

## TREATED WATERS AID DENTAL HEALTH

### U. S. Publishes an Appraisal of Effects of Fluoridation —Program Gains Support

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

WASHINGTON, June 16—A report of the recent conference of state dental directors, issued today by the Public Health Service, stated that fluoridation of public water supplies as a means of reducing tooth decay was spreading rapidly through the nation.

Some communities in almost every state have this service, the report indicated. Scientific findings as to the benefits of this process have ceased to be labeled "preliminary," the summary continued.

The authorized statement on the subject, by the Surgeon General, Leonard A. Scheele, reads:

"During the past year our studies progressed to the point where we could announce an unqualified endorsement of the fluoridation of public water supplies as a mass procedure for reducing tooth decay by two-thirds."

#### 88 Cities Have the Service

Eighty-eight cities now have this service, according to the report. This total includes three cities of more than 100,000 population—Grand Rapids, Mich.; Charlotte, N. C., and Corpus Christi, Tex.

Large cities that now have the matter under consideration were listed as Cleveland, Milwaukee, Seattle, Baltimore, Pittsburgh and Washington.

Wisconsin was reported far ahead of the other forty-seven states in water fluoridation, with

forty-six communities already adding fluorides to their water supplies.

Dr. Francis A. Bull of the Wisconsin State Board of Health was reported as having said that experience in the Badger State had shown the need for:

1. A positive policy on fluoridation by the State Dental Society and State Board or Department of Health. He emphasized that the fluoridation program offers to the dental profession its first opportunity to outline a preventive program.
2. A state fluoridation committee, with the state dental director working in cooperation with the State Dental Society.
3. A fluoridation program under the auspices of local dental societies. (In this program, talks would be given to parent-teacher associations and to service clubs. A sample ordinance would be drawn up, and information as to costs to that particular community gathered.)

A summary was given as to what can and what cannot be expected in a fluoridation program. Included were these points:

#### Other Measures Still Vital

Fluoridation is a partial caries control procedure and does not eliminate the need for other dental health measures.

No harmful effects have resulted from fluoridation when the recommended fluoride concentrations are maintained.

It is estimated that total cost figures amortized over thirty years, on a per capita basis, will average 5 to 15 cents per person a year.

Experience has shown that persons capable of operating a water plant are capable of adding fluorides to the water supply of a community.

# Medical Society Backs Fluoridation of Water

Chicago, Nov. 30 (INS).—The American Medical Association today gave a go-ahead signal to communities interested in adding fluoride to local water supplies to help cut tooth decay in school children.

A joint report by the AMA Council on Pharmacy and Chemistry and the Council on Foods and Nutrition said medical research shows the procedure has no toxic or other harmful side effects.

The only observed difficulty was a mottling (coloring) of the tooth enamel in a small percentage of children, the AMA added, and the effect was so slight that neither the appearance nor the strength of the teeth was affected.

Many city water supplies contain an adequate concentration of natural fluorides and some 140 cities already have adopted fluoridation in the past four years.

Statistics from test communities over a three or four-year control period showed that fluoridation cut the incidence of cavities from 35 to 60 per cent.

The AMA recommended flu-

oridation in concentrations of one part per million provided that the use of products that are naturally high in fluoride content—bone meal tablets or fluoridated lozenges, toothpaste or chewing gum—is discontinued.

The American Dental Association, which first recommended fluoridation at its annual meeting a year ago, editorially hailed AMA approval of the plan.

# Water Treating Causes Tooth Decay Decrease

By PAUL F. ELLIS

United Press Science Editor

New York, Nov. 13.—A new study by the U. S. Public Health Service today showed that drinking water treated with fluorides helps halt tooth decay in adults as well as children.

Several previous surveys have shown that fluorides in water re-

duce tooth decay during childhood.

The new report is based on a survey of two Western communities — Boulder and Colorado Springs, Colo. It was found that the benefits from fluoride-treated water continue through the 44-year age groups.

The report, published in public health reports, was prepared by A. L. Russe'l and Elias Elvove of the National Institute of Dental Research, National Institutes of Health, and was based on examinations in July and August, 1950.

The water drunk by residents of Colorado Springs, a community of some 37,000 persons, contains 2.5 parts per million of fluorides, while the water drunk by Boulder citizens was virtually free of fluorides. Thus the residents of Boulder served as the "control group."

The survey included persons in the 20-to-44 age group. The scientists estimated that about five sixths of the actual number of eligible persons were examined in each community.

The examinations showed that not person in the Boulder group was free of tooth decay. But in the Colorado Springs group, it was found that 26.4 per cent of those in the 20-24 age group was free of tooth decay; 7.9 per cent in the 25-29 age group; 7.3 in the 30-34 group; 9.3 in the 35-to-39 group, and 1.8 in the 40-44 group.

More significantly, it was found that total rates for decayed, missing or filled permanent teeth were about 60 per cent lower in Colorado Springs than in Boulder for each age group.

"The phenomenon of caries inhibition continued undiminished through the age of 44," the investigators reported. "Boulder natives had lost three or four times as many teeth from dental caries as had natives of Colorado Springs."

Nearly every large passenger liner, wherever it may be in the world, now can be reached by telephone.

# Letters From Our Readers

## Fluoridation Called Medical, Health Question

To the Editor

Tyler Courier-Times:

I noticed in your city commission news item of last Friday in the Courier-Times that the city commission decided to wait for a full representation to vote on the fluoridation program for our city water, which doubtless was the part of wisdom.

Continuing or discontinuing the use of fluoride in the city water should not be settled on the basis of how many telephone calls or letters one may receive or the conversations he may hold. If our water is pure and free from harmful bacteria which would breed disease, and is approved by our state health department, why do we need fluoride in the water? Because 14.5 million people receive it in their water is no reason for us doing it. There is too much of the doctrine today of doing a thing because "everybody is doing it."

If harmful, disease breeding germs infest our water supply and these germs cannot be filtered out at our efficient filtering plants, and the placing of fluoride in our water kills these germs and prevents diseases and epidemics we should by all means continue its use in our water supply.

If the fluoride is placed in our water only as a medicinal agency because "it is beneficial to the public health" then we will do well to discontinue its use. Why should the city of Tyler buy medicine for all its citizens? Then there are some people, whom, I am sure, conscientiously believe they should not take medicine, and while I am not one of them, yet I believe in the principle we hold here in America of every man being privileged to follow his conscientious beliefs. If one wants medicine or needs it we have well educated and practicing doctors in Tyler who know how to administer it as the need may appear.

In what way is the fluoride "beneficial to the public health?" Tyler citizens ought to know. Could not our public health department or other well qualified doctors give us some information through the columns of this fine paper on the ways it is "beneficial" to our health and what it does for our bodies. Since the question of the use of fluoride is before us and a decision has not yet been made to continue its use why not hear the pros and cons on it. Only an informed citizenry is qualified to speak on the issue. If fluoride is to be used we should know what it does for the human system and why we are using it.

I believe our city "fathers" are seeking to do the thing that is best for the city fully as much as they are seeking to do what we like. There are times when the thing that is best may not be just what we like. Let us be willing to do the thing that is best. May God grant our city commission members wisdom to make the right decision on this fluoride question and to govern this fine city rightly in every respect.

Yours for a still bigger and better Tyler  
ELDER C. B. MESSER, Minister  
Seventh Day Adventist Church  
Tyler, Texas.

## One Man's Opinion

By

WALTER KIERNAN

(Distributed by International News Service)

It becomes increasingly clear that the dropping of Charley Dressen is a move to "break up the Dodgers."

This was begun by the Yankees, who are fed up with playing "world" series so close to home.

One player wrote his mother this season, "I joined the Yankees to see the world and look at where we're ending up."

The Yankees don't have to worry about the Giants . . . They broke themselves up . . . but if ever the Yanks are going to get overnight travel pay for a series the Dodgers have to go.

Every year they're in there working for the subway system when the Yanks are pulling for a transcontinental contest and even though it comes to pass only once in an Ebbets Field moon it's enough to wear down anybody's nerves.

The Dodgers have to go . . . One-year contracts for next year's fans and that's it.

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# Voters, Do Not Be Deceived By False Reports and Juggled Statistics! Vote Against Fluoridation On April 6th!

ABOUT TWO YEARS AGO WHEN THE CITY COMMISSION ORDERED THE POISONOUS CHEMICAL, SODIUM FLUORIDE AND BEGAN THEIR MASS MEDICATION PROGRAM BY FLUORIDATING THE CITY WATER, IT WAS GIVEN OUT TO THE PRESS THAT THEIR REASON FOR TAKING THIS ACTION WAS THAT THE TYLER-SMITH COUNTY **BOARD OF HEALTH HAD RECOMMENDED IT**. TODAY IT IS ADMITTED BY THE BOARD OF HEALTH IN THE PRESS THAT **THEY DID NOT THEN RECOMMEND FLUORIDATION**, "AT LEAST UNTIL SUCH A PROGRAM HAD BEEN PROVED BENEFICIAL TO MUNICIPALITIES." SINCE MORE THAN 350 CITIES HAVE THROWN OUT FLUORIDATION WITHIN THE PAST FEW YEARS, IT WOULD APPEAR THAT IT HAS NOT PROVED "BENEFICIAL".

SINCE THE CITY COMMISSION AND THE PUBLIC WERE DECEIVED TWO YEARS AGO, IS IT NOT REASONABLE TO SUPPOSE THE PRESENT STATEMENT OF THE HEALTH BOARD IS GIVEN OUT TO INFLUENCE THE VOTERS?

CEASE BEING GUINEA PIGS AND VOTE AGAINST WATER FLUORIDATION!

HERE IS A LIST OF TWENTY-SEVEN IMPORTANT CITIES OF THE U.S. WHO HAVE REJECTED FLUORIDATION, EITHER BY CITY COUNCIL ACTION, INJUNCTION ACTION, OR VOTE OF THE PEOPLE:

SEATTLE, WASH.	NEW YORK CITY	CHICAGO, ILL.
MEMPHIS, TENN.	PHILADELPHIA, PA.	HOUSTON, TEX.
SACRAMENTO, CALIF.	CLEVELAND, OHIO	DALLAS, TEX.
MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.	CINCINNATI, OHIO	FT. WORTH, TEX.
NEW ORLEANS, LA.	AKRON, OHIO	SAN ANTONIO, TEX.
LINCOLN, NEB.	DETROIT, MICH.	HARTFORD, CONN.
SYRACUSE, N. Y.	SHREVEPORT, LA.	BATON ROUGE, LA.
Beverly Hills, Calif.	ST. LOUIS, MO.	LOS ANGELES, CALIF.
TOLEDO, OHIO	ATLANTA, GA.	ITHACA, N. Y.

**Beaumont Plant U. S. Safety Award**

Beaumont (AP)—The shipyards of the Bethlehem Steel Co., which didn't have a fatality last year, has won a national safety award.

The first-place in the 1953 safety contest of the Safety Council's manufacturing and rebuilding was given to the Beaumont yard.

men and had a record of 16 large private U. S. age accident frequent hours to win the award.

that competed was 9.

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## Take Action

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**NG MY CONVICTION**

rn of the century,  
lly was called



For yourself, prayerfully. You need...  
teacher, pastor, priest, elder, minister...  
erally Spirit will convict you of sin.

aged into  
parasites.  
the physical and mental health of  
those in the "Garden of Eden" would  
be watched over by competent phys-  
cians.

A project somewhat like that of Dr.  
Tyson has worked well in New York  
City.

## Fluoridation Safe

### Evidence Is Overwhelming, Say The Dental Authorities

It is "archaic and illogical" to deny  
the dental benefits that fluoridation of  
public water confers on the nation's  
children, declares the Journal of the  
American Dental Association as it  
fires a shot at the report of a seven-  
man Congressional committee which  
was headed by Representative James  
J. Delaney and which recommended  
that since "dental decay does not con-  
stitute a serious danger to health,"  
communities should think hard before  
tampering with drinking water.

"The scientific facts about fluorida-  
tion speak for themselves; they have  
been recognized and accepted by every  
important national organization con-  
cerned with public health and medical  
and dental practice," says the Journal,  
repeating what has already been re-  
ported by the American Dental Asso-  
ciation, the American Medical Associa-  
tion, the National Research Council,  
the American Public Health Associa-  
tion and the United States Public  
Health Service.

## How Reached Its Limit?

whether or not its progress is limited.  
In a sense our ignorance makes him  
hope for the best.

believe that we do not know much

# Letters From Our Readers

## Fluoridation Proponent Urges Favorable Vote

To The Editor,  
Courier-Times-Tribune,

As the father of three small children who have been benefited and will continue to benefit by the addition of fluorides to the municipal water system, I want to add my observations to those that have given to the public recently.

I have long been interested in the question of fluoridation of water supplies. As a state vice-president of the Texas Junior Chamber of Commerce I was on the executive committee set up to evaluate the subject for adoption as a statewide project. After hearing a number of competent medical and dental authorities and representatives of the State Health Department, it was voted to recommend fluoridation to local Jaycee clubs.

The Tyler Jaycees then invited a dentist from Marshall, who is a member of the Dental Association there, to speak to them on the subject. He reported that tests over a period of six years showed a decrease of 60 per cent in dental cavities in children and that the local medical society reported there wasn't any evidence of any increase in any physical ailment. At that time the local Junior Chamber of Commerce voted to recommend the addition of fluorides to the city water supply.

When the question came up recently at the City Commission the question was asked of those appearing before it, "How many children of school age do you have"—the answer of every person appearing against fluoridation was "none" or "they are grown."

The Jaycee group present had 30 school age children and represented a club with several hundred children in that age. When asked by the commissioners if they would abide by a vote of the people on the question the spokesman for the opposition replied that they meant to "get it out of the water." It has been reported that if the issue carries the opposition intends to immediately file suit against the City of Tyler in an attempt to force them to remove the fluorides. Democracy has been mentioned a lot by the opponents—I wonder if that is their conception of democracy.

The next day after I appeared before the City Commission I received an anti-Communist newspaper through the mail with a penciled and unsigned notation intimating that I was in need of such literature.

Even though you might think "it doesn't matter much to me one way or another so I'll just let others decide" I believe the issue is deeper than fluoridation alone. If a small group of people can, by the use of half-truths and misleading statements, cause the advancement of the community to be set back by years, then you had better decide that it does matter to you and go to the polls and see that this issue carries.

BILL MOORE,

Jaycee Fluoridation Committee



## Says AMA Is Not Anti-Fluoridation

To The Times Herald:

Referring to the latest statements made by Mr. O. O. Weilby:

The secretary of the American Medical Association stated that the house of delegates of the association did not "urge" adoption of the dental measure and explained that "It was the opinion of the council that this question (of recommendation for or against fluoridation of water) should be answered by the dental profession." The AMA statement of policy concludes that "Fluoridation of public water supplies in a concentration not exceeding one per cent per 1,000,000 is non-toxic and its principle is indorsed."

The American Medical Association also approved a statement of the interassociation committee on health, of which it is a member, which reads: "Resolved, that the interassociation committee on health urges the fluoridation of the fluoride-deficient public water supplies of this country as rapidly as plans can be approved by the local medical, dental and health department

officials and the state departments of health."

Fluoridation does not mean compulsion on the part of individuals any more than does the use of other community resources, including chlorinated water.

The 20-30 Club of Dallas has facts and is prepared to show them to anyone interested in the health of the children of Dallas.

CHARLES YATES, D.D.S.

3714 Van Ness, Dallas.

## Says Recent Rain Was Sent by God

To The Times Herald:

At last, after 11 months' drouth by the sure, God-sent way, Texas, and Dallas especially, are now being drenched with water.

Man is smart, very smart indeed! Yet there are some things man can't do. But God can.

Only God can fill the reservoirs, the lakes, the rivers and the oceans.

There are some men who don't believe in God and His infinite love and wisdom, but I do.

CHARLES R. GRAGGS

1910 Hall, Dallas.

That's a premature question. But our attitude has been revealed before—that we will not (register as subversives).—Communist Party stand on new law.

*Dallas  
Times-Herald*

# Medical Society Reports On Fluoride

Two weeks ago, the Smith County Medical Society assured the people of Tyler that it would investigate the use and effect of fluoridation of city water and report its findings to this newspaper, and through it to the people of Tyler.

Since that time the Smith County Dental Society has reaffirmed its endorsement of the fluoridation program. But opposition has continued on the part of several persons. The city commission is expected to hear arguments of the pros and cons at its meeting Friday.

The county medical society has completed its promised investigation on fluoridation and, says its president, Dr. Thomas M. Jarmon, the replies to its queries are available for study.

Dr. Jarmon writes as follows:

"In (regard to) my letter which you published May 21 promising that the Smith County Medical Society would make further investigation into the question of fluoridation of drinking water and report to you—I am happy that our inquiries brought forth prompt replies and many articles upon the research work done. Also, resolutions wherein many scientific organizations have approved the use of fluorine in drinking water.

