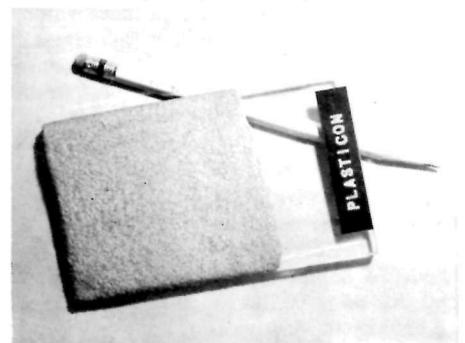


Joe put to use the wheeled carrier on which the pump had been mounted. The metal plate which had served as a base for the pump was just the right size to accommodate large batteries. By welding a small strip of 1-inch iron on three sides of the plate, the cart was converted to a convenient battery carrier.

SIMPLIFIED CONCRETE REPAIRS

Patching spalled or broken portland cement concrete has been a problem for many years. Since most remedies have been too costly, too complicated or just plain didn't work, many people have given up trying to repair concrete. If this has been your experience you will be interested in a new product which was developed specifically to solve this problem.

Plasticon is a copolymer latex that is used in place of water to prime, grout, and mix the mortar or concrete needed to make the surface repair. Patches can be made in any thickness down to a feather edge depending upon the size of the aggregate used. Available in 1, 5, and 55 gallon containers, Plasticon is said to be suitable for use on spalled, scaled, worn, rough, pitted, or honeycombed concrete. More information can be obtained from Maintenance, Inc., Wooster, Ohio.



The above photograph shows Plasticon-mixed concrete applied to a small piece of plate glass. Note the pencil showing through the uncoated portion. The cement mixture was applied 1/4-inch thick near the upper edge of the glass and feathers out near the bottom. The hardened concrete cannot be chipped off of the non-porous glass.

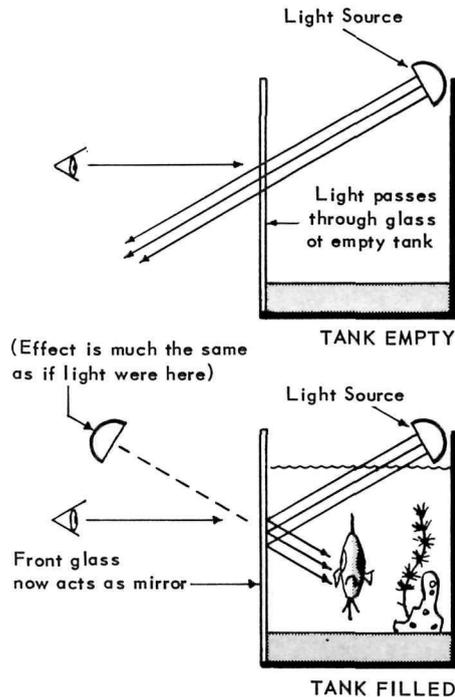
Speaking of Interpretation -

LIGHTING AQUARIUM TANKS

From the June, 1963 issue of *The Dorsal Fin*, publication of the Branch of Fish Hatcheries, Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife, U.S. Department of the Interior's Fish and Wildlife Service, comes this useful information for anyone planning or now operating aquarium exhibit tanks.

In an aquarium display it is important that the light source be of the proper intensity and located so that the specimens may be seen to the best advantage. Since light rays bend to a greater or lesser extent when passing through a liquid medium, the light in an aquarium does not always fall in the exact position one would expect, considering the direction of its source.

If the light source is behind and slightly above the viewer's head the specimens in the tank show their colors to be best advantage, but this is an awkward position for light fixtures, and one's head also tends to get in the way of the light.



Recent experiments conducted at the Cleveland, Ohio Aquarium have shown that the same effect can be achieved by placing the light source over the tank but aiming it forward toward the viewer. When the tank is filled with water the angle of the surface and the front glass create a prism effect, reflecting the light backward as if the light source were in front of the tank. This is called the principle of total inter-

nal reflection, and may be used to considerable advantage. Before the light is set firmly at the desired angle, a certain number of experimental positions should first be tried.

NATURE CENTERS

Roberts Mann, Conservation Editor of the Forest Preserve District of Cook County, Illinois, offers thought-provoking commentary on the subject of nature centers:

A nature center must be attractive. It should be fascinating. That requires personnel unusually gifted with perception and showmanship. It should be fluid—not static—and in key with its neighborhood, changing as the seasons change, so that people will come again and again "to see what's new."

The purpose of a nature center is to arouse public interest in the out-of-doors, help people understand what they see there, and increase their enjoyment of their own public property.



It should serve as an adjunct to, but not a part of, the school systems—an outdoor classroom and laboratory for use to supplement their curricula. The objective—the end result if it is properly maintained—is more appreciation and intelligent use of a naturalistic recreational area.

