

# *Reader's Digest*

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# Reader's Digest

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# Reader's Digest



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## MOVING?

SEE PAGE 235  
FOR CHANGE OF  
ADDRESS FORM

Original anecdote-length contributions to Reader's Digest become the property of the magazine upon acceptance and payment. Reader's Digest does not read unsolicited article-length manuscripts.

Every day, newspaper headlines and TV newscasts trumpet stories of the villains and the violent among us. Often we forget that there are heroes too—that every town and city has its examples of courage, kindness and decency. Here are three . . .

# HEROES — FOR — TODAY

## **"Cheery Pete"**

As A CHILD, Peter "Scotty" Strachan sang Scottish ballads in British talent contests. When he came to America in 1949, at age 15, he sang all the way over on the boat. Later, using the stage name Peter Baker, he sang with big bands in Canada and performed at piano bars and in nightclubs.

Scotty liked best the uplifting tunes popular at the time. But the rock era of the 1960s gradually ended most of his opportunities for performing in clubs, and he finally took a job delivering medi-

cal supplies to make ends meet.

Then, in February 1970, Scotty stopped at a convalescent home in Glendale, Calif. There, he found himself haunted by all the listless, lusterless eyes that lined the home's lobby.

Impulsively, Scotty put down the tank of oxygen he had been carrying, and began to sing "Do Re Mi" from *The Sound of Music* by Rodgers and Hammerstein. Up and down the line of downcast faces he danced, fingers snapping, coaxing first a flicker of recognition and then a hint of animation into those eyes. Surprised at the spark



"Scotty" Strachan

## HEROES FOR TODAY

the entertainer generated in their patients, the staff invited Scotty to return with a full show, which he did. Before the performance was over, he had cajoled the once-silent assembly into a sing-along. And Scotty had found one of the most rewarding experiences of his life.

Soon word spread, and invitations to perform came from other convalescent homes. Gradually, the idea took hold that music and the right kind of happy, bubbling entertainment—impersonations of oldtime celebrities, imitations, jokes, happy songs and dances—can work wonders for those who have lost hope. And that was how “Cheery Pete” was born as a community service.

Today, Scotty is a familiar fixture in northern California, performing at hospitals, convalescent homes and homes for the elderly. Because few convalescent facilities have any funds with which to pay performers, his work has been mostly on a volunteer basis. To support himself and his wife, Scotty works as a songwriter and performer, and is associated with an area talent agency.

But Scotty Strachan has a dream: a troupe of entertainers will one day travel from hospital dayrooms to convalescent homes to facilities for the elderly, providing a spark of joy in lonely lives—as he has been doing on his own for the past 15 years.

—Robert P. Studer in  
*Sacramento Magazine*

## A General Worth Saluting

IF YOU ARE tired of reading horror stories about the Pentagon spending \$110 for diodes that cost 4 cents apiece, or a contractor's attempt to charge the government \$9609 for a wrench that costs about 12 cents, then rinse your eyes out with this:

Brig. Gen. David Hoff, commander of the 128th Tactical Fighter Wing of the Wisconsin Air National Guard, discovered that the pressurized hose attached to the gravity suits of his pilots came loose because of movement in the cockpit—a life-threatening situation during some flight maneuvers. So Hoff tried going through channels—and anyone who ever was in the military knows what a frustrating experience that can be.

He was told that the process of correcting the problem would take two years and cost taxpayers tens of thousands of dollars. And, of course, throughout this lengthy interval, pilots would be flying in jeopardy.

Hoff decided enough was enough. An A-10 pilot himself, he discussed the problem with his pilots and