"Research upon problems of this character require extensive chemical laboratories, biochemical laboratories, animal experimentation, checking and rechecking of large num-

bers of clinical cases. Obviously, such requirements are beyond the possibilities of any purely local group. The local medical profession contributes to the maintenance of these facilities by the national organization—American Medical Association and affiliates.

"The American Medical Association's regulating body—House of Delegates—approved fluoridation in 1951, stating with proper facilities for mixing fluorine with water that one part of fluorine to one million of water is non-toxic and would not be injurious. The Smith County Medical Society gave its approval by majority vote many months ago.

"Presently, it appears that all scientific research organizations interested approve fluoridation.

signed / "Thomas M. Jarmon, M.D.

"President,

"Smith County Medical Society."

This letter places the Smith County Medical Association alongside Smith County's dentists in approving fluoridation.

The replies to Dr. Jarmon's inquiries indicate that the list of cities using water fluoridation for prevention of tooth decay is on the increase, with the total now approximately 750.

The City Commission has put this question on its agenda for discussion Friday, and the discussion promises to be thorough if not heated.

# Tyler Dentist Decrys Objection To Flouride

Decrying objections to the addition of sodium fluoride to Tyler's water supply, Dr. Gus Pinkerton Jr., Tyler dentist, went to bat for the program Thursday noon at a meeting of the Tyler Rotary Club.

Saying that the addition of sodium fluoride would greatly reduce the instances of tooth decay, Dr. Pinkerton discounted objections to the fluoridation of water supplies in a one, two, three order.

Some of the objections he listed, and his answers to these objections, were:

1. Fluorides are both corrosive enough to etch glass and toxic enough to be used as rat poison.

"This," he said, "is true, but a water solution of one part per million (to be used in Tyler's program) will do neither. Let us not forget that hydrochloric acid and strychnine are also poison and physicians have prescribed both for years in the treatment of disease."

2. Who will guarantee that the

addition of the prescribed amount of fluoride to the water will not produce some far reaching, even delayed, systemic disorders?

"No one will," Dr. Pinkerton told the Rotarians. "However, in many areas that have naturally occurring fluorine in the water, the insurance actuarial statistics are no higher than elsewhere."

3. Someone says "when I want water, I want water—I don't want any socialistic bureau to decide that some dubious medicine is to be forced down my throat."

"To this," the speaker said, "I would say that, used in the way proposed, sodium fluoride is not a medicine at all, dubious or otherwise. No therapy is involved."

"It (the use of fluoride) is a matter of prevention only. As for socialistic bureau complaints, our program is a home government one. Suggested by the state health department and the U. S. Public Health Service, but finally agreed See FLUORIDE, Page 5

## ● FLUORIDE

(Continued From Page One)

on, and paid for, by Tyler.

"As to wanting water and only water, I shudder to think of the epidemics of typhoid and dysentery that will break out when we remove the chlorine (from public water supplies)."

4. To those who say the program will cost too much.

"If 17 cents per person per year (in Tyler) is too much to pay for the reduction in dental caries

(cavities), then any health program would be unsuitable.

"Remember that only one-third of all existing cavities are properly cared for. This plan should do the most good for the most people at a pittance as far as cost is concerned.

5. Waiting until someone else does the experimenting.

"If the present accumulated evidence is set aside until the awaited answer, complete in every detail, it should not be overlooked that while we are waiting, the immediate present generation is being written off to the destruction and loss of teeth that will result from the present rate of decay.

And, in closing, Dr. Pinkerton told the group:

"Gentlemen, I am wholly in accord with our city commission in regard to their action on fluoridation, and I think they are to be congratulated for their wise stand in this matter.

"You may disagree with me on this subject, but you can never doubt my sincerity. It will cost me as much as most of you in taxes and it may run me out of business."

## ed products



If a sandwich will fill in that evening corner of your Sunday appetite, here's one that does it mighty nicely. Spread slices of white, whole wheat or rye bread with Gebhardt's Deviled Sandwich Spread. Top with slice of tomato, then a thin slice of cheese. Broil until cheese melts. No other sandwich spread has the meaty, satisfying richness you'll taste in this sandwich when you use Gebhardt's. It's made only with choice, government-inspected meats, too, with all the artful flavor-appeal of imported Mexican seasonings. You'll like it!

## Saltillo Salad

Here's a salad with appeal to the light eaters, as well as satisfaction for those who don't suspect how hungry they really are. Mix a can of Gebhardt's Mexican Style Chili Beans with chopped Vienna sausage, chopped hard-cooked eggs, chopped celery, diced dill pickle and 1/2 inch cubes of American cheese. Serve with your favorite dressing. This makes surprisingly substantial eating, yet the tantalizing taste of this salad will have your family asking for seconds. Plump, genuine pintos, skillfully simmered in thick, rich chili gravy, Gebhardt's Spiced Chili Beans are the heart and soul of this delicious salad . . . give it character and personality you won't get with any other beans.

Y OF MEXICAN  
HALF A CENTURY!

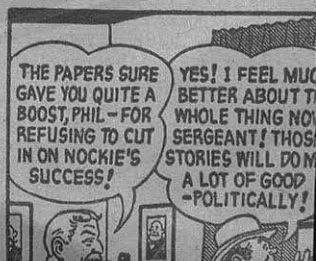
*Helen Harvey*

JOE PALOOKA



THE RIOTING WAS GROWING TO THE PROPORTION OF A FULL-FLEDGED REVOLUTION.

KEY FINN



THE PAPERS SURE GAVE YOU QUITE A BOOST, PHIL - FOR REFUSING TO CUT IN ON NOCKIE'S SUCCESS!

YES! I FEEL MUCH BETTER ABOUT THE WHOLE THING NOW, SERGEANT! THOSE STORIES WILL DO ME A LOT OF GOOD - POLITICALLY!



# Fluoridation Resistance Decried by U. S. Medic

By FRANK CAREY

Associated Press Science Writer

A federal dental researcher Tuesday decried "resistance and indifference" to suggestions that communities add fluorine to their drinking water in an effort to reduce tooth decay.

Dr. John W. Knutson of the U. S. Public Health Service, declaring that just a year ago several national health organizations indorsed "controlled water fluoridation," said:

"At present only 118 communities in this country are fluoridating their public water supplies.

"I say 'only 118' because at that rate it will require 15 to 30 years to bring about fluoridation of the 16,750 public drinking water supplies in this country."

Saying there is evidence that a two-thirds reduction in tooth decay can be expected among children drinking water containing a tiny amount of fluoride from birth, Dr. Knutson told the 45th

annual meeting of the Southern Medical Association:

"Nevertheless, there are signs that this remarkable public health measure is not being accepted on the basis of scientific evidence alone, and that action is being delayed and postponed, not only by those who are conservative and slow to move on new methods, but also by those who are misinformed or misguided by half truths, rumors and emotional prejudices."

He added:

"The job of educating the public regarding the benefits of water fluoridation has just begun, and our promotional efforts will have to be increased markedly if we are to counteract, successfully, resistance and indifference based on misinformation and misunderstanding."

Listing "objections" to water fluoridation, Dr. Knutson said a

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common charge is that the process constitutes "adding poison to our water supplies."

But he said that fluoridation is "no more a procedure for adding poisons to our water supplies than is adding chlorine to water (for preventing certain bacterial diseases)."

Dr. Knutson said still another charge is that there is financial waste involved in fluoridating water which will be used only partly for drinking purposes, but he countered:

"The annual cost per person will range from 5 to 14 cents. For less than the price of filling one tooth cavity we can now pay for fluoridating the water supply of a person throughout his lifetime."

"Here in Texas you have more than 900 community water supplies. Some of these community supplies are blessed by nature with an optimum fluoride concentration. Others have excessive fluorides. But the great majority require controlled fluoridation."

Dallas Federal Savings and  
Loan Assn.

Fidelity Union Life Insurance  
Co.

First National Bank in Dallas.  
Fishburn Cleaning and Laun-  
dry Co.

General Electric Supply Corp.

C. S. Hamilton Motor Co.

Hart Furniture Co.

McMath Axilrod Corp.

Metropolitan Building and Loan  
Assn.

Murray Investment Co.

Neiman-Marcus Co.

Olmsted-Kirk Co.

O'Rourke Construction Co.

Sanger Bros.

Schepps Wholesale Liquor Inc.

Slocum Electric Co.

Texas Employers Insurance  
Assn.

W. L. Wyman and Son Co.

Clampitt Paper Co.

Dick Price Motor Co.

E. M. Kahn Co.

Employers' Casualty Co.

Federal Security Agency.

International Harvester Co.

Parts Depot.

John E. Mitchell Co.

Manor Baking Co.

Remington-Rand Incorporated.

Republic National Bank.

conservative duds for your little  
issue, or "bright, rakish colors and  
sharp new fads." BAMA says it's  
showing them this week.

## St. Joseph Lead Co. Declares \$1 Dividend

New York, Nov. 6 (AP).—St.  
Joseph's Lead Co. declared a divi-  
dend of \$1 on the common stock,  
payable Dec. 10 to holders of rec-  
ord Nov. 23.

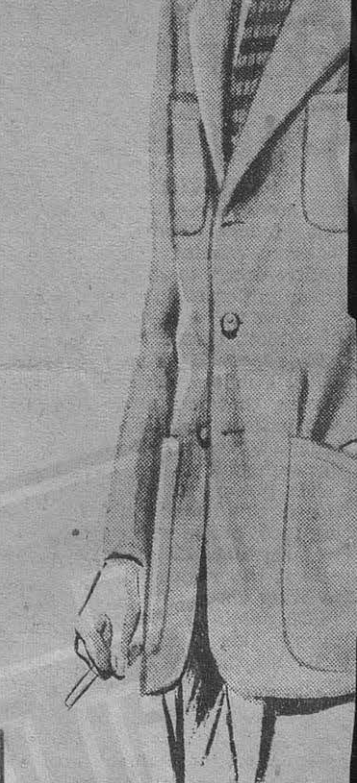
This brings total payments for  
the year to \$3.25. The company  
paid 75 cents in previous quar-  
ters.

A like total was disbursed in  
1950, plus a stock dividend last  
December of one share of com-  
mon for each four held.

## Soft Coal Production Up.

Washington, Nov. 6 (INS).—  
Production of soft coal in the  
United States for the week end-  
ed Oct. 27 was 11,540,000 tons,  
compared with 11,375,000 in the  
previous week, according to an  
estimate by the National Coal As-  
sociation. Production was 11,724,-  
000 tons for the week ended Oct.  
27, 1950.

We buy and sell General Ameri-  
can Oil Co. Common Stock



# Researchers OK Fluoride

Washington, Nov. 29 (AP).—After a study of the pros and cons, a special committee of the National Research Council has concluded that the addition of certain chemicals to drinking water can help reduce tooth decay.

In endorsing the fluoridation of public water supplies, however, the committee said it should be done only under expert dental and engineering supervision by state boards of health.

A report made by the group last night said the safety of fluoridation depends on proper controls. It also said that its effectiveness depends on proper selection of water supplies to be treated.

Because of the controversy over the matter, the committee was appointed last spring to make the study. Its parent body, the National Research Council, is a federation of scientific societies chartered by Congress.

Courier  
Times

# Resistance To Fluorine Decried By Health Man

Dallas, Nov. 6 (AP).—A federal dental researcher today decried "resistance and indifference" to suggestions that communities add

fluorine to their drinking water in an effort to reduce tooth decay.

Dr. John W. Knutson of the U. S. Public Health Service, declaring that just a year ago, several national health organizations endorsed "controlled water fluoridation," said:

"I say 'only 118' because at that rate it will require 15 to 30 years to bring about fluoridation of the 16,750 public drinking water supplies in this country."

Saying there is evidence that a two-thirds reduction in tooth decay can be expected among children drinking water containing a tiny amount of fluoride from birth, Dr. Knutson told the 45th annual meeting of the Southern Medical Association:

"Nevertheless, there are signs that this remarkable public health measure is not being accepted on the basis of scientific evidence alone, and that action is being delayed and postponed, not only by those who are conservative and slow to move on new methods, but also by those who are misinformed or misguided by half-truths, rumors, and emotional prejudices."

He added:

"The job of educating the public regarding the benefits of water fluoridation has just begun, and our promotional efforts will have to be increased markedly if we are to counteract, successfully, resistance and indifference based on misinformation and misunderstanding."



# No Rehearing Is Likely on Fluoridation

Water Commissioner John Thomas said today he sees no need to reopen the question of fluoridating the city water supply.

Thomas expressed his opinion as a group opposing fluoridation circulated letters which blamed the use of the chemical with causing various diseases and increasing the number of traffic accidents.

The city has been putting fluoride salts into the water supply for more than a year. The sodium silicofluoride is injected at the rate of one part of the chemical to one million parts of water and is designed to reduce tooth decay in children.

Before the fluoridation program was started extensive hearings were held by the City Commission. At that time representatives of the Tulsa Organic Farm and Garden club and the Christian Science church opposed the use of the chemical.

The letter being circulated by the "Tulsa Pure Water Assn." contends that the chemical is poison and that experts have said it attacks the central nervous system, causing a delay in reactions and thus increasing the number of traffic accidents.

Thomas said today that the appeal "is highly emotional."

"I see no need to go into the issue again," Thomas said. "The previous commission held thorough hearings at which competent medical and dental people spoke on behalf of fluoration.

"I have seen no new evidence that would tend to reverse the results of the hearing."

# Teamsters Are Subject of New Book

A study of the AFL Teamsters  
will be presented in a forth-  
coming book published by Book-  
of-the-Month Club, New York, it

THE TULSA TRIBUNE, TULSA, OKLAHOMA

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# The Dallas Morning News

DALLAS, TEXAS, MONDAY, APRIL 26, 1954

III

Local News . Editorials  
Farm News . Classified

## ON TOUR

### Lawyers' President Visits City

Jean Gaston Thevenet, the lawyers' international president who is going around the world meeting thousands of lawyers, had no more to do than get off a plane at Love Field today when he was greeted by a Dallas lawyer, Col. Robert L. Thevenet.

Thevenet, a Brussels, Belgium, lawyer who is head of L'Union Internationale des Avocats, says lawyers are going well for lawyers in the Western Hemisphere in one country—Guatemala. "In Guatemala things are bad for everyone, just the lawyers in Guatemala. Where there is trouble, lawyers are always bad for everyone, especially."

Thevenet came in on American Airlines from Mexico, D.F., where he met with Colonel Storey, president of the American Bar Association, and then go to the airport.

Thevenet was elected president of the association, which is a bar association, at a congress in Brussels last September. Thevenet will tour now in Europe and Congress in Brussels.

Thevenet is president of the bar association. His tour he is going to the West Indies, Guatemala ("I am 100 feet from the ground and now I am 100 feet from the ground"), and now he is going to the lawyers.

Thevenet is a good economist.

Thevenet is a solid lawyer.

Thevenet is a Southern lawyer.

Thevenet is a lawyer.

### Church Gets Astor Estate For Mission

The College Street Church of Christ at Waxahachie has bought the old John Jacob Astor Estate in Newport, R.I., and the Texas church has established a "mission" in the heart of the Atlantic resort city.

The new Church of Christ is meeting in the 34-room mansion on which John Jacob Astor spent at least \$1,000,000 in 1903. The Waxahachie church, with assistance with several other congregations of the Church of Christ in the Dallas area, bought the five-acre estate for \$45,000.

Two elders of the College Street church, Mayor A. Dupre Davis of Waxahachie and Harold Mazy, returned last week from Newport, where they closed the purchase and attended services in the mansion.

W. E. Kirk, evangelist for the Waxahachie church, said that the pastor for Newport church is Bill Morgan, a native of Uvalde, Texas.

A number of Texas servicemen and members of the Church of Christ, who were stationed in Newport, began meetings at the Naval Air Station in April of 1952. Among those who met was Hal Curry, then a lieutenant-instructor in the Navy and now baseball coach at Waxahachie High, and Robert Orr, an officer candidate from Vernon, Texas. Later meetings were held in the Newport American Legion Hall. Morgan became evangelist for the little church in May, 1953.

Many tapestries and paintings, with which John Jacob Astor originally furnished the house, are still on the walls. The largest living room will seat from 200 to 250 persons and adjoining rooms could be opened so as to seat 400 to 500 more.

Evangelist Kirk said: "I've inspected the estate and the main building is in perfect condition."

Heavy taxes have kept individuals from buying the estate. For the church it will be tax free, of course.

### FBI Chief Commends Hansson for Service

Dallas Police Chief Carl F. Hansson was congratulated by J. Edgar Hoover for the completion of Hansson's year of service with the FBI.

Hansson was in a car last

## DENTISTS VOICE WARNING ON CANDY, GUM FOR KIDS

By FRANCES RAFFETO

Two dental experts in Dallas Sunday repeated the warning that candy and chewing gum are bad for children's teeth—and that damage from continued use won't be prevented by any amount of dental work.

Dr. Bruce F. Wilkinson of Tyler, president of the Texas Dental Association, and Dr. Lyall O. Bishop, oral surgeon from Walnut Creek, Calif., here as guest speaker for the association's seventy-fourth annual convention, both turned thumbs down on candy for kids.

