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Volume 5

Gail, Borden County, Texas, Friday, October 12, 1956

Vealmoor H. D. Club Elects Officers

At a recent meeting in the home of Mrs. W. O. Cox officers for the ensuing year were elected for the Vealmoor H. D. Club.

Those elected are: president, Mrs. Clarence Porter; vice president, Mrs. Ellis Iden; secretary, Mrs. W. O. Cox; Council delegate, Mrs. Dwaine Williams; alternate delegate, Mrs. Floyd Newsom; and reporter, Mrs. Carl Peterson.

The devotional was given by Mrs. Cox from Jeremiah 22:13. Roll call was answered with "A Job I Have Simplified."

Those present were Mesdames Porter, Peterson, Moore, Jackson, Williams, Newsom, Iden, Cox and Max Zant.

The next meeting will be Friday of this week in the home of Mrs. Dewey Hanks.

The Cicada

WASHINGTON—Seventeen year cicadas wear a dark "W" marked on each wing. Early settlers, noting that several conflicts closely followed cicada visits, regarded the insect as an omen of war. The creatures have no sting, but another superstition arose that they would sting babies to death.

The only harm done by the cicadas is during the egg-laying process. The female chisels gashes in tree twigs with her long spear-like ovipositor and deposits her 400-600 eggs in the slits. Such gashing often causes the twigs to wither.

Barnyard Briars Still Cling to Popularity

WASHINGTON, Mo.—More corn-cob pipes than ever are being made this year, mostly by three firms in this city. The barn-yard briar came into existence in 1869 when the idea of making and smoking one first came to a Missouri farmer. The three firms turned out better than 7 million "Missouri Meerschaums" last year, plus 2 1/4 million fancy ones of cob and hickory.

Among famed corn-cob smokers—Gen. Douglas MacArthur, the late F. H. La Guardia, Mayor of New York, and H. L. Mencken, who made his name satirizing the "booboisie."

Building Renewed On Second Largest Church in U. S.

WASHINGTON—Construction of the second largest church in the United States is going forward again after a lapse of more than two decades.

The National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception will rise on Catholic University's wooded campus in northeast Washington. The crypt, containing a central altar and 15 chapels, was completed in 1931. Depression, wartime materials scarcities and the demands of other Catholic building programs delayed work on the upper church.

The shrine's 77,550 square-foot area will rank it among the largest religious edifices in the world. In the United States, it will be surpassed only by New York's Protestant Episcopal Cathedral of St. John the Divine with 109,082 square feet. The shrine will cover 2,500 more square feet than Washington's Protestant Episcopal Cathedral, now abuilding.

Churches with considerably greater floor space than the shrine include the domed Renaissance Cathedral of St. Peter's in Rome, the world's largest place of worship, and the many pinnacled Gothic Cathedrals of Seville, Milan and Liverpool.

Unlike the medieval cathedrals, which required centuries of work, the shrine's superstructure is expected to be completed in five years. But as in the case of age-old edifices of Europe, Washington's shrine will be built entirely of masonry, with no steel beams.

The lofty limestone structure, accommodating 6,000 worshippers, will be cruciform in floor plan, Byzantine-Romanesque in style. The facade will display statues of Church figures especially connected with devotions to the Virgin Mary.

Police Halt Attempt For 4-Minute Mile

RIVERHEAD, N. Y.—There's no law against trying to break the "4-minute mile" if you do it in the usual fashion but Charlie Grogan went to jail for his attempt to best the 3:58 mile run by John Landy.

Grogan was captured by police as he went whizzing down the main street in his underwear, wearing a bar chit marked "No. 4" taped to his back.

Friends explained to police that he had been lamenting over a few beers because no American had ever matched Landy's feat.

Hens More Efficient

CHRISTCHURCH, New Zealand—George McMillan, who spent three weeks trying to hatch a batch of eggs, finally quit and conceded hens are more efficient.

The 50-year-old sausage linker had been roosting 30 feet up a pine tree with six eggs strapped to his chest. Three got broken and the rest failed to hatch.

The stunt helped raise \$3,000 for a sailing club.

Atomic Automobiles, Energy From Sun, Predicted By 2000

ANN ARBOR, Mich.—By the year 2000, automobiles may operate on electricity from central atomic power stations and acres of land may be covered with mirrors to gather energy from the sun, the Dean of the University of Michigan College of Engineering believes.

Dean George Granger Brown predicted that the rapid decrease in the earth's supply of fossil fuels, coupled with increased emphasis on nuclear and solar power, will bring about a marked shift in the nation's pattern of consumption.

