

AEC Official Says Deaths Could Hit 2,000 Annually From Nuclear Tests

Washington—(UPI)—A congressional hearing was held Tuesday that U. S. deaths and other "tragedies" from radioactivity could reach 2,000 a year if atmospheric nuclear tests are continued at present rates.

That would exceed the annual toll in military plane crashes and all other accidents related to the nation's defense.

Dr. Charles L. Dunham, head of the Atomic Energy Commission's Division of Biology and Medicine, told a special joint subcommittee on radiation that radioactive fission products such as strontium-90 from tests held so far might cause 500 "greater or lesser tragedies" in this country each year during the next 30 years.

He said his use of the term "tragedies" included cases of cancer, leukemia, hereditary defects, stillbirths "and the like."

A spokesman for the subcommittee's technical staff said the tests, if continued at the 1957-58 rate, might quadruple the 500 per year figure.

Russia Worst Offender

AEC figures released at the opening of four days of hearings, showed that Russian tests have injected more radioactivity into the atmosphere in the last two years than the U.S. and British tests combined.

The two-year total for all three nations about equaled the amount of radioactivity produced during the first 11 years of weapons testing.

AEC charts, previously kept secret, showed that in the past two years the "fission yield" of U.S.-U.K. nuclear tests was 19 "megatons" while Russia's yielded 21 megatons.

A megaton gives an explosion equal to a million tons of TNT. The fission yield is that part of the explosion resulting from the splitting of atoms. The "fusion" of atoms in the H-bomb causes no similar deadly radioactivity.

Rep. Chet Holifield (D-Calif.), subcommittee chairman, pointed out that committees of scientists have recommended that radioactivity injected into the stratosphere should never exceed 10 megatons a year. With certain deductions to eliminate small, low-level bursts, he said the total for 1957 and 1958 appeared to be 35 megatons, or 17 1/2 megatons a year.

Different Theories

Dunham emphasized that his testimony on cancer and leukemia caused by radiation was based on "one current theory." He said it is possible "there may be no additional cases at all."

The AEC expert said the agency's safety levels for radioactive contamination of both people and food are like auto speed limits — they may be either safe or unsafe. He used the analogy in explaining why maximum permissible concentrations of strontium-90 recently were raised by 100 per cent for human beings and 25 per cent for food.

In a lengthy prepared statement which also stressed that radiation can shorten life and cause hereditary damage, he continued:

"Neither a recommended maximum permissible dose nor a speed limit has any particular significance beyond marking a point at which an advisory group has agreed to draw a line in recommending a maximum degree of hazard.

"A speed equal to the speed limit is not an absolutely safe speed since many serious accidents occur at lower speeds. Nor is it extremely dangerous to drive at speeds somewhat greater than the speed limit."

Dunham attached to his statement a paper by Dr. Douglas Grahn, AEC geologist and geneticist, estimating that the life shortening effects of radioactivity in man at between two and twelve days per roentgen absorbed.

At that rate, the life span

Wall Street Chatter

New York—(UPI)—Prentice-Hall says selectivity should be our watchword as stock prices edge up into still more vulnerable areas. The days of the quick profits in almost any stock, as during most of 1958, are now history.

A period like this, says B. K. Thurlow, research editor of J. R. Williston and Beane, provides unusual opportunities for the investor to enhance his capital, if he has the mental discipline to separate the wheat from the chaff, to weed out those stocks he should not have bought, pay his capital gains tax, and reinvest in situations where the prospects of the future reward outweigh the evident market risks.

PHOENIX Houlihan Home Purchased

By LILLIAN KNIGHT

Phoenix—Miss Dorothy Houlihan of 501 Church st., Phoenix, has sold her home and is moving to San Mateo, Calif., where she will make her home with her sister and brother-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Elmer L. Hasty. Miss Houlihan has lived in Phoenix for the past 14 years.

Mr. and Mrs. Ed Workman have purchased her home and will move in soon with their two children.

James Cotton is still in Sacred Heart hospital after suffering a serious heart attack last Sunday. He is allowed no visitors as yet.

Mrs. C. W. Corey came home from the hospital Tuesday after surgery and is able to be up and around the house part of the time.

