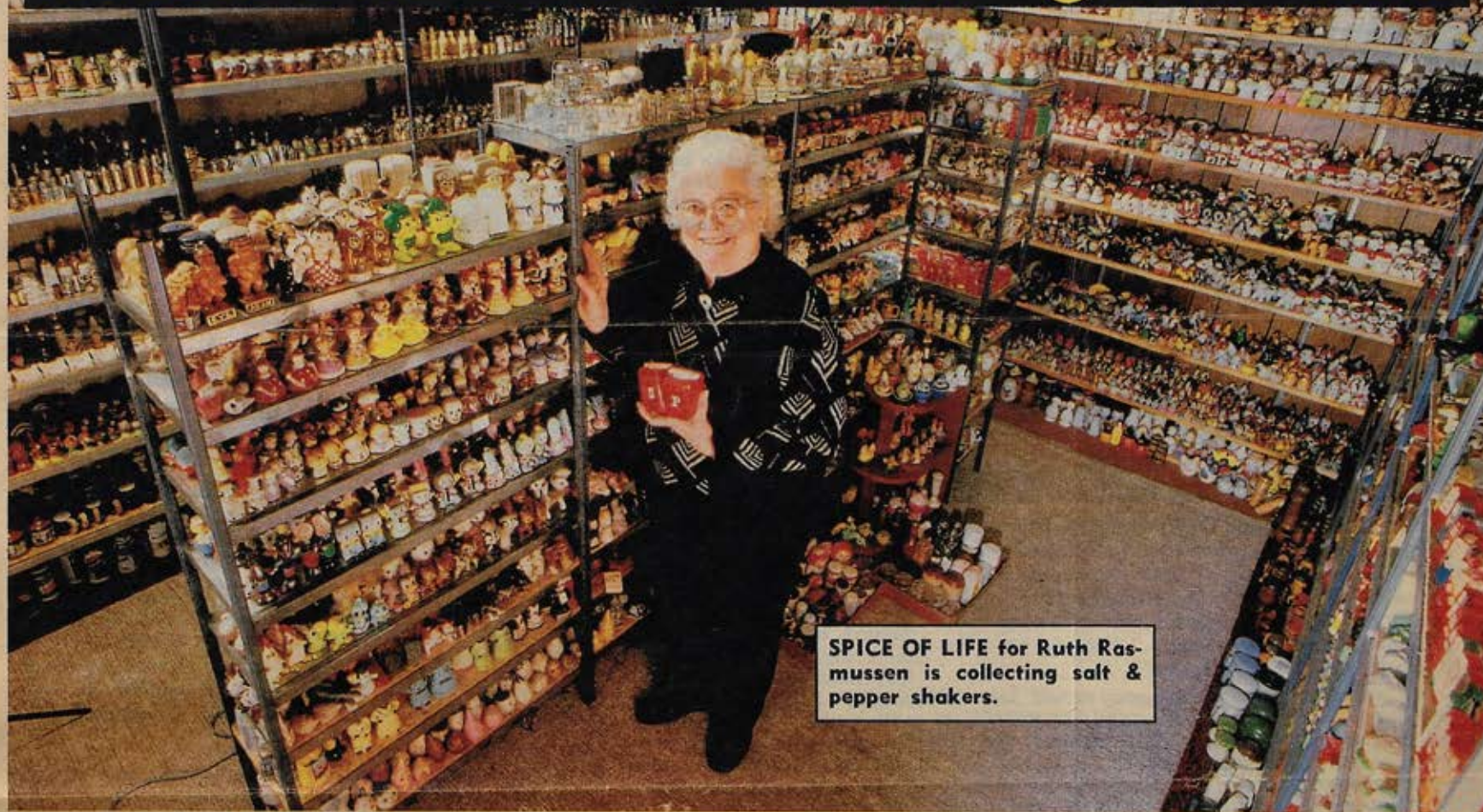


Whole lot of shakin' goin' on!



