

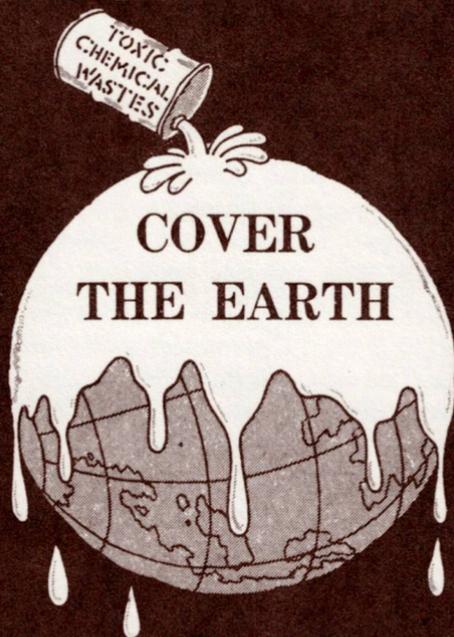
National Health Federation

BULLETIN

September 1980 • 50¢

**ON LAETRILE
FRONT: THE
NCI TESTS;
CAMPBELL BILL
IN CALIFORNIA;
RUTHERFORD CASE**

INSIDE: 16 PAGES TELL HOW



**DEAN BURK WINS FLUO. LIBEL SUIT
PORTLAND 'NO' ON FLUORIDATION
ECONOMIC TOLL FROM 'ACID RAIN'
3-MILE-ISLAND — INFANT DEATHS**

Dedicated to the Protection of Health Freedoms

THE
NATIONAL HEALTH FEDERATION
BULLETIN

Protection of Health Freedoms

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The Bulletin serves its readers as a forum for the presentation and discussion of important health issues including the presentation of minority or conflicting points of view, rather than by publishing only material on which a consensus has been reached. All articles published in the NHF Bulletin — including news, comments and book reviews — reflect the individual views of the authors and not necessarily official points of view adopted by the Federation.

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FLUORIDATION REJECTED BY PORTLAND VOTERS

Although Portland, Ore., voters two years ago decided by a 1% margin that they wanted fluoride in their water, voters on May 20 turned down fluoridation, the unofficial count being 62,021 to 53,588.

According to Milo Thomson, 2934 S.E. Morrison, Portland, one of the leaders in the antifuoridation camp and secretary of Citizens for Pure Water, the city remained unfluoridated during the past two years, because of various delaying tactics. One maneuver was a threatened lawsuit against the city council. Another was slowdown of a study, commissioned after the 1978 election.

Sympathetic to the pure water cause was councilman Frank Ivancie, head of the city's water bureau, among the first to sign an initiative petition to place the issue on the ballot after the 1978 election. In the recent election, Mr. Ivancie was elected mayor of Portland, defeating Mayor Connie McCreddie who two years ago — on behalf of the Multnomah County Health Department — introduced the motion to put the fluoridation issue on the 1978 ballot.

Mr. Thomson told NHF that another aid, he believes, in the vote to defeat fluoridation this year was a city council decision to include the word "mandatory" in the ballot title.

The campaign by Citizens for Pure Water was "relatively low-key," Mr. Thomson said, "We kept it on the scientific level, relying heavily on the Marier-Rose study in Canada, 'Environmental Fluoride — 1977.'"

In a 3-2 vote, the city council approved use of the word "mandatory" in the description of the ballot measure.

He expressed appreciation to County Commissioner Dan Mosee, and State Representative Drew Davis for their support.

Profluoridationists, headed by Robert

FLUORIDATIONISTS WIN AGAIN IN EAST BAY

They gave it a good try, but anti-fluoridation forces in the Oakland Berkeley environs of the East Bay in California were unable to overturn results of an earlier election which put fluoride into the water system of the East Bay Municipal Utilities District.

The June 3 election resulted in a vote to keep fluoridation of 173,600, according to veteran fluoridation opponent Betty Franklin. The anti-fluoridation vote was 142,819.

A court action against the district to eliminate fluoridation may come to trial this year.

Isman, D.D.S., head of the Multnomah County Dental Department and also head of Oregonians for Fluoridation, had access to advertising funds from the April 1 federal grant of \$55,000, plus \$38,000 supplied by the county, to promote fluoridation.

Profluoridation materials were disseminated among food-stamp-users. Use of public funds to influence an election is being investigated by the district attorney's office as well as the attorney general, and legal action has been promised, according to Mr. Thomson.

Thanks to a friendly station, anti-fluoridationists learned about and took advantage of an FCC regulation providing 25% free time for presentation of "the other side" in a controversial issue. Thus, Citizens for Pure Water obtained considerable unexpected television and radio time. CPW also distributed literature to about 60% of the homes in Portland prior to election day.

Dr. Burk Wins Libel Suit Against British Fluoridationist, Newspaper

A libel action brought against a British dental professor and the London *Daily Telegraph* by Dr. Dean Burk of Washington, D.C., has been settled, with the two defendants apologizing to Dr. Burk for having publicly stated the study he did jointly with Dr. John A. Yiamouyiannis revealing a link between fluoridation and cancer consisted of "worthless evidence from suspect sources."

A second cause of action involved the charge by Professor Ronald Emslie, dean of Dental Studies at Guy's Hospital Medical and Dental School, that Dr. Burk was "employed by the National Health Federation." Dr. Burk has lectured at NHF conventions, but for professional reasons never has been a member of the Federation.

A biochemist and senior scientist and head of the cytochemistry section of the U.S. National Cancer Institute for many years, Dr. Burk retired in 1974 after a career in cancer research extending over more than half a century.

In December 1978, the *Daily Telegraph* published a letter from Dr. Emslie imputing a lack of integrity on Dr. Burk's part. Dr. Burk brought suit in British courts, and last June the case was adjudicated, with the defendants agree-

ing to pay legal costs, and issuing an apology to Dr. Burk.

Dr. Emslie, a longtime supporter of fluoridation, is chairman of the Dental Educational Advisory Council, and of the Board of Studies in Dentistry at the University of London, and a member of the Expert Advisory Panel on Dental Health, World Health Organization.

In open court on June 16, through his attorney, Professor Emslie acknowledged that "the plaintiff is not and never has been employed by the National Health Federation," and that "Professor Emslie's letter reflected adversely upon the plaintiff's integrity and the objectivity of his research."

"The defendants now recognize that any such imputation against the plaintiff's personal or professional integrity was unjustified, and they are here today to apologize, and are also prepared to pay the plaintiff's costs." . . .

Dr. Burk has published more than 200 papers, 150 on cancer research, some coauthored with Nobel Prize winners. His classic paper, coauthored with Dr. Lineweaver on enzyme kinetics, is said to have been cited more extensively than any other paper ever published in the history of biochemistry.

LOUISIANA CITY HAS 'NO INTENTION' OF FLUORIDATING, MAYOR ASSERTS

When there appeared to be a possibility that the city of Monroe, La., might be fluoridated, Elmer and Edna Jeffers and Jean Bray, all of Monroe, wrote Mayor Bob Powell asking that a public meeting be held to discuss the issue.

But in early May, Mayor Powell replied to the Jeffers' and Ms. Bray, telling them a meeting would not be necessary because "the city has no intention of fluoridating the water."

The controversy arose in February after a newspaper story quoted Dr. Harry M. Bohannon that fluoridation would prevent "50% of school children's dental problems."

In her letter to Mayor Powell, Ms. Bray said if people want to add fluoride to their diet, "that is their prerogative, but many of us are highly-opposed to fluoridation of water, which imposes it

City Manager Wonders 'How Many Cities Really Want Fluoridation'

Even though the city would have received \$18,000 in federal funds for the project, voters in Show Low, Ariz., in an advisory election April 1 rejected fluoridation by a vote of 433 to 65.

Following the election, City Manager Jon Devner said the state's grant application for \$108,000 in federal money "should be scrapped." The application, drawn up by the State Department of Health Service's Bureau of Dental Health, included funds for Show Low. Mr. Devner said he was "not sure it was done properly."

According to the *Arizona Republic*, "the state thought Show Low was interested because a council member had requested information about fluoridation. State officials subsequently dropped Show Low from the still-pending grant application."

Mr. Devner said "the thrust of the application was to fluoridate Show Low," and that the grant review had drawn "a largely-negative response from Phoenix, Glendale, regional councils of governments, and other organizations."

He also questioned whether other cities listed in the grant application "actually want fluoride. If there were that many cities and towns that wanted it, why weren't letters of support attached to the grant application?"

CHEMICAL-RESISTANT INSECT POPULATION ON RISE

Insects immune to potent chemicals are becoming a "growing menace in America," says Dr. George P. Georghiou who has published a list of 414 types of insects that resist chemical controls.

"That's 44 more than appeared in the 1976 survey," he told the *Globe*. "The number has doubled in the past decade, and continues to rise."

A scientist at University of California, Riverside, Dr. Georghiou says many

common insects such as mosquitoes and cockroaches are becoming a growing problem around the world. In the past five years, he noted, malaria cases have doubled to 200 million because of chemically-resistant mosquitoes.

He says insect resistance occurs because of genetic variation after a few insects survive pesticide dosing. The best way to fight the new breed of superbug, he advises, is "cleanliness."

— THE GLOBE

\$20,000 Fine Imposed for Shipping Diseased Meat

A \$20,000 fine was levied against Allen Weinstein, vice-president of Weinstein International Corp., Golden Val-

ley, Minn., convicted of "fraudulently selling and attempting to distribute" approximately 17,800 pounds of adulterated beef.

on everyone." Monroe School Superintendent Sidney Seegers was quoted earlier as saying fluoridation would be "too expensive. There is no way we are going to fluoridate our school system. We've had no requests for that."

Louisiana received a federal grant in October 1979 to help communities pay for installing fluoridation equipment.

According to the Food Safety and Quality Service division of the Department of Agriculture, the beef, from Australia, had been refused entry into the U.S. because it contained "pathological lesions." FSQS says Mr. Weinstein shipped the adulterated meat to a buyer in Curacao, Netherlands Antilles, using an altered USDA document.

'Real Laetrile' Not Used, Says McNaughton

BY ANDREW R.L. McNAUGHTON

At long last the National Cancer Institute-sponsored clinical trials with "Laetrile" are getting underway, but the real Laetrile (amygdalin) is not the material being tested!

Is this widely-circulated claim by Laetrile proponents true or false?

For nearly a quarter of a century the McNaughton Foundation has been sponsoring the orderly development of Laetrile both in the United States and many other countries. In 1970 the Food and Drug Administration issued to this foundation an Investigational New Drug permit (IND 6734) authorizing clinical trials similar to those now being carried out under NCI sponsorship.

The following excerpts from relatively-recent correspondence between the National Cancer Institute group and the McNaughton Foundation will serve to throw some light on the claim that the material intended for intravenous use in the current NCI tests is something other than genuine Laetrile.

Letter 3 October '78:

McNaughton Foundation to NCI Director Arthur Upton:

"Our misgivings lie primarily in the following areas:

1. The specifications and sources of Laetrile (amygdalin) to be used in the proposed trials.
2. The criteria for selection of patients.
3. The proposed clinical protocols:

Andrew McNaughton, president of The McNaughton Foundation, has been involved in the effort to obtain official clinical testing of Laetrile (amygdalin) longer than any other individual. (Ed.)

Laetrile alone, Laetrile as a central factor in a metabolic therapeutic rationale, routes of Laetrile administration — I.V. and/or oral.

