

Chemical Compound Said To Provide Poison Ivy Immunity

By DELOS SMITH
United Press Science Editor
New York—A science seems to have forged a really effective weapon against poison ivy—at last. This means that even if spring is far away, thousands may now look forward to its coming without any sense of dread.

The weapon is a chemical compound "made" in the laboratory of Dr. Charles R. Dawson, chemistry professor at Columbia University. With that compound, a physician gave summer-long immunity to persons who had been highly sensitive to poison ivy.

Dawson and a group of his graduate students were the first to break down the chemistry of the poison into its component parts. Several of these components they duplicated with chemical compounds of their own making. All this was done back in 1952.

Analogues Formed
These compounds were altered in various chemical ways to produce analogues, that is chemical compounds but still not identical. One of these analogues was, chemically speaking, 3-n-pentadecyl catechol which theoretically could bestow immunity upon persons sensitive to poison ivy.

Dr. Harry Keil, an allergist, got a supply of it for testing in those people. He selected 28 of his patients who were, in his words, "known to be intensely hypersensitive to poison ivy and to be in direct or indirect contact with the plant."

In late April and early May he injected a tiny amount of the compound under the skin of an arm, just enough to produce a slight bump. He did this once a week for six weeks. Some of the 28 got "coursed" by injections during succeeding springs, a year apart. In all 38 "coursed" were given.

Keil Outlines Results
Twenty of the 38 recipients of "coursed" were entirely free of poison ivy attacks for an entire summer although, Keil specified, there was no doubt that they had been in contact with poison ivy. Sixteen had mild, short attacks, which may have been produced by the chemical compound itself.

The remaining two of the 38, Keil classified as "failures" but as "moderate" ones.

Safety Council to Meet Friday Noon

The Medford Safety Council will hold a special membership meeting Friday, Jan. 10, at noon at the Jackson hotel, according to Bob Bacus, secretary.

The meeting will be open to all members, Bacus said, and has been called by Aubrey Loper, president of the council, to discuss plans for the annual awards banquet Jan. 24.

Hazel Swayne, chairman of the awards committee, will give a brief report on nominations for the various safety awards. She said any group which has not presented its recommendations for awards may do so at the meeting.

EX-ENGLISH OFFICER DIES
London—Col. Walter Elliot, 69, former minister of agriculture and health, died of a heart attack Wednesday while walking in a woods near Hawick, Scotland. The Tory member of Parliament served as minister of agriculture from 1931 to 1936 and minister of health from 1938 to 1940. He had also served as secretary of state for Scotland and director of public relations for the war office during World War II.

NEW OFFICIAL SLATE
Charlotte, N. C.—A slate of candidates in the Central High School election got bored with the same old titles—president, vice president, secretary and treasurer. The students announced they were running for "big boss, little boss, pen pusher and moneybags."

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One of these two, for instance, pulled poison ivy out of the ground with bare hands which will give a mild poison ivy attack to some persons with natural immunity. Keil made his report to the medical society of the state of New York. The idea of the injections was to "influence" the "shock organ" involved in poison ivy poisoning into producing chemical defenses against the "shock." The "shock organ" here is the base layer of the skin.

One of Every Three Employed in County Has Forestry Work

(Editor's note: This is the first in a series of articles discussing the importance of federal timber to Jackson county's economy. The survey was made by the Industrial Forestry Association, which has headquarters in Portland.)

"One out of every three workers in Jackson county is employed by the forest industry," according to W. D. Hagenstein, executive vice president of Industrial Forestry association, who today revealed the results of an association study of the importance of federal timber to the county's economy.

Forest industry employment in Jackson county has increased by one-third in the last 10 years, and its present \$21 million annual payroll is 40 per cent of the county's total, Hagenstein said.

Value Doubles
The study showed the annual value of Jackson county's forest products doubling in the last decade, to nearly \$61,000,000.

Hagenstein said the main reason for the study was that "exorbitant" federal timber and a falling lumber and plywood market had caused unemployment. He said the study was designed to find out what the federal forest agencies should do to get the full allowable timber harvest sold each year.

He said that harvest of the

full allowable cut would prevent an "artificial shortage of timber" and help keep timber prices at levels consumers could afford.

The study showed that in the last 10 years the Rogue River National forest has cut only 86 per cent of its allowable cut, and the Medford district of the bureau of land management harvested only 75 per cent. Hagenstein said the allowable cut is the rate at which forests should be harvested for continuous production.

"The importance of federal timber to Jackson county's economy is dramatically illustrated," Hagenstein said, "by the fact that in the last 10 years, despite federal government ownership of 60 per cent of the county's timber 10 years ago, it contributed only 21 per cent of the timber harvested."

Klamath Falls Youths Appear in Court Here

George Keith Shelton 19, and Roland Hyche, 22, pleaded guilty in district court Tuesday to charges of damaging a motor vehicle.

Hyche was fined \$100 plus costs and Shelton was fined \$50 plus costs. The youths were charged with breaking into a car owned by Richard Wayne Ross, Ashland, and breaking the windshield glass while the car was parked on the Green Springs highway.



ELAINE SOULE Guilty of Murder?

K. F. Population Figured at 20,681

Klamath Falls—The Klamath Falls Chamber of Commerce contended today that the city's population has passed the 20,000 mark and that signs at the approaches to the city should show the increase.

