

Hunt Pushes Patriotism At the Fair

DALLAS — (UPI) — Billionaire H. L. Hunt quit smoking cigars because it took \$300,000 worth of his time in a year to light them, but he spent more than two weeks at the State Fair of Texas this fall promoting epsom salts, aspirin, soap, suntan lotion and patriotism.

The drugs, soap and lotion are Hunt's own brand. He has been pushing patriotism and fighting Communism for almost 40 years.

"I don't care for fairs," Hunt, 82, said at his booth at the Texas fair. "It's a matter of advertising. I also see people I haven't seen in five years."

High Rates

Because the State Fair of Texas draws about 3.5 million persons a year, it charges high rates for exhibit space. Competition among

exhibitors to attract spectators is fierce.

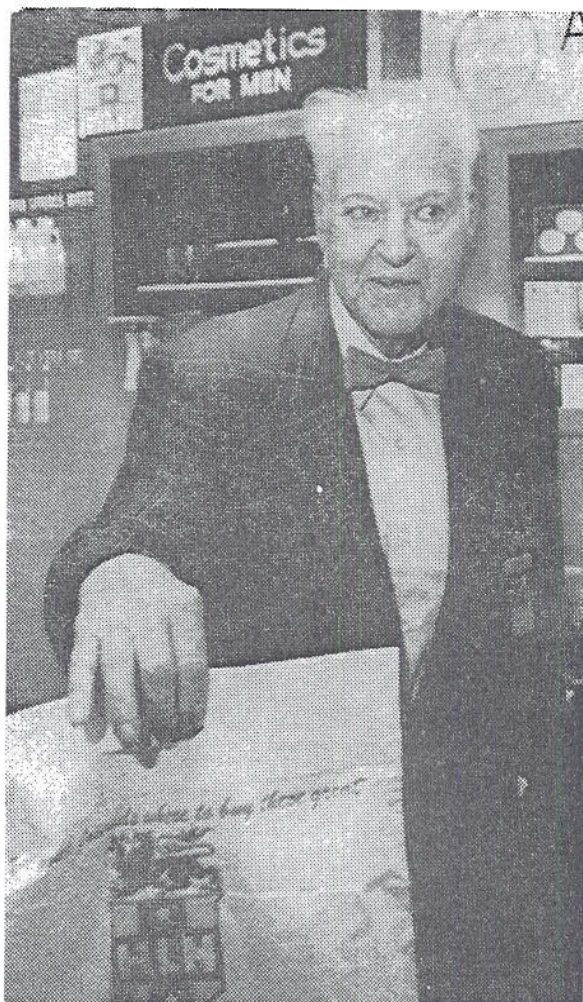
Hunt is shrewd enough to realize he is an attraction. Spectators passed up a health studio booth featuring shapely girls in leotards to stop, gawk and shake hands with a real live billionaire.

After the Texas fair closed in late October, Hunt went to the Louisiana State Fair in Shreveport.

Equal Parts

Hunt will not discuss his fortune—"I don't like success stories" — but does not go out of his way to deny printed reports that he has "resources" of \$5 billion. It could be even more.

Two modestly dressed blondes and a redhead handed out plastic bags for Hunt promoting, in about equal parts, Hunt drugs and cos-



H. L. HUNT AT TEXAS FAIR BOOTH
The oilman is big with money and patriotism
—UPI Photo

metics, printed articles he and his staff turn out about the dangers of leftists, and his Life Line radio program.

Hunt made his fortune mainly from oil and ventured

into drugs and cosmetics in recent years. He recently sold a food processing company because it was not making money.

People at the Dallas fair

did double takes as they saw Hunt, sitting in a chrome and red plastic chair. Most who stopped accepted bags of literature and grinned self-consciously at Hunt. A few stopped and shook hands.

Mrs. Maxine Wrisenger of Kansas City, walked right up and held out her right hand.

"I just wanted to shake

hands with H. L. Hunt," Mrs. Wrisenger said.

Hunt asked whether she knew of his son, Lamar, who owns the Kansas City Chiefs professional football team. Mrs. Wrisenger said she did.

"Well," Hunt said. "I was walking across the lobby of the Muehlbach Hotel in Kansas City a couple of years

ago and I felt someone was following me.

"People used to follow me occasionally because they thought I looked like Herbert Hoover. They don't do that any more. But I waited until this person following me caught up. When he did, I turned and he said, 'This old fellow is Lamar Hunt's father.'"

Hunt dabbles in politics, as a rule of thumb supporting candidates who oppose incumbent officials he does not like.

His yardstick for measuring potential presidential candidates is how strongly they oppose Communism. Right now he cannot come up with the names of any who oppose it enough to suit him.