"No doubt at all that sweets for youngsters give dentists a lot of work," said Dr. Wilkinson.

"That also holds true for adults," added Dr. Bishop, the visiting Californian.

Dr. Bishop is oral surgery instructor at the College of Physicians and Surgeons in San Francisco and consultant for the United States Naval Hospital at Oakland and also for adjacent Air Force and Veterans Administration hospitals.

He was on active duty at the Oakland hospital for seventeen months of the Korean war and did a lot of oral surgery on servicemen with part of their jaws shot away.

"They got quicker and better care right on the field this time," he said, "and our reconstruction work at home was therefore easier. Also, all were flown back and we got them quicker."

About 2,000 Texas dentists, plus out-of-state visitors, were register-

ing at Hotel Adolphus and the Baker Hotel Sunday. Along with the TDA meeting which runs through Thursday, four allied dental groups and several women's auxiliaries are holding sessions. There are about 2,000 Texas dentists in the association itself.

About mouth cancer, Dr. Bishop blamed it more on the heat from the pipe than on the stem. "People who let a cigaret hang constantly from the corner of the mouth also run a risk," he said.

"But fortunately, both the public and dentists are increasingly suspicious of lesions of the lips and tongue, and we can treat them in the early stages."

Both Dr. Bishop and the Texas dentists' leader, Dr. Wilkinson, spoke in favor of the controversial fluoridation of municipal water supplies as a means of preventing tooth decay.

"Of two Texas towns about the same size, Marshall and Jacksonville, fluorine was added to the Marshall water about eight years ago but not to the Jacksonville water," said Dr. Wilkinson.

"Compared to the Jacksonville children, there was a 63 per cent decrease in caries (cavities) among the Marshall children," he said.

He added that 836 United States cities and towns, with 17,000,000 population, now drink fluorinated water—although there is spirited opposition from some quarters. "San Francisco has just decided to add fluorine," advised Dr. Bishop.

"Both the Dallas Dental Society and the Dallas Medical Society have approved its use in Dallas,"

said Dr. Wilkinson, "but nothing has been done about it."

The delegates to the association's business sessions Monday will be welcomed by Dr. Welden E. Bell, president of the Dallas County Dental Society. Also greeting the Texas dentists will be Dr. Elliott Mendenhall, of Dallas, representing the Texas Medical Association, and Dr. W. R. Alstadt of Little Rock, for the American Dental Association.

Visitor from farthest away will be Dr. B. Nygaard Ostby of Oslo, Norway, an internationally known dental specialist expected to arrive Tuesday night.

United States Rep. J. Frank Wilson of Dallas will address the general assembly Tuesday night.

### Visitors View Blind Center

More than 500 visitors passed through the Texter Memorial Light-house for the Blind during its open house Sunday and watched blind workers making salable items such as brooms and mops.

The Lighthouse, at 2729 Hatcher, now employs sixteen Negro blind persons, but recently added space brings it up to 100-person capacity, said Fred M. Lange, Community Chest vice-president and executive director.

The addition, comprising 7,000 square feet of floor space, was donated by the Hoblitzelle Foundation, as was the original building in April, 1952.

### Housewife Claims Swindle by Gypsy

A middle-aged East Dallas housewife who went to a gypsy palmist "just in fun," complained topolice Sunday that the dark-haired mystic swindled her of \$912 savings.

The victim said the 25-year-old gypsy woman looked at her hand, then announced the victim was living under a curse. She offered to remove the curse in mystic rites which involved temporary use of the victim's cash.

The housewife left, then returned with nine crisp \$100 bills, two \$5 bills and a pair of ones. She said the gypsy put all the greenbacks in a cauldron and burned them before her eyes. Then the gypsy ushered the victim out, warning that it would mean "bad luck" if she told anyone of the incident.

The victim suspects the gypsy

## American Leprosy Missions To Open Annual Convention

The latest methods of treatment and control in the world-wide campaign to eliminate leprosy will be stressed when the American Leprosy Missions start a three-day annual convention in the First Methodist Church Monday.

A renowned Scottish leprologist, Dr. James Ross Innes, will be one of the key speakers. A former medical missionary in India, he is now forming with British government help an East African Leprosy Research Center at the Iteso leprosy settlement in Kenya.

"The Life in My Hands," a color picture portraying the life of a Siamese leprosy patient who became a Christian, will be shown at the American Presbyterian settlement at Chiang-

mai, Northern Thailand, will be shown Monday night.

Boon Lert Santanin, clinical assistant at the 3,000 patient center, will address the Tuesday morning session on leprosy control in Thailand.

The official photographer at the Dallas convention will be John Harmon of Vacherie, La., recently discharged from the government hospital at Carville, La. The Rev. Clarence E. Olmstead of Glendale, Calif., also a former Carville patient, will address the convention.

Both were cured by recently developed sulfone drugs which have replaced the traditionally used chaulmoogra oil in the treatment of leprosy, or Hansen's disease.

Neiman-Marcus

of view



## Our Vote Is Cast Today

On April 6, the voters of Tyler will decide whether water fluoridation is to continue in this city.

There has been a strong campaign to end fluoridation. And the proponents of the public health measure have been fighting back. The fluoride question has developed into a raging controversy in Tyler, with the resultant exaggerations and assumptions that usually accompany such a discussion.

This newspaper has studied the literature and the opinions that have been expressed on both sides of the question, not only locally but nationally. The Courier-Times has been on the receiving end of more pro and con expressions on the subject than anyone else in Tyler.

Fluoridation is beneficial to the teeth especially when it is furnished to children in their formative years — of that there is little question. Most of the testimony on both sides of the question bear out that statement, though there are a few dissents.

The city of Marshall, for instance, has experienced a 63 per cent decrease in decayed, missing and filled teeth among children who have been born and have entered school since the program was started eight years ago.

Dr. A. L. Miller, Nebraska representative in the U. S. House, who is widely quoted by fluoridation opponents, states unequivocally, "I recognize the value of fluoride in reducing the incidence of dental decay . . . one part per million of fluorides in water from birth to 10 years of age can reduce dental caries by 50 per cent." But he believes other dental health measures would prove just as beneficial.

The Smith County Medical Association has voted to endorse the fluoridation program. The vote was 46 to 2 among the 48 doctors attending. There are 75 on the rolls of the association.

The Smith County Dental Association and the Smith County Board of Health have endorsed the program.

In other words, there is strong support for it among local professional people who are concerned with the health of the public.

Supporters of fluoridation point to the long history of experience with natural fluoridation, in which large concentrations of fluorides in the water supply are known to have mottled teeth but in which small concentrations are said to have produced teeth resistant to tooth decay without mottling.

The opposition to fluoridation by Dr. Miller and several of the other more recognized opponents is based on the belief that it has not been conclusively proven that fluoridation hurts no one.

Though the studies of 10 years or more by public health authorities tend to show that it has no harmful effects, it is true that this has not been 100 per cent proven. It would take generations to do that. It is experimental but doctors say that the tremendous advances in medicine during the last 20 years would not have been possible if such proof was awaited on every health or medical measure.

Our local medical authorities, and a large number of national authorities, tell us

Of course sodium fluoride in concentration is a poison. Even oxygen can kill. But this hoopla about "poisoning the city's water system," etc., detracts from the true issue. It doesn't stand to reason that anyone interested in poisoning our city water supply—be he Communist or lunatic—would move 21,000 pounds of fluoride, the maximum amount stored, and dump it in the water. Even if he did, we'd have to drink two gallons of it at one time to approach getting a lethal dose.

It would be so much simpler to toss one of the new "germ gases" or a bit of radioactive dust into the water.

Fluoridation is a public health measure. It is similar in many respects to inoculation and pasteurization, which are also forced on everyone.

Fluoridation and chlorination of the water supply are very similar measures — but chlorination is designed to treat the water to make it safe for consumption, and fluoridation is intended as a preventive for tooth decay.

There would be no better solution to the question than two sets of city water systems — one to carry fluoridated water and one for unfluoridated water.

But this is impossible.

So the question has been put to a public vote. Although health measures are better left to doctors and dentists, the decision to take a vote is a good thing. In such a controversy, the public has a right to express its choice.

When the voter goes to the polls on Tuesday, there can be but one clear cut choice or the other, the totals of which will be a guide to the members of the City Commission.

As in the case of many other public questions, the group banded together in the common determination to have the fluoride program kicked out constitute a small minority. They have caused their arguments to be seen and heard in prominent fashion for many months, and have gained what cannot be disputed as fair decision — the majority expression of all the qualified voters who exercise their greatest privilege.

If you vote for fluoridation, you will vote for a program that helps children's teeth—there's very little doubt about this. But the help does not stop there. Children whose teeth are much sounder in five years will enjoy the blessings of healthier teeth proportionately through their adult years. The benefits are too late for those of us beyond certain years, but is that reason to set up an arbitrary roadblock between future generations and good dental health, an important part of total health?

Our conclusion based on the evidence and arguments of both sides is that there is not sufficient "anti" evidence on the all-important statement that there is a danger to public health under the Tyler fluoridation program.

The decision therefore is in favor of fluoridation, in favor of today's children, and in favor of tomorrow's healthier adult generation in Tyler.

## Letters From Our Readers

### Question Is 'Pure Or Adulterated Water,' Is Claim

I have noticed several articles in your paper in regard to putting fluorine in our drinking water.

The question to be voted upon on April 6th, 1954 is "Do you want pure or adulterated water in Tyler."

It is the duty of the city officers to furnish the purest water possible for use in Tyler. If they permit the use of anything in the water for any other purpose than to purify the water they are not representing all the people.

I look at this subject something like The Duck Creek Philosopher on his Johnson grass farm near Lindale.

The Physicians say, "If you don't take too much it won't hurt you." The Dentists say, "They think it hardens children's teeth." The Board of Health says, "That no authenticated, untoward harmful physical effects have occurred."

According to the Census Bureau one person out of eight persons is under eight years of age. Under the plan of putting fluorine in the drinking water eight persons must take medicine in order that one person may have a little less decay in their teeth.

According to a late government bulletin a few cities (Ed. Note—approximately 400) have introduced fluoride in their water supply. In Newburgh, N. Y. has had it for seven years and a neighboring city of Kingston, N. Y., whose water supplies are fluorine free, is being used as a control city.

It was testified that about 3200 children of each city are being examined periodically, dentally and medically. The data for the seven-year medical examination in Newburgh, and six-year medical examinations in Kingston, show no difference in the findings among the children studied in these cities. "The official report of the Newburgh-Kingston study is as follows:

"The results thus far in the study have disclosed no deleterious systematic effects from the ingestion of fluoride in drinking water in the dosage employed. It must be emphasized, however, that a longer period of observation is required before final conclusions can be drawn. The possibility of demonstrating cumulative effects of fluoride in the final years of the 10-year study cannot be eliminated at this time."

It appears to me that there are other factors that control dental caries—the diet, the amount of carbohydrates, and the general health of the child—are perhaps of more importance than the question as to how much fluorides he may have in his drinking water. If the child needs fluorides it should be given by his family physician after a careful physical examination. This would eliminate treating eight persons when but one person might need the treatment.

JOHN NISBET  
Tyler, Tex.

★ The World  
Alice-In-Wonderland



# Strong Case for Fluoridated Water

Fluoridation of the New York City water supply, now being considered by the City Council and the Board of Estimate, has been recommended by the city and state Departments of Health.

In the September Journal of the New York State Society of Medicine, two papers conclude, from studies of fluoridation in other cities, that the technique is "completely safe" for children and adults and is effective in preventing tooth decay.

A ten-year study of the experiments in Newburgh and Kingston, up the Hudson, reported in the journal, reveals that controlled fluoridation has no harmful effects on children. Children of Newburgh, which has fluoridation, have 47 per cent fewer dental caries than do the children of Kingston, which does not.

Another study, covering seventy-five years of history in Colorado Springs, concludes that there was no harmful effect over that period. Residents of Colorado Springs drink water which has a natural fluoride content of 2.6 parts per million, a concentration twice that recommended for optimum results.

## No Ill Effects

All physicians in Colorado Springs were asked for reports of their clinical experience. They agreed that they had never observed symptoms which

can be attributed to heavily fluoridated water.

From these two new reports, the journal concluded that "fluoridation may be considered entirely safe."

The American Dental Association recently reported that 1,000 communities were now drinking water fluoridated artificially and that an additional 400 cities had ordered fluoridation equipment. More than ten million people in the United States drink water that is naturally fluoride containing. Too much fluoride can cause mottled enamel. The optimum dosage has been determined to be 1.0 to 1.5 parts per million. In such a concentration fluoride is tasteless and invisible. It can cause tiny white mottling spots, but these are detectable by trained dental technicians only.

## Dentists' View

The technique of fluoridation has been judged to be completely safe and effective also by the American Dental Association. In the September issue of the journal of the association, an editorial states that "no one, except the most biased, could question the safety of water fluoridation."

The editorial cites a list of authorities who favor fluoridation and challenges "the small but vociferous group of anti-fluoridationists" to provide scientific evidence in support of their views.

R. K. P.

# Health Board Unanimously OKs Fluoride

The Tyler-Smith County Board of Health, in a special meeting at the city hall last night, unanimously voted endorsement of fluoridation of city water and recommended that Tyler continue the addition of a fluoride compound to the municipal water supply.

The board, in its resolution, said it had found "no authenticated, untoward harmful physical effects have occurred" from fluoridation.

## One Part Beneficial

The resolution said that, since continued investigations of the fluoride question "have definitely proved that the addition of fluorides in a concentration not exceeding one part per million to municipal water supplies is beneficial towards the prevention of dental caries, and that no authenticated, untoward harmful physical effects have occurred, the Tyler-Smith County Board of Health endorsed the principle of fluoridation and recommends that the City of Tyler continue the addition of fluoride to the municipal water supply in an amount to make a total concentration of not more than one part per million."

The health board had previously refrained from recommending fluoridation, at least until such a program had been definitely proved beneficial to municipalities.

## Hears Discussion

At a meeting on Oct. 1, 1951, the board heard a discussion of the view that, while fluorides would do no harm, the value of such procedures had not been definitely proved.

The board at that meeting voted a motion saying "until such time as the addition of fluorides to municipal water supplies has been definitely proven to be beneficial, the board of health recommends that it not be added to the water supply of the city of Tyler."

The health board also heard a synopsis of the course in public health to be offered at the Texas Eastern School of Nursing in Tyler, beginning tomorrow. Staff members of the city-county health department will instruct this course.

The board also voted not to hold an April meeting, inasmuch as the special meeting was called only a few days prior to the regular meeting.

## Fluoridation Comment Elsewhere

In view of the recent City Commission hearing on fluoridation and the fact that Tyler is one of the many U. S. cities using fluoridation, an editorial of The Shreveport (La.) Times in its Saturday edition is of interest.

Though fluoridation is not now an issue in Shreveport, the newspaper has been receiving letters on the subject. Under the heading "Fluoridation Letters," The Times comments as follows:

"Recently The Times published a Forum letter from a Shreveporter who stated his views on fluoridation of drinking water with a pretty fair amount of objectivity considering the fact that he was presenting only one phase of the mass of evidence available on the subject.

"Since then, several letters have been received which lack both objectivity and insight in approach, in our opinion, and which also seem to be copied from two or three sources in different parts of the country which mail free a lot of cheaply printed, incomplete, and often highly inaccurate information on the subject. These sources mail directly to The Times as well as to individuals. It is easy to see when there has been wholesale plagiarism by Forum letter writers who obviously do not know that fluorite, fluoride and fluorine are not one and the same, though clearly related to each other, and that none of them is kin to a split atom.

"Most of that material deals with fluoride by such terms as "rat poison," or in equally stupid designations. Table salt is a poison fatal to both rats and human beings—if taken in poisonous dosage. Castor oil is a simple home remedy in its proper form and administration, but the castor bean, from which it is made, can be fatally poisonous to humans through eating it. Most of the marvelous modern anti-biotics, life-savers for thousands of persons annually, also are deadly poisons.

"In nearly all of the larger cities, including Shreveport, death-dealing epidemics might sweep the populace almost continually but for the drinking water being loaded with chlorine, and chlorine can kill almost instantly if taken in certain ways. Incidentally, fluorine, from which fluoride is made, is an element of chlorine. No child or adult swimming in a public pool in Shreveport or any other sizeable city would be safe but for the strong proportions of chlorine which the city recreation department keeps circulating constantly through the water, with daily tests to see that there is enough chlorine. Swimming pool water, plenty of which is swallowed, contains twice as much chlorine

in Shreveport as the city's drinking water and could contain five times as much and be safe to swallow. Some cities have to load their drinking water so heavily with chlorine that it is easily tasted and it is a poison.

"For close to three years The Times has gathered data on fluoridation from many states, various federal agencies, medical and dental organizations, research laboratories, individual parish, county and city health officials, including some in Louisiana—plus tens of thousands of words of the printed transcript of testimony by scores of individuals and organizations before congressional committees. We have taken no pro or con position on the subject, for there has been no need to do so. When and if the time comes that fluoridation of drinking water is an issue in Shreveport, we will present authentic data on the subject just as accurately, objectively and informatively as we can and with all angles covered.