The things taught in colleges and schools are not an education, but the means of education.

—Ralph Waldo Emerson

NEWTON RINGS IN TRANSPARENCIES

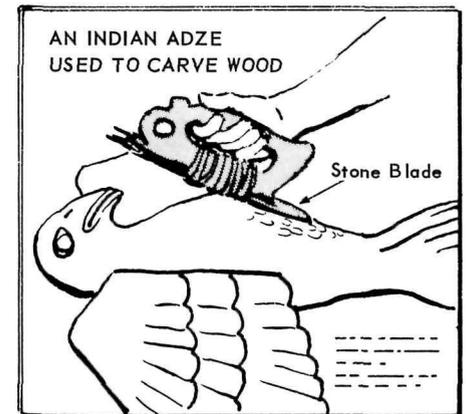
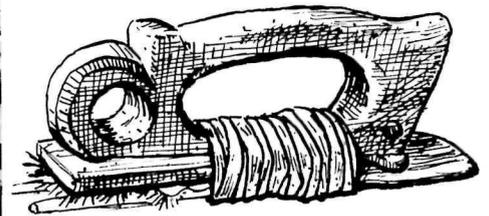
Paul E. Schulz advises in *Interpretive Notes*, NPS Southeast Region, that the cause of multicolor Newton rings is usually not the glass mounting but the condition of the film transparency. Any bit of dirt, oil, or moisture on it or its buckling may cause uneven contact between the transparency and the glass hence producing the rainbow color rings.

Permafilm on new transparencies is an effective cleaner, preservative, and anti-static agent. It also helps prevent Newton rings, according to Jack Kozell of the Service's Eastern Office of Design and Construction, Philadelphia. Jack recommends applying Permafilm before first projection to lock in each transparency its normal amount of water content.

Patience is out of place in the quicksand. —Dagobert D. Runes

CONFUCIUS SAY—
ONE PICTURE WORTH
TEN THOUSAND WORDS

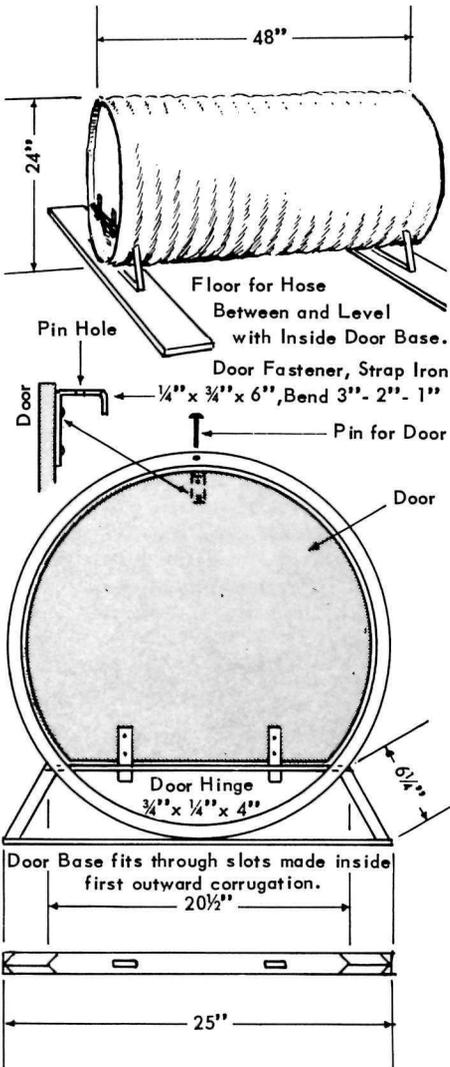
A visitor looking at two objects in a southwest Indian exhibit and reading the explanatory text might still go away not knowing how the items were used, says Archeologist Calvin R. Cummings, Tuzigoot National Monument. Cal suggests that a simple sketch showing the object in use accompany the display.



If your abilities don't include even simple sketching, you might put your camera to work, photographing the objects being used by a co-worker or other willing subject (provided, of course, the object exhibited is in good enough condition to permit such handling).

PORTABLE FIRE HOSE HOUSE

Where fire hose is distributed for temporary use during operational periods, such as at campgrounds, seasonal quarters, etc., or for spotting in strategic locations during peak fire seasons, portable, temporary housing is needed. To meet this need at Mt. Rainier National Park, District Ranger Raymond E. Bright and Assistant Chief Ranger Robert W. Rogers (now of Olympic) designed and manufactured the portable type shown in the sketch.



Bob and Ray (of NPS fame, that is, not the radio-TV pair!) used a four-foot section of 16-gauge, 24-inch diameter corrugated culvert. A piece of plywood is laid in loose as a floor. A door may be provided if desired by bolting, riveting or welding strap hinges to the culvert section and fastening a suitable wood or metal door to the hinges.

The resulting portable hose house is light, may be stacked for storage economy, and will hold up to 300 feet of hose.