4. The criteria for interpretation of results of the clinical trials." . . .

Letter 14 December '78:

National Cancer Institute to the Food and Drug Administration:

"We call your attention to the following:

1. DL-Amygdalin will be given by the intravenous route of administration." . . .

At this point, let me point out that *only D-Amygdalin — not DL-Amygdalin — is the true Laetrile.*

Letter 6 Feb. '79:

McNaughton Foundation to Mayo Clinic with copy to NCI:

"I have before me a copy of a letter dated 18 December '78. . . from the FDA to the NCI assigning IND 16013 to the NCI application for the clinical evaluation of Laetrile-Amygdalin. In this letter to the NCI I am much concerned to note that the material proposed for use in the clinical evaluations is both DL and D-Amygdalin. . . .

"Long before my involvement with Laetrile — more than 21 years ago — all of the Laetrile-Amygdalin in general distribution was produced by Doctors E. T. Krebs, Sr., and Jr., and was invariably in the D form.

"Subsequent Laetrile-Amygdalin produced by Delmar Chemicals in Canada for my foundation, and that produced more recently by the McNaughton Foundation in California, was also the D-isomer (R configuration). This was in accord with the Krebs specifications.

"It is thus evident that all of the pioneering animal and clinical work with

Laetrile-Amygdalin under sponsorship of both the Doctors Krebs and the McNaughton Foundation was carried out with the optically-pure D-Amygdalin, and that the racemic DL-Amygdalin came into circulation only recently, somewhere in early 1974.

"It is perhaps significant that the results achieved clinically with the optically-pure D-Amygdalin in the treatment of cancer were obtained with doses one-third to one-half of those required with the optically-impure racemic DL-Amygdalin, in general but very temporary circulation today.

"Without in any manner denigrating the value of the currently-popular metabolic approach in Laetrile therapy which undoubtedly has much to contribute to the general health and resistance of the patient undergoing therapy with Laetrile — it is interesting to note that these superior results with optically-pure D-Amygdalin were obtained prior to the general introduction of 'metabolic therapy.'

"The biological differences between the D and L isomers and the DL-Amygdalin have not really been exhaustively studied. Some of the most important work was carried out many years ago (around 1910 which quite coincidentally was the period when John Beard in Scotland was doing his monumental work with the enzyme therapy of cancer which today is an essential part of any rational approach to the therapy of cancer with Laetrile) at McGill University in Montreal by Vernon K. Kriebel and others.

"I enclose copies of some of his publications from which you will readily see that the use of racemic DL-Amygdalin in the coming trials can only tend to confuse an understanding of any observed clinical results, and would most certainly not be acceptable as a true evaluation of the potential of D-Amygdalin in the therapy of cancer."

Letter 14 Feb. '79:

Mayo Clinic to the McNaughton Foundation:

"I am very grateful for your letter of February 6. Earlier specifications supplied to us regarding amygdalin had indicated it was utilized in racemic form. We had also received correspondence from Mr. Robert Bradford stating there was no substantive evidence that one isomer form is superior to another. Based on this information, it had been our intent to use the racemic DL-amygdalin. In analysis of samples currently in use, we had also found them to be the DL form. Based on your letter, however, and on the following discussion with Mr. Bradford, I have conveyed to the National Cancer Institute my recommendations that the D form be prepared for intravenous use. This will result in a substantive delay in initiating the trials, but I feel it is most important we do this properly."

Letter 26 March '79:

McNaughton Foundation to Mayo Clinic, copy to NCI:

" . . . Thank you for your letter of 16 March '79. I do appreciate your patience and open-minded consideration of my comments on your proposed Laetrile protocols.

"Perhaps I have misunderstood your letter, but I am under the impression . . . that the injectable Laetrile now to be used in the clinical trials will be the racemic mixture, not the pure natural amygdalin.

"I still consider it would be a mistake to use a DL mixture in the coming trials in place of the single D isomer as found in nature and described in the *Merck Index* and elsewhere. After all, iso-amygdalin and neo-amygdalin are not the same as amygdalin. That they may be more or less effective remains to be determined, but your proposed clinical trials of amygdalin should be — as announced — just that: not a complex mixture involving iso-amygdalin for injectable dosage forms and natural

amygdalin for oral.

"When discussing the effectiveness of Laetrile (amygdalin) with clinicians who were using the natural materials prior to the general availability of iso-amygdalin, I am impressed with the unanimity with regard to their claims of greater success when using the old natural amygdalin and the need to use much larger quantities of the presently-supplied iso-amygdalin in an effort to duplicate these results. This, before the days of metabolic therapy, makes me stop and think. I ask you to do the same."

Letter 6 November '79:

McNaughton Foundation to Mayo Clinic:

"Enclosed is a copy of a publication from *Nutrisearch Foundation* with respect to "The Extraction, Identification and Packaging of Therapeutically Effective Amygdalin" which you may find of interest."

Letter 9 January '80:

Mayo Clinic to McNaughton Foundation:

"... I had passed on all of your recommendations for change in the clinical protocol, and I hope most of these will be adopted. I, of course, had no direct role in drug formulation which is being carried out entirely by the National Cancer Institute."

Letter 24 January '80:

McNaughton Foundation to Mayo Clinic:

"Since it appears probable that Laetrile clinical trials will commence sometime this year, I feel it would be constructive to attempt to create as much agreement as possible with respect to the proposed clinical protocols.

"As part of this effort I would like to make available to interested members of the Laetrile movement copies of the interchange of letters between us so as to provide some insight into the complexities of clinical trials involving so many variables as are presented when Laetrile is mixed with other compounds having possible anticancer activity of

comparable magnitude.

"I am therefore requesting your permission to utilize for this purpose, your letters to me."

Letter 11 Feb. '80:

Mayo Clinic to McNaughton Foundation:

"I am very grateful for your recent letter. It does indeed appear likely that Laetrile clinical trials will begin very soon, probably within the next three to four weeks. The basic design of this study will be in almost all respects the same as that which you have previously reviewed. This will include amygdalin given at a dosage of approximately 9 gms intravenously for 21 consecutive days, followed by oral amygdalin at a dosage of 0.5 gms three times daily.

With regard to the accompanying metabolic therapy, we will be following a middle ground, using doses of vitamins that are well above adult requirements. At your recommendation, however, we are avoiding the mega doses of vitamins frequently used by Laetrile practitioners. Vitamin C will be given at 2 gms daily, Vitamin A at 20,000 units daily, Vitamin E at 400 units daily, and B-complex vitamins and minerals will be given in a standard supplemental capsule.

Pancreatic enzymes will also be administered 3 tablets 4 times daily or a total of 12 tablets in 24 hours. The dietary regime will be letter-and-verse at which Mr. Bradford recommended to us. It is our hope that this regime will provide a fair test of amygdalin without the possible diluting effects that could be provided by the extraordinary large vitamin doses. At your recommendation, we have also eliminated our previously-recommended pangamic acid.

"As you know, I have not been directly involved in the drug formulation, but it is my understanding that the nature of the amygdalin used in both oral and intravenous preparations has been found to be identical to that which is currently in use and supplied by your foundation.

BOHANON GRANTS LAETRILE PATIENTS' REQUEST FOR REHEARING 'ON REMAND'

Although the 10th Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals denied a motion by attorneys for Glen L. Rutherford and other terminally-ill cancer patients for a stay of mandate, pending possible submission of a writ of certiorari to the U.S. Supreme Court, the case is still in court, according to Attorney Kirkpatrick W. Dilling. Judge Luther Bohanon granted a motion for further hearings "on remand."

And the Food and Drug Administration has made it known that importation of Laetrile under the Bohanon-directed affidavit system will continue in effect until the litigation has been completed.

"I would not object to your making this letter available to other interested members of the Laetrile movement, nor would I object to your making copies of your letters to me available. I would prefer that you paraphrase anything you wish from my earlier letters to you, but that these letters not be copied and distributed. I am very grateful to you for your assistance in facilitating the development of our proposed trial."

COMMENT

Perhaps the original confusion as to the identity of true Laetrile is understandable, since the prohibition of Laetrile manufacture in the United States has resulted in all kinds of so-called amygdalin of varying purity being circulated as Laetrile.

However, The Technical Identification Specifications for Amygdalin (Laetrile), IS-630-RO are on file with the U.S. District Court, Western Oklahoma Jurisdiction, as well as with the N.C.I. and other concerned government organizations, thus making further confusion and speculations as to its exact identity unnecessary.

Choice magazine in its Spring 1980 edition sums up the feelings of the Lae-

An urgent appeal for funds to pay attorneys' fees, procure witnesses, and carry forward the proceedings has been made by NHF, in a letter to the membership.

Attorneys Dilling and Kenneth Coe, Oklahoma City, petitioned Judge Bohanon to conduct further hearings to consider the issue of the "grandfathering" of Laetrile (the fact it was in use before enactment of the Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act of 1962).

"The record clearly shows," said the plaintiffs, "that amygdalin (Laetrile) is not new, but has been known to science

trile proponents with respect to the overall Laetrile protocols as follows: "Proponents of amygdalin therapy have generally been cheered by the government agreement to include a full metabolic therapy program for cancer patients, but also dismayed that only terminal patients will be involved in the tests.

"Even so, the metabolic program with even decomposed amygdalin might turn up scattered positive results, they believe, if the material used is either able to release benzaldehyde or if the other immune stimulating and anticancer factors in the vitamin supplement and dietary programs can take effect."

Such results, of course, would prove nothing . . . with respect to the efficacy of Laetrile (amygdalin) in the therapy of cancer. Such spurious tests also would be a sad waste of time and public money, and would lead to increased controversy over Laetrile.

In conclusion then, and to repeat: *The National Cancer Institute-sponsored clinical trials with "Laetrile" are getting under way, but the real Laetrile (amygdalin) is not the material being tested!*

Why NHF Believes NCI Laetrile Testing Won't Give True Picture

Because of several factors contained in the protocol, the National Health Federation does not believe the Laetrile tests launched July 1 by the National Cancer Institute will be "fair, unbiased, and reflect the true and full story of what Laetrile, in conjunction with enzyme treatment and diet, can do for a cancer patient."

Executive Director Clinton R. Miller criticized these elements of the protocol: (1) Testing to be confined to terminally-ill cancer patients; (2) inadequate dosages of amygdalin (Laetrile); (3) use of "an optically-impure DL-amygdalin instead of the optically-pure D-amygdalin"; (4) exclusion from the testing procedures of physicians famil-

iar with the so-called Laetrile therapy; (5) if the substance is found "ineffective," it will be condemned, "whereas the standard types of treatment (surgery, irradiation, chemotherapy) are held up as effective even when used ineffectively on the dying patients."

At a press conference the day after the NCI tests were started, Betty Lee Morales, president of the Cancer Control Society, told the media that testing Laetrile only on terminal patients, "is patently unfair, since the immune systems of those bodies already have been taxed to the point of exhaustion — virtually destroyed. NCI is trying to test Laetrile as drugs are tested, when in fact, Laetrile (amygdalin) is

since at least 1845."

If the "factual record" is incomplete — as charged by the Appeals Court — it is because of FDA manipulation, the attorneys for the plaintiffs contend.

"... In effect, FDA preordained circumstances virtually reversing the "burden of proof" which was incumbent upon FDA, placing it upon plaintiffs.

"FDA opposition to Laetrile has been implacable . . . (As of 1975) when Mr. Rutherford's Laetrile was seized by the FDA, the agency had conducted no administrative proceedings to determine the legal status of Laetrile. On October 12, 1976, the Appeals Court upheld the District Court (Judge Bohanon), by stating that Laetrile 'is not a new drug merely because they (FDA) say it is.' The Appeals Court then ordered an administrative review by FDA, which led to a rule-making proceedings."

Those proceedings, reflecting the FDA bias, "belied any open-minded review by the Food and Drug Administration," the plaintiffs maintain. "The FDA Commissioner elected to conduct hearings . . . which resulted in denial of the

right to cross-examine witnesses, allowing testimony to be given without requiring an oath . . . and generally carried out the proceedings in such a way as to guarantee that the FDA's already-predetermined position on Laetrile would prevail.

