

The Riviera—Europe's Playground

EDITOR'S NOTE: This is another in a series of dispatches to The Eccentric from Donald Dennis and his wife, Margaret, as they make a seven-month trip around the world. Dennis teaches art at Bloomfield Hills High School; his wife is a visiting teacher in the same school system. The following letter was written from Spain after a trip along the Italian French and Spanish Rivieras.

The destination of most Europeans on an extended holiday or vacation is the Riviera. It is a strip of coastline extending from near Pisa, Italy, through Southern France, ending a few miles North of Barcelona.

This coastline consists of varied scenery from steep rocky hillsides overhanging the sea to long stretches of sun-bleached sand in lower areas, where the land gradually moves out to meet the blue waters of the Mediterranean.

IT IS AN area made beautiful by the gradual processes of nature and made livable by the rapid constructions of mankind. Blessed with sunshine for the greater part of the year, it is no wonder that it beckons to all Europe as a No. 1 resort area. In Italy the Riviera begins as a series of "fortes" or waterfronts in flat areas, becoming steep and rocky upon approaching Genoa and continuing in such a manner until it runs into the French border.

THE FLAT AREA beckons the swimmers with its long, sandy strips dotted by palm trees and cabanas.

In the north, sun worshippers with a love for contrast, find the rocks and caves more to their liking. Crossing over into France we were exposed to similar scenery, but under a different name—"Cote d'Azur."

THIS IS France's playground, and it beckons "the rich and poor and young and old" for its diversity of activity. If you are so inclined, you can

spend your money at the casino at Cannes or Monte Carlo.

If you are a yachtsman at heart, the natural harbors of Villefranche or St. Tropez await your boat, no matter how large or how small she may be.

But if you prefer to relax and mingle with the elite of Europe, try Nice and its Paris-on-the-beach atmosphere.

EVERYWHERE we went we saw sun worshippers in every kind of attire. It was as though all Europe was stepping out of its winter clothing to expose itself to that beautiful sunshine that had been so long in coming.

Moving on through France into Spain, we were treated to that final stretch of Riviera known as the "Costa Brava." Here the sky seems bluer and the waters take on a brilliant turquoise as they wash over the white sand or brush against the yellow ochre and reddish-brown rocks.

THE ROADS become more winding and the views more spectacular until reaching the flat area which stretches from Floret to Barcelona.

Here we were abruptly brought back to life by the busy, commercial activity of Spain's second largest city and first commercial center.

The "Costa Brava" for a considerable time was one of the bargain spots of Europe, but now, unfortunately, its lure has made it one of Spain's biggest tourist centers.

IN THE PAST three years hotels have more than doubled in number, and as we drove along the coast, we could see by the great amount of construction underway that this figure would double again before too long.

We chose Tossa del Mar for a three-day stopover, and we, too, soon were sun worshippers on one of the most picturesque of all the Riviera beaches. This was a chance for me to try out my Spanish and for both of us to do some painting as well as sunning.

IT WAS MORE of a shock than that first plunge in the blue waters of the Mediterranean to discover that the biggest percentage of people spoke English and that at least 60 per cent of the inhabitants for the summer were from England.

The village itself is surrounded on one side by the remains of a rambling old castle and on the other side by steep cliffs and jagged rocks. The beach area is smooth and sandy.

A SHORT WALK will put you into any one of a number of narrow side streets that are full of souvenir shops and restaurants—restaurants that advertise "English tea just like Mother makes" or "sandwiches" and "short orders" so that you feel more at home and more inclined to spend a little money.

The Riviera today has gone commercial in a big way and is attracting more and more travel-hungry Europeans to its picturesque vacationland.

Samuel Morse is remembered chiefly for his invention of the electric telegraph and Morse code, but he was also one of the finest early American portrait painters, according to World Book Encyclopedia.

Residents Named To Dean's List

Three area residents have been named to the Dean's list at Miami University, Ohio. They are Claudia D. Purly and

Two Birmingham young men have been named to the "Dean's list" at Northwood Institute for having earned a B grade or better average during the first summer session. They are Kenneth E. Vogt, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ken Vogt, 6124 Thorncrest, and Craig Wilcox, son of Mr. and Mrs. David D. Wilcox, 975 Pilgrim.

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55 Days at Peking	A-MY-Y	A-1	
Savage Sam	GA	A-1	
Yellowstone Cubs			
GA General Audience			
* Outstanding film of its type			

GREEN SHEET
These audience symbols are intended as broad guides to selection, and do not indicate either recommendation or non-recommendation of the films to which they are applied.

A Adults
MY Mature Young People
Y Young People (12 years to 16 years)
C Children (unaccompanied by adults)
F Family

NATIONAL LEGION OF DECENCY
A1 Morally Unobjectionable for General Patronage
A2 Morally Unobjectionable for Adults and Adolescents
A3 Morally Unobjectionable for Adults
B Morally Objectionable in Part for All
C Condemned
SC A separate classification is given to certain films which, while not morally offensive in themselves, require some analysis and explanation as a protection to the uninformed against wrong interpretations and false conclusions.

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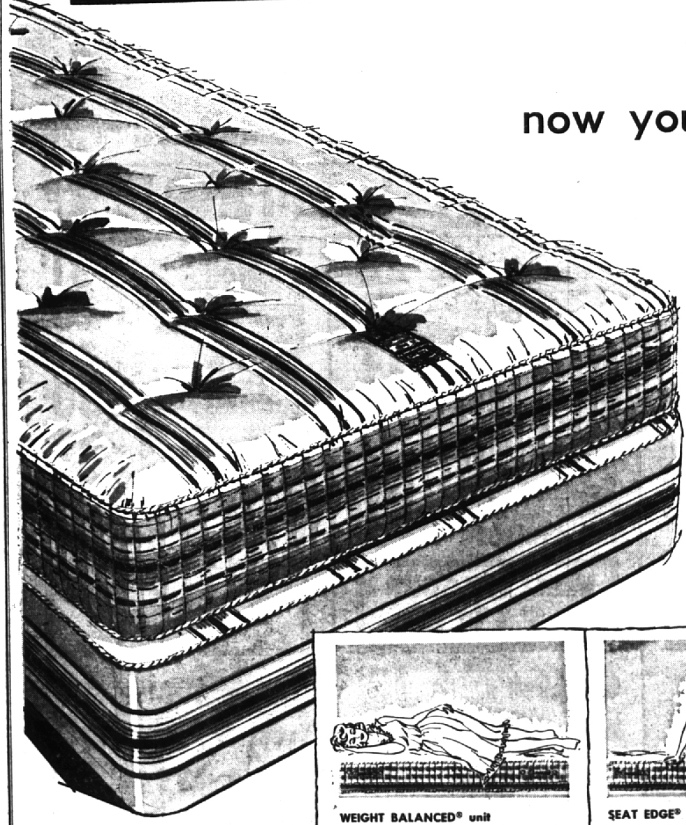
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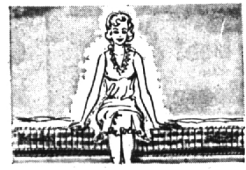
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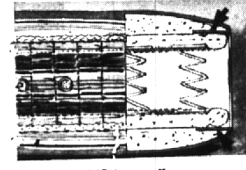
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