

In These United States

Grain Bins Are Turned Into Houses at Shenandoah, Iowa

SHENANDOAH, IOWA.—"Housing Problem Is Solved," proudly announced the Shenandoah Sentinel recently, when the chamber of commerce purchased 97 grain bins, and worked out combinations so that two of the bins could be combined to make a dwelling unit.

"Scattered through the state are hundreds of these bins," the Sentinel stated. "They were built by the department of agriculture to store excess grain. For some time they have been empty and available to purchasers. They are all made of good prewar lumber, and were built in three sizes—12 by 16 feet, 14 by 20 feet, and 14 by 24 feet. They already have a good pitched roof on them."

The Shenandoah chamber of commerce raised money enough to buy 97 of the bins and set to work. Windows were put in and plumbing was installed. With a coat of paint and well insulated, the completed house sells between \$2,300 and \$2,500—and that includes a heating plant!

In several other Iowa communities the building of homes by using old grain bins is progressing rapidly. Frank Lawson, a contractor at Storm Lake, bought 150 of the bins and is converting them into houses.

By the time spring arrives, hundreds of new dwelling units will be scattered over all of Iowa where the housing shortage has been acute. It looks like the Shenandoah Sentinel is right: "The Housing Problem Is Solved."



NEW MEXICO . . . Drilling for helium bearing gas, bureau of mines sinks a bit near rugged Shiprock. Helium is a valuable non-inflammable and non-explosive gas used in navy blimps.

Bromfield Stuck with Phone Company Which He Just Doesn't Want

MANSFIELD, OHIO.—Author-Farmer Louis Bromfield, famed for his long-distance conversations, ruefully admits that ownership of a rural telephone system is something he doesn't like.

In a colorful and somewhat pungent speech, Mr. Bromfield explains that when the rural telephone financial trouble, phone company was loaned \$1,000 to keep the line to his model Malabar farm open. But the owner, after nine months of trying to keep the outmoded equipment functioning, got tired of it and mailed the author a bill of sale in payment of the loan.

"All I want is a telephone, not a telephone company," Mr. Bromfield declared. "I don't want the Lucas Telephone company with 142 subscribers and 2 1/2 miles of line." So definite is Bromfield in this belief that he has instructed his counsel to petition the Richland county common pleas court to name a receiver and sell the company to a competent operator, not an author.

Has Marshal Again Since Vet Returned

STRATTON, COLO.—George Hershey finally returned from Uncle Sam's navy, and Stratton again has a town marshal, after being without one for many, many months. The town board thinks it was "fortunate" to get George back.



Connect With Home 234 Families Near San Pedro, Calif.

Idaho Ranchers Feed Deer When Snows Are Deep

IDAHO CITY, IDAHO.—Mr. and Mrs. William Hirt, who live on Middle Fork, proved to be friends of deer and elk this winter when the deep snow made food scarce for animals.

The deer and elk come in herds to the Hirt place where they bed down like cattle during the night. They seem to know they are protected, for they eat in the Hirts' back yard.

"They merely stand and watch any activity about the place," Mrs. Hirt declares.

Many deer were driven up the river to partake of the Hirt hospitality when eagles and coyotes attacked them.

Teachers Will Be Lectured Before Trip to Mexico

AUSTIN, TEXAS.—United States school teachers, who expect to take the Mexican tour sponsored by the National Education association next summer, will have to listen to two days of lectures first.

Dr. Carlos E. Castaneda, an authority on Mexican history, will lecture on the historical background of Mexico and discuss interesting places on the itinerary.

Sociological and cultural information will be given the teachers by Dr. Rex Hopper, assistant professor of sociology at the university.

Austin will be the meeting point for teachers of the South and West making the 27-day tour to Mexico City. A similar pre-travel session will be held in St. Louis for teachers from the North and East who will make the tour.