"Any 'frailties,' therefore, in the administrative record were the sole and only responsibility of the agency itself, and should not be cause to preclude further hearings which could remove such 'inadequacies' and possible ultimate findings that Laetrile is indeed 'grandfathered'." . . .

The case involves "fundamental issues of transcendent importance, affecting an entire class of persons — terminally-ill cancer patients, and others," conclude the attorneys for Mr. Rutherford. "If the FDA is successful — as it has been thus far — no one, not even a terminal cancer patient, may receive Laetrile in any form, and thousands of patients dependent upon Laetrile will be effectively left to die without the treatment they value for their very lives."

only one element of the total treatment. Not one of the patients will be given an adequate amount of Laetrile, nor the supplemental diet — so essential in the so-called 'Laetrile program.'"

Ms. Morales testified before the California Assembly Committee on Health last June that one of the doctors at UCLA — one of the four test sites — had publicly stated that "we have no confidence in Laetrile, we're doing the test because of public demand." She said such bias could not help but influence outcome of the testing.

She also revealed that Senator George McGovern has promised that "if he gets 20,000 letters asking for a full-scale investigation of the National Cancer Institute, he and Connecticut Congressman Christopher J. Dodd will demand such a probe." Both legislators sent investigators into the field to ferret out information relating to the Laetrile controversy.

NHF Chapter Praised for Yeomen's Work

CALIFORNIA LAETRILE BILL ONE VOTE SHORT OF PASSAGE

"Betrayal" is the word used by NHF Executive Director Clinton R. Miller to describe the vote of Assemblywoman Jean M. Moorhead, Sacramento County, a registered nurse whose aide reportedly told NHF's special legislative advocate Ken Wagner two weeks before the vote that she was in "strong support" of the bill to legalize Laetrile in California, then voted against it during a tense afternoon session of the Assembly Health Committee June 9 in Sacramento.

In the first, early balloting, the vote was 5-5. Seven votes were needed for passage, and in the subsequent two hours there was heavy lobbying from the office of Governor Edmund G. "Jerry" Brown, the office of the bill's sponsor, Senator William Campbell, and NHF supporters.

When the final tally was counted, six

The NCI study will be conducted at University of California, Los Angeles; the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minn.; Memorial Sloan-Kettering Center, New York City; and the University of Arizona, Tucson.

According to NCI spokesperson Paul Van Nevel, only patients with measurable tumors and for whom no "established" treatment has been effective, or who no longer respond to conventional drugs, will be considered for the experiment.

NCI announced it would go forward with its testing after a three-month study at the Mayo Clinic revealed that five of six patients "showed no toxic effects" from ingestion of Laetrile. The sixth person showed evidence of toxicity after eating large quantities of raw almonds which appeared to stimulate release of cyanide, an ingredient of the kernels of apricots, almonds, and hundreds of other forms of plant life.

legislators were recorded in favor of S.B. 1480: Assemblypersons Tom Bates of Oakland, Gordon Duffy of Hanford, Leona H. Egeland of Morgan Hill, William H. Ivers of Flintridge, Patrick J. Nolan of Glendale, and Committee Chairman and cosponsor of the bill, Art Torres.

Voting against the measure were Art Agnos of San Francisco, Gerald Felando of San Pedro, Dennis Mangers of Huntington Beach, Curtis Tucker of Inglewood, Maxine Waters of Los Angeles, Ms. Moorehead, and Herschel Rosenthal of Los Angeles, whose nay vote was the one which killed the bill.

According to Mr. Miller, Assemblyman Rosenthal "agonized greatly" over the decision. His comment on casting a vote against S.B. 1480 was: "I am concerned if at this point we legitimize Laetrile, people throughout the country

will think it is a cure of cancer. I want to err on the side of caution."

Assemblyman Tucker said he would vote for the measure if the bill were amended to provide that Laetrile could be administered only in "teaching hospitals," of which there are six in the state. His amendment was rejected by the committee.

The bill had included features designed to appease opponents, such as a provision that it would expire January 1, 1985, so the Legislature could evaluate results as a basis for further action. It also provided that patients be appraised by their doctors of conventional types of cancer therapy, with risks and benefits explained in writing.

It was the fourth try by Senator Campbell to legalize Laetrile (amygdalin) — in the state which produces its principal ingredient — apricots.

After the vote had been tabulated, Senator Campbell observed: "I've lost it again. I'll probably reintroduce it next year, but I have to go the initiative route. This boggles my mind when you have the governor and the committee chairman in your corner."

He called the right of individuals to obtain Laetrile, "a basic human right." But Dr. Raymond L. Weisberg of the American Cancer Society called it "an ineffective drug as it relates to cancer therapy. It would give official sanction to defrauding consumers."

'BETRAYED,' SAYS MILLER

"California citizens were betrayed a *second time* in the Assembly by Assemblypersons who promised to vote for the Laetrile bill, then switched and voted against it," declared Mr. Miller.

"We first were betrayed in 1977 when Assemblyman Dennis Mangers, Huntington Beach Democrat, switched his promised 'yes' vote to a 'no.'"

"This year we were betrayed by a first-term Republican, Jean M. Moorhead, who represents the 5th Assembly District encompassing the northern por-

tion of Sacramento County. She has been a registered nurse for more than 17 years.

"The bill had passed the Senate Health Committee 4-0, and the full Senate 23-11. We had counted our votes in the 13-member Assembly Health Committee and knew we had a victory *if we were not betrayed* a second time.

"Governor Brown, California's leading Democrat, and Senator William Campbell, the No. 1 Republican, lobbied side by side to get the required 7 votes. The Democratic Assembly Health Committee chairman, Art Torres, had coauthored the bill with Senator Campbell. Only a second double-cross could kill the bill. This year it was a Republican double-cross, two years ago it was a Democratic double-cross."

HER EXPLANATION

After the vote, Mr. Wagner asked Mrs. Moorhead's office to explain why she had voted against the measure when he had been assured two weeks earlier that she supported it. Her answer is contained in a letter to him, excerpts of which follow:

"... My original intent was to support S.B. 1480, just as I had publicly supported a pardon for Dr. James R. Privitera. It was my belief at the time that Laetrile could be used simultaneously with the more conventional cancer treatments. However, as lengthy discussions were held with both the oppose and support factions, it became very clear that a combined treatment is not usual nor desirable, due to questionable side effects.

"The amendments adopted the night of the vote were quite explicit that in order to receive Laetrile, a patient would have to be declared 'terminally ill' by his or her physician, and then go to a 'Laetrile clinic.' What is 'terminally ill' today may not be so tomorrow, and I was concerned regarding the liability questions that could arise if a patient was misdiagnosed.

"Believe me, it was an agonizing decision that I made — one I struggled with for many days, and one that I arrived at only after careful study of both sides of this emotional issue.

"If there was a way physicians would use both standard chemotherapy and Laetrile together, I could understand the need to legalize it. However, both proponents and opponents stated they would not use the two types of treatment together. Therefore I concluded I would not support a bill which would essentially set up two types of health care."

Mr. Wagner told *The Bulletin* editor a witness was asked whether chemotherapy and Laetrile are used together on occasion, and that the answer was "yes." (It was done for a time when Chad Green was a patient at the Contreras clinic in Tijuana. Ed.)

Commenting on Assemblywoman Moorhead's reasons for opposing the bill, Mr. Wagner said: "She didn't hear the testimony, to say what she does on Laetrile. Physically, her body was there, but her attention wasn't."

THE FELANDO VOTE

Continuing, Mr. Miller asserted: "A third Assemblyperson who proved he could be depended upon to vote the California Medical Association party line was Assemblyman Gerald Felando, a freshman Republican from the 52nd Assembly which includes Torrance and San Pedro.

"The important thing to note about all votes against the bill is that it provided that a person had to be terminally ill with cancer before being eligible to receive a Laetrile prescription.

"Still, 7 members voted that a dying cancer patient with perhaps only one day or one hour to live, could not get Laetrile prescribed by a physician in California."

'VICTORY IN DEFEAT'

"While it was a bitter experience to lose again in California, this time we came within inches of a victory. Gover-

nor Brown's lobbyist, Terri Thomas, lobbied harder for the bill than anyone. There is no doubt about that. Governor Brown and Senator Campbell went all-out to win a victory. And Art Torres was absolutely magnificent.

"Those voting against the bill made it clear that this would be the last time they would vote against it unless a fair test had been conducted.

"Art Agnos, San Francisco Democrat, said he wanted to make it clear that he believes Laetrile is 20th-century witchcraft, but that while he was voting against the measure, he felt this would be the last time the Assembly could kill the bill unless the CMA, the ACS, and the National Cancer Institute come up with a fair, unbiased test. He said Dr. Harold Manner's testimony had convinced him there was a really-serious question about the fairness of the tests being conducted. He indicated that if the medical establishment continues to run the tests with the built-in bias and unfairness Dr. Manner had pointed out, the Assembly Health Committee could not stand against the rising public pressure."

TESTIMONY

At the overflow hearing, between 20 and 30 cancer patients raised their hands when asked by Senator Campbell if Laetrile had helped save their lives, and release them from pain.

Testifying for the measure during the allotted 15 minutes were Dr. Manner, Senator Campbell, and Betty Lee Morales who said, "Hope is not illegal. Cancer treatment should not be considered with tunnel vision."

Other cancer patients, and Roseanne Privitera, wife of Dr. James R. Privitera who recently served a jail sentence for prescribing Laetrile in 1974, were ready to testify had there been time. But the committee heard more than 30 bills that afternoon.

Mr. Miller paid tribute to the "consummate skill" of Chairman Torres who "can be depended on to coauthor the

bill early in 1981, when I predict it will pass in both Senate and Assembly Health Committees, as well as in the Legislature. And when it passes, we know Governor Brown will not veto it as did the governors in New York, Indiana, and Illinois.

"We now have those who voted against the bill — and one who believes Laetrile is a hoax — demanding a fair test. We know fair tests already conducted for the past 25 years have proved time and again that Laetrile is safe and effective against cancer in humans and animals."

NHFers COMMENDED

Mr. Miller commended the Sacramento NHF chapter for "a magnificent performance." He said "its new officers — Dr. James Keppler, president, Earl Fuller, vice-president, Carole Green Thomas, secretary and public relations, and John Schlemmer, treasurer, and special chapter lobbyist Ken Wagner — worked around the clock to stage a successful rally the morning of the hearing."

After a brunch, they paraded to the capitol, carrying signs with such messages as: "Our Bodies Are Ours, Not the State's"; "Legalize Laetrile Now"; "Marijuana for Cancer Patients, Why Not Laetrile?"; and "almost prophetically," according to Mr. Miller, "Don't Betray Us a Second Time."

Mr. Miller, who coordinated the lobby activity, said he will ask the NHF Executive Committee to authorize formation of an NHF political action committee to permit him to organize political action against Assemblypersons Mangers, Moorhead, and Felando "to see if NHF can help defeat one or more of them in November. Until now, we were dealing with honest, promise-keeping lawmakers who kept their word. Two betrayals is two too many, and it is time NHF worked actively to defeat lawmakers who play games with the health rights of cancer patients.

"If we are successful in defeating any one of the three because of their vote on

COMMITTEE APPROVES WATERED-DOWN VERSION

A month after the Assembly Health Committee had rejected the Campbell-Torres Laetrile bill, the Committee reversed itself (July 9) and by a 9-3 vote sent the watered-down measure to Ways and Means.

The amendments by Assemblyman Curtis Tucker — who voted against the bill in June — provide that terminally-ill patients would have to be treated with Laetrile in the teaching hospital of an accredited medical school, the Laetrile to be provided the patient at cost by the Department of Health Services "to eliminate profiteering," and that the Health Department conduct a study of the response of patients to the therapy and report annually to the Legislature.

