

# Atomic Researchers Using Modern Noah's Ark To Find Effects Of A-Bomb Blast

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WASHINGTON (NEA)—The latest semi-annual peak into the mysterious atom laboratories, revealed by the atomic energy commission's progress report to congress, shows a modern Noah's Ark.

Animals were first used to study atoms extensively at the Bikini tests, where goats, pigs and cows were placed aboard the target ships to see how they would fare in the blasts. Since then, AEC's use of animals has been greatly increased and now also includes work on bugs, fish and birds.

During the last six months, among other things, they've been putting



THE OLD GRAY COWS turned that color after exposure to radioactive dust after first atomic blast in New Mexico in 1945. The animals, otherwise, seem normal and are still being studied.

# Postman Has Long Route In Australia

SYDNEY (AP)—Around 1164 miles long is the postman's Mekatharra-Marble Bar circuit in the center of Western Australia. Lengths of some of the other 399 road mail routes in Western Australia's north are: Carnarvon-Yardie creek, 564 miles; Leonora Lawlers-Wiluna, 462 miles. Mail contractors in the area cover 2,776,130 miles a year—almost all rough bush tracks in some of the world's most sparsely populated country.

Only four years ago the postal authorities dispensed with pack horses in the North Kimberleys area. In the monsoonal season these horses often had to fight through floods, plod through deep mud, swim swollen rivers. Mailmen might go 30 miles to deliver half a dozen letters. But air services have now taken such hazards out of mail deliveries in many parts of Australia's north.

tiny lead shields around the rats' endocrine glands, and exposing them to radiation. Endocrine glands furnish some vital juices to the blood of both rats and humans.

As a result of this work, it has been discovered that rats so protected live longer than the ones whose endocrine glands are left exposed. Goal of this line of research is the improvement of treating radiation sickness in humans.

At the Argonne laboratory in Chicago, they're studying the effect of radiation on the circulation of blood in bats. A bat's wing is thinner than tissue paper and the blood flowing through it can be easily observed. The report says, "After the bat was exposed the circulation of the blood slowed down, largely because broken cells and other organic debris clogged the blood vessels."

At the same place frogs were given the equivalent of a fatal dose of X-ray and then frozen immediately. While chilled they lived for months. When allowed to thaw out they died quickly. This study has revealed that cold packs help in treating persons who are only partially burned by radiation.

In their efforts to make the detection of radioactivity more sensitive, scientists have found a new technique involving hornets. The common hornet tends to concentrate barium—a product of uranium fission—in its body. By placing hornets at key points near an atom reactor, the scientists have been able to detect radio-barium leaks long before they could be detected by Geiger counters.

Innocent victims of the first atomic bomb blast in New Mexico in 1945 were some cattle who were exposed to dust made radioactive by the test. Most immediate effect noted was that their hair turned gray.

"Forty-nine of the 50 cows have produced calves, all of which are normal," the report says. "A total

of 57 calves have been produced and 48 are on hand. One of the exposed bulls was bred to exposed cows and from these matings 33 normal calves were produced. There is no evidence up to date of any adverse effects on the fertility of either the exposed cows or bulls."

It is planned to autopsy several of the steers for possible internal injuries and experiments will be made to determine if there is danger in eating the meat of such animals.

Even fish are doing their bit to further the AEC's work. Giant squid are being exposed to radiation in an effort to determine how the delicate sheaths which surround nerve cells are affected. And several generations of salmon and rainbow trout are under study to see what exposure to radioactive substances does to marine offspring.

First results show "the larger the dosage received by the first generation of rainbow trout, the more descendants will die or develop abnormalities."

**African Relic Proves Puzzler**  
LEOPOLDVILLE, Belgian Congo (AP)—A small terracotta sculpture about ten inches high is puzzling archaeologists in Leopoldville. The statuette is of a woman's bust and has a tightly knotted necklace around the neck and a masklike ornament over the eyes and forehead. It was found by a Dutch Catholic missionary about 12 feet below present ground level in the Lemba valley outside Leopoldville. Natives attribute it to a legendary tribe "Babali" who were supposed to have lived in that area.

**Rifle Club Takes To Throwing Rocks**  
HAMBURG, Germany (AP)—Use of firearms by Germans except police is still banned by the military government so a Ruhr Rifle club had a problem when the time came for their annual shooting match. The traditional bird-shaped target had been set up in a tree.

The marksmen finally knocked it down by throwing stones. "If a military government won't think we are practicing grenade throwing and prohibit this too," commented one member.

# Hawker Gives Cop Shiner

SINGAPORE (AP)—A 38-year-old woman vegetable seller earned the questionable distinction of being the first person in Singapore to give a member of this island's new women police force a black eye. Lan Choon was sent to prison for six weeks for assault and was fined \$10 for hawking without a license.

Policewoman Miss Susi Gan was the chief witness against Lan. Wearing a definitely discolored left eye, Miss Gan said she tried to arrest the vegetable seller only to receive a sharp left to the eye. Miss Gan had to call a police constable to bring assemblance of order.

**Suburban Fire Number Is 7744**  
The suburban fire department reports that many residents of its protective area do not know the fire number of the department.

A case came up recently when a house fire burned for five minutes longer than would have been necessary if the suburban number had been available to the person who



HE'S A BIT HEAVY FOR THE SKIPPER TO MOVE OFF THE TROLLEY TRACKS.

# Bluff Called With Wine

KIEL, Germany (AP)—The citizens of the west German state of Schleswig-Holstein complained that their cabinet ministers were living too well.

When the state parliament discussed the matter, Minister President Hermann Luedemann rose and put two bottles of wine on the table. "I herewith invite all deputies who live more modestly than I for a bottle of wine in my one-and-a-half-room apartment," he said. "I think two bottles are enough."

# German Mayor Has His Own Way

WITTMUND, Germany (AP)—The mayor of this East Prussian town asked the state for money to build an urgently needed new school but was refused. Promptly he offered the tax office building, owned by the town, for sale. The state gave him the money he had wanted.

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