

Editorial Page

4 The News-Review, Roseburg, Ore.—

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 1, 1963

Oregon Radioactivity Levels Safe

Changes in the weather, mutations of man, animal and plant, even the race riots have at one time or another been blamed on the atmospheric testing of nuclear arms. Also causing worry at intervals is the effect of radioactive fallout on milk.

Mothers of babies have expressed fear their children would suffer from the effect of radiation which had concentrated in milk because of the nuclear blasts.

Since March 1962, the state Board of Health has monitored milk from around the state to determine if levels of radiation are dangerous.

The harried mothers can rest easy. There are no reasons for worry.

To begin with, the state board's latest bulletin reports that radiation, even without the nuclear explosions, is always with us. Cosmic rays bombard the earth from outer space, and radioactive materials are present naturally in the body, ground, sea and air.

This radiation background causes few difficulties. The question arises when concentrated massive quantities of radioactive materials are spread around. The fear, of course, is that long-term hereditary effects will be felt.

With this in mind, public health agencies have taken the job of determining degree of contamination to the environment and setting control measures when they are found necessary.

One of the best ways of making the determination of dangers is by the repeated tests on milk. Milk is only one of the many sources by which radioactivity can be taken into the body. But it is the food item most useful as an indicator of the intake of the radioactive material.

The state Board of Health's program since 1962 has been to test half-gallon samples of packaged pasteurized milk from points around the state. Nearest Roseburg, the sampling points are Coos Bay, Eugene and Medford.

The three radioactive particle types

which have caused the concern over nuclear explosions have been strontium 90, iodine 131 and cesium 137. Strontium 90 deposits itself in the bones. It has historically been considered the most potentially dangerous. It falls at the greatest intensity in the spring and early summer and in areas of heavy rainfall. Milk products supply about 50 per cent of the total strontium 90 intake. But so far the level of the radioactive material has been far below the danger level.

Iodine 131 goes like a homing pigeon to the thyroid gland. Thus, any effects are limited primarily to the gland area. Here, too, the radiation tests show that the levels are below the danger levels for even the most susceptible group — infants and children.

The third radioactive particle which shows up in milk is cesium, which is distributed throughout the body, particularly in the soft tissues. The Federal Radiation Council (a federal advisory group) doesn't even consider it of enough concern to worry about. Nonetheless, the state board is continuing to test for it. During the last 12-month period, its levels have been very low below the danger level.

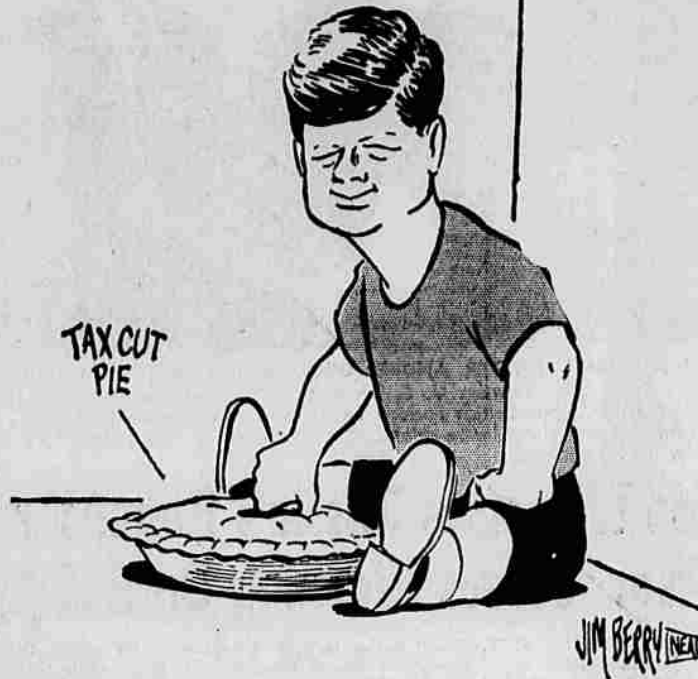
So, the picture is fine for now. But what of the future? The answer is that the state board will continue its regular testing program.

The reservoir of radioactive materials in the stratosphere will continue to exist for a number of years. As a matter of fact, the levels in 1963 are expected to be higher than they were last year. This is reason enough to keep up the testing procedure so warnings and combative measures can be made in case of danger.

In the event the atmospheric nuclear device testing moratorium continues, the state board predicts the radioactivity will continue below levels which should cause undue concern or justify protective measures. Even these low levels of radioactivity will drop lower.

In other words, there's no need to worry.

"He Stuck in His Thumb and . . ."