Whether Governor Brown will sign the measure if it passes, is problematical. His office said there would have to be "a review" of the bill, in view of the changes.

Laetrile, the word will go out that NHF has more political clout than the American Medical Association, the California Medical Association, American Cancer Society, National Cancer Institute, Sloan-Kettering, and the entire drug-hospital-medical monopoly which controls them.

"The final word will be in the ballot box in November, and although we face a multibillion-dollar monopoly, I really believe Americans will not sell their votes once informed by NHF."

He urged those who want to take an active part in such a campaign to write him, "addressed 'personal,' indicating your desire to help. It is well known by both sides that when we win in California, we will have won the Laetrile war. And win we will, because NHF has never lost a health-rights battle it has waged. We have either won, or it is still going on."

TOXIC WASTE DUMPS BECOMING NIGHTMARE

BY LARRY AGRAN

Hardly a day goes by without a new story about toxic exposures, radiation leakage, poisoned land and poisoned people. Like thousands of sleeping monsters, toxic-waste dumping grounds are now awakening to horrify entire communities throughout the country.

In the Los Angeles area, the problem has taken a disturbing twist. Whereas the source of soil- and water-contaminants is usually easily traced, health officials are apparently mystified about the source of trichloroethylene (TCE), a suspected cancer-causing chemical detected in San Gabriel Valley area water supplies.

Our alarm over these reports is added to by a sense of frustration and perhaps even guilt as we begin to realize that toxic-waste contamination could have been avoided.

For decades, our toxic-waste disposal practices have been so primitive and so careless that they defy belief. Tons of poorly-packaged toxic — even lethal — compounds have been trucked to disposal sites, dumped, and then buried in the naive belief that for chemicals — as with human beings — burial and death are synonymous.

What these foolish practices have led to is the creation of thousands of underground, uncontrolled chemical factories, producing unimagined and unintended reactions of the most insidious nature. Instead of lying harmless, in a matter of months or years toxic agents

Larry Agran is an attorney, a member of the Irvine, Calif., city council, and author of The Cancer Connection (\$3.95, paper, St. Martin's Press, New York), a book about national environmental cancer policies. This article first appeared in the Los Angeles Times.

leach into the surrounding soil and the underground and above-ground water supply, and then pollute the air too.

When nearby communities find their drinking water and soil poisoned, and their animals ill or dying, justifiable despair — even panic — emerges. In time, hapless citizens learn a new chemical vocabulary: phenols, dioxin, benzene, chloroform, carbon tetrachloride. And, of course, they learn of the effects upon themselves and their children: damage to the liver and pancreas, central nervous system disorders, diminished intelligence, genetic damage, stillbirths, miscarriages and increased incidence of cancer.

Belatedly, there is the recognition that our toxic-waste disposal policies have been a monument to idiocy. And belatedly there is the realization that there must be a plan — probably a national plan — to protect the public's health. But what kind of plan? So far, attention has focused on ways of policing thousands of dump sites and millions of industrial establishments — perhaps a hopelessly difficult regulatory challenge.

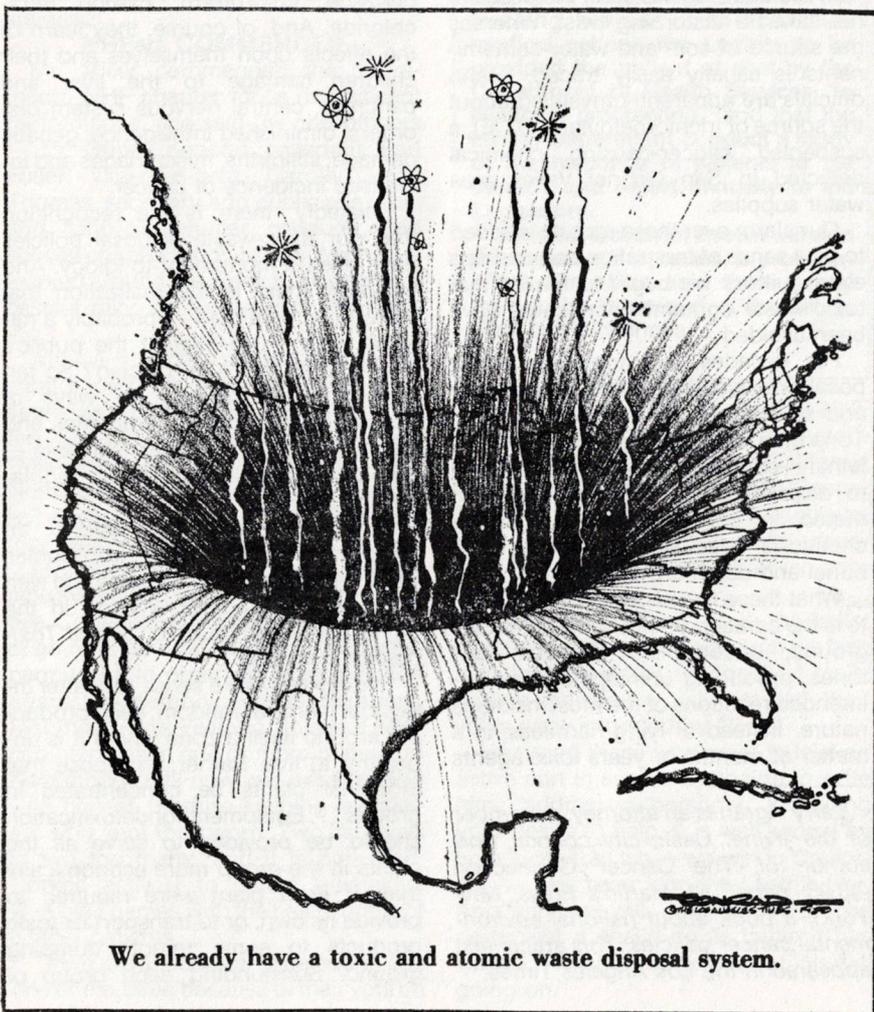
Now meet Dr. Pietro Capurro, an environmental pathologist who comes to us with profound experience and with a good idea to boot. Writing in the highly respected journal, *Clinical Toxicology*, he states:

"It does not make sense to scatter industrial plants at random, each producing around itself a zone where it is unhealthy to live. Rather, I propose that industrial plants be concentrated in groups . . . Equipment for detoxification should be provided to serve all the plants in the group more economically than if each plant were required to provide its own, or to transport its toxic products to some remote dumping ground. Surrounding each group of

industrial plants, I would have a buffer zone of water or forested area. Beyond the buffer zones would come farms, commercial centers, and residential areas. Workers would be moved in and out of the industrial area by public transportation."

The ramblings of a visionary? Or, rather, might it be the general outline of a long-range national plan for industrial reorganization? Dr. Capurro writes not as a remote theorist, but as a practicing

pathologist who single-handedly documented an extraordinary case of an industrial plant responsible for the toxic pollution of a small Maryland community, Little Elk Valley. Utilizing a gas chromatograph and a mass spectrometer, he traced the dumping of benzene, carbon tetrachloride, trichloroethylene and other toxic and cancer-causing chemicals from the plant itself to the local air and water and soil. Then, relying upon nuclear medicine and



We already have a toxic and atomic waste disposal system.

EPA SUES HOOKER FOR CHEMICAL DUMPING

The \$124-million suit brought by the Environmental Protection Agency against Hooker Chemical Co. to force it to clean up New York's Love Canal is the first time the agency has set out to prove that a company must pay for damages caused by pollution dating back three decades.

And it marks the first time EPA has sought to require a firm to pay for

other sophisticated diagnostic techniques, he confirmed the existence of high levels of these same agents in the biological systems and organs of exposed residents who were suffering from depression, memory loss, fatigue and diminished intelligence. Finally, among those exposed over a period of more than five years, he noted a dramatic increase in cancers of the pancreas and the lymphatic system.

As a matter of science, Dr. Capurro presented a compelling case. But public policy lagged behind in Little Elk Valley, just as it lags behind in the poisoned community of Love Canal in Niagara Falls, N.Y., and in Edison, N.J., and in countless other localities that are becoming at once both famous and infamous for their chemical dump misfortunes.

From his experience, Dr. Capurro has developed a keen sense of our vulnerability in the short run. Things simply have been out of control for too long. He acknowledges that we will have to pin our hopes on the kind of long-run industrial reorganization that he has posited. "Naturally," he writes, "we cannot achieve such an arrangement at once. For example, it will require states to yield some of their jealously-guarded sovereignty. However, if we agree that the plan is logical . . . then the sooner we recognize the goal and begin working toward it, the better become the survival prospects of our grandchildren and their grandchildren."

medical studies of persons exposed to chemical dumps — the suit seeks \$2 million a year for such research on Love Canal residents.

Four civil suits were filed in late December against Hooker and its parent firm, Occidental Petroleum Corp., in federal court, Buffalo, N.Y. One suit charged Olin Corporation with similar violations at a nearby site.

Deputy EPA Administrator Barbara Blum said at a news conference the suits constitute the costliest relief ever sought by the agency in a chemical dumping case. She would not say whether the government was considering criminal prosecution also.

Hooker already had been hit by \$2½ billion in civil suits by present and former Love Canal residents.

Ms. Blum said the suits "should serve notice to those who generate or handle hazardous wastes that these kinds of dangers no longer will be tolerated by the public. The day of discarding hazardous materials indiscriminately and haphazardly is over."

Hooker sold the Love Canal area at Niagara Falls, N.Y., to the city in the 1950s. In 1978, nearly 200 families were forced from their homes by poisons oozing through basement walls and onto lawns.

Eighty-two toxic chemicals — including 12 that cause cancer — were identified in surface soils, home air, and basement sumps, the federal complaint said. Residents were found to be suffering from a high rate of medical disorders, including miscarriages.

CONTAMINATED WATER

Tetrachloroethylene, a chemical believed to cause cancer, has been found in the drinking water of more than 160 southern New England communities. In some locations, the concentration has been more than 30 times the amount considered safe.

Hooker Chemical Blames EPA For Love Canal Evacuation

"State Sues for \$635-Million Over Love Canal"; "Aid for Love Canal Neighbors Delayed"; "U.S. to Move 700 Families Living Near Love Canal"; "U.S. Warns of Chromosome Damage to Love Canal Residents."

These are a few of the headlines appearing in newspapers across the country between April 29 and May 22, 1980.

The delayed-aid story noted: "... Love Canal, once a neighborhood of modest homes, crabgrass lawns and playing children, is now an eerie place. An abandoned elementary school and 239 houses — doors and windows covered with sheets of plywood — are ringed by a chain-link fence. No life stirs inside the fence, three-fourths of a mile long and two blocks wide, four miles from downtown Niagara Falls.

"Underneath the tract are the remains of more than 80 chemicals — the poisons that made children sick, caused miscarriages and birth defects, and ultimately forced hundreds to desert their homes.

"Love Canal was a manmade horror, an environmental disaster that occurred in a decade full of environmental progress following the first Earth Day on April 22, 1970.

"New York state called it 'a great and imminent peril to the health of the general public.' President Carter declared a national emergency for the area to permit the more than 700 families living near the chemical waste dump to be relocated temporarily at government expense until new health studies are completed."

EPA Deputy Administrator Barbara Blum said that "extraordinary action" of subjecting families to the disruption of moving for an indefinite period "is necessary to protect the health and welfare of these residents from exposure to

toxic wastes deposited in the area by the Hooker Chemical Company."

The company sold the waste dump site to the local school board in 1953 for \$1 after using it for disposal since 1942.

EPA acted, according to Assistant Administrator for Research and Development Stephen Gage, after a study by Biogenetics Corp. of Houston found rare chromosomal aberrations in 11 of 36 area residents tested, and a study by Drs. Steven Barron and Beverly Paigen concluded evidence "is suggestive of peripheral nerve damage" to sensory nerves in the lower legs and arms of residents.

