

...the old-fashioned way of living in the North country in winter... the snow is so deep that many animals are far better than I to cope with the cold and snow and ice and are just waiting for that moment when I shall relax, drop my constant guard, and then move in and take over.

I have never minded them, especially, but I haven't gone into ecstasies over them either. Perhaps it is because I have seen too many of them in my woods, or seen the not inconsiderable damage they have done to crops and cars that I am tempted to yawn a little when urged to rush out and see the deer by the road, in the yard or in the orchard. They add to the feeling of living close to nature, I suppose. But they have never evoked in me that bright-eyed wonder that I've seen on the faces of some of my friends when they have come upon one on the path to the lake.

And I rather like the flock of partridges who fly into the yard each dawn and dust to eat the barberries. Their feather marks on the fresh snow and sharp tracks are more distinct each day as more and more of them come from the grove to the hedge for their breakfast and supper. I enjoy watching the chickens and the voracious blue hens who take away every crumb from the feeding stations. After all, they have been invited and are welcome guests.

However, a most unwelcome one has moved under my kitchen. I have no idea how to get rid of him either. For days I noticed that my dog was pawing the floor under which there is no cellar. And then I heard the gnawing from underneath - sometimes for hours on end. I took some loose boards up and lay on the floor to look around with a flash light. There in a far corner under the sink was the biggest and fattest porcupine I have ever seen - all bristled up in challenge.

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Things have improved through the years though. One fall the animals won the battle and we moved out swiftly - although we were going to Georgia for the worst of the winter anyway. There had been a rather severe drought and the fields were parched and barren when fall came. It seemed as if a whole army of rats moved in - without warning. We trapped them, poisoned them, shot them - but there were more each day. It was before we had electricity in this part of Maine and you had to carry a kerosene lamp whether

you went into the pantry or down cellar. One night as I was taking some food to the screened chest in the milk cellar a rat jumped from a shelf over the stairs and landed on my shoulder. I dropped both lamp and food and stumbled screaming up the stairs sweating. I'd never go down cellar again after dark. When I went in the pantry next day one attacked me from behind and bit me in the ankle. I dropped all the dishes I was carrying, too. After one had bitten me in the hand when I opened the garbage can, I used a stick to take the cover off - until one ran up the stick and bit my fingers. I was getting a little discouraged. We had caught twenty in one day in traps in the cellar and wood shed.

My grandfather had come over to help us get rid of them. As he sat rocking in the kitchen, we discussed various new plans of battle to outwit the horde of rats. I longed for a Pied Piper, for a miracle to happen. But what did happen was more effective and less pleasant. It seems funny in retrospect - but it wasn't then. Even as we sat talking, we heard the most furious screaming, then screeching from the cellar - and such a noise of scamping that it sounded as if a thousand rats were running all at once. And the whole kitchen became permeated with a choking odor, it was almost impossible to breathe. A new family had moved in, all right, and all the rats moved out. We did, too. You can't compete with a family of skunks determined to live in your cellar for the winter.

HELEN CALDWELL CUSHMAN

DAILY CROSSWORD puzzle with grid and clues. Clues include: Across: 1. Sloping roadway, 6. A defile (Ind.), 10. Flower, 11. Sheeplike, 12. Relieve, 14. Long view, 15. Burst forth, as a volcano, 16. Enmet, 17. Old measure for wool, 18. Coin (Brax.), 20. Departs, 22. Eye ely, 23. Fish, 24. Exclamation, 25. Edible mollusk, 28. In the direction of, 32. Youth, 33. River (Chin.), 34. Female ruff, 35. Ascended, 37. Form, 39. A king of Crete (Gr-myth.), 40. Edible rootstocks, 41. Military assistant, 42. Guido's highest note (poss.), 43. Former Russian ruler, 44. To be excessively fond of.

Inside WASHINGTON MARCH OF EVENTS

Korea Army Withdrawals Arouses Little Criticism | Congressmen See Selves Getting Pay Rise Soon

WASHINGTON—President Eisenhower's decision to withdraw two United States Army divisions from Korea stirred up virtually no criticism by Washington armchair strategists even though no assured peace has been reached with the Reds.

Second, the move holds out strong hope that a reduction of forces overseas obviously spells out the possibility of additional cuts in military spending. Even though the man in the street hasn't shown the interest in economy that accompanies other developments in Washington, grass roots observers report that the public is keenly interested in the President's avowed intention of balancing the federal budget and reducing taxes.

PAY BOOST PREDICTED—Members of Congress are privately confident they will win a pay boost in the coming year and they are perfectly willing to give the same treatment to federal judges. A national commission recently conducted hearings on the problem and gave numerous indications that the salary hike will be recommended. Congressmen will be merely required to approve the recommendations made by the 18-member board.

CHARITY CRACKDOWN—There will be a strong movement underway in the new session of Congress to tighten controls on charity "racketeering" in the wake of disclosures made by a New York state legislative investigation of abuses. Several House members have announced they will press for action on bills aimed at preventing the American public from being bilked by unscrupulous operations.

JET TRANSPORTS—There is growing optimism among Air Force officials that America's first jet transport plane is on the way. The pioneer in the field is Boeing's 707, now under construction at the firm's Seattle plant. High ranking officers recently inspected the prototype jet which is expected to make its maiden flight next autumn. Their main interest was centered on the possibility that the transport might be converted into a refueling tanker for jet bombers in the event of war.

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SENATOR REPORTS

WASHINGTON—We got the budget from the White House last week. Imagine a book larger than a catalog - it has over 1200 pages - and in fine print. Some of the reporters called right away to see what was my reaction to the budget.

