

Famed Scientist Doubts That Man Can Construct H-Bomb

By RALPH DIGHTON

PASADENA, Calif., March 23. — (AP) — Dr. Robert A. Millikan, Nobel prize winning scientist, says he is not at all certain that man can make a hydrogen bomb.

He is frankly skeptical that any man-made device will ever split the earth asunder.

But it is true, he says, "That we and our possible adversary now possess the instruments to destroy each other."

Millikan was 82 Wednesday. In an interview commemorating the occasion, the man who first isolated and measured the electron and opened the way for present day atomic research observed:

"With all the talk about the hydrogen bomb, I'm not yet convinced that it's at all certain we can build such a bomb. Of course, if it were possible to make the hydrogen in all the seas combine at once into helium, we probably could explode the whole earth and transform it into a nebula."

"However, I'm still skeptical. I think it would take a warmer lady than mother earth to make such a horror possible."

Millikan, at 82, is known as the "billion volt sparkplug" of the California Institute of Technology. Although he "retired" as chairman of the school's executive council in 1945, he still maintains a pace that would kill many a younger man.

For instance: Only three years ago he traveled several thousand miles by truck on a cosmic ray expedition which started in Texas and wound up in Canada. His only complaint on this trip was that he couldn't "get the kids away early enough." The "kids" were professors half his age.

Regular Office Hours
Even now Millikan maintains regular office hours and makes flying trips over the country to keep speaking engagements. Since retiring he has completed his soon to be published autobiography and kept up with his duties as vice president of the Cal Tech board of trustees.

How will he spend his birthday? He addresses the faculty of Fresno, Calif., State college at noon, then flies back here to attend a dinner party.

With the wisdom of a man who has watched his country recover from Civil War (he was born in 1868) and grow into the strongest nation in the world, Millikan observes:

"We may be lost if we fail to maintain the American way of life against socialist trends which threaten our personal freedom."

"We must make it very plain to Russia that we will go ahead without her if she won't join with us in this deal. Above all, we must be too strong to be attacked, pacifists to the contrary."

Millikan's great physical energy almost kept him from being a scientist.

Born in Illinois
Born in Morristown, Ill., the son of a Congregational minister, he excelled in athletics and planned to teach physical education.

However, an instructor told him someone was needed as a teacher in physics. Up to that time, he hadn't even cracked a physics book, but he went on to win a Nobel prize in that field in 1923.

Millikan joined Cal Tech in 1921. A former member of the then small technical school's board of trustees, who begs anonymity, recalls: "We agreed to pay him a certain salary. At the end of the first year he told us that he could get along on less—that too much

money would be bad for his children. This really inspired us. We were willing to tear our shirts to help the doctor broaden Cal Tech's activities. After that, Cal Tech broke all growth records."

Most of Millikan's scientific achievements are too technical for the layman to comprehend. But it takes no special knowledge to understand that the multimillion dollar, world renowned institution that is Cal Tech is largely a monument to the non-academic efforts of this atomic scientist.

In Millikan's study, his desk is flanked by busts of Albert Einstein and Ben Franklin. They are symbolic of the two personalities that have merged in Millikan, a living superlative of twentieth-century man.

Looking back on his four score and two years of rich experience, Millikan says:

"I attribute my own fortunate breaks for which I could take no credit to what I choose to call my 'good fairy,' who worked very hard for me."

"However, I take credit for a few wise decisions myself. For while the great architect had to direct, alone, the earlier stages, it is our sense of responsibility for playing our part to the best of our ability that makes us God-like."

Enterprise Club Raided; Gambling Devices Seized

ENTERPRISE, March 23. — (AP) — The frontier club was raided Tuesday night by Sheriff Gilbert J. Cox and state police who seized a number of gambling devices.

Joseph A. Babic, owner of the club, was arrested and on appearance before Justice George Rogers posted \$500 bond and was granted 24 hours' delay in entering a plea.

The sheriff reported seizing one slot machine, 17 punchboards, two electric clocks said to be gambling devices and two dice boards.

Several weeks ago state police raided a number of Wallowa county establishments, confiscating slot machines which had been licensed by municipalities and were operated openly.

Soldier's Right To Take Jap Wife Home Approved

WASHINGTON, March 23. — (AP) — A measure to permit Army Corp. John K. Stevenson, Portland, Ore., to bring his Japanese wife to this country won approval of the House Wednesday.

The measure now goes to the Senate.

Stevenson served in the occupation army in Japan. There he married a Japanese girl in 1946. They now have a son, Shawn.

The corporal's enlistment expires in September. He wants to take his wife and son to Portland, but the special legislation is required.

A cow has been found to utilize up to 25 pounds of chopped white potatoes a day in milk production.

SECTION TWO

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ROSEBURG, OREGON—THURSDAY, MAR. 23, 1950

★ ★ 69-30



COURT OF HONOR—Eight scouts received second class awards and one received a first class award at a court of honor for Boy Scout troop 7 at the American Legion hall last Thursday night. The boys' parents were present to pin the badges on their sons. Pictured above, left to right, are Bob Phillips, a member of the board of review and troop committee; Joe Levine, who received his first class award; John Joelson, Jeff Schulze, Ste-

ven Reed, Carroll Dago, Carl Johnson, Arthur Mandville and Leonard Chamberlain, second class awards, and Ervin Best, assistant scoutmaster. Kenneth Overton, second class, and Scoutmaster Roy Lorange were not present for the picture. Members of the board of review, in addition to Phillips, were Roy O. Young, Erwin Short, Paul Caskey, Mr. Tobias and George Trapolis.—(Picture by Paul Jenkins).