Brig. Gen. David Hoff


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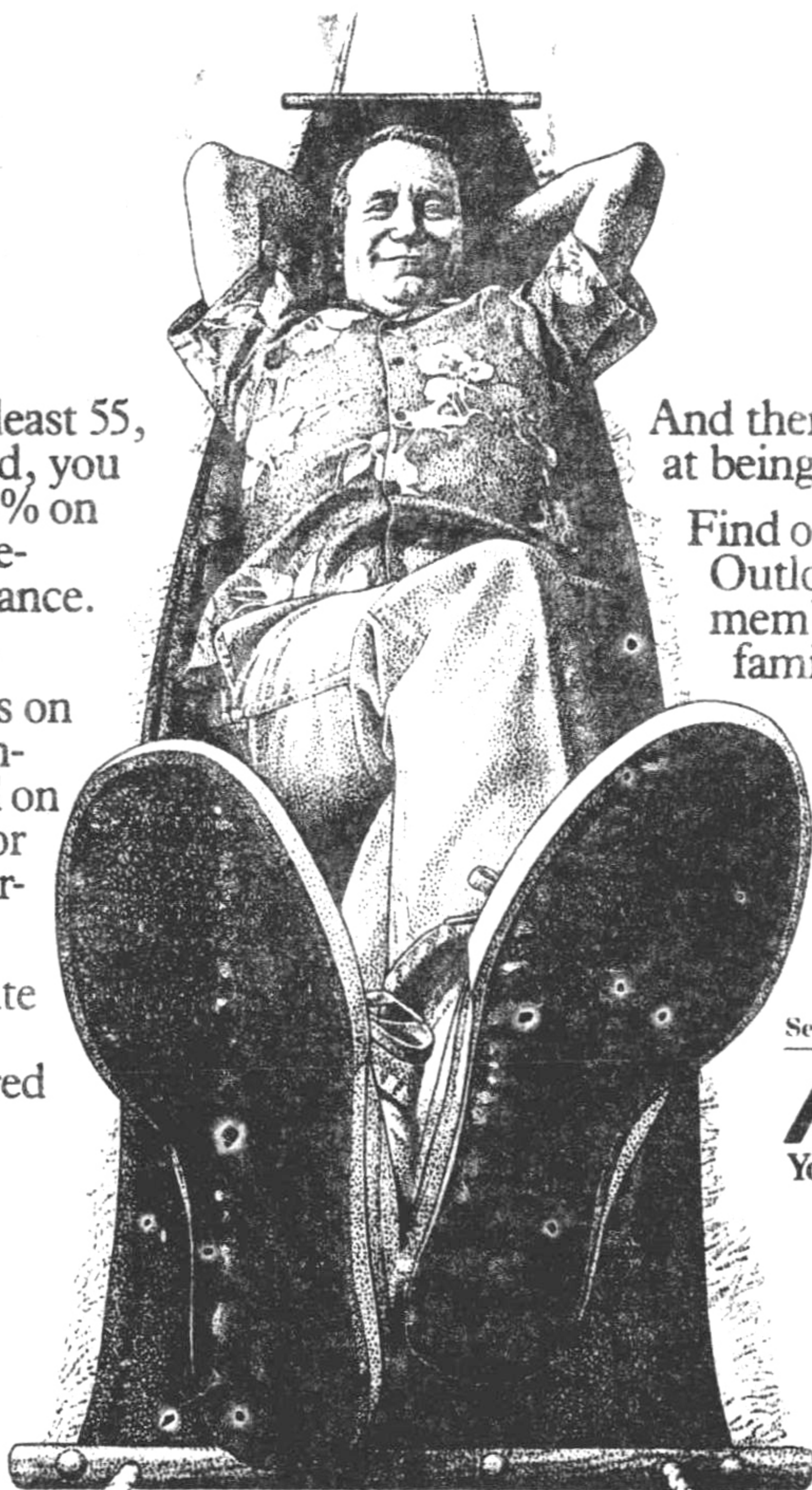
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## HEROES FOR TODAY

found a way to re-route the hose and secure it with four metal clips. Then he got in touch with a manufacturer and had the first shipment of metal clips delivered for distribution within two days. The tab came to \$1100, which the general picked up himself. And finally, he made sure that the clips were sent to every A-10 unit in the military.

What this country and we taxpayers need is more doers like Brig. Gen. David Hoff in charge of things, and fewer spenders like those who, without blinking an eye, have paid thousands of dollars for military parts that cost a few cents.

—Reading, Pa., *Times*

### The Mall Lady

ANNELIESE VAN WYCK thinks of herself as “a big, strong woman.” She flexes her biceps to make her point and then laughs a surprisingly delicate laugh.

Van Wyck is first and foremost a passionate lover of Boston’s parks and public lands—which is how she came to be known as the Mall Lady. More than ten years ago, depressed over the litter accumulating constantly in her neighborhood, she began to clean up the sidewalks outside her home.

