

The desk of John Martin
EXCERPTS FROM THE JULY 1946 POPULAR MECHANICS
Bob Dunn's Facts and Folklore

Fernando Isias is a husky 32 year old Ventura California Blind Man, who was born in Baja California Mexico. He is a horseshoe pitching champion extraordinary. Upon winning the California championship in 1931 he then won it a total of eight times. Fernando is also and an excellent tennis player and bowler. He says, "Horseshoe pitching is not a lazy man's sport, its a grueling game that calls for great physical endurance and steady nerves. I train for tournaments by keeping in top condition with four hours of practice a day, weeks before the tournament. It's like any other sport, practice counts."

At times his love for horseshoes has taken him away from his primary source of income, the manufacture of Venetian Blinds in Ventura California, but this "Blind Man" has still been influential in the successful promotion of the sport of Horseshoes. In 1935 he began touring the country with Ted Allen giving exhibitions of plain and fancy "hoss shoe" pitching. He whipped Allen in the Iowa State fair in 1941 to win the national championship and held the title through the 2nd World War years.

There are more facts in this article and much more interesting reading in Bob Dunn's Facts and Folklore.. "Try it. I think you'll like it" jm..