Mrs. Carl Chriss is home after surgery and will soon be back to work in her beauty parlor.

Mrs. Bertha Cobleigh returned home recently from a

MAIL TRIBUNE, Medford, Or. Wednesday, May 6, 1959

GIFT FOR SUKARNO

Stockholm, Sweden—(UPI)—The Swedish government said today it had ordered a heart-lung machine as a gift to Indonesian President Sukarno who just completed a three-day visit to Sweden. The machine is designed for complicated heart operations.

Quotes From the News

By UNITED PRESS INTERNATIONAL

Saltholm, Denmark—Edvard Bergmann, a government order that the inhabitants stop collecting rain water for drinking purposes because of its radioactivity.

"I wouldn't be surprised if the whole thing wasn't a plot to make us drink more beer and liquor so the government would get more tax revenue."

Austin, Tex.—Lt. Gen. Bernard Schriever, the Air Force ballistic missile chief, in announcing that the Atlas ICBM would be ready for operational use in July.

"I don't mean we'll have a squadron ready, but we'll have more than one."

New York—News commentator Lowell Thomas, in announcing the start of a nationwide campaign for funds to aid Tibetan refugees:

"The plight of the refugees is critical. They have evaded Chinese attempts to seal the border and many of them are carrying their wounded. They need medical supplies urgently."

Washington—Lewis L. Strauss, newly appointed secretary of commerce, after being buffeted anew by opponents of his appointment:

"I believe the American people... want something better from Washington than what appears to be a pattern of persecution through long drawn-out attempts at defamation of a plain man who has done his best for his country over many years."

New York—Red-haired stock writer Gloria Parker, on why she walloped a woman stockholder at the RCA annual stockholders meeting:

"She called me a tramp."

'Peck's Bad Girl' Debuts; Declared in Same Pit Of Most Family Comedies

By WILLIAM EWALD

UPI Correspondent

New York—(UPI)—There's a TV situation comedy: round up some grown-ups and some children. Then have the adults act like children and all the children act like grownups.

Peck's Bad Girl, a situation comedy which debuted on CBS-TV Tuesday night, is certainly no worse than other TV offerings of the genre and, in some ways, a good deal better.

It owns players of skill in Wendell Corey, Marsha Hunt and Patty McCormack. It is on tape rather than film which gives its surface the near-clarity of a live picture. And it displays occasional spurts of non-doltishness.

In Miamial Pit

Nevertheless, off the evidence of Tuesday night's opener, I would say it falls into the miamial pit of most of TV's family comedies. Father is a research physicist, but even so, acts like a bit of a bumblehead. Mother is less conniving and anti-man than most TV mamas, but she seems a little bit too simple-minded and one-dimensional to be quite real.

As for the daughter, played by young Miss McCormack, she is strictly from Mars. Tuesday night, Miss McCormack essayed the role of a 12-year-old who fell in love with her art teacher and pursued



William Ewald

Oregon Deaths Set Monthly Record

Portland—(UPI)—The State Board of Health said today that 1589 deaths were reported in Oregon during March. That is an all-time monthly high in Board records.

The previous high was 1,428 deaths in March of 1951.

The Board said the current epidemic of respiratory illness was directly responsible for 67 of the deaths and was listed as a complicating factor in 82 others.

PLANS TV FESTIVAL

Montreux, Switzerland (UPI)—The city council said today it is pushing a plan to host the world's first international festival of television arts and sciences. The council would like to hold the first festival next spring and project it as an annual event.

Pet owners in the U. S. spend about \$300 million a year for pet food.

