

Unusually Heavy Fire Danger Seen

Washington (UPI)—Government forestry officials have told Congress they fear an "unusually heavy" fire danger in Oregon and Washington this year.

Part of the reason, they told a House Appropriations subcommittee in testimony published today, is the presence of fallen timber caused by the severe storm in October.

Russell E. Getty, Oregon state director for the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), told the committee his bureau had been working with state and private agencies in an effort to reduce the danger.

"All protection agencies, all management agencies are very concerned about this point," he said. "We fear an unusually heavy fire season."

They'll Do It Every Time

By Jimmy Hatlo



High School Coed Suffering From Cancer Relies on Drug

Rockford, Ill. (UPI)—Perky Diane Lindstrom is a normal high school coed in every respect but one.

Her soft smile and shy eyes hide the painful knowledge that she suffers from a malignant bone cancer of the right thigh.

She is staking her life on the controversial cancer drug Krebiozen.

And one of the great battles of modern medicine, whether Krebiozen is effective in the fight against cancer, may hinge on the outcome of Diane's struggle to walk without pain.

Only one month ago, the pretty 18-year-old girl faced a terrifying decision, either have her leg amputated or run the risk of never living to see her 23rd birthday.

She said she would rather die than have the leg amputated.

The abnormalities Diane's family physician took x-rays when her leg began to ache last October. They revealed no abnormalities.

In late January, Diane was still in pain. More x-rays were taken and the tumor was discovered.

"The doctor said the only answer was amputation," Mrs. Virginia Lindstrom told Chicago's American columnist Jack Mabley.

"He said the cancer was severe and the operation should be done immediately."

Two days before the scheduled amputation, the daughter of a hospital worker visited the Lindstroms.

"She told us about Krebiozen," Mrs. Lindstrom said. "We hadn't even thought about it. Oh, we'd heard about it, the controversy and all. The woman said she had faith in what it could do against cancer."

Mrs. Lindstrom and her husband, Milton, went to Chicago to talk with Dr. Andrew Ivy about the drug.

Ivy, an internationally known scientist and former vice president in charge of the University of Illinois professional schools, has been this country's foremost proponent of Krebiozen.

Lost Post

In Ivy's 10-year battle to win acceptance of the drug, he lost his university post, the Chicago Medical Society moved to punish him for promoting a "secret remedy," and representatives of organized medicine, including the American Medical association, declared Krebiozen "worthless."

A government evaluation

of the drug is currently in a state of suspension.

Mrs. Lindstrom said that when her husband "asked our doctor about the drug, he threw up his hands."

The Lindstroms decided to postpone the operation and find out more about Krebiozen.

"We asked Diane," she said.

"We told her what we thought. She had resigned herself for the operation, but right away she wanted to try Krebiozen."

The operation was canceled, Diane came to Illinois Masonic Hospital at Chicago for Krebiozen treatments and the family doctor wrote the federal government asking that the drug be barred from public use until it has been fully tested.

Doctor Protested

The doctor's request was refused. Ivy said the doctor protested "apparently because of professional jealousy."

After a month of treatment, Diane said she "feels good."

"I'm up and around," she said.

"I went to church Sunday," Ivy said Diane "has lost all the pain she had."

X-ray showed the tumor has not grown and appeared to be somewhat smaller than before the Krebiozen treatments started, Ivy said.

Diane still comes to Chicago twice weekly for treatments.

"I can't say what her chances are," Ivy said. "We have one girl going on her fourth year, but this is very malignant. We didn't make any promises, just gave them the facts and said you have to make up your own mind."

"Diane said she would rather die than go through life without a leg," Ivy said.

Like Betting on Horses

Cherry Blossom Handicappers Do Research Prior to Predictions

By DICK WEST

United Press International Washington (UPI)—On the staff of the National Park Service are several horticultural experts who do seasonal work as cherry blossom handicappers. Cherry blossom handicappers operate in much the same way as race horse handicappers, but the betting isn't as spirited.

They study the form charts, weather conditions and other factors, and from this make their predictions as to which will come in first, the cherry blossoms or the cherry blossom festival.

Ideally, the blossoms and the festival would finish in a dead heat, but that doesn't happen too often. One is likely to be anywhere from a few days to a fortnight ahead of the other.

This doesn't matter as far as the blossoms are concerned but it means a lot to the festival officials.

