It was nearly a year ago when I got a call from a fellow who used a long list of references to describe why he had called me. He was a friend of someone who was a friend of some-one who was a friend of some-one who was a friend of someone who had met a friend of someone in an airport.

who had met a trient or somouse in an airport. My name had apparently come up in convergation at the airport and by the time the story reached my caller. I had evolved into an expert on the subject of Appalachia on the subject of Appalachia in the subject of Appalachia and Subject of Know most folks on a first name basis and be kin to all the moonshipmen.

on a first name basis and be kin to all, the moorshimer.

This particular, fellow wanted to see the mountains where Bell and Whitley Counties come together and whatley Counties come together and he wanted to meel some people up in the hollers.

Whatley Counties worked for a private foundation with millions of dollars that might be invested in the area and he wanted to get the Jay of the land. He didn't use those exact words but that's what he meant.

I started right out telling him the truth.

First of all I can count on my fin First of all I can count on my finegres and toes the number of people I know in Bell and Whitley Counties on a first name basis. Secondly, I know of one and only one person in that neck of the woods who make moonshine and he does so legally and it ain? "sechnically" for sale it so if really ain moonshine. And thirdly I hadn't ever been afraid of driving up any holler he waited to visit and knocking on a door and saying here we are.

hadn't ever been atraid of entruity of any holler he wanted to visit and knocking on a door and saying here we are.

So we hooked up at a motel in Williamsburg one bright Spring, morning fast April when he red buds were in full bloom and the dogsworth of the second of

Jeep Che

seep therosce, most tous tousing we were from the government but they waved at us anyway. Every once in awhile when we'd see somebody outside we'd stop and holler howdy and strike up a conversation. Exchange a few gardening bits of wisdom and-like that but mostly just be at home. Or at least I was

was.
"What are you doing up in here

was.
"What are you doing up in here anyway?"
Thrving parund. Just seeing where the road went."
Well it aim to good cause we could be a better one. It was a better one. It was a better one. Anyway, early in the affermoon we wound up stopping beside the road where an elderly lady was planting peas in a fence row that separated where are lederly lady was planting peas in a fence row that separated and the seed in an apron pocket and she was wearing a sur bonnet and she was the epitome of, what my friend had come to see. A real Mountain Woman as it were.

I told her who we were and all that and she apologized that ahe had or-dered ther Sugar Staps from the eatilogie because she di lost he old fash-incred ones and she wanted to know the surprised of the cast-logic because she di lost he old fash-incred ones and she wanted to know

dered ner Sugar Snaps mon the cata-logie because shed lost the old flash-ioned ones and she wanted to know if we'd like to have a cup of coffee and come on in and of course I tet on like that would be too much when, as a manter of fact, it was all I wanted in the world at that moment. So we sat on the front porch of her neal title frame house and looked at pictures of the grandchildren and all that when all of a suddem she said, "I wonder where Somebody is." "Somebody?"?" I asked and I must have looked overly puzzled because she slapped her leg and let, out a laugh that was better than mu-stic.

out a laugh that was better than mus...
When she caught her breath she
yelled, "Someceeeeeeeeeeoeeebody.
Come here Someooddddddy" and I
hought my limed from Chattanooga
was going to crawl under the floor.
About that time there was a rustling and a having and thumping under the peperh. Joor. Bourds actually
rattled and I would swear that the
whole poors lifted up a couple of
inches when this big long-eared,
mournful looking redbone head
mournful looking redbone have
mournful tooking redbone have
mournful tooking redbone houd
worked his way out of a hole directly
under where I was-sitting that it didn't
look like the average house cat could
have crawled into.

have crawled into.

He oogzed out into the front yard, at least a hundred pounds of him, and shook so that dust flew in all direc-

that he would have barked up a storm a long time ago if he'd had any reason to believe that my friend and I posed the allightest danger.

Then he sauntered up onto the porch and laid his big head in my lapt. "He actually binks he's someon," He actually binks he's someon, was and my newfound friend. So that's what I've called him ever since he was a pup. He worft what a lick but he's been swill good company now for probably 20 years. got st that you card from my foundation friend. The always wanted to meet Someody and now I finally have," it said: Thank you for a one of the most wonderful days of my life."

