

Nuclear Fuel Demand To Grow, Hanford Workers Tell Newsmen

By MURRAY MOLER
United Press Correspondent
Richland, Wash.—The men who operate the world's pioneer factory for manufacture of plutonium, major ingredient of America's atomic bomb, agreed Monday night that the demand for nuclear fuel will continue to grow to meet weapon and power needs.

Speaking at the news conference following the first press tour conducted here since the billion dollar Hanford works began producing plutonium during World War II, spokesmen for the Atomic Energy Commission and General Electric company, operators of the facility, denied that this country has an excess supply of fissionable material.

W. E. Johnson, general manager for General Electric since 1952, pointed out that President Eisenhower, with the advice of his National Security Council, establishes requirements for production of plutonium and its parent metal, uranium.

However, Johnson said that with the increased development of tactical atomic weapons as well as city-busting A-bombs H-bombs and "the problems of logistics in scattering these all over the world, the demand will go up." There is no way of

knowing, he added, "just how many we might need."

Important Experiments

On the use of plutonium in power reactors, F. W. Albaugh, chief manager of GE's laboratories, said that an experimental program at Hanford was still in its "early stages" but he was "optimistic" on its success.

The AEC and GE spokesmen explained that in the reactor plutonium is formed by placing corn-cob-sized "slugs" of uranium into ports in the massive five-story high facility and, under strict control, permitting a neutron bombardment of the metal. This bombardment turns much of the uranium 238 isotopes, which are normally non-fissionable into plutonium, an artificial element.

Plutonium and the uranium isotope 235, present in natural uranium in only one in 140 parts, are the only known materials that can form the power of an A-bomb or fire a nuclear furnace. In power research scientists hope they can find ways of making uranium "burn" in steam generating reactors to what they call a recycling process.

This would lessen the demand for the comparatively rare uranium 235. However, the AEC and GE spokesmen said that results in the \$1 million research program that began here last September have not yet found a method through which plutonium can be used for power.

They explained that plutonium currently is more expensive to produce than uranium 235 and also has toxic properties that make it extremely hazardous to use in power reactors.

Helpful to Allies
They added that other plutonium research is being conducted in various American atomic installations and in Great Britain and they hoped the overall findings would be beneficial.

They pointed out that successful discovery of an economic and chemically satisfactory process would be of major benefit to foreign countries that could have nuclear power plants without the expense of building an elaborate chemical diffusion works needed to produce uranium 235.

The eight reactors at Hanford and most of the supporting facilities spread over the 600-square mile reservation are designed basically for the transmutation of uranium into plutonium.

This process was the only phase of the operation that remains classified and was not shown to visiting newsmen. J. E. Travis, Hanford manager for the AEC, explained that while basic methods are presumably known by other countries, America's production qualities remain top secret.

Before the news conference, correspondents were taken on an 89-mile bus trip through the Hanford laboratories and biological research facilities.

A similar tour Thursday will be conducted of eight facilities at the National Reactor Testing station near Idaho Falls, Idaho.

Knife, Fork Club Speaker Retains Names by Formula

"Have trouble remembering people's names?" There is one man who doesn't. He is George Bailey, guest entertainer, who appeared on the program of the Rogue River Valley Knife and Fork club Monday evening at the Rogue Valley Country club.

Bailey, who called more than 100 people attending the dinner-meeting by name during the evening, gives a simple formula to remember people's names.

"Pay attention, repeat the name, write it down," he advises.

He has used this in remembering more than 15,000 names each year. "How long does he remember them?" Not very long, Bailey said, "I'm continually learning new ones."

Since he started with the Knife and Fork circuit in 1938, he has remembered about 300,000 names.

So far he has failed to recall only 10 names for an average of one out of every 400 names learned, he said.

Bailey's "Salmagundi Show," included magic acts of pulling money out of the air, making lighted cigarettes disappear into a handkerchief, and cutting a necktie into pieces (which was in one piece again by the close of the program).

The highlight of the program was Bailey's playing on 59 stemmed water goblets fastened in wooden boxes. The glasses, some partly filled with water, were played by lightly running a damp finger around the top edge of the glass.

