

Lack of Men, Money May Be Cutting Into Flying Safety

'Self-Fluoridation' Discouraged by Most Dentists, SODA Says

"Self-fluoridation" by mothers, who want to protect their children's teeth from decay until fluoride is added to community water systems, is discouraged by most dentists, according to a spokesman for the Southern Oregon Dental Society.

Dentists do recommend "topical application" of 1 per cent solution of sodium fluoride by a dentist directly to a child's budding teeth, but they say most other methods of "home application" have proved inconclusive. **Applications to Teeth**

Four topical applications annually are recommended by dentists and cost about \$20 a year per child, the spokesman said. The addition of solid fluoride to the daily diet, which is being done by an estimated 1,000 persons in Portland, is not only a chore, but has yet to prove itself.

Prescriptions can be obtained from dentists or physicians for tablets or lozenges containing calcium fluoride combined with vitamins C and D, the latter to help the body absorb the calcium fluoride. Prescriptions also are available for sodium fluoride in liquid form at \$1.50 to \$2 a bottle—costing about \$6 per year

per child. None of these are available without prescriptions. **Not Recommended**

Dr. Bhim Sayara, University of Oregon dental school, in a recent interview with the Portland Oregonian, reported that the majority of dentists do not recommend any of these methods for the following reasons:

1. If the fluoride drops are given in milk, orange or other citrus juice, the fluorine combines with the calcium in the drink and becomes generally unavailable to protect teeth against decay.

2. Experience has shown too many cases where parents neglect the dosage all week, then decide to make up for lost time with a massive dose which, although not dangerous, may upset the child, just as a massive dose of castor oil or aspirin might do.

3. Those who need the fluorides worst cannot afford the cost, or will not make the effort to get their daily fluorides. Cost of the compounds alone, not counting fees of doctor or dentist, runs to about \$6 a child per year, compared with a few cents per capita per year for fluoridation of the public water supply.

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MEDFORD TRIBUNE

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ANY PORT IN A STORM is attitude of these lion cubs at Germany's Duisburg Zoo. Cold wave sent them scurrying for warmth and who should turn up with properly maternal attitude but this foster mother who had lost her pups. (International Soundphoto)

4. There is no proof of the effectiveness of these prescriptions. The only form of home fluoridation recommended by the dental school is some means of fluoridating at one part per million all water consumed at home.

Dr. Savara explained that merely drinking fluoridated water is not entirely sufficient. The one part per million formula is

based on the assumption that fluoridated water is used for cooking as well as drinking. More fluorine is consumed through meat and vegetables cooked in water than through drinking water in the average household.

It would be difficult to find a big enough pot to make a batch of fluoridated water sufficient for a day's household consumption, Dr. Savara stated.

Dentifrices Unproven
The American Dental Association also doubts the effectiveness of fluoride dentifrice in preventing tooth decay.

The conclusion, according to Dr. Savara, is that fluoridation of the public water supply is the only method proved to be safe, effective and fully controlled by competent health authorities.

Air Force Officers Growing Concerned Over Plane Wrecks

By CHARLES CODDRY
United States Correspondent
Washington — (U.P.) — Air Force officers fear that a shortage of men and money to maintain airplanes is cutting into flying safety.

A rash of recent air crashes, involving many types of planes both old and new, has heightened their concern. The causes of these accidents are not definitely known, but airmen are worried that maintenance problems are a factor.

Secrecy on Statistics
The safety issue has become so sensitive that the Air Force at least temporarily has clamped a secrecy label on accident statistics making any comparison between present and past periods impossible.

Secrecy was carried to the point Tuesday that a spokesman had to say he could not provide a list of accidents and fatalities that have occurred so far this year. The argument was made that figures on total number of accidents would aid the Russians.

Air Safety Problem
Nevertheless, published reports would seem enough to show that the air arm is grappling with a safety problem. And Gen. Nathan F. Twining, chief of staff, has indicated as much to a Senate committee.

Since Jan. 4, there have been at least seven major accidents which killed 28 airmen. Another was averted last week when a C124 Globemaster limped into Iceland with two of its four engines dead.

The accidents involved seven different plane types, so the fault cannot lie with defects in any particular model. Types ranged from the C47 transport, designed in 1935, to the ultra-modern B52 bomber and F101 Voodoo supersonic fighter.

On Jan. 4 at Ellsworth Air Force Base, Rapid City, S. D., a B35 Superbomber landed afire but the crew escaped. Six days later a Voodoo crashed, killing a test pilot at Elgin Air Force Base, Fla.

Explosion Cause Traced
A B52 had an explosion at high altitude near Tracy, Calif., on Feb. 16 and four of its eight occupants were killed. The Air Force announced Tuesday that an "electrical system malfunction" apparently caused that one.

Six days after the bomber accident, a KC97 tanker-transport crashed on takeoff from Palm Beach, Fla., killing five. Three days later a C47 cracked up in Spain with three dead and three survivors. Fifteen airmen died on Monday—four in a B47 jet bomber that crashed near Sedalia, Mo., and 11 in a B50 bomber that crashed near Dayton, O.

Cold Wave Routes Warmth in South

By UNITED PRESS
A cold wave chilled the Southland today, routing weather that was so summery it even broke records at Miami.

The cold dropped temperatures 10 to 15 degrees in Florida and kept the mercury hovering near freezing as far south as Tennessee and North Carolina early today.

In Southern Florida, the temperature dropped from a downright hot 89 degrees recorded at the Miami Airport yesterday. It was 85 in downtown Miami, making it the hottest February day on record there in the past 45 years.

It was also cold in the Midwest, with temperatures below zero in the upper Great Lakes and Northern Midwest, and the Northeast had another cold snap.

The Northeast cold followed a brisk snowstorm which moved away from the Massachusetts coast to Nova Scotia.

Temperatures early today included 34 at Atlanta, Ga., 59 at Miami, 18 at Boston, and 7 below at Bemidji, Minn.

Probably the first musical society in America was the St. Cecilia, organized at Charleston, S. C., in 1762. It still exists as sponsor of the famed St. Cecilia Balls.

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