美丽英文系列丛书

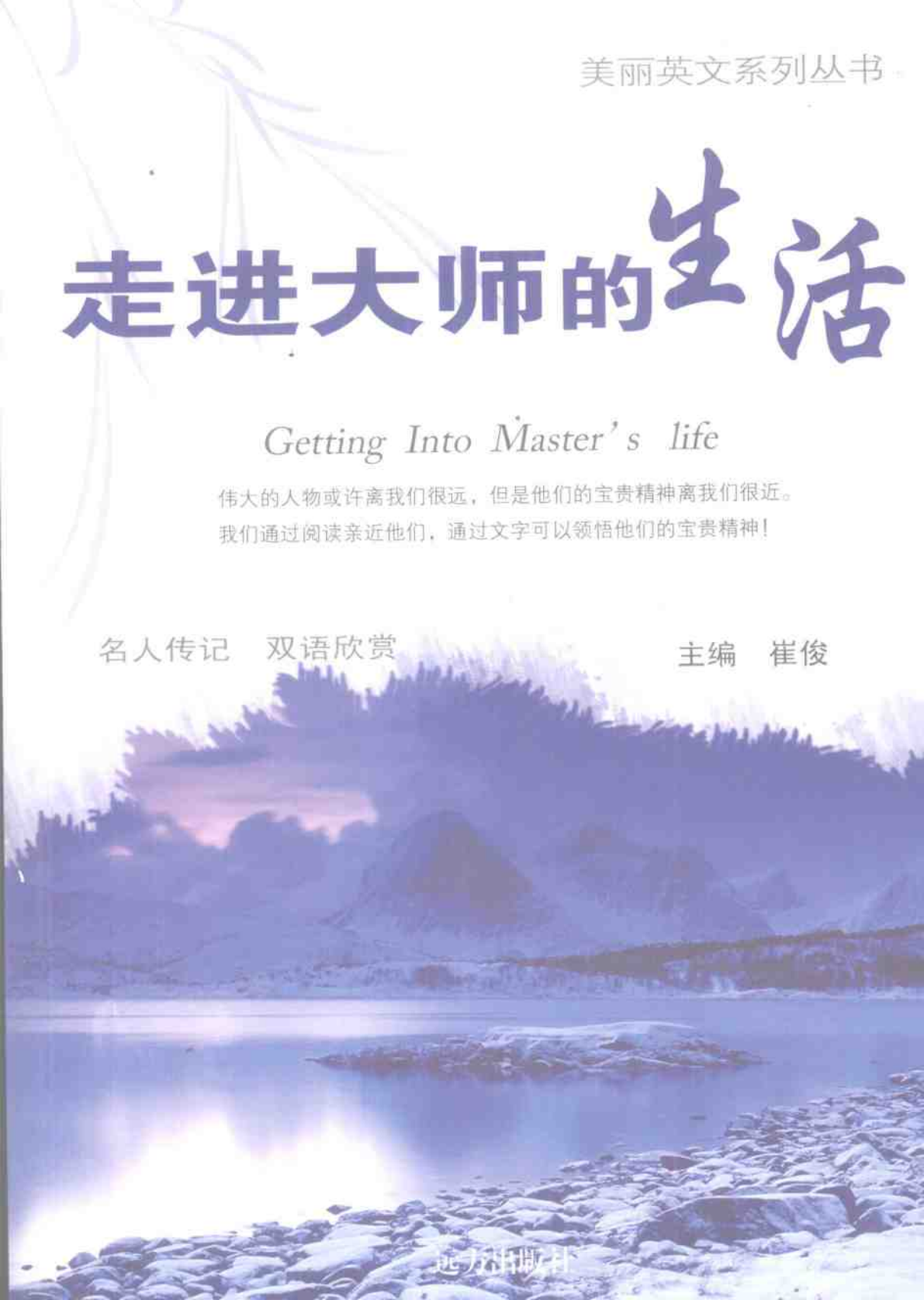
走进大师的生活

Getting Into Master's life

伟大的人物或许离我们很远，但是他们的宝贵精神离我们很近。
我们通过阅读亲近他们，通过文字可以领悟他们的宝贵精神！

名人传记　双语欣赏

主编　崔俊



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前言

毋庸置疑，世界正在变得越来越一体化，学会和世界各国交流成为我们必须面对的问题。作为世界通用语言之一的英语，就成为很多人学习外语的首选。要学好英语，学音标、背单词当然是非常重要的，但最有效的方法肯定离不开大量的英语阅读。那么，要让一个初学者对英语发生兴趣，让已经有一定基础的英语学习者水平更上一层楼，如果只是枯燥地看一些英语原文肯定不会有什么效果，甚至有可能让学习者丧失学英语的兴趣。因此，对于初学英语和希望提高英语水平的人首先应该阅读浅显易懂的文章，同时还应该注重文章的趣味性，最后就是选择多方面的内容。另外一点特别值得特别注意，学习语言应该循序渐进，持续学习，平时应该注意不间断地阅读，正是基于这些认识，我们编选了这套丛书。