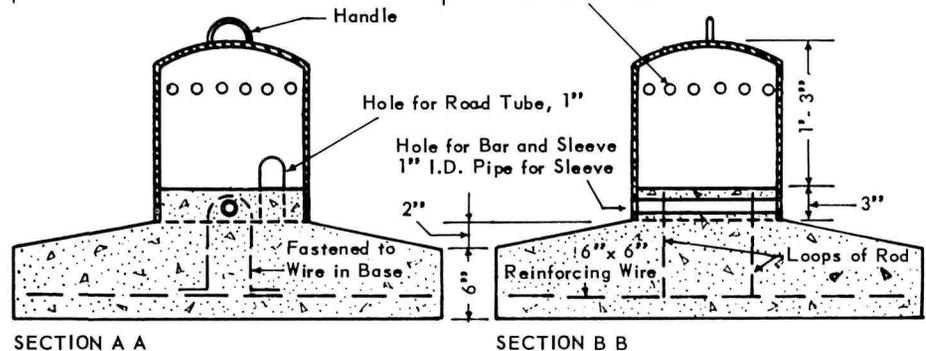
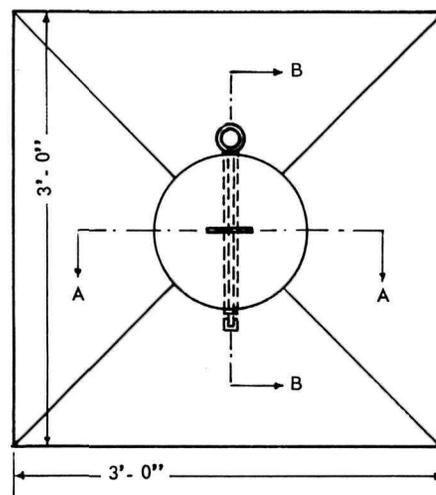
“. . . the most exciting part of being human, . . . is using our brains in the highest way. Otherwise we are just healthy animals.” —Edwin H. Land

PROTECTING TRAFFIC COUNTERS

Battery operated traffic counters now used in many parks can get badly knocked around unless they are protected from vehicles and from the type of passerby who likes to throw rocks at any convenient object or to take a whack at it with a handy stick. Theodore H. Schaefer, Jr., Assistant Director of the Toledo, Ohio, Metropolitan Park District reports on a protective cover designed and used there which should discourage almost anyone but an Army Engineers demolition squad.

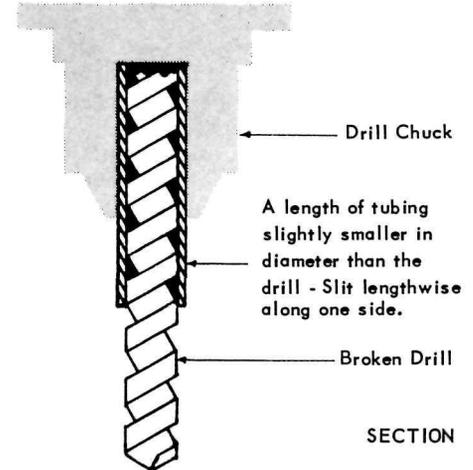
The key part of the counter protector is the top section of a salvaged hot water tank, cut off to be 15 inches high and drilled with 3/4-inch ventilation holes near the top. A handle is welded to the top also. Holes are made near the base for the road tube and for an iron rod which passes through this cover and through the concrete base.

As the sketch shows, a concrete slab is poured, with 6 by 6-inch mesh reinforcing wire embedded in it. To the reinforcing wire is fastened a piece of reinforcing rod bent into U-shape to hold in place a pipe sleeve, cast into a raised portion of the slab. This raised portion is large enough to hold the counter and yet to permit the protective cover to come down over it. An iron rod is bent into a loop at one end so that this end will not pass through the pipe sleeve, and the other end of the rod is slightly flattened and drilled to take a padlock. This rod must be long enough to pass through the cover, through the pipe sleeve in the raised part of the base, and out the other side to be locked in place.



SALVAGING BROKEN DRILLS

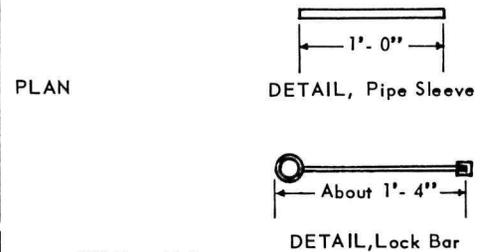
Unless you have one of those expensive shop kits with special collets to hold broken drills, you may throw out the broken ones as useless. Before you give up, try the method used in the Michigan State Park shops—use a piece of tubing to salvage that drill bit.



Select a length of tubing slightly smaller in diameter than the drill, and slit the tubing lengthwise along one side. Use this tube collar to slip over the broken drill to hold it and to provide a smooth surface for the drill chuck to grip.