“Occasionally I saw a bottle, and I would pick that up. Then I would sweep the sidewalks *across* the street. And before I even realized I was doing it, I was raking my block!”

During the last four years, Van Wyck has earned the title of Mall

Lady by including almost ten blocks in her cleanup efforts. Averaging 15 hours a week from March through late fall, she picks up papers; rakes; sweeps the gutters; washes statues; paints benches and trash barrels; trims hedges; waters newly planted trees. Most of the work is done on weekends or evenings, after she has already put in a 40-hour week as a sales manager.

One recent year, Van Wyck spent \$350 of her own money to clean up the Mall, some of it going for tools, the rest for trash bags—and she filled more than 3000 trash bags. She has also organized a small army of volunteers, known as the Commonwealth Avenue Mall Volunteer Clean-Up Committee, and it includes people from all walks of life. In recognition of her work, she has been appointed to the mayor’s Clean City Commission.

Says Van Wyck: “I feel we all think we know everybody—but we really don’t. And we are all afraid of something. But when we’re out there cleaning, it’s a community.”

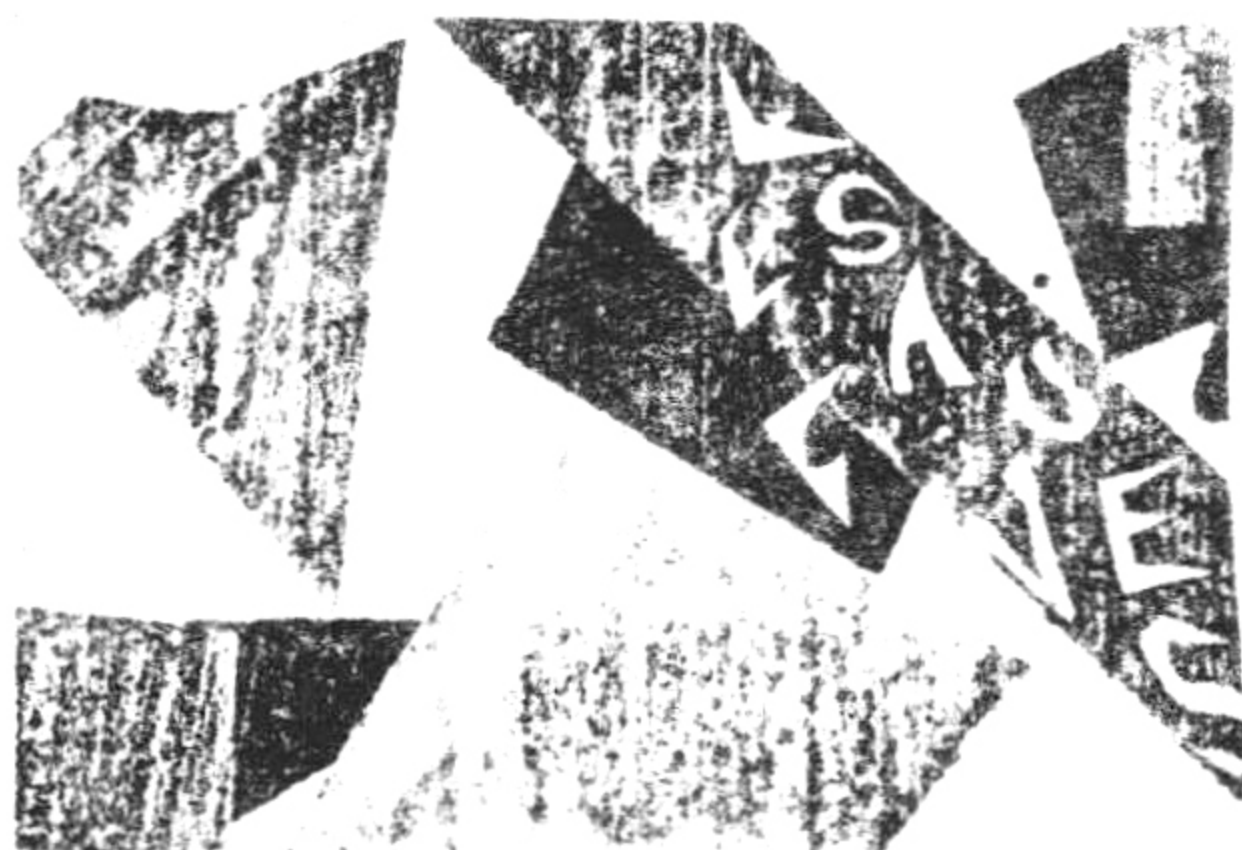
—Dorothea Lynch in *Boston Magazine*



Anneliese Van Wyck

BY PETER FUNK

## IT PAYS TO ENRICH YOUR WORD POWER



IN GREAT ART, we see the illumined treasure of a person's inner spirit. The following words, all useful for your general vocabulary, come from art critic John Russell's review of *Matisse*, a book by Pierre Schneider about French artist Henri Matisse (1869–1954). Select the answer you think is correct. Turn the page to find your rating.

1. **mural**—A: wall painting. B: reflection. C: prototype. D: soft sculpture.
