

Scientists Continue Effort To Discover Common Cold Vaccine

By LOUIS CASSELS

Washington—UPI—At least 100,000,000 wretched citizens will lift their faces from handkerchiefs this winter and announce glumly:

"I seem to be catching a code."

Most of them will wonder, amidst their sniffing and sneezing misery, why medical science doesn't isolate the cold virus and develop a vaccine against it.

The answer to this question is both complicated and discouraging, according to scientists at the National Institute of Health who have spent years in research on mankind's most prevalent illness.

They have learned that the "simple" ailment which most people call a common cold is actually a whole spectrum of respiratory infections. The symptoms of these infections are remarkably similar, but they are caused by at least 50 different viruses.

Vaccines already have been developed, and are being used by the armed forces, against several of these viruses which are known to cause frequent epidemics among military recruits. A researcher at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, Md., thinks he has identified a virus which causes about 30 per cent of the civilian colds.

But other scientists are skeptical. They believe that no one virus is responsible for more than five or ten per cent of the total number of infections.

This means that any "cold vaccine," to be reasonably effective, will have to provide protection against dozens or even scores of different viruses. Such a vaccine will be enormously difficult to produce, and probably quite expensive. It may not be practical at all.

A "cure" for colds is even more elusive than a vaccine. Americans spend hundreds of millions of dollars each winter on cold remedies. They dose themselves with pills, sprays, cough syrups, lozenges, nose drops, inhalers, steam kettles, ointments, mustard plasters and straight bourbon whiskey. Sometimes they badger their doctors into giving them injections of antibiotic drugs.

None of these things will speed recovery from a cold, said a spokesman for the National Institute of Allergies and Infectious Diseases (the branch of the National Institutes of Health that deals with respiratory illnesses).

The best thing you can do when you feel a "cold" coming on is to go to bed for a day or two," he said. "This rests your body and gives it an optimum chance to mobilize its own defenses against the infection. It also lessens your opportunities to infect others, or to pick up secondary bac-

terial infections from others. "Take a couple of aspirins, if you wish, to relieve the discomfort. If you want to treat the specific symptoms of your ailment with nose drops or gargles or cough syrups, ask your doctor to recommend something. But don't expect any of these things to make you well. The most they can do is provide temporary relief of local discomforts."

What can you do to avoid catching cold in the first place.

The most important thing is to stay away from people who have colds. This is often not feasible. But you should do your best to keep a few feet of clean air between yourself and any person who is in the sneezy-drippy stage. That's when colds are most contagious.

Care of Health Urged

Taking care of your general health—through proper diet, adequate sleep, good personal hygiene, etc.—will help to build up your resistance to colds. Some people, however, seem to have a natural susceptibility to respiratory infections, no matter

how healthy they may be otherwise. The doctor's don't know why.

Researchers are also more or less in the dark about the precise role of "thermal factors" in respiratory infections. Some people seem to catch cold when they are chilled, others when they get overheated. Some are rendered easy marks by wet feet, others by sitting in drafts.

About all that can be said with certainty is that none of these things "cause" a cold. They simply lower the body's resistance to invasion by viruses. And individuals vary greatly in how they are affected by heat, cold and dampness.

"You just have to know yourself, and use a little common sense," said the NIH spokesman. "If you've learned from bitter experience that you often come down with a cold after getting your feet wet, don't let anybody talk you out of wearing rubbers on a rainy day."

"If sitting in a draft is your nemesis, never mind why it doesn't bother the guy at the next desk. Just get out of the draft."

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Mikoyan Visit Firms Debate

Washington—UPI—Sen. Hubert H. Humphrey said today the visit of Soviet Deputy Premier Anastas I. Mikoyan "has crystallized debate over U.S. trade policies."

He also said Mikoyan's trip "compelled the American people to reexamine their attitudes" today on contacts with the Soviet Union.

Evidence of the growing interest in the trade and economic aspects of Mikoyan's visit was the appearance late Tuesday of Llewellyn Thompson, U.S. ambassador to Russia, before the Senate Foreign Relations committee of which Humphrey is a member.

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Humphrey said Thompson strongly favored continued exchange programs between the two powers, "cultural as well as educational and scientific."

At Lockheed's mammoth plant here, they are turning out the sleek new Electra, a jet-prop transport (jet engines hitched to conventional propellers) that will be in wide use by the end of 1959.

If the Electra develops bugs, Lockheed engineers will be very much surprised. Their pre-flight testing - program was the most elaborate they had ever put into a new airplane.

For example: What effect would ice and rain have on the Electra's jet engines, which gulp in enormous amounts and feed it to the spinning turbines?

Lockheed engineers hard-packed ice balls as large as three inches in diameter, literally creating man-made hail - stones. They fired the hailstones into the air inlet duct at speeds of nearly 500 miles an hour. The engines kept running.

They aimed this blinding sheet of water at the Electra's engines and fired away. Nothing happened. The engines kept running.

What would happen if the Electra's pressurized fuselage if a propeller blade should fly off and rupture the skin? Lockheed built a full-sized fuselage and pressurized it to the fantastic total of 14.2 pounds per square inch - or one ton per square foot. Then the engineers took a remote-controlled axe and began hacking away at the fuselage.