The Chamber said it reached a new population estimate by multiplying the number of new families by 3.5. They said the old figure of 18,300 should be changed to 20,681.

Chamber officials said possible annexation of suburban areas could bring Klamath Falls from sixth to fifth in population rank in the state.

DEATH TAKES ACTOR

New York—Harold Vermilyea, 68, stage, screen, radio and TV actor, died at his home here Wednesday, apparently of a heart attack.

He made his Broadway debut in 1914 in "The Lion and the Mouse" and was last seen here in 1945 as the southern congressman in "Deep are the Roots."

CAN'T READ WRITING

Luton, England—Sir John Burgoyne, 83, entered school today to learn typing. "Can't read my own writing you know," he said.

Witnesses Called To Bolster Murder Charge Against Girl

Redwood City, Calif.—The prosecution called a parade of witnesses today to bolster its charge that honey-haired Elaine Soule was a cold-blooded murderess who killed her pretty roommate for money.

A jury of seven men and five women listened attentively as District Attorney Keith Sorenson called police and other witnesses to the stand to question them about the death of Catherine Marie Elvins, 19.

In his opening remarks to the jury Wednesday, Sorenson claimed Miss Soule, a 19-year-old typist from Freeport, N.Y., bludgeoned and stabbed Miss Elvins to death last July 24 in the Burlingame apartment the two girls shared.

He declared that Miss Soule "without the shadow of a doubt" is guilty of first degree murder.

But defense attorney John Cost said he and his associate, G. Brooks Ice, will prove that "she did not have the mental ability to form the intent to kill." He said she was guilty of manslaughter at the most.

Opening the prosecution case, Sorenson then called three police officers to the stand to identify evidence. The officers were Bobby Nowlin, William Brigham and Rudolph Ruhl Jr., of the Burlingame police force.

THE EVIDENCE

As they identified blood-stained pajamas, blankets and sheets, Miss Soule showed her first sign of emotion.

As each grisly item was introduced, Miss Soule gulped and grasped her hands in her lap. Her eyes became redder. Only twice did she look at the evidence. This was when her attorneys examined the iron and a knife—the weapons with which Miss Elvins was slain. Both times she looked away, taking great gulps of air and trembling.

Her mother, Mrs. Frank A.

Soule of Freeport, sat behind her. Her head was bowed and her shoulders shook with sobs.

Sorenson outlined how Miss Elvins, from Seattle, and Miss Soule met at a church social and decided to share an apartment. After two months, he said, "they no longer got along."

MONEY ANGLE

Last July 8, he said, Miss Elvins received a \$160 check from her parents to cover enrollment fees at San Francisco State college. She told Elaine she was going to move to San Francisco.

About 6:30 a.m. on the morning of July 24, he said, Miss Soule arose from the studio couch where the two young women slept.

"She saw the check and thought how she could use that \$160," Sorenson said. "Then while Kit was just waking up, Elaine Soule grabbed the iron and hit her head approximately 30 times."

"Miss Soule then went to the kitchen where she obtained a knife. She gauged where Kit's heart was by testing where her own heart was. She then struck her repeatedly in the left chest."

"It was the knife wounds that caused Kit's death."

But Cost said Miss Soule "did the acts that led to the violent death of Kit Elvins, but we will prove that she did not have the mental ability to kill or rob."

METEOROLOGIST DIES

Milton, Mass.—Dr. Charles F. Brooks, 66, professor emeritus of meteorology at Harvard University and a leading authority on weather and climate, died at his home here Wednesday. He founded the American Meteorological Society in 1919 and helped establish the Mount Washington Observatory in New Hampshire. He was director of Harvard's Blue Hill Observatory in Milton from 1931 to 1957.

Thursday, January 9, 1958 MEDFORD (OREGON) MAIL TRIBUNE—THREE

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GOLD HILL Meetings Are Scheduled

BY MRS. CLYDE KELL

Gold Hill—Several meetings have been scheduled in Gold Hill this week. The first will be held by the Woman's Society of the Gold Hill Community church, Friday, Jan. 10, at 1 p.m. in the home of Mrs. Paul Molloy.

Mrs. J. Les Graffius will be in charge of the program and Mrs. Wilmer Bailey will be in charge of devotions.

Mrs. Sidney Anderson will be hostess for a meeting of the Gold Hill Garden club at her home on Sardine creek, Friday, Jan. 17, at 1 p.m.

A meeting of Amethyst Rebekah lodge is scheduled for Wednesday Jan. 15, at 8 p.m.

Mr. and Mrs. Bill Hittle are convalescing at their home following an automobile accident before New Year's Day. Both were injured.

Mr. and Mrs. Neil Robbins and sons, Danny and Billy, went to Oakland, Ore., recently where they visited his brother and sister-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Robbins and sons, Kent, Cory and Junior.

Mrs. George Dorman had as dinner guests at her home New Year's Day Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Dusenberry and son, Gary.

Mr. and Mrs. Fritz Morrison and family returned to Packwood, Wash., Dec. 28 after spending the holidays with his mother Mrs. Rekka Morrison in Grants Pass. The Morrisons were also house guests of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Jones, while in southern Oregon. He is a forest ranger at Packwood.

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Mr. and Mrs. Paul Holderness, who have been visiting recently with their son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Gene Holderness, are now living in Ashland where Mrs. Holderness will attend Southern Oregon college. The Holdernesses are former residents of Gold Hill and since leaving here several years ago have made their home in Idaho and Montana.

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