

ESPINAS Y FLORES

PUBLICATION OF THE SAN DIEGO
CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY

TOMORROW #4
APRIL, 1969



CALIFORNIA'S FIRST CITY

A FEW SIMPLE RULES

THERE ARE ONLY a few simple rules for the gardener to follow when growing plants in pots.

Plants should be watered thoroughly, almost to the saturation point, and then allow the soil to dry before watering again. There are very few exceptions to this rule. More plants fail because of overwatering than any other cause. This technique is greatly supported when porous clay pots are used. Excess water evaporates through the sides of the clay containers, giving a more uniform moisture level throughout the soil mix. It can then be noted, that if the surface of the soil is dry, the rootball will not be soggy, and it will be time to water again.

Another aid in enabling one to determine what is happening beneath the surface, is

APRIL MEETING
Saturday, April 5, 1969
2 pm

Floral Assoc. Bldg. - Balboa Park

"HOW TO ENJOY YOUR CACTUS
WITHOUT GETTING STUCK"

by
N. P. Steveson

REFRESHMENTS
SALE TABLE
EXCHANGE TABLE
BRAGGIN' TABLE

to completely fill the pot with homogeneous mix, instead of stratifying with layers of sand and bric-a-brac. This will reinsure a constant moisture level and void wet zones in the root area. Of course the pot should be allowed to drain freely; if it cannot, then adjustments must be made. One way to govern the amount of water applied is to leave enough space between the surface of the soil and the
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A FEW SIMPLE RULES - Continued

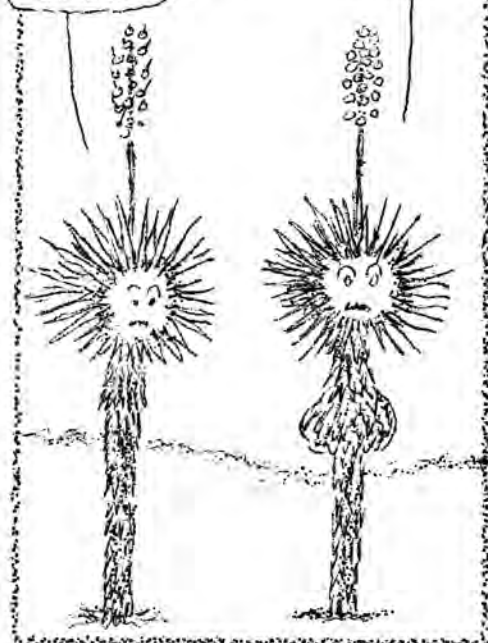
top of the pot to hold sufficient water for proper irrigation with one filling. In pots that cannot drain, a layer of crushed rock can be used to draw off surplus water; however, that plant, as well as the watering schedule, is apt to be a bit temperamental. With a plastic or ceramic pot, time and experimentation will soon indicate the right or wrong of your watering habits. A good thought to remember when using pots that do not drain - that continued use of Southern California tap water will cause a salt or sodium build up in the soil that may become toxic to the plant. Rain water or bottled spring water are optimum in these cases.

Every plant needs some degree of light - either sunlight or artificial - for proper growth habits. Check your horticultural guides or nurseryman for these requirements. Don't try to grow foliage plants in the bright sunlight or cactus is a Northern or shaded exposure. It sometimes is a difficult thing to do, but the type plants you grow should be determined by the area you have available to grow them.

If the conditions are not optimum for the plants you desire most, expect losses and difficulties; there is more satisfaction in growing a healthy vigorous plant under ideal conditions, than in just keeping something alive in a meager existence.

Lillian! Not again? Why didn't you tell me? It's not TWINS is it?

Yes, Pop, I'm afraid it is. And twins may be a CONSERVATIVE ESTIMATE.



MULTIPLE EXPECTANCY

Why do people rave so much about MINISKIRTS when we Yuccas have been wearing them for thousands of years?

Some miniskirts could better be called MAXIBRAS.

I like our hair-dos much better



MINISKIRT or MAXIBRA?

