

Thoughts of Atomic Powered Automobiles Hampered by Lack of Adequate Shielding

Detroit—(U.P.)—It isn't likely motorists will be flitting about in atomic automobiles in the near future even though the Soviet Union has been talking about the atomic car it is developing.

The Russians, according to reports in the Communist press, have run into just one big hitch in their atomic car development—the problem of shielding riders from deadly rays of the atomic energy that powers the car.

Thoughts Put Aside

That's the same hitch that has made the automobile industry put aside thoughts of atomic cars which would be powered by only a "pencil" of fuel that would keep the cars running indefinitely without refueling.

The assistant general manager of research and industrial development for the Atomic Energy Commission, A. Tammaro, told the Society of Automotive Engineers recently that holding out the promise of atomic automobiles in the near future "is not in keeping with the facts as we know them today."

Lightweight Method Needed That 40 tons of shielding of course makes any thought of atomic automobiles at the present time impossible. The situation could change if someone devised a lightweight method of shielding off the rays.

But even then, atomic automobiles would be a long way from appearing in showrooms.

Problems of mass-producing them still would remain to be solved. It's quite likely the cost of that "pencil of fuel" would be too great to be practical, even of the cost of building the car wasn't.

The automobile industry has been putting "atoms" to work. The companies are experimenting with the use of isotopes in various phases of manufacturing, production control and other fields.

The talk of gas turbine engines for automobiles excites more interest among automotive engineers than atomic cars.

Chrysler Corporation already has a gas turbine, which was turned out by hand, which has been fitted into a standard car, a Plymouth. General Motors has a turbine-powered experimental

bus and Ford Motor company is working with the idea of turbines.

With fewer moving parts, easier maintenance and other factors, many automotive engineers believe the gas turbine will power the cars of the future.

But with the gas turbines there are many problems to be solved. The heat generated by the turbines is so great new metals will have to be developed. Research men are in the process of doing that now.

Problems of mass producing the turbines, making them cheap enough to be feasible and many other unanswered questions make turbine just a possibility for the future at the best.

But they're a much better bet than an atomic car.

Spring Music Series To Start on March 1

Ashland—"Singing Time," the annual spring series of weekly musical radio programs for use in elementary school classrooms in the Rogue valley will be resumed over station KMED, Medford, on Tuesday, March 1.

Southern Oregon college assistant Professor of Music, Helene Robinson, said the time of the program would be 9:45 a.m. for a period of several weeks, to be topped off by a music festival on the last program.

Announcement of the contest of the individual programs will be made far enough in advance so that classroom teachers will be able to make full use of the student participation phase of the program, Miss Robinson added.

Roseburg Man Heads SOC Dads Club for '55

Ashland—D. M. Geddes, Roseburg, has been elected president of the Southern Oregon college Dad's Club, following the annual Dad's Day celebration held Saturday, Feb. 19.

At the same time Elmer Wade, Klamath Falls, was elected vice-president of the organization. Geddes is the father of David Geddes, SOC sophomore, and Wade is the father of Roberta Wade, freshman.

The first to assume the title of poet laureate in England was Geoffrey Chaucer. In 1389 he received a royal grant of a yearly allowance of wine.

Bondsman Considers Changing Slogan After Several Bailees Fail To Show Up

Champaign, Ill.—(U.P.)—Morris Brown, a professional bondsman with a flair for headlines, may have to change his slogan.

"You don't need the wings of an angel," the slogan goes, "if you know Morris Brown."

Trouble is, too many of the people who know Morris Brown are sprouting wings as soon as he bails them out of jail.

Bondsman Embarrassed

As a bondsman who has boasted he never fails to produce a man in court, Brown is embarrassed right now to have six of his bailees long overdue. One of them was last seen in the Canadian Rockies.

"I'm going to have to change that slogan," he confided in an interview. "They're taking it too literally."

The great majority of Brown's clients remain true to their bond, however. He had no fears, for instance, over Marilyn Monroe.

It was Brown who gallantly wired \$100 to a California court when Miss Monroe was booked for driving without a license. The court accepted his voluntary payment of her bond, and Brown then wired the actress: "Your troubles are over. I've



SITTING BESIDE MODEL of submarine, Coast Guardsmen E. M. Jones (left) and C. W. Benson, describe sighting of mysterious submarine off Fort Pierce, Fla., area where guided missiles are being tested by U. S. Defense Department. (International)

New Treatment For Leukemia Said Uncovered

Toronto—(U.P.)—A new treatment for leukemia has been uncovered by a research team at St. Michael's Hospital and a spokesman said it might be the first break in the medical world's effort to cure the fatal blood disease.

But, he warned, it might lead nowhere.

Research Handicapped

Dr. Charles Bardawill, director of the project, said the research was being handicapped by a lack of growth hormone, a rare substance extracted from the pituitary glands of hogs, sheep and horses.

The new avenue of attack uses the growth hormone to build up the phosphate content of leukemia cells, which has been found to be much lower than that of normal blood cells.

Until now, most research in leukemia has been aimed at destroying the wild leukemic cells which prey on normal cells.

Under the new St. Michael's approach, the cancer cells are built up with phosphate so they will degenerate normally.

Bardawill said early results of the research were "very satisfactory" and U.S. pharmaceutical companies now are concentrating on efforts to produce the growth hormone synthetically. The companies were given the results of the St. Michael's test during a recent Detroit conference.

Neuberger Appoints Man From The Dalles

Washington—(U.P.)—Sen. Richard L. Neuberger, (D-Oreg.) has announced the appointment of Milton C. Mapes Jr., 29, of The Dalles, Oreg., as a special consultant on hydroelectric power to the Senate Interior committee.



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