

as many such men per 100 unmarried women, as do some of the southeastern states. Cities are likely to have an excess of unmarried women, farming areas of unmarried men. In some instances, one seeking a mate would do well to move to a more promising locality.

No Chance to Meet

"Even where, in a given area, there are many young men and young women well suited to each other, they may suffer from the lack of social machinery to bring them together. 'Pick-ups' and casual encounters at places of commercial amusement play an important part in the lives of youth of lower socio-economic strata, but not with the educated class. The educational system itself is the most important matrimonial agency for the latter; but if they have not found partners in high school or college, if their occupations do not throw them with possible mates, and if they lack an assured social position in the community based on the contacts of their parents and other relatives in a settled population, they may receive very little help in making those acquaintances which are as necessary for their mental hygiene as for their matrimonial prospects.

"The various dormitories (Y. W. C. A., business girls clubs, and the like) in which girls congregate often make no effective effort to provide a normal social life, and by remaining in them the girl becomes more and more adjusted to a world of one sex, and less and less able to make the acquaintances she desires. Dormitory life for men is even worse. Church young people's societies are often of little help because too small and cliquish.

The Girl Friend

"Too often a girl thus gets into a rut which she never leaves. She forms the habit of going around with some other girl in like case, thus making it all the harder for a man who might like to strike up an acquaintance with her.

"To escape from this wilderness, she must travel alone and study the map.

"She must, in the first place, go where men are, but these must, in the second place, be the right kind of men; and in the third place, conditions must be favorable for acquaintance. It is no use to go to a motion picture, merely because there are men in the audience. Even a cut-in dance is likely to be unprofitable; she may meet a dozen men, but the experience of exchanging commonplaces with them for two or three

minutes is not likely to lead to a permanent friendship.

Wider Acquaintance

"The higher one's standards, the wider must be one's range of acquaintance, so that one can live up to these standards. Too frequently, this relationship is reversed. The girl with the highest standards knows the fewest men. Again her 'statistical position' is unfavorable.

"The best way to improve it is to join groups in which young people share some common interest. In every city there are almost countless organizations, public and private, devoted to sport, recreation, religion, art, philosophy, music, literature, science—everything under the sun. One who wants to make acquaintances should canvass all such groups in which he has or can take an interest; visit them one at a time, drop them at once if no 'worthwhile' young people are found, cultivate them further if they promise to be worth cultivation. Such groups are usually anxious to get new members who share their enthusiasms, and the newcomer who travels alone and endeavors to be appreciative will find a hearty reception, whether it be from a club of amateur astronomers or a choral society, a group of hikers or an organi-

zation to promote more fluent conversation in Spanish.

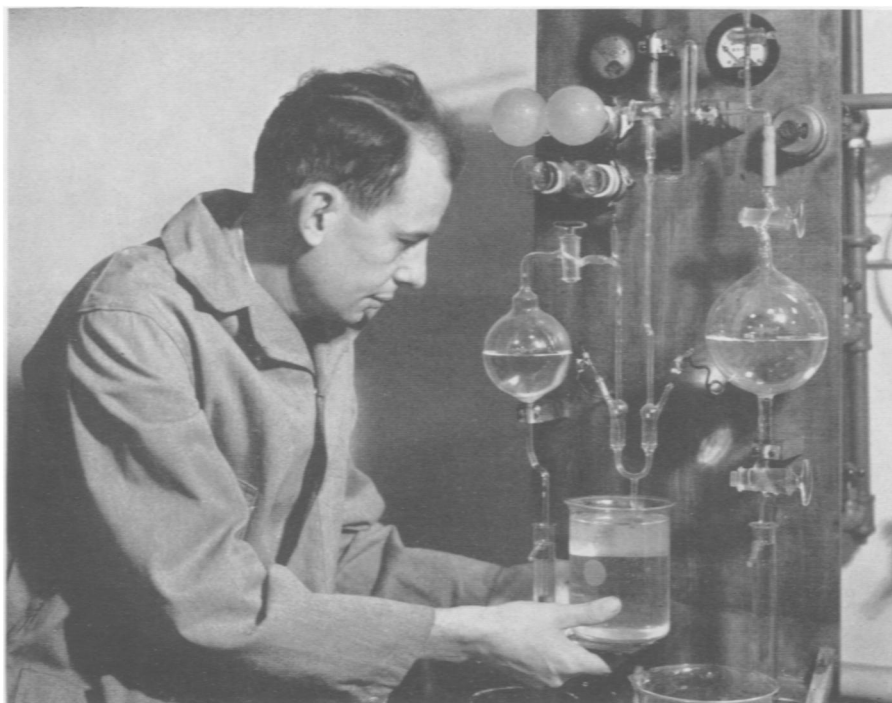
Taking two a week, a young man or woman in a large city could visit a hundred such groups in a year. It would be surprising if at least one of them did not repay the effort!

"At the same time, one must develop one's own personality. Many unmarried persons who are otherwise superior have become so self-centered, and so much afraid of themselves and other people, that they cannot bring themselves to seek new acquaintances or to interest those that they do chance to meet. Friends make an effort to introduce them around, only to find that the effort is wasted by non-violent non-cooperation, as Gandhi has it.

Develop Personality

"Such persons would profit by systematic psychological help, if such were accessible; but much can also be done through the excellent popular books on the development of personality, the art of making friends, and related subjects, of which at least a dozen have been published in recent years.

"The shortage of bachelors to serve as potential husbands for the educated and unmarried women is partly offset by the widowers and divorcees who, if they re-



HEAVY HYDROGEN "FACTORY"

Simplified, all-glass apparatus producing a liter of heavy hydrogen every five hours has been developed by Dr. Charles M. Slack, physicist of the Westinghouse Lamp Company. The heavy hydrogen is obtained from heavy water by electrolysis.