Greater use will be made of electricity from central atomic plants, he said, such as in the heating and air conditioning of homes and the powering of cars.

"The trolley car or trackless trolley may yet return to our highways," Dean Brown said, "and private cars on the main roads might take their power from an overhead line supplied by a central station."

Solar power is also in the offing. Dean Brown concludes, pointing out that a plot of land in New Mexico, 80 miles square and covered with mirrors, would meet the present requirements for work in this country if the mirrors had an efficiency of ten per cent. Latest laboratory devices already have been shown to utilize eight per cent of the sun's energy, he commented.

Uranium Hunters Must File Claims

DENVER — Many a uranium prospector will find what he considers the BIG strike this year. But after finding it, what will he do with it? Chances are, if he hasn't filed the proper claim, he can lose his find to the nearest and most agile claim-jumper.

Uranium, like other valuable minerals, is found in the ground but to get it out and to the nearest mill requires filing a claim and working said claim. And, like everything else, there is a right and wrong way to file a claim.

On Federal lands, the first step is to mark the boundaries with four corner posts. A notice of lease application must be attached to one of the corner posts showing the name of claimant along with a location description.

This description should be in reference to a public land survey, or to a natural object or permanent monument. Within 60 days of recording the claim, a lease application must be filed with the Atomic Energy Commission.

Leases run for five years with a maximum of five three-year renewals. A minimum of \$100 worth of work is to be done on each claim per year. No royalties are charged for producing ore on federal lands.

USS Pennsy. Bell on Display

STATE COLLEGE, Pa.—The bell of the battleship, the USS Pennsylvania, the Grand Old Lady of the fleet, will be located on the campus of the Pennsylvania State University.

Arrangements have been completed for the Navy Department to loan the bell to the University on a permanent basis. It will be mounted by the University on a pedestal where "it will reflect glory on the Navy, the State for which it is named, and the gallant battleship herself."

The 33,100-ton Pennsylvania was commissioned in 1916 as one of the first two oil-burning battleships. She was not allowed to join the forces seeking out the German Navy in World War I because only coal-burning dreadnaughts were used, there being no tankers available to carry fuel.

During World War II, however, the Pennsylvania which had served since 1916 as the flagship for the Navy was in the fight from the beginning. Sitting in drydock at Pearl Harbor, she was one of the first ships to open fire on the Japanese planes and was one of three battleships in the harbor to escape serious damage.

Women and Horses

LONDON—A divorce-court judge believes "Women are like horses—they need their heads some times."

Judge Samuel Richards Edgedale made the comment in dismissing a young wife's petition for a divorce on grounds of cruelty but cautioned the husband about "keeping too tight a rein" on her.

The judge advised the young couple to consult a marriage-guidance council.

Annual Rings Tell Rattlesnake's Age

LOS ANGELES—Like the annual rings of a tree, "growth rings" in the bones of the rattlesnake tell how old he is, says Bayard Brattstrom, zoologist on the Los Angeles campus of the University of California.

Each year the rattler deposits a new layer of calcium and other minerals in his bones. These layers can be identified and counted with the aid of a hand lens or low-power microscope.

These "growth rings" occur throughout the snake's skeletal system. Brattstrom uses a small bone from the head of the snake, in which the rings are more discernible to determine its age.

This is the only accurate method of determining how old a rattlesnake is. Laymen have frequently attempted to tell a rattler's age by its number of rattles. This is guesswork, says the zoologist, and is seldom more accurate than plus or minus a couple of years.

A rattlesnake adds a rattle every time he sheds his skin. This occurs several times a year when he's young. As he grows older, the frequency of his shedding tapers. Also in older snakes, rattles are often broken off.

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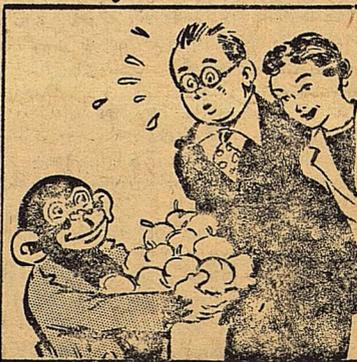
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By Arthur Pointer



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and keep the charge of the Lord
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that thou mayest prosper in all
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ever thou turnest thyself.—1
Kings 2:2,3.

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SHORT STORY

SHORT

The Scoffer

By Lorin Angevine

ARE SOME PEOPLE actually psychic?

Polly Glen, a practical, uncomplicated young woman, had always scoffed at the idea. But she never scoffed again after that night in Mexico City . . .

There was a fortune teller in an apartment across the court from the one that the continent-girdling friends from the States—Polly and Claire Benson—had taken for the

3-Minute Fiction

few days they were to remain in the city. At odd moments they had watched her and her clients.

