

America's Big Cities in Joint Battle Against Smog

By UNITED PRESS
America's big cities have become partners of industry in a multi-million dollar battle against smog.

Practically every city with a heavy industrial concentration has its bureau of "air pollution control." The industries themselves, prodded by smoke-control ordinances and public opinion, are spending huge sums to sweeten their breath.

A United Press survey of air pollution control programs in 10 heavily industrialized areas indicates smog is being recognized as a problem that cannot be

solved by passing an anti-smoke law or hoping for a change in the weather.

Instead, it is being pursued down scientific avenues and through public education programs designed to make every one smog-conscious.

Smog and Industry
Air pollution exists to some extent wherever there is industry.

The more familiar term "smog" was coined to describe the condition when smoke and fumes and dust combine with a motionless and low-lying fog to form a choking and blinding en-

velope of air.
Some cities, by their geographic location, are more prone to smog than others. San Francisco seldom has smog due to a built-in blower system — prevailing westerly winds from the Pacific ocean.

Los Angeles, on the other hand, sits in a basin that makes it especially vulnerable to "temperature inversions" in which a layer of warm air filled with smoke and fumes is held close to the earth by a layer of cold air on top.

The widest effect of smog is plain discomfort. The relation

between polluted air and lung cancer is still being explored. Smog is dangerous for cardiac and asthma sufferers, 20 of whom died in the 1948 smog disaster at Donora, Pa.

Cities Lick Smog

Anti-smoke campaigns have all but licked the smoke problems in Pittsburgh and St. Louis. At Cleveland, the Republic Steel Corp. has spent 11 million dollars to discharge from its plants. Consolidated Edison is spending \$13,500,000 in pollution control.

Following are city-by-city reports on how the smog menace

is being tackled in major industrial areas:

Los Angeles—City has appropriated \$2,200,000 for smog research, largest amount voted by any city.

A system of "alerts" has been set up to reduce trash burning and auto driving when weather conditions indicate a smog danger. Oil refineries are required to use equipment cutting down on discharged fumes.

New York—Since 1952 the city has organized an air pollution control program that employs 30 inspectors to check on smoke ordinance violators. In-

cinators are allowed to operate only between 7 a.m. and 6 p.m. Open fires in dumps are banned. Householders in outlying boroughs are prohibited from burning leaves on penalty of \$100 fine.

Cincinnati—Airborne solids falling on Cincinnati reduced by 40 per cent in last seven years. Air pollution officials say increased auto traffic is presenting a new problem.

Cleveland—Tougher smoke control ordinance was passed in 1947, when 48.8 tons of solids were falling on every square

mile of Cleveland per year. By last year, the figure had been reduced to 23.8 tons. Air Pollution Control Director Harold Scott says local industries have spent \$100,000,000 since 1947 on equipment to lower fly ash and gas emission from plants.

Pittsburgh—This "smoky city" began an all-out fight against smoke in 1941. The amount of heavy smoke in the city's skies is 98.7 per cent less than it was in 1946. Use of coal-burning furnaces and locomotives is strictly controlled.

St. Louis, Mo.—Locomotives—this second biggest rail center of

the world—are forbidden to use coal. Furnaces may burn coal only when equipped with stockers. Such drastic provisions as these were enacted under a 1940 smoke control law that appears to have licked the air pollution problem here. Today even "mild smog" is rare.

Houston, Tex.—While Houston is the center of a growing chemical industry, air pollution has been less a problem than water pollution. Many chemical plants control smoke and exhaust discharges for a practical reason—they salvage valuable by-products from the fumes.

Everyone Has Had Polio, NFIP Medical Chief Says in First of Article Series

By HART E. VAN RIPER, M.D.
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Infantile Paralysis

(Editor's note: This is the first of a series of five articles on what parents should know about the Salk polio vaccine. Under Dr. Van Riper's direction the National Foundation sponsored the research development of the vaccine and he is in charge of the Foundation's program for vaccinating children in the first and second grades of school.)

You have had polio. Unless you are one of those exceedingly rare adults who are susceptible to polio paralysis but who, purely by chance, have gone through childhood without being infected — you certainly have had polio. The virus has invaded your system but was out-manuevered before it caused any lasting damage.

Chances are, moreover, that you have had polio more than once. Your doctor hopes so, at least. He also hopes that the same thing has happened to your children.