Sit, Look Pretty In 1946 Dresses

NEW YORK.—Clothes for American women this year will be designed to "sit and look pretty in," according to Designer Omar Kiam. He predicted an era of romantic femininity in dress, of accent on feminine curves, and of startlingly revealing styles. Evening gowns, sheer dresses, lavish and dramatic negligees and play suits will show the new trend. Golf dresses will be cut in nightshirt style, with slit sides in the skirt, cinched by a belt.

GOVERNMENT 'RAT' MEN WORRY OVER 'RATS'

WASHINGTON.—Government "rat" men are increasingly worried over rats—and how much they eat. One rat eats 120 pounds of food in a year—preferably grain. Multiply this by the rat population of the U. S. A. and you get some idea of what rats cost to keep. They have caused more destruction than all the wars in history! The wheat they eat never goes into bread, even the darkest kind.



DROVE PATTON . . . Pfc. Horace L. Woodring of Sturgis, Ky., was the driver of the car in which Gen. George S. Patton rode when the fatal accident occurred. Private Woodring has now returned to the United States.



CHILD STAR WINS 'BROWNIE' AWARD . . . Beverly Simmons, seven-year-old movie star, may not win an "Oscar" this year, but she has already been awarded a "Brownie" from her Girl Scout troop in appreciation of her fine screen portrayals. She is shown in the center as Janice, left, and Phylis Jones, right, presents her with the "Brownie." The presentation took place on the set of "Three Kids and a Queen."



MOTHERS PICKET SCHOOL BOARD . . . Protesting the school board's refusal to appoint Miss Ruth D. Morrow, veteran teacher, as principal of the Center school, Everett, Mass., mothers bearing placards and several young pupils picketed the school. The school board had previously named a young war veteran to the post. Other school strikes were reported in several sections of the country. Chicago group is demanding a grand jury investigation of their school board.



BIRTHDAY OF CAMP FIRE GIRLS . . . America's oldest organization for young girls, the Camp Fire Girls, celebrates its 34th birthday, March 17 to 23. The purpose of Camp Fire is to provide opportunities for enjoyable, worthwhile activities for the girls' leisure time through which they can develop their best potentialities. During the war they did more than their part, not only on the front lines but on the home front.



SCHOOL FOR VETERAN FATHERS . . . Designed to prepare G.I. dads for coping with situations that may arise when they meet their offspring, a "bundles from heaven" class is held in New York City. Ex-G.I. William Carey is the student with the dance cap. He is listening to nurse Vivian Percival, who explains the correct technique of diapering. The baby is Carey's 26-month-old daughter, Dawn. Nurse says he must really enjoy the job.



TEXAN STAR . . . Jack Robinson, 18, Fort Worth, Texas, who has scored about 350 points while serving as forward on Baylor university's basketball team. Young Robinson is considered one of the most promising 1946 players.



NEW STATE AIDE . . . Maj. Gen. John H. Hildring, New Rochelle, N. Y., who has been named by President Truman to be an assistant secretary of state. General Hildring served as director of war department civil affairs.

Kathleen Norris Says:

Stick to Your Bargain

Bell Syndicate.—WNU Features.



"Often my friends drift in in the late afternoon and stay for a cocktail and a cigarette."

By KATHLEEN NORRIS

SANDRA BAKER is now 20. Three years ago she married a man of 44. Harold was, and is, a great friend of her parents; he has loved Sandra since she was born.

"Harold is a doctor, who went into the service as a captain," says Sandra's tear-stained letter. "All during the war he was at home only for short intervals, and I lived with my own people. My little girl, Pamela, was born in my mother's house, and has always seemed more mother's baby than mine. I was very happy in those years, writing letters to my handsome captain, and quietly enjoying the freedom from school and the admiring comments of my old friends.

"Then Harold came home, and almost immediately I discovered that we are completely unsuited to each other. The difference is our ages—he is my father's contemporary and friend—is not the only trouble. Harold cares nothing for dancing, parties or good times. He never goes to movies. He hates the radio. He likes to play bridge or poker with his friends, neither of which I play.