Plant nutrients are a must, but don't overdo a good thing. Most plants only need fertilizer every six weeks or so. Use a well balanced formulation. Liquid is fine, but it may necessitate slightly more frequent applications. Slow releasing pellets may be better for your needs; with certainty there is less difficulty in preparation and distribution. The nutrient requirements of the plant are more evenly and constantly met without that sudden surge of abundance followed by a long period of famine.

Keep a check as to temperatures as related to the best temperatures for the plants. If they are to reside in the house, there will be a tendency for them to become overheated, and quite often deprived of enough humidity. This is not too much of a problem with cacti, but you could be forcing growth during a period when the plant is looking for a breather. To create a humid atmosphere of plants that desire it, set the pot on a pebbled tray or clay saucer containing some water.

The most important rule of all, and you're on the road to success, is when you realize that failure is merely a detour.

PROJECT OF GOODWILL

AT NOON on March 15th, a representative group from our society paid a visit to the Mission San Diego De Alcalá for the purpose of checking possibilities of assuming a project for the 200th San Diego Birthday, and an assist to the Mission.

We have been offered the opportunity of preparing and planting a cactus garden to help landscape a portion of the Mission in time for the influx of visitors to the 200th Anniversary of San Diego.

We have very few charitable projects, and so it is hoped that the membership will look with favor upon this undertaking by donating plants and labor.

This will be discussed at our next meeting, and if acceptable, final plans will be offered for approval.

-- W. E. G.

WHAT'S IN A NAME

HAVE YOU EVER BEEN CURIOUS about the derivation of plant species names? We toss them about casually every day, without realizing

each has a meaning of its own. By no means is the following to be considered a complete list; it's just something to tickle thought:

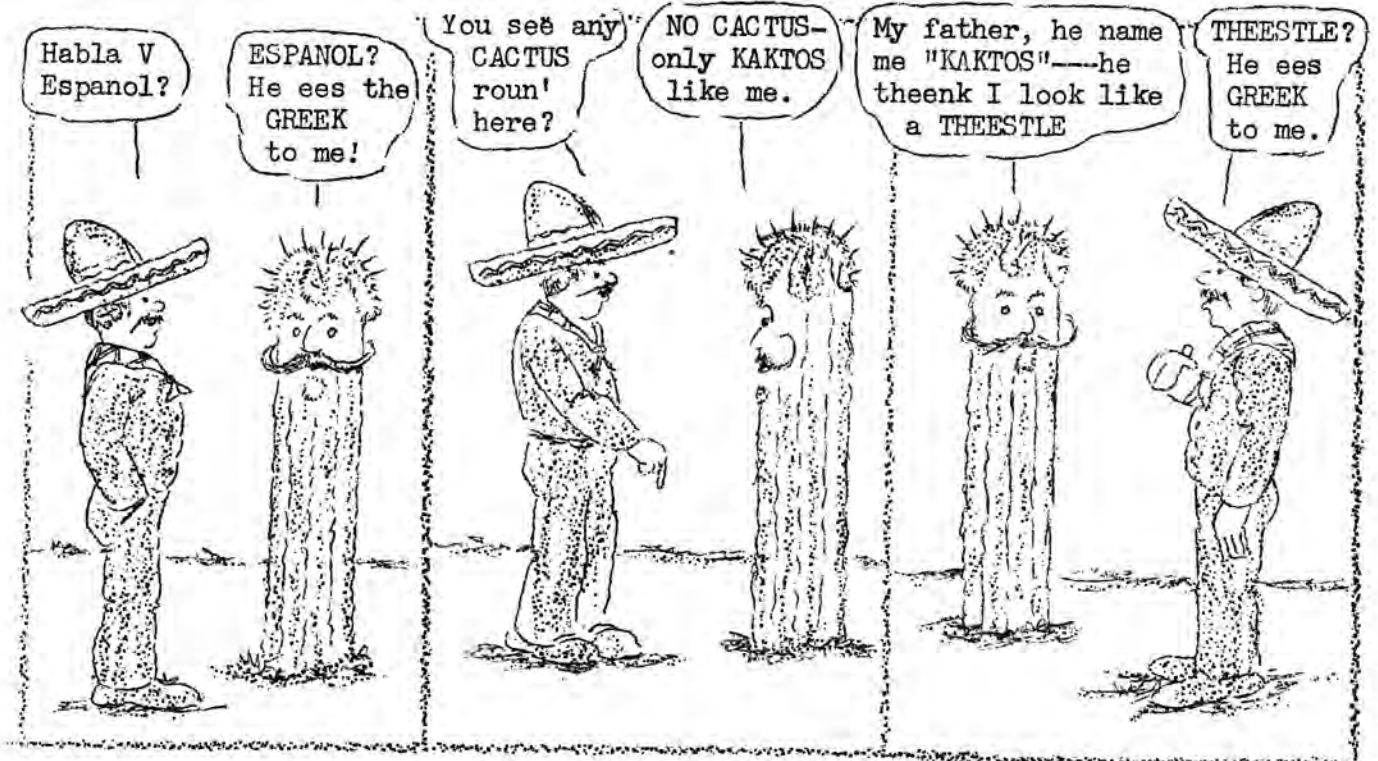
SUAVEOLENS - sweet scent + HYBRIDA - mixed species.
OVATA - egg shaped + FRAGRANS - fragrant
ADSCENDENS - ascending + FLORIBUNDA - many flowers
SPECIOSA - of the species + RIGIDUS - stiff
ARBORESCENS - tree like + RADICANS - stem rooting
MACROPHYLLA - large leaf + RUBRA - red.
AFFINIS - related to + PUMILA - dwarf.
CORNUTA - horned + SEMPERVIRENS - evergreen.
AGAVOIDES - like Agave + BELLUS - beautiful.
STELLATA - star like + AUREUS - golden
ALBA - white + BREVIFOLIUS - short leaf.
DENTATA - large toothed + PURPUREUS - purple.
GLAUCA - powdery blue + TOMENTOSA - hairy
ANGUSTIFOLIUS - narrow leaf + REPENS - creeping.

