



LIEUT. CLIFFORD ALEXANDER, USN, (left) accepts command of the gasoline oiler USS Elkhorn from Lieut. Glenn M. Shaffer, USN, while Rear Admiral Burton B. Biggs, Commander Service Force, U. S. Pacific Fleet, looks on. Lieut. Alexander, in the navy since 1936, was until recently with staff headquarters in San Francisco. His wife, the former Nan Goeller, is with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Goeller, 200 Pine, while Lieut. Alexander is on new assignment in the Pacific. They were married in the Canal Zone four years ago . . . where he was on duty and she was teaching. They have two children, Ross, 2, and Clifford, born June 27 in Klamath Valley Hospital. — Official Photo U. S. Navy

Boy Sets Gulping Record With 50-Cent Piece

PORTLAND (AP) — Tommy Rommel, 8, recovering Tuesday from an operation performed to remove a 50-cent piece from his stomach.

Tommy, a son of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas E. Rommel, Portland, swallowed the coin after his grand-

mother had given it to him. Doctors waited to see whether he would get rid of it naturally. He didn't, so they operated. The boy is proudly telling visitors he is going to have the coin brass-plated.

Doctors said it unusual for such a small boy to swallow such a large coin. One said: "The only other comparable case I've heard of is the one about the dog that swallowed the tennis ball."

Post - War Progress All Chemical

By DOUGLAS LARSEN
NEA Staff Correspondent

WASHINGTON — (NEA) — America has been making itself a new chemical way of life since the war.

But in the fields of buttons, wood-on barrels, needles and pins, buggy whips and pneumatic conveyer tubes, the nation is standing stock still.

This reflection of the direction which U. S. living has taken in the last seven years comes from a study of patent trends just made by the United States Patent Office.

Out of 188,523 patents granted since 1946, there have been 35,772 in the field of chemistry. Next are patents granted in electronics engineering, with a few more than 10,000; machine tools, with a few less than 10,000; automotive engineering with approximately 9,000; and textile manufacturing with about 8,000.

The list of new products which comes from these post-war chemical patents is almost endless. They include thousands of new plastic articles, new medicines and wonder drugs, fertilizers and insecticides, new synthetic fabrics and great numbers of industrial chemicals not commonly known, but used in numerous manufacturing processes.

There's not much agreement within the chemical trade as to just what basic post-war chemical patents are the most important. Some of the recent patents cover the new chemicals themselves. But many of the key patents have to do with processes for making chemicals. Most of the details on this subject are kept hidden as trade secrets.

Some industrial chemists claim that the patents on fluid catalysts which permit the extraction of a whole family of other chemicals from crude petroleum—used mostly for manufacturing processes—are the most important.

It is estimated that crude oil and natural gas now are the source of more than 25,000 different chemicals.

In the "wonder drug" category, Patent Office officials claim that it is difficult to pinpoint specific patents as the most important. For instance, the basic patent on penicillin dates back to 1938. But it has turned out to be virtually invalid because it failed to make an exact identification of the substance.

The most important patents in the antibiotic drug field granted since the war stem from the discoveries of chloramphenicol, aureomycin and terramycin. Hundreds of patents having to do with the manufacture of these substances and related medical products have been granted in the last seven years.

Tracer chemistry, as a research

tool using radioactive materials supplied by the Atomic Energy Commission, has figured prominently in the discovery and isolation of almost all of the important new post-war chemicals. In this respect it is claimed that constructive effects of the discovery of the atomic bomb threaten to overshadow its destructive effects.

Also in this connection the Patent Office report states: "Patents granted in organic chemicals in the past seven years (1946-1952) will sometimes during the year exceed the number of patents heretofore issued for weapons and explosive devices during the entire 127-year history of the government's patent-granting program."

As might be expected, the bulk of the newer patents in the electronics field have to do with various phases of television and radio. Al-

though automotive patents are fourth in the number of those granted since the war, the Patent Office points out that since long before the war this field has been one of the most consistent producers of new ideas, devices and manufacturing processes.

The Patent Office finds that there are several fields in which patent applications are shrinking fast. These include road construction and road machinery, ammunition, bottles and jars and aircraft. Many of the patents included in the electronics category are actually for use in aircraft, however.

An expert Washington patent attorney says that he sees no change in the trend of increased applications in the chemical field. He points out that the ones coming in are actually opening up many new areas in the general field for discovery and invention.