Other studies by Dr. Paigen concluded that exposure to Love Canal chemicals had resulted in blood and liver abnormalities, disease, disfigurement, and death to area residents.

A New York state Department of Health study previously had shown an increase in miscarriages over the normal rate.

A CBS 60 Minutes program May 25 revealed that of 15 pregnancies among Love Canal residents, only two resulted in normal births.

In December the federal government sued Hooker for \$125 million, and New York filed a \$635-million suit against the company in April. Suits by residents total more than \$2 billion.

After the announcement that the government would move the residents, Hooker, a Houston-based subsidiary of Occidental Petroleum Corp. of Los Angeles, issued a statement blaming EPA for the need to relocate the residents.

"The precipitous and poorly-handled release by the EPA of genetic data from a totally-inadequate study has predictably caused panic to those living in the

Toxic Waste: Survival at Stake

Like a small cloud on the horizon that warns of a gathering storm, the discovery of toxic substances in many wells throughout California is yet another distress signal coming from the overburdened environment. More ominous is the failure so far to trace the poisons to specific sources.

Not many years ago, when the population pressure was less, it appeared that the environment had an unlimited capacity to absorb industrial and other wastes. But our multiplying numbers and the rapid growth of our vast industrial machines have radically altered the equation between man and the environment. It is crumbling under constant assault.

Everyone — from the individual to the giant corporation — must be concerned. But no one will escape the consequences if we fail to halt pollution.

A series of legislative and regulatory reforms proposed by Governor Jerry Brown to meet the increasing threat of chemical pollution look promising. By executive order, he has created a council to coordinate the actions of state agencies involved in efforts to control toxic wastes.

His legislative measures include a number of significant elements: tighter controls on waste disposal, closer monitoring for chemical contaminants in drinking water, increased fines for illegal disposal of wastes, and a provision also for civil penalties.

A new unit would be added to the Department of Health Services to identify the source and scope of toxic wastes as they are discovered. An analysis of toxic pollution prepared by the governor's staff emphasized: "Current enforcement is limited by inadequate civil and criminal penalties and our minimal inspection capability."

The objectives outlined in the Brown plan include more effective controls on disposal sites, identification of abandoned dumps, and an effort by the state to provide technological alternatives to hazardous landfill disposal of wastes.

The analysis done by Brown's aides conceded: "Years of inadequate disposal practices will not be remedied without extraordinary effort commenced immediately to protect the public against chemical hazards."

Only last week, noted ocean explorer Jacques Cousteau told public officials in Sacramento: "Oceans, rivers, lakes and rain are being poisoned. Forests, prairies and seas are being systematically destroyed. Wetlands are drying out and being covered with concrete structures."

The remedies, he said, for worldwide control of pollution "involve 'real education' that restores moral values."

Survival is at stake. And that, we believe, is a nonpartisan issue that should have broad appeal.

— LOS ANGELES TIMES

Love Canal area," the company said. "There is no evidence to support a causal relationship between Love Canal chemicals and genetic disorders."

The company said "inept handling of this now-tragic situation by the EPA has created the entire problem."

ANOTHER LEAK

Forty-two thousand gallons of radioactive water covered the floor to a depth of 18 inches — of a reactor building at Unit 1 of the Arkansas Nuclear One power plant in Russellville, Ark., in early May, the result of a leak in a coolant pump.

A REPORTER GOES TO LOVE CANAL; A BOOK IS BORN

BY JIMMY BRESLIN

Sea gulls circled in the rain falling on the dirt hills of the landfill which rises 172 feet out of flat, sandy Long Island at Farmingdale. It takes up 80 acres and has been used for waste since the 1940s. A sign at the entrance says it is the Town of Babylon's Waste Disposal Center. On one of the maps in the office of the New York State health commissioner in Albany, the landfill is circled in blue because it is considered a danger to the health of the people who live near it.

Which could take in many people, for the rain drumming on the hill of waste seeped through and went into the ground, where the water that people drink is only 20 and 30 feet below the surface.

Just out from Babylon, in the Islip dump, the 39-year-old waste grounds have been found to have produced a plume — a slug of contaminated ground water a mile long, 1,300 feet wide and 170 feet deep. It had contaminated 1 billion gallons of groundwater.

I went into the incinerator office to ask if the aircraft plants in the area ever had dumped chromium from the manufacture of World War II planes. This substance now is found to contaminate some Long Island drinking water.

"There's no way I can tell," said Dennis Lynch, Babylon's commissioner of environmental control. "I wasn't even born then."

On Long Island one day in late May, cameras and reporters were out at a place called Hauppauge, where a

Jimmy Breslin is a syndicated columnist in New York. This column, with a New York dateline, appeared in the Los Angeles Times.

school was closed because of toxic chemicals found in drinking water. In the way of the news, Hauppauge was being measured as a new Love Canal — the community at Niagara Falls that was declared an "emergency" area by President Carter because of chemical pollution.

Hauppauge, however, one state official said, would not make it into the Love Canal class in the flow of daily news. But it really didn't matter, he said, because all of Long Island is expected to become perhaps the largest environmental story we've had.

With its 1.9 million houses packed on flat land, with its single source of water supply being groundwater, Long Island is defenseless against the way people live their lives. People on Long Island use too much water, and saltwater from the ocean and the bays is starting to harm the lower groundwater. It's interconnected, a slow-moving aquifer. Once contaminated, the water remains that way for a long time.

On the eastern end of Long Island, potato farmers — as they must under federal ruling — spray their crops with a pesticide that combats the Colorado potato beetle and the golden nematode, and then gets into wellwater and poisons those who drink it.

In the area around Bethpage and Farmingdale, chromium sludge moves through the groundwater toward the ocean. Once, warplanes from aircraft plants in the area drove the Germans and Japanese out of the skies. Now, 35 years later, chromium from the war plants seeps into the drinking water in particulate form. Children are in danger of being poisoned by the same war their grandfathers fought and won.

"At one time," Michael H. Brown was saying that Wednesday, "all the people living on Long Island have been

Chemical Dump Site Killed His Baby Daughter

33-Year-Old Father Sobs While Describing Futility of Getting Help from Agencies

During a four-hour hearing conducted in Washington by the Senate Labor and Human Resources Subcommittee on Health and Scientific Research, 33-year-old James G. McCarthy of Jackson Township, N.J., broke into sobs as he described the illness and death which has struck his family and neighbors living near a chemical waste dump.

In response to a question from committee chairman Senator Edward M. Kennedy as to what he thought the future holds for him and his family, Mr. McCarthy replied: "I am 33 years old, I don't care about myself. I have two chil-

dren. I want them to live. Somebody's got to help us. We need help."

The Senator replied, "We will try."

Mr. McCarthy, who lives a mile from a chemical dump site, said persons in 6 of the 8 houses in his neighborhood were suffering from serious kidney disorders, that already he has lost a 9-month-old daughter to a rare form of kidney cancer, and that he himself had to have a kidney removed.

Like other witnesses, he said he and his neighbors have been unable to get help from government at any level. "I've tried to get help," he said of the chemi-

human indifference and greed."

Michael Brown had \$15 in his pocket and was on unemployment insurance when he took a \$150-a-week job at the *Niagara Gazette* in 1977. One day he went out to do a story about gangsters in the waste-disposal business in the town of Porter, N.Y. At a meeting, a woman got up and said: "I'm from Love Canal. Don't let them do to you what they did to us." The woman began to cry. Michael Brown went to Love Canal. A woman there showed him her baby. The baby had been born with eight deformities. Michael Brown stayed and wrote about Love Canal.

exposed to cancerous agents in their drinking water, in amounts ranging from traces to unbelievably high."

Michael Brown is the author of a book called *Laying Waste: The Poisoning of America by Toxic Chemicals*. It was Michael Brown, working for a newspaper, who brought Love Canal to attention. Now, in 351 pages, he shows what people in their modern brilliance do to themselves in this country.

"Nature was caught off guard, utterly unprepared for this onslaught of artificial elements," Michael Brown writes. "Nowhere in the earth's crust, nor in the ocean, was there the capability of disassembling these complex new substances strung together by the ingenuity of man.

"Many of the chemicals — sophisticated hydrocarbons such as DDT — were based on long molecular chains, solid enough to withstand degradation by sunlight, dissolution by water, or breakdown by acids, clay minerals or metal ions. These chemicals, deadly to the human metabolism, found the earth and its waters a congenial way station, and now they remain permanently available to exact a terrible price for

human indifference and greed."

His book came out last week, just as Love Canal was finally declared a national emergency. Now the rest of Michael Brown's book will be scoured for facts about how we endanger ourselves, as I scoured it Wednesday. It will contribute to national thinking about health. To examine everyone who has swallowed poisoned water is impossible. One chromosome test can cost \$500. But with a work such as this book on hand, people will begin to realize that if they don't make alterations for the future, there simply will not be a future.

Battle Lines Form for Toxic Dumps' Cleanup

BY JIM DETJEN

Battle lines are being drawn, strategies are being plotted, and recruiting is under way.

So far, the skirmishes in Frankfort and Washington have received little media attention. But insiders agree that the 1980 Chemical Dumps War has begun.

Chemical manufacturers and environmentalists are using military jargon to describe the approaching political fight involving illegal chemical-dump sites.

"Armies of chemical-industry lobby-

cal-contaminated wellwater in his neighborhood. "Everybody sympathizes, but nobody has the money to help."

Other citizen witnesses from Massachusetts, New York, Kentucky, and Tennessee echoed Mr. McCarthy's complaint about the unresponsiveness of government.

"The government has not been our friend," said the Rev. Bruce Young of Woburn, Mass., whose neighborhood is affected by the burial of chemicals, arsenic, and animal hides treated with strong chemicals used in tanneries. "We were told the burden of proof is on us," he said.

He said statistics gathered by local citizens indicate that Woburn has the highest cancer rate in Massachusetts, and a high rate of miscarriages and stillbirths.

Citing studies by the Environmental Protection Agency, Senator Kennedy said there are 30,000 chemical dump sites in the country that "may pose significant health problems," but that only 645 have been studied by the EPA. More than 2 million Americans are exposed to chemical dangers at these sites alone, he said.

ists are blanketing the halls of Congress to fight this battle," said Marchant Wentworth, a toxic-waste specialist for Environmental Action, Washington-based environmental group. "The Chemical Manufacturers' Association (CMA) is leading the charge, and they are bringing in their big guns for the skirmishes ahead."

To which William M. Stover, a CMA vice-president, replies: "Sure, it's going to be a battle. We will not stand by and watch the lynching of the chemical industry."

"We don't know where all the dump sites are, we don't know what chemicals are in the dump sites we have identified," he asserted. "We only know there is a chemical time-bomb ticking beneath the earth, and that the chemicals buried in 1960 are causing illnesses in 1980."

Mr. Kennedy was critical of Carter Administration witnesses who appeared before the subcommittee, citing the Administration's failure to provide, in its chemical clean-up program, funds to reimburse persons for health damages they have suffered.

EPA's Acting Assistant Administrator for Enforcement Jeffery G. Miller replied that, with its "limited resources," the Administration believes it more important to clean up dumps to prevent further health damage than to provide money because of current and past illnesses.

George Marienthal, assistant secretary of defense, testified that DOD disposes of 250,000 tons of hazardous waste annually, but does not keep records on "what materials are being dumped where."

At issue is who will foot the bill for cleaning up toxic chemical wastes dumped at the "Valley of the Drums" in Bullitt County, Ky., and thousands of other sites around the nation. The war is being fought over money — billions of dollars — and over changes in federal law that could make firms vulnerable to massive lawsuits from persons injured by their past neglect.

Lobbyists for both the chemical industry and environmental groups agree that the public mood is such that chances are good for passage of some legislation this year.