BOB
LAMP

WILL BE ON HAND

WITH EXPO '69

5



COMMUNIS - common + COLUMNARIS - cylindrical
EDULIS - edible + ELEGANS - elegant
MOLLIS - soft + FRAGILIS - fragile
COMPACTA - compact + FLAVUS - yellow
ANGULARIS - angled + CONFUSUS - confused.
--js.

PERSONAL

LIBRARY BOOKS PLEASE COME HOME!

POST CONVENTION TOURS

The following tours have been planned for those coming to the convention with adequate time and a desire to visit some of the more interesting desert habitats of the southwestern United States and northern Mexico. Although the Convention Committee has taken care to recommend the most competent guides and the most interesting areas, it can assume no responsibility for these post-convention tours, and wishes to warn members that most of these trips are for the hardy, desert-seasoned explorers and are not to be undertaken lightly. All supplies, costs, facilities, transportation, etc. are to be supplied by the participants, and the only responsibility of the guides is to conduct those able to make the trip into interesting cactus country. Those interested in participating on one of these tours should contact the guide in question who will in turn be able to advise you on the particulars of his trip. Necessarily, the number of vehicles that can participate on these expeditions is limited, so those interested are urged to get their registrations in as soon as possible. Although participants are expected to supply their own transportation, those who would be unable to do so may inquire as to the availability of space in other vehicles. All tours will depart Monday morning, May 12th, except by special arrangement.

Since Doc. Corliss takes all his graft stock off only one side, my walks are restricted to tight circles. I think he does it intentionally to keep me in the yard.



(Nyctocereus Serpentinus)

VICIOUS CIRCLES

Ione is very thotful toward us when the weatherman says it is going to be cold during the night.

Oh yeah--I think her heart is more tender than our leaves.