There hadn't been many such moments to spare, however, because that tall New Yorker, Dick Fitzgerald, had been giving Claire a terrific rush from the moment the three met at a table in a crowded restaurant the first night the girls were in the capital. After that, Polly cheerfully resigned herself to being an appendage.

Claire, always restless, suggested on impulse this morning, as she watched the fortune teller, "Let's go over and find out from the old girl if San Susie will get us home." (San Susie was Claire's rattle-trap coupe.)

The dour Mexican woman riffled



"One of you will be close to tragedy before this day ends," the Mexican fortune teller said.

the cards and spread them out. She nodded slowly to herself.

"One of you will be close to tragedy before this day ends!" she intoned solemnly.

Claire shivered in the hot sunlight, but Polly laughed.

"Stuff and nonsense!"

she scoffed.

That night at dinner Dick ordered cocktails but cautioned the girls, "Just one each. You can't take 'em like you could back in Milwaukee. The altitude, you know."

But Polly, the skeptic, laughed at him as she quickly downed hers and demanded another. Before she had finished the second she began to feel awful.

"I—I guess I'd better go home,"

Electrical Wiring

When poorly installed, a new extension or a repair job can make a safe farm wiring system dangerous.

No one ever found happiness who did not manufacture it for himself.—Charles Morgan.

she said, faintly.

"O.K. We'll take you," said Dick. "Claire and I will come back and have our dinner, if you don't mind."

In the apartment Polly went to sleep on the davenport, under the balcony window.

In the restaurant again Claire suddenly said sharply as the dessert was served, "Something is happening to Polly! She needs me! Please, Dick, let's hurry!"

Dick clutched San Susie's side as it rocketed through traffic.

"Look, Claire, not so fast! We'll have the police on us!"

"Can't help it! There's no time to spare!"

As Claire flung open the apartment door, flames licked greedily at the window curtain, only inches from where Polly lay. Claire shook her awake as Dick yanked the blazing curtains and tossed them through the open window to the balcony.

"I felt ill," Polly muttered. "I decided on bicarb. I prefer it hot, so I decided to heat water on the spirit stove . . . curtains must have caught from it . . . guess I went to sleep. It's a lucky thing you came back. How did you know?"

Claire shuddered, tears in her eyes. "Oh, Polly, I don't know. It was a hunch, I guess . . ."

Dick slipped an arm around her. "Good girl," he said, "are you all right?" Claire nodded, staring through the window.

"Look!" she pointed. In the apartment across the court, the old fortune teller was studying the cards and nodding slowly to herself.

"Yes," Claire whispered. "Maybe it was a hunch . . . or Fate!"

They that know God will be humble! they that know themselves cannot be proud.—John Flavel.

Humbleness is always grace—always dignity.—James Russell Lowell.

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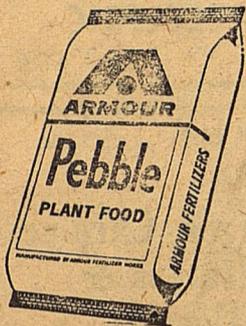
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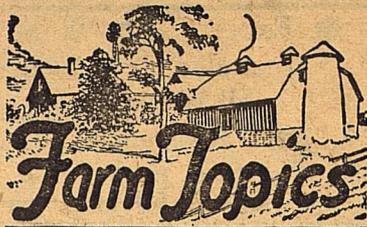
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Replacements Eat Up Dairy Profits

**Dairymen Are Urged
To Grow Own Herds**

According to a recent survey by a state college, the average dairyman in the country replaces his entire herd every four years. That's a big capital outlay. And it becomes obvious that the dairyman would make a greater profit if he could increase the milking life of his cows.

Growing his own herd replacements is one of the surest ways a dairyman can increase the number of years his cows are in the milking string. This college survey revealed that home-grown cows stay in the milking herd about 50 per cent longer than cows that are bought. It can make hundreds of dollars difference in profits when cow depreciated costs



There is still profit in beef cattle like pictured above, but it will take sound planning and shrewd buying and selling, wise producers report.

can be spread over five, six or more years.

Dairymen who buy their cows usually take a beating at selling time as compared with those who grow their replacements. Four times as many purchased replacements have to be sold because of disease and breeding troubles, and only one-fifth as many purchased cows can be resold as milkers.

The survey indicated that almost twice as many of the cows farmers buy have to be resold because of poor production.

The survey ended with the conclusion that the wise dairyman will save money by investing in good breeding stock and building his herd gradually over a period of years, rather than depend on outside purchases which must be made at great risk.

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