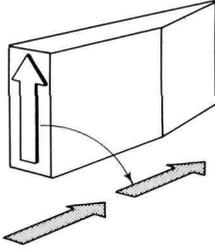
The methods by which power is derived are unimportant when compared with the uses to which that power is applied. This is the wellspring of either progress or decadence, good or evil, hope or despair. It is not enough to gain the power; the important thing is to employ it to the greatest moral advantage of all.

—Amisol



RUBBER STAMPS FROM RUBBER HEELS

A discarded eraser can be carved with a small symbol, such as an arrow or star, to stamp corrections on maps, or for decorative or other purposes. Donald M. Black, Park Naturalist, Natchez Trace Parkway, whose suggestions often appear in these pages, says this rubber stamp suggestion isn't really new because "for years, small post offices carved ink bottle stoppers and used them to cancel stamps". But we think Don is the first man ever to suggest using rubber heels for the purpose.



TOUGH FOOTBRIDGE DECKING

If you're looking about for a tough, long-wearing yet smooth surface material to cover that flexible footbridge, try to pick up some lengths of discarded conveyer belting. This material is made of coarse fabric layers impregnated with rubber compounds, sometimes reinforced with steel wire mesh, and was designed for the roughest of uses such as conveying rock, coal, packages, etc.

Footbridges covered with this belting last much longer, particularly on golf courses where spiked shoes are hard on wood surfaces. In addition, it gives an excellent surface over which to pull a golf cart. If placed over a wood surface outdoors, care should be taken to see that the wood decking is treated to keep out moisture since air will not get to the upper surface and the wood might rot. In the clubhouse, conveyer belting makes fine runners in locker rooms or in front of refreshment counters.

Conveyer belting is rather expensive to buy new, but that which has been discarded when new belting is installed is fully satisfactory for foot traffic and looks good, too, provided it is not torn or badly cut.

"LIQUID RUBBER"

Marc Sagan, Park Planner, National Park Service, Southeast Region, suggests that Neoprene in liquid form, sold as "Pro-Chem", which is being widely used by commercial photographers to provide an acid and water repelling coating for sinks, tanks, trays, walls, floors, etc. in darkrooms, could be useful to park personnel in many time and property saving ways.

The "liquid rubber" coating can be used for—

waterproofing: chimney flashings, cold frames and seed flats, shower stalls
weatherproofing: roofs, sun decks, porches

repairing: roof gutters, hoses, tents and tarpaulins, leaking pipe joints, torn linoleum, frayed electric cords
rustproofing: metal fences, gates, outdoor furniture, window frames, air conditioners

protecting: drains, ducts, outside lighting equipment

rubberizing: drainboards and work areas, stairs (with an under-layer of fine sand for a skid-proof surface)

The liquid comes in black, white, gray, sky blue, sea green, buff and aluminum colors.

Du Pont makes the basic synthetic product, Neoprene, which is then processed and sold as "Pro-Chem" liquid. Details may be obtained from the Pro-Chem Company, 132 West 31st Street, New York 1, New York.

STRONG NEW ADHESIVE

TESTED AT WUPATKI

Anyone who makes up exhibits or who builds or repairs various types of equipment or signs used in interpretation will be interested in the exceptional power and speed of action of the modern adhesive "Eastman 910" recently tested at Wupatki National Monument, Flagstaff, Arizona, by Archeologist Stuart H. Maule. Eastman 910 has been used for the past few years in precision operations in industry, but its special qualities have not become widely known outside of industrial plants and laboratories.

A single drop of Eastman 910 per square inch of surface will provide an extraordinarily tough bond between almost any nonporous surfaces, and a tiny bit more will take care of porous materials. You can bond almost anything with the liquid, even such tricky combinations as metal to glass, porcelain to most plastics, or different kinds of metals to one another.

The writer has used Eastman 910 for such a repair as fastening the plastic bow of a pair of eyeglasses to the metal hinge on the eyeglass frame. In spite of the small area and the strain placed on the bond, such a repair has lasted the life of the glasses (over 2 years in this case); and it took less than one minute to make.

As Stuart Maule points out, Eastman 910 bonds by a polymerization process (unlike any other adhesive you are likely to have used). As the liquid must be handled with great care and stored in small quantities under refrigeration, it is not suitable for rough outside work or the general rough-and-ready park shop, although it is remarkably useful where the work can be done in the interpretation shop, lab or office.

We have seen such different applications of Eastman 910 as mounting of plexiglas rods to a glass exhibit case, making costume jewelry, fastening a wire end to a metal wall strip, and repairing a broken reel arm on a movie projector. Stuart says it is useful for attaching Metalphoto to routed aluminum signs.