Seven Selections
Seven selections were played starting with "The Bells of St. Mary's" and continuing through such favorites as "The Old Lamp Lighter," "Home on the Range," and ending with "Farewell to Thee."

Bailey, who was accompanied to Medford by his wife, was introduced by Neil O. Davidson, president of the club.

Following introduction of the guests, three newly elected directors to the board were announced. They included Mrs. Robert Duncan, and Leonard Mayfield.

Mrs. Richard House was appointed secretary - treasurer for the club to fill the position now held by Mrs. J. S. Heatherington, who with Dr. Heatherington, a member of the board of directors, is moving from Medford this summer.

Supreme Court
Studies Maneuver
By Caryl Chessman

Washington — The Supreme court has taken under advisement another in a long series of legal maneuvers by convicted author Caryl Chessman to escape the gas chamber at California's San Quentin prison.

Chessman was convicted in 1948 on 17 counts, two of them carrying the death penalty, involving robbery and attempted rape in Los Angeles lovers' lanes. He has evaded the gas chamber for nine years by various legal actions, much of the time acting as his own attorney.

In arguments before the Supreme court Monday, Chessman, represented by San Francisco attorney George T. Davis, maintained he had been deprived of due process of law.

Davis charged that an "inebriated" relative of a Los Angeles prosecutor was hired to transcribe the notes of a dead reporter on Chessman's original trial. He asked the court to order a new hearing to "determine the validity and adequacy" of the trial record.

He said that "if it is established that the deceased reporter is in fact not decipherable and that no true, complete and correct transcript of the trial can be prepared from them," Chessman should be released.



BRITAIN'S MONTGOMERY AT GETTYSBURG—President Eisenhower leads British Field Marshal Bernard Montgomery from his personal plane after landing at Gettysburg, Pa. to spend a weekend on Ike's farm. During the weekend, took the Deputy NATO commander for a tour of the Civil War battlefield.

PROSPECT 62nd Birthday Observed

By GENEIL SPRUILL
Prospect—Mr. and Mrs. Howard Mathers were over night guests at the home of Mr. and Mrs. George Governor. Sunday they went to Days Creek where they visited at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Clayton Mathers. Sunday evening they observed the 62nd birthday of Howard Mathers. Ice cream and cake were served.

Jerry Gaines won second place in the 880 race at the County track meet in Ashland Saturday, May 4. He was eligible to compete in the district meet at Klamath Falls Saturday, May 11.

Mrs. John Mallon of Central Point visited during the past week at the homes of her children, Mr. and Mrs. Russell Burge, and Mrs. Boyde Powers.

Miss Ginevra Mathers left Friday, May 3, for a visit at Wieser, Idaho. She will be the guest of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Doak.

Mrs. Sam Powers of Enterprise who has been staying at the home of her son and family, Boyde Powers, left during the week for Delake, Ore., where she will visit at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Dean Huls. She was accompanied by her son.

Ray Millard who is employed at the Red Blanket Lumber company, suffered another heart attack recently and is confined to his home.

Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Robertson left Friday for a few days visit with their son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Darrel Stone of Langlois, Ore.

Mr. and Mrs. O. E. Stone have as house guest Mrs. Daisy Olson of Baker, Ore. She will spend the summer in Prospect.

Mr. and Mrs. Carl Moore and daughter of Lake View were week end visitors at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Moore.

David Neville traveled to Salem during the week and returned with a new fire truck for the state. He stated that the state will now have a fire pump truck at the guard station in Prospect, beside the one pumper furnished by Elk Lumber company.

Donna Millikan of Hood River Patty Ernest of Nampa, Idaho, Charles Yell, of Central Point, and Le Roy Struck of Prospect, all attending college at Nampa, spent the week end visiting in Central Point and Prospect.

Bob Culver arrived at Ketchikan Alaska, Friday, May 4, after a five hour flight from Medford. He was joined by his friend, Ronald Curran.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Crenshaw returned to their home Friday, and on Sunday returned

Transplants Could Bring Sight Back for Many

Boston — (U.P.) — Sight could be restored to 20,000 blind persons in the United States through cornea transplant operations, the Boston Eye Bank says.

These operations are 80 per cent successful when performed on persons suffering from injured or diseased corneas, the Bank said.