Woman Flew Before Wright Brothers Did

By RICHARD KLEINER
NEA Staff Correspondent

NEW YORK — (NEA) — This is the year for the Golden Anniversary of powered flight—but whose anniversary is it?

You'd probably say the Wright Brothers, but it could be Aida de Acosta, Breckinridge. Actually, Mrs. Breckinridge predated the Wright Brothers by five months as a powered aircraft pilot, although her accomplishment has been forgotten by all but a few people.

It was June 29, 1903, in Paris. Miss de Acosta, an American girl, was just out of school. She met Alberto Santos-Dumont, a wealthy young Brazilian, who was intrigued with the idea of putting power to the balloons of the day.

Santos-Dumont explained the workings of his "Bee" to the fascinated girl. She was an eager and apt pupil. She wanted to fly herself, and Santos-Dumont felt she would prove his theory that anybody could fly. Under his tutelage, she practiced with the powered balloon—but it was always safely at rest in the hangar.

On that June day, most of Paris was watching an international polo match on the edge of the Bois de Boulogne. But Santos-Dumont and Miss de Acosta were talking powered flight at his air field at Neuilly St. James. It was a perfect day for balloons—clear and windless.

"Today you will fly the Bee," Santos-Dumont said, suddenly. "I will ride my bicycle below, and I will signal you with my handkerchief. If I wave it with my right hand, you will turn toward the right, and so, on the left. When I wave it around in circles, you will make the motor to as fast as it can. You shall fly to the polo field."

The girl wedged herself and her voluminous skirts into the light wicker basket. Santos-Dumont tied a cord to her wrist, and explained that this was a safety precaution—the rip cord, which she was to pull if she got too high. That would rip a panel in the gas bag and let the balloon come quickly to earth.

"If you should faint," Santos-Dumont went on, "then your weight will also rip the bag and you will come down safely."

The plans went well. The Bee about soared over familiar Paris, with the inventor pedaling his bicycle on the streets below. Every once in a while he would stop, get off and wave violently with his handkerchief. He led her to the

polo field, and guided her in for a landing.

They stood and watched the game for a while, then Miss de Acosta climbed back into the pilot's basket, and Santos-Dumont remounted his bicycle. And back went the Bee to its hangar.

When news of the event reached Miss de Acosta's mother, she was horrified. She whisked her daughter out of Paris and persuaded Santos-Dumont never to mention the world's first woman pilot. In his memoirs, he identifies her only as "a young and very pretty Cuban, prominent in New York society."

But Miss de Acosta never told of her exploits. Not even her husband knew until a dinner party in 1932, when a young Naval officer turned the conversation to lighter-than-aircraft. The guests were astounded when their hostess smiled and said, "I've flown dirigibles myself; they are a lot of fun."

Mrs. Breckinridge is now a distinguished Park Avenue matron, who devotes much time to the Eye Bank for Sight Restoration. She is the mother, by her first marriage, of Oren Root, a lawyer who had much to do with securing the 1940 Republican presidential nomination for Wendell Wilkie.

The Wright Brothers flight took place on Dec. 17, 1903, and while it was a heavier-than-aircraft, Miss de Acosta's flight was in a truly powered aircraft, too.

She herself likes most to remember Santos-Dumont's words when he greeted her at the polo field in Paris. He asked her how she had fared.

"It is very nice, M. Santos-Dumont," she answered. "Mademoiselle," he cried, "vous êtes la première aéro-chauffeuse du monde!" And she'll always be the world's first woman pilot.

Bureau Sets 1954 O&C Timber Sales

PORTLAND (AP) — The Bureau of Land Management plans to offer 645 million board feet of timber for sale in 1954.

