

Study Shows Fluoridation Of Water Big Dental Aid

(Editor's Note: This is the second in a series of articles dealing with treatment of public water supplies with fluoride to reduce decay of children's teeth.)

By DAVE UNDERHILL

Over 100 communities and villages in the United States are adding fluorides to their water supplies to help prevent tooth decay among the nation's children. Hundreds of others are considering fluoridation and many of them have already taken steps to begin the process.

Even away out here in the rugged "frontier country" the process has created excitement among dental and medical circles.

As recently as last year approval of fluoridation for Oregon communities and villages was given approval of the Oregon medical, dental and health organizations.

KLAMATH SOCIETY
In Klamath Falls the Klamath County Dental Society is busy on getting the thing started. And dentists are not afraid of losing their jobs if fluoridation should become the accepted thing here.

As one local dentist aptly expressed the situation:
"All the dentists in the United States could work 24 hours a day for the next 30 years, and not even start to fill all the dental cavities that exist at the present time."

What will fluoridation do for tooth problems?
The American dental society reports these facts:

"One of the most convincing examples of the value of fluoridation is provided in a six-year study made at Newburgh, N. Y., and the nearby city of Kingston. Newburgh began fluoridating its water supply in 1945 and is continuing to do so. Kingston has never fluoridated its water.

"Dr. David B. Axt, New York state dental director, who conducted the study, has reported that among five to six year old children in Newburgh there has been a 115 percent increase in the number of children with all of their first teeth free of decay, compared with children in Kingston.

"During a four-year period of fluoridation, there was a reduction of 32.5 percent in the number of decayed, missing or filled teeth among Newburgh children from six to 12. Complete health examinations showed no harmful effects that could be attributed to fluoridation.

"Lewiston, Ida., reported a 55 percent reduction in dental decay among seven-year-olds in three years after fluoridation was started, and drops of 35 and 25 percent, respectively, among eight and nine-year-old groups.

"When fluoridation was begun in Marshall, Tex., in 1946, a neighboring city, Jacksonville, which has fluoride-free water, was selected as a control point. Examinations were made of native born children in both towns, and the decay rate at both places was between seven and eight decayed teeth per child.

"After 29 months, Marshall children showed a 23 percent reduction in the decay rate, while at Jacksonville the rate was unchanged. Six-year-old Marshall children who had been drinking fluoridated water almost half their lives showed a 47 percent reduction in decay.

"At Brantford, Ontario, Canada, the decay rate among six-year-olds dropped 55 percent after 64 months of fluoridation, with reductions of 43, 22 and 29 percent for children eight, 12 and 14, respectively.

"In a five-year test period of fluoridation at Grand Rapids, Mich., the decay rate was reduced 51 percent for six-year-olds, 36 percent for nine-year-olds, and 16 percent for 13-year-olds.

"Sheboygan, Wis., reported a 39 percent decay rate cut among kindergarten pupils in a 44-month period of fluoridation, with drops of 24 percent for fourth graders, and 14 percent for seventh to ninth graders.

"It is apparent from these reports that the earlier a child starts to drink fluoridated water the more protection he has from decay."



SETTING UP PLANS for American Education week, November 11-17, Mrs. Jane Alexander, national president of the Classroom Teachers association was guest of honor at a banquet held here Monday night. The president here confers with State Exec. Secy. Cecil Posey, Oregon Educational association; Klamath Falls Pres. J. K. Hvistendahl of the association, and district representative Eva Burkhalter.

Calif. Pays And Squawks

SACRAMENTO, (AP)—California's controller, Thomas H. Kuchel, has turned over some more millions to the federal government—but not without a state rights yell about it.

The money, a total of \$2,547,107 (M) represents tideland royalty money collected during July, August and September. The state agreed to turn the money over to the government after the U.S. supreme court ruled the new trans-

fer. Kuchel complained of "the insidious and constant trend toward federal dominion over almost every thing which, in the past, we fondly believed our own state business."

Kuchel noted that the amount transferred now totals \$10,258,000 (M). The government also claims \$27,244,000 (M) royalty money impounded in the state treasury.

Want Big Family? Study Shows Farm's the Place

By OVID A. MARTIN

A. P. Farm Writer

WASHINGTON, (AP)—Agriculture continues to produce more than food and fiber for the nation. It is producing more than its proportionate share of children.

The agriculture department reports that only 15 percent of American families live on farms—but that these families produce 20 percent of the children.

The department said census surveys show that farm children are more likely to be members of large families than urban children. Nearly half of the farm children under 18 are in families with four or more children. Only one fourth of the non-farm children are in families that large.

On the other hand only 12 percent of farm children but 21 percent of non-farm children are in one-child families.

The surveys also show that between 1940 and 1950 urban population increased 19 percent, rural only seven percent. The West is the fastest growing area in rural population. In the last decade it increased 28 percent.

The South is still the most rural region. The rural South, however, in sharp contrast to the urban south, failed to gain population between 1940 and 1950. The department says the rural South started the decade with too many people for the farming opportunities available.

The rural Northeast increased in population about 17 percent in the decade. For the most part, it calls this a "residence phenomenon," reflecting an increase in commuters.

The American people average less than two bushels of potatoes for food each year.

States with worst rural mortality rates were New Mexico, Arizona and Texas.

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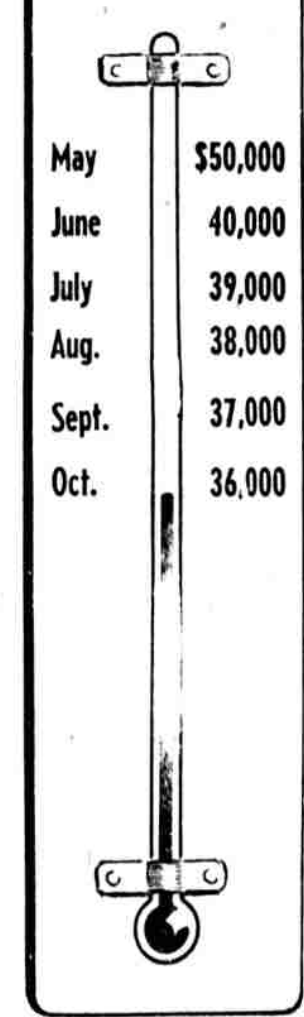
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