

Requests, Threats, Commands Come To President in 25 Letters Daily

"Give me complete information about the course in industrial engineering with an accurate description of all the courses and the exact expenses. My grandson, now in the fourth grade, intends to enter your course." Another letter has reached the office of the President for his attention.

"Take care that my son meets the right people and that he joins the right fraternity," another asks. At the rate of twenty-five letters a day, the administrator's office is besieged with requests, threats, and commands.

Each year more than two hundred separate letters reach the office asking that some student be given special consideration for admittance over others which the Registrar of the College has refused. All these are quickly returned to the Registrar, Adrian O. Morse, executive secretary said.

As grades come out, letters hurry to the President assuring him that there was some mistake about John having flunked out. They promise that if John is allowed to return he will be a model of scholastic excellence. They say he is marvelously retentive, but not brilliant in mind.

Many persons seek jobs through the office. Ten times as many persons as ever before have asked for places on the faculty this year.

Career Of The Lad Who 'Brought 'Em Back Alive'

A small boy, armed only with a forked stick, went out after school one day about thirty years ago, and searched for rattlesnakes in the mesquite country near San Angelo, Texas.

Less than one year ago a famous grown man, in pith helmet and shorts, a revolver in his holster, and carrying a looped stick, captured a thirty-foot python in the Sumatran jungle.

And between these paragraphs lies the history of Frank Buck, who led the Van Beuren-Buck Expedition which resulted in "Bring 'Em Back Alive," which comes to the Cathaum Theatre, Monday.

The boy of the rattlesnake was Frank Buck, who captured the python. It is from such beginnings that most of the true big game collectors got their start.

When Frank Buck was a boy in West Texas his horrified mother came upon him one day in a corner of the corral. The boy had caught a copperhead, which is no less deadly than the rattler. His idea then was to give a show which would include a couple of copperheads, a coyote, a Gila monster, and whatever other animals were available.

Mrs. Buck, needless to say, indefinitely postponed her ambitious offspring's debut in the wild animal business. But when the boy grew older and was somewhat more on his own, he heard about a man in Rochester, N. Y., who actually paid fifty cents apiece for every rattler delivered alive to his laboratory where he manufactured snake oil for rheumatism, and also did a thriving business in supplying medicine shows with live reptiles. To a small boy in West Texas it seemed incredible that anyone would pay a cartwheel, or silver dollar, for two measly rattlers. So he determined not to miss his chance. Following up this lead, the boy snake-catcher made good sums of money for the dexterity he soon acquired. He never was bitten, although a childhood friend, engaged in the same occupation, was killed by one of the snakes.

The next profit the boy made on animals was one of his few departures from the code, "Bring 'Em Back Alive," which in later years he adopted formally. Tom Green County, Texas, offered a bounty of \$2.50 for every coyote scalp delivered at the courthouse. So young Buck invented a scheme. Whenever butchering time was near, Frank would take the carcass of a calf and slip a rope around it. Then he would tie the rope to the pommel of his saddle and drag the carcass around to a spot he had chosen. The coyotes would get the scent and follow it to a ditch Frank had dug. It was then a case of good shooting and bringing the scalp to the courthouse.

He left Texas and went to Chicago, where he worked as a bank clerk, always maintaining some contact with animals; and always following his self-planned study of natural history. He did not attend college, but through his own efforts he acquired considerable scientific knowledge of animals, their habits, anatomy, and peculiarities. In those days he acquired a great deal of information on some specimens which appear in "Bring 'Em Back Alive," the RKO-Radio picture—the giant monitor lizard and the honeybees, to name two—but which Mr. Buck did not actually see until years later.

He scrimped and saved enough money to finance a personal trip to South America, and with his knowledge of ornithology and several lucky "breaks," he was able to cover the expenses of his trip and show a small profit. Obtaining financial backing, he began his career in earnest. In two years he made another trip to South America and his first to Africa. Since then not a year passed which did not find him, some of the time, in a part of the uncivilized world, "bringing 'em back alive." He could not resist adding a few live specimens when he went on the Van Beuren-Buck Expedition, which was planned as a purely motion picture assignment, directed by Clyde E. Elliott.

BACKWARD PUPILS COST MILLIONS

Slippery Rock Head Discusses Need for Larger Unit To Cut Great Waste

Backward children in one-room rural schools cost Pennsylvania many millions each year because it takes them eleven years to complete their studies through the eighth grade.

This statement was made Wednesday at the public school superintendents' conference at the College by Dr. J. Linwood Eisenberg, president of the State Teachers College at Slippery Rock, and chairman of the larger unit committee of the Commission for the Study of Educational Problems in Pennsylvania.

There are 59,000 boys and girls in one-room schools who must attend school for three years more than the usually required period of eight years, according to records in the State Department of Public Instruction, Dr. Eisenberg said. At a minimum cost of \$75 per year required for these pupils to get through eighth grade, the added expense totals \$13,275,000, the annual retardation bill for one-room schools alone. Even if this retardation item could be cut by forty percent, Dr. Eisenberg said, there could be a saving of more than five millions in rural education costs.