My reaction was that it will take a long time to wade through a budget as big as this one and one that proposes to spend about 6 billions of dollars. That being the case, it's not possible to immediately say where cuts can be made, but I honestly feel that some cuts must be made. The budget, as proposed, will show a deficit of 3.9 billions of dollars for fiscal 1955 to operate Federal government. I believe we must balance the budget. Commendable steps in that direction have been taken and the gap has been narrowed, but a little more fat has to be squeezed out of it. We must do this to keep from raising the national debt limit. I hope and believe Congress can find a way to do it.

Opposition The Senate worked late at night to get the debate completed on the Saint Lawrence Seaway Bill. I voted against it. So did Senator Hoey. I feel that the construction of this project would do a lot to disturb our expanding port facilities. As you know, North Carolina has spent over seven millions of dollars in our port projects. There are many other reasons why the project seemed unnecessary. The Senate passed the Bill 51 to 33. It now is up to the House of Representatives.

School Bill I joined with Senator McClellan and a number of other Senators in the introduction of a bill to provide for Federal assistance to the states in the construction of public elementary and secondary school facilities. Under the proposed bill, North Carolina would be helped. Our schools need it to take care of the rapidly expanding school population. We prepared the bill to eliminate any danger of Federal control and supervision of the public school systems of the several states. My thinking is that some of the money we are now spending overseas for economic aid can be put to good use in this country where the greatest need for assistance exists. The bill is patterned after the Hill-Burton Act which has done so much for our folks in the hospital and public health field.

Refinement I am in favor of the Mason Bill which would allow tax exemption for all retired employees with retirement incomes up to \$125 per month. This bill is being studied by the House Ways and Means Committee and I think it is sound. It seems unfair to tax retired folks who have such a little amount of money anyway.

Letter Carriers Delegates of the North Carolina Letter Carriers Association came by to see me last week. They were from all parts of North Carolina. As I am a member of the Post Office and Civil Service Committee, they felt that I should have the benefit of their thinking about salary increases. I was glad to see them. I told them how important all postal workers, including rural carriers, are and how they represent Uncle Sam. I think we are all proud of what the postal workers and rural carriers are doing, and I am anxious to see that they are treated fairly.

Visit To Oxford I am looking forward to my visit Friday night in Oxford. The Tobacco Experiment Station there has done outstanding work. The people here in Washington speak most highly of it and they point out it's the largest in the world. Dr. D. M. Crooks, head of the tobacco

STRAIN ON THE 1954 POLITICAL RESOLUTIONS. According to an old saying, there is a time for all things - but the wise man prefers to tackle one thing at a time. Argument settles but one thing - and that is it settles nothing. Forget yesterday, talk about today and think about tomorrow.

PARENT PROBLEMS

Children of "Model" Parents

By GARRY CLEVELAND MYERS, Ph.D. MORE than 1,000,000 children ran afoul of the law in the United States in 1953. Of this number, 270,000 appeared before juvenile courts. These courts heard another 110,000 cases brought by parents, teachers and social agencies.

Juvenile delinquency rose 29 per cent between 1948 and 1952, while the number of children 10 to 17 years of age increased only 6 per cent. So reported Dr. Martha M. Elliot, Chief of the Children's Bureau, recently, before the Senate Judiciary Committee. Privileged Children Witness after witness, according to the public press, declared that delinquency was not confined to slum areas. Apparently the rate of increase in juvenile delinquency has been fastest among children from comfortable, privileged families. So we have also been reading and hearing now for several months. This must be a disillusionment to the many persons who have all along supposed that crime is chiefly an economic matter.

During Prosperity Significantly, this unprecedented increase in juvenile delinquency occurred during a period of fabulous growth in prosperity in the United States. Those who have read my column during

this period and earlier know that for years I've been warning all parents not to trust to mere material advantages at home for building good citizenship in their growing children. Yet it is reasonable to expect that almost no children growing up in comfortable homes and communities, with parents of superior education and family background, should become juvenile delinquents.

We should not condemn even these parents wholesale. Most of them are trying to use the methods of rearing their children which they suppose the rank and file of experts advise. These parents suppose they have been warned against restraining their children, lest they harm these children's personalities and frustrate them; and it's been the parents among the intelligentsia who have been first in accepting this advice and most faithful in following it.

The Model Parents When parents who are looked up to as among the "best" in their community turn their back on the prophets of no-restraints and stiffen up in home discipline of their own little children, we might soon see a marked decline in juvenile delinquency. (My bulletin "How Juvenile Delinquency Can Be Curbed" may be had by sending a self-addressed, stamped envelope to me in care of this newspaper.)

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ALL SET! FOR ANOTHER BIG YEAR OF TELEPHONE PROGRESS. Last Year... TELEPHONES increased in number from 106,362 to 113,697 last year. RURAL TELEPHONES... over 1,257 new rural subscribers were served in 1953. LONG DISTANCE CIRCUITS... over 9,000 miles of long distance circuits were added during 1953. FOR THESE AND OTHER PROJECTS TO BRING YOU AND EASTERN CAROLINA BETTER TELEPHONE SERVICE, YOUR TELEPHONE COMPANY INVESTED MORE THAN SEVEN MILLION DOLLARS IN 1953. proof of faith in the future of Eastern Carolina. As big as last year's job was, the end is not yet in sight. To meet the unprecedented demand for telephone services in towns and on the farm, we must go on building, contributing our full share to the progress and prosperity of Eastern North Carolina. Because the job is here... and expensive... and vital, it is important that we have sufficient earnings to attract new capital required to continue this program. CAROLINA TELEPHONE and TELEGRAPH COMPANY