

ROVING REPORTER

• Mrs. Tony Schuetz

SAND FLEA EGGS

With Christmas all over I have been doing a dab of house cleaning. A lot of things connected with the same job cause me great anguish, so I thought if I had to go to bed from house cleaning I'd rather do it after Christmas. Washing windows is one of 'em. And if anyone thinks two window panes in front are still dirty, don't worry, they are. They are of such antiquity that they are full of air bubbles, and tiny little knots that stick out, which might be sand fleas eggs just waiting to hatch out as allergic as I am to fleas I hate to disturb the little devils if they really are in there and as antique glass is fragile and breaks very easily I didn't expend too much elbow grease on those two. But what I can't figure is, as old as they are they should be a beautiful purple shade instead of plain old tattle-tale grey.

Floydona McClelland Writes from Venezuela

I'm sending in a copy of a letter from Floydona McClelland which I'm sure will be interesting to her many friends in Beaverhead County. And I quote:

"It sounds as though you were getting lots of winter weather up there, at least you'll have a nice white Christmas.

I work with the M.A.C. Extension Agricola service in Venezuela and there are about 7 other people in our office. The Veterinarian, Forester, Demonstrators and Extension Agent all work through M.A.C. work solely with 5-V Clubs—comparable to our 4-H clubs—and with the Demonstrators. Most of our days are spent in the country working with girls on their projects, giving demonstrations, getting to know the Campeñinos or trying to get across how 5-V is supposed to operate.

When I first arrived in Biscucuy and started going out and meeting the people I was greeted with mostly shyness and a little skepticism but the more I get to know the people and the better I get to speak the Spanish language they become. They are very anxious to talk about the U. S., what I'm doing here, although I still don't think they are too sure even after I tell them. Do I like Venezuela and so on.

People are continually asking me why Americans hate the negroes and I even had one girl who is a negro say, "I can't go to the U. S., can I, as the people will hate me and want to kill me."

One of my best friends in our group is a negro girl and it really helped a lot to break some of the ice when she came to see me and we went walking together and visiting here in Biscucuy. Thank the Lord for Paulina.

Since the average height here is about four inches shorter than I am they get a kick out of asking me how I grew so tall, they make a joke of my broken Spanish and they often sneak up behind me to stroke my hair to see if it really grows out of my head as there aren't many blondes here. One thing however, when they make those jokes they're not being sarcastic, they are just showing their good humor and friendliness. It's refreshing to be with people who aren't afraid to show their feelings about anything.

Now that the holidays are coming everyone is all excited and they go all out for Christmas. At first it didn't seem like Christmas to me as the weather is warm, ranges between 70 and 100 all the time, but as the 25th gets nearer so does the spirit of Christmas. Since just about everyone here is Catholic, the church is the base of all the fiestas.

The Venezuelan's have a version of Christmas Carolers, too, and every night starting 9 days before Christmas a group of boys go around strumming guitars, beating drums and singing carols in Spanish. There are quite a lot of our own carols I can sing along in English, such as "Jingle Bells."

Even though they don't have pine trees here, they don't let that stop them. They go to the river and find a dead limb with lots of branches on it, paint it white and put cotton all over it, after the cotton come the lights and decorations. They turn out pretty sharp. You should see their Nativity scenes, the one in my house for example takes up a whole room and is very painstakingly put together and very beautiful.

December is also the month for weddings and baptisms. When they throw a wedding party it lasts a day and a night and often part of the next day.

Starting nine days before Christmas, also, each morning at 3 a.m., the firecrackers start going off and everyone rises to go to 4:30 mass. After the mass we all either walk around or drive around visiting, drinking coffee, listening to music and watching the kids with their fireworks till dawn. Since this is the week before Christmas the working schedule has been changed a little and we work from 7 a.m. till 2 p.m. then go home and either rest or get ready for a fiesta. At night the kids all put on

their roller skates and go down to the Plaza to skate. I guess this has been the tradition for years.

Christmas Eve is called the "Noche Bueno" or "Good Night," no one goes to bed. It is a night for dancing, drinking and eating their customary Christmas dish, "Hallacas" which are something like a tamale and stew mixed. They are really delicious.

Although I miss the snow and all very much and am naturally lonesome for my family and friends, I'm having a wonderful experience and thoroughly enjoying my stay and my work." Unquote.

Mr. and Mrs. Don Elser and family left for Sheridan last Saturday and after a visit there were going on home to Elko, Nev.

Alvin Spehar of Butte was down Sunday to visit at the Ted Walker home and do some fishing.

Jack Parr of California visited at the Roy Peterson home last week.

AGREES WITH DUKE

I was pleased to read the letter from Duke Davis on fluoridation, and agree most heartily with him. I wish I could dig into the archives of the Tribune and copy off the article I wrote on it back in '52, perhaps one of these days I can find the time, and from all the new names that pop up constantly I'm sure a lot of you haven't read it. It still holds true, for my money.