TENDER LOVING CARE

TOUR A. A 2 day trip into the Clark Mountain district on the Nevada border, a beautiful desert region where one can encounter in one single area thirteen different species of cacti as well as 5 species of Agave and Yucca. A relatively easy and very rewarding trip. You will spend the night in a motel in Baker, Calif. The tour guide will be Gilbert H. Tegelberg, Sr., Star Rt., Box 456, Lucerne Valley, Calif. 92356.

TOUR B. A week's trip into Idria Country in Baja Calif., to one of the most scenic spots of the entire peninsula 3 days south of the border. An exciting trip for experienced drivers over a very rugged road. The tour guides on this trip will be Ed and Betty Gay, 5353 Topeka Dr., Tarzana, Calif. 91356.

TOUR C: A 2 day trip into the high country of northern Baja Calif., just across the border from Calif., to be conducted by Bob Taylor, 1640 E. Main, El Cajon, Cal., 92021.

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POST CONVENTION TOURS - Continued.

TOUR D: An 8 day expedition into the backwoods country of central Sonora through very rugged terrain. Not recommended for any but experienced campers equipped with sturdy vehicles. The mammillarias of Sonora are the main interest of the expedition, but the flora of the foothills of the Sierra Madres is particularly rich and exciting. The tour guide will be Robert Foster, PO Box 167, Reseda, Calif. 91335.

TOUR EA 7-day trip to Guaymas and Alamos, Sonora. This tour goes into some very interesting cactus country and yet the roads are all paved and participants may stay at hotels if they wish. The tour guide will be Joe Kellet, 7362 Waring Ave., Los Angeles, Ca. 90046

TOUR F: A 2-day trip to Palm Springs and Joshua Tree National Monument. You will stay at motels in Palm Springs. Your tour guides will be Pat and Slim Koorten, Box 851, Palm Springs, Calif. 92262.



IT SEEMS LIKE it's been a long, long time since we've seen the sun reflecting on the old typewriter..... Spring is here - can blossom time be far behind??? "Some utter it in poetry, some grow it from the soil, some build it in a steeple, some express it through their toil - Some breathe it into music, others, into art, some mold it into bread loaves, some have it in their heart - For each life has the power to make the "beautiful" show through - and you reveal the "beautiful" in life by being you".... (M. D. Hughes).

HELEN HOWE won Succulent of the Month honors in February with a prolific and beautiful CRASSULA ORBICULARIS, and NELLIE KENNETT waltzed to the Exchange Table for her prize for a robust puppy-laden NOTOCACTUS LENINGHAUSII, that was just busting its buttons right before

your eyes.... and open class accolades to ELAINE NIEHAUS for her enchanting handful of green worms (EUPHORBIA FLANAGANI)... this must have caused the "Micro-Rito" lights to burn bright all night on Wilshire Terrace.... HAZEL "Florabunda" SCOTT trotted in at the last meeting with half her garden, and marched out with the prizes for all three categories.... the first time anyone has ever made a clean sweep.... the smile on her face, as she was gathering up the choice goodies from the Exchange, was a sight to behold... like she was trying out a new charge account with all expenses paid... the remains were devoured by the members, reminding one of the nylon sales during the "Great War".....

Our humble apologies to the San Jose Society... we received a letter concerning their forthcoming paper on the eve of our Mexican vacation.... put it in a very safe spot, because the office was going to be turned into a veritable merry-go-round during "tax time"... We're convinced it's still safe, but have been unable to find the spot... hang on, we're still looking for the Brass Ring.... A note from "Cacto-Phil" relates that the little packets of assorted sandpaper sold to amateur carpenters are the best things for removing those pesky little cactus spines that are barely visible... After you've finished garden chores, rub your hands together; if you feel the little stickers, rub lightly all over with the sand paper... oh, yes, add a quart of Jergen's Lotion to

(Continued next page)

CACTUS SQUEEZIN'S - Continued

the next grocery list... or a quart of whatever to any old list you want.

The slides of HELEN HEGYI'S tiny garden were marvelous.... full of color variations, shapes, and forms... a real feeling of boundlessness in a small place... but, alas, Helen is moving or has moved.... the garden is never more.... but if we know our oats, she'll have a window box or a shoe box filled with her lovelies in short order..