I look forward to gardening and

fishing and a let of things now that this dismal winter seems to be on the verge of ending but the thing that I. look forward to most is making a half day foray back to bell County when per planting and having a many that the control of the contr

Sweet and Sour By Zi Graves



Vacations

For some reason, people call a few days, away from home a vacation, If that be so, I have been taking the longest vacation of my life and can give credit for it to a careless act of concern for a homeless person, to the Arynin Dalton, South Ky, Home Repair Contractors who were to restore it to normal use and the farm Bureau Insurance Company, who is footing the bill. If the choice of a paid five-month vacation had been mine, I would have chosen somewhere besides one room in a local hotel to spend the winter. Perhaps then I could have returned to a newly-decorated home after the properties of the contraction of the contrac

ing in one in, although it has been comfortable and pleasant, and the people surrounding me have been people surrounding me have been more than nice, it has nonetheless taken five months out of my life. And, at \$7.1 don't feel I have many of these gaps in my life to spare, sitting alone in one room. I feel my sentence to confinement has left its mark by-changing a person who has keyed the companionship of chees into our continued of the companionship of chees into our meeting someone when no fonger can find words to form a conversation with.

My one consolation has been the My one consolation has been the nice people with whom I have become acquainted and who have treated me with concern and respect. My daily paper and a cup of coffee are delivered to me every morning by someone from the office when I don't feel up to the walk, and usually with the question, "how is your back this morning?" Or, if! call the restaurant for a pot of coffee, glass of tea, or full meal, one of the yair resses will fillow he at the door with, if. They all know have been having such as the property of the yair to be yair to be yair to be the yair to be ya

invited me to visit them in Naples, Florida, with all expenses paid. Polly took me on the first leg of the jour-ney to Chad's and Angie's in Lex-

sook me on the first leg of the jouryou Chad's and Angle's in Lesington, where I spent the night, after
we all had dinner and later cozied upto the state of the state of the state of the state
in the state of the state of the state of the
name of the state of the state of the pleastransport of the please of the please
was found I could almost find comtains and the state of the please
was found I could almost find comfort in. But that did not interfere with
the joy of being with these loved
ones. Chad has a strong arm to help
me up and down and Angle a knowledge of nursing that conforter my
feeling of secutity, yet new religion
for the state of the state of the
me up and down and Angle a knowledge of nursing that conforter or
freely backgabe. The next morning.
Chad and Angle took ine to the
arrow there as wheelphair was waiting
so Chad could assist in getting me
on board and the attendant placed me
in the first jeat inside the door. Now,
my reservation was for the seat neys
to the window but the pain I was in
when the attendant seared me was
easier for her and, once seated, it was
easier for her and, once seated, it was
ure abe floht 'n notice my ticket said
the window seat but soon everyone
in the section I was in knew about it.
A large middle aged man suddenly
appeared beside me and demanded I
move over. I was sitting in his seat.
I, almost in teas of embarrassment,
tried to explain my handicap was the
eason I had been placed there, but
he would hear none of that and again,
in a loud voice or ordered me to move
over. So, painstakingly, inch by painin me, I MOVED, not all the way over. So, painstakingly, inch by pain-ful inch, I MOVED, not all the way

over. So, paintakingly, inch by paindi nich, I MOVED, not all the way
but enough so he could claim the
front seat. When he left the plane inAtlanta, he did have the grace to halfheartedly apologize for his rudenoss
and wished me well.

I was the last off in Atlanta but
that was okay. A wheelchair and attendant were waiting and the smoothride on the plane had eased my backpains of I was ready for the next jums
which took me on a wheelchair tout
of the airport, or a 'n seemed. I was
exators, through more halls and down
orner elevators, ontic a train: that
whizzed us to another elevator and,
finally deposited me at the entrance
to the plane taking me to Pt. Meyers
there Judy would be waiting for me.
The flight had been smooth, rily exit
comfortable, the wheelchair not
needed for jihe short walk to the car
and I wassoon enjoying the warmth
and beauty of Florida.

