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Statesman-Journal, Salem, Ore. May 15, 1956

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# Insurance Against Runaway Nuclear Power Plant Sought

By FRANK CORMIER  
WASHINGTON (AP)—The Atomic Energy Commission (AEC) urged Congress Tuesday to provide for insurance against the remote chance of a nuclear power plant disaster—which it said could cause some 50 deaths and 200 million dollars damage.

AEC witnesses told the Senate-House Atomic Energy Committee that the government should insure against the "mathematical possibility" of a nuclear plant running wild because the financial burden would be too great for private insurance firms.

They emphasized that the chance of a serious accident befalling a commercial power reactor is "extremely remote." But as Chairman G. Rogers McCulloch of AEC's committee on reactor safeguards noted:

"Even such well known things as railroad rails break, turbine shafts shatter, trolley wheels come off and locomotive braking systems fail."

AEC Chairman Lewis L. Strauss said private insurance companies will provide up to 65 million dollars in liability coverage for each commercial atomic power plant—a sum well below the claims that could result from a serious accident.

**Two Plans**  
To bridge the gap, AEC suggested that Congress provide for additional government protection to companies building nuclear power plant under government license and their suppliers. It recommended two alternative plans:

1. Authority for AEC to directly issue indemnity agreements to such companies and suppliers.

2. Provision for AEC issuance of reinsurance agreements to insurance firms which would take on the extra risks.

Commissioner W. F. Libby drew a stark picture of what he termed the "worst possible" reactor accident—be full release of all the fission products accumulated in a 100,000 kilowatt reactor.

In addition to causing some 50 deaths and 200 million dollars property damage, the accident would expose perhaps 500 persons to radiation damaging to human thyroid glands, he said.

If a 10,000 kilowatt reactor lost 1 per cent of its fission products, he estimated, probably half a square mile would have to be evacuated and 50 to 100 acres might be unusable for two years.

A larger reactor and a greater loss of fission products would bring a proportionate increase in these figures, he said.

"McCulloch said that 'if a nuclear runaway is once started no human being can respond rapidly enough to stop it.' Such an event could culminate in the complete melting or vaporizing of a reactor and its structure, he said. Left exposed, in that case, would be fission products which he noted are from one million to one billion times more toxic than other materials used in industry."

# Inside TV Hollywood Greeted Silvers This Time

By EYE STARR  
HOLLYWOOD—STARR REPORT: Phil Silvers has come to Hollywood a second time. The first time was some years ago. He had been a hit in a Broadway musical comedy and moved on to Hollywood to add to his fame and fortune. Unfortunately, it didn't work out that way. He was put in a magnificent flop and he slunk back to Broadway to lick his wounds.

Last week he returned. He was met at the airport by a red carpet and a delegation of CBS brass hats. He was escorted to the Friars Club, there to be guest of honor at one of the Friars' famous (or infamous, which is it?) Roastmasters Dinners. At the speaker's table or dais as they call it, sat Dean Martin, Jerry Lewis, George Burns, Jack Benny, George Jessel, Art Linkletter, Ronald Reagan, Parkyakarkus and songwriter Sammy Cahn. It was quite a return trip.

It was Jack Benny, just two years ago, who had a long talk with Phil Silvers and told him earnestly, "Phil, stay out of TV. You don't need it. You're the greatest comedian on the Broadway stage. TV can only hurt you. Stay away from it."

The night Silvers was not one, not two, but three Emmy Awards. Benny sent him a wire. All it said was, "I told you so."

Benny followed the wire with a wonderfully insulting letter, the printable part of which read as follows: "Mary and I, oh, feel that as long as I had to lose, there was no one in show business we would rather see win than you—even though I personally do not think you are as good a comedian as I am—or Bob Hope or Jerry Lewis or Red Skelton—or Ardy Stevenson. In fact, W. C. Fields is a better comic than you are right now. No, Phil, I saw you on TV the night of the awards, and with those thick glasses, bald head and silly grin, you looked like an idiot."

