

Sinister Drug Still Found In Use, Says FDA Official

WASHINGTON (UPI) — Some quantities of the drug Thalidomide, which may cause babies to be born severely deformed, have been found in use in the last few days, George P. Larrick, commissioner of the Food and Drug Administration, said today.

Indonesian Woman Is Living With W. T. McCoy Family

"This area is much the same as my homeland, Indonesia, especially the terrain and small homes," says Mrs. Alfred Van Praag, who is a new immigrant to the United States.



MRS. ALFRED VAN PRAAG lives in Winston

Besides the rolling hills, even the climates are alike, she remarked.

Mrs. Praag, who arrived here July 23, traveled to this country from Holland under the sponsorship of the Christian World Service plan. She is residing with and working for Mr. and Mrs. William T. McCoy of Winston.

Her husband, a bookkeeper, and two children, a daughter, 19, and a son, 22, remain in Holland until such time as a sponsor can be found for them, Mrs. Praag says.

She was born and raised in Indonesia and moved to Holland in 1954 when Indonesia gained its independence. Her father was Dutch and her mother part Dutch and Indonesian.

Rural, City Firemen Called To Grass Fire

Roseburg's Rural and City Fire Departments were called out at 1:45 p.m. Tuesday to quench a grass fire at the north end of the Roseburg Airport.

The fire burned between 8 and 10 acres in a vacant lot. No damage resulted, and no cause was listed for the blaze.

The Rural Fire Department also received a call at 1:20 p.m. Tuesday to handle a small grass fire on NW Keasey Rd. The blaze was reported to have been set by two small boys playing in the grass.

At 4:10 this morning the Rural Fire Department reported a fire at 1231 Keasey Rd. The fire started in an overstuffed chair, apparently from a smoldering cigarette. The chair was taken outside where the firemen extinguished the blaze. Damage to the chair owned by Robert Ervin was estimated at \$25.

Driving With No License Nets Five Days In Jail

Clifford Ernest Anderson, 19, of Boring, was sentenced to five days in jail and fined \$100 and costs after pleading guilty in Douglas County District Court Monday to a charge of driving on a suspended license.

The charge stemmed from a Roseburg state police complaint issued June 17.

In Reedsport Municipal Court, Woodrow Wilson Horton, 19, of Coos Bay, was sentenced to 30 days in jail on conviction of driving while under the influence of intoxicants.

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drugs in question might have been brought back from abroad.

Larrick said FDA and customs inspectors cannot take drugs away from travellers because this might threaten their health and perhaps their lives.

A government operations subcommittee summoned FDA and public health officials to ask them how research information on potentially dangerous drugs is exchanged between agencies of government and nations.

Chairman Hubert H. Humphrey said the tragic consequences of the use of Thalidomide pointed up the "appalling" gap between the billions of dollars spent on research and the use which is made of the information thus obtained.

Sent to Physicians
Larrick said the drug Thalidomide was sent to about 1,200 physicians for experimental use.

Under the law, he said, firms may make experimental drugs available to "experts" of their choosing for tests to evaluate the safety of the medicine.

"This is a loophole through which you could drive a South Dakota wagonload of hay," Sen. Karl E. Mundt, R-S.D., commented. "They can experiment on an unlimited number of people — through an unlimited number of outlets."

Under questioning, Larrick said the patients do not have to be informed that they are taking experimental drugs.

Humphrey did not say when the hearings would resume. But a committee aide said it would be necessary now to "sit back and take a long look at what we heard."

In response to a reporter's question, Humphrey said he thought the Merrell Company, which produced the drug in this country, "acted responsibly" in the Thalidomide affair.

The senators also questioned Dr. Frances Kelsey, the FDA medical officer who managed to keep Thalidomide off the commercial market in the United States, thus preventing perhaps thousands of deformed babies.

Praises Mrs. Kelsey
Humphrey said Mrs. Kelsey's skill and diligence saved the States from a tragedy that will strike an estimated 5,000 mothers in Europe, where the drug originated.

