

## • Hobby Department

**A**N UNIQUE FATHER-AND-SON HOBBY TEAM, W. T. (Bill) Coleman, chief chemist for Western Cottonoil Company, Division of Anderson, Clayton and Company, and his son, Little Bill, spends many hours together avidly examining, classifying, and making additions to their joint stamp-collection.

Bill, the elder, has been with Anderson, Clayton as chemist and chemical engineer for 25 years. He started with oil mill operations in Mexico and later was transferred to Egypt for oil mill, refinery, and soap operations there.



Little Bill, born in Egypt in 1941, is a victim of cerebral palsy and has had a considerable influence on both the career and the hobbies of his father. Bill was transferred to the domestic subsidiary of Anderson, Clayton in Abilene, Tex., after leaving the service in 1946, in order to take advantage of the better facilities for treatment of cerebral palsy in the States. Then, as Little Bill grew and wanted to participate more and more, Bill had to furnish hands, arms, and speech for any activity. The old activities, hunting, fishing and golf, were gradually abandoned and eventually replaced by stamp collecting.

Since Little Bill had come home on a troop transport (without his dad) and had seen such places as Singapore, Broome, and Guadalcanal (just before the Japanese arrived), it was natural that he should become extremely interested in geography, and stamps.

It took some experience to discover that plain, heavy, rag paper could be used as looseleaf sheets in a press binder to make a practical album with a reasonable life for the heavy hand that accompanies the loving study constantly given the treasures.

The collection has been but partially catalogued but roughly contains some 12,000 different items. It is a general collection, with special attention given to stamps of the United States, Mexico, and Egypt. The more valuable stamps are from the old German states and from the old Kingdom of Sardinia.

Quite a few interesting covers are found in the collection, such as one carried by the bombing plane on the first A-Bomb test at Bikini, one mailed on the first day of independence for Korea, and a letter from dad to mom which unintentionally, but luckily, was carried on the first east-to-west Trans-Atlantic Airmail flight.

About two nights a week and all bad-weather Sunday afternoons are spent working on the collection. Assistance in obtaining stamps has come from friends all over the world as well as from quite a few members of the A.O.C.S. With so much help and thus a supply of spare stamps, a second hobby has been started, getting new collections organized by the young folks in the neighborhood.

Fisher Scientific Company, Pittsburgh Pa., offers a new gas-sampling valve for use with the Fisher Clinical Gas Partitioner or other gas-analysis systems.

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