WHO'S NEWS THIS WEEK

By LEMUEL F. PARTON
(Consolidated Features—WNU Service.)

NEW YORK.—The urgency of the times is such that perhaps this country needs a good alchemist more than a good five-cent cigar.

Good Alchemist Might Be Our Greatest Need

Possibly we have one in Dr. Samuel Colville Lind, who offers what appears to this department to be the first soundly conservative sanction for the possible availability of atomic power—power in our time.

At the Detroit meeting of the American Chemical society, starting its national defense inventory of chemical skills and resources, Dr. Lind reports a startling advance toward the power riches of the metal uranium 235. Hit a few atoms of U-235 with 50 electron volts and you draw off 200,000,000 electron volts. It looks like a power millenium, which this country could use just now. Dr. Lind says there is plenty of uranium and that the seizure of its power is a practical possibility, not nullified by high costs of the process. Cutting the power atom out of the herd of slightly different atoms is the one great remaining obstacle.

Dr. Lind has been an ace atom-nucleus bomber for many years. His field of radioactivity has been a zone of wizardry in chemistry and he has turned in much basic research, including his ionization theory of the chemical effect of radium rays. He has written extensively on subjects in his field.

From his native McMinnville, Tenn., where he was born in 1879, he went to Washington and Lee university and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, with an educational chaser at the University of Leipzig and later at the University of Paris. He taught at the University of Michigan, served as chief chemist of the U. S. bureau of mines and is now dean of the institute of technology of the University of Minnesota.

MILLIONS by the hundreds are just about an irresistible target, and perhaps Sunday supplement writers can be forgiven for trying occasionally to make a playboy out of Marshall Field, although in his heyday his chief sins have been no more than an understandable interest in hunting and horses, and dogs, mainly retrievers.

Field Humps at Keeping English Children Moving

Now, however, even these trot into the background as he gears up the National Child Refugee committee of which he is chairman. His job is to keep well oiled the wheels that roll English children by the thousands out of the reach of Nazi dive bombers. It must keep him whacking away long after the latest fox has taken cover.

Just the same the supplementers were right on one point. He really has hundreds of millions. They pour down from the original Marshall Fields of Chicago.

In his middle forties now, Chairman Field is sturdily handsome, with a grayish pompadour and a biggish, sharp nose. He dresses well, as he was taught at Eton and Cambridge where he got his schooling, though conservatively. His pants have no cuffs at all.

THREE Americans talk up the war with King George and one is Major General Emmons of the United States air corps. He is one of the youngest officers picked by President Roosevelt a while back to give the country's several military arms extra socko. Fifty-two years old, he has been in the army since 1909; with the infantry until 1916, when he was switched to the signal corps. That made him a flier because in those dark and stumbling days the signal corps was all the flying service the United States had.

Maj. Gen. Emmons Still Puzzled as To Why of 'Delos'

At birth his parents named him "Delos." Mostly, the Deloses lack adequate explanation of their parents' curious preference, and the general belongs to this forever-puzzled fry.

In full his name is Delos Carleton Emmons. In many given names there is little sense indeed, but in "Delos" there can be no rhyme or reason. This commentator knows one "Delos" who explains feebly that his given name stems from a French cook in a Wisconsin lumber camp where his father was foreman. No more! Not even that he flipped a noble flapjack.

The general has one daughter; she undoubtedly has told him he is a man who never learns. Because, guess what he named her. Delosie!

Kathleen Norris Says:

The Perfect Wife Really Exists!

(Bell Syndicate—WNU Service.)

In a worried time she was never at a loss for surprises, kindnesses, discoveries of the first spring flower, or a good book, or a new little dish for my tray.

By KATHLEEN NORRIS

HOW near are you to being a perfect woman?

This is a fascinating question, and the answer to it may suggest to you a fascinating occupation. It may amuse you and keep you busy and happy for years trying to turn yourself into a perfect woman.

A man's letter suggested this idea. He writes me that he has the perfect wife. They have been married seventeen years; they aren't rich or famous or young any more; they're both close to forty. But his letter makes thrilling reading, and I pass it on.

A Tough Beginning.

"We had to wait seven years for our happiness," he writes. "They were long years, and sometimes discouraging years. Dee was taking care of her mother, a helpless invalid, and teaching school as well. There seemed to be no reason why she might not be so held for many years. I was in medical school, with the hope that a hospital appointment might some day pay me $75 a month.

"When Dee was 28 and I 30, however, I was offered a position in a small country town, with $100 a month and free rent guaranteed. At the same time an aunt of Dee's was widowed, and came to live with her mother, and we persuaded the old folks to let us turn the upstairs floor of the home into a flat. The rent was $35 and we sent them another $35 and they managed easily.