Doctors report 44 New Englanders regained their sight last year. However, bank officials here said there is a shortage

Brass Spittoon Gets Position of Compromise

Milwaukee — (U.P.) — The time-honored brass spittoon has a position of compromise with the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors.

The board voted to get rid of 300 spittoons in county buildings but allowed 150 to remain in operation at elevator doors and committee rooms.

A spokesman said the spittoons weren't needed any longer because tobacco chewing had gone out of style.

Unidentified Subs Off Canadian Coast Bring Investigation

Halifax, N.S. — At least four unidentified submarines have been sighted off Canada's east coast in less than a month. The Canadian Navy is not overlooking the possibility that the mysterious undersea craft might be Russian.

The latest report came Monday from the Placentia Bay area where Mr. and Mrs. John Slade of Spencer Cove reported seeing a submarine near their home early Monday morning. They said the sub lay in the mouth of the harbor, 250 yards from shore, for half an hour before submerging.

Saturday, the St. John's, Nfld., Telegram quoted two of five men who reported seeing a mysterious submarine last Thursday. Gerald McCarthy and Russell Sheppard, both of Harbor Grace, said they watched the craft as it surfaced, maneuvered about the tricky harbor entrance on the west side of Conception Bay and then submerged.

Two fishermen saw a surfaced sub near New Harbor Island in mid-April, and their report was investigated by U.S. planes. Another report came May 2 from Fairhaven, 18 miles northeast of Placentia.

The Royal Canadian Navy, which often investigates the reports in conjunction with the U.S. Navy and Air Force, is re-

luctant to discuss what it has found or what it thinks about the reports. But a Navy spokesman at St. John's said Monday night the possibility that some of the subs might be Russian was not being overlooked.

Searches that follow reports of sightings indicate that the unidentified craft are not American.

House Bills Slated For Senate Action

House Bills 420 and 816, regarding inspection of meat, are scheduled to be voted on in the state senate this week according to Mrs. H. P. Bosworth, representative of the Medford League of Women Voters.

The bills, which have already passed the house, and if passed by the senate, would make the inspection of meat in the state compulsory starting July 1, 1957.

The League of Women Voters have supported similar bills in the state legislature since 1946, according to Mrs. Bosworth, and she encouraged voters to write or wire state senators regarding the bills.

The Jackson county public health department has been encouraging passage of such a bill since 1946 according to Dr. A. Erwin Merkel, county health officer.

He stressed that some kind of meat inspection and control was needed and the department was in favor of the two bills now before the senate.

The bills, if approved, would also include the \$567,000 cost that the program would need to operate. Twenty per cent of the program's expense would be borne by the meat packing industries for cost of administration and enforcement.

'Champagne Stakes' Popular at Louisville

Louisville, Ky. — (U.P.) — In the early days of the Churchill Downs race track, a popular annual event was the "Champagne Stakes," sponsored by a dealer in that beverage.

A condition of the race was that the winning owner furnish "six dozen bottles of champagne to the clubhouse."

After Aztec's victory in the 1883 running of the event, a sports writer of the day noted, "prompt payment of the wine penalty led to an era of good feeling" in the clubhouse.

Perhaps this was the origin of the current custom observed on Kentucky Derby day. After the big race, the track management always sends a huge bottle of champagne to the stable area for the enjoyment of the grooms and hands of the winning stable.

GOOD DEED FOR DAY

Ventura, Calif. — Mrs. Edythe Lowe made an unexpected contribution to the Boy Scouts' clothing drive Monday. When the scouts came to the door and asked for clothes her little boy thought the scouts had been sent by the laundryman and turned over a bundle containing the family wash.

BODY FOUND IN RIVER

Portland — The body of an unidentified man was found floating in the Willamette river near Swan island Monday. Police said it apparently had been in the water about 10 days.



CLOAK AND DAGGER—Alfred Corradi (above), an amateur undercover agent using cloak and dagger finesse, disclosed a conspiracy to attempt the murder of Washington, D. C. attorney Raymond Dickey. Two suspects were arrested in Miami after Corradi told police that he had been hired by one of them for \$1000 to kill Dickey.

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