2. **empower**—A: to enable. B: gain. C: struggle. D: rule.
3. **alien**—A: indifferent. B: aligned with. C: foreign. D: pertaining to anger.
4. **retrospective**—A: representative exhibition. B: artistic technique. C: shyness. D: calm.
5. **idiom**—A: oddity. B: expression peculiar to a language. C: separate event. D: foolish remark.
6. **invalidate**—A: to make valueless. B: correct. C: place in trust. D: endorse.
7. **cognizance** (COG nuh zance)—A: position of authority. B: indifference. C: awareness. D: fair-mindedness.
8. **archives**—A: monuments. B: documents. C: excavations. D: galleries.
9. **verbalize**—A: to put into words. B: conjugate. C: pronounce accurately. D: be concise.
10. **trumpet**—A: to deceive. B: store. C: proclaim loudly. D: dominate.
11. **academe** (AK uh deem)—A: classical technique. B: long procession. C: isolated area. D: place of learning.
12. **thematic**—relating to A: improvised action. B: recurring idea. C: instruction. D: vow.
13. **chronology** (kruh NAHL uh gee)—A: study of history. B: theory of motion. C: arrangement in time sequence. D: periodic recurrence.
14. **brand**—A: mark of identification. B: flourish or gesture. C: type of affiliation. D: pointed criticism.
15. **indissoluble** (in dih SAHL you b'l)—A: not easily understood. B: unfortunate. C: without restraint. D: permanent.
16. **scrutiny**—A: angry look. B: cleanliness. C: caution. D: careful inspection.
17. **emollient** (ih MAHL yent)—A: filled with feeling. B: like a circle. C: flowing evenly. D: having a softening effect.
18. **exemplify** (eg ZEM pluh fy)—A: to show by example. B: overstate. C: imitate. D: insist upon.
19. **corpus**—A: heaviness. B: comprehensive collection. C: army division. D: panel of judges.
20. **divagate** (DIE vuh gate)—A: to investigate. B: digress. C: reveal. D: unite.

