



DWIGHT VAN AVERY

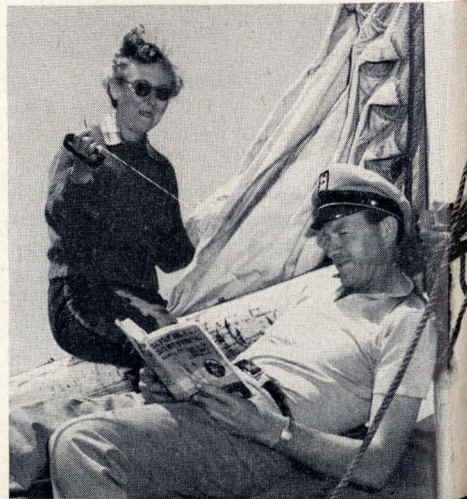
PEOPLE

"Education is no joke." This is the title of a two-page feature in the June 10 magazine section of the New York *Sunday News* (circulation 3.7 million). It is about Dwight Van Avery of Schenectady, the unassuming idea man behind General Electric's educational materials program (*Monogram*, June 1953, p. 16). "Van's" pioneering efforts in the field of instructional comic books have become an important factor in the teaching of high school science, both here and abroad. Nearly 50 million comic books have been distributed in response to requests. (Approximately 75 per cent of the students now completing their high school education in the United States have, at one time or another, during their junior or senior high school careers, read some of these.) The article featuring ex-schoolteacher Van Avery is one of a series in which the *News* brings to its readers what it believes to be inspiring stories of achievement. One result of the comic

book program not mentioned in the Sunday supplement, but of interest to *Monogram* readers, was some dramatic statistics compiled recently by an impartial student opinion survey, that asked high school boys which American company they considered the leader in scientific research. Some 43 per cent chose General Electric, while the nearest competitor drew only 14 per cent of the votes.

Slow Boat to St. Louis: Making plans for your summer vacation? You can solve this question for the next ten years, if you want to follow the example of field engineer Robert B. Cammon of the St. Louis Office, Apparatus Sales Division. Cammon's solution calls for building your own boat, fitting her out, and then sailing her 8000 miles in easy, annual vacation-time stages. The Cammons started building their 50-ft auxiliary ketch *Bobcat* in 1946 at a convenient location in Puget Sound, some 2000 miles from his job. She was ready for sea by the summer of 1954, when the adventurous Cammons started the first leg of their odyssey. That vacation took them as far as the Panama Canal; on the

CAMMON'S VACATION



next one they reached Cairo, Illinois, via the Gulf of Mexico and the Mississippi. On May 18 this year, they made the ketch's lines fast to the St. Louis levee, completing the last short leg of the three-stage cruise. Future plans call for the *Bobcat's* extensive overhaul, which will take care of Cammon's vacation time for the next two years, and then another cruise—this time to Florida, Cuba, and the Caribbean.

Sixteen globe-trotters of the General Electric New York (City) Women's Club took off May 26 aboard a KLM Constellation for their long-planned 23-day guided tour of Europe. First stop on the itinerary was Amsterdam, followed by visits to some 18 cities and towns in seven countries. The travelers will return June 17, after having viewed such renowned sights as the Louvre, Buckingham Palace, Monte Carlo, and Rome's Colosseum.

A September hop is on tap for members of the Women's Club of Schenectady. They leave September 1 on a flight to London for a three-week tour of England,

France, Italy, and Switzerland. Limited to 32 tourists, the bargain vacation will cost \$914 per person. Those interested should immediately contact Virginia Collins, Building 48, Room 206, Schenectady.

Luck of the Irish: Time, space, and a hovering stork could not deter Dr. Patrick Doyle of Duncannon, County Wexford, Ireland, from his promised position as an engineer in the High Voltage Laboratory at Pittsfield, Mass. But, with most of the space covered by an uneventful transatlantic flight, time and the stork finally caught up with the Doyles on the last leg of their trip, aboard a train near Rhinecliff, N. Y. Aided by the conductor and a fellow passenger, they reached the Rhinecliff hospital in time, making their first day in the U.S. an extra memorable one for proud parents and brand-new citizen Thomas Aidan Doyle. Dr. Doyle holds degrees from the University of Liverpool and University College, Dublin, and he considers General Electric Company the "leading firm in the States."

GOODWILL AMBASSADORS TO SEVEN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES

