

Volunteer

Warsaw, and like the Poles, he often found himself watching American-made movies. "The kids there love Westerns," he commented.

Also in the Polish custom, he spent many pleasant hours visiting with friends he had met in the course of his work. "They (Poles) spend a lot of time visiting," he explained. "Especially in the smaller towns; they get together and have tea and cakes. In the larger cities they go to cafes and cabarets."

Remembering the times he spent in homes of friends, John told us, "They treat guests in Poland almost like a king," and explained how dining is much more a part of their social interchange than it is in our country where so often we rush through meals or skip them entirely for more fast-paced pleasures.

Oddly enough, he noticed that most homes were not equipped with stoves or ovens. Instead, they usually had only a hot plate, wood burning stove or cooking unit similar to a deep electric frying pan.

One of The Poles' favorite

forms of entertainment, strange as it may sound to us, is mushroom hunting. John described how, whole families will go out on excursions into the woods with an informal picnic air, and search for mushrooms. He assured us that they are expert at selecting mushrooms and know which ones are poisonous and which are not.

Crossed Border Six Times

"I crossed the (Polish) border six times by train," John reported. We wanted to know if he had any trouble at check points since he was a foreigner from the free world.

"Not really," he answered. "They figure you don't understand the language, anyway. It's necessary to register only your camera and your radio. But when they look at your passport . . ."

He hesitated, then went on to explain how the guards meticulously examine the passports to check if the photograph matches the face. "They look at the passport, then look at you,

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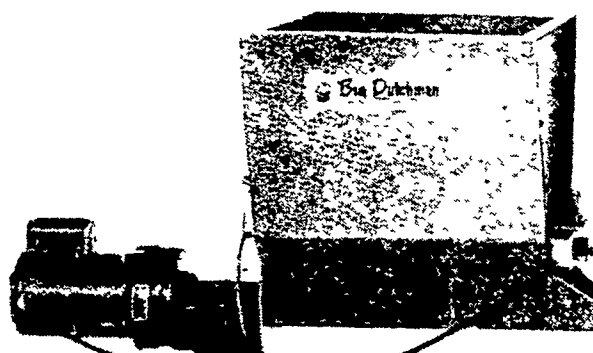


John K. Graybill, Jr., Manheim R1, spoke recently about his two year work experience in Poland under the auspices of the Brethren Volunteer Service. The wooden box he is holding is one of the

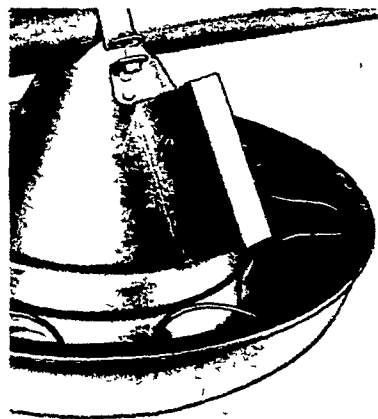
many beautiful hand-carved articles made by the people who live in the Tarry Mountains located in southern Poland.

Big Dutchman. Controlled

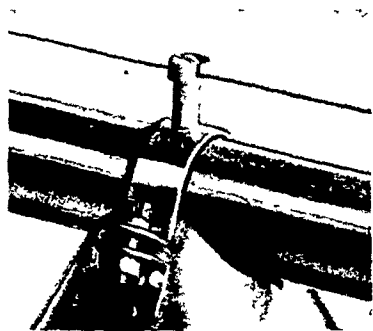
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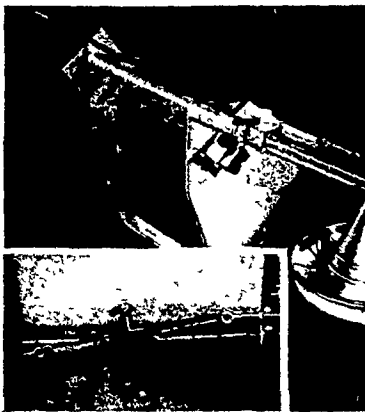
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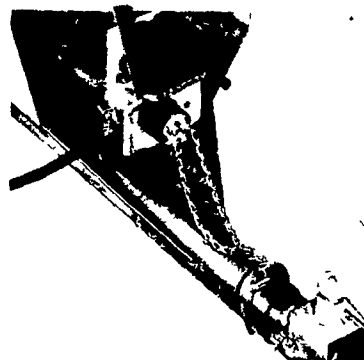
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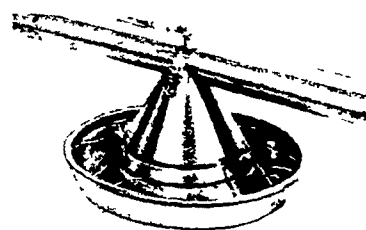
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