## Answers to

### "IT PAYS TO ENRICH YOUR WORD POWER"

1. **mural**—A: Large picture painted directly on, or for, a wall or ceiling; as, His *murals* were popular with wealthy French individuals. Latin *murus* (wall).
2. **empower**—A: To enable or permit; as, *empowered* to return to certain themes. Middle English *em-* (put into) and English *power*.
3. **alien**—C: Foreign; opposed, or inconsistent with. Latin *alienus*.
4. **retrospective**—A: Representative exhibition of an artist's life work; as, the centennial *retrospective* of Matisse. Latin *retro-* (back) and *specere* (to look).
5. **idiom**—B: Expression peculiar to a language, meaning something other than its literal meaning; as, the *idiom*, It's raining cats and dogs. Also, specific style in art or the like. Greek *idioma* (peculiarity).
6. **invalidate**—A: To make valueless or ineffective; annul; as, A different approach would not *invalidate* the critic's interpretations. Latin *in-* (not) and English *valid*.
7. **cognizance**—C: Awareness; notice; particular knowledge. Latin *cognoscere* (to know).
8. **archives**—B: Public documents and records; place where such items are kept. Greek *archeion* (town hall).
9. **verbalize**—A: To put an idea or thought into words. Latin *verbalis* (of a word).
10. **trumpet**—C: To proclaim news or tidings loudly as if by a trumpet; as, He spoke with *trumpeted* self-confidence.
11. **academe**—D: Place of learning, especially a college or university; as, Large bequests are welcomed in *academe*. Greek *Akados* (grove where Plato taught).
12. **thematic**—B: Relating to a recurring, unifying idea or motif in the arts. Greek *tithenai* (to place).
13. **chronology**—C: Arrangement of events and dates sequentially, or in the order of the time of their occurrence. Greek *khronos* (time) and *-logy* (indicating "science of").
14. **brand**—A: Mark of identification; distinctive type; as, The great artists bear the *brand* of their times. Also, trademark. Old English *brand* (piece of burning wood).
15. **indissoluble**—D: Permanent; impossible to break or undo; as, an *indissoluble* bond between our period and ourselves. Latin *indissolubilis*.
16. **scrutiny**—D: Careful and close examination; searching look; as, the *scrutiny* the artist brought to bear on his models. Latin *scrutari* (to search).
17. **emollient**—D: Having a softening or soothing effect. Latin *e-* (out) and *mollire* (to soften); as, His art was not primarily *emollient*.
18. **exemplify**—A: To show by, or serve as, an example; as, His painting *exemplified* the Golden Age. Latin *exemplum* (an example).
19. **corpus**—B: Comprehensive and specific collection of an individual's output; as, the entire *corpus* of Matisse's work. Latin *corpus* (body).
20. **divagate**—B: To digress; stray from the subject; wander. Latin *dis-* (apart) and *vagari* (to wander).

#### Vocabulary Ratings

- 20—18 correct . . . . . Exceptional  
17—12 correct . . . . . Excellent  
11— 9 correct . . . . . Good

A decade after they began arriving on our shores, tens of thousands of Southeast Asians are still trapped on welfare. Despite the heroic efforts of many Americans to resettle these refugees, vast numbers remain lost in a tangle of government regulations and the policies of self-serving bureaucracies. Is there a way to right this wrong?

## America's Refugee Mess

BY JANE HAMILTON-MERRITT

**"I'M STILL ON WELFARE** and don't want to be. Please help me," pleads a father of seven in Fresno, Calif.

His name is Chong Yang Thao, and, like many other Southeast Asian refugees, he once was a proud and independent farmer in a land where there was no such thing as welfare. After the communist takeovers in Southeast Asia in 1975, Chong and his family joined the 750,000 Vietnamese, Laotians and Cambodians who escaped to the United States. At the time, many observers thought that, with a little help from government resettlement funds, these refugees

would soon become productive Americans.

Ten years later, that is not the case for a lot of Southeast Asians. Of the refugees here less than three years, many are still on public assistance. The cost to the taxpayers has been estimated by some to be over \$20 *billion*. And that cost continues to rise, not only in financial terms but in human ones as well. Many refugees have still not learned English. Great numbers are living in inner-city ghettos. Many feel more isolated and depressed than when they arrived. Some have committed suicide. Ambassador H. Eugene Douglas, U.S. Coordinator for Refugee Affairs, believes that "too many refugees have been aban-

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JANE HAMILTON-MERRITT is a consultant to the Department of State on refugee affairs.

## AMERICA'S REFUGEE MESS

doned to a kind of quiet but tragic despair. What chances they had were reduced by failures in sponsorships and shortcomings in federal and state administration."

How did we get into this mess?

In the past, refugees to this country were resettled mainly by ethnic kin communities and religious groups. No federal dollars flowed to the 400,000 displaced persons who came here after World War II, for example, yet most of them were quickly integrated into society.

But all this changed drastically in 1975 when the government faced the first mass influx of 125,000 Vietnamese, an ethnic group with few kin communities here. In response, it launched a publicly funded program that turned the task of resettling refugees over to state welfare offices and to a collection of private, nonprofit, voluntary agencies, both religious and lay, called Volags in officialese.

Unlike the volunteers of yesteryear, these Volags are run by bureaucrats and depend in part on tax dollars. Of the 14 involved in resettlement today, the most active are the United States Catholic Conference (USCC), the Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service (LIRS), the International Rescue Committee (IRC), the American Council for Nationalities Service (ACNS) and the Church World Service (CWS).

