

# Around the World with Stan Delaplane

**OCHO RIOS, JAMAICA** — Caribbean resort prices are high as the sky. Yet all the islands are jam-packed again this year. Friend of mine tried to get into a Virgin Islands hotel (\$80 a day for two!) and was told: "Not a thing open until March 1."

The Caribbean is a dressy country compared to the Pacific. Casual shorts, shirts and slacks during the day. But very expensive and elegant gear. You never see the muumus and cut-off blue jeans of Hawaii.

Men must wear a jacket and tie at dinner. Which means they had to air-condition the dining room. I miss the outdoors lanai dinner in an aloha shirt of the Pacific.

Free port buying (no tax, no duty) everywhere except Puerto Rico. Plenty of island fashion shops with bright print materials. But prices are no lower than at home — maybe higher. I'd buy my clothing at home and take it along. (For Hawaii, wait until you get there. Then buy.)

"We like to do skin diving — without too much expense. Do you know about the Virgin Islands? Can we do any commercial fishing to make money?"

You might do this inexpensively basing on Tortola in the British Virgins. It's not high resort territory. I imagine your accommodations would be

boarding house style. But cheap. For tops in skin diving, you want Anegada Reef — the last island in the chain. There are more than a hundred recorded wrecks on it. A few years ago I went out with skin divers who pulled up two British cannons from a wreck dating about 1700. There was Spanish galleon wreck alongside it. All this in 10 to 12 feet of water. White sand bottom and light enough to take underwater photographs.

I should say there were three eight-foot sharks nosing around nearby. The captain diver had some insane idea that all you had to do if they came toward you was to charge them.

"Charge them on what?" I asked. "Their Diners Club card?"

He said: "Everything in the sea has something about to eat them. If you swim right at the shark, he thinks you're going to eat him." I stayed in the boat.

There's one known Spanish wreck with a million dollars of Mexican gold. Ah, but which one? — That's the question. You

cannot fish and sell the catch. Or you can, but the local fishermen soon find out and turn you in to Immigration. Out!

"We cannot really find out what we can take to Europe. For instance, friends tell us you can't take film into France."

The rulebook says you can take in 10 rolls. But I've NEVER had any Customs people ask me about the film — that's the way it works. I haven't had to open my baggage anywhere in Europe the last three or four years.

Most Customs men just go through the motions of asking if you have anything to declare. The rules were made a long time ago to pick off smugglers. Now a couple of million people — non-smugglers — are moving through these countries.

The usual going into Britain is like this: Customs: "Anything to declare? Any presents? Liquor? Tobacco?" Me: "I've got one recording for a friend. One bottle of Scotch. Three cartons of cigarettes" (You're allowed two) "But I'm only here a week and going on to Germany." Customs: "All right."

"If we want to go around Europe by scooter, which is the best?"

The one you see most is the Italian Vespa. Must mean it's the cheapest and best for repairs. The two side luggage compartments someone told me, "Are just big enough for two sandwiches, a bottle of wine and two bathing suits." (There's a seat on the back for the girl.)

"Could we hitchhike in Mexico?"

Poor hitchhiking country according to my hitchhike experts. They nix Mexico, Spain, and North Africa. Also, I never see any hitchhikers on Mexican highways. There must be a reason.

Mexican border people are cool toward beards, long hair, and guitars carried by the wearers. A lot of them came in a year ago and settled in an area where the Indians still do peyote

## Your '69 Registration Notice May Be Wrong

Up to half a million California vehicle owners will find that the 1969 registration renewal notices they received from the Department of Motor Vehicles are incorrect. Most will get automatic corrections by Dec. 31, but many won't until they do something about their own records.

Elmer A. Barnes, manager of the Torrance office, offered this explanation: "It takes a month to stuff 12 million renewal notices into envelopes at DMV's Sacramento headquarters — even when it's done by machine. DMV started its annual chore of printing the cards and putting them in envelopes Nov. 1 and

ceremonies — peyote puts the user on the chandeler. The Mexican police got very starry about the visitors and gave them the heave-ho.

## Crackdown On Drunk Drivers Set

Drunk driving is bad news, anytime. But drunk driving around Christmas and New Years is even worse news, mostly because there seems to be more of it. Capt. P. J. Ford of the California Highway Patrol warns.

He urges drivers to keep Christmas merry by keeping out of the driver's seat when they've been drinking.

The Patrol will have extra men on the road, to try to get the drunk drivers off before the accidents happen — and to clear the wreckage after the ones that do happen.

"The best gift you can give your loved ones is your good health. Be sober and safe on the highway this holiday season and be around to enjoy a happy New Year," Captain Ford advised.

