

'Addict' Tells Sorrowful Story

By A.A.—N.
I am an addict.
How did it start? In the past two weeks, without showing any mercy, I have tried to look back on my life in order to discover just how it all began. This is the pattern it took: When I was first married and with the first two children coming quite close, I never indulged. However, after they didn't require so much of my evenings in the third year, and after they were put to bed for the night, I'd come out into the kitchen and take one. It was delightful. For over an hour I was transplanted into another world.

* ONE WAS sufficient for over two years. But suddenly, when

they both trotted off to school and my work wasn't so pressing, I found myself sneaking one in the morning.
Again, I was uplifted. My chores didn't seem heavy or monotonous. When they returned from school, I never took another; their needs came first.

Looking back, it's difficult to remember at what period there was felt a need for a "quickie"

around noon. With my lunch I'd have one. No guilt was felt. No one knew, only the addict. And he'd just look at me sort of wise or catty-like.

SOMEHOW, NEAR the hour of three, just before the school bus pulled up the road, I ignored all danger signals in the fifth year and took a mid-afternoon one.

From there, it was quite easy

to not just have "one" in the evening, but two. (Over the weekends, it sometimes got as high as three).

"Too much, way too much," my mind insisted. But I didn't listen.

WELL, FOR the past two whole weeks, after almost a decade of indulging, I have been without them.

The first week, without shame,

I admit it was terrible. Don't know which were the hardest to bear—the mornings or the evenings.
The utter dullness of both times of day weighed so heavily that I slipped into bed around nine. Sleep seemed to ease things.

Nevertheless, it was hard on the family. My nerves were jumpy. I snapped at silly remarks. My chores loomed so big. A basket of ironing looked like Mt. Rainier.

A kitchen floor to be scrubbed stretched before my eyes like a skating rink. The spirit was ragged, indeed.

HOWEVER, BY the end of the second week, these effects eased a bit. Found myself smiling a bit. "I've got it liked; I really think I'm cured!" was said to myself just before last.

What should pierce my lovely dream but a neighbor who sneaked up the driveway. In his car were suitcases; he had been on a trip.
"Brought something for you," he whispered.

PEEKING INTO the back seat of the car what should my eyes fall upon but a whole huge beautiful white stack of newspapers!

"Oh, no!" I murmured in admiration. Before he could open the door, my arm had slid through the window and my hand fondled the thick pages. The beautiful smooth thick pages.

That evening? I was "off." way off again. Yes, I am still an "addict." I have many who share the same awful habit!

Boy in Blue Was Really 'Soldier Gal'

A Michigan woman fought as a soldier through the Civil War, keeping her sex a secret.
After the war, Sarah Emma Edmonds, who had posed as Franklin Thompson, disclosed her identity and qualified for a government pension.

Two of her letters are recent acquisitions of The University of Michigan Historical Collections.
"Frank" enlisted in the Flint Union Grays which became part of the Second Michigan Regiment, on April 17, 1861, at the age of 22. Being taken for a man was not new to her. A Canadian farm girl, she had passed as a Bible salesman in Hartford, Conn., before the war.

THE BATTLE at Bull Run came on July 21. Although the Second Michigan didn't join the battle, it covered the chaotic retreat.
Emma reported that "officers and men were alike confounded, regiment after regiment broke and ran, and almost immediately the panic commenced. Companies of cavalry were drawn up in line across the road with drawn sabers, but all was not sufficient to stop the tide of fugitives. Then came the artillery thundering along, drivers lashing their horses furiously, which greatly added to the panic of the thousands crowded together."

Absorbed in caring for the wounded, Emma became separated from her company. She made her way to Washington under the darkness to rejoin her regiment.
Appointed army mail carrier in 1862, she recalled: "The floods frequently carried away the Chickahominy bridges and I was more than once obliged to swim my horse across the swirling running stream. Thus cold baths in the Chickahominy River fastened chills and fever upon me which eventually drove me from the Army."

