



They Came All The Way From Virginia Beach

The Betts brothers—four-year-old Troy and Michael, age 5—enjoy a bit to eat—popcorn—as they await the start of Moore'sville's Christmas parade. From Virginia Beach, Va., the youngsters are sons of Mr. and Mrs. John Betts, who are pictured with them, along with their maternal grandmother, Mrs. Henry Ray Brawley, left, of West Wilson Avenue, Moore'sville.

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Bob Amon

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In many of the Post Offices, you may apply for a Passport when planning a trip abroad. We encourage all our customers to use the correct ZIP CODE when mailing a letter as well as the correct ZIP CODE in their return address. It moves your mail better," stated the District Manager.

The Charlotte District has 809 Post Offices with 12,000 employees, serves a population of 5,270,000, and 1,505,714 daily mail deliveries.

## Devaluation Of The Dollar Forces GI Wives To Work

Pinched by the devaluation of the dollar, wives of many GI's in West Germany are working in factories to give the family a second paycheck.

"It was a question of me going to work or going back to the States," said one wife. "We just couldn't make it any more on GI pay."

The dollar's purchasing power has dropped 25 per cent this year. It was worth 3.22 marks in January; now it is worth 2.41. Hardest hit are the low-ranking soldiers, who aren't eligible for army housing for their families and often have over half their pay to German landlords.

"When my husband was

assigned to Germany, I never thought I would end up working in a German factory," said Diane Earwood of New Lexington, Ohio, the wife of a helicopter crew chief. "The work is repetitious, but people are friendly and the pay is good."

The brown-haired 21-year-old is one of 100 American wives who make a minimum of about \$3 a day, after deductions, on the assembly line at the Bosch automobile components factory in a north Bavarian town.

Partly other GI wives work in an Ansbach sausage plant. Scores more have found work in offices and factories in Schwinfurt, Wuerzburg and

Nuernberg. The American women have joined 2.5 million South European migrants who are keeping factories operating in labor-short Germany.

"For us, the dollar devaluation came at a favorable time," said Johannes Geibel, who manages the Bosch factory. "We were expanding the work force to build yeloy switches for seat belts on export-model Volkswagens and Fords."

"The Americans were hired and trained for the new assembly line. We are very satisfied. The Americans work as well as our other employees." The American women work

an eight-hour day—from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. to 11—paid only \$2.50 an hour plus incentive bonuses. About 20 per cent is withheld for German income taxes and another 13 per cent for health unemployment insurance and pension.

"I started three months ago. I'm working to help my husband," said Evelyn Jackson, 29, Chicago. "We have government housing because my husband is a career soldier. But we need marks because we buy food and clothing in German stores."

Peggy Clark of Birmingham, Ala., a trained telephone operator, is assembling Mercedes-Benz blinker-light

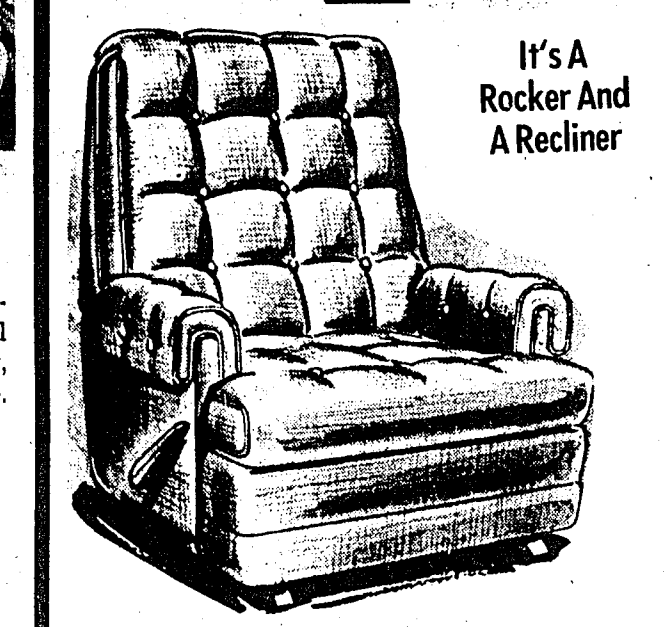
components for \$55 a week because her application for an Army phone job was turned down.

"The Army doesn't have enough jobs for dependent wives," said Karen Jackson, 21, the wife of a private first class from Moore, Okla. "I heard about a bookstore job paying \$150 a month, but you have to keep inventory and put up with a lot of smart-talking soldiers."