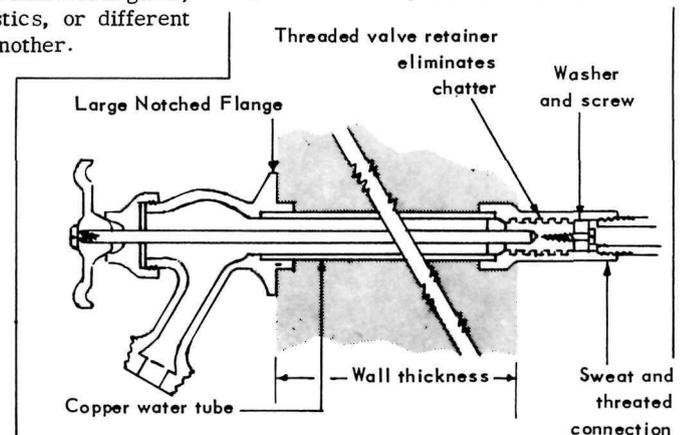
Because a little of the adhesive goes such a long way, the high price of about \$5 per two-ounce bottle does not work out to a high cost per application.

As Stuart warns in his report, Eastman 910 must not be allowed to come into contact with the skin, as it is extremely difficult to remove. Prolonged washing with water will remove it from skin if the washing is undertaken immediately after it has been put on the skin.

Surfaces to be bonded must be thoroughly clean or a good bond will not be obtained. Stuart recommends sanding for most substances. The adhesive is applied to one of the surfaces, then the other surface to be bonded is quickly brought into contact and rubbed against the first in order to spread out the liquid. Any other method of spreading, such as brushing may cause premature setting and, thus, a poor bond. The two surfaces must be lined up quickly to their proper position and then held with a light manual pressure for a few seconds until setting has commenced.

FROST-PROOF FAUCETS

You don't have to remember to turn off and drain those outside sill cocks and lines during the winter season if you use Mansfield Sanitary, Inc.'s frost-proof wall hydrants. No water reaches the freezing zone because the valve seat is inside the building, where it's warm. Using these frost-proof faucets eliminates



the use of inside cutoff valves, leaving water immediately available in case of fire emergency, and saving the cost of the extra valves.

The Mansfield faucets come in 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16 and 18-inch lengths. They are individually boxed, complete with instructions, and can be easily installed. Mansfield Sanitary, Inc., Perrysville, Ohio will send you a descriptive bulletin, LL-8841, on request.

DOUBLE-FACED MILEPOSTS

There are, throughout the country's park systems, many different ways of indicating mileage. Perhaps the most common is a number nailed to a post. The type formerly used at Mt. McKinley National Park was a flattened blaze at the top of a brown stained post into which a number was routed and then filled with white paint. It was attractive, but couldn't be read until one was abreast of the marker. When Elroy W. Bohlin, now North District Ranger at Yellowstone National Park, was Chief Ranger at Mt. McKinley, the mileage markers were improved by blazing them at an angle on two sides, making it possible to read them from some distance on either side of the post (see sketch).



FIBERGLASS BUOYS FROM OHIO

If you're having a problem with buoys and markers on your lakes and waterways, including the usual high maintenance costs and handling difficulties, Ken Byers, Operations and Maintenance Supervisor, Ohio Division of Parks, has solved your problem as he has his own.



Ken (shown in the photo with his hand on his invention like a proud papal) figured it was much too costly to make, repair, place, remove, chip, prime, paint, and otherwise maintain and store the bulky, homemade 55 gal. steel drum buoys they and many others use, so he burned the midnight oil on a radically new design employing tough, maintenance-free fiberglass as the principle material. Result? In Ken's words: "The buoys came about after more than thirty models had been

manufactured on the park areas and tested on the various lakes throughout the State of Ohio for the past two years. The large buoy . . . is composed of two pieces; the marker and the float. Each is one piece construction. The float of the small buoy is of two piece construction.

"The Division believes that the fiberglass buoy incorporates outstanding qualities that reduce maintenance costs to the very minimum. The new fiberglass buoys are made from a very strong fiberglass reinforced plastic and cannot be damaged by boats and floating objects. These buoys seem to be impact-proof and vandal-proof. There has been no evidence to date of either having occurred. The float section is filled with close cell urethane foam and is unsinkable."



About the colors, Ken Byers has this to say: "Since colors are impregnated into the laminate, they cannot fade. This is very important since the painting problem no longer exists."

The Ohio park people bring the buoys into the service area each fall where they are disassembled, scrubbed with soap and water, occasionally resorting to the use of scouring powder. The marker section can be stored on end or piled like cordwood, while the float section can be piled up like automobile tires. They may be stored out-of-doors if space inside is limited.

The Ohio Division has found that the statewide cost of placing, retrieving the old "home-made buoys", repairing, painting, etc., for a two year period exceeds the purchase price of the new light weight, maintenance-free fiberglass buoy.

