

THE COLLECTOR

A bearded beer bellied Hispanic man
wearing a Pumping Iron T-shirt
looks at WW II pilot's helmets
and other old hats and says,
"I collect hats for twenty years, now.
People think I'm nuts.
But I love them — porcelain dolls too
and my wife collects Chinese dolls.
They're worth a lot now.
I used to go to the Ozarks
and get old stuff there
but five or six years ago
somebody went up and told them.
You can't get the time of day there now.
Funny how people collect old stuff.
I got old oil paintings and old frames.
I got a two hundred year old French frame.
I don't want to sell them.
I just go into my room where
they're all lined up and I sit
in an old stuffed chair and I relax.
Feel right at home there;
feel right at home.