30

38

48

59

62B

76

APRIL 10, 1970

**EDITORS' NOTE** 

# INVESTIGATIVE REPORT

#### Louisiana's Unshaken Mobster Boss

The governor promised a cleanup, but Mafia chieftain Carlos Marcello still runs things his way in a state where he has plenty of friends in high places. By David Chandler and LIFE's investigative reporting team

# What Do You Do with \$900,000,000?

Alaska's oil bonanza gives it a problem that every state should have, by Dale Wittner

# **A Victory for Beauty**

With some human help, the mighty trumpeter swan soars back from the edge of extinction. Photographed by Vernon Merritt III

# The Good Witch of the West

Los Angeles' official sorceress casts only kindly spells

### **The Doctors' Bitter Feud**

Two great heart surgeons work almost side by side in Houston—but not on speaking terms. The Texas Tornado *vs.* Dr. Wonderful, by Thomas Thompson

# **Weird Water Toys**

Amsterdam offers inflatable bags, pillows and snakes that you can walk on—or in

### DEPARTMENTS

THE PRESIDENCY Making points with civility. By Hugh Sidey	4
GALLERY Ray K. Metzker's photocomposition	8
Reviews	12-18
Richard Schickel writes about dirty language in the movies	
Robert Marasco's <i>Child's Play</i> , reviewed by Tom Prideaux	
Letters to the Editors	26A
COLUMN Ten long minutes in Punchbowl. By Joan Didion	26D
SPECIAL REPORT The Navy versus Culebra. By Greg Walter	47
PARTING SHOTS The distinguished gentlemen from yesterday	81

#### © 1970 TIME INC. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED. REPRODUCTION IN WHOLE OR PART WITHOUT WRITTEN PERMISSION IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED

COVER-RALPH MORSE 3-VERNON MERRITT III 4-cartoon by LURIE 8, 9-courtesy PHOTOGRAPHERS GAL-LERY, photo by RAY K. METZKER 12-drawings by JOHN MARTINEZ 18-MARTHA SWOPE 26D-ROBERT GOODMAN 30, 31-MATT HERRON 32, 33-t. ARTHUR SHAY (5); bot. It. LYNN PELHAM from RAPHO-GUIL-LUMETTE 34-rt. ARTHUR SHAY 35-U.P.I. 36, 37-ARTHUR SHAY exc. t. rt. 38 through 42-BOB PETERSON 47-LYNN PELHAM from RAPHO-GUILLUMETE 59-MICHAEL ROUGIER 60, 61-MICHAEL ROUGIER, HEINZ KLUETMEIER, MEL FINKELSTEIN for the N.Y. DAILY NEWS-MICHAEL ROUGIER 62B through 74-RALPH MORSE 76, 77-It. PIETER BOERSMA(2); rt. THEO BOTSCHUIVER 78, 79-PIETER BOERSMA 81-U.P.I. 82-A.P. exc. bot cen. U.P.I., SERVICE PHOTOGRAPHY 83-U.P.I. A.P.-BOB BLACK for the CHICAGO SUN-TIMES, WILLIAM L. LAFORCE for THE SUNPAPERS, BALTIMORE, JIM COVINGTON-A.P. (2), JOHN BEN-NETT for the WACO NEWS TRIBUNE 84-cartoon by LURIE

April 10, 1970 Volume 68, Number 13 LIFE is published weekly except two issues yearly combining two issues in one by Time Inc., 541 N. Fairbanks Court, Chicago, Illinois 60511, principal office Rockefeller Center, New York, N.Y. 10020; James R. Shepley, President; Richard B. McKeough, Treasurer; John F. Harvey, Secretary, Second-class postage paid at Chicago, Ill., and at additional mailing offices. Authorized as second-class mail by the Post Office Department at Ottawa, Canada and for payment of postage in cash. U. S. subscriptions 51,000 a year and Canadian euthernitors 12 00 a year.

# A welcome victory for the cause of beauty

Good news about almost anything is rather a rarity these days. Good news about our environment is scarcely heard at all.

For more than a decade LIFE has been recording the destruction of wilderness and wildlife. It has been a dismal tale of despoiled lands, polluted rivers, spreading smog and endangered species. In the past year this has become a nationwide cause, a matter of concern to more and more citizens. Bad news about our environment is now plentiful, and the feeling grows that no week will

pass without the threat of some new ecological disaster. Most depressing of all, many people feel that little can be done about it.

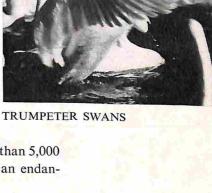
It is therefore a special pleasure to present the story beginning on page 48, Photographer Vernon Merritt's "A Victory for Beauty." His pictures of the magnificent trumpeter swan are a triumph of photography, but even more, they are a triumph of conservation. The species was once reduced to a total of 69 birds, and it seemed inevitable that these last few would vanish altogether. But almost 60 years of careful protection have brought

the trumpeters back in such numbers (more than 5,000 today) that they are no longer considered an endangered species.

The swans survived because a number of people in government agencies and conservation groups believed that something *could* be done. There were also some private citizens, the members of the Edwards family in British Columbia, who made a special personal contribution, described by Dolly Connelly on page 56. The contribution had nothing to do with money—the Edwardses never had any to speak of—but it is one that all admirers of wildlife can respect and perhaps envy.

I have never seen a trumpeter swan in the wild, or heard the strange call that is responsible for its name. Most LIFE readers will probably never have that opportunity, either, since the birds live in wilderness territory and are still not a common sight even today. But the great white wingspread is there in Merritt's pictures, a startling flash of beauty across the sky to say that something can, indeed, be done.

RALPH GRAVES



Managing Editor

APRIL 10 • 1970 • 50

Dr. Denton Cooley

art.com

.

A BITTER FEUD

Two great surgeons at war

over the human heart

Dr. Michael DeBakey

N0470 LW9 00000094L55 51 01 DR DONALD G LOW 100 VETERINARY CLNC U-MINN AGRIC COLL ST PAUL MN 55101

R