

Scientists Find Many Uses For 'Freak' Radioisotopes

By ELMER C. WALZER
UPI Financial Editor
New York — (UPI) — Surely when the history of atomic energy is written, scientists will have to admit how cruelly they misjudged the value of poor, little radioisotopes.

Frears of nature, they called these minute particles just because they didn't conform with the families of elements of which they were members and didn't even remain in their original state of creation.

According to Robert Colton, manager of the Atomic, Electronics and Science division of National Securities and Research Corp., radioisotopes have actually gained more importance to industry than the main atomic energy process from which they are derived. Colton's findings are published in the current "Atomic Activities" under the title, "The Atomic Payoff to Industry, 1960."

These little radioisotopes now are working their heads off for industry. Their ability to improve certain processes and cut costs already is saving industry a half billion dollars a year and these savings within five years will reach \$5 billion annually, says Colton, whose firm sponsors the Mutual Investment Funds, National Growth Stock series.

How to Get
In case you want to make a radioisotope, the job can be done for a few million dollars with nuclear reactors or particle accelerators. Fragments

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remaining from splitting uranium or plutonium contain a great variety of radioisotopes.

Once you capture the little duffers which you can't see, you can wrap them up for shipment. A big batch of them wouldn't weigh any more than one-five thousandth of a pound, but if the batch were very radioactive you'd probably have to wrap it in more than a half ton of lead shielding.

Radioisotopes, once regarded as troublesome waste products, can do many things in industry better than any other device.

They can seek out flaws in heavy steel castings, kill microbes in pharmaceuticals, sterilize food products, cure rubber and rearrange the molecular structure of chemicals and plastics.

Thickness gauging of paper, rubber, plastics, metals and other sheet materials, one of the earliest applications of radioisotopes, still remains the most prominent.

Colton points out other applications of radioisotopes such as gauging density of tobacco packed in cigarettes, moisture content of solid materials like foundry sand, and liquid level of fuel in tanks.

Used as tracers the radioisotopes help industry to learn more about certain industrial phenomena. They can detect wear in an automobile engine. Tire wear, corrosion studies, cutting tool wear, the flow of material in pipe lines and processing plants, and catalyst utilization in petroleum refining are other typical examples of radioisotope tracer utilization.

New Industry
Incidentally, the making of radioisotopes is becoming a new industry in itself.

Colton lists several companies which are contributing to this new industry. They include General Electric, Westinghouse Electric, Babcock and Wilcox, Combustion Engineering, Union Carbide, Goodyear Tire, B.F. Goodrich, and High Voltage Engineering Corp.

Should foreigners buy all our gold, we have a secret weapon to combat that situation, the wildest dream of the

Hatfield Asks Moral Principles

Spokane — (UPI) — Gov. Mark Hatfield of Oregon said materialism and "dollars themselves" will not save the United States and called for a re-dedication to moral principles in a Lincoln Day address here Saturday.

Hatfield said survival of the country against totalitarian assault depends on its stand on moral issues, its spirit, and its dedication.

"We are on a moral campaign," he said, "and our purpose is moral positions."

Commenting on the administration's missile program, he said he was "surprised to see so many political authorities, although most of them are more political than authoritative."

"The President can better evaluate the situation," he said, adding that he himself was not an authority.

Hatfield said he believed Adlai Stevenson would get the Democratic nomination for the third time, although he thought Sen. Lyndon Johnson of Texas would be a tougher opponent for Vice President Richard Nixon, who Hatfield said will get the GOP nomination.

Umatilla Bank President Named

Umatilla — (UPI) — A. H. Norton was named president of the Inland Empire Bank of Umatilla. The bank has a branch at Hermiston.

Norton was named at a board of directors session Saturday to succeed the late Roger Bounds. Norton started his career in Hermiston 31 years ago as a cashier for the 1st National Bank of Hermiston.

TV Westerns Hit Re-Run Trail to Make More Money

By VERNON SCOTT
UPI Hollywood Correspondent
Hollywood — (UPI) — Old TV westerns don't just fade away. They hit the re-run trail and make more money the second time around.

The trick is to pull up on the reins and lead Old Paint to the corral before the other horse opera stars get back to the barn. The price still is high for western re-runs because the originals are going strong.

One brainy video cowpoke, John Payne, sustained his "Restless Gun" show for two years, then dropped it to get

fat in the green pastures of re-issue.

"I had a choice of continuing the show or killing it," he said.

"After a while you get to feel the correct length of time one character can sustain a show, and after two years most westerns start doing the same thing over and over again.

Repetition Disconcerting
"I know that after 78 shows I felt as if I were meeting myself around every rock on the location sites."

If westerns are so repetitive, how does Payne, a long-

time movie star before turning to TV, explain "Gunsmoke's" longevity?

"It's more of a family show," he explained without the trace of a grin. "Characters like Doc, Kitty and Chester round out a cast that gives the viewers a feeling of a family performing."

Aha! What about "Have Gun-Will Travel." It has only one leading character, Richard Boone, and it is going strong. What about that?

"This is an exception to the rule," John said. "It has great creativity. Some of the best

writing and directing found in television series today."

What about the creativity on Payne's defunct show?

Not Enough Time
"I owned a great deal of my show," he went on, "but I spent more than 50 per cent of my time rationalizing my decisions and explaining them. I didn't find enough time for the more important elements of the show."

"So I looked around and discovered there were more than 20 westerns in prime time hours. It was a good time to get out and study the situ-

ation. "Then there were economic considerations. By the end of this season a dozen or so westerns will be cancelled out to go into reruns. The smart thing to do was get off the air and start the reruns while there was no competition in this field."

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