

## Did You Know It's a Crime To Peel An Orange In a Hotel or To Keep Goat In a Hotel Room?

Santa Cruz hotels have been harboring lawbreakers for years—and you've probably been one of them, you scowflaw.

Every time some patriot has attempted to aid the citrus fruit industry of the state by peeling an orange and munching the contents enclosed in those peelings he has violated a state law—that is, if the peeling and consumption took place in a hotel room.

This was brought to light here yesterday by one of those bugs who likes to pore through the California general statutes and other state codes in search of legislative freaks.

Just in case you don't think it's against the law to peel an orange in a hotel room, glance at Act 6236 or Act 8348 of the California general statutes. Then hire a barrister to interpret it for you.

In effect the law says you're committing a misdemeanor if you prepare food in a hotel room—and peeling oranges, or bananas, is considered a step in the preparation of that food for human consumption.

### Hotel Also Guilty

Furthermore, the hotel man who allows you to scoff at the law and peel oranges is subject to a fine of not less than \$25 and not more than \$500—or three months imprisonment.

And what's more—the next time you use one of those built-in bottle openers which every modern hotel has installed since prohibition, be careful that Hawkshaw's not peering over the transom. You don't need to fear the nearest prohibition agent so much as a public health inspector—it's against the law to serve, or prepare food in hotel bedrooms—and if you've traveled much about these here United States, you'll recall that most of those handy little bottle openers are screwed on bathroom walls.

Not that it'll worry you very much—but don't ever try to bring a horse, cow, calf, swine, sheep, goat, rabbit, mule, chicken, pig, goose, or duck into a hotel room—it isn't being done in the best of well legislated hotels—no sir.

That must be tough on those magicians who pull long-eared rabbits out of silk hats. Such silk hats must be checked at the zoo, if these acts are interpreted correctly.

Did you every bunk for the night in some hotel where a parsimonious landlord shut off the heat early and left you shivering with a few measly bedclothes?

### Sheets Must Be Long

Ah, if you did, here's a chance to get even. Whip out a tape measure (they are on sale in handy pocket sizes) and check up on the measurements of his sheets.

The state law says that hotel bed sheets must be at least 81 inches wide and 98 inches long. Mind you, if they're half a millimeter shy in either direction, you've got the goods on Mr. Landlord and can blackmail him into turning on the heat.

If his sheets are correct, send 'em to the laundry. When they come back, they may have shrunk—and voila—revenue is sweet.

But don't ever think that freak legislation is confined to California—not by the troth on that beer for New Year's.

Get a load of this—in Seattle every householder is required by law to set at least two rat traps every day—and ignorance of the law is no excuse if you don't set your quota.

### No Place For Newlyweds

It's tough on the newlyweds in North Carolina—twin beds must rest at least two feet apart—and it's so darn uncomfortable to double up in one of those 50 per centers.

In Vancouver, British Columbia, it is unlawful to send a tricycle hurtling down the street at a speed in excess of 10 miles per hour.

Bowling is illegal in Ohio—and let's all move to Colorado Springs and get rich—a waiter who makes an insulting remark to a customer can be fined \$300. Let's do some more moving and hop to Mississippi and save dough—it's illegal to tip a waitress or a porter.

But harking back to Santa Cruz and California once again—no one but a licensed druggist can legally sell mothballs.

Gee, the power of these druggists. Pretty soon no one will think of buying a sandwich that isn't prepared by a registered pharmacist.

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