

### THE SQUIRREL CAGE

BY REID RUNDY

**DISARMAMENT MOANED** — Jim Crawford tells me he had a few hand grenades left over as souvenirs after World War II, but was talked into getting rid of them by a safety-minded police department a few years ago. He now says he wishes he'd kept a couple, what with the reviving of Little Audrey, hand-sies, and knock-knock jokes.

**NOTE FOR TRACY**—Chester Gould, creator of Dick Tracy, could well note the real-life situation that developed in Los Angeles recently. A young man picked up by police on a charge of violating the state narcotics acts gave his name as Needles.

**HOW APROPOS**—Along the same line, a San Pedro man was arrested recently on a charge of beating up a car parker named Parker.

**AD-LINES**—The "Builder" of the Walteria Methodist Church, a monthly mimeographed publication for members of the church, had a classified ad in it last week which went: "Wanted: Men, women, and children to sit in slightly used chairs each Sunday morning at 11."

**STREET SCENES**—A man walking down busy Sartori last Friday was fighting his way through the week-end shoppers with some difficulty. He was pushing an obviously used lawnmower. . . . On the same street a few days earlier, a real sign that summer had arrived—an ancient convertible full of kids with wet bathing suits hanging from the door handles.

**IT'S THE VIEWPOINT**—A tall and stately girl is a long, skinny kid with money, someone once said.

**SIGN LANGUAGE**—Printed on the tall-gate of a pick-up truck belonging to a body and fender shop is the slogan: "May We Have the Next Dent?"

**MIGHTY MIDGETS**—A corner grocery store east of here is called the Midget Super Market.

**WRONG MOVE**—A neighbor told us the other day that she tried to give her small son a few bites of the choice steak she was serving for dinner—his first taste of the stuff. He cried until his mother fixed him the hamburger patty he was used to.

#### Reflections

By J. HUGH SHERFEY, JR.

#### WHERE PEACE IS BORN

Most of us have wished for that one spot, a spot of sanctuary, where cares and tribulations vanish; few of us have found it. Ann Squires did.

When Ann was ten an accident severed a nerve. Her feet shriveled, became useless and a wheel chair was her lot. She fought it, became bitter. She was sure that quiet and peace on an island, desert, or mountain valley would do what World Renown Medical Men couldn't do. She was taken to an island paradise; then to a desert oasis; and finally to a hidden lake in a forest. Ann gave up, physically and mentally. On her 25th birthday she was taken back to the home where she was born. She prayed for death.

Their gardner planted a leaf of an African violet. It grew. Ann planted one, watched it grow, bloom. She was excited; planted other flowers, nurtured them, saw them blossom. This girl who had searched over the face of the world for sanctuary, found it in a flower garden, at the home of nativity.

Peace isn't born on an island but within ourselves, doing creative things that Nature endorses.

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### Free Water Safety Instruction Offered in Most Parts of County

By ROY O. GILBERT, M.D.  
Los Angeles County Health Officer

During the next few weeks more than 100 swimming pools in most parts of Los Angeles County will offer free courses in swimming and life saving to persons of all ages. The courses will average about 10 lessons and will be repeated from time to time during the summer months. Separate courses for beginning, intermediate, and advanced swimmers will be given and instruction will meet the standards of the Water Safety Division of the American Red Cross. It is estimated that about 15,000 persons, most of them between the ages of 7 and 18 will receive ARC certificates for successful completion of tests which terminate each course.

Almost 90 per cent of the instruction will be devoted to teaching the various skills in the art of swimming. The remaining 10 per cent, but a very important part, will be aimed at teaching the other fundamentals of water safety. Beginners, even before they are allowed to get wet, will know the limits of the area within which they should confine their activities. They will understand the reasons behind strict regulations against running on wet decks, and pushing, shoving, or ducking of other individuals. The safety factor inherent in the "Buddy" system of helping out so that one person can help another will first be emphasized and the class will be conducted on that basis. At the end of the course almost every member of the class will know how to jump or dive into deep water, swim 15 yards and return. They will also be able to float for at least a short period of time. Students in the more advanced courses are taught to master more complicated swimming skills which can later be adapted to helping themselves and others should an emergency arise. They are also taught non-swimming methods of helping persons in distress through the use of ropes, poles, clothing, floating objects and other equipment. The safe passenger capacity of small boats and their use in life saving is explained and demonstrated. Junior Lifesaving is open to anyone between the ages of 12 and 15. The minimum age for the Senior course is 16 years, and the Instructor course is open to persons who are 18 years of age or over and who have completed the Senior requirements. It is only in these lifesaving courses that students are allowed to practice the techniques of rescue through means of swimming. Last year more than 4000 persons died from drowning. Most of these deaths could have been prevented had these people learned the rules of swimming and water safety as taught by the ARC. Parents or youngsters who are interested in any of these courses may obtain further information from their local municipal pool, Department of Recreation, or American National Red Cross Chapter. Pamphlets on swimming safety may be obtained by sending a card of request to the Los Angeles County Health Department, 241 North Figueroa, Los Angeles 12.

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