

THE SQUIRREL CAGE

BY REID BUNDY

EYE-STOPPERS—Heading out on Torrance Blvd. the other evening was a late model coupe, its occupants evidently on the way home from work. In the car was a man wearing the round, nearly black glass commonly worn by the blind, and seated beside him was a large German police dog, complete with a seeing-eye harness. There was no one else in the car.

LATE FOR LUNCH—Professional man we know here has maintained for some time that he works only in the morning. We thought he must really have "arrived," being able to work such hours. The other evening, however, we walked into his office about 5 only to find him there working like crazy. He looked up and said, "Good morning."

THE BIG DEAL—In the reshuffle of telephone numbers before the big switch-over to dial operations today, Dr. William E. Grubbs, who lives at 23229 Falena Ave., in Kettler Knolls, was dealt five-of-a-kind. His new number is Davenport 6-6666.

COPPERS N.G.—Anybody want to buy some lead slugs? I've just been told that signs on some of the cigarette machines scattered around town say, "Use Only Silver Quarters."

ASK ME ANOTHER—In response to a sign stuck up on the amateur radio booth at the Hobby Show here last week-end which said "Questions Answered," two kindly ladies asked one of the youths who was busily soldering a couple of wires together, "What questions should we ask you?"

NEW SYSTEM—The man who cuts our hair about once a month says he has a new system of betting the bang-tails and he's trying to get Hollywood Park to cooperate by putting in a window where he can buy a two-buck ticket on the horse which will run dead last. "That way, I pick what I think's a winner, buy a ticket on him to lose, and I'm a shoo-in to win."

THE NINTH WONDER—Jerry Moore, a Narbonne High School vaulting star who last week won a berth in the state track eliminations, has attracted attention hereabouts in his vaulting, but it took Danny Marsh, another Narbonne student writing for a Lomita newspaper to point out what is probably the biggest attraction Moore has to offer. In a story carrying his by-line recently, Marsh wrote, "Jerry Moore, the Gaucho's toe-headed vaulting artist. . . . Or at least, that's the way it came out in the paper."

VIDEO VICTIMS—Watching baseball games, boxing matches and the like on television prompts a neighbor of ours to wonder just what in the world people wave their hands at the roving lens of the t.v. cameras came around to inspire the frantic flailing of arms to an unseen audience. Whenever a man, woman, or child suddenly realizes he's staring down the prismatic barrel of a television camera, the first reaction is to wave.

HANDY HINTS—The past week being National Secretaries Week moved a lass to tell us her formula for being a successful secretary: "Keep one jump ahead of the boss—especially at office parties."

DOODLE BUGS—Now that the telephone operators have been replaced with round little discs full of holes attached to your

telephone, Marv Hall wonders how everybody is going to keep up with the doodling that went on while waiting for "Number, please."

HE TALKS BACK—And, talking of television and boxing matches, another friend of ours

is the kind that talks back to announcers and pitchmen who are busily peddling their wares by way of your living room. While watching the Wednesday evening fights sponsored by the company that has its announcer ask, "What'll You Have?" our friend always replies, "Manischewitz."

SUDDEN THOUGHT—Which reminds us, wonder who will be the first guy to say, "I waited and waited for the operator—I forgot about the darned dial."

Blasting Cap Peril to Kids Cited by Chief

Warning boys and girls that summer's the time they're in greatest danger from blasting caps, Chief of Police J. H. Stroh, yesterday urged children and grown-ups to learn to recognize a cap at sight so they will never touch one.

"You can't 'play' safe with a blasting cap loaded with sensitive, powerful explosives," he said. "There's only one way to be safe with one—don't touch it."

"Blasting cap explosions that hurt children last year increased twelve and a half per cent in summer months over those occurring in fall and winter months," he said.

"That's because more blasting caps are used to detonate explosions, that do essential construction, mining, quarrying, and field clearing jobs, in the warm season. Of course more children

are outdoors where caps stray, get lost, or stolen, too."

Caps are bright metal tubes, about as big around as a pencil, an inch and a half to five inches long. They are made of aluminum or copper. Some are open at one end, some are closed by a fuse fixed in the end, and electric blasting caps have two wires coming from one end. Exposure to air and moisture, outdoors, can dull aluminum and

darken copper, but the sensitive explosive inside is still dangerous until detonated.

To show what caps look like and how dangerous are the explosions, the Institute of Makers of Explosives, 250 East 43rd Street, New York 17, N. Y., offers posters and a dramatic motion picture "Blasting Cap" with sound and in color, free to teachers or other safety group leaders, Stroh said.

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