Eugene Youths Charged With Negligent Homicide

EUGENE, March 23. — (AP) — A coroner's jury Wednesday afternoon brought in a verdict of negligent homicide against two teen-aged youths in an inquest into the deaths of two small sisters on River road, north of Eugene, on Sunday afternoon.

Testimony during the morning-long inquest developed the fact that a second driver, Andrew Holland, 16, of 638 Sunnyside Drive, was also involved in the deaths, in addition to Robert Lee Richardson, age 16, who was previously charged with reckless driving.

The hearing established, in the opinion of four of the six jury members, that both Richardson and Holland were instrumental in the deaths of Marlene Poyce Myers, 11, and her sister, Bonnie Jean, age 5. The findings of the coroner's jury will next go through court channels and possibly to the grand jury.

The finding was based on testimony of an eye-witness to the accident, who said that Richardson's car had struck the girls and that the Holland car ran over them.

University Science Building Construction Approved

PORTLAND, March 23. — (AP) — Contracts for construction of a science classroom and laboratory building at the University of Oregon were approved here.

Work is to start within 30 days and should be finished in 18 months.

The State Board of Higher Education, acting through a committee, awarded the general work to Ross B. Hammond company, Portland, on a low bid of \$689,629. Buchanan company, Portland, got the mechanical installation job for

Misses Dog, Hits Child

SEATTLE, March 23. — (AP) — Charles Sheridan took a lousy swipe with a broom at the family dog—a big setter—in an attempt to shoo the dog from the living room today.

He missed, and his three-year-old Steven went to the hospital with a possible cerebral concussion. He walked into the room just as Sheridan swung.

A small electric light bulb left burning in a closet will reduce dampness.

U. S. State Dept. Refuses Passport For Research Trip

ROCHESTER, N. Y., March 23. — (AP) — The University of Rochester says the U. S. State department has refused a passport to Dr. Bernard Peters, 38, research physicist, for a trip to India to study cosmic rays.

University officials said the State department gave no reason.

The studies were to be sponsored and financed by the U. S. office of naval research.

Peters, a German-educated native of Poland, came to this country in 1934 and became a citizen in 1940. He first located at the University of California. He shifted to the University of Rochester in 1946.

In 1948, while enroute to England to attend a scientific meeting as a representative of the office of naval research, he was questioned in France by navy security officers, who took away his navy credentials.

Alan Valentini, president of the university, in a written statement, said that from his "most complete personal investigation possible . . . nothing has emerged which in my opinion should impair our confidence in Dr. Peters as a scientist, professor or American citizen."

Air Force Calls For Added Guard Of Atomic Works

WASHINGTON, March 23. — (AP) — The Air Force ordered additional fighter units to the Pacific Northwest Wednesday to guard the air approaches to the Hanford, Wash., atomic works and other vital defense plants.

It announced that headquarters of the 81st fighter-interceptor wing and two of its fighter squadrons are being moved from Kirtland base, Albuquerque, N. M., to the Moses Lake, Wash., base.

This wing is equipped with North American "Sabre" jet fighters. About 1200 persons will be included in the transfer.

One squadron of the 81st wing will remain at Kirtland, home of the U. S. Special weapons command.

In addition, the Air Force disclosed that squadrons of the 325th all-weather fighter wing already stationed in the Pacific Northwest

State Production Workers Average \$65.86 Per Week

SALEM, March 23. — (AP) — Oregon's production workers in manufacturing industries received an average weekly pay check of \$65.86 in the last three months of 1949, the State Unemployment Compensation commission said.

Oregon's average is second highest among the 37 states now being surveyed by the U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics and state unemployment compensation commissions. Wyoming was first with \$69.47, but its average work-week was 1 1/2 hours longer than the average work week of 38 1/2 hours in Oregon.

Washington, just under \$65, was third, and California followed at less than \$62.

The average for all 37 states was \$65.47.

The printing and publishing industry paid the highest average wage, \$73.40. But the lumber industry, which employs 69 percent of the state's 125,000 production workers, did well, too. The average in this industry was \$70.32.

The December average weekly earnings amounted to \$67.86 in all better than for the last three months of last year.

Following are the average weekly wages by industries for the three-month period:

Durable goods, \$69.34; non-durable goods, \$65.61; food and allied products, \$49.75; canning and preserving, \$44.33; other food products, \$41.29; textiles and apparel, \$45.65; lumber and wood products, \$70.32; logging and sawmills, \$70.84; other wood products, \$69.65; furniture and fixtures, \$37.11; paper and allied products, \$67.33; printing and publishing, \$73.40; metals, \$65.81; machinery, \$64.11; other manufacturing, \$62.67.

Having A Party? See The Red Censor First

WARSAW, Poland, March 23. — (AP) — Even cocktail party invitations must be passed by the censor under Poland's new law governing all printed material.

The British embassy found out about it yesterday when a Warsaw printer refused an order for invitation cards to a farewell party for Sir Donald Gairner, the retiring British ambassador.

The printer cited a new-law which requires prior approval by the press censor of all material to be printed. The embassy sent a formal note to the press minister asking it to approve the wording of the invitations.

will be equipped late this summer with Lockheed F-94 radar-equipped jet fighters.

These squadrons now have North American F-82 "Twin Mustang" planes with piston engines.

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Same as Style A except for belt front and back, and gold finish anchor buckle.

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Rayon Lustre Cossack Jackets
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