News Analysis

DeGaulle Hinting Re-Election Plan



By PHIL NEWSOM

Among President Charles de Gaulle's detractors at home, the charge most frequently voiced against him is that he has "isolated" France.

His independent nuclear policy is isolating him from the United States and his NATO allies, and is imposing upon France a heavy financial burden.

His "grand design" for France, which led him to ban Britain from the continent as a member of the European Common Market, has irritated not only Britain but also West Germany, with whom he seeks especially close ties.

His independent nuclear policy is isolating him from the United States and his NATO allies, and is imposing upon France a heavy financial burden.

In addition, the grand design is threatened by internal pressures.

There is mounting unrest in labor and among French farmers.

Inflationary pressures threaten the "hard franc" which helped transform France from the "sick man of Europe" to one of the healthiest.

Among aging world leaders few would admit that another man could do the job better. Least

among these would be De Gaulle.

Hinting At Second Term

And so it comes as no surprise that De Gaulle is beginning to drop hints that he will seek a second term as president of the French Fifth Republic.

Because all of the projects under attack are particularly De Gaulle's.

The strongest hint of De Gaulle's intentions thus far came in his current tour of France's Rhone Valley.

He said that for a quarter of a century he had understood the wishes of the French people.

"I am determined to continue to do so since I have the strength."

De Gaulle's present seven-year term ends at the close of 1965. On Nov. 22 of this year, he will be 73.

For some time now the question of De Gaulle's successor has been a favorite subject of speculation among French newspapers.

But recently the same newspapers which had been pulling out the names of various "crown princes" suddenly erupted with reports that De Gaulle might not quit after all.

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Tito Sets Official Visit To Mexico

BELGRADE, Yugoslavia (UPI)—President Tito of Yugoslavia will pay an official two-week visit to Mexico starting Oct. 3, the Tanjug news agency said today.

Tanjug said Tito, accompanied by his wife, will be making a return visit in response to the one Mexican President Adolfo Lopez Mateos made to Yugoslavia earlier this year.

Tito already has visited Brazil, Chile and Bolivia and his visit to Mexico will conclude his tour of Latin America.

The Yugoslav president will remain in Mexico until Oct. 16. He is scheduled to pay an official visit to the United States on Oct. 17 at the invitation of President Kennedy.

Following his one-day visit to Washington, Tito will attend the United Nations General Assembly session at U.N. headquarters in New York.

Fir Grove PTA Sets Special Speakers

The first fall meeting of the Fir Grove PTA will be held in the multipurpose room at the school on Monday, Oct. 7, at 7:30 p.m.

For the program, Eldon Caley will speak on the tax referendum to be voted upon Oct. 15 and Jim Phillips, sixth grade teacher and coach, will explain how the athletic program at the school is carried out. Phillips will also outline in detail how athletic awards may be won.

Teachers will be introduced during the meeting. Refreshments will be served. All parents are urged to attend.

Among his possible political successors are many who gladly would welcome Britain into a united Europe, scrap De Gaulle's own grand design and willingly sacrifice some French sovereignty in exchange for that unity.

Before he steps down, De Gaulle wants to be sure that France irrevocably is bound to the course he has outlined.

One theory gaining ground is that De Gaulle may decide to quit dramatically next year and then announce a plan to run again as his own successor with a hand-picked vice president. This would permit him to build up and train his man and then perhaps to quit around 1970.

It would require constitutional changes which would be nothing new to De Gaulle who is used to having his own way. But what ever his plan, De Gaulle has no intention of becoming a lame duck.

GAME CONTROVERSY PENDING

It would appear that an interesting and heated public hearing is in prospect for two days, Oct. 3 and 4.

Two legislative committees, one from California and one from Oregon are to hold joint meetings at Yreka, Oct. 3, and Klamath Falls, Oct. 4.

The topic concerns management of the migratory herd. This is a herd of deer that moves back and forth across the Oregon-California border, chiefly in Klamath and Modoc counties.

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Probing questions: Is the world getting better? Or is it getting worse?

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It's an interesting thought. It prompts this question: Just what did happen to this traveler of the long ago? St. Luke tells the story thus:

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"And by chance there came down a certain priest that way; and when he saw him he passed by on the other side. And likewise a Levite, when he was at the place, came and looked on him, and passed by on the other side."

"But a certain Samaritan, as he journeyed, came where he was;

THE LIGHTER SIDE:



'Pragmatic' Tack Taken By Senator

By DICK WEST

WASHINGTON (UPI)—One of the favorite words that the pundits use in describing the New Frontier is "pragmatic."

As seen from the ivory tower, the Kennedy administration takes a pragmatic approach to just about everything from nuclear fallout to public school dropouts.