# BETTER FOODS MARKETS

## MERRY CHRISTMAS

Come In . . . Stock Up, Save On All Fine Foods You'll

**Holiday Specials in Our Delicatessen**



**CREAM CHEESE** Large 8-oz. Pkg. **33¢**

Better Foods' Own Tender, Juicy **FRANKS** Full Pound Package **59¢**

**TAMALES** 1/2 Pound Each **4 for \$1**

**PORK ROAST** FRESH PICNIC SHOULDER Eastern, Grain-fed **33¢** lb.

**COUNTRY STYLE SPARERIBS** LB. **59¢**

**COUNTRY STYLE SAUSAGE** Our Own, Fresh Pure Pork **49¢** lb.

**USDA CHOICE BONELESS STEAK TOP SIRLOIN** Lean, Choice Steer Beef **\$1.49** lb.

**SPENCER STEAKS** Lean, Tender **1.79** lb.

**CUBE STEAKS** Tenderized, Waste-Free **98¢** lb.

**BONELESS ROAST** Rolled Clod or Brisket **89¢** lb.

**CHICKEN FRY STEAKS** **79¢** lb.

**SMOKED HAM** FULLY COOKED **49¢** lb.

**SHANK HALF** **49¢** lb.

**BUTT END SMOKED HAM** **65¢** lb.

**HAM SLICES** CENTER CUT **1.09** lb.

**SLICED BACON** EASTERN, SUGAR-CURED **59¢** Pound Carton

**ANY CANNED HAM** 5-lbs. or Larger **FREE! 500 EXTRA BLUE CHIP STAMPS** Given With Purchase of

**MORE Good Food for LESS Money . . . MORE Exciting Ad Specials . . . MORE Low, Low Prices**

**MIXED NUTS** New Crop! LARGE, Extra Fancy (While Supply Lasts) **3 lbs. for \$1**

**TANGERINES** Extra Fancy Large, Easy-to-peel Sweet 'n Juicy **10¢** lb.

**CELERY** Extra Fancy, Utah-Type **10¢** Each

**JUMBO YAMS** Ruby Red Velvet **2 lbs. for \$1.19**

**PURE CREAMERY BUTTER** Grade AA — First Quality Foremost 1-Pound Carton **79¢**

**C-H Pure Cane SUGAR** Powdered, Light Brown, or Dark Brown 1-Pound Cartons **2 for \$2.29**

**OCEAN SPRAY CRANBERRY SAUCE** Whole or Jellied No. 300 Tall Can **17¢**

**MJB COFFEE** 1-lb. Can **69¢**, 2-lb. Can **\$1.37**, 3-lb. Can **\$1.99**

**Golden Creme Rolls Brown 'n Serve** Pkg. of 12 **35¢**

**DAIRY FRESH** AA Med. **61¢**, AA Large **65¢**, Ec. Lge. **69¢**, AA Med. **63¢**, AA Large **67¢**, Ec. Large **71¢**

**Birdseye Vegetables Fordhook Limas** Pkg. **39¢**

**Best Ice Cream, Box of 4 SNOWBALLS** **98¢**

**PIZZA ROLLS** Jen's—SAVE 10c All Varieties 6-oz. Frozen Pkg. **59¢**

**JOHN'S PIZZA** Original—Cheese or Sausage or TAQUITOS Mar-kes Frozen 15-oz. Reg. Pkg. **79¢**

**BURRITOS** **55¢** Reg. Pkg.

**POULTRY SEASONING** Schilling 1 1/4-oz. **53¢**

**GLORIETTA TOMATO JUICE** 46-oz. Can **39¢**

**PAPER PLATES** BONDWARE Party-Pak 150, \$1.55 Pkg. of 80 9-inch **89¢**

**QUICKER OATS** 3 Minute Brand 42-oz. Large Pkg. **49¢**

**MINCEMEAT** BORDEN'S None-Such 9-oz. Pkg. **35¢**

28-oz. Jar **69¢** With Rum & Brandy, 18-oz., **63¢**

**REYNOLDS WRAP** 12" Roll 25-ft. **29¢**

**Birdseye Breakfast Drink AWAKE** Frozen/SAVE 17c **3 for \$1**

**Vita-Pakt Florida—SAVE 10c JUICE** GRAPEFRUIT SAVE 10c Quart Bottle **39¢**

**Rich's Chocolate Eclairs or Bavarian CREAM PUFFS** Frozen Reg. Pkg. **49¢**

**Russette's Frozen Potato HASH BROWNS** 12-oz. Pkg. **5 for \$1**

**Swift's Fresh, Pure Margarine ALLSWIET** Special Offer SAVE 6c 1-Lb. Carton **25¢**

**Treesweet (12-oz. Can, 49c) ORANGE JUICE** Frozen 6-oz. Cans **4 for \$1**

**Betty Crocker POTATOES** SCALLOPED 5 1/2-oz. Pkg. **49¢**

**OLIVE OIL** Bertolli Pure, Imported FULL QUART **\$1.39**

7 1/4-oz. Size **49¢** SAVE 20C