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Fund	Bid	Asked
Bullcock	14.22	15.59
Chem Fund	11.25	12.20
Eaton Howard Sdk	24.43	26.12
Fidelity	18.75	18.11
Gen Ind	13.58	14.98
Group Sec—Avia Elec	11.68	12.79
Group Sec—Com Sdk	13.74	13.94
Group Sec—Fet	11.47	14.93
Group Sec—Steel	10.09	11.03
Keystone B-3	16.52	18.03
Keystone K-2	10.28	11.22
Keystone S-1	15.03	16.40
Keystone S-2	12.92	14.10
Keystone S-3	15.42	16.83
Keystone S-4	13.61	14.93
Mass Inv Grth Sdk	14.20	15.35
EV-Elec	14.33	17.80
Value Line Inc	5.81	6.46
Wellington	14.38	15.67

Portland Livestock

Portland—(UPI)—Cattle 200. Choice 1018 lb. steers 29.60; choice 1127 lb. 29.50; good 1121 lb. 28.50; commercial cows 21-22; utility 17.50-20; canners-cutters mostly 14-15.50; heavy cutters to 16 with Holstein cutters to 18; utility bulls 23.50-24.50.

Calves 30. Good-choice vealers 31-35; cull-utility calves and vealers 18-24; good stock calves 29-30.

Hogs 35; holdover 1.90; No. 1 and 2 butchers 200-225 lb. 18.35; 18-20; mixed 1, 2 and 3 lots 19.00-20.00; 17.50-18; sows 27.5-40 lb. 13-14.50.

Sheep 150. Good choice 104 lb. spring lambs 23.25.

Portland Produce

Portland—(UPI)—Dairy market: Eggs—To retailers: Grade AA, large, 35-37c doz.; A large, 34-36c; AA, medium, 32-34c; AA small, 28-30c; carton 1-3c additional.

Butter—To retailers: Extra and Grade A prints, 55c lb.; carton, 1c higher; B prints, 53c.

Cheese—medium cured—To retailers: A grade cheddar single daisies, 41-51c; processed American cheese, 5-lb. loaf, 40-42c.

Farm Market

First California peaches reached the market here Tuesday. They will retail at 29 cents a pound; first Dalesport, Wash., bunched turkeys, 4-5 lb. dressed, 11-12c; and butter lettuce is due Thursday; turkeys were quoted at 1.25 a dozen bunched; green onions went to producers around 50-55 cents a dozen bunches.

Poultry, Rabbits—Quoted to growers at Portland, Salem and Eugene: f.o.b. ranch, No. 1 quality fryers, 24-4 lbs., 17; light hens, 8-11c heavy hens, 11-12c.

Dressed Chickens—No. 1 grade dressed to retailers: Fryers, whole drawn, 34-36c; cut up, 38-41c; hens, heavy type whole drawn, 37-40c; light-type cut up, 33-35c lb.

Dressed Turkeys—To retailers: Frozen, ready to cook, A grade young toms, 40-43 cents a pound, according to weight; A grade young hens, same basis, 38-40 cents a pound.

Breeder Turkeys—To producers: (Nominal) A grade hens, 23c on an evacuated basis; A grade toms, 23c on the same basis; to retailers, A grade hens, 35-36c.

Rabbits (average size) to growers f.o.b. killing plants—Live white, 33-41c lb. f.o.b. Portland, 20-23c; colored pelts 3c under. Fresh killed fryers to retailers, 57-60c lb.; cut up, 61-64c.

Portland Hay, Grain

Portland—Wholesale Hay Prices: No. 2 green alfalfa, bale, f.o.b. Portland and Seattle, \$33-33 with top quality to \$35.

Wholesale Prices as reported by the Portland USDA market news service. Basis by the ton, bulk, prompt delivery, f.o.b. track, Portland.

Wheat, No. 1 soft white, \$63.00 No. 2 Milo, Eastern shipment \$63.50 No. 2 corn, Eastern shipment \$56.50-57.00 No. 2 wh. oats, 38-lb. Coast \$32.00-54.00 No. 2 Western barley, Coast \$49.00-50.00 Soybean meal 44% protein, \$77.00 Standard millrun, \$43.00-44.00

The year 1958 was the first since 1949 during which no single disaster in the U.S. claimed as many as 100 lives.

London House Airs Prostitute Problem

London—(UPI)—Lord Howe, 75-year-old cousin of Sir Winston Churchill, told the House of Lords Tuesday night that a prostitute accosted him on the street and struck him with her umbrella when he tried to avoid her.

Howe spoke during debate on a bill aimed at cracking down on the 1,800 prostitutes who roam the London streets.

The House passed the bill on second reading, 46-11.

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