When this word first began turning up in the editorial page columns, a lot of readers weren't sure what it meant. My wife, for instance,

"Can you explain to me the meaning of pragmatic?" she asked me one evening.

"Of course," I said. "It is a type of automobile transmission."

"Well, what does this columnist mean when he says President Kennedy's approach to politics is pragmatic?"

Not Entirely Accurate

"That means that he runs his campaigns in overdrive," I explained.

I have since learned that my explanation may not have been entirely accurate. Pragmatic can mean just about anything you want it to mean, but there is some doubt that its jurisdiction includes auto gear boxes.

Perhaps the best way to explain what pragmatic means is by example. By coincidence, I happen to have a good one handy.

Recently a girl Marine stationed at San Diego, Calif., became engaged to a fellow Leatherneck. They wanted to get married in December, when his enlistment would be up.

But he had been promised a job in Nebraska and she would not have completed her tour of duty by that time. So she wrote to Rep. Lionel Van Deerlin, D-Calif., to inquire if the congressman could arrange for her to be discharged early.

Regulations Are Strict

"Military regulations are strict, and properly so, in regard to duration of service," Van Deerlin replied. "After exploring the question at some length, I learn there is just one condition under which the regulations can be waived."

"Second only to its tradition of patriotism, the Marine Corps reveres motherhood. The corps goes

In Days Gone By

Review
Taken from the files of the News-

40 YEARS AGO
Oct. 1, 1923

The patrons of Azalea School had a very enjoyable meeting when the school was standardized, the event being made the occasion of an all-day picnic and entertainment.

25 YEARS AGO
Oct. 1, 1938

Affairs of the proposed Roberts Creek Water District were complicated today by a restraining order issued by the U.S. District Court on petition of the Southern Pacific Co. The railroad company charges that a portion of its right-of-way is included in the proposed district and that a tax would be levied against such property although the company would derive no benefit.

Forest fires, tax foreclosures and pension exemptions during the past year caused a reduction of more than \$120,000 in assessed valuation in Douglas County, according to Assessor Barton Hellewell.

10 YEARS AGO
Oct. 1, 1953

After three ponderous, word-filled hours in the Umpqua Civic Room, a Retail Trades Association was reactivated in Roseburg, and the off-street parking question was tossed in the lap of the Chamber of Commerce.

Paul Bender, who tallied the majority of votes in Winston's first municipal election in August, this week was named the first mayor of the county's newest incorporated city.

STREETS RENAMED

ELIZABETHVILLE, The Congo (UPI)—Elizabethville's main street, Avenue de L'Etoile, recently was renamed after Moise Tshombe, president of Katanga during its secession from the Central Congo government.

Other major streets here were named after members of Tshombe's government.

The Almanac

By United Press International
Today is Tuesday, Oct. 1, the 274th day of 1963 with 91 to follow.

The moon is approaching its full phase.

The morning stars are Mercury and Jupiter.

The evening stars are Jupiter and Saturn.

On this day in history:

In 1903, the first baseball World Series got under way at Boston as the Boston American League team played the National League team from Pittsburgh.

In 1908, Henry Ford introduced the model-T Ford automobile.

In 1938, German troops crossed into the Sudeten area of Czechoslovakia and enslaved one-million Czechs.

In 1962, James Meredith registered at the University of Mississippi and became the first Negro ever to attend classes there.

A thought for the day—Automaker Henry Ford said: "History is bunk."

Reader Opinions

Community Was United In A Spiritual Cause

To The Editor:

Something fine is built into a community when it unites in a common cause.

This "inner strength" was demonstrated and enjoyed this past week in the Two Great Days With The Bible emphasis.

The splendid way in which 23 different churches united in this effort gave evidence of a new solidarity and mutual appreciation within the Christian fellowship of this area.

Please know of our appreciation for the fine coverage provided by the News-Review and share with the entire community our joy in its thorough support of this project.

Such a response has strengthened our desire to help fill the spiritual vacuum of our community with a united witness.

James C. Smith, general chairman, Two Great Days With The Bible
143 W. Liburn Ave.
Roseburg, Ore.

'Days Gone By' Report Recalls Past For Man

To The Editor:

The excerpts from Mrs. Ellsburys' News-Review column of advice 40 years ago, repeated in recent issues, revived an almost forgotten memory of how her column rocked my native Camas Valley when I was a high school student there in that far-away era. The good lady herself probably wasn't aware of it.