He advocated the adoption in this State of the Commission's proposal for the larger unit of school administration as an opportunity for cutting down this great waste. Through it, he said, there can be greater use of combined school facilities, better teachers and better instruction, and more attention given backward pupils.

His figures did not include the large number of pupils retarded one or two years in rural schools, where additional millions could be saved by efficiency in school operation which he maintained would accrue through the larger unit plan.

Old-Timers Forsee Bad Weather Spell

"I've never seen it fail but once." That's how old-timers are referring to the probability of inclement weather for the student exodus next week-end.

"I'm not the sort to be looking for trouble, but I've been in State College a good many years and every time the students leave town, for vacation or close of a school term, it rains, snows, or sleets," the towns-folk are saying. "Two years ago last Easter was the only exception," several claim.

DRAMA CLASSES PLAN PLAYS, EXHIBITION

Persons interested in dramatics will have the opportunity to attend final plays and displays offered by summer session classes in dramatics next week.

Section one in play production will give three one-act plays in the Little Theatre at 8 o'clock Tuesday night while section two will present three one-act plays at 8 o'clock Thursday. Classes in stagecraft will hold a display of model stages in the Little Theatre Wednesday and Thursday. The class in children's dramatics will present four marionette plays on Wednesday, first at 4 o'clock for children and later at 8 o'clock for grown-ups. The plays will be "Cinderella," "Ali Baba," "Snow White," and "Beauty and the Beast." "Gingno!" and shadow plays will also be given.

A limited number of tickets are available with admission free. Tickets may be secured at 418 Old Man.

FINDS ELEMENTARY TEACHER SHORTAGE

Newly-Trained First Grade Instructors Scare, Head of Shippensburg Says

There is a shortage of newly-trained elementary public school teachers in Pennsylvania, said Dr. Albert Rowland, president of the State Teachers College at Shippensburg, at the opening session Wednesday of the annual school superintendents' conference here. He made a progress report, as chairman of the committee on teacher preparation, for the Commission for Study of Educational Problems in Pennsylvania.

Dr. Rowland qualified his statement to indicate that school boards generally are swamped with applications from former teachers who have not been in the profession for a number of years, but are being drawn back through depression conditions. Many such applicants are married women whose husbands are out of work, one reason why the teaching market is suffering from an over-supply this year, he said. Other former teachers seek to return, but he estimated that Pennsylvania's public schools could more profitably use newly-trained elementary teachers to fill vacancies. It is not a good thing for boards to employ people who have been out of touch with professional training for five years or more, he said.

His remarks were based upon figures obtained when 44,000 public school teachers of Pennsylvania were questioned concerning the situation.

The committee reports that 8,938 teachers were in new positions in Pennsylvania public schools during 1930-31, of whom 21 percent, or 6,946, were teachers who had not before taught in Pennsylvania. "It is perhaps safe," Dr. Rowland said, "to assume that approximately 6,000 new teachers will be required annually from all sources in normal years."

ARRANGEMENTS MADE FOR FARMERS WEEK

Parkinson Announces Third Annual Observance August 22-25

Arrangements have been completed to hold the third annual Future Farmers Week at the Pennsylvania State College, August 22 to 25, announced Professor H. G. Parkinson, head of the rural education department.

Activities are conducted by the State Department of Public Instruction for Pennsylvania vocational boys studying agriculture, and their instructors. Persons attending the activities will register Monday afternoon, August 22.

Dean Ralph L. Watts, of the school of agriculture, will welcome the visitors at a get-acquainted meeting in the college auditorium the first evening. Other features of the program include: dairy cattle, livestock, and poultry judging contests, a state-wide public speaking contest, a baseball tournament, a farm shop contest, meeting of Future Farmers of America delegates, classes, inspection trips, general meetings, moving pictures, and announcement of awards.

QUOTES ELEPHANTS C. O. D.

The average price an elephant will bring is \$2,500, delivered in New York or San Francisco, according to Frank Buck, whose thrilling jungle adventure, "Bring 'Em Back Alive," RKO-Radio Picture, comes to the Cathaum Theatre Monday.

WHAT PRICE BENGAL TIGERS?

Twelve hundred dollars sound like a lot of money for a man-eating tiger, but there is a slim margin of profit when one considers the cost of equipping an expedition, shipping the animal, and the risk and years of experience involved, according to Frank Buck, whose thrilling "Bring 'Em Back Alive," RKO-Radio Picture, comes to the Cathaum Theatre Monday. Yet, Mr. Buck has brought in more than one hundred Royal Bengal tigers from Asiatic wilds over a period of twenty years. One such tiger is shown at death grips with a thirty-foot python in "Bring 'Em Back Alive."


ART EXHIBITION

Townpeople are invited to attend the exhibition of art students work during summer session to be held in Exhibition Hall, Main Engineering building Thursday from 8 a. m. until 5 p. m. The exhibition includes work in art education.

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