Then came my first sights of the
plane taking me to ground floor
and I wassoon enjoying the warmth
and beauty of some the warmth
and beauty of some the warmth
and beauty and the some the some the
land of somahine and beauty,
Judy's apartment, on the ground floor
of a huge condominium, was a most
welcome change from the one room
that has been my home for these last
several months. It was large and airy,

that has been my home for these last several months. It was large and airy, all the furniture light, bright and comfortable, the glass topped tables were uniquely designed so a pot of flowers could be held midway between flow and table surface. For displaying. They are beautiful. The next day, a cruise on the gulf around the Ten Thousand Island where we walched the dolphins play around the boat and heard the pilot tell stories of the next important play around the south of the pilot tell stories of the next important plays around the boat and heard the pilot tell stories of the next important plays for the pilot tell stories of the next important plays for the pilot tell stories of the next plays the most relaxed the pilot tell in several months. Two days we

went to the beach once to have lunch, and, on the way, passed the (home away from home) of the Bush family, I can set ly out, it is a far or from the one room 1 have been calling home for mointee.

The other time we went, Judy held onto my arm so I could wade in and get my feet wet. We saw one dolphin who dared come close to the beach and numerous brids perching on the family of the set of the dinamework of a dock watehing for a careless fish close to the surface where a quick dive and accurate duck of the head could be a bite of the dinamework of a dock watehing for a careless fish close to the surface mer frey were hunting for Then, just as addenly, lose to the tittle white perching close by and waiting to steal the fish from it means the fish from it may avail out to go long mongh to play a couple of subgardens with play and copel of subgardens with Judy and Goel before it was time to head back to my HAVEN OF REST and check up on the things.

So, the deal with wheelchairs at every takeoff and landing had to be every takeoff and landing had to be every takeoff and landing had to be

may HAVEN OF REST and check up to the things.

So, the deal with wheelchairs at every takeoff and landing had to be faced, And, for once I was glad I was great But, at Atlanta, it was another shasle. No attendant to meet us and, when one was found, and finally wheeled me to the gate where my plane to Lexington would be taking off in twenty minutes, I was left sitting in a seat with lugginge at my feat and no wheelchair if sight. Time passed by listening to the ticket-takers at the desk gabeling and lauging at their own jokes while once or twice an announcer spoke into the mike in at their own jokes while once or twice an announcer spoke into the mike in a voice with mumbled words that could not be understood, but which I understood to be of the readiness of the flight I was to take to Lexington. A nice young lindy sittingment the message had been and reminded them I needed help and no one had showed up to assist me. She was assured they were aware of it but one couldn't be found, meither could a wheelchair be found. The format The right had been and reminded them I were aware of it but one couldn't be found, meither could a wheelchair be

found, The nice lady became con-cerned and went back the second time and was told one was on the way. None of these four fiservants of the people-lever came over to assure me I would be on that plane. But after the line of people standing by the loading door had disappeared a young man with a wheelchair came in sight and sisked if I was the lady meeting the line of the people was the pro-ting the people was t needing help. The nice lady beside me helped me into the chair and the

young man began trying to make up to stime by scattering other passengers left and right as he broke the speed limit, if there was one, to get to our destination. By now I was concerned, for he dight i seem to know where he was going, as we left the addition of the plane and the safety of the building and headed into a drizzling rain and out to record the safety of the building and headed into a drizzling rain and out to record the safety of the building and headed into a drizzling rain and out to record the safety of the building and headed into a drizzling rain and out the record to the safety of the building and headed into a drizzling rain and out the safety of the building and headed into a drizzling rain and out the safety of th

for Florida. Times have changed haven't they?

for Florida. Times have changed haven't they?

My short week with Judy and Geof, seeing first hand, the beauty of perfectly, manicured lawns with a million Aollar home in the background. And well trimmed palm trees, like big exclamation marks emphasizing the beauty was well worth the backache and pain.

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4ed will cide will warranty - 382 hrs., 140 International, 445 Universal Dozer,
Foot tractor.

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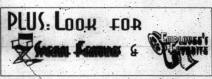
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