**Vanishing Fees.** Under the current program, the U.S. State Department grants the Volags an

initial resettlement fee of \$560 for each refugee they agree to sponsor. Since many refugee families are large, a typical grant for one family could be thousands of dollars. The money is supposed to be used to find the family housing, food and a job. In addition, the Department of Health and Human Services makes grants to the states, which in turn provide funds to Volags and state welfare departments for language training and other follow-up services.

But much of the initial resettlement money never reaches the refugees, either directly or indirectly. Many complain that some sponsoring agencies do little more than meet them at the airport, give them \$25 or \$50 and turn them over to a previously settled refugee.

One refugee from Laos, with ten members in his family, told me, "My sponsor paid for three months' rent at \$400 a month and gave us only \$65 a week for food for one month. When I complained that \$65 a week was not enough and asked what happened to the nearly \$2000 remaining from our grant, she became angry and said it had been spent on our transportation from the Los Angeles airport to Santa Ana [around 30 miles], and on administration costs."

In 1982 David North, a researcher hired by the government to take a look at the role of Volags in resettlement, consistently found "a pattern of federal funds being used to rent church-owned build-

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ings and to help pay the overhead on local Catholic charities. (These patterns are not unknown among the Protestants.) He also discovered that Volags were holding unspent government funds in bank accounts. By 1982 the Lutherans had banked \$6 million, and total Volag reserves were estimated to exceed \$15 million.

Ironically, the money that is spent on refugees often does little good. Consider these examples:

- Twenty-six Laotian refugees in Visalia, Calif., had been studying English for a year. Yet 20 could not answer when asked their names and what they were doing. Only one had a job. (They had been in the United States for five years.) In Colorado, when a refugee asked his English instructor, "Why don't you

teach us more English?" she replied, "If I teach well, the students leave and I'm out of work."

- At the University of Minnesota, \$1.2 million has been spent over the past two years to teach 30 refugees how to grow vegetables and use farm machinery. The idea was to make the refugees self-sufficient. But in the first two years the crop sales were \$80,000 and \$200,000, respectively—not enough for 30 families' self-sufficiency. The two-year combined sales were consumed by American staff salaries.

- In Lansing, Mich., Laotian refugees spent three months in a mandatory job-training program. "Basically all they taught us was how to fill out an application, read a map and use the phone," says

## AMERICA'S REFUGEE MESS

one participant, a former fighter pilot.

An incredible bureaucracy has sprung up to serve refugees, involving federal, state and local agencies yet no one agency has overall responsibility. Thus there is scant accountability, and no one to blame when money is spent inefficiently. "While Volags could do a better job," says David Ford, Associate Coordinator for Refugee Affairs at the State Department, "the bulk of domestic refugee resources goes to state governments, and it's there that we need more monitoring of expenditures so that tax dollars are more effectively spent."

**Dole Doldrums.** There is, however, one program in the refugee industry that seems very effective:

indoctrination into the world of public assistance. "Congress tried to save money by placing the refugee-assistance program within the welfare system," comments Rep. Daniel Lungren (R., Calif.) of the House Judiciary Subcommittee on Immigration, Refugees and International Law. "But the unintended result was to educate and indoctrinate refugees to welfare . . . causing a regrettable chain of welfare dependency." The process often begins in the overseas camps and continues when the refugee gets to the United States. Sometimes the first act of Volag sponsors is to drive the new arrival to the welfare department.

Refugees who want to work are often trapped on welfare rolls by

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## AMERICA'S REFUGEE MESS

discouraging regulations. The worst is the 100-Hour Rule, which says no one can receive benefits who works more than 100 hours a month. This means that a refugee working at minimum wage must give up all benefits as soon as he earns about \$350 per month—too little to support a large family. He has no incentive, then, to take an entry-level job and begin working his way up.

The 100-Hour Rule even applies to work not immediately paid for, such as farming. "I tried planting a crop of snow peas on my cousin's land," says Chong Yang Thao. "Two weeks later a welfare worker tells me my benefits will be cut off because I am working too many hours in the field. What can I do? My family can't survive on no money until the peas come in. So I turned my plot back to my cousin."

Two years ago Chong and the 16,000 other refugees in Fresno County, California, asked the authorities to change the 100-Hour Rule—perhaps to pay refugees the difference between what they earn on the job and what they would receive if they stayed on welfare. Under this plan, says local refugee leader Tony Vang, "seventy-five percent of the refugee families would go to work, and we could save the taxpayers at least six million dollars per year."