"Until that time, we see no need to publish a lot of fluoridation letters, especially from persons who write us almost illiterately on one subject and then become purists in English and erudite in use of professional medical terms, including those in Latin, when writing about fluoridation.

"When Forum letters on fluoridation become timely we will welcome those written objectively and intelligently, whether they are pro or con. But where various 'authorities' such as doctors may be quoted, there will have to be full identification, with the address where the person quoted can be reached and information as to when and where the quoted statements were made; especially *when* they were made. Statements in 1933 or 1934 or even somewhat later may be offset or superceded by research of a later date. In our own files we have data in which small scale research of several years ago has been offset by much larger scale research later, sometimes by the same researchists.

"The sum and substance of what we are saying is that when laymen write letters for publication on subjects involving highly technical knowledge and understanding they should be very sure of their own qualifications to do so, and of the qualifications of those they may quote. We have means of making pretty good checks in such matters and naturally must do so in order to maintain the integrity of the entire content of this page—this having nothing whatever to do, however, with whether we happen to agree or disagree with opinions expressed by others. And letters on fluoridation will have to be signed, for publication."



## NO CHANGE

Continued warm. Partly cloudy. Low of 70.

### YESTERDAY'S TEMPERATURES

Maximum ..... 90 Minimum ..... 68

Noon Today ..... 87

Barometric Pressure ..... 29.32

Sunset Today 7:30 p.m.

Sunrise Tomorrow 5:15 a.m.

# The Tyler Courier

VOL. 76 NO. 239

AP—The Associated Press  
UP—United Press Association

TYLER, TEXAS, FRIDAY EVENING, JUNE 5, 1953

## Commission OK's Fluoride Use In Water

By GORDON RILEY  
Courier-Times Staff Writer

Tyler City Commission voted three to one this morning to continue fluoridation of the city water after a two hour hearing and petitions with 800 signatures were presented urging discontinuance of the fluoridation program.

Commissioner Zeb J. Spruiell voted against the motion of Commissioner Louis Squyres that "based on the authority at hand to leave the fluoridation program alone." Commissioners Claude Holley and A. B. Curtis voted in favor of the motion. Commissioner A. B. Hill was absent from today's meeting.

Squyres' motion was the fourth to be presented on the question. Two motions died for lack of seconds and a third ended in a tie vote.

Spruiell made a motion to take the fluoride out saying, "I personally do not believe that it is harmful, but putting anything in the public water that a large portion of the public claims is harmful is damaging to the city. I estimate 40 per cent of the people are against the fluoridation program."

His motion died for lack of a second.

Holley moved that an immediate election be called on the question, "in order to settle this controversy once and for all time." This motion died for lack of a second.

Curtis moved the election be called for next April at the next general election of commissioners. This motion seconded by Spruiell ended in a two and two tie.

Several members of the audience had urged an election be

held on the fluoridation question.

Mrs. E. L. Taylor presented a petition she said contained 567 names of persons opposed to fluoridation of the water supply. Mrs. F. W. Fischer presented a petition in opposition to fluoridation she said contained 152 names.

Mrs. Taylor in presenting the petition concluded her statement by saying, "We have the right to have what we want in our water.

"We do not want fluoride—rat poison — in our water." This brought applause from the audience.

Mrs. Taylor said, "I can say one  
See CITY, Page 6, Sec. 1

## Dental Society Speaks Out

A week ago today the Courier-Times recommended editorially that the City Commission ask the doctors of our community to make their views known on the effects of fluoridation of the community water supply.

Last Thursday we printed the answer of the Smith County Medical Society. The medical doctors promise a thorough check into fluoridation and a prompt report to the public on the reliable information that is forthcoming from the scientists and localities which have studied and utilized fluoridation for a long period of time.

Today we have an official statement of the Smith County Dental Society on fluoridation. The dentists of this county, together with the Texas State Dental Society, strongly endorse the program.

Here is their statement:

"Fluoridation is now in operation in 720 U. S. communities and is under formal consideration in additional hundreds of cities and towns in nearly every state of the nation.

"The following resolution was passed by the Texas State Dental Society on May 14, 1953:

"Whereas, the fluoridation of community water supplies has been demonstrated to reduce the incidence of dental decay among children, and

"Whereas, the complete safety of fluoridation has been repeatedly demonstrated in extensive scientific research, and

"Whereas, fluoridation has been recommended and endorsed by all major national health organizations of the United States in-

cluding the American Dental Association, the American Medical Association, the National Research Council, the Association of State and Territorial Health Officers and many others, and

"Whereas, certain individuals and groups whose motives are most difficult to understand have been attempting to delay and forestall the fluoridation of community water supplies through the spread of rumors and erroneous and misleading information, be it therefore

"Resolved, that the Texas State Dental Society in session here today hereby reaffirms its endorsement and approval of fluoridation of community water supplies and urges that fluoridation be adopted in all communities in the state of Texas as rapidly as local conditions will permit."

"The Smith County Dental Society wishes to go on record as supporting the present fluoridation program in the city of Tyler.

"A. L. Glover, D.D.S., President

"Smith County Dental Society

This statement and the resolution quoted above put local dentists, as well as the dentists of the whole state, firmly on record as supporters of fluoridation.

The quick reactions of the medical and dental societies of Smith County, and the letter from a well-known Tyler osteopath, speaking as an individual in opposition to fluoridation, which is printed elsewhere on this page, show that the City Commission will receive cooperation from local doctors in viewing the uses and effects of fluoridation when they hold a hearing on the subject, which is expected next month.



## Doctors Respond On Fluoridation

The response of the local medical profession to an editorial concerning fluoridation of the city water, which appeared in this newspaper Monday, has been quick and to the point.

The Smith County Medical Society has accepted the responsibility of making inquiry into the effects of fluorides and has promised to make any reliable information that is forthcoming available promptly.

In a letter to this newspaper, Dr. Thomas M. Jarmon, president of the Smith County Medical Society, states as follows:

"Your editorial May 18th, 'Fluoridation Question,' appears fair, timely and appropriate. The medical profession and especially your local doctors of the Smith County Medical Society have but one paramount concern—the health and physical welfare of our people.

"We concur in your assertion that it is our responsibility to inform the public on questions of this character. However, where the health of our people and patrons is involved, we are equally concerned lest conjectures, baseless personal opinions and enthusiasm take precedence over proven scientific facts.

"We are a people who become very positive regarding vital and paramount problems based solely upon rumors and hearsay. Presently, I am unaware of any proof by reputable chemical and clinical organizations that fluorine has any merit in the prevention of tooth decay.

"There are three organizations in the

nation maintaining facilities for the eventual appraisal of the value or harm resulting from fluoridation. Independently and collectively the American Dental Society, the American Medical Association and the United States Public Health are interested and will give the final answer. Years may be required. Diet of mother before the birth of the child, fewer babies are breast fed now and present diets of infancy together with years of observation of large groups of children taking fluorine and without fluorine are needed, and final study of these children after permanent teeth have come forth.

"The local profession will make inquiry to all scientific groups and will promptly make known to you any reliable information forthcoming. Too, I wish to assure our people that we will gladly make available any and all known facts upon matters affecting the health of the people. Some matters require time for accurate solution. Haste commonly invites confusion—mistakes.

(Signed) "Thomas M. Jarmon, M.D.  
"President, Smith County  
Medical Society."

We are confident that the citizens of Tyler and their representatives, the City Commissioners, will listen with attention to the findings of the medical society and other groups in the field of personal health, and that scientific fact will weigh heavily with the commissioners on June 5, when they are expected to hold a hearing on the fluoridation program.

## The Fluoridation Question

There is evidence of a difference of opinion among physicians and scientists on a national scale as to the effects of fluoridation of drinking water on the human body.

And there is evidence, from letters which this newspaper has received in recent weeks, that there is a vocal minority in Tyler who oppose the fluoridation of the drinking water of this city.

Scores of medical and public health authorities, including the State Health Department, have gone on record in favor of fluoridation as a measure to increase resistance to tooth decay. They have termed fluorides in the dilution of one part per million parts of water, as used in Tyler, to be harmless.

But articles in recent issues of some national magazines have quoted some presumably reputable doctors and scientists as questioning the effects of fluorides on other parts of the body.

Communities look to their doctors and public health representatives for guidance on matters of health.

These persons are charged with the health

of their patients in this city. They should be willing to investigate the claims of the minority who say that fluoridation is harmful.

This newspaper does not set itself forth as physician and chemist, as some involved in the discussions seem to do.

We do recommend to the City Commission that, because of the fact that the doctors and public health representatives are the people who provide personal health guidance for Tylerites, the commissioners ask officially for an expression from this group of their opinion on the possible effects of fluoridation on local water users.

The local medical and public health fraternity should be willing to speak out officially and accept the responsibility for their statements, because it is the statements of their counterparts elsewhere which urge on both the pros and cons locally.

And, because this is the group to whom Tylerites look for medical guidance, it seems logical that the City Commission should be guided by the opinions of these men of science.



End Government Butter Buying

Every day your federal government reaches into YOUR money in the United States treasury and with it buys 2,000,000 pounds of butter at prices artificially high because of the impetus of such purchases. It will have 130,000,000 pounds in storage by the end of April.

Since butter is a highly perishable commodity, most of this in storage is too rancid for human consumption. From time to time some of it is given to school cafeterias and some of it is sold at low prices or given away to citizens of foreign lands — this course of price support having driven the price of butter too high for consumption by ordinary folks.

Who have we helped by the government buying? In our opinion, nobody.

Of course, it was intended to help the dairyman, the butter producer. But has it?

There always is a use for fresh whole milk and, where it is possible for the producer to reach the market, he receives more selling it as milk than in processing it into butter. Then, if it is difficult to get it to a fresh milk market, there are cheese factories sprinkled conveniently over the country.

So it looks like we benefit no one by this outlay of millions of dollars of the people's money.

Most Americans today have quit eating artificially expensive butter and have turned to cheap margarine.

Margarine and butter are of about equal nutritive value. Both are American farm products. The South, with its cottonseed oil,

contributes largely to the production of margarine.

But what of the butter surplus held by the government. How shall we dispose of it? The various expedients used thus far have made only a small dent in surplus.

A Washington story, headlined "Butter Gifts Abroad Urged," suggests that surplus butter be given to needy friendly foreigners. What has happened to that old slogan that "charity begins at home?"

The truthfulness of these assertions may be proved by a trip to any Tyler grocer. Butter is selling for around 80 cents per pound, with few takers.

Margarine ranges from around 30 cents down to about 19 cents.

We should start a drive to end the foolish, useless purchase of butter by the government.

There should be no price support at all. If folks want to buy butter at what ever price it will bring on an unsupported market, well and good. If not, they will lose nothing in nutriment by buying margarine at a lower price. With other heavy demands for milk, the dairyman loses nothing.

This is something about which citizens should write their lawmakers in Washington. If you are tired of having your money handed out in subsidies for no good purpose write Senators Lyndon Johnson and Price Daniel and Representative Brady Gentry. Address them, Washington, D. C. If enough of us write them, they probably will see that government butter buying is stopped.

U. S. 'Gold' Buying Program

Hollywood

By LOUELLA O. PARSONS  
Motion Picture Editor INS  
Hollywood, (INS).—One of the best of the Ginger Rogers-Fred Astaire musicals, made as long ago as 1935, will be reissued on July 18th. A slight re-editing job has been done, and those of the RKO crowd who have seen this musical say it's as good today as it was when Ginger and Fred were the dancing darlings of the screen world.

Edward Everett Horton supplies the laughs, and the direction of the late Mark Sandrich is as effective as though the musical had just been finished today.

The reissue of this film will, I think, start a trend of other old hits being shown at theatres throughout the country.

It's up to Merle Oberon to make up her mind whether she wants to go to Germany in September to star in "Sister Of The Moon."

She's read Walter Reisch's script and is crazy about it, but it's going to be difficult for Merle to tear herself away from handsome Dr. Rex Ross. Being a busy doctor, it's impossible for him to go with her.

However, Merle's career has taken such an upward move that I have a feeling she won't want to turn down a script as good as this. I hear from all sides it's a great story.

When the Lurline leaves May 4th for Honolulu Rita Hayworth and the cast and crew of "Miss Sadie Thompson" will be aboard.

And, by the way, Manuel Rojas did not meet Rita at the train when she arrived from New York. She was met by a photographer and a publicity man from Columbia, and they were her only male greeters.

Her fling with Rojas is definitely cold—not cooling, but finished. If you know what I mean. And when Rita's through, boy, she's through!

I didn't have any idea that Frank Pulaski, whom I recently met, is a nephew of the late Jack Pulaski, a very old friend who was on Variety in New York for many, many years. Then I met Alice Glazer, Frank's aunt, and she told me all about her nephew.

Frank is playing the role of Quintus in "The Robe." His first picture was "Desert Rats," and Alice tells me he is a very talented boy and that he writes as well as he acts.

Since meeting Frank I am told he has spent \$2500 in flowers, gifts and telephone calls, trying to woo back his ex-wife, Virginia Rhodes, high fashion model. That's just about what he's made to date on "The Robe."

Chatter in Hollywood: Saw Anne Baxter at Hedda Hopper's Cocktail party and she tells me she's leaving for Europe immediately to be gone six weeks—her first trip. Her mother goes with her.

But, I'll be surprised if she does not see Oliver Thordyke in New York, since I hear from the big town that she and Thordyke are very much taken. He telephones her every day.

Those who saw Cinemascope asked the name of the pretty "sister" girl who saw with David Wayne in the airplane scene.

I can tell you she is Charlotte Austin, who made the scene as a test for Marilyn Monroe for "How To Marry A Millionaire" while Marilyn was busy.

As a reward for a job well done, Charlotte has been signed by 20th Century-Fox for a part in the same picture. She'll play the role of Ding-Dong, who tries to get Betty Grable's boy friend away from her.

Snapshots of Hollywood collected at random: The William Goetzes, accompanied by their daughter, Barbara, left for New York to spend Easter with their other daughter, Judy. They'll then charter a yacht and cruise in the Caribbean for two weeks—just Edie and Bill.

Bing Crosby's son, Gary, received an "A" in economics at Stanford and sent the card to his father. He was very upset over an item in another column that he was flunking. Gary, chaperoned by his grandmother, entertained some of his Stanford classmates at Palm Springs.

Hedda Hopper is still in Good Samaritan Hospital and was not able to attend her cocktail party for Dick Clark, newspaper editor, and his attractive young 15-year-old daughter, Cissy.

Dick's father, Arthur Clark, was my first boss. He was managing editor of the Record Herald and, as I told Dick, he certainly made me work—for which I am now grateful. Cissy met her two favorites, Stewart Granger and Charlton Heston.

Mrs. Dixie Bowers, ex-wife of writer Bill Bowers, is marrying Frank Swadley, manager of the Princess Hotel in Bermuda, in April. Bill, himself, goes to Europe to make a picture for Jimmy Woolf.

Paul Winchell, TV ventriloquist, will be a papa to a live doll in the fall.

Mrs. Gabriel Dell, wife of the former dead end kid, is asking for separate maintenance from Freddie De Cordova, Mary and Jack Benny, Gracie Allen and George Burns, and the Leo Robbins were among those I saw at the Mocambo applauding Mary McCarty.

Ursula Thiess, who is so slender and so beautiful, was with Bob Taylor at Ciro's to hear Pearl Bailey. Bob is growing a beard. There seems little chance of Guy Madison and Gail Russell patching up their marriage. There is really a sad story back of it all.

There seems little chance of Guy Madison and Gail Russell patching up their marriage. There is really a sad story back of it all. Birthday congratulations to Dr. Frank Young, veteran World War II, who is now general physician at Norwalk County Hospital.



See Editorial, "End Government Butter Buying."

★ These Days ★

Here's What People Want To Know

By GEORGE E. SOKOLSKY  
(Copyright, 1953, King Features Syndicate, Inc.)

I am writing this column in New Orleans where I have been rediscovering the obvious, namely, that we are a nation of great complexity and that a shrimp need not taste soggy when its jacket is removed. New Orleans is a city of perfect taste in food, and one of such honky-tonkism in amusements as only the tourists who seek dirty postal cards in Paris can demand. The Cathedral of St. Louis is an architectural and spiritual gem and has been preserved lovingly.

But this is not to be a Cook's tour of New Orleans, which I can write now, having been here only three days. On the fifth day, one ceases to be an expert, I am told. It used to be like that in China: if the tourist did not write a book, solving all China's problems, as soon as he arrived, he never wrote one.

On several trips I have taken this year to various parts of the country, I have been asked literally hundreds of questions, usually in audiences ranging from high school students to great men of affairs. The questions run in patterns and are nearly always the same in essence. These are the patterns:

1. There is considerable puzzlement that the Eisenhower administration does not take hold. While President Eisenhower is popular, no one voted for an administration by businessmen. The businessmen in the administration are not establishing a reputation for political competence. When I say that President Eisenhower is entitled to time, the question usually comes back swiftly, "How much time do these businessmen need to learn how to administer a government?"

