

# Bitterness Runs High in Sol Estes Country

By JAMES T. YOUNG  
United Press International  
Pecos, Tex. — When you mention the name Dr. John Dunn in Billie Sol Estes' hometown, antic, stranger.

The bitterness and the anger generated by the arrest of Estes and the collapse of his farm empire has crystallized around this out-spoken physician. There is no middle ground in Pecos. The people like him or dislike him. Some hate him. Some love him.

They like or loathe the John Birch society he belongs to. They all agree he has brought out the town's anger by washing. Many say it is clean. Those who back Dunn say it is filthy. They appreciate his attacks on Billie Sol Estes or, they hold Estes to have been treated shabbily.

**Tempers High**  
Tempers run strong in this west Texas town writhing from difficult earth. When Estes was jailed, the staff of the anti-Estes newspaper kept two loaded shotguns handy as it put out the paper.

There has been no violence. But there has been mudslinging. There have been denunciations and accusations. Dunn fights. So do his enemies.

To an outsider, it appears that his enemies outnumber his friends.

The quarrel has riven the town that once was a sleepy ford on the Pecos river, known mostly to rodeo buffs as the site of the first organized rodeo in 1883.

In the rugged, dry countryside, farms were scrabbling. Some cattle were raised. The name of the town had a wild ring, but it had no connection with old Judge Roy Bean. "The Law West of the Pecos."

And then came discovery of underground water. Irrigation brought riches. Alfalfa, cantaloupes, grain and cotton — especially cotton — grew under the hot Texas sun. In 1950 there were 8,000 people in Pecos. Now there are more than 13,000.

The Billie Sol Estes case hurt them emotionally and, in many cases, financially. The Dunn affair brought out more animosity and further

divided the town.  
**Pecos Born**  
Dunn, now a balding man of medium height, was a town boy. In college and medical school he received financial aid from several townspeople, Pecos born and bred, he married a Pecos girl and they have four children, ranging in age from 2 to 10 years.

As one of 13 physicians in town, he developed a fine practice using the facilities of the Reeves County Memorial Hospital.

Dunn became interested in politics and joined the John Birch Society. This alone caused controversy in Pecos. He began making investigations in town. This caused more controversy. Snooping, many called it.

Two years ago, Dunn says, he turned in Billie Sol Estes to the Federal Bureau of Investigation. He was the first person to blow the whistle on the then-boy wonder of the farm world.

Billie Sol's friends remember his claim, Estes, whatever he did, was generous to a fault to many in Pecos who needed help.

Dunn and members of the hospital staff did not get along.

**Shell Beans Make Comeback in Cans**  
Indianapolis — (UPI) — A pre-Civil War vegetable favorite, shell beans, now is on the canned foods shelf.

The combination of green and dried beans originated with a Georgia plantation owner, says A. C. Moll, agricultural research director for the packer. The two types were cooked together when the green bean harvest occurred just as vine-dried pole beans were ready for shelling.

Kentucky wonders and white creaseback, dried beans were used for the home-made combination, said Moll, but dried pinto beans are used in the commercial pack. These mottled brown and cream-colored legumes are named for cowboys' pinto ponies, which have similar markings.

along. The hospital board accused him of misconduct and harassment.

He continued his out-spoken ways and the town reaped a whirlwind. The accusations got personal.

Enemies said Dunn contributed only a nickel to a community chest drive.

Friends quickly reminded that Dunn practiced charity through generous treatment of the poor and had provided \$8,000 to help send deserving students to college.

His record books show \$66,010 charged off to practice. Money he never received.

**Kind to Negroes**  
"If we have money to pay, we pay him," said a poor Negro patient. "If we don't, he don't ask for it."

A nurse said he was a dedicated physician. "I've watched him stand over suffering patients and cry," she said.

Dunn launched an anti-crime crusade. He charged there was a crime ring in Pecos. He said there were

staple stores being sold in town. The quarrel approached its climax.

The hospital, admittedly without a required staff hearing, dismissed Dunn from his hospital post. This would hurt his practice, since the local hospital was at Fort Stockton, 53 miles away.

The Texas department of public safety and federal agents were called in.

**Town Said Clean**  
They said they could find no narcotics traffic in Pecos. In fact, they said, the town was remarkably "clean."

Feeling ran higher against Dunn.

"I just hope the next news you come to cover isn't a killing," a worried prominent citizen told a visiting newsmen.

Dunn got a court hearing on his hospital dismissal. It provided lurid testimony. The judge had to gavel for order in the audience.

It was charged that Dunn kissed women obstetrical patients. He was asked whether he killed a Negro patient. He was asked whether he kissed a Negro patient. He was

asked about "amorous love scenes."