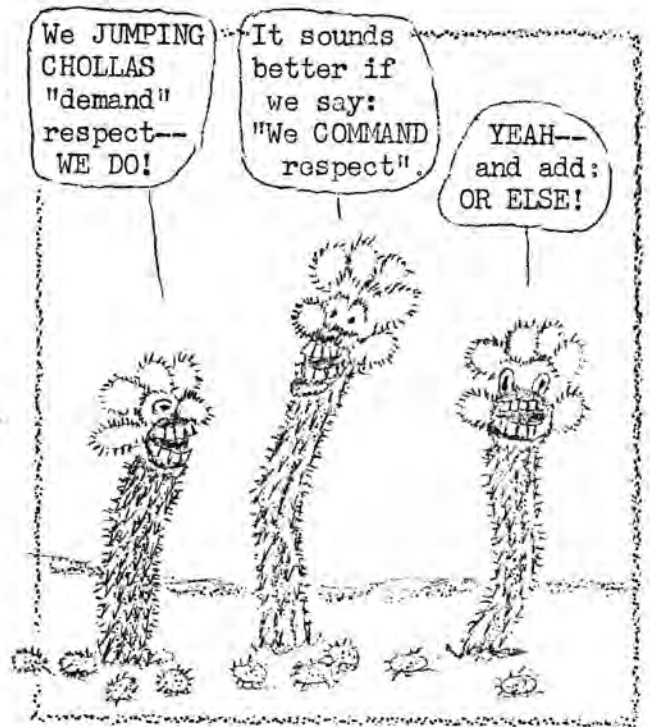
Winners in the succulent landscape contest were announced..... Winners and sharers of the wealth donated by the Desert Nursery of Riverside were Jim Stalsonburg with "An Ambitious Arboretum", Walter Scott with a "Hillside Haven", and Helen Hegyi with "A Place for Pots"... don't spend it all in one nursery....

LEIF HOPPER writes that certain species of Euphorbia are called artillery plants, because of their characteristic of shooting off their seeds... remember, it's less important to redistribute the wealth than it is to redistribute opportunity.....

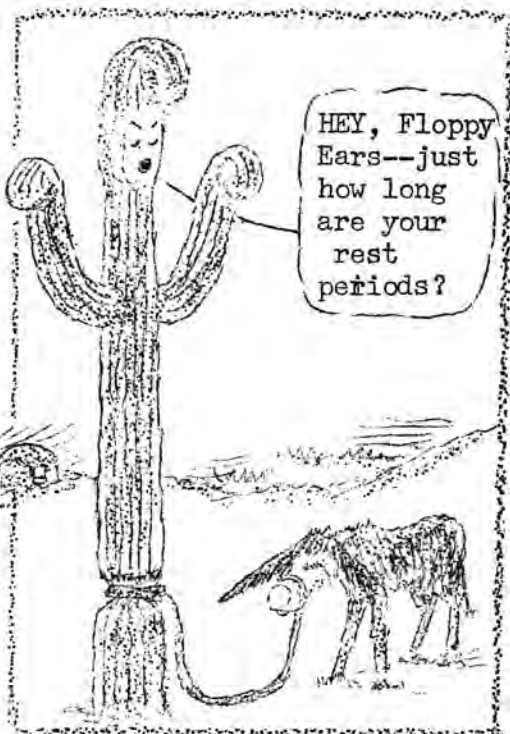
To the gentle melodic refrain of "There's a Long, Long Trail A Winding", in the background, the crystalline blue waters of the Mediterranean, and the alabaster towers that line its shores were reviewed in an excellent slide review by DOC CORLISS of his recent garden tour of the Middle East... vividly displaying the plastic present with the palatial past in a peculiar, paradoxical blend....if it isn't the reason young men lay down their plow-shares, it's certainly why they come home for Christmas.....

Verily interresting..... Goodnite, "Lucy," and stop asking what the future has in store, and take as a gift whatever the day brings forth.....