"We went at once to our own home, and I took up my clinic duties at once. My wife kept a wonderful table and we could entertain simply on her food allowance of $25 a month. Presently I began to get an outside case or two; every dollar counted, of course, but we never had any sense of anxiety or scrimping. Two boys came along, and their mother took care of us all; always gentle, sympathetic, understanding.

"I think gentleness is Dee's outstanding characteristic. She is always neat and fresh, always merry and adequate and wise, but her outstanding characteristic is gentleness. If something comes up that troubles her, she is silent, thoughtful, gentle about it. She made our boys gentle.

Always Sees the Bright Side.

"Dee never will have a bill or a standing debt. We may have to go on short rations for a while, but she must pay bills first. Her mother's final illness was a long one; we had doctors and nurses, but Dee managed to make us all feel that it was a privilege rather than a burden to do all we could.

"She makes picnics, parties, festivals of ordinary living. In a worried time—for I had a long, dull illness—she was never at a loss for surprises, kindnesses, discoveries of the first spring flower, or a good book, or a new little dish for my tray. Our little girl, coming when her brothers were 9 and 7, was born almost blind. Normal now, for her first two years her mother had to be eyes for her. Dee never showed me her bitter worry, never grew tired.

"Her home is a place of rest and music and laughter and happy meals and happy talks. In winter we are the coziest family in town. In summer Dee's beloved garden has our supper table in it, under an oak. For vacations we have a three-room lake cottage; for hobbies—but we have them all!

"The vivid, eager, loving woman who has done all this for a man and three children is, I think, the finest human being I ever knew. You hear the other side; you write of divorces and problems, mean mothers-in-law, money troubles, faithless husbands, extravagant and discontented wives. But there are a lot of us on the other side of the picture; men and women who through the trials and changes of many married years have only come the more sincerely and truly to love and need each other."

PERFECT WIFE

Almost all wives are very nice women in many ways, but Kathleen Norris is told about one wife that is "perfect." An appreciative husband writes Miss Norris, telling her about his wife, and how thoughtful, kind and generous she is. His letter offers a "measuring stick" for women everywhere to test themselves and see how high—or low—they rate. Why not make this little test yourself?

That's the letter. It did my heart good. The writer did not give me his address, but I hope his Dee will see this column and know that she is appreciated.

How Would You Rate?

How close to her measure would you come, if your husband wrote a letter describing you? What characteristics would you select if you were choosing those of the perfect wife? What 10 would come first?

Well, perhaps first of all a woman should be gentle. She should have a sense of humor. She should be capable, a good manager of home, nursery and budget. She should be neat about herself and her belongings. She should be prompt. Affectionate. Economical. Patient. Imaginative. Cheerful.

This is a big order. Most women never stop even to consider these qualities, much less to ask themselves if they happen to possess them. Many women resent the idea that they could change; they are as they are, with no need for change.

"You know me," they say complacently, "when anyone tries to put anything over on me, I never forget it!" Or, "Jim's mother spoiled him for 25 years. Well, he doesn't get any more of THAT! I've got a good hot temper of my own, and it's about time Jim Baker found it out."

Other women tell you prettily that they are always late for things, and it does make poor Bob so mad! Or they're very poor cooks; Mama said she never wanted her girls to slave in any man's kitchen. Or they never can keep their books straightened out; don't know the least thing about money. And in the last analysis, as I've mentioned in this column before, money trouble turns out to be of them all the gravest cause of marital unhappiness and unsuccess.

Wives in Name Only.

Some wives save all the day's annoyances and worries until dinner-time, and then regale the weary man of the family upon them. Others quarrel and complain constantly with and of the children. Many are extravagant and vain, home and husband serving them only as a background for constant trips to the beauty parlor and the frock shops.

Then there is always the wife who puts somebody else ahead of the man she married; whose heart is really with her family, or whose whole devotion goes to her child. And the wife who has numerous love affairs. Nothing really wrong, of course, but such fun. And so harmless, if only Bob wouldn't be so ridiculously jealous!

All these wives are considered very nice women. Nobody expects perfection, and we all have our faults, we say leniently.

Which is perfectly true. And yet it is as refreshing as a summer breeze to hear sometimes of a woman who by chance and circumstance and her own fine nature has reached so high a point of human development that the man who has lived with her for 17 years still finds her perfect.

The Washington MERRY-GO-ROUND

DREW PEARSON & ROBERT ALLEN

Washington, D. C.

DEFENSE JAM-BUSTER

Donald Nelson, for many years executive of the Sears, Roebuck mail-order house, now has become one of the chief log-jam busters of national defense. Officially his job is director of procurement for the United States treasury — in other words, in charge of government purchases.