2. People expected the Republicans to produce a sharp break with the Acheson-Truman conduct of foreign affairs and with the offensive personnel in government, particularly subversives and homosexuals. I encounter numerous inquiries as to why that does not come about.

Whereas in university and liberal circles, I find a tendency to violent criticism of the Congressional committees investigating subversives, most other conversations

produce a sure support for these committees. Somehow they are all identified with Senator McCarthy. Those who are antagonistic blame him for whatever they dislike in Congress; on the other hand, McCarthy is often praised for what he has not done. In the opinion of many, he is the leader of the Republican party.

3. Most Americans continue not to understand the following issues: A. The Korean war; B. The nature of Soviet Russia and why our government acts as a reflex to Kremlin leadership; C. What the Bolshevik revolution is and what it has accomplished.

Conversations on these subjects are fuzzy, confused, and often incoherent. The tendency is to disbelieve anything that the State Department says on these subjects. Whereas, I had hoped that John Foster Dulles might develop into a leader of American public opinion, that has not happened. In the public mind, he is identified with puzzling contradictions.

For instance, regarding his support of Charles Bohlen, the question was often asked why it was so important to start a fight over the guy.

4. Taxes remain at the bottom of the hit parade. A lot of members of Congress will be defeated if taxes are not reduced. When it was suggested that the Republicans are proposing to delay tax cuts until 1954, so that they will have an argument to win that election, a snicker usually passed in the crowd. If taxes are not cut before March 15, 1954, the Republicans will have very bad news in November, 1954. Many say they voted for Eisenhower because he had said, during the campaign, that he could cut the budget.

The Secretary of the Treasury is unknown to the American people. They do not know his name, his face, or his personality. If the Eisenhower fiscal policies are to be made popular, somebody ought to make George Humphrey an American figure. No cabinet officer can afford politically to be nameless and faceless. It is an obvious political and even a public error for the President's cabinet to be so remote from the American people.

Americans despise those whom they call "stuffed shirts." They feel that way about the businessmen who have come into government. As long as economic conditions are booming, the trend is in

the direction of not pushing doubts into protests. But any down-turn could produce an unfavorable situation. There is no backlog of confidence in the men about Eisenhower.

Letters From Our Readers

Reader Claims Fluorine Injurious To Health

To the Editor,  
Tyler Courier-Times:  
This letter is for the people of Tyler and I am asking that you print it so they may read it.

It is in regard to the fluorine added to our drinking water. I hope that somehow the people of Tyler will come to realize and look into the matter of knowing what it is. I do not believe in calling people by bad names, nor in blaming people for what has been done.

Some are blaming Mr. Claude Holley and now the blame really rests with the women of Tyler, so they say.

Whoever is to blame probably hasn't taken the time to find out exactly what fluorine is. It is an elementary gaseous body allied to chlorine, isolated as a pungent, corrosive gas which becomes yellowish green under the action of hydrofluoric acid. Chlorine is a yellow, heavy, poisonous gas with a very unpleasant and suffocating odor. This chlorine family includes chlorine, iodine, fluorine and bromine.

To the ladies who think either of these would help build up children's teeth, I will say you are going to be mistaken. Rather, in a short time, your children will turn up with ailing stomachs.

The water condition should be of utmost concern to all the people who live in Tyler, for every one of us must have water to continue to live.

I am sure that Tyler water must have chlorine to purify it. But, by adding fluorine, which is kinfolks to chlorine, you are adding a thing which is used in deadly rat and roach poison. This would be too much for most human stomachs to take without serious disturbance.

Speaking for myself, I began having trouble in keeping my food in a very short time after fluorine was added and I have a constant cramping in some place the whole time.

One of my gold fish died very shortly after. One of the largest of them was eaten up all but his head. Alum used in large quantities also is dangerous, causing cramping and also is very bad for the blood.

Sure, I am no doctor, but I am wondering why the doctors permit such dangerous things in our drinking water. I do not believe anyone can say this isn't true. Some time before fluorine was added to the water a lady wrote a piece to the Courier-Times telling the danger of it.

But somehow, some ladies seemed to want teeth for the babies so badly they are willing to risk our health and maybe some lives to get them the wrong way. This water will affect every city official, every doctor and everybody else. But the weak people will be the first to suffer.

MRS. E. L. TAYLOR,  
Tyler, Texas.

(Editor's Note: Deaf Smith County in West Texas has a natural fluoride content in its wells and city water supplies of more

than eight times the amount in Tyler water. The only reaction found there in a study of many years is that, after continued drinking of the water, the users' teeth sometimes are stained. There are no dental cavities in the mouths of Deaf Smith County native residents.

(Medical and public health authorities recommend not less than one part fluoride per million parts of water to be effective in retarding tooth decay. This is the amount Tyler uses.)

(Fluorine in this diluted stage is termed harmless by these authorities, although it, like many medicines and other chemicals, is poisonous in concentration. Chlorine is used to purify water. It leaves as soon as water is exposed to air, and State Health Department officials say it is a physical impossibility to drink sufficient chlorine gas suspended in water to cause any internal disturbance.)

(Alum and dehydrated lime have been used to clarify Tyler water for more than 30 years in the same amounts now being used, according to water department officials. Both of these clarifying agents are used universally by public water suppliers. Both precipitate out of the water in a settling basin before it leaves the filtration plant.)

(Tyler's water supply is treated according to State Health Department recommendations and is approved for public consumption. Samples are tested daily, weekly and monthly in Austin for purity and palatability.)

YOU'RE TELLING ME!

By WILLIAM RITT  
Central Press Writer

Ex-President Truman's memoirs, it's announced, won't be published until two years from now. That's a long time but, then, we all know Harry has a long memory.

The office Democrat says maybe HST is waiting for the GOP administration to make some fancy mistakes.

In Detroit police have rounded up a group charged with smuggling tax-free cigarettes into Michigan. Looks like it might be a smoke ring that got into the eyes of the law.

"Curves Thrown Out by French Stylists"—headline. Shucks, baseball pitchers have been doing it for years.

Scientists predict guided missiles which will circle the globe, returning to starting point. Boom-erangs don't go so far—but they do it cheaper.

★ The World Today ★  
Dulles Heads For Wringer Again

By JAMES MARLOW

Washington (AP).—Secretary of State Dulles, already thoroughly roughed up by the Senate, is headed for the wringer again. Senator Mundt wants a shakeup of officials who make State Department policies.

The South Dakota Republican said he has the support of these three Republican senators, plus others: McCarthy of Wisconsin, Bridges of New Hampshire and Ferguson of Michigan.

When he called for the house cleaning three days ago Mundt said "scores, perhaps hundreds of these top officials are the same ones who made policy for President Truman and Secretary of State Acheson."

When asked what he was aiming at in his demands, he said: "The purpose is to find" for the policy jobs people who are in "sympathy with Dulles and President Eisenhower."

Several conclusions could be drawn from that statement: Mundt and his group think Dulles is incapable of running the State Department and they have to tell him, or they have simply decided to tell him how to run it.

Although this crosses the line which separates the powers of Congress from the powers of the executive branch of the government, it isn't the first time this has happened to Dulles.

Only the State Department can negotiate agreements in foreign affairs. But a couple of weeks ago McCarthy said he tried to "nego-

tiate" with Greek ship owners not to deal with Communists.

He withdrew the word "negotiate" after a quiet luncheon with Dulles. That was only a mild episode compared with what happened to Dulles in the Senate a couple of weeks before that.

McCarthy wouldn't take Dulles' word.

With Eisenhower's approval, Dulles picked Charles E. Bohlen as ambassador to Moscow and told the Senate Bohlen was definitely not a security risk.

McCarthy challenged Dulles on that and wanted him to come back to testify under oath. The Senate Foreign Relations Committee sent a two-man delegation to Dulles' office for a personal look at Bohlen's file.

It wasn't until the two-man team reported back that Bohlen was all right that the Senate upheld Dulles by approving Bohlen.

Dulles must soon go before the Senate Appropriations Committee to explain why the State Department needs the money he will request to run it another year.

The full Senate depends upon this powerful committee to recommend how much the State Department should get. The department's operations for a whole year could be crippled if the committee cuts down sharply on Dulles' request.

Mundt, McCarthy, Bridges and Ferguson are all members of the committee and, once they get Dulles before them, they can quiz him

about practically everything in the department.

If they tell him how to run his department and he fights back, he might find his department's money cut. But he has no assurance the money won't be cut even though he acts like a lamb.

No matter what's happened to him so far Dulles has been very gentle with the senators, probably because Eisenhower wants it that way.

A continued policy of mildness might work out all right for Eisenhower, who has more to worry about than just the State Department, but not necessarily all right for Dulles, who can't go on indefinitely being stepped on without being discredited.

Dulles has brought in all new policy makers at the top except these three: Harold Linder, Assistant secretary for economic affairs, who is leaving soon; Paul Nitze, chief of the policy planning staff, also leaving; and an Army officer, Col. Henry Byroade, assistant secretary in charge of Middle Eastern affairs.

But since Mundt wants "perhaps hundreds" of policy makers removed, he's talking about people below the very top. Explaining that he had in mind those who had the same kind of jobs with Acheson, Mundt said:

"If they're worth their salt they must have been loyal to Acheson and enthusiastic about his policies. We want people in there enthusiastic about the new administration's policies."

★ Boyle Notes ★  
Violence-In-Repouse Interviewed

By HAL BOYLE

New York (AP).—"I love your skyscrapers—they are like stretching tentacles, pleading for the sky," said the world's highest paid actress.

Then Anna Magnani of Italy leaned back in bed and took a thoughtful puff on her cigar. So I leaned back, too, in a chair by the bed and took a puff on the cigar she had given me.

It actually is called a cigarillo—a slender plastic-tipped cigar no longer than a king-size cigaret and popular with both men and women in parts of Europe. Anna likes them, but smokes only two or three a week.

"They are sent to me by my favorite admirer—my son, Luca," she explained. Luca, 11, is in school in Switzerland.

Anna, who recently completed an Italian film called "Bellissima" was so worn out by her first five days in America that when I called at her hotel suite she decided to be interviewed in bed.

She wore yellow pajamas trimmed in blue. She has a long midnight mane, framing a face of

Roman gold, and as she leaned back against the pillow she looked like a tawny, well-fed lioness—violence in repose.

"First, I interview you," said Anna. "You like Italian women?"

"Yes."

"Do you like me?"

"Yes."

That ended her interview. So I took up the questioning.

"Do you like American men?"

"I would like to marry one and find out."

★ Nichols Worth ★

Little Shrimp Bark Loudly

By HARMAN W. NICHOLS

Washington (AP).—Little shrimp make more noise than whales.

An unusual U. S. Navy recording of fish sounds at the National Fisheries Institute Convention here proved that the Navy thinks that one day, through such recordings it may be able more accurately to predict storms at sea.

This particular recording was explained by John Webster of the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Webster identified the first noise as a gang of 300 or 400 shrimp having themselves a time.

It sounded like a cross between a man snoring and a man brave enough to bark back at his wife. This recording was made two and a half miles under the surface.

The next on the record was a fish the Navy was not able to identify. This one sounded like either a woodpecker having at somebody's apple tree, or a sawed-off machine gun.

The Echo fish, so-called, made a sort of burping sound and then

an echo came along a little fainter.

Finally, we ran the record down to the black whale. This big mammal made a racket, that sounded like a crowd cheering, but not cheering very loud. The big hunk of blubber can't hold a dorse, fin to the tiny shrimp when it comes to racket.

There is a critter named Ocellan in the waters of the North Pacific which can be put to use as a candle. It is fat and oily and when dried you can make a candle of it simply by drawing a wick through it and touching it aglow with a match.

One crabby catfish (Synodontis Batensoda) swims upside down in its natural habitat in African waters. Other fish of various kinds swim backward and seem to get along fine even though they can't see where they are going.

To be sure, these are all wonderful fish, but my favorite among the finny clan is the fish that can climb a tree.

This fish has the scientific name of Anabas, from a Greek word meaning "to go up." It is found in canals, ditches, and swamps of Asia and Africa.

The Anabas does as well on land as in the water and as a land-lubber lives on air drawn through the breathing organs that are accessory to the gills.

The Anabas is charged with wanderlust and loves to go from one body of water to another, traveling overland. If a tree comes in the way, this fish climbs it up one side and down the other, being too dumb to think of simply going around.

LAUGH TIME



"I wish you wouldn't stand around where mother can see you—you know how it upsets her."

The Tyler Courier-Times

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REGULAR MEETING, TYLER-SMITH COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

October 1, 1951

The meeting of the Tyler-Smith County Board of Health was held in the Commission Room of the City Hall, 7:30 P. M., October 1, 1951, with the following being present:

Board Members: Dr. J. W. Birdwell, Chairman  
Dr. Ben N. Wilson  
Dr. Caldwell Hagan

Director: Dr. W. R. Ross

The minutes of the meeting held September 10 were read and approved.

Dr. Birdwell read a letter which had been received from the Samuel Higby Camp Institute concerning the annual observance of National Posture Week, October 15 to 20. It was decided to table this matter.

Dr. Birdwell then reviewed the investigations and discussions that had taken place since April 1950 concerning the question of adding fluorides to the City of Tyler water supplies. Dr. Birdwell informed the Board that a local group has been actively studying the proposition with the purpose of eventually bringing it up before the City Commission, and that since the Board of Health had not taken any action on the matter, he felt that the problem should be studied by the Board and that Mr. C. P. Stewart, Superintendent of the Tyler Water System, had been invited to meet with the Board to discuss the problems of the Tyler water supply.

Dr. Hagan stated that the viewpoint of the Dental Profession is that the addition of fluorides to the drinking water will not do any harm but that the value of such addition is not a proven thing at present.

Dr. Ross gave each Board Member a copy of a document presented to the City Commission in May 1950. (Copy attached)

Dr. Ross then announced that the Regional Meeting of the Texas Public Health Association would be held in Henderson on Thursday, October 18, and invited each of the Board members to attend this meeting as his guest.

The question of expenses involved in shipping animal heads brought to the Health Unit Laboratory from areas outside of Smith County was presented by Dr. Ross.

Discussion followed. Motion was made and seconded recommending that the Health Unit collect such expenses on animal heads brought to the Health Unit Laboratory by individuals residing outside of Smith County for Shipment to Austin.

There being no further business, the Board adjourned until November 5, 7:30 PM.



THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS — MEDICAL BRANCH  
GALVESTON

THE SCHOOL OF MEDICINE  
THE SCHOOL OF NURSING  
THE TECHNICAL CURRICULA  
THE POST-GRADUATE PROGRAM

THE JOHN SEALY HOSPITAL  
THE CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL  
THE PSYCHOPATHIC HOSPITAL  
THE STEWART CONVALESCENT HOME

October 1, 1951

Dr. Edward Taylor  
Director, Dental Health  
State Department of Health  
Austin, Texas

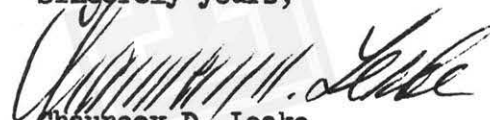
Dear Doctor Taylor:

You are to be warmly commended for preparing the mimeographed statement "Facts Relative to Rumors that Fluoridation is Harmful", which is a reprint from the September issue of the Texas Dental Journal. It is to be hoped that you will distribute this mimeographed reprint widely in other parts of the country, where question has been raised regarding the value of fluoridation, as a result of reports of research studies made by Doctor Alfred Taylor of the Biochemistry Institute of the University of Texas.

It is greatly to be regretted that Doctor Taylor's conclusions were so widely disseminated without full appreciation of all the facts involved. It has been amazing to consider the number of inquiries we have received regarding this matter. It seems to me that every effort should be made to convince public health officials throughout this country that there is no contra-indication to fluoridation of drinking waters for the purpose of reducing dental caries.

With best wishes,

Sincerely yours,

  
Chauncey D. Leake  
Vice-President

CDL/mjs

cc: Dr. George Cox  
Dean Fred Elliott  
Dr. Alfred Taylor  
Chancellor J. P. Hart  
Dr. C. A. Nau

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS — MEDICAL BRANCH  
GALVESTON

THE SCHOOL OF MEDICINE  
THE SCHOOL OF NURSING  
THE TECHNICAL CURRICULA  
THE POST-GRADUATE PROGRAM

THE JOHN SEALY HOSPITAL  
THE CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL  
THE PSYCHOPATHIC HOSPITAL  
THE STEWART CONVALESCENT HOME

October 1, 1951

Dr. Edward Taylor  
Director, Dental Health  
State Department of Health  
Austin, Texas

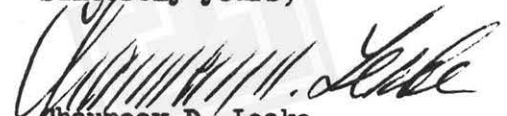
Dear Doctor Taylor:

You are to be warmly commended for preparing the mimeographed statement "Facts Relative to Rumors that Fluoridation is Harmful", which is a reprint from the September issue of the Texas Dental Journal. It is to be hoped that you will distribute this mimeographed reprint widely in other parts of the country, where question has been raised regarding the value of fluoridation, as a result of reports of research studies made by Doctor Alfred Taylor of the Biochemistry Institute of the University of Texas.