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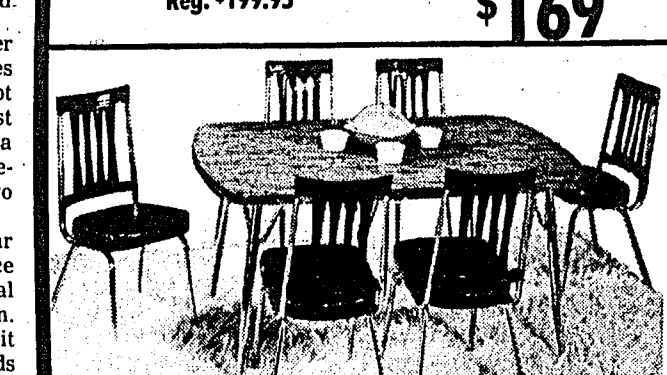


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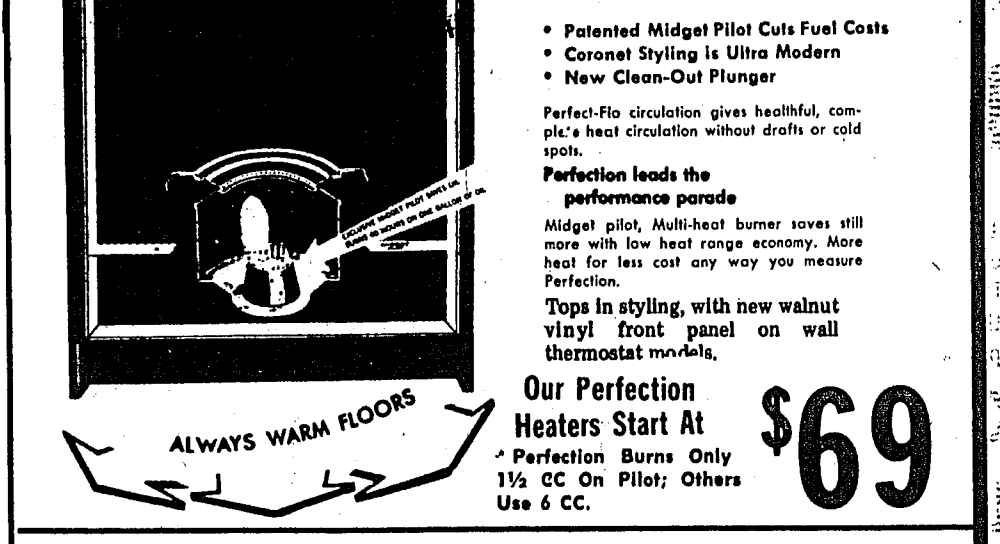
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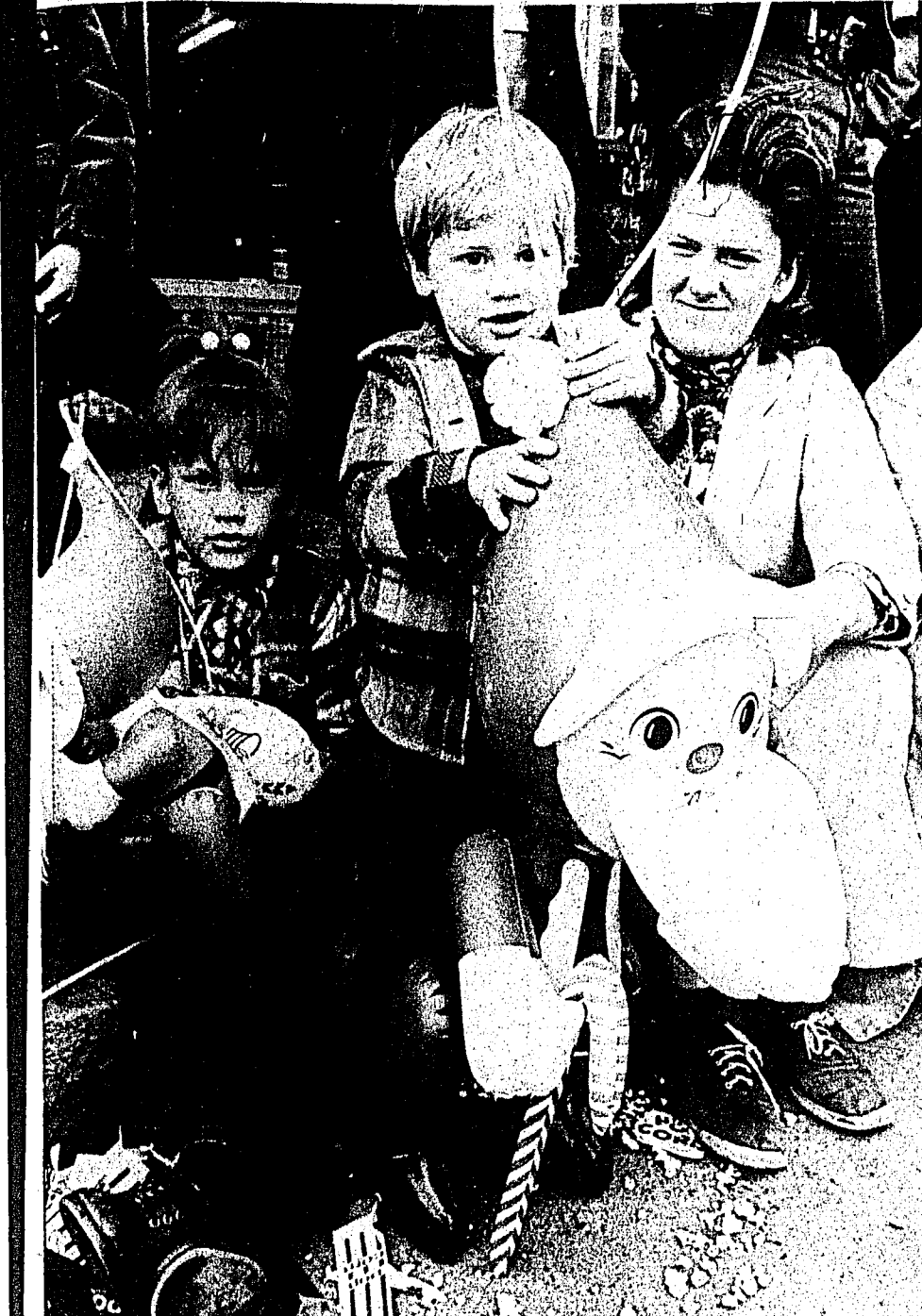