Shouldn't Be Shocked
Shocked? You shouldn't be. If you are like the great majority of people, what you had was non-paralytic polio; and if the virus was introduced to you without the accompaniment of major aches and pains, you had the form of non-paralytic polio known as a "silent infection."

When the doctor hopes your children have been safely through a series of silent infections — real polio, mind you, but without illness and without paralysis — he is wishing all the best for them, for this means they are protected naturally against the paralyzing power of at least one of the three types of polio virus and possibly against all.

A polio infection is not something that happens only to a few

thousand individuals each year, leaving them paralyzed. It happens to almost all of us, leaving in most cases no disability whatever, and usually without even making us ill — an infection that sooner or later reaches nearly as many people as the common cold.

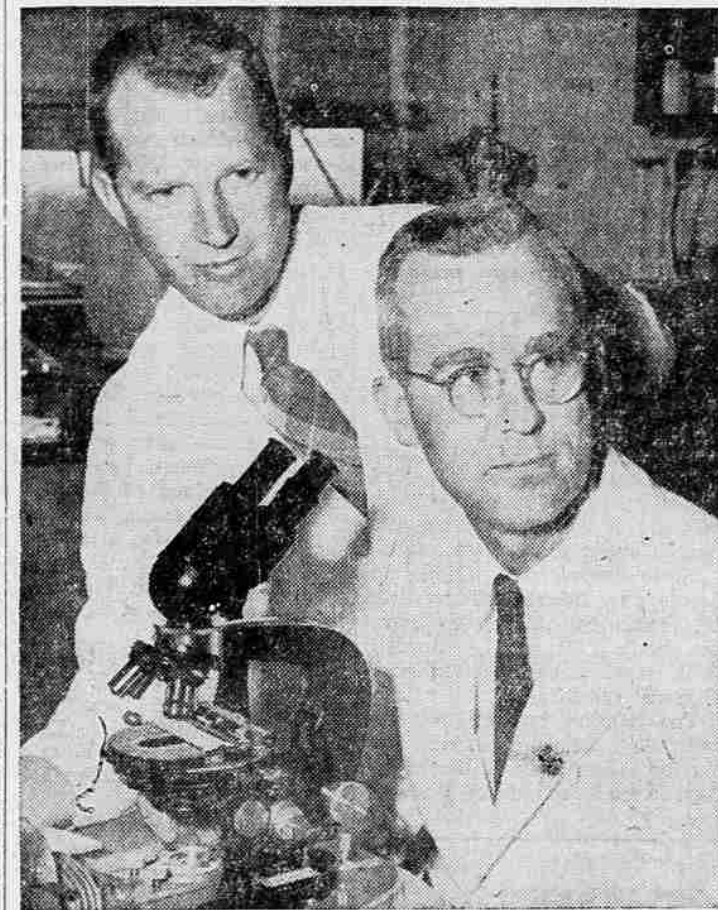
Vital Fact No. 1
This, for the parent seeking a better understanding of the vaccine developed by Dr. Jonas E. Salk with March of Dimes support, is Vital Fact Number One. It is important to remember that in time of polio epidemic for every person who comes down with the disease there may be a hundred or more in the same community who are carrying the virus.

What does "getting polio," in the sense used here, mean? Why, if almost everybody gets it, doesn't everybody come down with symptoms, even go to the hospital and possibly come out crippled?

When the polio virus entered your system, to establish even temporary residence it had to find a cell in which it could live and reproduce. But en route, it had to travel, very briefly, in your blood stream. Had it not been successfully challenged in your blood, within a matter of hours it would have found its way to a nerve center with its paralyzing power intact.

Virus Power Destroyed
But what happened was this: Small particles in your blood, known as antibodies, met the polio virus in your blood stream, "ran interference" for you and destroyed the power of the virus to paralyze.

Most human beings have antibodies and also are able to produce more of them when necessary. More are needed when



FIRST STEP IN VIRUS FIGHT—Two University of California scientists, Dr. F. L. Schaffer (left) and Dr. C. E. Schwerdt have succeeded in crystallizing pure polio virus, a feat hailed as a seven-league step toward eventual elimination of all types of virus infections. They reported their achievement to a meeting of the National Academy of Sciences at the California Institute of Technology at Pasadena. By purifying virus, scientists are better able to determine chemical, physical and biological properties of minute agents responsible for polio, rabies, smallpox and mumps.