It is greatly to be regretted that Doctor Taylor's conclusions were so widely disseminated without full appreciation of all the facts involved. It has been amazing to consider the number of inquiries we have received regarding this matter. It seems to me that every effort should be made to convince public health officials throughout this country that there is no contra-indication to fluoridation of drinking waters for the purpose of reducing dental caries.

With best wishes,

Sincerely yours,

  
Chauncey D. Leake  
Vice-President

CDL/mjs

cc: Dr. George Cox  
Dean Fred Elliott  
Dr. Alfred Taylor  
Chancellor J. P. Hart  
Dr. C. A. Nau

Tyler-Smith County Health Department  
Tyler, Texas

October 2, 1951

Mrs. T. A. Swenson  
400 West 4th  
Tyler, Texas

Dear Mrs. Swenson:

I am enclosing a copy of the minutes of the Board of Health meeting held October 1, 1951 for your information.

Very truly yours



W. R. Ross, M. D.  
Director

WRR:cdc  
Enc.

# NEWS RELEASE *from*

## THE AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

535 North Dearborn Street • • • Chicago 10, Illinois • • • Phone: WHitehall 4 - 1500

**FOR RELEASE** In Afternoon Newspapers of Friday, November 30, 1951

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NOTE TO EDITORS: The fifth annual Clinical Session of the A.M.A. will be held in Los Angeles next week. It will provide a flow of important medical news. Consequently, there will be no issue of NEWS RELEASE for Friday, December 7, or Friday, December 14.

### A.M.A. TERMS FLUORIDATION OF WATER SUPPLIES SAFE

CHICAGO--The American Medical Association reported today that the fluoridation of community water supplies to reduce the incidence of tooth decay among school children is a safe procedure.

Two councils of the American Medical Association--the Council on Pharmacy and Chemistry and the Council on Foods and Nutrition--issued a joint statement, which appears in the current (Dec. 1) Journal of the A.M.A., stating that there was not now evidence of toxicity which would deter cities from fluoridating the water supplies as a partial protection against tooth decay.

"The only difficulty so far revealed is a possible increase in mottling of the tooth enamel," the A.M.A. statement said, adding: "It occurs only in a small percentage of children and is so slight as not to present a problem from the point of view of appearance or strength of the teeth. Evidence of toxicity other than the effect on enamel has not been reported in communities where the water supply has several times the concentration of one part per million.

"After considering the evidence available at this time, the councils believe that the use of drinking water containing up to one part per million of fluoride is safe. However, the use of products which are naturally high in fluoride content, such as bone meal tablets, or of lozenges, dentifrices, or chewing gum to which fluoride has been added should be avoided where the drinking water has been fluoridated.

"In places where children are subjected to warm temperatures and consequently drink large amounts of water, a lower concentration of fluoride may be necessary to avoid mottling."

The expression "fluoridation of water supply" refers to the addition of a fluoride to the public water supply where the natural fluoride content is too low. Fluoride is added to the water supply by the water department by means of equipment similar to that used for adding other chemicals, such as chlorine.

Fluoridation of community water supplies was recommended by the American Dental Association at its annual meeting in Atlantic City a year ago. The resolution, adopted in the interest of public health, said "the American Dental Association recommends the fluoridation of municipal water supplies when the fluoridation procedure is approved by the local dental society, and utilized in accordance with the standards established by the responsible health authority...."

Several other leading health agencies, including the governing council of the American Public Health Association, the state and territorial dental health directors and the U.S. Public Health Service, have recommended fluoridation as a decay-control measure.

The fluoridation procedure has been adopted by more than 140 cities in the United States. In cases where fluoridation has been carried out for three or four years there has been a general reduction of decay in the teeth of younger children. Statistics show that fluoridation has resulted in a reduction in tooth decay of from 35 to more than 50 per cent.

During the last six years, large-scale control tests have been carried out in a number of cities, including Grand Rapids, Mich., Newburgh, N.Y., Brantford, Ontario, and Sheboygan, Wis. Tests also have been started in a number of other Wisconsin communities and at Evanston, Ill., Ottawa, Kan., and Midland, Mich.

#### HEART STOPS BEATING FOR 25 MINUTES--MAN RECOVERS

CHICAGO--The complete recovery of a man whose heart stopped beating for 25 minutes during an operation was reported in the current (Dec. 1) Journal of the American Medical Association.

The patient, 63, was undergoing chest surgery when his color became very dark and his heart stopped beating, according to Dr. Max G. Carter, of the Boston City Hospital, Boston. Life was maintained by massaging the heart, injecting heart stimulants and applying artificial respiration.





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December 28, 1951

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In reply please refer to  
File No. N-ET

*Fluoridation*

Mrs. T. A. Swenson  
President  
Tyler League of Women Voters  
P. O. Box 3187  
Tyler, Texas

Dear Mrs. Swenson:

This is to thank you for the remembrance of my recent visit to Tyler. While I certainly did not expect any remuneration for my visit, I assure you and the League that it is appreciated.

I trust that my appearance before the Commission was helpful and that it will bear fruit. I suggest that the action of the Commission be followed up and that you do not allow it to be forgotten. Since I was there, announcements have come through that the cities of Philadelphia and San Francisco have taken definite action to fluoridate their water supplies.

Incidentally I left the remainder of the literature I had with me in the office of the City-County Health Unit in charge of Dr. Ross.

Sincerely yours,

*Edward Taylor*  
Edward Taylor, D.D.S.  
Director of Dental Health

ET:rs

## Fluoridation of drinking water harmless: statement by American Medical Association

League of Women Voters of Tyler  
1303 Mockingbird Lane  
Phone 4-5944

The Council on Pharmacy and Chemistry and the Council on Foods and Nutrition of the American Medical Association, on November 12, issued a joint statement regarding the fluoridation of community water supplies. In the opinion of both Councils the addition of one part per million of fluoride to drinking water under approved methods of control is harmless. Other organizations which have approved the process for the purpose of reducing the incidence of dental caries include the American Dental Association, the United States Public Health Service, the American Association of Public Health Dentists, the Governing Council of the American Public Health Association and the State and Territorial Dental Health Directors. The attitude of the American Water Works Association is published on page 753 of this issue of THE JOURNAL. The statement of the American Medical Association follows.

The Council on Pharmacy and Chemistry and the Council on Foods and Nutrition of the American Medical Association have been requested to state their opinion regarding the safety of fluoridation of water supplies, a procedure which now has been adopted by more than 140 cities.

The Councils are unaware of any evidence that fluoridation of community water supplies up to a concentration of one part per million would lead to structural changes in the bones or to an increase in the incidence of fractures. The only difficulty so far revealed is a possible increase in mottling of the tooth enamel. From the available evidence based on thousands of observations the incidence of mottling of the enamel in children who drink water containing fluoride up to a concentration of one part in a million is minimal and detectable only by careful dental examination.

It occurs only in a small percentage of children and is so slight as not to present a problem from the point of view of appearance or strength of the teeth. Evidence of toxicity other than the effect on enamel has not been reported in communities where the water supply has several times this concentration. After considering the evidence available at this time, the Councils believe that the use of drinking water containing up to one part per million of fluoride is safe. However, the use of products which are naturally high in fluoride content, such as bone meal tablets, or of lozenges, dentifrices, or chewing gum, to which fluoride has been added, should be avoided where the drinking water has been fluoridated. In places where children are subjected to warm temperatures and consequently drink large amounts of water, a lower concentration of fluoride may be necessary to avoid mottling.

fluoride  
added to  
water  
supplies  
curbs  
tooth decay

*For More Information  
about  
Adding FLUORIDE  
to Community Water  
Supplies  
See Your Family Dentist  
or write*

YOUR STATE HEALTH DEPARTMENT



FEDERAL SECURITY AGENCY  
Public Health Service  
Division of Dental Public Health  
PHS Publication No. 72

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE,  
WASHINGTON: 1951

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U. S. Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D. C.  
Price 75 cents per 100 copies.



*Tomorrow's  
tooth decay*

*drink away*

**FOR ABOUT A DIME A YEAR** per person you can add fluoride to your community water supply and bring younger children the benefits of

## *65% Less Tooth Decay*

About a dime a year, the cost of two newspapers, will give youngsters better teeth, better health.

Children under one year of age will receive the full benefits of fluoride-bearing water. Children who are older when fluoride is added to the water will receive substantial protection against tooth decay, but not as much as the younger children. The protection continues throughout life.

### *Cuts Dental Bills*

By adding fluoride to your community water supply you reduce future dental bills for filling teeth, cut bills for extractions and replacements.

The cost of a single filling will pay for the fluoride for one person for about 30 years.

### *Many Cities Add Fluoride*

Already many cities are adding fluoride to their water supplies. They use fluoride in the form of sodium fluoride or sodium sil-ic-o-fluor-ide. Both of these chemicals are fed into the water by mechanical feeders.

You won't notice any difference between water containing fluoride and your present water. You can't see, taste, or smell the fluoride. It doesn't add hardness, doesn't affect the way soap acts.

### *Very Little Fluoride Added*

Very little fluoride is added to the water. In an average town of 10,000 persons, for example, only 14 pounds of sodium silicofluoride is added daily to the water. That much costs about 85 cents.

When you add fluoride to your community water supply—



You reduce tooth decay in young children up to 65 percent.

You add protection to the teeth of young children throughout life.

You cut the cost of care by reducing the number of fillings needed.

You build healthier children.

### *The Adding of Fluoride to Community Water Supplies Is Endorsed by:*

AMERICAN DENTAL ASSOCIATION

STATE AND TERRITORIAL DENTAL HEALTH DIRECTORS

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF PUBLIC HEALTH DENTISTS

PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE, FEDERAL SECURITY AGENCY

STATE AND TERRITORIAL HEALTH OFFICERS

AMERICAN PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION

AMERICAN WATER WORKS ASSOCIATION

### *Not a Cure-All*

*The adding of fluoride to your community water supply is not a cure-all. For better, more attractive teeth, children should continue to see their dentists at periodic intervals, brush their teeth regularly, and cut down on candy, soft drinks, and other sweets.*

*The Cost Is About a Dime a Year Per Person*





*Mrs. Joe Murphy*

# Texas State Department of Health

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In reply please refer to  
File No. N-ET

Mrs. H. P. Nichols  
1303 Mockingbird Lane  
Tyler, Texas

Dear Mrs. Nichols:

I am sorry not to have replied earlier to your letter of May 11 regarding information on water fluoridation. Your letter came when I was out of the city. Complying with your request we are sending you two kits of materials on fluoridation from the American Dental Association. More of these can be had by ordering them from The American Dental Association, 222 East Superior Street, Chicago, Illinois for the price of \$1.00 per kit. We are also sending you 20 copies of the "Spot Map", a list of all the cities and towns in Texas who have submitted water samples showing the fluoride concentration. The last report showed 760 towns and communities who are actually fluoridating with a great number who are in preparation of doing so. Some of the larger cities who are fluoridating are: Washington, D. C., Baltimore, Maryland, San Francisco, Philadelphia, Detroit, Michigan and a number of others approaching the population of the above named cities.

The American Dental Association has recently adopted a resolution again upholding and supporting water fluoridation in the range of one part per million as being both beneficial and harmless. This resolution was confirmed and approved, being adopted unanimously by the House of Delegates of the Texas State Dental Society at Houston last week. The American Cancer Society, after a thorough investigation, has held that there is no relationship between water fluoridation and cancer in any form. As you no doubt know, the National Congress of Parents and Teachers has approved this Public Health measure and recommends it to all the States.

We had heard of the fight that is on at Tyler, as we understand it--headed by a Mrs. Taylor. We trust this bit of information will be of some value to you and we will be glad to help you in any way we can in the future.

Sincerely yours,

*Edward Taylor*  
Edward Taylor, D.D.S.  
Director of Dental Health

ET:rs

## N O T I C E

One copy of this kit will be sent free of charge when requested by a component dental society or a community group actively engaged in the study of fluoridation. Because of budget limitations, blanket orders for free copies to be sent to several individuals or groups cannot be acknowledged.

Additional copies may be obtained at \$1.00 each, including postage. This amount represents the actual production cost of the kit.

Please address orders to:

Order Department  
American Dental Association  
222 East Superior Street  
Chicago 11, Illinois

Content Subject to Change

## FLUORINATION OF MUNICIPAL WATER SUPPLIES

### Dental Division, Texas State Department of Health

The subject and content of this paper is based on the now well-known fact that the use of domestic water supplies containing fluorine in proper amount during the period of tooth formation, and possibly later, does something to the teeth that tremendously reduces their susceptibility to decay. It is not fully understood, as yet, just how this mechanism takes place.

In 1908 investigation of a peculiar endemic lesion of the teeth then known as "mottled enamel" was begun and it soon became apparent that the cause was some constituent of the domestic water supplies.

The reason for this conclusion was that this endemic mottling of the enamel was confined to certain geographical districts and occurred only in the teeth of people who had spent their early childhood within these districts. It was not until 1931 that the responsible ingredient of the water was determined to be fluorine.

### EFFECTS OF EXCESSIVE AMOUNTS OF FLUORINE

In all of the areas that have been studied thus far, and there have been we should say hundreds of them, the fluorine content of the water has been found to be above a certain concentration. It may be said that the first substantiated announcement establishing the relationship between mottled enamel and low decay rate was made by Dr. Frederick S. McKay (D.D.S.) of Colorado Springs, Colorado in 1925. These early studies were chiefly concerned with delimiting the geographical areas having mottled enamel and in relating its occurrence with the local water supplies.

It has been established according to Drs. McKay, H. Trendly Dean and other authorities that the gross manifestations of dental fluorosis (mottled enamel) are associated with a fluorine content that approaches or exceeds two parts of fluorine to a million parts of water. At that time, no special significance was given to fluorine concentrations of around one part per million. About the late 1930's it began to be recognized that the lower concentrations of around one part per million were significant when Dr. H. T. Dean and his co-workers of the United States Public Health Service began studies that related low fluorine waters with the rate of decay experience.

The question was: Are there domestic waters low enough in fluorine to avoid conspicuous mottling of the enamel but still sufficiently high to markedly reduce the amount of dental decay.

### EARLY STUDIES RELATING LOWER FLUORINE CONCENTRATIONS TO DENTAL CARIES

The first studies definitely addressed to the dental caries relationship were made in Wisconsin. During 1933-34 some 48,000 children were examined in eight Wisconsin cities including Green Bay.

Green Bay was the only one of these cities that contained a significant amount of fluorine (2.3 p.p.m.) in its water supply. The other seven

cities were practically fluorine free, and in these cities the decay rate was double or treble that of Green Bay. In 1939 following the Wisconsin examinations, Dean made comparative examinations of the native children of Galesburg and Quincy, Illinois who had a continuous exposure to their respective city water supplies. The Galesburg water, derived from deep wells contained 1.9 parts per million fluorine, while Quincy, whose water is derived from the Mississippi River, is practically fluorine free.

About the same number of children, just over 300, were examined in each city, and Quincy showed a rate well over three times that of Galesburg. Several other fluorine free cities showed a decay rate of approximately three times that of Galesburg.

A very much more expanded study was made by Dean that included 21 widely separated cities with varying amounts of fluorine in their water supplies. These studies revealed that the most favorable decay rates are associated with waters having a fluorine content of about 1.0 p.p.m. fluorine to 2.0 p.p.m. Fluorine.

#### THE DEAF SMITH COUNTY, TEXAS STUDY

In 1940 a study was made of the tooth decay rate of the school children of Deaf Smith County. It was known that Deaf Smith County waters, both urban and rural, contained approximately 2.0 to 2.5 parts per million fluorine. A study of more than 800 Deaf Smith County school children from first grade through high school revealed a dental caries experience rate of 1.23 teeth per child. This was in contrast to the well known average rate in fluorine free areas of from near eight to above twelve decayed teeth per child (showing history of tooth decay).

Of these more than 800 Deaf Smith County Children, near three-hundred of them were native born, continuous resident children. This was the lowest decay rate yet to have been reported in the civilized world. The rate for the 12 to 14-year old native children was 1.01. A subsequent examination by the Texas State Department of Health seven years later revealed even a substantially lower rate for all age groups. Since these rates were almost twice as low as at Gatesville, Texas and at Galesburg, Illinois with approximately the same fluorine concentration, it was logical for the investigators to suspect that there were other additional factors in the Deaf Smith County locality responsible for the difference in the rates.

These other factors will not be dealt with here other than to state that according to our findings in analyses of domestic foods of the county and other environmental influences, they were the additional factors, according to our tentative conclusions.