That has not yet happened, for proposals to modify or abolish the 100-Hour Rule are rejected in

many quarters. While some Administration officials would like to see this rule waived for refugees, the Reagan Administration is opposed to any change that would, in effect, constitute a form of guaranteed income. So family heads like Chong remain on welfare.

**Hope for Change.** What *can* be done to get us out of this mess? Some argue that if the Volags are truly interested in helping refugees, they should concentrate on those still in need in this country, instead of lobbying Congress to bring in *more* refugees. New admissions, of course, mean new business for resettlement organizations, prompting Rep. Romano Mazzoli (D., Ky.) to describe them as a "multinational industry—Refugee Inc."

Furthermore, we must look beyond institutions—both public and private—that are too often more interested in keeping themselves in business than in making the refugees self-sufficient. Concerned by the number of Southeast Asians on welfare, the U.S. House of Representatives passed legislation in 1983 that would have required Volags to be legally and financially responsible for the basic needs of refugees they sponsor for a 90-day period. But Volag lobbyists kept the bill in subcommittee in the Senate, where it died.

To be sure, the resettlement of these refugees has been an overwhelming task, and Volag officials

(Continued on page 32)

## AMERICA'S REFUGEE MESS

feel that, on balance, they have done a good job. Nevertheless, the chain of welfare dependency can and must be broken, and the Reagan Administration is trying to do this. Believing that jobs are found in the business communities, not in the welfare systems, the Administration has begun urging private-sector involvement.

But it's not easy for business to compete with the refugee bureaucracy, whose jobs might be jeopardized by change. In Minneapolis, for example, City Venture, a Control Data Corporation endeavor, spent seven months drawing up a plan to help refugees launch small businesses with special government funding. The local welfare bureaucracy did not support the plan, so it was never submitted to the county for consideration. "The private sector is not afraid of competition," concluded Steven Shapiro, an attorney working with this public-spirited group. "But it cannot compete against a public-sector monopoly."

There is still hope for change, however. An amendment by Rep. Hamilton Fish (R., N.Y.), which was passed by Congress last fall, allows private groups, as well as state agencies, to propose alternative resettlement projects aimed at reducing waste and welfare dependency. The most promising of these could eventually be implemented nationwide. There is, however, one snag. Only those refugees here less than three years would

be eligible, excluding the others still on welfare.

Are there other ways to bridge this great quagmire of waste and dependency? One of the best is old-fashioned personal involvement. Two examples:

- In Minneapolis, Gloria Congdon and Lucy Hartwell launched, without government funding, a nonprofit business employing hundreds of Hmong refugees from Laos. Called Hmong Folk Art, this commercial outlet for needlework has returned over \$300,000 to these artisans in just 2½ years.

- In Lansing, Mich., thanks to lawyers Robert Hood and Richard Winder, and the local Chamber of Commerce, refugees who suffered years of isolation and harassment now have community friends, a self-help organization and land for vegetable gardens. Using materials supplied by Junior Achievement, the refugees are learning business skills and have set up a for-profit company. As one of them told me, "At last we have found a home."

"It's time for more of us to help these newest Americans," urges Ambassador Douglas. "Perhaps the best way to begin is to contact the refugees themselves, through their own organizations. Remember, it's the refugees who need help, not the Volags. Not state governments. The strength of America lies not in bureaucrats—no matter how responsible or well-meaning—but in our communities." \*\*\*\*\*

# PERSONAL GLIMPSES®

FOR CARTOONIST Bil Keane, being a family man has paid off. He uses his own wife, daughter and four sons as models for the characters in his popular feature, "The Family Circus." In fact, he sometimes mixes them up.



In 1962, for example, Keane realized that the fictional Jeffy, though only a toddler, was too old for some of the baby situations—diapers, baby food, highchair, etc.

The cartoon needed an infant, and he thought it would be a good idea to show Mom pregnant and then have

the baby born. "My wife was out working in the garden," recalls Keane. "I ran out of my studio and asked for her advice: 'Thel, what would you think of adding a new baby to the family?'"

"Well, all right," she answered, "but let me finish the weeding first."