Lockheed's Electra Transport Undergoes Rigid Test Program

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Nothing happened, except a slow, harmless air leak. Then the engineers took the riddled fuselage and subjected it to simulated turbulence—turbulence so violent that it exceeded what the average airliner would encounter in the severest thunderstorm.

Again nothing happened. The fuselage remained structurally sound. Or as the technicians proudly put it: "She remained a reliable, flyable airplane despite the damage."

The Electra's landing gear will retract or extend about 12,000 times a year in normal airline operations. The gear, before being approved for the airliner, was subjected to 270,000 simulated flights including loads six tons greater than the plane is expected to carry.

Fingers Crossed

But, despite this fantastically elaborate testing program, Lockheed will have its fingers crossed - as do all its manufacturers.

In the past, similar testing has failed to uncover unsuspected bugs. The Lockheed Constellation developed trouble with its electrical wiring, the Douglas DC-6 came up with bugs in its system for cross - feeding fuel, the Boeing Stratocruiser was plagued with propeller ailments, the Martin 2-0-2 had to have its wings redesigned and the DC-7 was forced to modify its engines.

Group To Study Migrant Affairs

Salem—UPI—Dr. Roy E. Lieuallen, chairman of the Oregon Committee on Migrant Affairs and president of

Oregon College of Education, Tuesday announced appointment of an advisory committee of five to the migrant affairs group.

Selected were the Rt. Rev. Benjamin Dagwell, Portland, former Oregon bishop; J. W. Forrester Jr., editor and publisher of the East Oregonian, Pendleton; Dr. Dorothy O. Johansen, professor of history, Reed college, Portland; Tom McCall, Portland radio-television commentator; and ex-Gov. Charles A. Sprague, publisher and editor of the Oregon Statesman, Salem.

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LOS ANGELES ARENA—Architect's drawing shows how the new Los Angeles Memorial Sports Arena will look after completion next May. The arena has been selected as the site for the 1960 Democratic convention. This will be the first time that either major political party has held its convention in Los Angeles, and the first time for the Democrats since 1920.

Beck Evasion Trial Continues

Tacoma, Wash. —UPI—The government continued its investigation of Dave Beck's finances today in its income tax evasion trial against the former teamsters president.

Beck is being tried on charges of evading \$240,000 in income taxes for 1950-1953. The government is attempting to prove him guilty by the "net worth" method, showing he spent a certain amount of money on which no taxes were paid.

Tuesday, Allen Morgan, vice president of the Seattle First National Bank, testified Beck had been borrowing money from the bank since 1938.

Morgan said at no time when he was seeking the loans did Beck ever tell bank officials he owed money to the Teamsters Union. This type of information is required on financial statements in loan transactions.

Assistant U. S. Attorney Jack Obernour asked Morgan if Beck ever told of any additional liabilities other than on financial statements.

4-H Club News

Medford Kitchen Maids
The ninth meeting of the Medford Kitchen Maids was held at Sara Robinson's home Saturday morning, Jan. 17.

The pledges were said and the minutes read. We answered roll call with sad cooking experiences that turned out good.

Martha Merriman and Sara Robinson gave a demonstration making cherry cobbler. We were served the cherry cobbler, ice cream, cookies and punch.

The next meeting will be a tour of the court house. Mary Kay Hochstatter, Reporter

Eagle Point Ranchers
The Eagle Point Ranchers met Jan. 12 in the agricultural building at Eagle Point with 20 members present.

Mr. Krambeal showed slides of beef and Mr. Dowell gave lessons on handling beef and judging beef.

We were happy to welcome a new member, Pamela Stevens. Refreshments were served by Mrs. Sutton.

Next meeting will be Jan. 26 at 7 p.m. in the agricultural building in Eagle Point. Gordon DeHaas, Reporter

SAWGRASS FOR PAPER
Lakeland, Fla. —UPI—Sawgrass, which grows plentifully in Florida's Everglades, could provide an answer to dwindling supplies of wood-pulp, the Southeastern Chemurgic conference was told Tuesday.

Dr. K. Starr Chester, scientist from Alton, Ill., described sawgrass as one of the best raw materials for manufacturing paper.

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ILLINOIS VALLEY Advisory Board To Meet
By RUTH RAUSCH
Cave Junction — The Illinois Valley FFA advisory board will meet in the vo-ag building at the high school Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. One item of business to be discussed is the proposed veterinary course to be offered here beginning Jan. 28.

Merlin Sprague was elected as general chairman and coordinator for the annual conclave of the Illinois Valley Soil Conservation district, which is scheduled for May 9 at the Illinois Valley Demonstration area near Takilma.

The general public is invited to attend the meeting to become better acquainted with the daily work supervised and developed by the SCD. Several state officials are expected to appear on the program. Details will be released at a later date.

A reminder to attend the forthcoming important joint PTA meeting of the four Illinois Valley schools scheduled for this Friday night, Jan. 23, has been made by Mrs. Ed DeMersseman, chairman for the event.

Mrs. DeMersseman stressed that the meeting was open to all who are interested and is not for PTA members only. The meeting will be held at the high school at 8 p.m. Free baby sitting service has been arranged.

The Illinois Valley Garden club will meet on Friday of this week at the Immanuel Methodist church. The program will be conducted by Jack Frost of Wilderville, featuring a lecture on orchids.

A dessert luncheon will be served by chairman, Mrs. Les

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