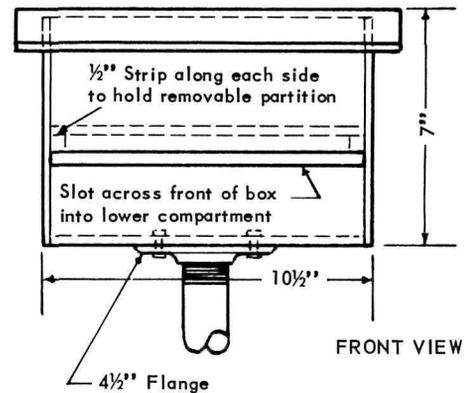
Ken Byers has also designed a maintenance-free non-sinking buoy, tested for 3 years by the Division, which has proved very satisfactory in deep, rough water. These can be made in 6-, 8-, 10-, 12-, and 13-inch diameter sizes and in various lengths. All of the buoys described in this article meet, or exceed, all of the requirements of the Uniform System of Marking, adopted by the State Boating Law Administrators of 43 states.

The buoys are now being commercially produced by Structural Fibers, Inc., Fifth Avenue, Chardon, Ohio. Brochures and other information may be obtained by writing to the Company.

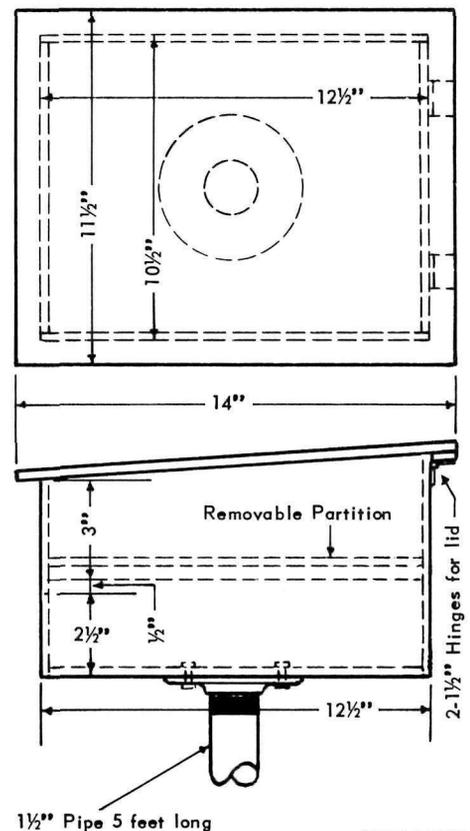
Few things are harder to put up with than the annoyance of a good example.
—Mark Twain

CREEL CENSUS COLLECTOR

Out at Glacier National Park along trails and at trail junctions in popular fishing lake and stream vicinities, fishermen find neat brown-stained boxes with yellow lettering reading, "FISHERMEN PLEASE REGISTER." Thanks to Supervisory Park Ranger Donald A. Dayton, who worked out the design with suggestions from Assistant Chief Ranger A. D. Cannavina, that's the way important statistical information for fish management at Glacier is collected. Don worked out the design when it became evident that more information from back country fishing areas was particularly needed.



TOP VIEW



SIDE VIEW

The box is designed with two compartments (top and bottom) separated by a removable partition. A supply of mimeographed census forms is placed in the

top compartment. The fisherman can lift the lid, remove a form, and using the lid to write on, fill in the information requested. The completed census form is then put into the lower compartment through a slot in the end of the box. A metal plate with instructions to the fisherman is placed on the top of the lid. A ranger, checking the boxes weekly, can remove the partition and collect the completed forms and leave a new supply of blanks.

The boxes are constructed of 3/8-inch plywood mounted on 1 1/2-inch pipes, using threaded 4 1/2-inch pipe flanges which are bolted to the bottom of the boxes. If pipes and flanges are unavailable, 4 x 4 wooden posts may be used and the boxes mounted on the post ends with washers and screws. Posts or pipes should be approximately 5 feet long with 1 1/2 feet of this length extending below the surface of the ground. The boxes may readily removed for winter storage.

A 'NO WATER', 'NOCHEMICAL' TOILET

The recent development of the 'Destroilet', a completely new type of toilet that requires no water and no chemicals, now makes it simple and economical for park personnel to have the most sanitary and convenient toilet facilities regardless of where they are stationed. Because of its revolutionary design and operation, the Destroilet assures complete freedom from fear of water pollution, in fact, water, plumbing, and septic systems are eliminated.



Developed and made by LaMere Industries, the Destroilet uses either natural gas or LP-gas as fuel to burn off human wastes. Operating on a high temperature combustion principle, the combustion process is almost 100% complete with the wastes funneling out through a flue in the form of harmless, odorless water vapors and carbon dioxide. The tablespoon of ashes which may accumulate after several months of continual use is readily cleaned out of the unit.