在编选这套书的过程中我们认为英语阅读书籍应该更人性化一些，所以我们在书籍的功能上做了很多功课！

中国晋代有一位大诗人陶渊明，他在一首叫做《移居》的诗中有一句："奇文共欣赏，疑义相与析"。这句是说有了好文章大家一起来欣赏，遇到疑难问题大家一同钻研。其实这句话用在我们对英语的学习上也很贴

切，我们希望这套书能够达到让读者欣赏美文的同时排解疑难，增长见闻的目的！所以这套书具备了如下特点：

从内容上来看，本套丛书涵盖面比较广泛，包括了亲情、友情、爱情、童年故事、成功故事、哲理故事、名人传记、名人游记、名篇名段、电影对白等10个主题。

从阅读及学习的具体要求上看，本书正文采用了英汉对照的方式，同时设计了“热词空间”，加注了单词释义，方便读者查询；我们还配合正文加了作者简介，以及电影内容简介，帮助读者理解正文；每篇中文译文的篇末加了精彩的名人名言或小幽默，也是采用了英汉对照，这样读者在阅读中会感到轻松，更加人性化！

从篇目选择上来看，我们尽量选择了贴近生活、易于理解、较富趣味的文章，争取所选择的篇目都能达到“奇文”的标准，从而增强读者阅读的兴趣。

的确，每个人都希望看到最精美的文字，因为读一篇好文章就如同品味一杯香茗，总是希望每一口都是馨香溢怀，久久回味。我们希望能把您带到浓浓的亲情之中，把您带到真挚的友情之中，把您带回甜美的爱情之中，把您带回童年的记忆之中，同时让成功的故事激励您前行，让哲理故事带给您深刻的人生思考，让名人的传记给您启迪，让名人的游记带您饱览世界风光，让名人的佳作带给您文学与艺术的品味，让电影的精彩对白带给您惊喜与感动！

人生或许也正是这样，各种颜色，各种气息，各种味道都汇聚在一起，我们的阅读也如同一道道色、香、味俱全的美文大餐，相信尽享这道大餐的感觉一定美妙无比啊！

让我们一起阅读吧，一起享用吧！

Contents
目录

Alexander Graham Bell

It is such a common occurrence that no one ever wonders from whence it came. But the telephone has a fascinating story behind it, one that could be entitled, "The Conquest of Solitude." It is the story of Alexander Graham Bell.

He was born in Edinburgh, Scotland. In 1847, the son of a man who was consumed, passionately consumed, with the workings of the human voice, how it is produced and used, and especially, in teaching the deaf how to use it. For in those days, you see, the deaf lived in permanent solitude. Not only could they not hear, they could not speak. After all, how could they pronounce words, they couldn't hear? Perhaps this obsession of the elder Bell was one of the reasons he married whom he did. For the woman who would give birth to the inventor of the telephone…was deaf!

Young Alexander Graham Bell grew up with his father's passions. In 1870, because of poor health, he migrated to Canada. It was not long before his success in teaching the deaf to speak brought him to the attention of a wealthy merchant in Boston who had a deaf daughter, Mabel. Would Mr. Bell please teach Mabel how to speak? Yes, he would. And did. And they fell in love. It was she who inspired him through an of the exhausting **experiments**. Who pulled him through the depressioljs that often irtflict those whose drive to succeed is so intense, while he developed the then remarkable instrument that transformed speech into electrical **impulses** that could then be converted back into human speech at the end of a wire. He had pierced yet another solitude, the one that up until then had denied human speech between people distant from one another. A

year later, in 1877, he and Mabel were married. He later became an American citizen.

Oh, ALexander Grahahl Bell was showered with the praise of the world. Honors came to him from all the points of the compass. Yes, he would go on to other discoveries, many of them. But in his own view, he was most proud of his **efforts** to help the deaf.

So, when the government of France awarded him the Volta Prize for inventing the telephone, he combined this monetary award with the money hye made from selling the patent on another invention to establish the Volta Bureau in Washington, D. C. . Its purpose was to fund research on deafness. Today, it is called the Alexander Graham Bell Association. Its role has been changed to providing the latest information to the deaf of the world on how best to cope with their disability.

