

# New-Found Atom Particle Said Bombarding Earth Since Beginning of Time

## Local School Board Members Schedule Meeting Next Week

A convention of Jackson county school board members will be held Tuesday, Oct. 25, at Griffin Creek school to study educational needs. The convention will be held in connection with the rural school boards association meeting which previously had been scheduled for Oct. 25 at Griffin Creek school.

An agenda for the convention is being prepared by a steering committee which met earlier this week and elected John Neidermeyer, president of the rural school boards association, acting chairman of the group. Ed Branchfield, chairman of District 49 school board, was chosen acting secretary-treasurer.

**To Make Reports**

Alf B. Mekvold, county superintendent of schools, has urged all school board members throughout the county to attend a report of the county's school conditions, including financing school districts, will be forwarded to Charles A. Tom, chairman of a legislative interim committee on education before July 1, 1956.

The report will go through the office of the superintendent of public instruction for transmittal to the interim committee.

## Portland Discounts Canadian Currency

Portland — (U.P.) — Canadian currency and checks were being discounted slightly in Portland banks yesterday for the first time in three years.

The discount followed news from New York that quotes on the Canadian dollar were 1/64 to 1/32 of one per cent below the American dollar.

The U.S. National bank said it was discounting Canadian currency 1/2 of one per cent and one per cent on coins.

The First National bank in Portland said it was charging 1/4 of one per cent discount on large amounts.

Largest state park in New York State is the Allegany, 70 miles south of Buffalo and containing more than 55,000 acres.

A strong young male elephant is worth in East Pakistan from \$800 to \$1,400, says the National Geographic Society.

Tibetan aristocrats wear elongated silk sleeves hiding their fingers to show that their hands are not their livelihood.

## Devastation Said Enormous But No Cause for Alarm

Washington — (U.P.) — That hot new particle of matter just discovered by scientists at Berkeley, Calif., has been bombarding the Earth with annihilating effect since the beginning of time.

The devastation has been enormous—in an infinitesimal sort of way.

And if anybody cares, the Russians a year hence will be producing this destroyer particle in far greater quantities than Berkeley can manage.

But there is no cause for alarm. Scientists said today that the so-called new particle, known as the antiproton or negative proton, can do no harm to man or his works.

It is, in fact, a highly comforting little packet of energetic matter because it confirms theories on which physicists have been basing their picture of the microscopic world for a long, long time.

**Building Blocks**

The fundamental building blocks of matter are the proton and the neutron. The proton, carrying a positive electrical charge, is the nucleus of hydrogen, lightest of atoms. The compound nuclei of the heavier elements contain varying numbers of protons and neutrons packed closely together.

All atoms consist of heavy nuclei surrounded by lightweight negative electrons in numbers corresponding to the number of positive protons.

**Early Deduction**

Back in 1930 the British physicist, P. A. M. Dirac, deduced that there must be "anti" particles identical in mass but opposite in electrical charge to electrons and protons.

The anti-electron, or positron, was discovered two years after Dirac predicted it. With it was discovered for the first time the complete annihilation of matter. When a positron and an electron get together their mass is instantaneously converted into sheer energy in the form of gamma radiation. This accords with the late Albert Einstein's principle of mass-energy equivalence.

The positron comes into being when gamma rays pass near the nuclei of atoms. So physicists figured that the antiproton also would be the product of conversion of energy into matter.

But they figured it would take a lot of energy—energy on the order of that possessed by some of the cosmic ray particles which incessantly pepper the Earth from outer space.

Not until completion of the 6,000,000 electron volt atom-smasher at Berkeley, now the most powerful in the world, did man have sufficiently energetic particles at his command to turn the trick.

**The Proof**

Now that the Berkeley experiments, reported yesterday, have proved the antiproton beyond any possible doubt, scientists realize that cosmic radiation must have been producing the "new" particle for as long as the universe has existed.

Dr. P. H. Abelson, head of the geophysical laboratory of the Carnegie Institution of Washington, said "This old earth has been pounded by antiprotons since time began."

Abelson said verification of the antiproton is comforting to science but, as of now, is strictly "a laboratory curiosity."

Dr. N. P. Heydenburg, theoretical physicist of the Carnegie institution's Department of Terrestrial Magnetism, said the antiproton "confirms the symmetry of nature."