Installation is easy and low cost. Except for a flue to the out of doors, a bottled gas

or natural gas supply and an electrical outlet, either 12-v. battery or 120-v. house current, no other facilities are required. This means that the Destroilet has unlimited installation possibilities—whether high up on a fire tower or in the middle of a forest, desert or mountain area. The Air Force Weather Bureau and the Navy Arctic research Laboratory are installing Destroilets at Alaskan air bases after several months of research. Until development of the Destroilet, there were no toilet facilities capable of operating in the far north. Because of Destroilet's ability to operate under any and all conditions, it is being used in trailers, boats, trains, remote areas and numerous other installations including homes and summer cottages.

For complete details about Destroilet, write to La Mere Industries, Walworth, Wisconsin.

DISCOURAGING THE WALL WRITERS

Scribbling on walls is a disease that never seems to be cured in some people, young or old. About the only way to prevent outbreaks of the disease where there are smooth and inviting walls is to have park personnel constantly on hand to keep the situation under control. But if the walls are made rough—as with stucco or gravel surfaces—the pen and pencil brigade cannot do much damage. As Chief Park Ranger Daniel E. Lee of Shenandoah National Park points out, many of the present smooth walls in out-of-the-way park buildings would be easier to keep looking well if they had rough surfaces to stop wall writing. One way to put such a surface on a smooth wall is to apply fresh paint and then sprinkle sand on the surface.

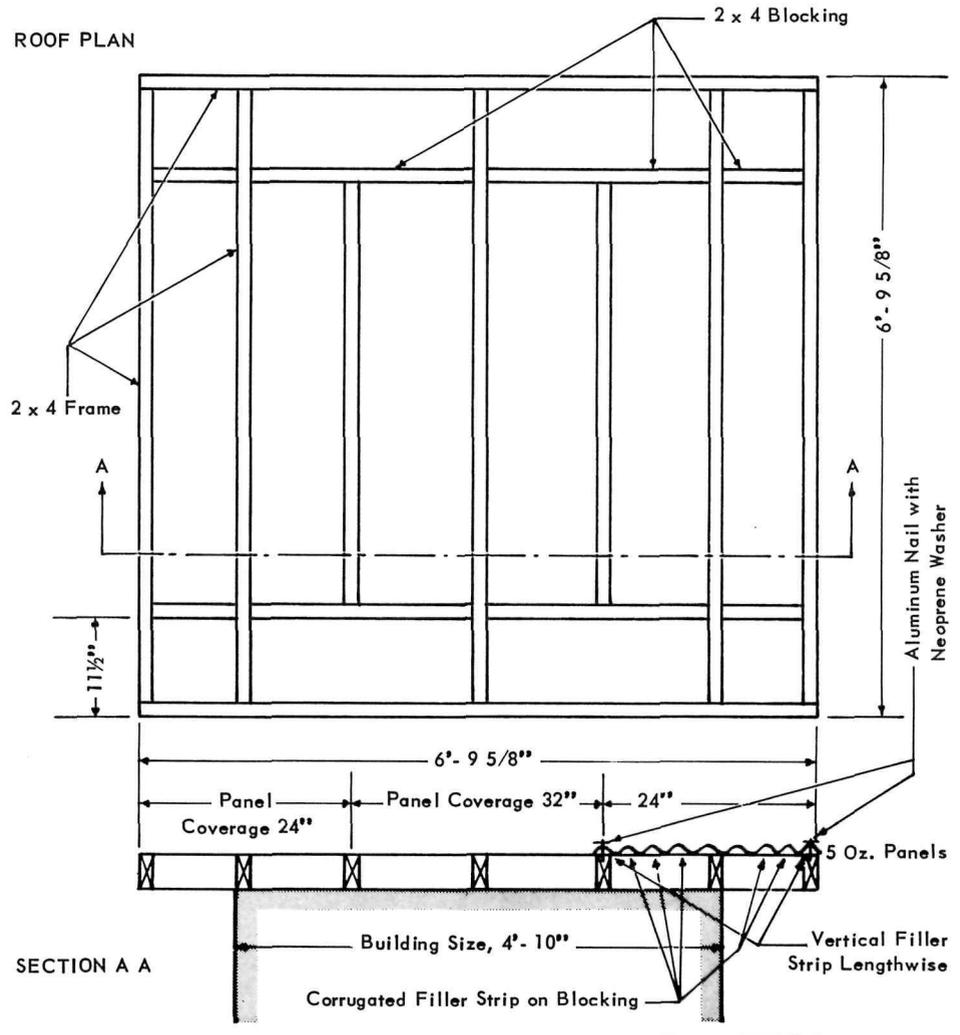
PLASTIC ROOF FOR PIT TOILET

Now we have a GRIST idea that went out into the country and came back improved for re-publication! James H. Bowman, Park Engineer, Isle Royale National Park has sent in the accompanying sketch showing how Maintenance Super-

visor John Murn adopted an idea passed along by the editor—the use of reinforced plastic panel roofs for small buildings, in this case for pit toilets.