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Tetra and James Manor, left to right, children of Mr. and Mrs. N. R. Manor of Huntersville, couldn't resist the cries of the hawkers who roamed the streets prior to and during Moore'sville's Yule

## Once-Famous Bank Robber Looks Back On 'Career'

Harvey Bailey of Joplin, Mo., does not look 86 years old. His physique is that of a man perhaps 20 years younger. And with his white hair, sparkling black eyes and square jaw, he looks more like a retired successful farmer than a retired bank robber.

But between 1920 and 1932, John Harvey Bailey was America's most successful bank robber. Today, after spending nearly 40 years in prison, including 12 years in Alcatraz, he lives a quiet life here with his wife of eight years.

Bailey recently retired as a cabinet maker, a trade he learned as a boy and resumed while in prison. In 1964, he was paroled from prison and moved to this southwestern Missouri city.

Not long after, Bailey met J. Evetts Haley, a Texas writer and historian. Now Haley, fascinated by Bailey's life, has written a book about it, "Robbing Banks Was My

Business."

Bailey says he decided to tell his life story to Haley because he "wanted to say that crime doesn't pay. I hope my story may be a warning to young Americans who may be tempted."

Bailey admits that he was tempted as a young man, "I began as a bootlegger," he says. "It was easy money. But then I graduated to banks. There was more money in robbing banks. I robbed about two banks a year during the 12 years I was in that business."

Bailey talks freely of those days when he worked with such desperadoes as Machine Gun Kelly, Alvin Karpis, Frank Nash, Fred Burke, Pretty Boy Floyd and others.

"I knew them all, and I worked with them," he said, adding, "Al Capone was one of the best boys you ever met. I knew him at Alcatraz. He worked with me for three years. I watched over him because some of the punks wanted to stick a knife in him."

Of Pretty Boy Floyd, Bailey recalled, "He was a thief, but there was honor among thieves then."

Bailey said that in 1924, when a serious drought hit the Cookson Hills in Oklahoma, he and Floyd broke into a grocery store at Salisaw, Okla., loaded a pickup truck with groceries and distributed them to the "poor" Oklahomans and other folks in the hills.

"They were starvin' to death until we helped them," said Bailey, who is not apologetic about his past. "I robbed about two banks a year during the 12 years I was in that business."

## 77 Bulls Participating In Performance Program

The first series of 77 bulls is now participating in the performance testing program set up by the 1973 General Assembly at the Piedmont Research Station near Salisbury.

The animals will be performance tested for growth rate and feed conversion under uniform feeding and handling conditions for 140 days. Most of them will be graded and sold on February 28 to be used to upgrade beef herds of the state.

Consignors to the first test included bulls from the herds of Preston Cornelius and W. L. Teeter of Moore'sville.

North Carolina Agriculture Commissioner Jim Graham praised North Carolina State University extension animal husbandry specialists, the North Carolina Department of



Jim Graham Makes An Observation

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