#### MARSHALL-JACKSONVILLE STUDY

Following this and other substantial evidence with the facts before us that in every instance where the communal water supply contained as much as 1.0 part per million fluorine or more, the tooth decay rate was invariably 50, 60 or 70-odd percent lower than was the average in fluorine free areas. Dental health authorities, having been convinced that there was an



optimal concentration point that would not mottle the tooth enamel but that, at the same time, would render strongly inhibitory influence to decay, began consideration of the possibility of injecting sodium fluoride into municipal water supplies artificially for the same results as where it occurred naturally. Logically there could be no difference, since all chemists and biochemists agree that where fluorine occurs in the water naturally it is simply sodium fluoride in solution and placed there mechanically by nature. Our reasoning then was, why would it not produce the same influence if put in artificially? In the spring of 1946 fluorination of the municipal water supply of Marshall, Texas was begun in a plan for a ten or twelve year study. Jacksonville, Texas, a neighboring city, was selected as a control point where it was agreed that no fluorine would be added to their fluorine free water supply. Prior to the beginning of the fluorination of the water, examinations were made of the teeth of all Marshall native born, continuous resident school children (near 500). Likewise the native children of Jacksonville were examined. The decay rate at both places was between seven and eight decayed teeth per child (history of decay). Subsequently periodic examinations have been made in both cities at regular intervals. While no one could guess how long it would take to begin to show results, after twenty-nine months of the water treatment the native children of Marshall showed a reduction in the rate of 23% of all age school children. While at Jacksonville the rate remained the same as in the beginning of the study. The native born six-year old children showed a reduction of 47%. These children had been on the treated water almost one-half of their lives. We believe that in eight or ten years the reduction will be fully as great as from natural fluorination.

The several other cities in the United States and Canada where similar studies are being conducted are showing a very similar pattern according to the length of the water treatment period. We now believe that a fluorine concentration of 1.5 parts per million fluorine in the water will give an additional substantial reduction in the decay rate over that of 1.0 p.p.m. fluorine concentration. According to the findings in areas having 1.5 parts per million fluorine occurring naturally, it should give about 15% more reduction in the decay rate.

#### "A STUDY OF COLORADO SPRINGS"

Colorado Springs, Colorado has made a continuous use of a fluorine water supply (2.6 p.p.m.) for more than 70 years and has produced very significant data. According to Dr. McKay, "A very brief study of some 400 natives showed an average of about three decayed or filled teeth per person and that about one third of the natives are entirely free of caries. The average age of the 400 persons examined was 25-years."

"Comparing the 15 to 19-year age group in Colorado Springs with that of Madison, Wisconsin (where the water was fluorine free), the average number of decayed, missing and filled teeth in Colorado Springs was 1.72 compared with 12.36 in Madison. Putting it differently, Madison has seven times as much decay experience as Colorado Springs and twenty-two times as many extracted teeth per person.

The convincing evidence that fluorine is an inhibitor of dental decay has resulted almost entirely from observing its effect on the teeth of

children who have made continuous use of the water during tooth calcification.

Many communities have been studied from this standpoint and almost invariably the results have been nearly typical in that the average rate in caries experience has remained consistently at about three (decayed or filled teeth per person), or less, and that about one third of the native population at an average age of 25-years are entirely free from tooth decay. In Deaf Smith County about 65% of the native children had no history of decay.

#### HOW NATURE HELPS SOME LOCALITIES

The following table as prepared by Dr. Frederick S. McKay, shows the dental caries experience rate in communities using a water supply to which nature has added fluorine. We are adding to this table the rates of several communities in Texas:

	Number of Persons	Caries Experience Rate per Person
Colorado Springs, Colo.....	200	2.7
Migratory Group observed at Colorado Springs.	72	3.06
Montrose, Colo.....	91	1.8
Union Grove, Wis.....	83	3.4
Elmhurst, Maywood, Aurora, & Joliet, Ill.....	1,421	2.8
Galesburg, Ill.....	273	2.3
East Moline, Ill.....	152	3.0
Kewaunee, Ill.....	123	3.4
Alvin, Tex.....		3.2
Fluorine areas in Iowa.....		2.0 to 3.5
Deaf Smith County, Tex.....	487	1.23
Deaf Smith County, Tex. 12 to 14-year ages...	54	1.01
Randall, County.....	129	1.57
Gatesville, Tex.....	113	1.69
Post, Tex.....	157	2.42

Note that the average is 2.4 per child. In Post, Texas the water fluorine content ranges from six to eight parts per million. Another very interesting study was made by United States Public Health Service which is very convincing of the beneficial results of fluorine in the water supply. This study was made by examining the mouths of the children of twenty-one cities with varying amounts of fluorine in their waters from zero to near two parts per million. In these twenty-one cities, 7257 children, native born, continuous resident, were studied. Eleven cities with 3867 native born children, whose water supplies were less than one-half of a part per million showed an average tooth decay rate of almost eight per child. In three cities, with 1140 native children, whose municipal water contained from one-half to one part per million showed the tooth decay rate cut nearly half in two, or just barely over four decayed teeth per child. Four cities, with 1403 native children, whose waters contained from one to one and one-half parts per million, showed a reduction back to less than three

decayed teeth per child. Three cities with 847 native children, whose water supplies contained from one and one-half to two parts per million showed a still lower tooth decay rate of barely over two decayed teeth per child. In Deaf Smith County, 289 native children, with water supplies from two to two and one-half parts per million, showed a decay rate of 1.01. This study in itself should convince any skeptic that where fluorine occurs naturally in the water supplies the tooth decay rate is inversely proportionate to the fluorine in the water supply up to about two parts per million. (See chart on last page)

#### FLUORINATION OF PUBLIC WATER SUPPLIES

After years and years of research by the most eminent dental scientists, up to this time, the only effective measure of controlling tooth decay to any appreciable degree has been a radical reduction of sugar and carbohydrate intake in the diet. To hope for a mass application of such a measure would be futile.

This study has originated within the dental profession, but is rapidly becoming recognized as a public health measure of the control of dental caries (tooth decay) the most prevalent disease of man-kind. It is now strongly apparent that with all of this accumulated evidence, the most potential approach to the control of dental caries is through fluorination of municipal water supplies. While it is as yet too early to realize the full benefits that may come from fluorination of water supplies over a period of ten or more years, quoting again from Dr. McKay, "If the present accumulated evidence is set aside until the awaited answer, complete to the last minute detail, has been received, it should not be overlooked that while we are waiting, the immediate present generation is being written off to the destruction and loss of teeth that will result from the present rate of decay."

#### HOW ABOUT RURAL CHILDREN

Certainly there is a vast rural population that can never be reached through the fluorination of city municipal water supplies. There has recently been developed, however, another use of fluorine for the prevention of tooth decay that will apply to a high degree to the rural population. This measure is known as "topical application" and consists of applying high concentrations of sodium fluoride to the surfaces of the teeth (most effective in children) by the dentist. This treatment, which has been thoroughly and adequately demonstrated, will give an average reduction of 40 to 40-odd percent. The obstacle here, of course, is getting the children into the dental office, due to distances and other barriers and the necessary dental fees for the service. It requires at least four sittings in the dental chair; therefore, it can hardly be expected that a very large percent of the rural children would receive this treatment, which when obtained does not offer as great a protection as does the use of fluorine bearing water.

There is an old adage, "You can lead a horse to water, but you can't make him drink." As for the urban children, by fluorination of their communal water supply, we can lead the horse to water and make him drink!



#### SUMMING IT UP

1. It reaches every person in the community
2. It requires only the continuous residence in the community during about the first ten years of life.
3. There is no individual expense.
4. The demonstrated reduction in the decay rate is 60 to 70%.
5. The reduced liability to decay continues to a high degree throughout life. The beneficial results are perpetual for all future generations so long as the proper fluorine level in the water is maintained.
6. It is safe and has no objectionable features.

#### BY TOPICAL APPLICATION

1. The estimated reduction in the decay rate is about 40%
2. It involves the expense of professional services in applying the treatment, except where it might be administered gratis as a public health endeavor.
3. There is the responsibility of the parents in presenting the child for treatment at the proper intervals of time.
4. Topical application requires the following of an exact technique.
5. It is not yet known how long topical application will protect the teeth against decay beyond three or four year periods.

It should be pointed out, however, that this topical application treatment can serve as a valuable measure for the rural population and for urban populations until fluorination of the communal water supplies can be instituted. Furthermore, it is possible that topical application of the 2% sodium fluoride solution may give additional reduction to tooth decay rate even for children who are exposed to communal water with 1.0 to 1.5 parts per million fluorine.

#### THE PER CAPITA COST IS SMALL

It is quite natural that the officers responsible for administering a municipal budget should ask what is the cost of fluorinating a water supply. After the cost of the initial installation, which is not large, the cost per person per year has been variously estimated at from four to twenty cents. Based on the cost of sodium fluoride in 1946, the estimated per capita cost at Marshall, Texas for the ten year period including the installation of equipment was about four cents. This cost has since raised, however, due to the increase in the price of sodium fluoride, to approximately seven or eight cents per capita per year over a ten year period. A recent estimate for fluorinating the municipal water supply for Corpus Christi, Texas by a competent engineer of the State Health Department is, for a concentration of 1.0 part per million fluorine, 8.4¢ per capita per year. For 1.5 parts per million the cost per capita per year would be 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ per year with the additional 0.5 p.p.m. The wide difference is due to the fact that there is approximately 0.3 to 0.4 parts per million fluorine in the water supply to begin with.

At the prevailing cost of sodium fluoride, an engineering estimate



states that about two pounds of the salt will treat 100,000 gallons of water for about 25¢.

According to Dr. McKay, a fluorinated water supply is effective not only among children who are actually native to the community, but is equally so to children who may become residents in early childhood, and who, like natives, should maintain a continuous residence there after the years of tooth calcification (up to the age of about eight years). This advent of fluorine as a measure of tooth decay control has, as is to be expected, brought onto the market a variety of commercial products such as tablets, mouth washes, etcetera for self medication, most of which have had no recommendation from authentic sources.

To say the least, in conclusion, may we emphasize the fact that there has been no other measure demonstrated that will substantially reduce the most prevalent disease of man-kind (tooth decay) on a mass basis other than fluorination of municipal water supplies. During the long sought for measure of controlling tooth decay, it could never have been anticipated that a method for mass reduction would have been found to be so simple, so safe, inexpensive and universally applicable.

We should like to give full credit to Dr. Frederick S. McKay for much of the information contained herein as found in his paper given before the Wisconsin Public Health Association.

Decisions regarding the fluorination of communal water supplies should be made by public health officials and the public on a local level and not on a national level.

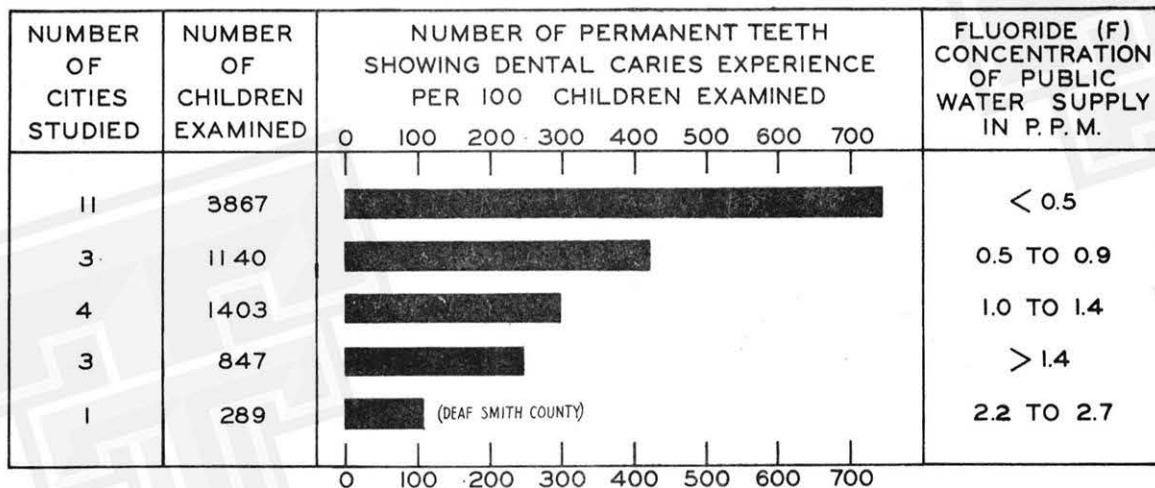
Should we penalize our children by depriving them of the benefits of this therapy for another ten or twelve years, or longer when it is now assured that there are proven substantial benefits to be derived from it and that theoretically there is strong evidence of greater benefits with longer use of the fluorinated waters?

From the beginning of our water fluorination study at Marshall, Texas the State Department of Health has maintained the policy of waiting for the results of this and other similar studies before approving or collaborating in the fluorination of municipal water supplies in other cities. After considering all of the reports of the experimental studies together with the authentic theoretical evidence, this Department is now ready to lend its professional advice, information and help on a consultive basis through its Dental, Engineering and Chemical facilities to other communities who may wish to institute a similar public health measure for the control of dental caries. Conscientiously, this Department feels that not to do so, we would be derelict in our obligation to the public of this State. Certainly we all, dentistry, medicine, sanitary engineers, water works people, chemists, education and all groups serving the public, have a binding obligation to the public we serve.

Note: Since the above was compiled, Corpus Christi's City Council agreed, on September 20, 1949, to begin fluorinating its public water supply immediately.

# FLUORINE — TOOTH DECAY RATIO

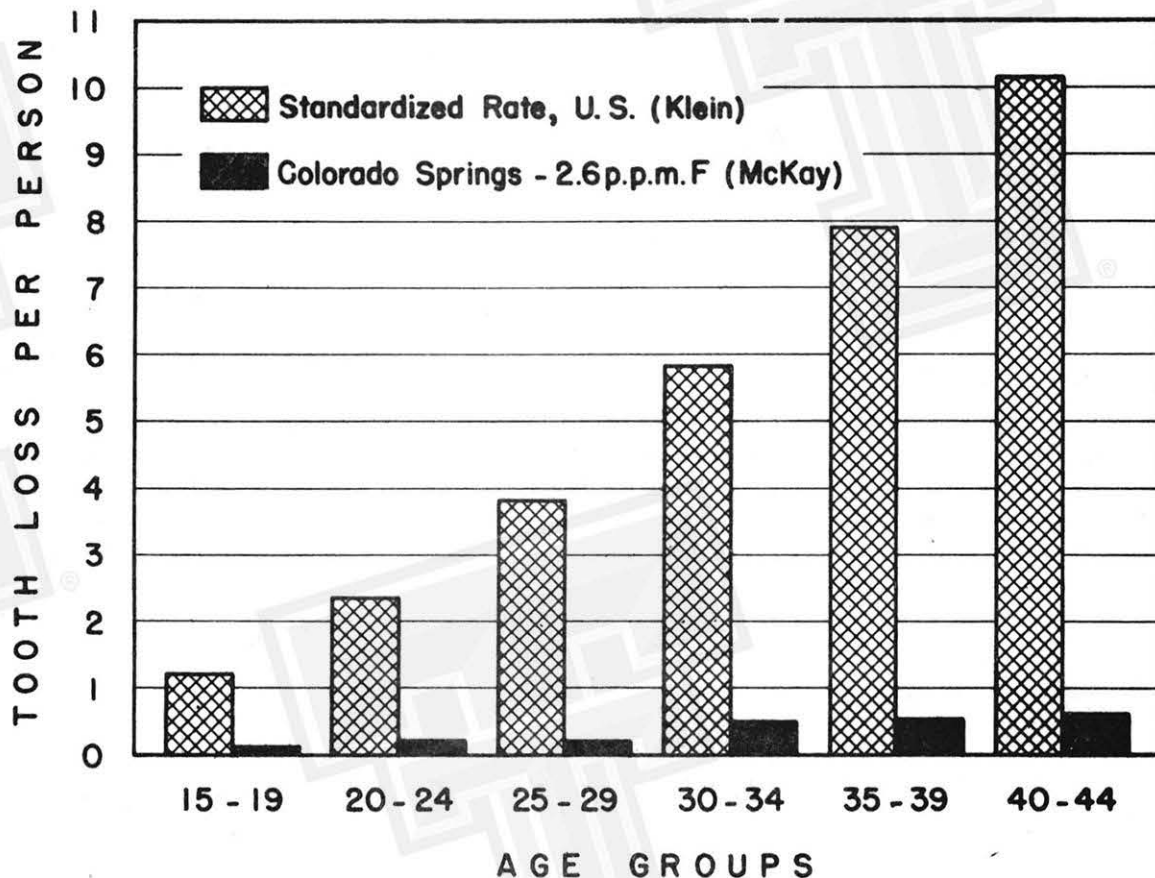
21 CITIES — 7,257 CHILDREN *AND* DEAF SMITH COUNTY



FIRST FOUR ITEMS REPRESENT STUDIES BY U.S.P.H.S.  
LAST ITEM REPRESENTS DEAF SMITH COUNTY

TEXAS STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

## COMPARISON OF TOOTH LOSS AT COLORADO SPRINGS WITH "STANDARDIZED RATE"



## RESOURCES

for information and visual materials on fluoridation.