DURING THE Battle of Fredericksburg, "Frank Thompson," as detailed by Colonel Orlando Poe as an orderly, "He carried messages through showers of shot and shell with a fearlessness that attracted the attention of officers. There was not the shadow of humbug about the soldiery of Frank Thompson."

Then in April, 1863, Emma deserted, spending the rest of the war (See SOLDIER, 7-D)



'Where Are All the Tickets?'

Tickets for the Metropolitan Opera performance are sold out and these three ladies are three very positive reasons why. Committee members pictured above are, left to right: Mrs. Paul J. Shine, chairman of Grin-

nell's Opera table and workshop; Mrs. Gilbert Richards, special events chairman, and Mrs. Theodore Vintema, chairman of the Birmingham-Bloomfield-Franklin Metropolitan Opera Committee.

'Apartness' Is Occasional Requirement

Sometimes "togetherness" becomes a bit tiresome, so many families are providing also some "apartness" for the retreat of members who wish, occasionally, to be alone.

Ofttimes a bedroom, porch or basement corner can be set aside for study, listening to records, television viewing, reading or hobby pursuits.

Such a room or area should, to make it a success, be accessorized for the purpose it will serve. The floor should be carpeted or covered with a quiet surface. An acoustical ceiling, proper lighting, good ventilation and a pleasant atmosphere are essential.

TO ESTABLISH the desired climate for the retreat, a good place to start is the walls. The quiet dignity of wood-paneled walls is desirable for the enjoyment of reading, conversation, music and other pursuits. Frequently used are Masonite wood-grained hardboards in handsome walnut or cherry patterns.

These decorative hardboards are inexpensive, durable, attractive and easily maintained. A selection of popular shades makes it easy to establish a furnishings decor that (See APARTNESS, 7-D)

The Birmingham Eccentric Features Fallout Shelter Space At Minimum in Birmingham

By WALLY FROMHART Staff Writer

Less than one of ten Birmingham citizens could find fallout shelter space, if a bomb was dropped tomorrow.

But city commissioners were assured Monday night by Civil Defense Aid John F. Saeffe that an emergency drive is now underway to correct this situation.

Saeffe gave commissioners the computer results of a public fallout shelter survey performed Feb. 21. The survey covered 153 buildings and found only 50 with a "protection factor" of 40 or better.

"A PROTECTION factor simply means the amount of radiation a person would be shielded from when inside the shelter," Saeffe explained. "A person inside a 100 protection factor shelter would receive 40 times less exposure than a man standing outside. We are striving for a minimum 100 factor in our city's fallout shelters."

Saeffe said his program calls for an increase of shelters until a quota of one "shelter space" for every three persons in existing buildings has been reached.

SHelter SPACES, or the area allowed for each individual inside a shelter, can be increased by the addition of window and door barriers, and forced air systems.

"There are five kinds of these barriers, or shields," Saeffe said. Lead, 3 inches; steel, eight inches;

concrete, 2 feet; earth, 3 feet; and water, five feet. Water, concrete, and earth are the most common, he reported, "mainly because they are the cheapest."

"People often mistake fallout and radiation," Saeffe revealed. "Actually they are quite different. Fallout is the dust and sand thrown into the air by the bomb's blast, while radiation is tiny particles activated by the bomb's electrical forces. Radiation hurts you, but fallout does not."

ALL SHELTERS in the Birmingham area will be developed to a 200 protection factor, but the shelter spaces are of two types and can vary. One space, without ventilation, requires 500 cubic feet of area per person. The other, in a ventilated shelter, needs 10 square feet of floor space. (See SHELTER, 7-D)

NATURE NOW By Lydia King Frehse Special Writer for The Birmingham Eccentric

Song of the Turtle Dove Is Reminder of Spring

For, lo! the winter is past, The rain is over and gone; The flowers appear on the earth; The time of the singing of birds is come, And the voice of the turtle is heard in our land.