-- A. Phidd



DEMANDS NOT NEGOTIABLE



TEMPUS FUGIT

ARRANGEMENT

NEED AN OPPORTUNITY to do your own thing? It has been provided with this month's change-of-pace arrangement of succulents planned to stimulate showing off your favorite plants creatively collected in one container.

- Plain old pot or fancy frippery,
- Hanging basket or garden dishery,
- Shells from the sea or driftwood fantasy,
- Hollowed stone or pioneer crockery -
- Anything goes....

Once your container has been chosen, keep an eye toward a few check-point fundamentals. Unity between the arrangement and container is desirable - they should harmonize rather than compete. Then decide if you are planting an arrangement for long-term enjoyment, or arranging succulents without soil, using
(Continued next page)

fresh, and it can be callously impaled for a decorative note in the living room or office, and then stuck back in the garden without losing a beat!

An arrangement should have a starting point, and that's where balance enters. Balance is the first principle of design and can be achieved simply by considering the weight of color and form of the material used - dark colors and broad forms at the base, light colors and delicate forms for height, using in-betweens for transition.

While we're on the subject, my favorite teacher started her class with the relationship of the elements and principles in flower arranging. The goal of interpreting elements of design: Line - Form - Pattern - Texture - Color - into the principles of design: Balance - Dominance - Contrast - Rhythm - Proportion - Scale -- hopefully gaining Beauty - Harmony - Simplicity - Expression. Intuitively you probably take these principles into consideration, for they apply not only to hardcore garden club flower arranging, but to the techniques of landscaping. We want to use our succulent collections most effectively inside as well as outside, and to spotlight specimen plants. Flower arranging is an art developing spontaneously from growing and like any art is not perfected overnight. It can give you as much pleasure as dabbling in amateur painting, and once started, can lead in many directions from traditional to abstracts and free form.

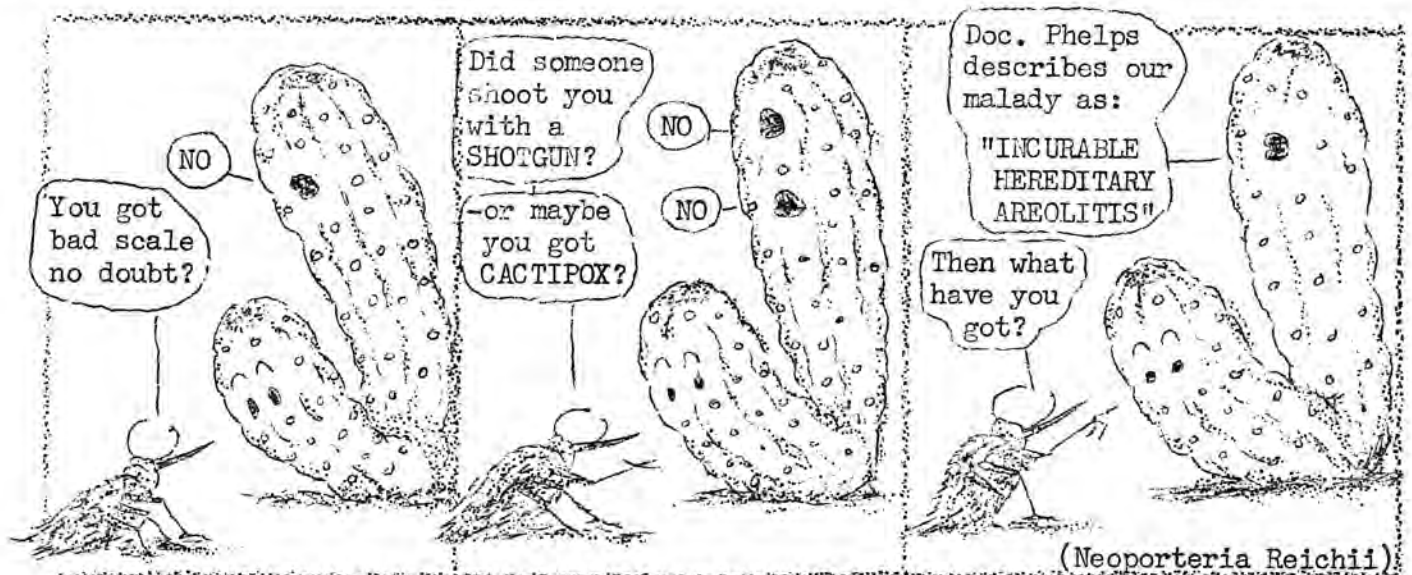
Back to the project at hand. You've chosen your container and plant material, and perhaps the basic design, say that of an asymmetrical triangle which is a nice easy form. Establish the height (approximately 1 1/2 times the height of the container). Allow a trailing plant or two to drape gracefully over the side of the container to tie them together.. A rosette form of echeveria or aeonium is a perfect "focal point". Don't be afraid of space - space is not necessarily a void - it gives a restful feeling. If your arrangement leaves the Bragging Table for the patio, try placing it in a spot against the wall where shadows can be seen effectively. If the shadow is muddled perhaps you added one plant too many. There's a great deal to be said for knowing when to stop.

