

The Hanford Story-

(The following is the sixth of a series of seven articles disclosing the highlights and sidelights which have accompanied the nation's development of atomic energy. Prepared at the Hanford atomic energy plant, the series deals with the human things which followed in the wake of the first historic announcement that man had harnessed the atom. It touches upon the things which lie ahead.)

By Bill Jury

General Electric News Bureau Hanford Atomic Plant

In the industrial world of the next decade, radiation from the widespread use of radioactive materials for peaceful purposes may exceed by tens of millions of times the world's present supply of radium.

But radiation hazards on any foreseeable scale are controllable, according to one of the nation's foremost experts on radiation, and eventually workers should be able to protect themselves from "normal" radiation in an atomic plant just as they now guard themselves from acids in other industries.

Dr. Herbert M. Parker, General Electric company scientist at the Hanford atomic energy plant near Richland, Washington, has said that the people working in

future power plants or factories using radioactive materials easily can be protected from external radiation. Harm from radioactive materials deposited inside the bodies of human beings also can be prevented, but this may involve imposing excessively high safety standards, at least until some of the present unknowns have been solved.

Dr. Parker, who has been working on radiation protection ever since the beginning of the nation's atomic efforts 12 years ago, points out that the atomic energy industry was spawned in safety—at the expense of considerable investments in radiation protection.

Safety precautions at the plutonium-manufacturing works at Hanford by necessity are all-encompassing, and some of the protective clothing worn by employees are grotesque and weird by today's fashion standards. But much of the paraphernalia is just as vital to the safety of the Hanford employee as the diving helmet and the air hose are to the salvage diver.

The plastic, man-shaped radiation barriers developed at Hanford and later copied by other nuclear research industries here and abroad enable a man to enter a contaminated area, operate instruments, perform maintenance and repair work, or accomplish other tasks that must be done but can't be done remotely from the outside.

Since termed the "plastic man" outfit, the suit is connected to the outside by means of a tunnel which serves as an entrance and exit for an employee and also provides him with a means of obtaining clear air from the outside. In effect, it provides a little island of safe space in the midst of an area contaminated with deadly radio-active material.

At present, there still is a considerable monitoring force at Hanford and other atomic plants whose duty it is to "make sure" for thousands of workers that an area is safe and to prescribe precautions. But the future, scientists predict, there will come a day when workers will be able to deal with the problems of radiation, just as they now guard themselves from acids, and recognize the danger of walking under ladders.

(Next Week: "The Road Ahead")

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Suggestions Given For Farm Storage Of Oregon Grains

Although 1955 wheat and barley production in Oregon is expected to be one-fifth less than last year, suitable on-farm storage will continue to be a problem, says Ray Teal, Oregon State college seed and grain marketing specialist.

Farm storage of the two grains July 1 was about the same as a year earlier. Farm-stored barley supplies were three times greater than the previous year which closed the gap left by smaller wheat supplies in farm storage.

Teal reminds farmers that safe, acceptable farm storage is needed to meet commodity credit corporation requirements to qualify grain for government loans. He says grain can be stored safely on the farm for more than a year, providing a few precautions are taken.

Particular attention must be paid to moisture content of grain. Also, farmers must use structurally strong and weather-tight buildings to qualify for the government program. Plans to help finance storage structures are

available through local ASC committees.

Place only clean grain in storage, the specialist stresses. Cracked grain, screenings, chaff and dust provide favorable conditions for the development of insect infestations.

Even clean grain with a safe moisture content cannot be stored and forgotten. Occasional inspection is necessary to detect leaks, insect infestations, and moist, molding, or caking grain.

Remember, too, Teal cautions, that buyers may refuse to pay food-grain prices for grain that has been contaminated by rats, mice, birds or insects. The specialist's final reminder is that farmers should protect grain against all hazards whether holding it for on-the-farm use or for government loan.

Mr. and Mrs. J. O. Hager have returned from an eight day vacation in Canada where they visited with relatives.

Cattle Stomach Worm Controls Outlined By Veterinarian

Oregon beef cattle operators who have noted poor gaining animals on lush irrigated pastures are advised to have a veterinarian check the cattle for stomach worms, a growing problem on heavily-stocked improved pastures.

Paul Allen, Oregon State college veterinarian, recommends immediate treatment of infested cattle with a phenothiazine drench. 12.5 grams of phenothiazine per 100 pounds of weight. This would be up to six ounces of material for 400 to 600 pound calves.

Heavily infested yearling beef calves drenched with phenothiazine gained three times faster than untreated calves at the college last year. Treatment was not started until animals went on dry-lot feeding in September to

assure a heavy build-up of the parasites for test purposes. Trials are under way this summer to measure weight-gain comparisons when drenching is started as soon as stomach worms are noted.

Allen points out that stomach worms are an increasing menace because of improved pastures, especially irrigated pastures. Concentrating more cattle on less acreage under conditions that are ideal for worm growth, he adds, is bound to build up infestations.

Worm losses take several forms including poor feed efficiency, loss of grade, lower resistance to other parasites and disease, and death. Such infestations can be noted best in weaners and yearlings.

Symptoms include scouring and general unthriftiness. Lightly infested young animals are more difficult to diagnose, but a rough coat and slow gaining are an indication. Allen says worms can frequently be responsible for

a 100 to 150 pound weight loss in a 400 to 500 pound animal.

4-H Club News

BUSY STITCHERS
Janet and Patsy Wright were hostesses for the Busy Stitchers 4-H club when they met August 4 at the Wright home.

We reviewed some of the main points for the wool sewing contest and the judging contest to be held during the fair.