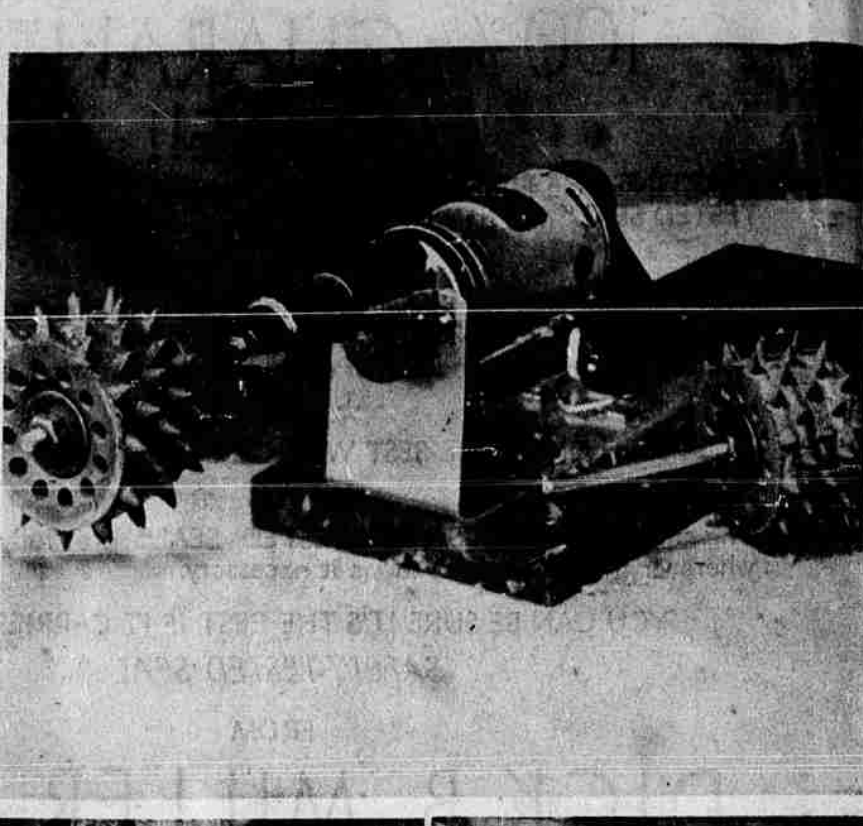
The emphasis will be on timber than can be salvaged from wind-thrown, beetle or fire-damaged areas. Roscoe E. Bell, regional administrator, said.

The timber will come from O&C lands or public domain tracts. Bell said about 120 million board feet would be offered for sale in the Salem district; about 140 million in the Eugene district; about 120 million in the Roseburg district; about 140 million in the Coos Bay district; about 135 million in the Medford district.

Bell said bidders could get details from district foresters.

NOT RESTING

LONDON (AP) — Prime Minister Churchill was up and about Tuesday at his country home — still pouring over government papers though ordered by his doctors to take a month's rest.



A MECHANICAL DUCK PICKER is slated for the market sometime before duck season, according to inventor Scott W. McKendree, that will take most of the work out of getting the feathers off your day's bag. The machine shown here (top) is a wheel made of high grade rubber with some 60 projecting teeth set in such a manner as to strip the feathers from the bird when held against the moving wheel. Everything from the large feathers of the back and breast (bottom picture) to the down can be stripped with the wheel when mounted in even the smallest electric drill outfit. McKendree, well known Klamath Falls and Merrill rancher, started work on the picker a number of years ago and only this year achieved a production model. Within a year, says McKendree, attachments will be available for the home mixer machines. In operation the duck or goose is held against bottom of the wheel and the feathers jerked out by the flexible rubber teeth without damage to the skin. The plucked feathers fall mainly in a restricted area at the base of the machine and do not tend to fly around the room. While small and compact, the wheel being less than three inches in diameter, the machine will pluck ducks as fast as the large commercial pickers, says McKendree. Plans are already under way for a car attachment as well as units designed for use in motels, sportsmen's clubs and other hunting centers. (For further details see editorial page.) The machine is currently on display at the Gun Store, too.

Dulles Lashes Bricker Plan

WASHINGTON (AP) — Secretary of State Dulles Tuesday disapproved Sen. Bricker's latest plan for limiting the President's treaty-making powers.

The new proposal, he said, is as objectionable on the whole as the original.

Dulles told a news conference the senator's new draft has one feature in it that he considers worse than the original bill.

Red Shells Enter Basketball Game

WITH 45TH DIVISION, Korea (AP) — Incoming Communist artillery blew the whistle on a 179th Infantry Regiment basketball game recently. One Red gunner almost sank a basket.

Soldiers of the 179th were playing a basketball game in a rest area when the Red barrage came in. The game broke up in a hurry.

One Red shell landed squarely in the center jump circle. Another just missed one of the baskets.

Oregon Restricts Washington Dogs

SALEM (AP) — A 30-day ban on bringing dogs into Oregon from Benton and Yakima Counties in Washington now is in effect, State Veterinarian K. J. Peterson announced Tuesday.

The quarantine was ordered to prevent spread of rabies to Oregon.

He also said that every dog moving from state to state should have an official health certificate.

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