

designed to produce more fuel than they consume by converting large amounts of Uranium 238 into plutonium while generating electricity at the same time.

<sup>4</sup>On 27 August 1974, the Minister of Industry "considered illegal the risk linked to the exposure of many critical components to the maximum permissible doses" and that he modified the established limits of the quantity of waste. "Such regulation, the validity of which was in a first moment limited to 18 months, has been successively lengthened" (Pretura di Sessa Aurunca, 1981).

<sup>5</sup>At Garigliano they calculated that the occupational doses of an immediate decommissioning will raise the level of 3,000 to 4,000 man-rem.

<sup>6</sup>The report by Goddardet *et al.* "Activation of Steel Components," says that: "... the dose at the centre of the vessel is due largely to the presence of the thermal shield which even after 200 years of shut-down produces and intensity of about 15 millirem per hour; if the thermal shield is removed the dose intensity would be sustained by the stainless steel cladding adjacent to the core. An intensity of about 15 millirem per hour will exist 90 years after shut-down. The vessel alone would generate a comparable intensity after 45 years—the curve of dose intensity relative to the vessel

alone shows a different form from the other components. This is due mainly to the low percentage of europium present in the vessel steel based on the analyses which were carried out. For the linear and thermal shield the dose intensity is due almost entirely to Cobalt 60 in the first 50 years; do to Europium 152 from 50 to 120 years and finally to Niobium 94 and Ag-108m. For the vessel, however, there is a rapid transition from a period dominated by Cobalt 60 to when Niobium 94 and Ag-108m become important."

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C. F. COACH

#### Observation in a Park

A husband's hands say so much  
trailing lank and useless from summer  
wrists  
walking well behind his wife and her  
mother  
who are looking over the blooming rose  
bushes.  
He is waiting for his turn.

C. F. Coach lives in British Columbia.

JOANNA M. WESTON

#### Mirror, Mirror

This old woman  
peers at me  
some mornings  
asking  
"Who did you used to be?"

Joanna M. Weston lives beside a lake with her  
three sons, husband, and tortoiseshell cat.