**Agrees With View**

Atomic Commissioner Willard F. Libby agreed with that view. He noted that when the 25,000,000,000-volt atom-smasher under construction at Brookhaven, N.Y., goes in operation in the next five or six years, it should produce "a far greater abundance" of antiprotons than the less powerful Berkeley machine. The Russians should be beating the Berkeley production rate in another year, Libby said. They are building a 10,000,000,000-volt machine scheduled to start hurling particles at targets about a year from now. The Russians also are planning a 100,000,000,000-volt contraption for the future.

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Dead line for Sunday Classified is at noon Saturday.

## State Office Building Cracks Under Weight Of Income Tax Files

Salem — (U.P.) — The state Civil Defense agency completed a hasty, unscheduled evacuation of its headquarters in the old State Office building yesterday amid the sounds and signs of cracking and falling plaster.

The CD's basement officers were vacated after employees noticed plaster falling from a series of cracks in the floor above, sagging under the weight of a million or more income tax files.

**'Operation Surtax'**

Residents of the building immediately dubbed the move "Operation Surtax" and said the floor gave way under the added weight of the 45 per cent surtax on income taxes voted by the 1955 State legislature.

William E. Healy, assistant Secretary of State, and Lawrence Christensen, superintendent

of buildings, examined the first floor and basement of the old building and ordered the move of CD and tax commission employees located under the sagging area.

**To Relocate Employees**

Healy said CD employees may be relocated in the unfinished half of the second floor of the Finance building, two blocks away. Voters would have to authorize a permanent move to that building, he said.

Engineers said the first floor of the office building was designed to hold between 100 and 120 pounds per square foot. The tax files kept their weight between 400 and 480 pounds per square foot.

Healy said the files would be transferred to the basement of the building and the sagging floor will be jacked up and shored with pillars.

## EAGLE POINT Wife of Ranger Visits

Eagle Point — Mrs. Geo. Peters (nee Peggy Simmons) and young daughter Susan, are house guests of her father, Walter Simmons and wife Eagle Point. Mrs. Peters husband is a ranger in Mt. Rainier National park, Wash., where they have made their home for three or four years. She came down with some friends. They arrived Oct. 14 and will leave on their return home Saturday, Oct. 22.

Mr. and Mrs. Sam Keim have as a house guest a sister of Mrs. Keim whom she had not seen for 40 years.

Mr. and Mrs. Earl W. Smith, Medicine Hat, Alberta, Canada, left on their return home Saturday, Oct. 8, after spending a week here with Smith's sister, Mrs. Mildred Dunford. While here they visited the Oregon Caves, Crater Lake and other points of interest. This was their first trip here and they were impressed with the beauty and grandeur of this country. Smith has been a conductor on the Canadian Pacific railroad for 35 years.

Mrs. Mildred Dunford received a letter from her son Boyd, who is with the Army in Inchon, Korea, last week. He expects to be home again by Dec. 1.

Ray Tresham, Eagle Point, who suffered a severe heart attack while on a hunting trip the first of the season in eastern Oregon, was able to return to his home from a hospital Saturday, Oct. 15, and is improving as well.

## Ex-Woodburn Boy Killed in Japan

Tokyo — (U.P.) — William R. Erickson, 17, son of SFC and Mrs. Louis K. Richardson, Woodburn, Ore., was killed yesterday when he stuck his head out of a speeding Japanese express train and struck a telephone pole alongside the track.

The Army said the boy was on his way to school aboard a Kyoto-bound electric express train when the accident occurred. Richardson is assigned to the Army's camp Kobe.

The corner of a cat's eye has a curved area two-thirds greater than a man's cornea, and for this reason a cat can see farther from side to side than the average adult man.

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## Crew of Soviet Tanker Leaving for America

Taipei, Formosa — (U.P.) — Nine crewmembers of the captured Soviet tanker "Tuapse," who have been granted entry to the United States, will leave by plane today.

The Russian oil tanker, which was seized in June, 1954 off Formosa by the Chinese Nationalist navy, has been detained "indefinitely."

## Russia, Finland Plan Direct Plane Travel

London — (U.P.) — Russia and Finland laid the groundwork today for establishing direct air communication between the two countries.

Moscow Radio said the two

nations Wednesday signed an agreement establishing the right to fly between Moscow and Helsinki for both Soviet and Finnish civil aircraft.

Minnesota was the first state in the nation to employ public health nurses for Indians.

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