This was stricken from the record. But Dunn talked freely later. He said that the women had kissed him after being delivered of babies — a natural enough act for a joyful woman.

During cross-examination of Dunn, a physician in the audience muttered to a newsmen, "you haven't heard anything yet."

A well-known Pecos resident, no friend of the physician, said "we'll have his license to practice medicine" yet before this is over.

Lunn Wins  
The court battle went to Dunn. The judge issued an injunction granting him the right to use hospital facilities pending a hospital board hearing.

Whatever the outcome of the hearing, there will be more court fights. The bitterness remains.

Through it all, Dunn has smiled. He always seems to be smiling. He smiles at his friends and at his enemies.

Some smile back. Many don't in this unhappy town.

## SECTION B MAIL TRIBUNE

MEDFORD, OREGON, THURSDAY, JANUARY 31, 1963

### 'Genetic Effects' Of Radioactivity On Humans Noted

By DELOS SMITH  
UPI Science Editor

New York — (UPI) — Science has long talked of "genetic effects" upon human beings and other mammals from the radioactive particles of "fall-out." Now, for the first time, there is a clear-cut demonstration of how one such effect would work.

This one is exceedingly subtle but exceeding lethal. It begins with the entrance of strontium-90, a common "fall-out" particle, into the blood and lymph fluid of the male. From there it gets into the organs where male germ cells, spermatozoa, are being made.

There strontium-90 gets incorporated in spermatozoa — into the chromosomes which contain the male part of the recipe for a new individual.

When spermatozoa merge with female germ cells, radioactivity goes with them. Male and female chromosomes unite — the recipe is completed.

**Destroying Chromosomes**  
But as the recipe begins unfolding — as the new individual begins developing — the radioactivity is destroying the chromosomes without which there can be no new life. In a measurable time, chromosomes are broken up and the new life is at an end before it could get born.

A demonstration of this process was made by four scientists of the Swedish national research institute in the common experimental mammal, the mouse. There is no scientific reason for thinking anything so basic in mammalian reproduction wouldn't work the same way in all mammals.

The Swedes took off from a theoretic finding of Dr. Donald Mazia of the University of California that a certain type of metallic ion can get "bound" chemically into chromosomes. Strontium-90 is a metal, of course, and its radioactivity causes it to discharge this type of ion.

Strontium-90 in body chemistry substitutes for calcium and it is known that much of it will quickly enter the bones. The Swedish scientists — K. G. Luning, H. Froben, A. Nelson and C. Ronnback — reasoned these strontium ions in male chromosomes.

Strontium-90 was injected into male mice. It reached its peak ability to enter their chromosomes there weeks afterward. Then this penetrative ability decreased rapidly. From this the scientists reasoned the process was reversible.

That is, calcium ions could

and did replace the strontium ions which had replaced them. The reversing occurred, the scientists reasoned, when much of the injected strontium had been incorporated in bones and the remainder had been excreted.

When there was no reinforcing backlog of strontium-90 in the body fluids of the mice, calcium ions — always a abundant in mammalian chemistry — were able to get back into their rightful places in the chromosomes.

If there had been a continuing intake of strontium-90 this reversing couldn't have happened — and if the atmosphere becomes more heavily laden than it is now with fallout products, including strontium-90, then intake of all males would be continuous.

The scientists made the same experiments with another fallout particle, cesium-137, and found it had no such effect.

### Duncan to Announce Panel for Nominees

Congressman Robert B. Duncan (D-Ore.) said today he will announce within a month the names of seven Fourth district residents to serve as an impartial panel to aid in the selection of armed forces academy nominees.

"I plan to select both Democrats and Republicans to serve on this panel," Duncan said. Oregon's newest congressman will select panel members to represent the district geographically and occupationally.

"I hope to bring together a panel of Oregonians sincerely interested in helping to select the most outstanding young men from the Fourth district to represent our state in these academies," he said.

Duncan also said he will announce the names of additional armed forces academy nominations by Feb. 1. He is reviewing the applications of candidates for West Point and Annapolis. There are no openings this year for the Air Force Academy and no applications have so far been submitted to Duncan for the Merchant Marine Academy.

**TAKING A TIP**  
Syracuse, N.Y. — (UPI) — Some New York motorists are taking a lesson from colonial forebears to protest what they consider unjust taxation.

The auto club will distribute free to motorists 100,000 cardboard replicas of the 1775 "don't tread on me" flag to protest Gov. Nelson A. Rockefeller's proposed increase in license fees.



**DUNN IN TURMOIL** — Dr. John Dunn, a John Birch Society member, who claims to have been the first person to blow the whistle on Billie Sol Estes, is as controversial a figure as the town of Pecos has these days. Dunn is struggling to keep his post at Reeves County Memorial hospital in Pecos. (UPI)

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