

New Drug Rules Aimed To Protect Public From Thalidomide Tragedies

WASHINGTON (UPI) — New drug regulations aimed at protecting the public from a repetition of last year's thalidomide tragedy will go into effect Feb. 7.

The new rules issued by the Food and Drug Administration over the weekend are a direct result of the tranquilizer drug which resulted in the birth of deformed babies.

FDA acted under orders from Congress to shield the public from untested drugs such as Thalidomide which caused thousands of deformed births abroad.

A few expectant mothers took thalidomide in the United States by means of samples distributed by doctors. But the stubborn opposition of Dr. Frances O. Kelsey, an FDA medical officer, kept the German-developed drug from being put on sale in the United States.

Decorated by President

Dr. Kelsey later was decorated by President Kennedy because her insistence on more proof of the drug's safety prevented widespread tragedy. Only recently she was put in charge of FDA's new drug investigation division.

Among other things, the new FDA regulations require that:

—FDA be notified and supplied with full details on the distribution of all experimental drugs.

—The drugs be tested clinically on animals to guarantee their safety.

—Such tests be properly planned and carried out by qualified investigators and that these investigators and the FDA be kept fully informed on all progress made.

The new rules mean any drug found unsafe or ineffective can be taken off the market quickly.

FDA Commissioner George P. Larrick said.

Before Congress authorized the new rules, Larrick said, drug makers did not have to give notice of a clinical test or supply later reports on a drug's use.

Test on Human Beings

After tests of drugs are run on animals, the rules provide regulations for clinical tests on human beings. These regulations cover, first, when drugs are given to a limited number of people under closely controlled scientific conditions, and second, when they are given to a larger group of people by a number of physicians.

The drug firm or research organization must investigate and report promptly on any findings that may suggest hazards or side effects. If the findings are alarming, they must be reported immediately and testing must be discontinued until a decision is reached on whether it is safe to proceed.

The new rules were completed after FDA met with scientific groups and reviewed more than 30 written recommendations. There were protests that the original FDA proposals were too inflexible.



LEGAL RETIREMENT — After serving for 24 years as Superior Court Judge of Modoc County, Judge A. K. Wylie officially went into retirement this week. He has practiced law for 56 years, but now plans to spend his time developing a mining interest near Alturas and writing a history of the judges in Modoc County.

Judge Wylie Retires From Superior Court

ALTURAS—The 14th attorney in Modoc County, 56 years of practice in the field of law, and 24 years of service in Modoc County as superior court judge—with this list of achievements behind him, Judge A. K. Wylie of Alturas stepped down from the post of superior court judge of Modoc County this week.

Judge Wylie has served on the bench in the county as superior court judge longer than any other judge in the history of the county. He is the seventh judge to serve in the County Superior Court, having taken the judgeship after the retirement of Judge F. M. Jamison.

Wylie is a native of Modoc County. He was born in Cedarville, April 8, 1880. His father, James Wylie, was a blacksmith in Cedarville, settling in that area in 1873. James Wylie was well known in Modoc County as a county supervisor as well as for his prowess as a blacksmith. When he was 32 years old, he decided to study law and in 1902 passed the state bar examination with the remarkable grade of 100 per cent. He was known throughout the state as the "blacksmith attorney."

Young A. K. Wylie followed in his father's footsteps. After graduating from grade school in Cedarville, he attended the Palo Alto High School and then Stanford University. He took his law training at Kent Law School and passed the bar examination in 1907. He returned to Modoc County to practice law in Alturas for some years with his father.

After his father's death, Wylie and F. M. Jamison formed a partnership of law that lasted for 10 years. "I am proud to say," Wylie reported, "that during the last 50 years, the members of the Jamison and Wylie partnership held either the district attorney's office or judgeship of Modoc County. I don't know but what that might be some kind of a record," he continued wryly.

Now that he is retired, the judge says that he and his wife, Dorothy, will share their time between San Francisco and Alturas. The judge has an extensive mining interest near Alturas that he is developing and is also writing the history of the judges of Modoc County. He has a son, Fred Wylie, San Francisco; a daughter, Norma Fitzgerald, of Millbrae; a daughter, Yvonne Lutjen, of San Bruno; and three grandsons and two granddaughters.

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Teacher Raise Proposed

PORTLAND (UPI) — School Supt. Melvin Barnes proposed salary hikes for Portland teachers Monday night.

He told the school board there has been no basic change in salaries for the past two years and that it was becoming increasingly difficult to recruit "teachers of good quality."

Barnes suggested a starting scale of \$5,000 next fall for teachers with bachelor's degrees with no experience with an increase to \$5,200 the next year. Present scale is \$4,800.

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