Which gives me a bit of a jolt - it's time to stop arranging words and time to start arranging plants. Just remember to have fun, do what comes naturally, and in a way that will please you.

-- Nibby

ONCE IN A GOLDEN HOUR
I CAST TO EARTH A SEED
UP THERE CAME A FLOWER,

THE PEOPLE SAID, A WEED..and the Infinite Prophet spoke, even the an Optimist may be wrong, but he bears mistakes with fortitude...

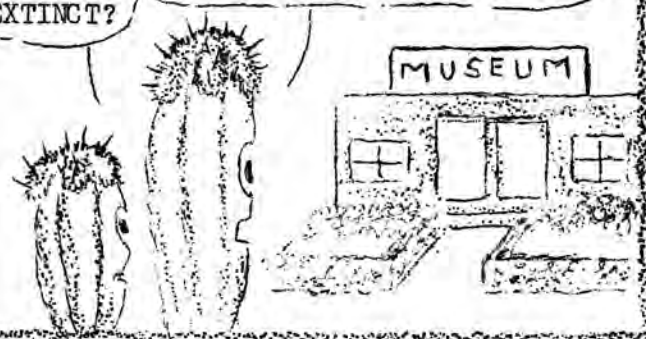


Pop, what ever be-
came of
MAN?

He's extinct, son.
Been gone a long
time now.

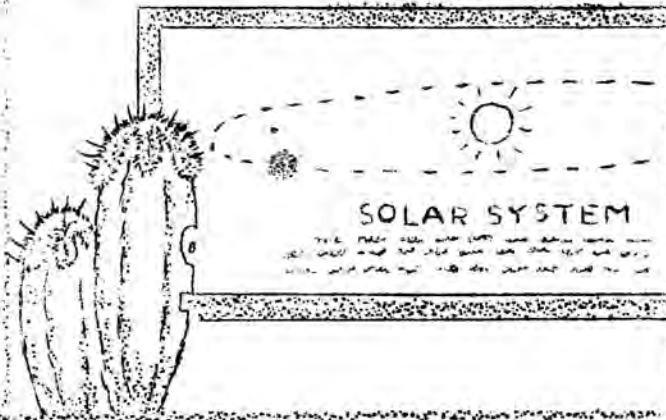
What do
you mean?
EXTINCT?

Let's go over to the Museum
and see what the story is.



"Man polluted everything he came
in contact with. The earth ap-
peared as a dark brown gaseous
blob orbiting the Sun."

"Man had no natural enemies, but he
did have a Devlish propensity for
making them. He was most successful
with his own kind."



"Man spent much of his time and most of
his resources developing sophisticated
devices for mass destruction. It is
believed late in his tenure of the
Earth he inadvertently punched the
"destruct" button."

"When his skeletal remains were examined
it was theorized he had too many holes
in his head but none of them could be
attributed to explosive forces."

