

WORLD OF SUDS — A Philadelphia sewage disposal plant is gripped by a washday hangover of suds.

# Detergent Suds Pose New U.S. Water Problem

By WARD CANNEL  
Newspaper Enterprise Assn.  
NEW YORK (NEA) — Can it be that we stand a chance against the ravages of scientific progress?

A distant victory appears to be in the making against the billow of dirty detergent suds which rises like an iceberg over an increasingly serious U.S. water crisis. That victory, still in the labora-

tory test stage, is a molecule no larger than a grain of talcum powder — but, hopefully, capable of undoing some of the scientific jeopardy thrown at us in the name of cleanliness.

Now, as far as public health people have been able to discover, used detergent suds — even at the 250,000-ton quantity we use annually — are not yet injurious to health. But what the future



"Something she picked up from television. Every time I lie down on a couch, she starts asking about my early childhood!"

holds is still open to serious question.

The problem is that detergents behave after use the same way they satisfy household needs: by remaining fluid and suds, even in the hardest water areas, and seeping out of cesspools and through the ground water system and into the public water supply.

In laboratory terms, detergents are "hard" — not like old-fashioned "soft" soap which can be attacked, broken down and returned to nature by sewage-disposing bacteria.

Two parts of detergent in one million parts of water will foam. Sixteen parts of detergent can be taster. And with the U.S. having abandoned more than 80 per cent of its soap in favor of detergents in the past 10 years, it is little wonder we are in rich, luxurious lather up to our necks.

In areas where houses have been built too close together, used detergent suds come foaming out of water spigot and cesspool. In over-concentrated populated centers, sewage disposal systems are atrophied with dirty suds. In jerry-built apartment houses, it is not too unusual of billows to back up many stories from the sewer and pour out into apartment sinks and bathtubs.

In a nation already water-hogged in many areas and hazardously polluted in others, the synthetic detergent suds have become one more big headache.

But soap makers, many of whom are in the detergent business now, see no possibility of returning to the old days of "soft" animal-fat detergents.

The solution, more than likely, depends on what chemistry can do about rebuilding the "hard" synthetic detergent to make it degradable in sewage disposal systems.

One laboratory breakthrough has come from Union Carbide's Linde Division in the form of a sieve made of aluminum, oxygen and silicon atoms.

This alumino-silicate sieve, mixed with the basic detergent, pulls out the "soft" detergent molecules which can then be processed into a cleanser capable of being broken down by bacteria once the suds have been drained out of the house.

New developments in rebuilding the detergent are also being reported by the Johns Manville Co.

Meanwhile, the California Chemical Co., industry observers say, has come up with a method for dealing with the hard detergents in sewage disposal plants by agitating the water, forcing the detergent to froth, and then skimming off the dirty suds.

Industry critics, however, are quick to point out problems in both the sieve and the disposal methods.

What do you do, they ask, with the skimmed-off, hard suds? Recirculating them in the disposal system may get rid of some, but basically brings you back to where you started from.

And the molecular sieve method, they say, may make a soft detergent, but it also makes an expensive one. Many outsiders patrolling the industry say that a new, soft, economical detergent as good as the old is still quite a few years of hard work away.

# Simple Tax Form Fills Needs Of Most Payers

Taxpayers having income up to \$10,000 may again use the simple card Form 1040A in filing their 1962 federal income tax returns, A. G. Erickson, director of the Internal Revenue Service for Oregon said.

Husband and wife may file a joint return on Form 1040A if their combined income is under \$10,000.

Taxpayers whose income consists of wages reported on Form W-2, and not more than \$200 total of dividends, interest and wages not subject to withholding, may use the short Form 1040A.

In using this form, taxpayers must take the standard 10 per cent deduction allowed for contributions, interest payments, medical expenses, and other deductions.

As in past years, taxpayers with income under \$3,000 may figure their own tax or have the Internal Revenue Service do it for them.

Erickson said taxpayers cannot use Form 1040A if they (1) claim status as "head of household" or "surviving spouse"; (2) claim credits for dividends received or retirement income; (3) claim exclusion for "sick pay"; (4) paid an estimated tax during the year; (5) claim travel, transportation or other expenses; (6) do not use the cash method; (7) are nonresident aliens; (8) are delinquent in filing their returns; (9) are subject to self-employment tax; or (10) itemize deductions on a separate return.