During the earliest period of her columning, Mrs. Ellsbury had the custom of identifying by post office the communities from which she received letters asking advice, though names, of course, were never printed. So we were much interested to read, one day, a letter from a supposed Camas Valley teen-ager asking advice about her current romantic interest. The letter contained enough details so that in a small community the

supposed writer was easily identified. Mrs. Ellsbury answered with what was no doubt some very sensible counseling.

About a week later another Camas Valley letter appeared in the Ellsburys' column, purportedly from another local girl in need of handling her love affairs—past, present or hoped-for. And Mrs. Ellsburys' enterprise continued to be probably the most intensely-read feature that the News-Review ever circulated in Camas Valley, as other letters easily identifying other young ladies appeared week after week. The author or authors of the fanciful series were never revealed, though some perhaps shrewd guesses were made by the process of elimination. It ended at about the time the list of possible subjects ran out. And about that time, for whatever reason, Mrs. Ellsbury ceased printing the post office addresses from which her correspondence came.

It was about the same time that the late Bert G. Bates in his adjoining "Fruite Pickins" column offered a comment on a new feminine fashion considered by some quite intriguing and by others quite scandalous:

"O Mrs. Ellsburys, do tell me, please, if I roll my socks, should I powder my knees?"

Wilfred Brown
News Department
American Broadcasting Co.
Los Angeles, Calif.

Slaying Suspect Due To Enter Plea Monday

PORTLAND (UPI)—Robert Evans, 26, Honolulu, has been scheduled to enter a plea in Circuit Court here next Monday to a charge of first degree murder.

Evans, a Hawaiian-born mechanic, is accused of the strangulation death of Mrs. Irene Davis, a 41-year-old wealthy heiress from Payette, Idaho, whose body was found in a room at the Portland Hilton Hotel Aug. 6.

Evans later was taken into custody at Fremont, Neb.

The Editor's Corner

By Charles V. Stanton

Experimental Diets Grow Bigger Fish In Hatchery

Do your children rush home from school and demand a peanut butter sandwich? And do they speak of those of us who don't like peanut butter as "poor fish?" Perhaps they are speaking more truly than we know.

At least, according to preliminary reports from the Bureau of Sports Fisheries and Wildlife, of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, fish fed on peanut oil are a lot better off than those subsisting on normal diet.

At Longview, Wash., where the bureau has a salmon culture laboratory, some 350,000 salmon are being reared on experimental diets. One lot was given a 30 per cent protein diet, supplemented by the addition of peanut oil.

This lot of fish was larger than the control group, more disease resistant, withstood handling better and rated higher in stamina tests than did the group fed fewer energy calories in otherwise comparable rations.

So, though today's youngsters can't be classed as fish, perhaps they react as do salmon to peanut oil, and their after school sandwiches are one source of their tremendous energy—an energy to which tired parents attest.

Our hatcheries once ground up canner refuse, liver from packing plants and other animal matter kept if refrigerated and cast this diet into their ponds.

Today, however, there has been developed a pellet used in our state hatcheries and by commercial fish growers. This pellet contains not only a minimum of animal matter but is made up of alfalfa, various vegetable products, contains vitamins, calories, medicines, and what-have-you, with the result that our hatcheries are producing bigger fish, cutting down on losses from parasites and disease, and in other ways are doing a much better job than they did only a few years ago.

We veteran fishermen once held to the belief that artificial flies, worms, salmon eggs or spinners were the only lure with which fish could be caught. Now it looks like the new generation of anglers will be able to offer a peanut butter sandwich or an alfalfa tidbit.

After all, they're catching fish in Diamond Lake on hunks of cheese!

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'Clock Of Doom' Moved Backwards

CHICAGO (UPI)—The clock of "nuclear doom" on the cover of the Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists has been moved back for the second time in 17 years in recognition of the nuclear test ban agreement.

In January, 1960, the clock on the magazine cover moved back from two minutes to midnight to seven minutes until midnight.

This, the magazine said, was because the public and government leaders had begun to recognize the "revolutionary consequences" of nuclear warfare.

The cover clock first appeared on the Bulletin in June, 1947, a year and a half after its founding. The first clock had its hands set at eight minutes until midnight.

The hands of the clock were moved forward to three minutes until midnight in October, 1949, after the Soviet Union exploded its first atom bomb. The hands were moved forward to two minutes until midnight in September, 1953, after the United States and Russia both tested hydrogen bombs.

Dr. Eugene Rabinowitch, editor of the Bulletin, said the clock is "intended to reflect basic changes in the level of continuous danger in which mankind lives in the nuclear age, and will continue living, until society adjusts its basic attitudes and institutions to the challenge of science."

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The actual work of the project was undertaken by the firemen stationed there, Mrs. Weikum reports.

Lawn And Shrub Planting Project At Green Station

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