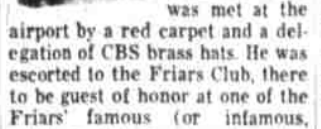
My spies report that the other speakers spoke in much the same vein, except that 80 per cent of it wasn't printable. Ribaldry in the hands of such masters as Jessel, Burns and Linkletter is a fine art, almost a lost one. And at the end, there were tears in Phil Silvers' eyes. He had come home.

SONGWRITERS ARE in the news this week. Johnny Mercer has been elected the new president of the Academy of TV Arts and Sciences, succeeding Don DeFore, and Sammy Cahn has

been signed by NBC to write new songs for that old Broadway hit, "High Button Shoes," which the network has just bought and will turn into a 90-minute spectacular. Wonder if they'll go after the star of the original show—a girl by the name of Nanette Fabray.

DON FEDDERSON'S "The Millionaire" is beginning to get complicated in its casting. In an upcoming episode, "Kathy Munson," Barbara Hale and Bill Williams, who are married in real life, will play a total of three roles. Barbara gets to play twin sisters.

COULD BE THAT "Four Star Playhouse," despite its popularity, won't be around next season. Summarily dumped out of the Thursday night line-up to make way for the network's new 90-minute "Playhouse 90" series of



Phil Silvers, star of "The Phil Silvers Show," is greeted at the airport by a red carpet and a delegation of CBS brass hats.

## Channel Chuckles

By Bill Keane



"Just as I thought—too much television."

drumatic shows, "Four Star" is in the position of being wanted by sponsors but with no time slot available. Too bad, or this show has consistently come up with excellent quality in all departments—writing, production, directing and performance. In short, a standout.

STARRDUST: Dennis Day wants out of his NBC contract and won't be around to sign any papers when the renewal comes up. He's disappointed that the network hasn't been able to spot him in anything in the past three years. He had the misfortune, four years ago, of having his first film series aired opposite "I Love Lucy," which at that time was comparable to being exiled to Siberia.

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## 100-School Boys Involved In Egg Fight

KNOXVILLE, Tenn. (AP)—About 100 West High School boys fought it out among themselves Monday night with eggs, tomatoes and heads of lettuce on fashionable Cherokee Boulevard.

Police broke up the fight, which they said involved members of three social fraternities, by rounding up about a third of the participants. The others escaped by car and foot.

No injuries were reported, but the street was a mess.

At city jail, Safety Director David Garrison offered those in custody a choice of being charged at juvenile home or cleaning up the street. They chose cleaning up the street.

"It was all in fun," a 14-year-old told a newsman. Another said: "Gee, I don't know what my dad's gonna say."

## Argentine Polio Epidemic Fought

LONDON (AP)—A volunteer party of British medical specialists is leaving Wednesday in the liner Alcantara for Buenos Aires to work for six months in Argentina's polio epidemic.

The Britons, headed by Monica Martin Jones, senior teacher of physiotherapy at St. Thomas Hospital, will help in care of about 2,000 stricken infants.

## KVAL TV, VHF 13

EUGENE: KVAL-TV, Channel 13 (Wednesday): 2:30 p.m.—Stop, Look and Listen; 2:45—It's Fun to Reduce; 3:30—Feather Your Nest; 3:30—Matinee Theater; 3:30—The Mystery; 3:30—Reporter tracks down a murderous gang; 4:15—Modern Romances; 4:30—Guest Book; 5:00—Big Roundup; 5:30—Politics; 5:45—The News; 5:50—Sports; 5:55—Weather; 6:00—Superman; 6:30—Break the Bank; 7:00—1 Led Three Lives; 7:30—Life of Riley; 8:00—Kraft Television Theater; 8:30—A Profile of Courage—the story of a attempted impeachment of President Andrew Johnson; 9:00—Science Fiction Theater; 9:30—Sherlock Holmes; 10:00—My Hero; 10:30—This Is Your Life; 11:00—Inspector Mark Saker.