Alexander Graham Bell died in 1922, Mabel five months later. She loved him that much. His name is likely to live as long as man recalls history. After all, there is this constant reminder of how he brought the human family into closer touch.

The first voice to travel over a wire was even a surprise for its inventor. Alexander Graham Bell. He was experimenting in his laboratory late one night, and quite by accident he succeeded in **transmitting** a message to his assistant in the next room. What Mr. Bell could not know at the time was that that night in 1876 would mark the start of a revolution in **communications**.

At first, two iron wires connected each pair of telephones. Then switchboards brought phone wires into one location. Other inventions—the vacuum tube to amplify sound, and coaxial cables to link long distances on land and under the seas—greatly expanded phone service. Transistors replaced the old vacuum tubes, and by the 1960s communications satellites eliminated the necessity of landlines. Today, bundles of glass fibers carry calls on laser beams of light.

Many of these inventions –including sound motion pictures and stereo recording, along with 2300 other patents–come from AT&T Bell Laboratories

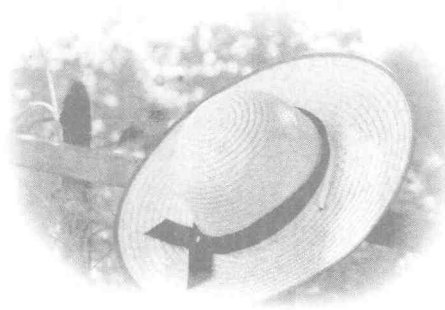
founded in 1925. John Davis is executive director of Bell Laboratories Consumer Products Division. He says, as we move into the 1900s, we can expect even greater flexibility in telecommunications.

It is hard to imagine a world without the telephone. Our lives have grown to depend on computers linked into phone lines to do our shopping, our banking, or helping us through a **typical** day work.

When you walk into your office, the first thing you do is to turn on the computer and pull up your **electronic** mail for the day. Of course, your electronic mail does not come in through the mailbox, bit comes in through telephone lines. The nice thing is you can turn them around by simply forwarding back without having to worry about addressing or stamping or enveloping the information to the person that sent you the message.

热词空间

experiment n. 实验，试验 vi.(on, with)做实验
impulse n. 冲动，一时的念头；推动，驱使；脉冲
effort n. 努力，尝试；努力的成果，成就
transmit vt. 播送，发射；传送，传递，传染
communication n. 交流，通讯；[pl.]通信(或交通)工具
typical a. 典型的，有代表性的
electronic a. 电子的 n.[-s]电子学；电子设备



亚历山大·格雷厄姆·贝尔

这件事太平常了，平常到没有人会去想知道它是怎样发生的。但是在电话的背后却有一个十分吸引人的故事，可以题名为“征服孤寂”。这就是亚历山大·格雷厄姆·贝尔的故事。

1847年，贝尔在苏格兰的爱丁堡市出生。他的父亲全神贯注，满怀激情地从事研究人的声音的发生和作用过程，特别是教失聪的人怎样运用声音。因为那时，失聪者生活在永恒的孤寂之中。他们不仅听不见，而且也不会说话。毕竟，他们听不见他人说的话，既然听不见又怎么知道如何发声呢？也许，老贝尔的这一执著爱好是促使他日后同成为他妻子的人结婚的原因之一。因为后来生下电话的发明者的那位妇女——是个聋人！

年轻的亚历山大·格雷厄姆·贝尔遗传了父亲的执著爱好专长。1870年，他由于健康欠佳移居加拿大。不久之后，他就成功地教会耳聋者说话，从而引起波士顿一位富商的注意。这位商人的女儿梅布尔是个聋人。

可否请贝尔先生教梅布尔说话呢？可以，他愿意教。他教了梅布尔，他们相爱了。他进行了所有那些使人精疲力竭的实验时梅布尔给予他鼓舞，也是梅布尔使他克服了不时产生的沮丧情绪——那种常常困扰着用紧张工作去夺取成功的人们的沮丧情绪——使他得以研制出当时很了不起的一种工具。它能把人说的话转变为电脉冲，之后又在金属丝的末端使之还原成人说的话。就这样他打破了又一种孤寂，那种在此之前相距遥远的人一直无法通话的孤寂。一年之后，1877年，他同梅布尔结为夫妻，他后来