He said if the taxpayer computes his own tax and finds additional tax due, a check or money order, payable to "Internal Revenue Service," must accompany the return.

Taxpayers who have doubts about which form to use, may get Document No. 5107, "Filing Your Tax Return," by calling or writing to their local Internal Revenue office.

If there are other questions about federal income tax returns, telephone the local Internal Revenue office.

## Basin Briefs

**MERRILL**  
MR. AND MRS. CURTIS BELT are parents of their first child, a boy born Jan. 30. He has been named Curtis Roy Belt Jr. Grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Ted Walker of Merrill and Mr. and Mrs. Roy Belt of Tulelake.

**MRS. WILBUR HASKINS** was released from Klamath Valley Hospital last week and is recovering at her home from a serious eye injury she received in an automobile accident last month.

**MERRILL PARENTS AND PATRONS** will hold a regular meeting Monday, Feb. 11, at the elementary school at 7:30 p.m. Mr. Bingham from the county office will show a film on the science fair and all parents are urged to attend.

**MERRILL MARINERS** will meet Feb. 11 at the church at 8 p.m. Installation of officers will be held.

**MERRILL PARENTS AND PATRONS** are holding a coffee at the home of Mrs. Harry Orem on Wednesday, Feb. 13, at 10 a.m. All interested women are invited and a car pool is being formed. All those not having rides may call Mrs. Bob Trotman or Mrs. Bill Nicholson. Proceeds will go to the scholarship fund.

**MERRILL LIONS CLUB** is sponsoring a hotcake, sausage and egg breakfast Sunday, Feb. 10, at the recreation hall, serving from 6 o'clock until 12 noon. A family rate and individual rates have been set. Proceeds will go to the sight conservation program.

## Six Students Take Honors

**DUNSMUIR** — Six Dunsmuir Joint High School students received all As for the first semester. They were Ruby Lynch, senior; Dawn David, junior; Sandra Reid, sophomore; and Phyllis Anderson, Leigh Jones, and Helen Poo, freshmen.

Seniors with all As and Bs were Joanne Alcouffe, Carol Clement, Vicki Jones, Irene Rea, Sue Samuelson, and Michael Wright.

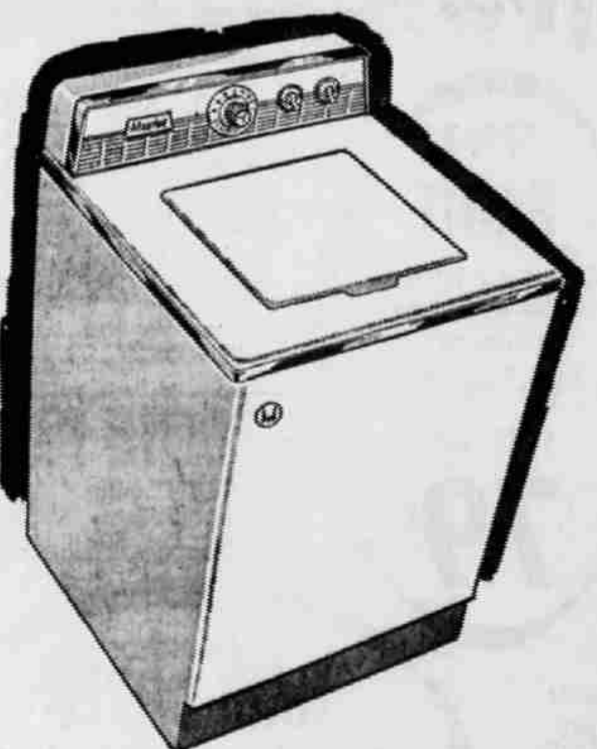
Juniors: Cathie Poe, Robert Vaughn, and Jacqui Winter.

Sophomores: Sandra Anderson, Louis Dewey, Pam Loney, and Judy Odegard.

Freshmen: Mike Bush, Janet Evans, Pamela Fawcett, Charles Goodrich, Cheri Jones, Mary Kelly, Mike Kostiz, Don Noyer, Barbara Rooney, Louis Sotelo, and Peggy Souther.

**SIGN TRADE PACT**  
MOSCOW (UPI) — The Soviet Union and Cuba have signed a trade and credit protocol for 1963, the official Tass news agency announced today.

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