## KOAC, 550 k.c.

KOAC (Wednesday): 10:00 a.m.—The News and Weather; 10:15—Especially for Women; 10:30—School of Home Economics Staff; 11:00—The Concert Hall; 11:30—The News and Weather; 12:15—Noon Farm Hour; 1:00—Melody Lane; 1:30—The Mill on the Floss; 2:00—Especially for Women—For a Lifetime of Mental Health; "What Is Commercial Entertainment"; 2:30—Memory Book of Music; 3:00—Oregon Reporter; 3:15—Music of the Masters; 4:00—Stand By for Music; 4:15—On the Upbeat; 4:45—News Commentary; 5:00—Children's Theater; 5:30—London Forum; 6:00—The News and Across the Desk; 6:30—The Child Beyond; 7:00—Game Commission Bulletin; 7:15—Evening Farm Hour; 8:00—Rehearsal Classics; 8:45—News and Weather; 9:00—Music That Endures; 9:45—Evening Meditations; 10:00—Sign Off.

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## WEDNESDAY BROADCASTS

(Editor's note: The Statesman publishes in good faith the programs and times as provided by radio and TV stations, but because conditions and programs are changed without notification this newspaper cannot be responsible for the accuracy hereof.)

### WEDNESDAY'S TELEVISION HIGHLIGHTS

**KPTV WEDNESDAY'S HIGHLIGHTS (CHANNEL 27):**  
11:00 a.m.—NBC Matinee Theater—The story of how a "Blind Date," who almost doesn't show up, infuriates a high school girl out of her backwoodsness.  
8:00 p.m.—Kraft Theater—"A Profile in Courage," from the book by Senator John F. Kennedy. Drama of pressures endured by Edmund G. Ross whose one vote saved the impeached President Andrew Johnson from being ousted.

**KOIN-TV WEDNESDAY'S HIGHLIGHTS (CHANNEL 6):**  
1:00 p.m.—Armchair Theater—"Next to Crash": Lovell Thomas and Melburne Stone.  
3:00 p.m.—Studio 57—"The Old Lady's Tears": An elderly woman tries to find a grandson she has never seen.  
10:30 p.m.—Showtime on Six—"In Old Missouri": The Weavers Alan Ladd, June Stanley, Hall Johnson Choir.

**KLOR-TV WEDNESDAY'S HIGHLIGHTS (CHANNEL 12):**  
11:00 a.m.—Afternoon Film Festival—"Another Shore," starring Robert Beatty, Stanley Holloway and Moira Lister.  
3:00 p.m.—Mid-Day Matinee—"Frontier Wolf" starring Piero Lilli and Maria Frau. A young policeman follows the wolfdog of a shepherd found dead and unravels a mystery.  
6:00 p.m.—Wednesday Night Fights—A 10-round non-title bout between World Welterweight Champion John Saxton and middleweight contender Gil Turner.  
7:00 p.m.—Disneyland—"Survival in Nature."  
10:30 p.m.—Hometown Theater—"Buried Alive" starring Beverly Roberts and Robert Wilcox.