This would mean a start on cleaning up some of the estimated 34,000 toxic-waste sites that lie scattered throughout the nation. But how far-reaching legislation will be depends on behind-the-scenes debates in subcommittee rooms and legislative offices.

The allies in the coming war are already clear. On one side is CMA, the major trade association for chemical industries; American Petroleum Institute; and a multitude of organizations representing specialty-chemical industries.

On the other side are President Carter, who has proposed a \$1.6-billion "superfund" to pay for the cleanup; a cadre of environmental and citizens' groups, including Environmental Action, Sierra Club, National Wildlife Federation, and the League of Women Voters; and various members of Congress.

SEVERAL PROPOSALS

At least four bills in the Senate and three in the House deal with hazardous waste. A central provision of each is the assessment of fees on producers of chemicals or toxic wastes to pay for

Jim Detjen is a staff writer for the Louisville (Ky.) Courier-Journal where this article was first published last February 19, and later reproduced by Environmental Action, 1346 Connecticut Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C.

cleaning up spills and abandoned dump sites.

The Carter version's superfund — which would be set up over four years — would pay for cleaning up 400 or 500 of the worst sites, according to EPA deputy administrator Barbara Blum. Nationwide cleanup eventually could cost \$50 billion, she said.

The Administration bill would assess firms that import, refine and export petroleum; suppliers of petrochemical raw materials; and producers of inorganic compounds such as ammonia and arsenic, with the fees bringing in 75% of the superfund. Twenty-five percent of the cleanup costs would be paid by the taxpayer.

A more sweeping version — one favored by many environmentalists — has been introduced by Senators Edmund Muskie of Maine, and John C. Culver of Iowa. Their plan calls for collecting fees from "active generators" of hazardous substances — a system that could require payments from 290,000 sources. Although the size of the fund is not clear, it probably would be larger than \$1.6 billion, and would meet all the cleanup costs.

The chemical industry is fighting vigorously against any assessments.

"Some of the proposals have some very kinky concepts," said CMA President Robert Roland. "They're trying to assess a specific segment of the industry for what they consider wrongdoing in the past — somebody else's wrongdoing. The constitutionality of that is very doubtful."

But Mr. Wentworth of Environmental Action disagrees with the CMA's contention. "The constitutionality argument doesn't hold water," he said. "The courts have upheld similar fee systems for dealing with black-lung victims and surface mining."

But if the chemical industry is upset about the proposed assessments, its spokesmen are absolutely apoplectic over proposed legislative provisions that would create a federal tort law

covering release of hazardous substances into the environment. What this would mean, in lay terms, is that it would be far easier for private citizens and environmental agencies to sue chemical companies for damaging the environment and the public's health by dumping toxic chemicals into the environment.

STRICT LIABILITY

"The government or a private citizen would not have to prove that a chemical company intended to do harm," explained Marc Tipermas, EPA's staff coordinator for the superfund legislation. "Under these provisions, if you caused or contributed to release of a substance that hurt people or the environment, you are liable and would be required to pay."

For example, EPA officials say that if these provisions had been in effect last year, it would have been far easier to force Ford Motor Co. and Reliance Universal — two of the major companies whose chemical wastes were found dumped at the Valley of the Drums — to pay for the cleanup. Thousands of drums of chemical wastes still remain at that site.

"The strict-liability issue is raising more concern than just about any issue," said Blakeman Early, Washington representative of the Sierra Club. "The big guys figure they can live with the fee system, even though they don't like it. But when you are talking about heavy lawsuits, that means they may have to modify the way they do business. They don't want anybody rocking the boat that much."

The Culver-Muskie bill would also alter the rules of evidence to make it easier for a private citizen to collect medical expenses for health problems caused by exposure to toxic chemicals. Now it is virtually impossible for an individual to prove he has been damaged by exposure to chemicals dumped by industry.

Mr. Stover of CMA calls these proposals "radical changes in existing

liability concepts," and says the provisions are "unnecessarily sweeping." The CMA favors much more limited measures that would give the federal government power to halt chemical-waste emergencies, using taxpayer funds. But he said that so far, no CMA-supported bill has been introduced.

Proponents of the Culver-Muskie bill say there is nothing radical in making companies strictly liable. They argue that industry already is held strictly liable for the safety of new products, and this measure would merely extend existing laws.

'50-50 ODDS'

What are the prospects for passage of these measures?

"The odds are 50-50, but not too much better than that," said Sierra Club's Early. "Environmentalists already are spread very thin trying to protect Alaskan wilderness, and fighting an energy-mobilization board. This is an election year, and if toxic-waste legislation isn't adopted by summer, members will be focusing on their own campaigns."

Mr. Stover said he doesn't believe any bill will pass unless far more limited measures are considered. "Some of the key people on the committees have to be disabused of the notion of going for the moon in one shot," he said. "If they don't, I don't think anything will be enacted in 1980."

To improve their chances of success, both environmentalists and the Carter administration have launched offensives. Stuart Eizenstadt, assistant to the president for domestic policy, personally wrote to U.S. senators urging their support for the superfund bill.

And environmentalists have launched a nationwide "Hunt the Dump" campaign, sponsored jointly by Sierra Club and Environmental Action. The two groups are distributing thousands of handbooks to activist groups seeking to find abandoned dumps where toxic wastes may have been buried, and

New EPA Toxic-Waste Storage Rules Effective Oct. 1

NO ONE WANTS TO STORE THE 57 MILLION TONS ESTIMATED TO BE GENERATED ANNUALLY

BY JOANNE OMANG

... On October 1, the Environmental Protection Agency's new system to trace every drop of noxious refuse from plant gate to waste dump goes into effect, but there are nowhere near enough legal, secure disposal sites to take care of it all.

Although a study by Rep. Bob Eckhardt of Texas and his Energy Resources Subcommittee found that 93% of the waste from 53 large industrial firms was being stored at the plants generating it, the EPA estimates that only 10% of all waste is being disposed of in an environmentally-correct manner

Eckhardt C. Beck, EPA's assistant administrator for water and waste management, says the huge tank trucks loaded with murderous chemical wastes are his problem: "Everyone wants (the stuff) picked up, but no one wants to put it down."

It is being put down, though — as it has been for years — in city dumps, sanitary landfills, clay pits, abandoned mine shafts, empty lots, and God knows

which could represent future health threats.

Sponsors admit that an additional impact will be increased public awareness about the hazards of chemical dumps, and therefore increased pressure on congressmen to support strong legislation.

"The 'Hunt the Dump' campaign certainly won't detract from our lobbying efforts," said Blakeman Early of the Sierra Club. "As people locate and try to clean up these sites, they will run into roadblocks. And this frustration will put pressure on Congress to do something about the problem."

where else nationwide. An estimated 120 sites take such waste now under some kind of official permit, and EPA estimates an additional 100 sites are needed to legally dispose of the 57 million tons of toxic waste it is believed the nation's industries generate annually.

The numbers are fuzzy because October 1 will be the first reckoning of the waste from the processes that supply polyester suits, formica desk tops, gleaming cars, and silky hair. As a consuming society, Dr. Beck said, "We have no choice about dealing with this stuff."

Who wants to live next to a toxic waste-disposal site? Most of 120 existing dumps are being challenged in court, and given recent history, "prospects for successful sitings in most regions of the country are dubious at best, grim at worst." . . .

'DILEMMA'

"It's a dilemma," said Doug MacMillan, acting director of EPA's hazardous-waste enforcement task force. "Every time we nail someone for running a bad site, we create a public perception that none of these sites can be safe. We have to get the worst sites out of operation, but we seem to be creating a blind resistance even to well-designed sites."

In Wilsonville, Ill., population 700, residents carrying guns and sticks of dynamite threatened to blow up a hazardous-waste landfill in 1977 to prevent trucks carrying waste polychlorinated biphenyl (PCBs) from entering. Even though state and EPA analyses

Joanne Omang is a staff writer for the The Washington Post, where this excerpted story first appeared.

found the site to be a good one, with little chance of leakage by nearly any kind of toxic waste, town officials shut the place down by digging a flood-control channel across its access road. Lawsuits and countersuits are still pending.

In Minnesota, the state Pollution Control Agency got a \$3.7-million grant from EPA in 1975 to set up a demonstration chemical landfill site that would prove such sites could be operated safely.

The state picked 44 possible sites, then the 16 best ones, but all were roundly rejected by local citizen groups. In August 1978 the state had to abandon the project and return the money to EPA.

NO CONFIDENCE

"The industry is paying for past sins now, with this total lack of public confidence," said Marchant Wentworth, legislative representative of Environmental Action, a Washington lobbying organization. "The fact is, a lot of this stuff isn't safe, and these facilities have terrible operating records."

Six persons were killed in an explosion and fire at the Rollins Environmental Services chemical tank farm and incinerator site in Logan Township, N.J. in 1977. The blast had nothing to do with the chemicals, but the place had been cited for odors and small violations over the years, so when it applied to burn PCBs in its incinerator early last year, violent public opposition developed. Many studies and tests later, the case is still not resolved.

As if it were not hard enough to find new sites, many of those now legal will not meet the new proposed EPA standards which will include safety requirements pending since the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act was passed in 1976.

BILLIONS AT STAKE

The regulations — complex rules for depth of clay and degree of plastic permeability and other factors — have

been the subject of an unprecedented industry lobbying effort since being proposed in 1979. Stacks of printed comments reached 7 feet high at EPA offices, and millions of dollars hinge on every rule.

So much money is at stake, in fact, that many sites are expected to close rather than try to comply. "It's not that we have a capacity shortage really, it's just that we have a cheap-capacity shortage," Mr. Wentworth said.

Many approved sites are being sued for polluting. The EPA found chemical contamination of groundwater that feeds wells near Flemington, N.C., and traced it to a landfill that had been approved by New Hanover County

"The big question is not the regulations, but liability," Bill Drayton, EPA's assistant administrator for planning, said. Questionable sites that register now may be targets for lawsuits by cancer victims 20 years from now.

"A city or county that did everything known or thought to be safe at the time can end up being liable later," Richard Morris of the National Association of Regional Councils said.

All these problems have meant avoidance of the issue: Put it somewhere else. In the six New England states where 4,500 companies generate more than 300-million gallons of hazardous waste yearly, "not one (state) has a secure chemical landfill, not one has a rotary-kiln incinerator," the Arthur D. Little consulting firm reported to the New England Regional Commission in 1978.

"Every state has a problem with wastes already in the ground . . . and every state is adding to that problem at a significant rate."

When New Jersey instituted a "cradle-to-grave" manifest system for its waste producers, most of the toxic materials wound up going to Pennsylvania where no such tracking method was in effect, the New Jersey Hazardous Waste Advisory Commission re-

BRITISH TREATMENT METHOD TURNS TOXIC WASTE INTO ROCK

BY HAROLD SCARLETT

A "one-stop shopping center" for toxic waste disposal, now being developed in Texas by the Gulf Coast Disposal Authority, will have its own "pet rock."

Its name is Stablex, and it's a British process that chemically treats waste liquids, solids or sludges and turns them into a "safe, synthetic rock."

The GCWDA's regional treatment center, planned on a 200-acre site near Ellington Air Force Base, will handle virtually any known waste with an array of different treatment methods — landfill, incinerators, recycling, injection wells, stabilization.

But perhaps the most exotic of these is Stablex.

Imagine taking arsenic, cyanide, asbestos, mercury, acids, alkalis, chromates, paint wastes, and a host of other bad actors. Sprinkle in some magic chemicals, and out comes a slurry that in three days hardens like concrete.

The toxins are altered in molecular structure and locked up forever in a man-made rock. The process, carried out at normal temperatures and atmospheric pressure, produces no air or water pollution.

And the synthetic rock can be used in

ported in January.