So goes an ancient wedding lyric. And so goes this pen to the time of a gentle but poignant cooing which sounds far away, although it is very near.

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THE WORD "turtle" is an ancient one applied to the family of doves and is often used today to designate our familiar "mourning" dove. This latter term is in common usage and comes from the "mournful" sound of the call.

The mourning dove is molded in the familiar "dove" shape and is about 12 inches long, the size of a small pigeon. He is very like his cousin, the now extinct passenger pigeon whose enormous numbers darkened the skies during the days of Audubon and Wilson.

His colors are muted, a soft blending of browns and greys with hints of blue and pink on breast and neck. The tail feathers are banded with black and tipped with white.

SEVERAL YEARS ago, a pair began to nest in an oak tree out side my window but were driven away by the blue jays. They retreated to an eaveshopper across the street where they nested for some seasons. In the country, they usually build near the ground on the limb of an evergreen, the love-croch of an apple tree or in the cover of old fence.

The nest is a very haphazard one—a few sticks, leaves and grasses gathered together into a platform. It is so flimsy that one wonders how it safely holds the two white eggs until they are hatched.

Doves mate for the season and (See DOVE, 7-D)

State Police Aid Record Number of Stranded Drivers

Nearly 13,000 State Police assists to motorists were recorded on expressway patrols last year in Michigan, according to a special department analysis just completed.

The assists were more than a fifth or 21.5 per cent, of the total of 59,570 made by troopers on all roads.

Data on the assists to motorists on the expressways revealed that the necessary service was performed or provided by the patrol in 10,294 instances, or in eight out of 10 cases. In the other 2,628, the patrol provided communications for obtaining service.

The assistance cases were as follows: for the vehicles, 3,536 motor trouble, 3,094 tire failure, 1,556 out of fuel, 633 other vehicle failure, and 380 stuck or mired. For directions, 3,084 for destination, 227 vehicle services, 213 food and lodging, and 189 miscellaneous.

The limited access features of the superhighways make it difficult for motorists to get help when in need. The expressways now comprise about one per cent of Michigan's rural highway system, but are requiring 7.3 per cent of State Police patrol time.

DOWN TO EARTH Local Resident Plans Ornamental Driveway

By ALICE WESSELS BURLINGAME Special Writer for The Birmingham Eccentric

GRAVEL FOR DRIVEWAY: This task has been well planned by C. H. Burnham, 1439 Villa. He has secured a mixed aggregate, larger than pea gravel which will not shift. The stone itself is rather ornamental, as it has sandy colors in it from dark grey to blues and reds, all blended to provide a good texture and has spread it thick enough so it doesn't look skimpy.

Often, where a person has a new home, they will provide such driveway-coverage for a year or two before having a permanent paved finish. The stone is small enough so you don't have a feeling that it is scratching the side of your shoes.

HYDROPONICS is really practiced "20,000 feet under the sea" by the men in the Polaris submarine fleet.
Realizing the need for fresh salad greens for men who are under the sea for 60 days, the plants are grown in flower boxes with water and chemicals.

Fluorescent light provides the light. Lettuce can be grown in three weeks due to a balanced condition of light, heat and chemicals. Carrots and peas are ready to harvest in four weeks.

Fluorescent light is used by many local growers in their greenhouses as well as in growing centers in their basements. It will provide peaks of energy in the blue and red parts of the spectrum which result in improved growth patterns.

STRICTLY FRESH

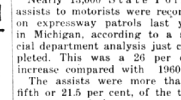
If you have difficulty moving down a narrow passage sideways as well as facing forward, chances are that you are getting overweight.

Some say that the Internal Revenue bureau is

where the government keeps the taxpayers' shirts.

It seems that we never get too old to learn some new way to be stupid.

In business, an optimist is a salesman while a pessimist works in the credit department.



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