Can Be Embarrassing They find it rather embarrassing to be staging a cherry blossom festival when there aren't any cherry blossoms, the blooms having already departed or not yet arrived.

There was, then, a certain amount of tension in the air when the time came this week for the handicappers to deliver their first public prognostication of the year.

Veteran handicappers will tell you that it is impossible to make an accurate prediction on the blooming date of cherry trees earlier than 10 days before the blossoms appear.

Nevertheless, George W. Robey, a handicapper with 31 years experience, was willing to go out on a limb two weeks in advance of the festival opening.

I don't mean that Robey actually climbed one of the trees. What he did was cut off a few twigs at regular intervals and stick them in a pail of water in his office.

Observes Indoor Bloom By observing how long it took them to bloom indoors, and adjusting that time according to the weather bureau's long range forecast, taking into account the moisture content of the soil, he

was able to estimate the blooming period outdoors.

Along with a congressman, a festival princess and various other interested parties, I was present at the Jefferson Memorial on the banks of the tree-ringed tidal basin when Robey revealed his prediction.

Not to keep you in suspense any longer, he predicted that the festival, scheduled for April 2-7, would come in first. His calculations fixed the peak blossom period as April 6-10.

Before you make any bets, however, I must caution that cherry blossoms are great stretch runners and to me the track looked fast.

If you're looking for a sure thing, better put your money on the swallows at Capistrano.

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Source of Typhoid Infection Sought

Los Angeles (UPI)—Health officials searched today for the source of a typhoid infection that has caused the worst outbreak of the disease in Southern California in recent years. A total of 18 cases have been traced to a single teen-age gathering.

Two boys, age 1 and 9, were hospitalized Thursday, bringing the tally to 18 definite or suspect cases. Eight persons definitely had the disease and one was reported in critical condition, authorities said.

All 18 were guests or came in contact with those who attended a teen-age party Feb. 16 in Pacoima. Most of the victims range in age from 1 to 17.

Two to three new suspected cases have been detected each day the past week as authorities conducted exhaustive tests of 85 persons connected with the party.

A health official said the source of the typhoid bacillus was believed to be a chicken salad served at the party or the well water of a woman who prepared some of the food served at the affair.

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PLEADS FOR RULE

Bath England (UPI)—Alderman Adrian Hopkins Thursday pleaded for a rule to protect the floors of the national trust assembly room from women guests. He asked that women be issued protectors to place over their stiletto heels which he said produce "a pressure equal to a two-ton steam hammer."

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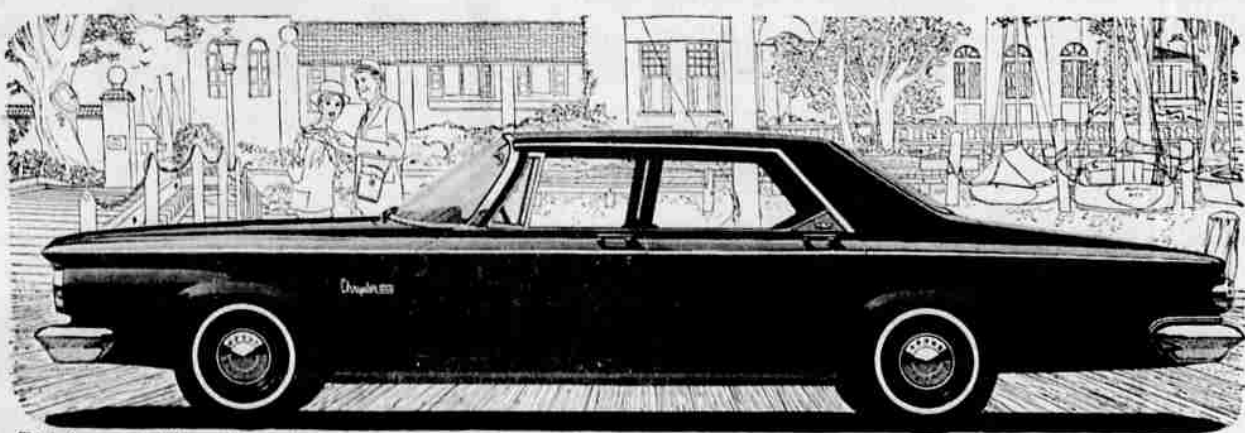
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