Tons of waste routinely are trucked thousands of miles to sites that will accept it. There is big money in it, and EPA hopes its new rules will generate a lot more demand for such sites.

The three biggest waste-handling firms — Browning Ferris Industries of Houston, Waste Management Inc. of Oak Brook, Ill., and SCA Services of Boston — together take in more than \$1 billion a year handling only 15% of the nation's wastes

road bases, or to fill up old sand pits, mines or quarries, and restore them to usable land.

It all suggests some medieval alchemist's mad dream, or maybe one of those phony additives for turning water into gasoline.

Stablex, however, is different. It works. A group of GCWDA board members and executives, along with other pollution officials, went to Britain recently to see for themselves.

One of them was J. Kent Hackleman, a former maverick member of the GCWDA board. He went with skepticism, but came home convinced. "It was fascinating to watch them bring in loads of just horrible stuff, neutralize it, and then use it to reclaim land," Mr. Hackleman says.

At Brownhills, near Birmingham, the Texans saw the first Stablex plant, opened in 1974 to process 50,000 tons of waste a year. A much larger 120,000-ton plant had to be put into service in 1978.

Dr. Christopher Chappell, the youthful-looking inventor of the Stablex process, told the visitors the Brownhills plants now have turned out 500,000 tons of Stablex. The plants have 2,000 customers, he said, and have handled about 30,000 different wastes.

Stablex officials do not pretend they can treat everything. The process is best for inorganic materials, but it can handle some organic-contaminated wastes like latex.

At Thurrock, 20 miles east of London, the GCWDA group visited another Stablex plant. Described as the world's biggest toxic waste facility, it can pro-

Harold Scarlett is a columnist for The Houston Post, where this piece in his column, "Your World," first appeared.

SCIENTISTS PROBING 'ACID PRECIPITATION' EFFECTS

BY BARBARA S. MOFFET

Those sweet showers and pure fluffy snowfalls turn out not to be sweet and pure after all. In fact, some rain and snow are downright filthy.

High in the sky, before falling to earth, rain and snow often mix with pollutants — mainly sulfur dioxide and nitrogen oxide — and through a series of chemical changes become acidic.

By the time it reaches the earth, the stiff farmers and skiers call a godsend, scientists call "acid precipitation." Some rain and snow that have made their way to earth in recent years in this country have been almost as acidic as vinegar, and the acid precipitation problem seems to be spreading.

About 50 million metric tons of sulfur dioxide and nitrogen oxide are spewed

cess 400,000 tons a year. Stablex produced there is being used to reclaim a wasteland, an 827-acre hole in the ground left by quarrying. When filled and surfaced with topsoil, it will be used for new housing and park lands.

John T. Schofield, Stablex president, told the group the City of London is considering using Stablex — which is more impermeable than concrete — as liners in landfills for London's annual 17 million tons of garbage.

The GCWDA, at its regional treatment center near Ellington, will use Stablex to reclaim an old gravel-pit area.

The Thurrock plant, Mr. Schofield said, perches atop Britain's biggest aquifer. So before it was approved, top government scientists verified there would be no contamination from leaching of the Stablex.

Pointing out the high impermeability of Stablex, Mr. Schofield observed: "If water can't get in, then nothing can leach out."

In tests, he said, Stablex has been ground to a powder, increasing its sur-

face area 5,000 times, and then agitated with 10 times its weight in water.

After the tests, he said, the water still met Environmental Protection Agency standards for drinking water.

A Stablex plant is now operating in Japan, primarily treating auto manufacturing wastes.

At the invitation of the state, Mr. Schofield said, Stablex for two years has been seeking permits for a plant in Michigan. Opposition from a local township has delayed the licensing, even though the National Sanitation Foundation at Ann Arbor ran leaching tests on the process and approved it.

On the crucial question of treatment costs, Dr. Chappell told the group that while prices vary depending on the waste, average treatment costs have been running about \$33 a ton, not including transportation.

"But if a particular waste is needed in the treatment process, we may take it for \$5 a ton," he said. "An important part of the process is using one waste to treat another waste."

Many believe the acid precipitation can wipe fish from lakes, corrode buildings and statues, leach minerals from soil, and perhaps slow tree growth, damage crops, and taint drinking water.

"The phenomenon of rather direct damage caused by what once was thought to be pristine rain and snow is appalling," said Dr. Kenneth J. Hood of the Council on Environmental Quality.

Scientists think the fish probably died out, because in the acid-laden water they lost the capacity to reproduce. Some have been killed more directly, in sudden surges of acid resulting from quick snow thaws.

The sterile lakes don't appear murky or polluted. Instead, they are blue and clear, the "ideal of a pristine lake," observed Thomas J. Butler of Cornell University, who is studying effects of acid precipitation on aquatic life. "I've been diving in some of those lakes, and there's nothing left except a few water bugs," he said. "People who used to fish there in the '50s just don't go there any more."

"Acid sprinkled all over the land just doesn't sound good . . . But we all agree that we don't know exactly what kind or how much damage acid rain is doing."

Dr. Hood is being paid to try to find out. He is executive secretary of Acid Rain Coordination Committee, set up in 1979 by President Carter to manage a 10-year research effort. Ten million dollars was budgeted for several government agencies for their first year of tackling the problem.

Researchers already know that nearly 200 lakes in New York's Adirondack Mountains that once drew fishermen are now fishless — apparently because of much-greater-than-normal acidity. The dead lakes are at high elevations, where the soil lacks the buffering agents that neutralize acid as it pours into streams.

Scientists think the fish probably died out, because in the acid-laden water they lost the capacity to reproduce. Some have been killed more directly, in sudden surges of acid resulting from quick snow thaws.

The high acidity already has taken an economic toll. The Adirondack Park Agency estimates the decline of game fish has meant an annual loss of at least \$1 million in recreational revenue.

Exactly what acid precipitation does to plants and crops is not as clear, but preliminary data show reduced seed

germination, damage to seedlings, interference with photosynthesis, lowered resistance to disease, and lesions on leaves. And there is direct evidence that acid precipitation leaches minerals from soil, and can even release soil's metals, sometimes sending them into streams or water supplies.

Some of the world's most majestic man-made structures — the Parthenon, Colosseum, Taj Majal — also are feeling acid precipitation's effects. The progressive disfiguring of the sculptures on the Acropolis, for example, is the work of acid rain.

"We can even see streaking on the Washington Monument — perhaps the result of acid rain's grooving and pitting effects," Dr. Hood said. "Rock that might last hundreds of years is lasting only decades. Wood, metal, and other materials are not immune either."

In this country, acid precipitation was first detected in the Northeast, but appears to have spread south and west in the last 20 years despite the prevailing west-to-east winds. All states east of the Mississippi now are regularly stung by abnormally-acidic rain or snow, and acid precipitation has found its way to urban areas of the West, such as Los Angeles, San Francisco, and Seattle.

What perplexes scientists is how acid precipitation moves. Often shoved high into the atmosphere by tall smokestacks, the pollutants can be picked up and carried for weeks and miles before being dropped in rain or snow. The spring shower that drenches New England might be loaded with pollution from an Ohio Valley power plant.

Some of our pollutants even wind up in storms over Canada, and the amount is expected to increase under a plan to convert dozens of U.S. utilities to coal use. Officials on both sides of the border are negotiating to try to limit the fallout.

One way to dry up acid rain sources is to cleanse coal of some of its chemicals before it is burned. Another possible

Barbara Moffet is a writer for the National Geographic, where this article, with a Washington dateline, first appeared.

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Daily News Slams Bureaucrats for Inaction on Toxic Waste Hazards

Tuesday it was an explosive fire at an Elizabeth Chemical dump. Wednesday, a fire at a sludge-filled pond in Queens. Yesterday, a spill of toxic materials at a Bayonne plant. Suddenly the metropolitan region seems awash in dangerous chemical reactions. A lot of people are scared, and wondering what's being done to guard their safety.

The answer: Not much.

The situation in Queens is a shocking case in point. The pond that caught fire is in College Point near Shea Stadium and densely-populated Flushing. It is filled with 150,000 gallons of sludge known to contain cancer-causing PCB chemicals.

For four years local residents have screamed about "peril pond." And for four years city officials have fumbled with one ineffectual plan after another.

Fifteen months ago Environmental Protection Commissioner Francis McArdle thought he had a deal for the sludge to be hauled to Ontario for incineration. But at the last minute the Canadians decided the stuff was too dangerous for them to handle — which is a helluva comment on the city's allowing it to stay where it is.

A variety of other schemes have been proposed, but all have foundered because state and federal officials have nixed city plans either to burn the sludge or cart it away. It's a Catch-22 situation: Laws designed to protect the environment make it almost impossible to clean up an environmental mess like this.

That may explain the governmental paralysis at College Point. But it doesn't justify it. When people's health and safety are threatened, it is up to public officials — city, state and federal — to break through bureaucratic barriers swiftly and decisively. Excuses aren't good enough.

— NEW YORK DAILY NEWS

Scorching Words for Mayor Koch After Blaze on City Property

BY MICHAEL HUREWITZ

Angry officials are demanding action from New York City Mayor Koch following a second blaze in a pond of contaminated oil on city-owned land near Shea Stadium.

A fire of suspicious origin at the College Point site broke out at about 1:45 p.m. (April 24, '80), sending a giant plume of possibly toxic smoke over the city before being brought under control 45 minutes later.

The (New York) *Post* first warned of

remedy for factories and plants is the scrubber, which removes the byproducts of combustion before they are released into the atmosphere.

the problem in 1978, and only yesterday noted it posed fire dangers similar to the chemical conflagration in New Jersey.

"I am giving the Mayor until high noon to post a guard on the site until a permanent solution can be found for handling the oil," State Senator Gary Ackerman of Flushing said.

"There is no reason the fire department had to risk lives fighting this blaze, and no reason the people of the community had to breathe this toxic smoke. Perhaps if we all stood to one side and blew the smoke toward Gracie Man-

Michael Hurewitz is a staff writer for the New York Post, where this article first appeared.

After 3-Mile Island: Infant Deaths Jump

Infant deaths near Pennsylvania's crippled Three Mile Island nuclear plant have skyrocketed since the nation's worst atomic accident occurred there a year ago.

In the six months following the near-catastrophe on March 28, 1979, deaths of children one year or younger more than doubled over those in the same 6-month period a year earlier.

There were 31 infant deaths — twice the state average — within a 10-mile area around the stricken plant in the post-accident period. The deaths after the accident also were more than 50% higher than a total of 20 occurring from April through September in 1977.

Dr. Gordon MacLeod, University of Pittsburgh, dismissed in October 1979 as Pennsylvania's secretary of health, released the figures which at first were denied by Department of Health officials, later acknowledged. Dr. MacLeod said that while no concrete conclusions could be drawn, the rise in deaths might

THEY FEARED A 'TOXIC TIME BOMB'

Dozens of workers were evacuated from a mile-square area in Bayonne, N.J., today (Apr. 24, '80) when toxic fumes escaped from a chemical plant in an industrial complex.

But there were no injuries or fire — and the fumes quickly dissipated into the air. Police and fire department phones were jammed after the leak was discovered at 6:45 a.m., residents fear-

ing they would be faced with another "toxic time bomb" such as the one that burned out of control in Elizabeth this week.

But there were no injuries or fire — and the fumes quickly dissipated into the air. Police and fire department phones were jammed after the leak was discovered at 6:45 a.m., residents fear-

tion, then we could get action."

City, state and federal environmental officials, who have been unable to devise a suitable cleanup scheme, yesterday were unable to say whether the fire posed a health risk. Firemen fighting the blaze in exposed positions were required to wear protective clothing.

And Terry Agriss, regional director of

be due to the psychological stress the accident caused pregnant women.