### WEDNESDAY'S TELEVISION

KPTV, UHF 27; KOIN-TV, VHF 6; KLOR, VHF 12

HOUR	00:00	00:15	00:30	00:45
7	KPTV Home (Home)	KOIN Panorama Pac. (Panorama Pac.)	KPTV Home (Home)	KOIN Panorama Pac. (Panorama Pac.)
8	KPTV Tenn. Ernie (Tenn. Ernie)	KOIN Valiant Lady (Love of Life)	KPTV Tenn. Ernie (Tenn. Ernie)	KOIN Valiant Lady (Love of Life)
9	KPTV Ding Dong Sch. (Ding Dong Sch.)	KOIN Jack Paar (Jack Paar)	KPTV Ding Dong Sch. (Ding Dong Sch.)	KOIN Jack Paar (Jack Paar)
10	KPTV Today (Today)	KOIN Robt. Q. Lewis (Robt. Q. Lewis)	KPTV Today (Today)	KOIN Robt. Q. Lewis (Robt. Q. Lewis)
11	KPTV NBC Mat. Thea. (NBC Mat. Thea.)	KOIN Film Festival (Film Festival)	KPTV NBC Mat. Thea. (NBC Mat. Thea.)	KOIN Film Festival (Film Festival)
12	KPTV Date with Life (Mag. Romances)	KOIN Brighter Day (Secret Storm)	KPTV Date with Life (Mag. Romances)	KOIN Brighter Day (Secret Storm)
1	KPTV Matinee Thea. (Matinee Thea.)	KOIN Armchair The. (Armchair The.)	KPTV Matinee Thea. (Matinee Thea.)	KOIN Armchair The. (Armchair The.)
2	KPTV Matinee Thea. (Matinee Thea.)	KOIN Garry Moore (Garry Moore)	KPTV Matinee Thea. (Matinee Thea.)	KOIN Garry Moore (Garry Moore)
3	KPTV Colorama 27 (Colorama 27)	KOIN Arthur Godfrey (Arthur Godfrey)	KPTV Colorama 27 (Colorama 27)	KOIN Arthur Godfrey (Arthur Godfrey)
4	KPTV Married Joan (Married Joan)	KOIN Mr. Moon (Mr. Moon)	KPTV Married Joan (Married Joan)	KOIN Mr. Moon (Mr. Moon)
5	KPTV Harper's Jamb. (Harper's Jamb.)	KOIN Red Dunning (Doug Edwards)	KPTV Harper's Jamb. (Harper's Jamb.)	KOIN Red Dunning (Doug Edwards)
6	KPTV Dateline Eurp. (Dateline Eurp.)	KOIN KRLD News (Kil Carson)	KPTV Dateline Eurp. (Dateline Eurp.)	KOIN KRLD News (Kil Carson)
7	KPTV Direct. Phys. (Direct. Phys.)	KOIN Paul Winchell (Paul Winchell)	KPTV Direct. Phys. (Direct. Phys.)	KOIN Paul Winchell (Paul Winchell)
8	KPTV Kraft Theat. (Kraft Theat.)	KOIN Millionaire (Millionaire)	KPTV Kraft Theat. (Kraft Theat.)	KOIN Millionaire (Millionaire)
9	KPTV Your Life (Your Life)	KOIN Studio 57 (Studio 57)	KPTV Your Life (Your Life)	KOIN Studio 57 (Studio 57)
10	KPTV Mayor of Two (Mayor of Two)	KOIN 20th Century (20th Century)	KPTV Mayor of Two (Mayor of Two)	KOIN 20th Century (20th Century)
11	KPTV Tonight (Tonight)	KOIN Show on 6 (Show on 6)	KPTV Tonight (Tonight)	KOIN Show on 6 (Show on 6)

### WEDNESDAY'S RADIO

KRLM 1300 KOCC 1400 KGAE 1430 KOIN 970 KOW 670 KEX 1100  
F.M.: Megacycles—KOIN 161.1; KEX 92.1; KOW 106.3

HOUR	00:00	00:15	00:30	00:45
6	KRLM Vail Farmcast (Vail Farmcast)	KGAE Farm News (Farm News)	KOIN World News (World News)	KOW World News (World News)
7	KRLM Hemingway (Hemingway)	KOCC Early Worm (Early Worm)	KGAE World News (World News)	KOIN World News (World News)
8	KRLM Wally's Sports (Wally's Sports)	KGAE World News (World News)	KOIN World News (World News)	KOW World News (World News)
9	KRLM News (News)	KOCC News (News)	KGAE News (News)	KOIN News (News)
10	KRLM News (News)	KOCC News (News)	KGAE News (News)	KOIN News (News)
11	KRLM News (News)	KOCC News (News)	KGAE News (News)	KOIN News (News)