

Magnesite, a mineral which resembles white marble, is used to line furnaces. It is able to withstand temperatures of 5,200 degrees F., in addition to having other properties.

An annual production of more than \$500 million worth of paper and paperboard boxes and containers is required each year to package various kinds of merchandise in the U. S.

By radioprinter United Press International transmits news dispatches - including the news in Spanish - from New York to clients in 51 Latin American cities simultaneously.

Cauliflower, which was around as long ago as the 6th century B.C., is called the aristocrat of the cabbage family because of its sensitivity of climate, difficulty to grow and relatively high price.

There is now one vending machine for every 48 persons in the United States. The National Automatic Merchandising Association figures that each person puts \$11.89 a year into the machines.

The so-called "lead" pencils contain no lead at all. The core is composed of a form of smooth graphite that is mixed with clay in a proportion of about ten to seven parts.

Between 12 thousand and 20 thousand of Liberia's 1.5 to 2.5 million population are descendants of former slaves in the U.S. who went back to Africa after they were freed.



## Small Worlds Around Us

By Lynn M. Watkins

### A Dog, Once Terrorized, Never Got Over It

Darkness had been complete for an hour. Three men, equipped with long handled nets and flashlights, had waited out the tide that exposed miles of mudflats, where stone crabs had their burrows. The ebb tide left many tidal pools, where several inches of water stood.

They were a long ways off shore when one of them yelled to his friends that he heard a peculiar noise up ahead. The others had heard, too; they converged on where the whimpering sound seemed to be, sweeping their flashlights from one side to another.

Suddenly the beam of a flashlight centered on the mudflat where there was a small black and white dog, in a state of near exhaustion. It was an eerie place; darkness, strange gurglings, and whisperings of the now incoming tide, and a living dog on a mudflat.

### Picked Up Dog

One of the men picked up the dog, slugged through the mud and water to the shore, where he wrapped the little dog in a couple of burlap bags he found in the back of the pickup truck. One of the men took the dog home, fed him warm milk, and wrapped him in a warm blanket.

The man wondered where the dog came from; how he got on the mudflat, and how long he stayed there in the dark and the water. He wondered what passed through the little pup's mind during the hours before its discovery, as the tide rose higher and higher.

It is possible the dog had to stand on its hind legs for

hours in order to keep its muzzle above the water. The dog's condition when found would indicate it had been on the mudflat for days. It probably had not the courage to wade or swim ashore; may not even have known where the shore was.

### He Recovered

The dog recovered and the man kept him for seven years, until he mysteriously disappeared recently. During all that time he would have nothing to do with the man. He had a wild look in his eyes. The man never was able to lay a hand on the animal. No one could approach within a cane fishing pole distance away. Because the dog was untrainable - so he was named Silly.

During his seven years on the little farm Silly never growled, or barked, or howled, never sleep in any building, always curled up in a tight little ball under a bush. Always he was looking back over his shoulder at the phantom or perhaps the image of a real person, that pursued him.

### Alone, Afraid

Perhaps someone hurt Silly cruelly. No one ever will be able to say what happened that night on the mudflat; what preceded it, or where he came from. Maybe the night, the tide, and perhaps persons unknown, combined to terrorize him.

Silly, of course, never will be able to express himself on the subject. But his eyes and his actions tell us a story of a terror past. And whatever he is now, we know he is alone and afraid.

(Released by The Register and Tribune Syndicate, 1959)

## The Family Council

Editor's note: The Family Council consists of a judge, a psychiatrist, three clergymen, a newspaper editor, a women's editor, and two writers. Each article is a summary of an actual report. The Family Council does not give advice; it merely reports on problems that have been dealt with by responsible agencies and counselors.

**Dorothy S.** - When I look in the mirror, I run away screaming.

**Mrs. E. S.** - I don't want her to get hurt.

**Dorothy S.** - I am one of those most miserable of all creatures - the ugly duckling in a handsome family. My awful looks would probably not be noticed in other families, but in mine I stick out like a sore thumb.

People used to look at me sadly and say in effect, "Don't worry, darling, you'll outgrow it all . . . you're just at the awkward stage." Well, I am nearly 17 now and I have not outgrown it. The braces are off my teeth and I've tried a zillion different hairdos and makeups. But I still look absolutely rotten. Sometimes when I look into the mirror I feel like running away screaming.

Well, all I want to know is how can a girl like me lead a normal life? Don't bother with that line. "It's what inside that counts." I hate to see the inside if this is what the outside looks like!

**Mrs. E. S.** - My husband and I are so unhappy about Dorothy we hardly know what to do. It is true that she seems to have more than the ordinary share of facial defects. Yet I won a beauty contest when I was young, and my husband was known as the best-looking boy at our high school.

I have tried everything possible to help Dorothy improve her appearance and become less self-conscious. I was even willing to go through the expense of letting her have some facial surgery, but our family doctor advised against it and said we're exaggerating the problem.

However, I don't believe in taking a thing like this lightly. This is a very important period in the life of any girl. I don't want Dorothy to get hurt so badly that she'll bear the scars for the rest of her life. How can we help her?

**The Council:** There is little doubt in our minds that Dorothy is reacting less to her actual lack of attractiveness than her mother's disappointment in her.

No normal individual is entirely devoid of physical attractions and no real-life person is without so-called defects. This is true of the most beautiful of actresses. We can all dwell endlessly over our own fine points or flaws. But what a waste of time and energy!

We feel that Mrs. E. S. has the real problem in this case. Her overemphasis on the physical "perfection" represents a real personality defect.

ency. Apparently her own beauty as a young girl gave her an enormous sense of power, making up for some inner weakness she felt. She would like to have perpetuated this power in her daughter. She now feels defeated and afraid to let her child enter life without the weapon of beauty.

We don't doubt that Mrs. E. S.'s fears for her daughter are deeply felt, but are they reasonable? A reliable outsider, the family doctor, believes that Dorothy and her mother are exaggerating and no drastic action is called for. Possibly Mrs. E. S. would like to discuss this with another trustworthy outsider. We are fairly certain the answer will be the same.

Dorothy has received the worst scar of all in her realization of her parents' disappointment in her. It is time for them to conquer their own fears enough to realize that their daughter has many strengths, many potentialities, and it should be their job to help her discover these. When she does, she'll look and feel more beautiful - and she will be only moderately interested in this fact.

(Copyright 1959, General Features Corporation)

Santra Cruz, Calif. - (UPI) - Burglars with a talent for improvisation, came upon an acetylene torch left by workmen in a supermarket. They promptly burned open the safe and took \$2,000.

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