

07-29-1976



### Basement TV Catches Fire

Jackson Township firefighters responded to a Thursday call from the Melvin Nester home, 4550 Anglebrook Drive, to find the fire already out.

A television had evidently

caught fire in the basement of the home at around 4 a.m., Chief Donald Reese said, but the fire was out by the time firemen received the call at 10 a.m. Firemen investigated and ventilated the basement.

For Stanley Meyer, July 4, 1976, was a disappointing day. And when you're talking about a self-proclaimed patriot who has been engrossed 12 hours a day, six days a week since February in a project which will, he hopes, save his country, that's quite a statement.

Meyer is installing a solar energy system of his own design at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Hughes, 2222 Marlane Drive, just outside Grove City. Meyer hoped for a July 4th installation of the patented product, a Solar Pac Thermal Electric Power Generation System, which will, he says, provide the Hughes home with heat, hot water and electricity.

However, Meyer said, because industry refused to back his efforts, he was unable to finish installation of the energy system by the deadline. Meyer now plans a demonstration in "about 60 days."

Energy is an obsession to Meyer. Highly energetic himself, as well as enthusiastic, articulate and impassioned, he is deeply concerned about the energy situation facing the country, a threat he parallels to the threat of World War II.

"That's why I went down in my basement in July 1975 and researched and developed this system," Meyer said. "I made a simple prayer to God to help me develop this system and it was answered. And my whole goal is to get this energy source to every man, woman, child and business in the United States.

"Sun energy is a free source of energy which can strengthen the United States and give the small businessman independence so he can maintain his business as well as his home site," Meyer continued. "There's enough solar energy there free for everyone to use."

#### Individual Focus

Meyer, who focuses his plan on the initiative and problem-

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LITTLE THEATRE OFF BROADWAY held auditions last week. More on Page 16.

# Solar Energy Project Near Done

solving ability of the individual, said his system's use of free solar energy could help stabilize the nation's economy, "I love my country," he explains. "It is the greatest country in the world."

However, Meyer, 35, said he cannot accomplish the revolutionary conversion to the use of solar energy alone.

"If my system is a success and I demonstrate that it can produce electricity, heat and hot water, I will have done my part," he said. "Then I will need the support of the American people to get it (the system) going."

#### Call on Americans

Meyer said he will "call on all American citizens to go to their state legislatures and the federal government" and support him in his quest to rid the country of laws such as zoning regulations which would prevent the utilization of his system.

This appeal to his fellow citizens for support is the basis of Meyer's plan. "It has always been the free in-

dividual," he says, "not industry and not the government which has solved America's problems. This is the story of God, country and the American way of life because people are helping me put this together."

"This is a story of American people seeing a problem and coming together to solve it."

Meyer said he began construction of the silo-shaped solar system "without a dime in my pocket." Small businessmen and individuals have since donated material, money and time to help him, he said, including the "weekend warriors" who descend on the Hughes property to help with the work when they are able.

#### 80 Percent Done

The project, which was begun in late February, is 80 percent completed, Meyer said. Only manufacture of the components of the silo walls remains to be done.

After Meyer had engineered the device, set up a corporation and advertised his

system, the Hughes family, facing high utility bills, contacted him and offered their home as a site for the demonstration model, he said.

Meyer has revised his earlier estimate downward and now says a mass-produced solar energy system would market for under \$7,000. The system could save homeowners \$34,000-\$36,000 in energy costs in 20 years he estimated.

#### No Pollution

The system is nonpolluting, has no movable parts, is made of readily available materials and can be installed in one day because of its modular make-up, he said. In addition, installation of the system requires no alteration to structure or energy conversion by the homeowner. The system needs little maintenance he said.

Separate tanks within the system store energy to generate heat and hot water and electricity, its inventor says. The system can also

See Solar Page 16.



STANLEY MEYER poses on the base of the solar energy device he is building just outside Grove City. The base will house two heat energy storage tanks as well as a steam-driven engine. The frame of the device will hold up a silo-shaped collection of lenses which will focus the sun's rays into the storage tanks, Meyer says.

# Solar Project Ne

manufacture synthetic natural gas from hydrogen so that a home which uses gas appliances need not convert to electric appliances, he added.

The base of the system—a base which would be sunk into an eight foot by six foot deep hole in mass-produced versions—contains the two storage tanks, one a heat sink cavity designed to store heat to convert water into steam, which will in turn drive a steam piston engine which will generate electricity via an alternator.

A second chamber below the first stores heat for the home and hot water heating.

## 21 Foot Lens

The metal lens frame, the most prominent part of the structure located adjacent to the Hughes home, is the basis for a lens 21 feet high and eight feet in circumference which collects sunlight regardless of the sun's position during the day and focuses it down onto a flat, disc lens, Meyer said. This lens then concentrates the light like a magnifying glass into the storage tanks.

The plastic wall lenses will form the silo-like shape of the system and will be made up of 1,200 smaller, interlocking plastic "light guide panels." Manufacture of these panels is the only step remaining for Meyer's model, he said.

Industries wanted to charge him \$27,000 for manufacture of the molds to make the panels, he said. He has since made the molds for \$300, he added.

In addition to the cylindrical lenses of the silo wall, the system also includes a conical capping lens atop the

silo, which also sends light downward through cylinder, Meyer said.

## Mass Production

Soon after the system is demonstrated, it will be ready for mass production, Meyer said. Models from the size necessary to provide heat for a small residential dwelling to major units which can provide energy to commercial and industrial plants will be manufactured. The modular design of the system makes it possible for it to be put into the economy in all sizes immediately, Meyer said.

Meyer holds the fastest patent ever issued for an energy device on the system, he said. And those experts at the U.S. Patent Office wouldn't have issued it if it hadn't been based on proven technology," Meyer said.

## Impassioned

Meyer becomes impassioned when he speaks about the energy crisis which threatens the country and which inspired his system.

The former retailer of truck parts, who "walked away from a million dollar a year business" to work on the solar energy system, said, "The industrial backbone of this country is subject to breaking without energy sources."

The history of the current "energy gap" of 35 percent between supply and demand goes back to 1965, Meyer said, when the United States' major oil fields dropped in pressure at the same time that demand for oil skyrocketed. The five percent share of oil used in the U.S. which was imported in 1965 quickly increased to the

# ars Completion

57 percent of today, a statistic which Meyer says will rise to 65 percent in 1976.

"The Arab threat became a tremendous threat to me," Meyer said. "From 1965 to 1974, the Arabs took out of this country \$200 billion in payment for their oil. In 1975 alone, they took out \$50 billion

and \$70 billion is projected for 1976," he said.

According to Meyer, these oil dollars are funnelled back into the United States through Swiss banks to finance a takeover by the Arabs of the United States' existing energy resources. The Arabs are also buying up decision-making

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