



Ed's stuffed head still sports the glasses he wore on Johnny Carson's Tonight Show.

"ED" IS DEAD BUT STILL HOGS THE SPOTLIGHT

Tribute To Greatness

Ed the pig is dead but his head still hangs on the wall of hog breeder Ron Lieske's office in Henderson, Minn. And, even though he's technically dead, Ed may still "live" to make a return engagement on Johnny Carson's Tonight Show.

Ed made his first appearance on the show three years ago when, complete with his "star" glasses, he and Lieske helped bring the show's 17 million viewers up-to-date information on pork. Since that famous appearance, Ed appeared countless times on radio stations, in newspapers and at shopping malls across the Midwest. He lived a star's life which meant that he probably ate too well. Finally, his legs couldn't carry his 1,000-lb. torso anymore and Lieske sent him to a packing plant. Before doing so, however, Lieske made arrangements with a taxidermist to stuff Ed's head.

Lieske plans to get as much mileage out of Ed's head as possible,

both to promote pork — Ed "co-authored" a cookbook before he died that is still available — and his Landrace breeding stock business. He has contacted the Tonight Show, hoping to make a return visit with Ed's head.

Once Ed is permanently retired to Lieske's office wall, he'll be replaced by Ed, Jr., an up and coming sunglass-toting youngster. In fact, Lieske is already making plans to take Ed, Jr. to the Super Bowl as mascot of the Washington Redskins, if that club makes it to the game. The Redskins offensive front line is called "The Hogs".

"If we producers don't promote and sell our own product, who will?" asks Lieske.

For information on Ed (or his cookbook), contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Ron Lieske, Rt. 1, Box 167, Henderson, Minn. 56044 (ph 612 248-3394).

NEW COLLECTOR'S BOOK JUST OFF THE PRESS

Buckle Collecting Catching On Fast

The hobby of trading and collecting agriculture related belt buckles continues to grow by leaps and bounds. Since our first report a year ago (Vol. 7, No. 1), a magazine, a newsletter and a book on buckle collecting have been introduced. The two original buckle collecting magazines — Buckle Buddies, Rt. 1, Henderson, Neb. 68371, and Buckle News, Rt. 5, Waco Texas 76705 — continue to keep readers updated on buckles.

They're joined by "The Voice", a just-introduced magazine published by the newly-formed National Association of Belt Buckle Collectors,

P.O. Box 47070, Wichita, Kan. 67201, and a newsletter published by Wally Miller, Creston, Iowa.

Miller has just published "Buckle Collecting", a 232 page book chock full of photos and information on more than 1,000 farm and agriculture-related buckles. Miller includes a description and photo of each buckle featured in his new book. It sells for \$18.95, plus \$2 for shipping.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Wally Miller, 1200 S. Division, Creston, Iowa 50801 (ph 515 782-4582).



A good-sized pair of Emus sells for about \$1,000, and a pair of chicks for up to \$500.

USING FEET AS WEAPONS, EMUS WARD OFF COYOTES AND OTHER PREDATORS

Big Bird Makes Great "Watch Dog"

Emus don't look like much, but don't tell Sher and Jerry Thompson that. The Eagle Creek, Oregon couple keeps several of the big birds in their sheep pasture at all times to ward off coyotes, wild dogs and other small predators.

According to Sher Thompson, who sells Emus and other exotic animals as a business, Emus are fierce fighters that'll chase off or even kill most predators that attack sheep. At about 5 ft. tall, the birds are smaller than Os-

triches yet similar in that they cannot fly.

"We bought our first one as a pet over three years ago and then went into the business of raising and selling them," says Sher. "They make good pets in that they have a great personality and are very tame, yet they can be extremely fierce when necessary."

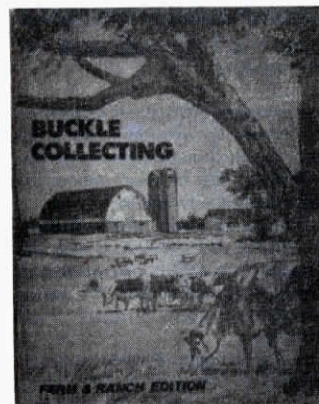
Emus originated in Australia. They can run at speeds up to 30 mph and are often considered pests in their native land because they eat crops. They weigh around 100 lbs., and lay as many as 20 eggs apiece. The male sits on the eggs. The Thompsons say the birds are extremely hardy and that they thrive on a diet of grass, bugs and chicken feed.

"They tend to be very aggressive toward small things, such as cats and dogs and we don't let small children go near them alone," says Sher.

The Emu fights with its feet, which are tough and strong. When threatened by a predator, it lays into them with a drop kick. "After grazing for a short time with sheep, the birds become very defensive and protective of the animals. We haven't had any trouble whatsoever with predators since the birds went in with the sheep," says Sher.

A good-sized pair of Emus, 2 to 3 years old, sells for about \$1,000. A pair of chicks sells for \$300 to \$500. The Thompsons also sell Ostriches, Rheas, monkeys and other exotic animals.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Sher and Jerry Thompson, Sweet Briar Farms, 29979 SE Heiple Road, Eagle Creek, Ore. 97022 (ph 503 630-3746).



New 233 page book features more than 1,000 agriculture-related belt buckles.