TRAVEL **LOG** of Iris Jones



Bears aren't finicky eaters; Your arm's just fine

The frost is still on the outhouse in our northern cottage, but the tourists will soon be back, feeding their chil-

dren to the bears.

The bears in Algonquin Park, Ontarin, 200 miles north of Toronto, are halfwild and half-tame, as they are in any
state or provincial park. They are tame
enough to eat out of your hand and wild
enough to eat your hand if they are so
inclined.

ncuned.

Park personnel continually warn tourists about this, but I don't see much sign that they listen. If you are planning a trip into bear country this year, consider this:

consider this:

A display in the Algonquin Park Museum shows food cans and other metal objects that bears have form apart with heir nails. The display sign reads:
"Bears don't need can openers."
If you saw a bear in the wild, you would be appropriately seared. For some reason, we lose that protective fear when we see a 600-pound bear on the highway or in a garbage dump.
Garbage dumps were their favorite macking spots at Algonquin Park until

Garbage dumps were their favorite snacking spots at Algonquin Park until the rangers switched to incinerators. Cottagers and other regulars took visi-tors to the dump to "see the bears."

Imagine this scene. A huge black bear is pawing around in a garbage bag on the slope. Thirty or forty tourists are watching him, as well as other bears who came to dine.

A mother hands a preschool child a candy bar to feed to the bear. The child puts it in front of the bear's mose. He's to have wallen garbage to see, but if puts it in front of the bears nose. He's too busy eating garbage to care, but if he was so inclined he could take the candy bar, the hand and half the arm without even trying.

It doesn't happen too often. But it

without even trying.

It doesn't happen too often. But it happens.
Collège students who work summers in Yoho National Park, in the Canadian Yoho National Park, in the Canadian West of the College students who was the suggest of the College Search of the College Se

bear. The bear chased him, and I can still see his long curved nails on the top of the car window as my father franti-cally rolled the window up. I also remember the day we stopped for a bear that was hamming it up be-side the road. There was a car behind us in which a man tried to lure a bear into his car!

into his car!
I'm not suggesting that you avoid the pleasure of stopping to look at a bear.
Just remember, that is a 600-pound mammoth animal out there with a small brain and loop nails. The last guy he met might have teased him.

The Yellowstone Park rangers like to tell the story about how you tell the difference between a grizzly and storows bear. A brown bear an climb trees. A prizzly can't. "If you see a bear," they jest, "walk up and belt him one across the snoot and then run. Climb a tree. If it's a brown bear, he'll climb the tree and eat you. If it's a grizzly, he'll stay at the bottom of the tree, shake the tree down and eat you. Then you'll know whether lis a brown bear or a grizzly." The best philosophy! I know about all this is based on the guest theory. In the

At the clinic,

thinking they wouldn't speak English, we asked for help in a pidgin

variety of German French and Spanish

wilderness, the bear is at home and you are the guest. Make sure you follow the house rules or he may get mad and send you home to your favorite hospi-tal.

tal.

FROM THE MAILBAG: Spring arrives at 12:22 a.m. Wednesday, March 21. All our southern states are already elebrating. The spectacular Water Ski Revue has already started at Cypress Gardens, where they are now constructing an antebellum town with an 800-seat theater as well as eating and shopping areas in the swamp. Houston is in the midst of its first Main Street Festival, which it hopes will someday rival the Washington Cherry Festival. The Confederate Air. Perce in Harlingen, Texas, has just finished its second annual mid-winter airslow and is planning another one for Oct. Corpus Christi is getting ready for its Feetival of Flowers on april 7 and 8.

We may not be ready for that yet, but Greenfield Village is starting its fa-mous craft classes March 31, for peo-ple who are busting to try something new after all those long winter nights.



Accidents often occur when tourists ignore warnings about feeding the friendly bears, such as this fellow in Yellowstone Park. (Photo by Micky Jones)

...WE HAVE

WHAT

I FORGOT PACK THE ASPIRIN

TOTURN AROUND.

THERE IT IS! THE JEWEL OF THE PACIFIC!
THE ISLE OF OUR DREAMS THE

Dehli Belly?

For medical help overseas, take some precautions

By IRIS SANDERSON JONES

By IRIS SANDERSON JONES

In Yugoslavia, mp pholographer-husband broke a tooth. In India, he had dysentery. In Nepal, I was bitten by a centipede. We handled those situations as we would at home. We called for medical help and got it.

People planning trips abroad often express a disproportionate fear about how they would cope with a health problem overseas. "How would I find a doctor?" they say. "Could I trust the medical service? Could the medical personnel speak English?"

With a little advance preparation you can find your way easily through medical difficulties in another country. Even if you're not prepared, you will find good health facilities available in almost every part of the world.

Abroad, as at home, you'll find more services in cities than in the country.

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Abroad, as at home, you'll find more services in cities than in the country. The problems can be discussed with a pharmacist, who often has more leeway to dispense drugs without a prescription than is true here.