SPICE OF LIFE for Ruth Rasmussen is collecting salt & pepper shakers.

ENQUIRER contest winner has 26,000 salt & pepper shakers

If you ask Ruth Rasmussen to pass the salt or pepper, she can REALLY give you the shakes.

That's because Ruth has 26,402 salt and pepper shakers!

And she's the winner of The ENQUIRER's latest fun contest to name the king or queen of salt and pepper holders.

Collecting the items is a hot new trend.

And after we announced the contest in our Nov. 26, 1991, issue, 1,528 people wrote us to claim the title. But Ruth easily took the crown and a \$250 prize.

"I began collecting shakers in 1946 when I picked up my first pair on vacation in Chicago at the zoo," Ruth, of Traer, Iowa, said.

Now Ruth's got 13,201 pairs of shakers and has to keep them in a trailer and milk shed behind her home.

As for shaker shapes, you name it, she's got it — from those that look like fruits and vegetables to others that resemble animals and famous people, including every U.S. President "except for George Bush," says Ruth.

One of her favorite sets are Prince Charles and Princess Di shakers, a souvenir from the couple's wedding.

Although Ruth has been told some shaker sets she bought for a dollar are now worth up to \$150, she "wouldn't sell them for anything."

And with the \$250 she won in our contest, Ruth said, "I'm going to buy more shakers!"

— ReSHANDA TATE

She's been collecting them for nearly 50 years



Beau ideal

The man he'd trust his daughter with
Would seem less like a man than myth;
A blend of Crusader, Viking, saint,
King Arthur, handy with tools and paint;
Good-looking, charming, fit and trim —
In other words, some fellow just like him.

— E. B. de Vito

Grime & punishment! Con cleans up with dirty trick

Ray Hurley took restaurants to the cleaners for \$6,000 by having them pay for soiling his wife's dress — and he pulled off the scam while already behind bars for fraud, say authorities.

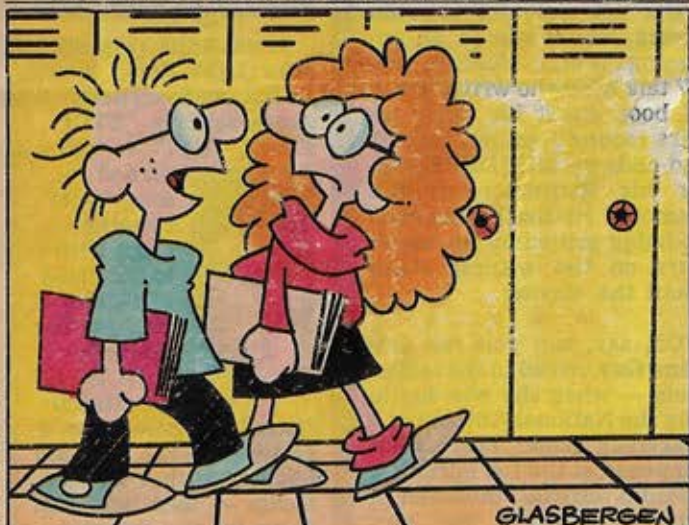
From his cell, Hurley sent letters to scores of restaurants here and abroad, saying his wife had coffee spilled on her dress when the two dined there. He claimed a restaurant employee had told him to get the dress dry-cleaned, mail in a bill and he'd be reimbursed.

Hurley wrote that he'd sent the restaurant a bill but was still waiting for his money. Depending on the quality of the establishment, Hurley cited clean-

ing costs from \$25 to \$32. Authorities said restaurants forwarded \$6,000 to Hurley last year at a post office box he'd set up in Florida through a friend.

But when postal inspectors investigated complaints made by some restaurants, they tracked Hurley to the federal prison in Lompoc, Calif., where he's serving 15 years for security fraud.

Prison officials are now monitoring all his mail.



GLASBERGEN

"I feel like a hypocrite . . . I used 100 sheets of paper to do a report called 'How to Save Our Trees!'"