

# Secret Of Deadly New Germ Weapon Divulged By Talkative Congressmen

WASHINGTON, May 24 (AP)—A germ spray reportedly capable of wiping out large cities and entire crops at a single blow is this country's newest secret weapon "far more deadly than the atomic bomb."

This disclosure leaked out of congress today after the first bare hint was dropped on the floor of the house yesterday.

Sketchy details of the frightening germ weapons were provided by members of the house appropriations committee who learned of their development behind guarded doors.

These members, specifying that their names not be used, told a reporter full details were given the committee during hearings on the navy's \$4,639,718,000 appropriation bill which the house passed yesterday and sent to the senate.

There are several of the germ weapons, one member said, developing that they have been developed to the point where they could be used whenever necessary. Also, he said, the United States is the sole possessor of the secrets involved.

**City May Be Wiped Out**  
"They have developed a weapon that can wipe out all form of life in a large city," this member declared. "It is a germ proposition and is sprayed from airplanes that can fly high enough while doing it to be reasonably safe from ground fire. It is quick and certain death."

While not familiar with minute details, he said the germs are highly contagious and presumably could be spread by bombs.

"You would not have to drop a germ on every person in a city," he asserted. "One operation would be sufficient, for the effects would spread rapidly."

Another development, this committee related, would make it possible for planes to fly over the Dakotas, for example, and destroy the entire wheat crop with a single operation, even the seeds in the ground.

"These are frightening things to think of," he commented, "and it is hoped they will never have to be used. Perhaps man will not realize that there can be no winner in a future war and that civilization itself is lost unless we can stop war forever."

## Polish Troops Work In Great Britain

LONDON, May 24 (AP)—Foreign Secretary Ernest Bevin announced today that Gen. Wladislaw's 110,000 Polish troops in Italy will be discharged in Great Britain and allowed to remain in the country as workmen.

Bevin told the house of commons a special resettlement corps would be established to teach the men English and train them for work such as coal mining and farming.

Bevin earlier had urged the Poles to return to Poland to help reconstruct that nation, but most of them were unwilling to go home because their political beliefs are at variance with those of the Warsaw government.

## 'Pappy' Boyington Signs Complaint



Lt. Col. "Pappy" Boyington, famed marine flier, and his wife, the former Frances Baker, walk from the county courthouse in San Diego where he signed a complaint against Mrs. Lucille Rogers Malcolmson, charging her with Reno that he had killed her.

## Portland Seeks Typhoid Source

PORTLAND, May 24 (AP)—Health authorities today sought the source of infection of three cases of paratyphoid fever in one family in suburban southeast Portland.

Dr. Thomas L. Meador said the disease is considered rare and is caused by an organism similar to typhoid. He said the parents and a 16-year old daughter have been stricken.

## Portland Traction Workers Get Raise

PORTLAND, May 24 (AP)—Bus and trolley workers of Portland Traction company have accepted a new contract that calls for a 17 cents an hour increase and a five day week.

The union said last night the new wage of \$1.25 for drivers and \$1.40 and \$1.32 for mechanics would not give them much

additional take-home pay under the five day week, but would make more jobs available to veterans.

## Flashes Of Life

**JUST ONE OF MANY**  
BUFFALO, N. Y., May 24 (AP)—N. R. Cousins, 72-year-old Nickel Plate railroad conductor, decided today to hitch-hike to his home in Conneaut, Ohio, because of the rail strike.

Cousins said he began railroad-ing at the age of 11 and "this is the first time I've ever had to do this."

**SWAPS**  
TACOMA, Wash., May 24 (AP)—Safe crackers, who stole \$450 from a meat market, forgot something.

They left behind their ticket to the Tacoma policemen's ball.

**BAR BUSINESS**  
CHICAGO, May 24 (AP)—Mrs. Evelyn Degel, 24, a tavern owner, was granted a divorce by Circuit Judge Elmer J. Schnackenberg, after complaining that her husband, Florian, 27, wouldn't stop drinking.

She told the court that her husband is a bartender in the tavern. And she also said by an out of court settlement, her husband got one portable bar with a complete stock of liquor.

**HITS LIQUOR**  
CHICAGO, May 24 (AP)—The railroad strike affected striking crewmen, 589.

Edward Marlowe of Milwaukee, who was motorman on the last North Shore train here late yesterday, wearily took to the highway to hitch-hike home.

## Collingwood Picked As NHA Specialist

WASHINGTON, May 24 (AP)—G. H. Collingwood, for the past six years chief forester of the National Lumber Manufacturers association, has been appointed chief lumber specialist in the materials supply branch of the national housing agency.

Collingwood, the NHA announcement said, is "one of the nation's top experts on lumber."

A graduate of Michigan State college, he then studied at the University of Munich, Germany, and the University of Michigan. After serving with the U. S. forest service, he taught at Cornell university, and served with the department of agriculture and the American Forestry association here.

## Family Budget Increases 50%

WASHINGTON, May 24 (AP)—Most of the things that make up the average family budget now cost more than 50 per cent more than they did the day war started in Europe, the bureau of labor statistics said today.

"Food, clothing and house furnishings costs, which represent 57 per cent of the budget for wage earners and moderate income workers, in large cities, are now a little over 50 per cent higher than in August, 1939," the bureau declared, in a report reviewing the steady climb in retail costs.

The consumers price index now stands at 130.9 per cent of the 1935-39 average and three per cent above the average a year ago.

Food prices increased 1.1 per cent from mid-March to mid-April, with higher prices in all major groups.

A reduction in size of bread loaves, requested by the famine committee, caused an increase of 4.8 per cent in the average price for a pound of bread, the report added.

## State Odd Fellows Want More Members

MEDFORD, May 24 (AP)—Combined orders of the Odd Fellows grand lodge, which concluded its state convention yesterday, today launched a drive to gain 2500 members.

Another object is financing an \$18,000 auditorium at the Portland Odd Fellows home. Members chose The Dalles as 1947 convention site.

## Congress Approves School-Lunch Plan

WASHINGTON, May 24 (AP)—The house passed and sent to the senate today compromise legislation setting up a permanent school-lunch program.

The major differences between the senate and the house were over the amount of money to be spent and the method of distribution.

Instead of a \$50,000,000 annual expenditure authorized by the house, the compromise provides for an unspecified amount. It provides the following

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