— CY EGAN

New York Post

**TEMPORARY HALT
PETERSON SERIES**
Because of reduced income, the revealing *Bulletin* articles on nuclear hazards by Researcher Glen Peterson have been temporarily discontinued. When finances permit, the series will be reinstated. If NHFers wish to contribute to a fund for that purpose, the checks will be welcomed.

FOR THE RECORD . . .

Line 7 of the last paragraph of Glen Peterson's article, "Dr. Teller's Love Affair with Nuclear Science . . .", in the July/August issue of *The Bulletin* refers to "25,000 millirems a year." The figure should be 2,500 millirems.

The chemical that escaped today was identified as toluene, a substance similar to the benzene involved in the Elizabeth explosion, but not as toxic.

— NEW YORK POST

the state Environmental Conservation department, said, "In a fire of this sort there is certainly the possibility that PCBs (polychlorinated biphenyl) were released into the air."

She said a major problem surrounding disposal of the PCB-contaminated oil was that uncontrolled burning could generate dioxin, the exceedingly-toxic component of the notorious Agent Orange defoliant.

NHF Memorial Library News



MORE 'TREASURES' FOR MEMORIAL LIBRARY

BY STEPHANIE SHANE
Librarian

In July of 1979, Selma J. Chettle of WAS Corp. donated *Energies of the Total Self* to the National Health Federation Memorial Library.

September 18, Edward L. Carl sent *You Don't Have to Die*, by Harry S. Hoxsey.

Harry Zerbo has donated two copies of his *Truth of Nutrition*, which he says will give the reader "more understanding than many \$15 volumes."

In October, William Pelly gave the library *How Nature Heals and My Experiences With Aloe Vera*.

"The doctor of the future will give no medicine, but will interest his patients in the care of human frame, in diet, and in the cause and prevention of disease."

— Thomas A. Edison

Siri Dharma Kaur Khalsa gave several of her *Nutrition Newsletters*, and Seabury Press contributed *The Sex Atlas*, by Erwin J. Haerberle.

Also donated by publishers:

Why Your Stomach Hurts — Dodd, Mead & Company, New York.
Heart Attack (Mine... and Yours?) — Exposition Press, Hicksville, N.Y.

Health In Danger — Archon Books, Great Britain, by A. Wheaton & Co., Ltd., Exeter.

You Can Achieve Freedom from Chronic Disease — J. P. Tarcher, Inc., Los Angeles.

Whole Foods Natural Foods Guide — And/Or Press, Berkeley, Calif.

The Book of Home Remedies and Herbal Cures — Mayflower Books, Inc., New York, N.Y.

Robert E. Foreman's *How to Control Your Allergies* was added to the Memorial Library collection in December. The book describes the clinical ecology approach to detecting and dealing with food and chemical allergies, an area largely overlooked by conventional medicine. Allergy, the author maintains, is much more common, and causes more illness than has been recognized by traditional doctors, even allergists.

Other treasures received by the library during the last month of the year was Gary L. Couture's book, *How to Win the Aging Game*, donated by the author:

Spot early signs of aging while it can still be reversed (body function tests); slow advanced aging; prevent aging which has not yet occurred; protect your body against the degenerative diseases caused by aging; increase your youthfulness and attractiveness; insure the longest and healthiest life possible for you.

And from Dr. Robert O. Nara, *How to Become Dentally Self-Sufficient!*, dentistry pamphlets, and *The 180° Theory: How to Become Mentally Self-Sufficient*.

The American Family Under Attack!, a gift of Thomas V. Nardozi.

Thank you all, very much!

THE NATIONAL HEALTH FEDERATION SILVER ANNIVERSARY CONVENTION Long Beach, Calif. January 18-20, 1980 Available to Enjoy on Cassette Tapes

- () 1. Floyd Weston — Electrodiagnoses and Therapy
- () 2. Cancer Testimonials Moderated By Betty Lee Morales
- () 3. Victoras Kulvinskas, M.S. — Survival Into the 21st Century
- () 4. *Debate* — Should You Wear A Pyramid? Fred Bell - Yes Wayne Cook, No
- () 5. Fuller Royal, M.D. — Use of the Dermatron in Diagnosis of Allergies
- () 6. Greg Kaye — What Your Doctor Won't Tell You
- () 7. Ann Wigmore — Health Through Living Foods
- () 8. Fred Bell, Ph.D. — Death of Ignorance
- () 9. John Heinerman — Science of Herbal Medicine
- () 10. Richard Brennan, M.D. — Chelation Therapy - a Natural Approach
- () 11. Ralph Cinque, Ph.D. — Basic Principles of Natural Hygiene
- () 12. Pat Flannigan, Ph.D. — Inner Energy and How to Get It
- () 13. Kirkpatrick Dilling — The Legal Battle for Health Freedoms
- () 14. Clinton R. Miller — Love that Congressman
- () 15. Betty Lee Morales — Trace Elements - Dietary Mighty Midgets'
- () 16. Harold Manner, Ph.D. — Death of Cancer (#1)
- () 17. Robert Mendelsohn, M.D. — Confessions Of a Medical Heretic
- () 18. Charlotte Gerson Straus — Healing Incurable Diseases
- () 19. Hanna Kroeger — Radiesthesia: Indicators
- () 20. Lawrence Kennedy — Geometrics: Introduction into Energy
- () 21. John Christopher, N.D. — Miraculous Healing Herbs
- () 22. Charlotte Gerson Straus — Testimonials
- () 23. Rosalyn Bruyere — Auric Healing and Seeing the Light
- () 24. Charles Whitehouse, D.C. — Color Therapy and Radionics
- () 25. Paavo Airola — Nutrition: Myths and Frauds (Part 1)
- () 26. John Richardson, M.D. — Patient and Doctors' Rights
- () 27. Glenn Peterson — Nuclear Contamination of Food
- () 28. Heber C. Kimball, Ph.D. — Meditation and Biofeedback
- () 29. Paavo Airola — Nutrition: Myths and Frauds (Part II)
- () 30. Maureen Salaman/Donald Cole, M.D. — Holistic Clinical Oncology
- () 31. Burwash/Wink Martindale — A Super-Athlete and Vegetarianism
- () 32. Wayne Cook — Control of Body Polarity
- () 33. T. Galen Hieronymous, Ph.D. — Use of Eloptic Energy
- () 34. Harold Harper, M.D. — Early Detection of Cancer
- () 35. John Christopher, N.D. — Herbal Workshop
- () 36. Floyd Weston — Electrodiagnoses and Therapy (Part 2)
- () 37. Bernard Jensen, D.C. — Holistic Power Working Through the Body
- () 38. Kurt Donsbach, Ph.D. — Nutritional Control and Allergies
- () 39. Bruce Pacetti, D.D.S. — Your Body Is Your Best Doctor
- () 40. F. Fuller Royal, M.D. — Evaluating the Environment in Relation to Health and Disease
- () 41. Mo Siegel/Susan St. James — Herbal Beverages
- () 42. Betty Lee Morales — Arthritis, a Three-Day Cure
- () 43. Jack Alpan, D.D.S. — Preventing Tooth Decay
- () 44. Arnold Fox, M.D. — Stress and Nutrition
- () 45. John Yiamouyiannis, Ph.D. — Cancer/Fluoridation Link
- () 46. Kurt Donsbach, Ph.D. — Food Combining Made Easy
- () 47. Clinton R. Miller — Love that Congressman
- () 48. Paavo Airola, Ph.D. — Hypoglycemia a New Epidemic
- () 49. Regis Philbin/Rheo Blair — Super Nutrition (Part I)
- () 50. William Ellis, D.O. — Your Personal Health Program
- () 51. Stan Malstrom, N.D. — Your Health Your Responsibility

- () 52. Paavo Airola — Everywoman's Book
- () 53. Regis Philbin/Rheo Blair — Super Nutrition (Part II)
- () 54. Betty Kamen — How to Survive the Cocktail Party
- () 55. V. Earl Irons — Food Supplements for Optimum Health
- () 56. Durk Pearson, B.S. — Health Secrets from Science
- () 57. Harold Manner, Ph.D. — Death of Cancer
- () 58. Broda Barnes, M.D. — Hypothyroidism
- () 59. Hans Kugler, Ph.D. — Aging of the Brain
- () 60. Durk Pearson, B.S. — Solution for the Energy Crisis
- () 61. Charles Creelius — Testimonials of Hoxsey Herb Patients
- () 62. Bernard Jensen, D.C. — Nature Has a Remedy
- () 63. Bruce Halstead, M.D. — Chad Green - A Medical Martyr
- () 64. L. Kennedy/F. Bell/P. Flannigan — A Levitation Demonstration
- () 65. Christopher Hills, Ph.D. — Rejuvenating with Spirulina Plankton
- () 66. William Ellis, D.O. — Protein Metabolism
- () 67. B. Bibb — Secrets of Psychic Healing
- () 68. *A Panel of — Let's Live* Experts on Nutrition and Prevention: W. D. Currier, M.D./Harvey Ross, M.D./Richard Huemer, M.D.; Moderator, Bill Koester, Editor of *Let's Live Magazine*
- () 69. Broda Barnes, M.D. — Hope For Hyperthyroidism
- () 70. C. Stauth — Cancer Therapy of Dr. Kelley
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The National Health Federation is America's largest, organized, noncommercial health consumer group. It is a nonprofit corporation founded in 1955. Its membership is comprised of men and women in all walks of life, belonging to a variety of religious faiths and political persuasions, and engaged in nearly every profession and trade.

Its members believe that health freedoms are inherently guaranteed to us as human beings, and our right to them as Americans is implied in the words, "life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness." Yet, frequently, these freedoms and rights have been and continue to be violated. Too often, as a result of the unopposed pressures from organized medicine, the chemical industry, pharmaceutical manufacturers, and others, laws and regulations have been imposed which better serve these special-interest groups than the public at large. We see and hear of new instances daily. To name a few: spiraling health-care costs, consumers exploitation by leading industries, excessive devitalization and adulteration of our foods, restriction of certain types of treatment, banning of certain health books from the mails, the harassment of those who advocate natural methods of healing and natural foods, the poisoning of our air, water and soil through greed and carelessness, and many other health-related issues.

The NHF opposes monopoly and compulsion in things related to health where the safety and welfare of others are concerned. NHF does not oppose nor approve any specific healing profession or their methods, but it does oppose the efforts of one group to restrict the freedom of practice of qualified members of another profession, thus attempting to create a monopoly.

The public needs a strong voice, such as the NHF provides, to speak and act in their behalf in these health-related matters. Legislators need your support to balance the pressures exerted upon them by the special interests. The National Health Federation, through a special legal and legislative staff in Washington, keeps its members apprised of all health legislation, opposes inadequate or undemocratic health legislation, while supporting or drawing bills to protect the individual's health freedom.

Will you join us in this worthy effort?

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2. Be a part of a strong and united consumer's voice in all health matters.
3. Work for beneficial and needed health legislation and, at the same time, oppose proposals which are detrimental to the health interests of the people or which do not provide for equality of recognition of all legally established health professions.
4. Support a united effort to reduce the cost of health care.
5. Support ecological research and practices which have beneficial effect and impact on the health of the people.
6. Support the restriction, and elimination of chemical contaminants, additives, and colorings to foods—used for extending shelf-life and extension of profits—regardless of so-called "safety factor."
7. Seek the repeal of unfair food and drug laws, labeling, and regulations, as are exemplified, approved, and implemented by FDA or the Federal Trade Commission.
8. Insist that all monies raised for health research and care be used exclusively for these purposes.
9. Compel all health fund-raising organizations to disclose in an annual report, the amount of funds collected and how the funds were expended.

THESE ARE THE THINGS THE NATIONAL HEALTH FEDERATION IS ORGANIZED TO DO—JOIN ITS RANKS AND TAKE PART IN THIS VITAL EFFORT ON BEHALF OF YOURSELF AND OF ALL AMERICA.

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