



AFTER LEAVING THE PRESS the olive oil is settled in these tanks prior to filtering and further aging and canning. Wyandotte uses olives from its own growers in the manufacture of oil.



FINAL STAGES of the canning operation are shown here as the cans roll through the labeling machine and are sent to the packing room. In the foreground may be seen cartons of the canned ripe olives ready to roll.

U.S. Calls In Experts On Serious Problems Caused By Dirty Air

By LOUIS CASSELS
WASHINGTON (UPI) — Since the start of the Industrial Revolution, man has been using the air as a sewer for gaseous wastes.

At first, the amount of smoke, soot, grime, dust, tar and chemicals spewed forth by an industrial civilization seemed insignificant in comparison to the vastness of the atmosphere.

Today, with factories spouting all over the landscape, with urban populations growing rapidly, with millions of automobiles adding their exhaust fumes to the acid output of smokestacks and incinerators, air pollution has become "a serious problem."

Authority for that statement is Dr. Leroy H. Burney, Surgeon General of the U.S. Public Health Service. Dr. Burney is so concerned about the problem that he has asked doctors, scientists, engineers and public officials from all parts of the country to meet here Nov. 18-20 to work out a long-range national plan for coping with it.

The direct economic loss — in the form of damaged crops, blighted buildings, corroded fabrics, cracked rubber and soaring laundry bills — is estimated at more than \$1,500,000,000 a year.

The health menace is not so easily calculated, but it looms even larger in the minds of Dr. Burney and other medical authorities.

That polluted air can be deadly was dramatically demonstrated 10 years ago at the little factory town of Donora, Pa. On the night of Oct. 26, 1948, man-made pollution combined with natural fog to produce a lung-searing "smog" that caused 20 deaths in Donora.

In 1952 and again in 1956, similar smogs settled over London, England. The death toll ran into the thousands.

Given the right combination of weather conditions, it can happen again—in any industrial area.

Aside from such sudden disasters, air pollution is increasingly suspect as a day-in, day-out threat to health. As nearly every resident of Los Angeles can testify, polluted air irritates the eyes, nose and throat. What happens when this irritation is continued over a

long period of time?

Medical science is not yet prepared to answer this question in detail. But one of the charts that will be on display at the forthcoming national conference indicates, at the very least, that the subject warrants further research.

This chart shows that the lung cancer rate is more than twice as high in big cities as in rural areas.

This sharp difference in lung cancer incidence apparently cannot be explained by differences in smoking habits. The percentage of regular cigarette smokers in rural areas is only slightly smaller than in urban areas.

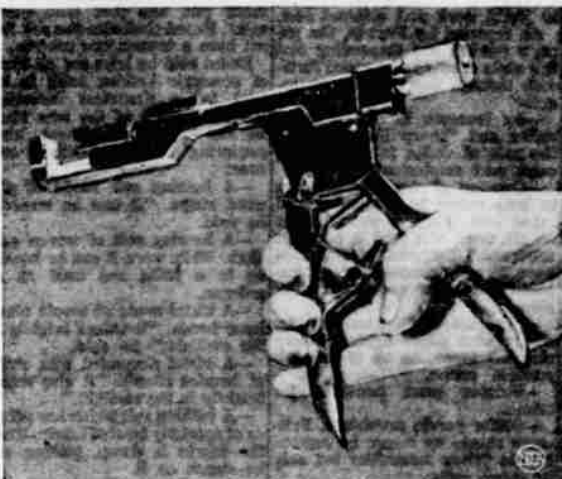
But it conceivably might be explained by the fact that country air is infinitely cleaner than the combination of oxygen, nitrogen, carbon monoxide, sulphur dioxide, hydrogen sulphide, and miscellaneous other gases that city folks breathe.

The Public Health Service is unwilling to rush into any alarmist conclusions on the basis of one statistical correlation, however. For nearly two years it has been painstakingly accumulating more detailed evidence about the long-range effects of air pollution on health. Through the cooperation of local health departments, it has set up a "national air sampling network" which regularly tests the pollution of the air over 281 urban and rural sites across America.

The first report on the findings will be released at the Nov. 18-20 conference here. By comparing local variations in air pollution, as revealed in this report, to local variations in the incidence of many different diseases, scientists may get new clues to the impact of dirty air on human health.

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NEW YORK (UPI) — Clark W. Blackburn, director of the Family Service Association of America, said recently that a big step — like marriage — is bound to precipitate fears in varying degrees.

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ITHACA, N.Y. (UPI) — Charles L. Coulson, new manager of the Faculty Club at Harvard, and C. Graham Hurlburt, his predecessor, are both alumni of Cornell's School of Hotel Administration.

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