

U. S. PROBES RADIUM, PAINT WORK DANGERS

Attention Is Focused on
Perils by Suits of
Dying Women.

BY ROSCOE B. FLEMING
WASHINGTON, July 20.—The Department of Labor may make national investigations into two increasing sources of workers' peril—the handling of radium compounds, and the use of spray guns in painting.

The danger of radium and mesothorium has been brought to public attention by the recent suits in New Jersey of five women, dying years after they quit working with radium. These suits were settled out of court.

Ethelbert Stewart, commissioner of labor statistics, said seventeen United States deaths are to be attributed to work in radium. Both the department and the United States Public Health Service are being appealed to for a Nation-wide survey, he said.

The bureau said radium settles permanently in the bones, and although no ill effects may be felt for years, finally destroys the white corpuscles and results in death from pernicious anemia. No cure or palliative is known. Most manufacturers are now taking elaborate precautions to guard their workers.

The spray-gun in painting fills the air with particles of paint. When the latter contains benzol, as in the case of quick-drying shellacs and varnishes, lead, as in ordinary paints, or silica, as in special preparations on pottery, they are absorbed into the workers' system.

Masks which will shut out the paint, also cut off much air that the workers can not breathe. Many factories are having the painting done under hoods, with torrents of air carrying off the spray.

Branded Killer



Although Percy Elker, 22, of Gettysburg, Pa., died insisting that he shot himself with suicidal intent, his 20-year-old wife, Helen, mother of their 2-year-old son, confessed, police say, to shooting him because of his alleged infidelity. Police discredit Elker's story of the shooting and have charged Mrs. Elker with murder.

Foils Attempt to Steal Cars

P. R. Smith, of the Gault Motor Company, 3766 College Ave., Thursday night, turned on the light in the garage and saw a man attempting to start some of the automobiles parked in the garage. The stranger ran through a rear door and escaped.

County to Buy Rescue Boat

Plans to advertise for bids for a \$250 motor boat to be used in case of drownings were under way by county commissioners today. The fifteen-foot boat will be used anywhere in the county to aid in drowning rescues and the recovery of bodies.

AUTHOR SCORES BEAT ON POLICE

Sherlock Holmes Proves
'Lifer' Innocent of Murder.

By United Press

EDINBURGH, Scotland, July 20.—Sherlock Holmes won his last victory over his rivals, the police today, when the Court of Criminal Appeals unanimously set aside the conviction of murder as the result of which Oscar Slater had spent eighteen and one-half years in prison.

Slater was convicted of the murder of a woman, but always

maintained his innocence. After many years, he succeeded in winning wide support for his demand that he be freed from a life sentence.

Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, creator of Sherlock Holmes, took charge of the case and spent many months investigating it. He reached the conclusion that Slater was innocent, and summed up his reasons in a book.

Several months ago the government ordered Slater's release. Not satisfied, Slater appealed to the Court of Criminal Appeal—which did not exist when he was convicted—so that the stain on his character might be removed.

Today's decision leaves him where he was before the crime was committed, legally, but he is an old, broken man after twenty years of suffering.

RENAMED BY MASONS

Adrian Hamersly Re-Elected by National Knights Templar.

Adrian Hamersly of Indianapolis was re-elected grand recorder of the Grand Encampment of the Knights Templar Thursday at Detroit. He has held the office since 1924 with headquarters now in the Chamber of Commerce Bldg.

Hamersly has been active in Masonry for many years and is a member of the York Rite, Scottish Rite and Mystic Shrine. He also is an honorary member of the Supreme Council of the Scottish Rite, thirty-third degree and recorder of the St. James Conclave, No. 16, Red Cross of Constantine, one of the higher orders of Masonry.

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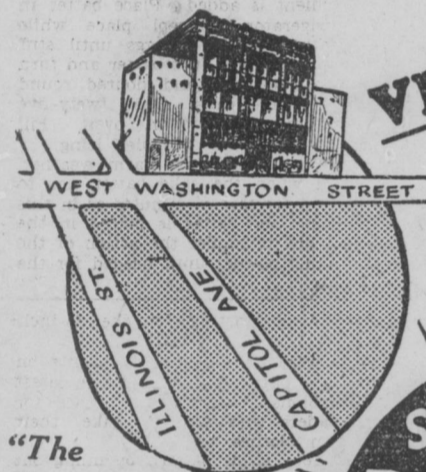
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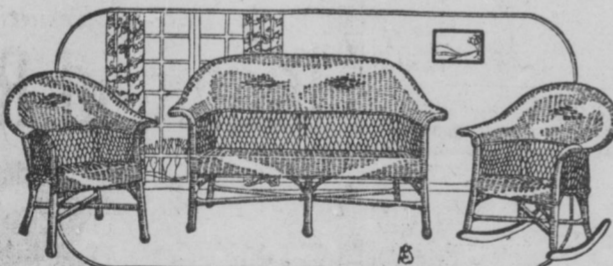
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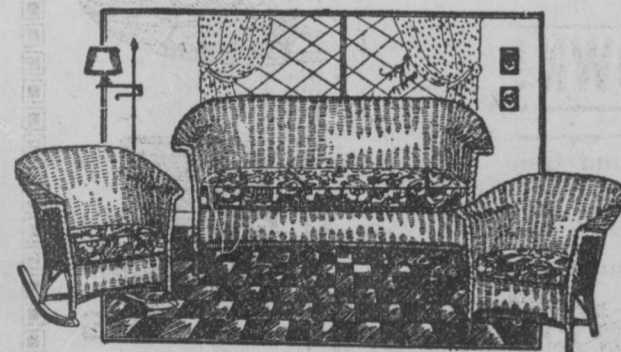
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