成为美国公民。

啊，全世界的赞美如雨点般倾注下来，荣誉来自四面八方。是的，他后来继续做出很多项发明。但对他本人来讲，帮助聋人所做的努力是最值得骄傲和自豪的。

所以，当法国政府因为他发明了电话而授予他沃尔塔奖金时，他用这笔奖金再加上他通过出售另一项发明所得到的钱，在华盛顿建立起沃尔塔办事处，为的就是为医治耳聋提供资金。现如今这一机构称作“亚历山大·格雷厄姆·贝尔协会”，它的作用已改为向全世界的聋人提供如何最有效地对付耳聋的最新资料。

亚历山大·格雷厄姆·贝尔死于1922年，5个月后，梅布尔也去世了，因为她太爱贝尔了。贝尔的名字很可能会像人类记忆历史那样永世长存。毕竟有了这样一件物品，它经常提醒人们，是贝尔使人类大家庭彼此得以保持更密切的联系。

通过电线传送的第一个声音，甚至使它的发明人亚历山大·格雷厄姆·贝尔都感到惊讶。一天深夜，贝尔正在实验室里做实验，他向在隔壁房间里的助手偶然传递的一个口信获得了成功。贝尔先生当时无法知道的是，1876年的那个夜晚将标志着通信革命的开始。

最初，每一对电话是用两根铁丝连接起来的。然后，交换台使电话线集中到一个地点，其他的发明——如放大声音的真空管和在陆上及海底连接长距离的同轴电缆——极大地扩展了电话服务。晶体管取代了真空管。到了20世纪60年代，通信卫星又消除了对地面线路的需要。今天，一束束的玻璃纤维用激光传递人们彼此间的通话。

这些发明当中有许多项发明——包括有声电影和立体声录音，随同23,000项其他专利——来自1925年建立的AT&T贝尔实验室。约翰·戴维斯是贝尔实验室消费产品部执行主任。他说，当我们进入90年代的时候，可以预计电信将具有更大的灵活性。

很难想象没有电话的世界是什么样子。我们的生活已变得要依靠把电脑同电话线连接在一起来购物、办理银行存款、取款手续，或者帮助我们完成一天的工作了。

当你走进办公室后，所做的第一件事就是打开电脑，提取出当天的电

子邮件。当然，你的电子信件不是通过邮箱送进来的，而是通过电话线输送进来的。好处是，你只需点击回复就能掉转方向把信息发给来信者，而不用费事写地址，贴邮票，装信封。

A man can succeed at almost anything for which he has unlimited enthusiasm.

——C.M.Schwab

无论何事，只要对它有无限的热情你就能取得成功。

——C.M.施瓦布

Leo Baekeland

In the opening scene of The Graduate, Benjamin raddock (played by a young Dustin Hoffman) is awkwardly working an affluent Southern California crowd at a graduation party **arranged** for him by his parents when a family friend offers one of the century's most famous pieces of cine-matic advice: "I just want to say one word to you. Just one word: plastics."

Millions of moviegoers winced and smiled. The scene neatly captured their own late '60s ambivalence toward the ever more synthetic landscape of their times. They loved their cheap, easy- to-clean Formica countertops, but envied- and longed for the **authentic** touch and time-lessness of marble and wood. The chord struck by that line in The Graduate under-scored how much had happened in the six decades since the summer of 1907, when Leo Baekeland made the laboratory break-through that would change the stuff our world is made of.

A Belgian-born chemist-entrepreneur, Baekeland had a knack for spotting profitable opportunities. He scored his first success in the 1890s with his **invention** of Velox, an improved photographic paper that freed photographers from having to use sunlight for developing images. With Velox, they could rely on artificial light, which at the time usually meant gaslight but soon came to mean electric. It was a far more dependable and convenient way to work. In 1899 George Eastman, whose cameras and developing services would make photography a household activity, bought full rights to Velox for the then astonishing sum of $ 1 million.