Those present were Sharon Rill, Sally Palmer, Helen Graham, Lynda Borman, Meredith Thomson, Mrs. Walter Wright, leader, and the hostesses.

Our next meeting will be sometime after the fair so that our record books can be completed.

Meredith Thomson, reporter

Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Troedson returned home Tuesday from White Salmon, Washington where they visited at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Balsiger.

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Monument REA Line Being Extended To Susanville

By Martha Matteson

(Editor's Note—Correspondent's weather report: "It's HOT and dry over here!")

L. D. Vinsen reported for work Monday morning with the Columbia Power Cooperative on the line going to Susanville. This is a 31.2 mile line that will serve around 22 families which have not had electricity. Work started July 25 and power is expected to start flowing by fall.

Mr. and Mrs. Lee Flemings spent Sunday at their home here from their jobs in harvest. They had one of their grandsons from Milton-Freewater with them.

Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Rounds and children of Mt. Vernon were in town for the weekend.

Melvin Geinger, Ray Ward and Harry Scott moved their trailer houses from here to Long Creek Sunday.

Rock hunters were busy Sunday. They included Rush Crabtree, Mr. and Mrs. Wilbur Flower and Mr. and Mrs. Bill Settle.

Laula Lee Shank, George and Grace Sterritt have all returned from John Day where they have spent the last 10 days receiving medical attention.

The Ralph Erhardt family of John Day were in town Sunday visiting his brother and family, John Erhardt.

LeRoy Buxton and Sam Scott drove to Vale Saturday morning taking Miss Elinore Scott back to her home. She has been visiting here with her sister's family for six weeks.

Wilbur Flower spent last weekend in Long Creek on business.

Mr. and Mrs. Herb Copeland and family of Salem took in the Prineville rodeo Sunday, coming on to Monument in the evening to spend a week with her brother, Stanley Boyer and family.

Mr. and Mrs. Vern McCarty and family spent Sunday at Spray visiting at the home of his brother, Bud McCarty.

Louis Corley of Hamilton was visiting here Sunday.

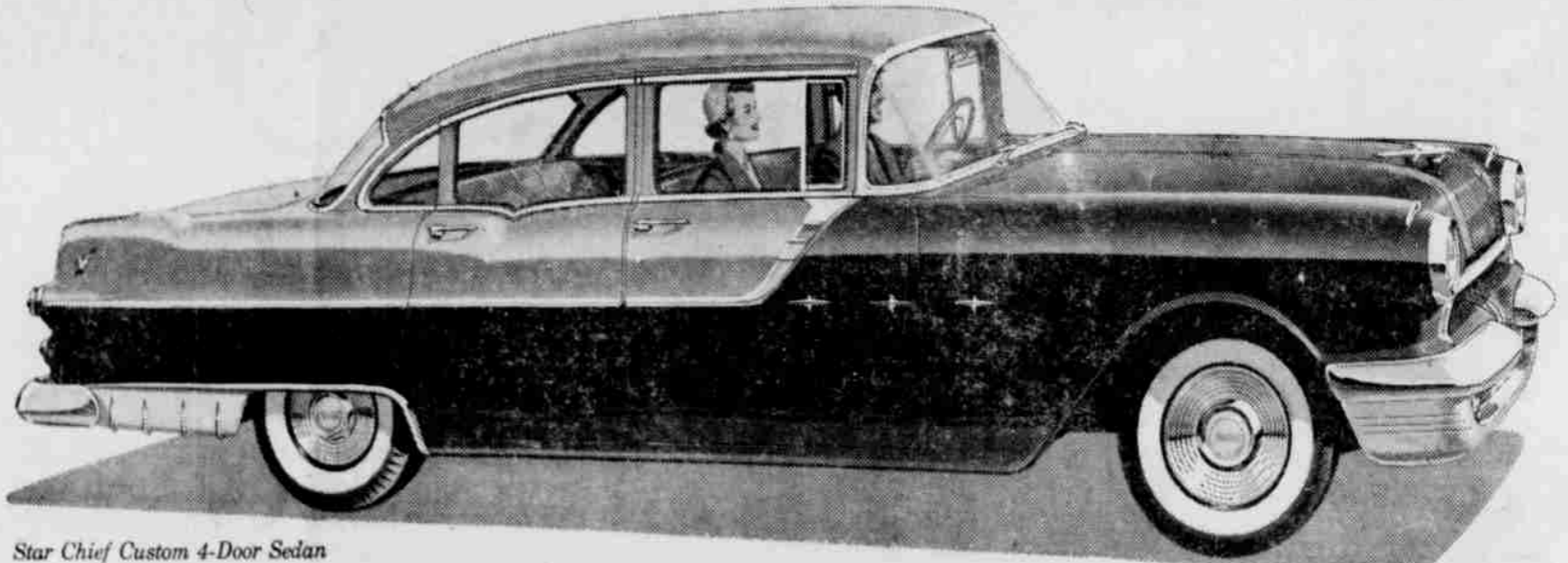
Mr. and Mrs. Elmo Lewis' daughter and family arrived Sunday from California to visit them, and her sister Mrs. Nestle Davis and her brother, Earl Lewis.

Mrs. Stella McCarty reports that her sister Mrs. Clayton Sweek of Springfield now has a new baby boy. Clayton is a brother of Mrs. Roy Bowman and Jack Sweek.

Maynard Hamilton is doing some remodeling at the Stanley Boyer home.

Donald Gilman, a student at EOCE at La Grande, spent last weekend visiting his parents, Mead and Linnie Gilman.

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