Dr. Kelsey was asked by a reporter about the case of Mrs. Sherri Finkbine, an Arizona mother who said she wanted an abortion because her child might be deformed.

The reporter said reports published in Arizona said there was a 50-50 chance Mrs. Finkbine's child would be deformed. Dr. Kelsey cited West German statistics, which she said showed there was a 20 per cent chance for an abnormal birth.

Thalidomide can cause babies to be born severely deformed. Dr. Kelsey, a 47-year-old, Canadian-born physician whose first task at the FDA was handling the thalidomide case, blocked the drug for commercial sale after stumbling by chance on a British medical journal article which indicated the drug was not harmless.

Humphrey said a preliminary study showed a serious lack of coordination between U.S. authorities and researchers abroad.

Sen. Jacob K. Javits, R-N.Y., planned to ask the doctor about pressures reported to have been exerted on the FDA to clear the drug for sale. A tabulation prepared by the FDA for Sen. Estes Kefauver, D-Tenn., showed that the pill's manufacturer, William S. Merrell Co., contacted the FDA 50 times to press for approval.

Some of the contacts, it said, were "very vigorous."

Javits also urged a Senate investigation of the possible risks involved in giving experimental drugs to patients "without their consent."

George E. Bender

George E. Bender, 47, died July 28 at the Veterans Hospital in Roseburg.

He was born in Clinton, Ind., March 13, 1915. He was a veteran of World War II, having served in the Navy.

He is survived by two sisters, Mrs. Fern Watkins of Florence, Ore., and Mrs. Ruth Spill of Astoria, Ore.

Funeral services will be held the latter part of the week at the Willamette National Cemetery in Portland. Ganz Mortuary of Myrtle Creek is in charge of arrangements.

Oakland Bloodmobile Visit Rated Success

The Oakland visit of the Bloodmobile was successful with a total of 44 pints of blood collected, according to Mrs. R. D. Stearns of the committee in charge.

In all 58 persons came to the Legion Hall to give blood, but 12 were temporarily deferred for one reason or another.

Three Oakland men received their gold pins for being one gallon donors with this visit.

Beta Pi Chapter of ESA offered praise to everyone who worked at the Bloodmobile and those who came to be donors for their support of the program, Mrs. Stearns said.

Sandra Blore

Graveside funeral services for Sandra Leslie Blore, 4-month-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Blore, will be held Friday at the Roseburg Memorial Gardens at 2 p.m.

The Rev. John Goss of the Southern Baptist Church will officiate. The infant died Sunday. She was born April 14 in Roseburg.

She is survived by her parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Blore; a half-sister, Tevora Blore; three half-brothers, Myron and Steven Blore and Robert Kesterson, all of Roseburg; her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Frank L. Blore of Medford and Mr. and Mrs. Russell Kesterson of Winston; and a niece, Wilson's Chapel of the Roses, Roseburg, is in charge of arrangements.

Three Ask Bankruptcy

Three Roseburg men have filed for bankruptcy in U. S. District Court in Portland.

They are Virgil Dean Martin of 330 SE Henry St., Donald D. Ellingson of 4620 NE Stephens St., and Ronald M. Ronholdt of 3148 W. Harvard Ave.

Martin, a logger, reports debts of \$2,512.28; Ellingson reports debts of \$4,015; and Ronholdt, a mechanic, reports \$5,429.11.

Arthur Cole

Memorial services for Arthur Cole, an Oregon pioneer from Portland, are scheduled Thursday at 11 a.m. (DST) in the Mt. Scott Funeral Home at Portland.

Cole, 79, came to Oregon in a covered wagon in 1898.

He is survived by his wife, Elizabeth of Portland; a daughter, Juanita Elertson of Boring; two sisters, Florence and Violette Cole of Roseburg; two brothers, Lloyd and Maynard Cole of Roseburg; one grandchild; and several cousins.

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Reedsport Firm Lowest On River Levee Bidding

Low bid of \$13,935 for construction of bank protection works at Leeds Island levee on the left bank of the Umpqua River was submitted by Umpqua River Navigation Co. of Reedsport. Bid was opened Monday by the Portland Army Engineer District.

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