Recently the navy department sent a very important order to Bethlehem Steel corporation with a preference number to expedite it for the earliest possible delivery. The next day word came back from Bethlehem: "Sorry, but you will have to wait."

For some unexplained reason the navy said nothing to the defense commission about Bethlehem's delay, even though the commission has the power to compel compliance. Instead the navy tried to handle the situation itself. But after two weeks of unsuccessful effort, the navy finally went to Nelson, who in addition to his procurement duties aids the defense commission.

Nelson reached for a telephone, called Walter Tower, secretary of the American Iron and Steel institute, and said, "I hope we don't have to get tough, but when an order goes out marked 'expedite,' it means just that. I want immediate action on that order."

Twenty minutes later, Eugene Grace, potent boss of Bethlehem, personally telephoned Nelson and assured him it was all a mistake.

* * *

F. D. R. AND ARGENTINA

There has been a lot of publicity regarding Roosevelt's conference with Argentine diplomat Leopoldo Melo over buying Argentine beef. Actually the conversation covered a lot of things besides meat.

Roosevelt promised that this country would substantially increase its imports of Argentine products; first because Argentina has suffered heavy loss of her European export market and faces an acute depression; second, because Argentina continues to buy from the United States, but this buying must fall off if she cannot sell here to obtain dollar exchange for purchases.

Discussing these problems, the President told Melo that the defense program would require heavy purchases of wool for uniforms, hides for shoes, and canned beef for the commissary. Though the government would not buy direct from Argentina, the buying from domestic sources would create a new demand for imports, substantially benefiting Argentina.

There was also discussion of using a part of the new Export Import bank fund of $500,000,000, about to be voted by congress, for trade with Argentina.

Note—Latest export figures show that Argentina has now become the leading foreign purchaser of American passenger cars.

* * *

BRITAIN'S FOGS

The most important development during the last few days of bombing London is the realization by British and American observers that bad weather is not going to help the defense of London, but instead will hinder it.

Second important development is the realization that Britain's only real defense is retaliatory raids against Berlin. This means, of course, more long-distance bombers—almost all of which are now obtained from the United States.

It has been generally expected that with the arrival of foggy weather, London would be safer because Nazi raids would have to abate. However, there was considerable cloudy weather over England last week, and during it, Nazi bombers had a field day. What they did was to use the clouds as a shield and drop their bombs, without aiming, all over London.

On clear days they had tried to aim at military targets. But at night, and during cloudy weather, the Nazis gave up any pretense of taking aim.

What happened was that when British planes went aloft they could not find the raiders. The Nazis were hidden in cloud banks, dropping their bombs indiscriminately. Under these circumstances, there was only one way for the British to locate the enemy bombers—by means of sound detection and radio directions from the ground.

However, these radio directions must be three dimensional to be effective, and there is such a wide margin for error that looking for a bomber in the clouds is like looking for a needle in a haystack. That is why British planes simply did not go into the air when the weather was too cloudy.

It is important to note that the same handicap applies to Berlin. In other words, the British raiders will be equally aided by foggy weather over the German capital. So the war of nerves and indiscriminate bombing is likely to get worse.

Note—One thing which caused the downfall of France and the lowland countries was the collapse of morale, plus fifth column activities. However, U. S. observers in London are unanimous that British morale is at the highest peak, and that the British will fight as no army has fought for generations in Europe.

FIRST-AID to the AILING HOUSE

By ROGER B. WHITMAN

Patching Concrete.

QUESTION: What is the best method of recementing and mending breakoffs and cracks in cement sidewalks and driveways? Patching cement soon cracks out.

Answer: A crack should be cut out with a cold chisel to make room for the patch. The cut should be made wider at the bottom than on the surface, so that in hardening the patch will lock itself in. The patching material should be one part portland cement and three parts sand, with only enough water to be workable. Before patching, the old concrete should be soaked with water. The patch should be kept wet for several days for thorough curing. Where appearance is not important, cracks can be filled with roofing cement, which is most easily applied by melting and pouring in.

Noisy Water Pipes.

Question: There is always air in our water pipes, which are under city pressure. It does no harm, but I wonder if it has something to do with the loud noise we always get when drawing water. The noise can be heard through the house and is annoying.

Answer: If the air is from high pressure or from pumping, your neighbors are having the same trouble, and the local plumbers are so familiar with it that any one of them could put in a reducing valve or an air separator that will stop the noise. If your neighbors are not having the trouble, the reason is in your own house, and is likely to be from loose and worn washers in the faucets. This should be looked into.

Rocking Chair.