The plastic roof is not only sturdy and trouble-free, but lets diffused daylight into the building, giving it a cleaner, brighter look. The light is found to encourage greater cleanliness by users and maintenance personnel.

ROOF PLAN



SECTION A A

A PLACE TO PUT TOOLS IN YOUR PICKUP

The modern pickup truck, as sleek as it looks, usually lacks places to put tools, rags, flares, shovels, and the many other things that may be wanted in park service. So GRIST has received suggestions from two sources for ways to provide tool compartments—one suggestion covering the "boughten" kind of metal compartment, all ready to attach; the other covering wooden construction to be done in the park shop.

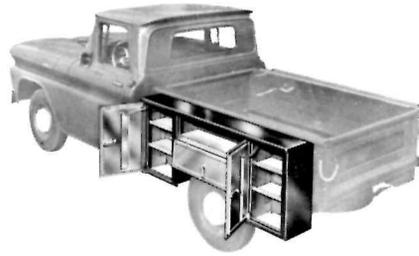
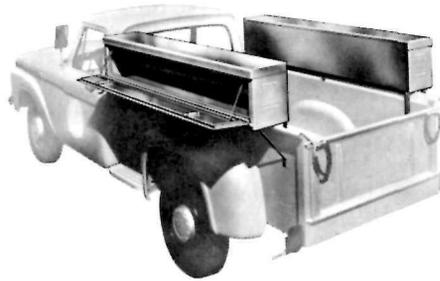


D. Keith Caldwell, Park Supervisor in Mt. San Jacinto State Park, California, and Charles Pearson, Park Aid, constructed neat tool compartments along the sides of a "style side" pickup truck. They found that the compartments not only provided space for all the tools and other objects they normally want to carry but also have other virtues: they save the sides of the truck from being pounded out when rocks or heavy objects are hauled, and they also fill in the corners and improve the load area for hauling sand and loose materials.

Keith and Charlie made their compartments principally from heavy plywood, but the board around the top of the box is 1-1/8 by 5 inch stock. All the wood is varnished. The photograph shows the general design, which can be adapted to your particular type of pickup truck.

The manufactured metal compartments shown are made by the Utility Body Co., 1530 Wood Street, Oakland 7, California. As shown in the photograph, both types have large capacity and are of rugged construction. For extraordinary capacity, we have seen a pickup fitted out with two of the long cabinets on top and two of the side cabinets, used successfully by an electric power company. Details on con-

struction of the Utility Body Company compartments with prices may be obtained by writing the Oakland plant.



The days come and go like muffled and veiled figures sent from a distant friendly party; but they say nothing, and if we do not use the gifts they bring, they carry them as silently away.

—Ralph Waldo Emerson

OFFICE TRAVELS WITH ENGINEER

Construction Engineer Ken Gardiner of the Cook County, Illinois, Forest Preserve District signs his time sheets "8 hours", but he's in his office long before his tour of duty begins, and still is in it long after.



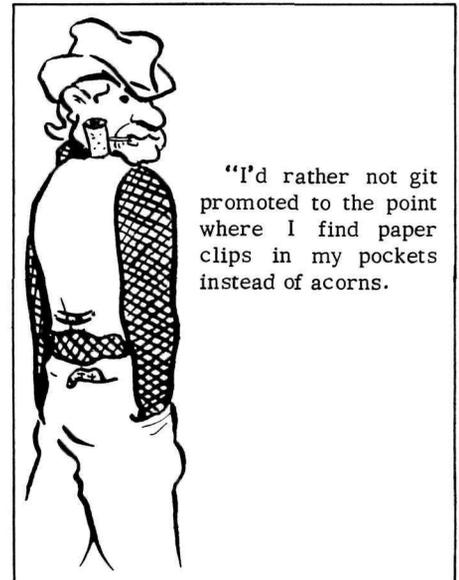
That's because Ken's "office" travels with him, on wheels. It is an efficiently arranged collection of shelves, drawers, cabinets and clips inside the station wagon which takes him from his home to the location of his day's activities in the forest preserve.

The late Edgar P. Romilly of the District office, who reported on Ken's moving office and supplied the pictures, said that there are 127 different items properly slotted for easy access in the Gardiner station wagon. Because he designed and constructed the whole shebang himself, Ken knows it from A to Z and even blindfolded he can put his hand on anything in the office. With his engineer's accuracy, he has seen to it that nary an inch is wasted. There is a place for everything, and everything is in its place, as the photographs show.



Needless to say, there are some ideas here that can be adapted to the needs of many other park people making field surveys of various kinds.

RANGER 'RED' sez:-



"I'd rather not git promoted to the point where I find paper clips in my pockets instead of acorns."

Jim Burnett & IBL