—William E. Smart in *Washington Post*

AS A SPEECH WRITER for William T. Coleman, Jr., President Ford's Secretary of Transportation, Carol Sanger often went along on speaking engagements. "On one occasion," she recalls, "the Secretary was invited to speak in an exclusive all-male club. A proud tradition of that club was that no woman had ever been allowed to set foot in the main lounge or on the red-carpeted grand stairway leading to that area.

"When the Secretary concluded his

speech, our hosts directed him to the stairway. He took me by the arm and firmly led me down the forbidden steps. 'The only thing they can do is throw you out,' he said. 'And that's where you want to go anyway.'"

—Savvy

A FRIEND of the Soviet physicist and dissident Andrei Sakharov tells this story:

A year before Russian authorities sent him into exile, some friends were vacationing with the Sakharovs on the Black Sea. Once they jokingly asked his wife, Elena, what Sakharov thought about while strolling along the waterfront. They suggested that he was contemplating violations of the Helsinki Accords. "Baloney!" she said, laughing. "Here, in this romantic setting, he thinks only of me."

That evening they were all walking along the harbor as the palm trees rustled and the stars twinkled. "Ask him," whispered Elena, anticipating her triumph.

"Andrei," they cautiously inquired, "what are you thinking about?"

"Radiation in outer space," was his reply.

—Vassily Aksyonov in *TV Guide*

FORMER SENATOR of North Carolina Sam J. Ervin, Jr., invited the grandson of Ulysses Grant, Ulysses S. Grant III, to have a drink with him. Writes Ervin:

Grant replied humorously that he didn't know whether he ought to go with me. "Your grandfather," I pointed out, "did much to restore love for the Union in Southern hearts when he paroled General Lee and his men at Appomattox upon the simple condition that they obey the laws. He fed the Confederates, most of whom were

## PERSONAL GLIMPSES

on the verge of starvation, and permitted the officers to return home with their side arms and horses. I had great-uncles who surrendered with Lee and were benefited by your grandfather's wisdom and goodness. Since he is not here to receive my gratitude, I ask you to act as his proxy."

Grant gladly accepted my invitation.

—*Humor of a Country Lawyer* (University of North Carolina Press)

Discussing her early career as a would-be stage actress at England's Royal Academy of

Dramatic

Art, "Dy-

nasty" star

Joan Col-

lins re-

veals that

her first re-

port card

there con-

tained a rather

ironic assess-

ment of her tal-

ents. It read: "Joan

has a good personality and lots

of stage presence. But she must

try to improve her voice projection

or she will wind up in films and

TV, and that would be a pity."

—*People Weekly*

WHEN ADM. RICHARD E. BYRD returned from his exploration of Antarctica, Franklin D. Roosevelt, then New York's governor, honored him with a gala. In the reception line, my mother eagerly grasped the admiral's hand, exclaiming, "What an adventure!"

"Madam," Byrd replied proudly, "this was a successful scientific *expedition*. An 'adventure' is the result of bad planning." —Contributed by Jane R. Story

SHORTLY AFTER she became president of Radcliffe College in 1972, Matina Horner found herself dashing about the house one evening, changing clothes and saying good-night to her husband and children before she left to make yet another campus speech. As she was going out the door, one of her sons stopped her with a quiet plea: "It's not like you're my mommy anymore."

"It was then, with those big, brown eyes flashing up at me, I realized that raising my three kids really meant a lot to me," Horner says. "I decided that when I couldn't get home until late, I was going to wake them up if I had to, to talk with them. When the children had something to say, they woke up and were ready to talk. And when nothing much was on their minds, we'd have a hug instead."

—Diane C. Manuel in *The Christian Science Monitor*

BEFORE Harry Emerson Fosdick won renown as pastor of New York City's Riverside Church, he was asked to substitute for a famous preacher who was ill. The man who introduced him went on and on about the speaker who *should* have been there, adding almost as an afterthought, "We are fortunate to have young Harry Fosdick in his place."

Fosdick acknowledged his introduction with a smile. "I am reminded," he said, "of the time I was traveling and saw a banner spread across the main street of a small town. It read: 'ANNUAL STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL.' Beneath was a smaller banner: 'Due to the Drought, Prunes Will Be Served.' " —Contributed by Nardi Reeder Campion

Payment for contributions to "Personal Glimpses" is the same as for "Laughter, the Best Medicine." See page 71.