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WARM WORMSI

Nick De Leon made a rush trip to Butte for maggots Friday and could get only one can. His wife says "Now there is a money making proposition you could get into, Ruth." Told her, nope, I'd starve to death on it. She said, "Oh, no there is good money in it. I sez, "Yeh, but with my delicate stummick I'd spend so much time up-chucking my last meal that I'd not be able to work up an appetite for the next one. There used to be an old fellow in Dillon who was quite a fisherman. He always had a big lump on his jaw which could have been a chew of tobacco. He used to catch and sell fish for a living before it went out of style. One day I asked Dad how he kept his worms from freezing during the winter. He said, "Oh, he says he keeps them in his jaw where they stay nice and warm." Gaugh.

Mr. and Mrs. Les Trueman and Michele visited in Melrose New Years Day.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred McCleery and Mr. and Mrs. Don Goody shopped in Butte Saturday.

We are sorry to hear that at last reports George Kambich is in very critical condition in a Seattle hospital.

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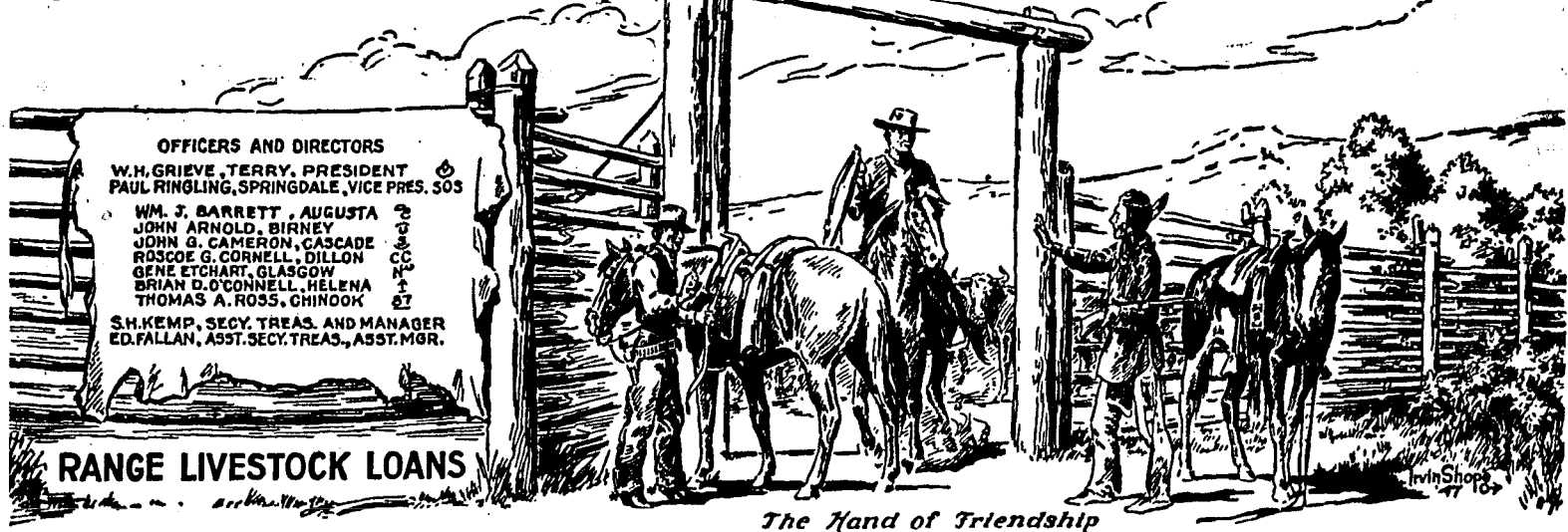
The new device is manufactured individually to perfectly fit the ear of the wearer, and to correct his individual hearing loss. It is NOT mass-produced as other hearing aids are, but is custom-built for the person who is to wear it and for him (or her) alone.

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For further information just drop a card to Art Crosby, 2820 First Ave., N., Billings, Montana, or phone 252-7982.

Montana Livestock Production Credit Association



FINANCIAL STATEMENT DECEMBER 31, 1962

ASSETS

Loans to Members	\$ 9,528,067.32
Interest & Accounts Receivable	243,109.26
Less Provision for Losses	370,345.02
Net Loans and Interest	9,400,831.56
U. S. Government Bonds Plus Accrued Interest	1,159,588.75
Cash	170,784.08
Building Less Reserves	121,925.14
Furniture and Fixtures Less Reserves	3,087.29
Miscellaneous Other Assets	300.00
Accounts Receivable	99.39
Class B Capital Stock FICB	254,405.00
TOTAL ASSETS	\$11,111,021.21

LIABILITIES

Money Borrowed from FICB	\$ 8,801,727.40
Interest Payable to FICB	149,986.58
Income Tax Payable	64,639.73
Accounts Payable	3,409.46
Funds Held in Trust	108,091.35
TOTAL LIABILITIES	9,127,854.52
ASSOCIATION'S NET WORTH	
"A" Stock Owned by 90 Members	\$ 101,950.00
"B" Stock Owned by 140 Members	776,260.00
ACCUMULATED EARNINGS	1,104,956.69
TOTAL NET WORTH	1,983,166.69
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET WORTH	\$11,111,021.21

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