There is a virus invasion of your body. Thus the presence of virus triggers the making of antibodies.

Non-paralytic polio does this, whether it makes you sick enough to go to the hospital—as occasionally happens—or remains a silent infection. If the system does not "trigger"—that is, if it lacks the ability to cre-

ate antibodies—rapidly enough, paralytic polio may result.

The Salk vaccination is not an infection. It introduces nothing into the human body that can do it any harm. What it does accomplish is to provide—for those who need it—extra help in creating antibodies.

How it does this will be the subject of Sunday's article.

Talent High School To Present Play

Talent — Talent High school students will present a play, "The Curious Savage," Friday, Nov. 18, in the school gymnasium. The three-act comedy was written by John Patrick.

Nylia Cooper will play the part of Mrs. Ethel Savage. Other parts will be played by Janet Joans, Dorothy Long, Jerry Baer, Chairman Tipsword, Bill Reichstein, Doug Hotchkiss, Dixie Jennings, Dwight Schmelzer, Marshall Thompson and Julie Hanson.

Glen Lamb is directing the play and Priscilla Welch is assistant director.

Elephants Terrorize Farmers in Ceylon

Colombo, Ceylon—(U.P.)—Elephants, ordinarily very shy, are slipping out of the jungles and terrorizing travelers and farmers in northeast Ceylon.

A lawyer met an elephant on the road. The animal walked toward the car with its trunk raised and the lawyer stepped on the gas. The elephant gave chase for 100 yards but was out-distanced.

VIET MINH GETS ARMS
Taipen, Formosa—(U.P.)—The Chinese Communists have turned over to Communist Viet Minh 10,000 tons of ammunition and equipment withdrawn from North Korea, Chinatone News Agency said today.

Fur-Lined Outhouse Causes Traffic Tie-Up

Grand Rapids, Mich.—(U.P.)—Plumbing store owner Gerard Sommerdyke said today he may have to dismantle his window display if it continues to cause traffic tie-ups. The display can best be described as an old-fashioned plumbing fixture with a new twist—it's fur-lined.

British Jets 'Stage' Show for Cameramen

London—(U.P.)—It was like the 10 little Indians when the four jet acrobatics team of the Royal Air Force zoomed up to pose for a U. S. Air Force photographer and a television cameraman Thursday.

Everybody lived, but it was rough on the planes.

There were four Hunter jet-fighters piloted by RAF aces and a Vampire jet carrying U. S. Air Force Capt. R. G. Immig, and an older Meteor jet with the TV crew.

The Vampire crashed in flames after Immig and his pilot parachuted.

A second Hunter buzzed down for a wheels-up crash landing. The third and fourth Hunters, running out of fuel, made forced landings at the Farnborough Air Base.

Waterworks Men Attend School

About 12 waterworks employees from several Southern Oregon cities attended a Waterworks Operator's school held Nov. 2, from 1 to 5 p.m., in the city council room at the city hall.

The school, which is sponsored by the Oregon State Board of Health and the American Waterworks association, is devised to keep waterworks employees up to date on waterworks problems and policy.

Safety programs and cross connections between city and unsafe water supplies were discussed at the meeting and a film on water resources was shown.

Harold Milligan, Oregon State Board of Health, conducted the session.

Commons Cheers Pronunciation Effort

London—(U.P.)—President of the Board of Trade Peter Thorneycroft drew cheers in the House of Commons when Member R. A. Pilkington asked him if he could pronounce the name of a chemical recently added to a government subsidized list.

"Hydrazinocarbonylmethyltri-

methylammonium," Thorneycroft replied without hesitation.

Dogs Left in House; Enjoy Hearing Radio

Springfield, Ill.—(U.P.)—Mr. and Mrs. John Poss explained today why neighbors had heard their radio going full blast while they were away working.

Their two boxer dogs like to turn on the radio while they have the run of the house, the couple said.

Ranger Boosted From Hell to Paradise

Paradise, Mich.—(U.P.)—Park ranger Harold Peterson said today he has been boosted from hell to paradise.

Peterson, until recently, lived at Hell, Mich. Then he was promoted to another ranger job and moved to the nearby town of Paradise. He got a pay increase along with the promotion.

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