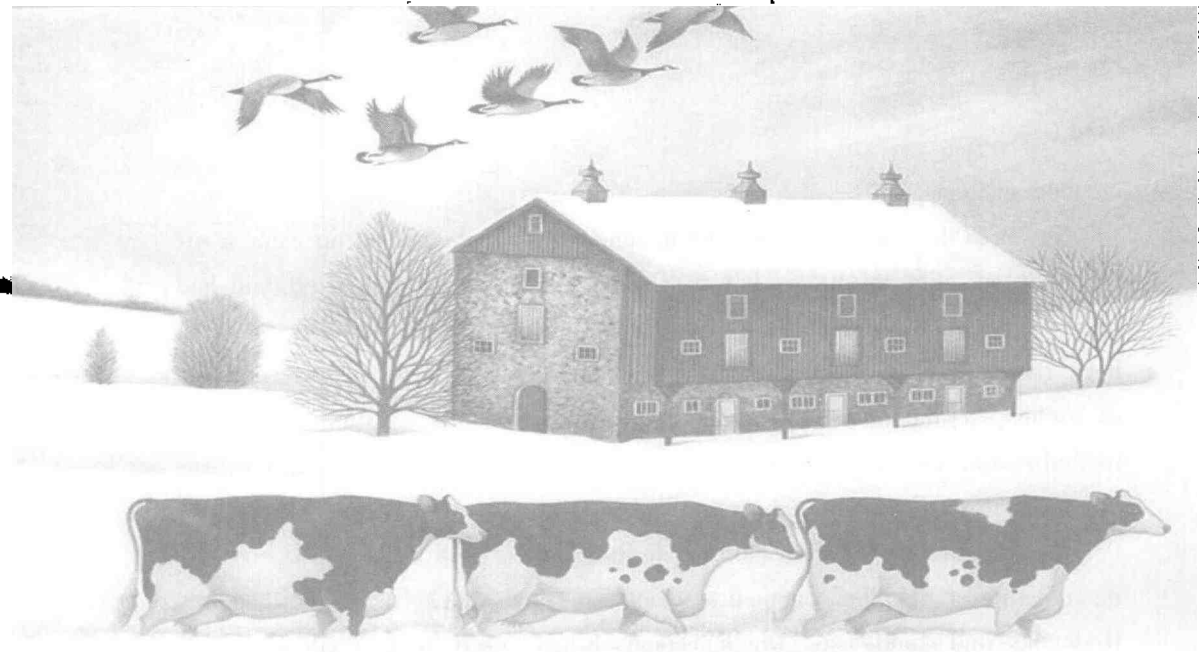
With that windfall, Baekeland, his wife Celina (known as "Bonbon") and two children moved to Snug Rock, a pala-tial estate north of Yonkers, N.Y., over-looking the Hudson River. There, in a barn he converted into a lab, he began foraging for his next big hit. It wasn't long before the burgeoning electrical industry seemed to say just one word to him: insulators.

The initial tease for Baekeland—"Doc Baekeland" to many—was the rising cost of shellac. For centuries, the resinous secretions that Laccifer lacca beetles de-posited on trees had provided a cottage in-dustry in southern Asia, where peasants heated and filtered it to produce a varnish for coating and preserving wood products. Shellac also happened to be an effective electrical insulator. Early electrical workers used it as a coating to insulate coils, and molded it into stand-alone insulators by pressing together layers of shellac-impreg-nated paper.

When electrification began in earnest in the first years of the century, demand for shellac soon outstripped supply. Baekeland recognized a killer ap when he saw one. If only he could come up with a synthetic substitute for shellac.

Others nearly beat him to it. As early as 1872, German chemist Adolf Von Baeyer was investigating the recalcitrant residue that gathered in the bottom of glass-ware that had been host to reactions be-tween phenol (a turpentine-like solvent dis-tilled from coal tar, which the gas-lighting industry produced in bulk) and formalde-hyde (an embalming fluid **distilled** from wood alcohol). Von Baeyer set his sights on new synthetic dyes, however, not insulators. To him, the ugly, insoluble gunk in his glassware was a sign of a dead end.

To Baekeland and others aiming to find commercial opportunities in the nascent electrical industry, that gunk was a signpost pointing toward something great. The chal-lenge for Baekeland and his rivals was to find some set of conditions—some slippery ratio of ingredients and heat and pressure that would yield a more workable, shellac-like substance. Ideally it would be some-thing that would dissolve in solvents to make insulating varnishes and yet be as mold-



able as rubber.

Starting around 1904, Baekeland and an assistant began their search. Three years later, after filling laboratory books with page after page of failed experiments, Baekeland finally developed a material that he dubbed in his notebooks "Bakelite". The key turned out to be his "bakelizer", a heavy iron vessel that was part pressure cooker and part basement boiler. With it, he was able to control the formaldehydephenol phenol reaction with more finesse than had anyone before him.

Initial heating of the phenol and formaldehyde (in the presence of an acid or base to get the reaction going) produced a shellac-like liquid good for coating surfaces like a varnish. Further heating turned the liquid into a pasty, gummier good. And when Baekeland put this stuff into the bakelizer, he was rewarded with a hard, translucent, infinitely moldable substance. In a word: plastic.

He filed patent applications and soon began leaking word of his invention to other chemists. In 1909 Baekeland un-veiled the world's first fully synthetic plas-tic at a meeting of the New York chapter of the American Chemical Society. Would-be customers discovered it could be fashioned into molded insulation, valve parts, pipe stems, billiard balls, knobs, buttons, knife handles and all