



CONTEST HOPEFULS — Miss Teen-age America hopefuls Betty Lou Purvis (c.), of Albuquerque, N. M., and Lesa Ann Phillips (r.), of Denver, Colo., enjoy a break in rehearsals and pose with the current Miss Teen-age America, Darla Banks (l.), of Fresno, Calif., in front of the Dallas, Tex., skyline. The Miss Teen-age America contest currently underway there will end Friday, Nov. 1, with the crowning of a new Miss Teen-age America. (UPI)

Irish Doctor Says Form of Cancer Is Caused by Mosquito

SAN FRANCISCO (UPI)—Dr. Denis Burkitt, an outspoken Irishman who is now the top surgeon in Uganda, came to town today to talk about a "bizarre, totally absurd" form of cancer which he believes is carried by mosquitoes.

The best thing about it, he said, is that it can often be cured.

Burkitt discussed the disease — which others call "Burkitt's Tumor," and which he calls "an absurd lymphoma" — in a press briefing at the 49th annual clinical congress of the American College of Surgeons.

The congress has drawn nearly 12,000 fellows of the college, including more than 7,500 surgeons to a week-long series of lectures, discussions and exhibits that amount to a post-graduate course in surgery.

Burkitt, who went to Uganda in 1946 with the British Colonial Service and is now chief government surgeon for the newly independent nation, said the tumor named for him is the most overwhelmingly common form of cancer found in children in tropical Africa.

It is almost nonexistent in the Western World, he said, but in certain areas of Central Africa it is found in children of every race and every circumstance.

Burkitt said he has been able to gather certain data about the disease despite rather severe limitations on the research resources available — "I worked three and a half years on a \$75 grant."

He spent seven years, he said, documenting the geographical distribution of the disease, and this and other factors convinced him that it was caused by a virus probably carried by mosquitoes.

Factors of elevation and distance from the equator combine, he said, to indicate that the disease cannot occur where the minimum temperature ever drops below 60 degrees. This is the minimum, he said, below which most mosquitoes fail to propagate—and it also provides the heavy rainfall and vegetation necessary for them.

"There is no doubt at all," he said, "that this is an environmental cancer."

It is not found on the islands of Zanzibar and Pemba 20 miles off the African coast. This means, Burkitt said, "that the cause cannot cross 30 miles of sea."

The most bizarre and "absurd" aspect of the cancer, he said, may settle almost anywhere in the body—jaw, genitals, thyroid and so on—except the spleen.

Westinghouse, Union Heads to Resume Parley

PITTSBURGH (UPI)—Bargaining between representatives of the Westinghouse Electric Corp. and the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) resumes today in the face of a strike deadline at midnight tonight.

Federal mediators, who helped settle the company's contract dispute with the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IUE) earlier, gave no indication of any progress after day long sessions Wednesday.

The federal mediators entered the IBEW-Westinghouse talks Tuesday.

The union represents 12,000 members at 60 Westinghouse locations. If no agreement is reached by midnight tonight, about 800 workers at 20 locations will be free to strike. The 40 other locations where the IBEW is represented operate under local contracts and would be unaffected.

Meanwhile the company is also negotiating with the United Electrical Workers (UE) union which has been bargaining on a day-to-day basis since Oct. 14 under a contract extension.

Egan Urges Smith As Head Bureau

VICTORIA, B.C. (UPI)—Gov. William A. Egan of Alaska urged Wednesday that Ambassador Benjamin A. Smith II be named to head a new federal Department of Fisheries and Oceanography.

The Alaska governor made the suggestion in a speech before the Association of Pacific Fisheries here.

Smith is the chief American negotiator in the series of conferences between the United States, Japan and Canada leading toward a new North Pacific fisheries treaty.

Egan said a Department of Fisheries and Oceanography "is long overdue."

"More often than not we have sought to meet the complexities of world fisheries economics hastily and haphazardly," Egan said. "We have made no effort to develop a well-reasoned and stable policy."

The governor recommended that the new department include a revamped Fish and Wildlife Service, now under the Interior Department, and an oceanographic section.

Holbrook Receives Award for Service

WASHINGTON (UPI)—Portland, Ore., author Stewart Holbrook today received the 1963 Distinguished Service Award presented annually on behalf of the nation's forest industries by American Forest Products Industries.

The award is made each year to a non-industry individual who has contributed significantly to better public understanding of forestry, forest conservation and the role of the forest industries.

Holbrook, now 70, is known as the only logger ever to lecture at Harvard.

U.S. Army Captain Defects to East Berlin to Work

BERLIN (UPI)—A U.S. Army captain from Scranton, Pa., who defected to East Germany said today he will live in East Berlin and work to inform Americans about communism.

Alfred Svenson, 31-year old Lithuanian-born soldier, crossed the East-West border on May 4 and asked to be allowed to stay in Communist East Germany. He was given a minor editorial job with the East German radio.

Svenson recently denied reports that he tried to flee back to the West and was beaten by Communist plain clothesmen.

"As a journalist I want to do my part to contribute to a policy of peaceful coexistence and help avert a new war," he said today in the East German magazine Zeit Im Bild.

Svenson claimed one of the reasons he deserted was that he was forced to tell lies about communism to the men under him.

"I asked the German Democratic Republic for asylum because the contradiction between what I was allowed to tell my soldiers and what I knew about the realities caused the pangs of conscience," said Svenson.

Svenson's mother, Mrs. Antonia Svenson, lives in Washington, D.C.



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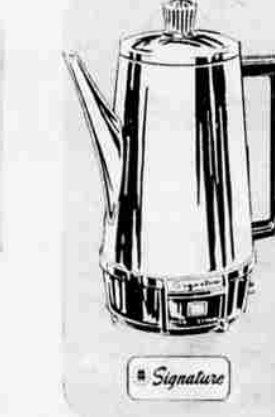
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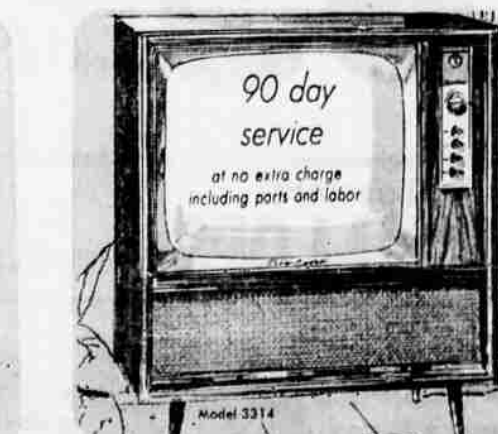
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