

Mild Sleeping Sickness Plague Hits Rio Grande

EDINBURG, Tex. (AP) — An outbreak of sleeping sickness in a mild form had health authorities in this lower Rio Grande Valley city planning a massive mosquito-eradication campaign today.

Preliminary tests indicated it was a relatively harmless form of encephalitis, the dread brain cell-destroying sleeping sickness, which turned up among persons first suspected of having polio.

Dr. Charles H. Miller, head of

the Hidalgo County Health Unit, said "more than 600 persons, may or may not be infected" and that laboratory tests were awaited.

State Health Officer Henry Holle said in Austin that 400 to 600 persons had the disease.

Dr. Miller announced that U.S. Public Health Service and Texas State Health Department are co-operating in a big mosquito-killing drive to be launched Tuesday.

Meanwhile, he asked citizens of this city of about 15,000 people and others in the populous semi-tropical county to help.

Clean up old trash, repair broken windows and door screens, cut high weeds and remove all water standing in pools, he urged. Dr. Miller said it had not yet been determined that the particular virus in this encephalitis outbreak is carried by mosquitoes and said the eradication program was a protective measure.

Batchelor Says Reds Wanted Him To Head Spy Ring

SAN ANTONIO, Tex. (AP) — A former North Korean War prisoner, being tried on charges of collaborating with the enemy says the Chinese Reds wanted him to lead a super-secret organization to work with Communists in the United States.

The statement was made by Cpl. Claude Batchelor to an Army intelligence officer in Tokyo early this year and introduced here Friday at the Kermit, Tex., soldier's court-martial.

Batchelor said that when he decided to stay with the Reds — a decision he later reversed — the Reds "had to find another prisoner in whom they could put trust and faith to carry on this project."

Batchelor said they decided on William C. Skipper but "I am not certain that he got the job."

Batchelor said they decided on enson, Big Stone Gap, Va., were among the 23 Americans who originally chose to stay with the Reds. They were the only two among the 23 POWs to change their minds and return to U.S. hands. Dekenson, already sentenced to 10 years at hard labor on charges similar to those against Batchelor, is to testify in the court-martial here.



GETTING AN EYEFUL — Joey, a parakeet, can't get much closer for a friendly word to pal Boomer, a boxer. They're pets of Mrs. B. Willocks, of Sidley, Kent, England.

Plywood Makers Request Tariff

WASHINGTON (AP) — The hardwood plywood institute, claiming several industry losses, announced Friday it has asked for tariff changes and quotas on cheaply produced foreign hard plywoods.

The institute, which said it represents makers of 60 per cent of U. S. commercial hardwood plywood output, contended the domestic-import ratio has shrunk from 12 to 1 square feet in 1951 to 2 1/2 to 1 this year. It said the price index has dropped almost 7 points in a year and estimated wage losses at more than five million dollars.

Tariff concessions have been made three times in the last 19 years, the institute said, and the last revision in 1950 provided for rate reductions up to 50 per cent.

The institute aimed its application to the Tariff Commission mainly at imports from Japan and Finland. Production costs in Canada do not permit prices comparable to the "unfair prices" charged by manufacturers in those countries, it said.

Philippine Train Wreck Toll 55 Killed, 47 Hurt

MANILA (AP) — The Insular Lumber Co. said Saturday 55 persons were killed and 47 were injured when a logging train piled up on a bridge Thursday.

A company official said previous reports that 82 persons were killed resulted from duplications in lists of casualties.

Of the 47 persons injured, 36 are still hospitalized and two were so critically hurt they may die, the company said.

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Farmer Faces Charge Of Beating Daughters

CORINTH, Miss. (AP) — A farmer accused of beating his two infant daughters has been released in \$10,000 bond.

M. O. Holloway of near Reinz, Miss., was charged with assault and battery with force likely to produce death.

Mrs. Holloway said her husband broke their 9-month-old daughter's leg last January and had since broken the child's arm twice. Their 2-year-old daughter was once beaten so badly surgery was necessary, the mother said.

She also testified Holloway often stopped the children from crying "by holding his hands over the mouth and nose until they would pass out."

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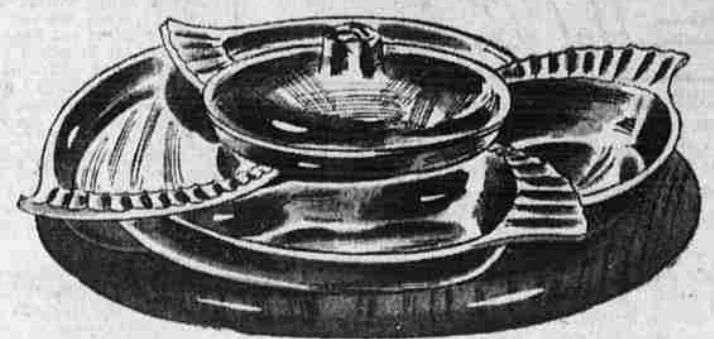
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