Question: In removing rockers from a chair should they be knocked off or sawed off? Should the legs be all the same length from the bottom of the seat at the corners? Would the chair then be too low for a "slipper" chair?

Answer: Knocking the rockers off may damage the legs of the chair. Sawing them off is safer. After the rockers are off, further cutting may be necessary to get the legs of the chair to set squarely on the floor. Make your measurements carefully. The front legs of the average chair are a trifle longer than those in the back (one-quarter to one-half inch.) Whether or not the chair will be too low will depend on the present height.

Retaining Wall.

Question: How can I build a rock retaining wall through which soil will not wash away? Our ground is on two levels with about a two-foot drop. Is a dry wall practical?

Answer: A rock wall laid up dry is entirely practical, and has the advantage of allowing the seepage of water through it; without seepage dammed-up water will make trouble. The wall must go deep enough into the ground to be below the frost level and have sufficient strength to resist the pressure of the earth behind it. Do not skimp on dimensions.

Vacuum Cleaner on Wasps.

A correspondent describes his method for disposing of his attic wasps with his vacuum cleaner. "On a day when they were out of their nests and congregated in the sunshine, a wide-mouthed tool was applied, and the wasps were instantly drawn in. This was easy, and after they were all picked up, moth gas was drawn into the cleaner until the noise subsided. The dust chamber was then emptied into a bucket of boiling water."

Stained Shingles.

Question: Please advise the cause of dark spots like oil or grease on shingles. They were finished with a fine quality stain; the same quality as the original stain. The spots appear on the side walls subjected to the hot summer sun's rays.

Answer: It is possible the spots are caused by excess of oil in the wood being drawn to the surface. Try wiping the spots with turpentine. This may remove the grease or oil spots.

Round Table.

Question: Where can I get the dimensions for a portable round table, to seat 10 persons, the kind of table used in hotels?

Answer: A space of 2 feet is allowed per person, which would make the diameter of such a table about 6¼ feet. Height of the table top is 2 feet 6 inches, while the height of the knee space is 2 feet 1 inch.

Cleaning Furniture.

Question: How can spots and dirt be removed from overstuffed furniture?

Answer: If the color of the upholstery material is fast, you can do the job with a shampoo preparation to be had at a department store. Directions for use are on the label. If the material is not fast, dry cleaning will be needed.

Sunlight on Furniture.

Question: Our dining-room table is directly under a stained glass window, and receives a lot of heat from the sun. Should the table be waxed? Would the heat from the sun cause it to melt or become gummy?

Answer: In all cases it is best to keep furniture protected from direct sunlight. A shade or blind should be drawn until the sun has moved. The table can be waxed and polished. The wax is applied in a thin coat and rubbed well.

(© Roger B. Whitman—WNU Service.)

CLASSIFIED DEPARTMENT

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A Book Shelf for The Study Corner

By RUTH WYETH SPEARS

SCHOOL again, and this sketch shows a quiet study corner for one girl. It is all very gay in tones of golden yellow and green and was made almost entirely of things already on hand—even down to the hooked rug.

The hanging book shelf doesn't really hang at all. It is made of a

box screwed to the wall, and if you never thought of slip-covering a book shelf, here is proof of how smart one will look, especially if it is matched with a chair covered in the same material. The legs of the chair are painted green and so is the old kitchen table which has now become a desk. The yellow tone is repeated in the blotter and an old brass lamp and other desk things carry out the green and yellow color scheme.

* * *

NOTE: One hundred sixty of these homemaking articles by Mrs. Spears have been printed in five booklets, each 32 pages. The stocking cat and doll on the shelf are in Book 3; directions for the hook rug are in No. 5; also descriptions of the other booklets. Booklets are 10c postpaid and should be requested direct from Mrs. Spears. Send order to:

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The devil leads him by the nose
Who the dice too often throws.

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JUST A DASH IN FEATHERS.. OR SPREAD ON ROOSTS

Wordless Poem

A picture is a poem without words.—Cornificus.

Watch Your Kidneys!

Help Them Cleanse the Blood of Harmful Body Waste

Your kidneys are constantly filtering waste matter from the blood stream. But kidneys sometimes lag in their work—do not act as Nature intended—fail to remove impurities that, if retained, may poison the system and upset the whole body machinery.

Symptoms may be nagging backache, persistent headache, attacks of dizziness, getting up nights, swelling, puffiness under the eyes—a feeling of nervous anxiety and loss of pep and strength.

Other signs of kidney or bladder disorder are sometimes burning, scanty or too frequent urination.

There should be no doubt that prompt treatment is wiser than neglect. Use *Doan's Pills. Doan's* have been winning new friends for more than forty years. They have a nation-wide reputation. Are recommended by grateful people the country over. *Ask your neighbor!*

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