Tried to Make It Successful. "Don't think I haven't made a great effort to salvage my marriage. Harold wished us to have a home of our own, so we moved to his apartment downtown, where he lived with his first wife, who was my mother's cousin and who died some years ago. I try to keep house, cook, and manage my baby, but it is too much for me, and I leave Pamela much of the time with mother. Certain special dishes I cook well, but to serve meals hot and on time, at the right moment, is more than I can do, especially if I have to look rested and attractive while doing it.

"Often my friends drift in in the late afternoon and stay for a cocktail and a cigarette. Harold objects to my having even one drink; I did not drink at all before I was married, but as a married woman it seems to me I have a right to make that decision myself. On several occasions he has been distinctly rude to the girls, who naturally ask me why I put up with it. Harold also accuses me of extravagance, even though he will not tell me how much money he makes or take me into his confidence as to our affairs.

"Worst of all," the letter concludes, "my father and mother are shocked beyond words at my idea of a divorce. They remind me, as indeed is true, that they begged me not to marry Harold, much as they like him, because I was so young, and that I insisted upon doing so. They treat me still as a child, and say 'don't mention such things. You're married and you're going to stay married. Do your duty and you'll be happy, and stop talking nonsense.'"

How to advise a wife like this one? Obviously, if she ever was going to get any sense into her little head, she never would have written this letter. Sandra, at 20, with a baby and a home and a husband, is still the adored spoiled child she was at 17, when she first got the intoxicating idea of marrying a handsome officer, escaping the last year of high school, and startling her girl-friends into amazement and envy.

Tied Down to Drudgery. Now the other girls are going through the normal years of danc-



"Dull housework and baby tending."

A FORTUNATE POSITION

Three years ago it seemed so glorious to Sandra, and now it's almost unbearable! She was only 17 when she married a handsome doctor more than twice her age. For a while she enjoyed the luxuries his ample income provided, and the prestige his position lent her. He was an army officer, and was home only for short furloughs.

Then he came home to stay; and Sandra quickly found that he was unsuited to her. Her tastes were those of a young girl, his those of a middle-aged professional man. She wanted dances and parties, plenty of friends about, good times and gaiety. He was tired after his exacting duties and wanted to rest or to play a quiet game of cards with his friends.

The care of the baby and the house take most of Sandra's time. When she wants to go out for an evening's fun Harold objects. He won't take her out, and doesn't want her to go alone. He is often rude to her friends, who are all very young, and is angered if Sandra takes a drink. Now he is accusing her of being extravagant, but refuses to set up a budget for her, or tell her of his affairs.

ing, house parties, movies, love affairs, and Sandra is tied down to the dull drudgery of housework and baby tending. Her choice now is between antagonizing her parents, harming her child, breaking up her home, or going on into years that stretch before her like the years in jail.

If I could advise her at all it would be to grow up—to become a real woman. To learn to be a good cook and housewife—surely not too hard an undertaking. Thousands of women in her very city are managing on budgets, cooking delightful meals, keeping small homes comfortable and happy.

When she has accomplished this, then perhaps she might have a talk with Harold. After a few weeks of pleasantness at home he may be more amenable to reason. She might ask him to give her an evening a week, in which they will either accept some invitation that seems tempting to Sandra, or go downtown just by themselves for dinner and a theatre afterward. She might persuade him to join the country club, always a good connection for a doctor to make.

But whatever she does, it should be as the middle-aged doctor's young wife; happy, busy, proud of his success, pleased with her own position. It is a pleasant and picturesque position, it will be her own fault if she does not develop its possibilities. Mothers and fathers have a way of objecting to 17-year-old marriages. There are reasons for this that little "Seventeen" can't see. Every girl in high school thrills to the idea of a sudden marriage that will leave her schoolmates gasping. But it isn't the normal order of things, and it has a way of turning out expensive and dull.

Hose Without Holes.

To keep stockings and socks from wearing thin at the heels and toes, many women are reviving the old European practice of waxing them. Just rub a piece of candle wax or paraffin on the heels and toes of stockings before you wear them. Once the wax is applied, enough of it will last to make the stockings more durable for several washings and wearings. The wax does not show, and if you apply only a thin film, you cannot feel it.