GHOSTS OF INDIAN COVE

By

SLIM BARNARD

Courtesy of your Southern California Ford Dealer

MAP No. 171

EXPENSES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Cost</th>
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<tr>
<td>Gasoline</td>
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<tr>
<td>Meals (2), two days</td>
<td>$9.30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Motel (2), one night</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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TRAVELOGUE

Things that go bump in the night

From man's earliest beginnings, there have always been dark and ominous tales of ghosts and other ethereal beings. The annals of history quake with the names of people like Anne Boleyn, the Princess Carlotta, Marie Antoinette and Blue Beard. Of these infamous people, it has been said, that following their deaths, their ectoplasm haunted and habitation the places and palaces of their earthly life.

An old Scottish invocation requested deliverance "... from things that go bump in the night" and grim tales of paranatural human beings have grown up and flourished in the mountains of middle Europe. Men like Algernon Blackwood and H. P. Lovecraft wove tales as gothic in their terror as the sound of their own names.

Great literature is replete with the accounts of visitations from soulless beings who wander the earth in search of release from their past life. Macbeth is counseled by the three witches and Hamlet is quickened to suspicion by the apparition of his father's ghost.

And in later years, this heritage of fear and terror came to the northeastern portion of the United States. Here are the gothic settings of Nathaniel Hawthorne and Henry James. And here too are the scenes of the witch trials of Salem, Massachusetts and the mysterious Hill House.

But are there ghosts in the west also? Well, we wouldn't have thought so until your HAPPY WANDERERS were told about the strange tale of Indian Cove.

Where the Hair Raises and the Spine Tingles

Indian Cove is located two and a half hours from Los Angeles in the high desert near Yucca Valley. Once the scene of a pitched Indian battle, the area is now a fine campground with excellent facilities. Legend tells of a battle between two opposing tribes. The battle offended the gods in heaven and participants of the conflict were imprisoned in the rocks around the site of the war.

Approaching the campground, we noticed a number of large boulders rising out of the ground and these are said to contain the trapped warriors. The natives of Yucca Valley told your HAPPY WANDERERS that on a still and starry night, the warriors can be heard moaning inside the rocks. This may be so but we preferred to take their word for it and did not bother to find out for ourselves whether or not this was true.

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KTLA Channel 5 — HAPPY WANDERERS (In Color) — Every Thursday Night 7:30 p.m.
Best Route

Leaving Los Angeles on the San Bernardino Freeway (U.S. Interstate 10) we followed the road east until we reached the off-ramp, 16 miles east of Banning, marked Morongo Valley. Exiting from the highway, we crossed over the road on an overpass and began climbing toward the Morongo Valley. Now an art colony and the home of the Morongo Indian Reservation, the Morongo Valley is adjacent to Yucca Valley and Indian Cove and is approximately 101 miles from Los Angeles.

Yucca Valley

The high desert country offers a great deal more than just the opportunity to score oneself out of their wits at Indian Cove. Your HAPPY WANDERERS discovered that there are many interesting sites to be seen in and around Yucca Valley. There are excellent accommodations here and double occupancy rooms can be had for as little as $12 a night.

Today 8,000 people live and work in this 3,300 foot valley, and once a year they celebrate their good fortune at being in this gentle environment with a festival known as Grubstake Days.

Ironing It Out

On a quiet street in Yucca Valley, your HAPPY WANDERERS stopped in front of the home of Mrs. Opal Bowlin who is famous for her collection of old irons. Wearing a bustle skirt and pantaloons, she met us at the door and led us through her house where she and her husband, Daniel, showed us the collection they have assembled. There are more than 300 irons of every possible shape and design and many of them date back more than a hundred years. Mrs. Bowlin informed us that these were known as Sad Irons because of their cumbersome, bulky shape which made them very difficult to wield about. Long before the electric and steam irons, combustible mate-

The High Desert Shrine

In the foothills around Yucca Valley is one of the areas most significant to the Morongo Indian. Christ Park, or Christ Shrine, and is the dream of one Antone Martin. Martin, who had been a sculptor, anthropologist and Hollywood Set Designer, was a strong willed man of deep religious conviction who came to the land of the desert and settled here. Almost immediately he began to fashion religious figures of concrete, steel, and cement. Amusingly grotesque in shape, it bears a truly beautiful white flower. Like all of nature's "ugly ducklings" it has at least one redeeming feature.

Giant Rock

On the outskirts of Yucca Valley, at Giant Rock Airport, your HAPPY WANDERERS met George Van Tassel who has many fascinating stories to tell about flying saucers, outer space, and what the future holds for the people of the earth. Van Tassel is the President of the College of Universal Wisdom and is publisher of a magazine called, "Proceedings." But it wasn't always like this for George Van Tassel. As he tells it, back in 1933 he and his wife were camping in a spot far away from Giant Rock. He woke in the middle of the night and found a stranger watching him. Soon two others appeared and invited him to walk with them. Van Tassel's wife continued to sleep as he walked with the five foot six inch men who claimed that they had come from a small planet not known to earth. They visited their spacecraft which he says was composed of a total of 19,000 parts. And he has a blueprint for a Time Machine which would rejuvenate the body. Then he walked back to his sleeping wife and said goodbye to his night visitors.

Since that time, George Van Tassel has been publishing his magazine and officiating at the annual UFO convention which is held at Giant Rock Airport. From the 6,000 people who attend these conventions, he receives money to finance the construction of the machine which he calls, "The Integration." In talking with Van Tassel, your HAPPY WANDERERS learned that the machine operates on the principle of anti-gravity. To date, $40,000 has been spent on the construction of a dome to house the machine and $40,000 is needed to complete the project.

And while your HAPPY WANDERERS have nothing against rejuvenation, we are not so sure that we'd care to be awakened out of a sound sleep by the other men from another planet or the ghosts of Indian Cove.

BEST SEASON:
The Spring and the Fall are especially lovely in the high desert, but the summer is very hot and the winter cold and windy. Even so, some people prefer this area on a year round basis.

WHAT TO WEAR

Men

Casual, comfortable clothing.

A sweater and perhaps a cap or a scarf.

Comfortable walking shoes and a hat for protection from the sun.

Women

This is not a country in which to dress up and dressing to the occasion is far more important. Comfortable shoes are a must and wool capris or a skirt and sweater are ideal. A hat and sunglasses are also a good idea.

"The Happy Wanderers"

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