Travelers who worry about a potential health crisis can do three things, Pack a basic medical kit, old an organization that offers information about medical services abroad. Trust the medical people you find to handle the problem.

WHAT SHOULD you pack? Certain things are basic. A supply of medications that you regularly take.

basic. A supply of medications that you regularly take.

Precaution: Don't just dump them together in one container because some travelers, especially young container because some travelers, especially young to the importation of drugstoms officers sensitive to the importation of drugstoms officers sensitive to the importation of the process of the property of the property of the process of the property of the property of the process of the process of the property of the pr

The Health Insurance Institute suggests that you prepare a short medical history of yourself as part of your travel kit. This should include information about allergies, any hypersensitivities, regular medications as well as blood type, the name and whereabouts of your hometown doctor and your health insurance.

health insurance.

Very few people suffer from air sickness —
planes ride more smoothly than cars in most cases

— but if that's your problem, ask your doctor for
Dramamine or another medication for that prob-

The American Council of Otolaryngology (ACO), pecialists in ear, nose and throat medicine, suggest The American Council of Otolarymgology (ACO), specialists in ear, nose and throat medicine, suggest three ways to alleviate the ear popping travelers sometime suffer on planes. Chew gum or swallow frequently to keep ear passages clear; even swallow occasionally while holding your nose. Don't sleep while holding your nose, but yawn a lot to equalize the nose, ear and throat presure with the cabin pressure. Take a month flori air and then swallow hard to clear clogged ears. If this is an negoring norblen for your write for a

If this is an ongoing problem for you, write for a pamphlet called "Ears, Altitude and Airplane Trav-

Ambassador of tourism

nominations now open

el" from ACO, 1100 17th St. N.W., Suite 602, Washington D.C. 20036.

AN INTERNATIONAL association called AMAINTERNATIONAL association called LAMAI (International Association for Medical Assistance for Travelers) offers a variety of informational bookeles to travelers.

IAMAT is a division of the Foundation for the Support of International Medical Training, Inc., and declares its long-range goals to be the establishment of an international center to study the medical aspects of travel and to facilitate the training of physicians on an international level.

Although it is difficult to evaluate their goals on the basis of their literature, the services they offer to travelers are simple and useful enough to the service of the se

recommended immunizations and commander in a risk.
(Caution: Most immunization information in print is out of date when you get it. Check your county health officer.)
IAMAT says participating physicians pay no fees to the association, pledge 24-hour service to members and promise to keep doctor fees at the listed

rates.
For information on IAMAT, write \$50 Fifth Ave,
Suite \$50, New York, NY, 10001.
All such precautions are wise, but you can survive perfectly well without them. My husband-photographer, Micky Jones, was bitting down on its
breakfast in Dubrovnik, Yugoslavia, when he broke
a negzed tooth.

breakfast in Dubrovnik, Yugoslavia, when he broke a pegged toolh. He went to the traveler's best friend — the desk clerk. "The clinic opens at 7 am. but you'll have to wait in line," the clerk said.

At the clinic, thinking they wouldn't speak English, we asked for help in a pidgin variety of German, French and Spanish before the nurse asked politely." 'Do you speak English," The dentist didn't, but he could see the problem well enough. He fixed it. It cost \$2.50.

In Bombay, when dysentery struck, the desk clerk told us there was a doctor who had regular hours in the hole levery afternoon and was on call when a guest needed him. He was a well-qualified doctor. He spoke English very well.

This was also true in Nepal, where I went campia gand came home with a ceatifued in my slacks.

ing and came home with a centipede in my slacks. The doctor assured me that it was "only a little centipede" but he prescribed a mild drug — "in case you are allegic to the mild bite you received." But I didn't need it.

sut 1 didn't need it.

The moral to this story is that good medical facilities are almost always available. Take precautions if they make you comfortable, but don't spoil any part of a trip worrying about health care.

You must go to very remote parts of the world, or very rural settings, before you are out of touch with a doctor.

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before the nurse asked politely: 'Do you speak English? The dentist didn't but he could see the ough. He fixed it. It cost \$2.50. Causen 5-19 Visit Mexico!

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The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

en lier, Hudson & Fayne Travel Corporation of So

Nominations are now being accepted for candidates for the 1978 Governor's Ambassador of Tourism awards.

The syards are presented annually to individuals and organizations who have significantly assisted in the promotion of Michigan as a convention and vacation destination.

The sixth annual awards luncheon will be held in May with a specific date and location to be amounced later, according to Wesley Tebean, Michigan of Travel Commission chairman.

will be presented to organizati lected by a judging committee.

Nomination forms and copies of rules outlining nominee qualifications are available from the Travel Bureau, Michigan Department of Commerce, P.O. 80x 30228, Lansing 48909, or by phoning 1-809-392-2520. Deadline for receipt of nominations is April 16.