### A. Professional Assistance

1. The local and state dental societies
2. The local health department
3. The state health department
  - a. dental division
  - b. engineering division
  - c. health education division
4. The American Dental Association

### B. Films

The following films are suitable for community programs concerned with fluoridation. They may be used singly or combined. For example, the film, "A Drop in the Bucket," combined with the filmgraph, "Fluoridation," gives a more complete understanding of the topic. (For schools, civic groups, PTA's, Rotary, Dental Societies.)

All of the films may be rented from the Film Library of the American Dental Association, 222 East Superior Street, Chicago 11, Illinois, for \$2.50 on a two day basis. The ADA will pay transportation to the point of destination. The films may also be borrowed from the various state departments of health.

1. "A Drop in the Bucket" (16mm, 13 min. 1 reel) color, sound. Purchase price: color, \$60.00 and black and white, \$15.90.\*

Demonstrates how a community, through the cooperation of the health department, the dentists and the city council, effected a fluoridation program.

2. "Fluoridation" - (16mm, 5 min. 1 reel) color, sound. Purchase price: color, \$31.01 and black and white, \$13.30.\*

This filmgraph shows the results of fluoridation in the prevention of dental caries in a specific area, Grand Rapids, Michigan.

3. "The Fluoridation Story" (16mm, 3½ min., 1 reel) color and black and white, sound. Purchase price: color, \$21.86 and black and white, \$11.41.\*

This filmgraph shows how communities can reduce tooth decay 65% by adding controlled amounts of fluoride to their water supply. It emphasizes the economy and simplicity of fluoridation and the results obtained.

T V Clearance - Copies of this film have been supplied to state dental directors of the various State Departments of Health in sufficient numbers to have one available for each TV station in their state.

The films marked with \* are produced by Dental Division of U.S. Public Health Service and may be purchased from United World Films, Inc., 1445 Park Avenue, New York 29, New York.

4. "Target: Tooth Decay" (16mm, 11 min., 1 reel) color and black and white, sound. Produced by the University of Oklahoma. Sponsored by the Oklahoma State Health Department. Purchase price: color, \$70.00, and black and white \$35.00. May be purchased from: Educational Material Services, Extension Division, University of Oklahoma, Norman.

Through the use of a compact series of explanatory examples, this film points out the value of modern dental care with emphasis on the use of fluorides.

The film describes how a rural community organized a topical fluoride program and how an urban community instituted fluoridation of the public water supply.

#### C. Slides

A series of 20 slides, in color and black and white, 2 x 2, with a speaker's guide is available for rent from the American Dental Association Film Library. The slides are also available on loan from several state health departments. In addition to the series of 20, the Film Library has approximately 40 slides available in case more slides are needed, or if the speaker wishes to present more detailed information.

The slide series may be rented for \$1.50 a day or \$3.50 a week. Charge is made for each day of use before an audience but no charge for time in transit. The rental includes shipping charges to the destination and the renter pays the return shipping charges.

Slides may be purchased at cost plus a small fee for handling. Quotations will be supplied upon request to the Order Department.

#### D. Exhibits

1. Fluoridation exhibits are available from U. S. Public Health Service regional offices. They may be obtained from state health departments.
2. "Fluoridation of Public Water Supplies." This exhibit is available from the American Dental Association. It is a self contained unit eight feet high, ten feet wide and three feet deep. By means of thirty slides projected automatically on a screen, the fluoridation story is



told visually. The shipping weight is 550 pounds. The American Dental Association will pay shipping charges one way.

3. Many state health departments have exhibits, also, for meetings, for use in public buildings and for window display. In addition, the state dental director will know of other exhibits available in the state.

#### E. Printed Materials

1. Available from the American Dental Association: Address the Division of Dental Health Education for free samples. The materials are available in quantities from the order department at the prices indicated. (prices include postage):
  - a. P9 Kits of fluoridation information materials. One copy will be sent free of charge when requested by a component dental society or a community group actively engaged in the study of fluoridation. Additional copies may be obtained from the Order Department of the American Dental Association at \$1.00 each.
  - b. P10a "Fluoridation in the Prevention of Dental Caries" 25 copies, \$4.10; 50 copies, \$6.35; 100 copies, \$12.15.
  - c. G2 "Why Your Dentist Recommends Fluoridation" 25 copies, \$0.25; 100 copies, \$0.90; 500 copies, \$3.40; 1,000 copies, \$5.90; 10,000 copies, \$53.50. Ordered in quantities of 500 or more, the folders can be imprinted with the name of the local or state dental society at an additional charge of \$3.75 for 500, \$5.00 for 1,000, \$12.00 for 5,000, \$20.00 for 10,000.
  - d. G9 "Fluoride: Less Tooth Decay." Contains information on topical fluorides as well as fluoridation. 25 copies, \$0.50; 50 copies, \$0.95; 100 copies, \$1.55.
  - e. G15 "Daredevil Davey, Underwater Agent H<sub>2</sub>O". This booklet gives a story book approach to fluoridation. 25 copies, \$2.85; 50 copies, \$5.15; 100 copies \$8.85.
  - f. G20 "How to Obtain Fluoridation for Your Community". 50 copies, \$5.20; 100 copies, \$9.00; 500 copies, \$27.70; 1000 copies, \$56.65.
  - g. G21 "Fluoridation Facts", Answers to Criticisms of Fluoridation. 50 copies, \$3.85; 100 copies, \$6.50; 500 copies, \$22.90; 1000 copies, \$46.90.

2. Available from state health departments:
  - a. "Drink Away Tomorrow's Tooth Decay," produced by U.S. Public Health Service.
  - b. "Better Health for 5-14<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> a Year Through Fluoridated Water," produced by U.S. Public Health Service.
3. Many leaflets have been produced by dental societies, health departments, health councils and other voluntary agencies on the local and state level.
4. Scientific periodicals.

Reprints of many scientific reports are available from state health departments, many are included in the A.D.A. Comprehensive Fluoridation Kit, and packets of scientific articles are available on loan to dentists from the Association Library.

F. News Releases.

1. Various news releases and clipsheets prepared by the Bureau of Public Information, American Dental Association.
2. "Fluorides and your Children's Teeth," by Don Dunham of The Cleveland Press. A series of newspaper editorials written in October, 1950 have been reprinted and are available from the Cleveland Press Public Service Bureau.
3. Sample releases are available also from state and local health departments.

G. Public Speeches

1. A speech designed to accompany the slide series described in section C is available from the American Dental Association.
2. A sample speech may be obtained from the American Dental Association Bureau of Public Information.
3. Some state dental societies and state health departments also supply speech materials.

# Letters From Our Readers

## Fluoridation Called Medical, Health Question

To the Editor

Tyler Courier-Times:

I noticed in your city commission news item of last Friday in the Courier-Times that the city commission decided to wait for a full representation to vote on the fluoridation program for our city water, which doubtless was the part of wisdom.

Continuing or discontinuing the use of fluoride in the city water should not be settled on the basis of how many telephone calls or letters one may receive or the conversations he may hold. If our water is pure and free from harmful bacteria which would breed disease, and is approved by our state health department, why do we need fluoride in the water? Because 14.5 million people receive it in their water is no reason for us doing it. There is too much of the doctrine today of doing a thing because "everybody is doing it."

If harmful, disease breeding germs infest our water supply and these germs cannot be filtered out at our efficient filtering plants, and the placing of fluoride in our water kills these germs and prevents diseases and epidemics we should by all means continue its use in our water supply.

If the fluoride is placed in our water only as a medicinal agency because "it is beneficial to the public health" then we will do well to discontinue its use. Why should the city of Tyler buy medicine for all its citizens? Then there are some people, whom, I am sure, conscientiously believe they should not take medicine, and while I am not one of them, yet I believe in the principle we hold here in America of every man being privileged to follow his conscientious beliefs. If one wants medicine or needs it we have well educated and practicing doctors in Tyler who know how to administer it as the need may appear.

In what way is the fluoride "beneficial to the public health?" Tyler citizens ought to know. Could not our public health department or other well qualified doctors give us some information through the columns of this fine paper on the ways it is "beneficial" to our health and what it does for our bodies. Since the question of the use of fluoride is before us and a decision has not yet been made to continue its use why not hear the pros and cons on it. Only an informed cit-

izenry is qualified to speak on the issue. If fluoride is to be used we should know what it does for the human system and why we are using it.

I believe our city "fathers" are seeking to do the thing that is best for the city fully as much as they are seeking to do what we like. There are times when the thing that is best may not be just what we like. Let us be willing to do the thing that is best. May God grant our city commission members wisdom to make the right decision on this fluoride question and to govern this fine city rightly in every respect.

Yours for a still bigger and better Tyler.

ELDER C. B. MESSER, Minister  
Seventh Day Adventist Church  
Tyler, Texas.

## One Man's Opinion

By

WALTER KIERNAN

(Distributed by International News Service)

It becomes increasingly clear that the dropping of Charley Dresen is a move to "break up the Dodgers."

This was begun by the Yankees, who are fed up with playing "world" series so close to home.

One player wrote his mother this season, "I joined the Yankees to see the world and look at where we're ending up."

The Yankees don't have to worry about the Giants . . . They broke themselves up . . . but if ever the Yanks are going to get overnight travel pay for a series the Dodgers have to go.

Every year they're in there working for the subway system when the Yanks are pulling for a transcontinental contest and even though it comes to pass only once in an Ebbets Field moon it's enough to wear down anybody's nerves.

The Dodgers have to go . . . One-year contracts for next year's fans and that's it.

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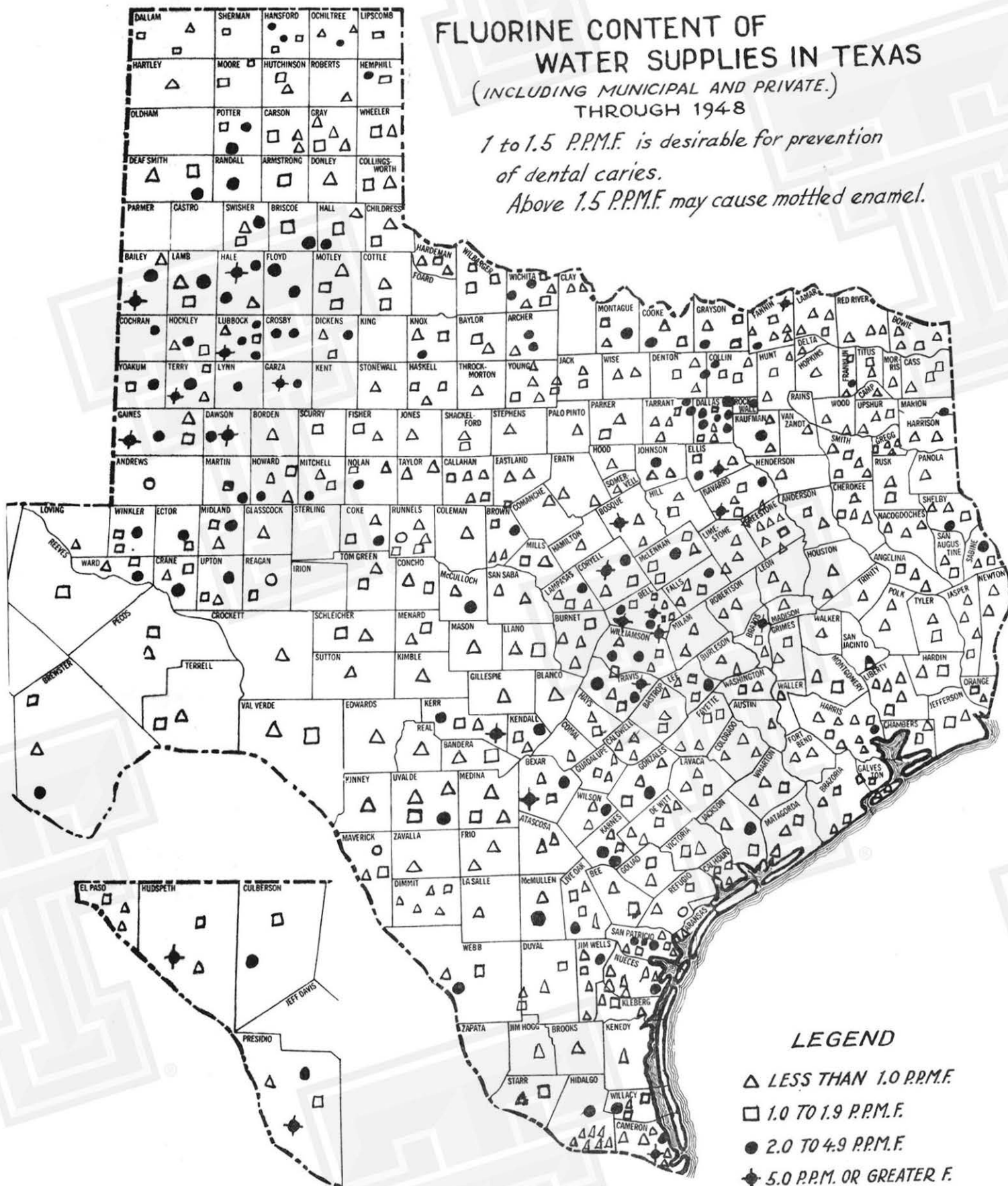
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# FLUORINE CONTENT OF WATER SUPPLIES IN TEXAS (INCLUDING MUNICIPAL AND PRIVATE.) THROUGH 1948

*1 to 1.5 P.P.M.F. is desirable for prevention  
of dental caries.*

*Above 1.5 P.P.M.F. may cause mottled enamel.*



## LEGEND

- △ LESS THAN 1.0 P.P.M.F.
- 1.0 TO 1.9 P.P.M.F.
- 2.0 TO 4.9 P.P.M.F.
- ◆ 5.0 P.P.M. OR GREATER F.



*Lucile, I thought you'd get a kick out of this*

*Article - I did - Thinking of you the while -*

NEW REPUBLIC

As a further illustration, back in 1946 while I was Assistant Secretary of War for Air, and General LeMay, now head of the Strategic Air Command, was in charge of Research and Development, LeMay said:

I just want to report that because of the constant reprogramming and replanning of the research and development program this year, we have accomplished nothing whatever in research and development. All we have done is put our personnel on reprogramming and replanning, as the changed figures have been made available.

There are too many categories in which we are still second best; and General H. H. "Hap" Arnold's classic remark still stands, namely, that a second best air force

has exactly the value of the second best poker hand.

The people of the United States, despite their great sacrifices, have now come to a point where another country can deliver against us a sudden all-out atomic attack, against which this country has neither the weapons nor the capacity to defend itself adequately.

Nor have we the capacity to retaliate properly.

Our position in these early fifties therefore is quite comparable to that of the British in the late thirties, as they waited for the onslaughts of the Nazis.

Who is behind us as we were behind Britain?

These are the reasons why I believe we should add the \$1.4 billion for the Air Force defense budget.

## The Crazy Politics of Fluorine

*One New England town was saved from the "Communists,"  
"saboteurs" and the plots of the "World Planners"*

by James MacGregor Burns

FOR SOME WEEKS this winter my family and I were getting fluoridated water from our tap. Now the town water is "pure" again. Thereby hangs a funny, sad tale.

A year or so ago people in the town got interested in the idea of fluoridating the water. They had been reading about the experiments being conducted in Newburgh, New York, and various other places. The results of the experiments while not conclusive seemed pretty convincing. If you put small amounts of fluorine compounds in the water supply, cavities in your children's teeth would be markedly reduced.

It seemed like a good idea for our town. A survey by the state had shown a high rate of tooth decay here. Besides, fluoridation didn't cost very much. So at our town meeting early in 1952 we voted to order equipment. Only four voters out of several hundred opposed it. But the selectmen, acting as water commissioners, were delayed in buying the equipment and installing it. By the time they did, opposition was building up.

Just how the opposition started, or who aroused it, no one was quite sure. There seemed to be no organized campaign to begin with—only a few persons who had their doubts. A few vigorous anti-fluoridationists in neighboring towns were writing letters to the papers. At some point a curious document began to circulate around town.

Called the "Americanism Bulletin," it was a four-page leaflet edited by a W. D. Herrstrom in Faribault, Minnesota. This was the September, 1951, issue and it was devoted exclusively to the "dangers of fluoridation of

*James MacGregor Burns is Chairman of the Department of Political Science at Williams College.*

water." Twenty-five arguments were advanced. Fluorine was a "ready weapon for saboteurs." The man running the fluorine equipment might become "drunken" and poison a whole city. Fluorine would break down the "wills" of the people; it had been used for this purpose by the Weimar regime in Germany, and the Communists in Russia added it to babies' milk for the same purpose. Fluorine caused breast cancer. On and on the long catalogue went. The final argument: fluorine was "probably a plot of the world planners."

Slowly but surely the anti-fluorine forces gained strength. They submitted a petition calling for an article in the 1953 town meeting to rescind the 1952 vote. The town fathers, sensitive to the sharp division on the matter, decided to postpone the inauguration of fluoridation until the next town meeting.

Debate at the town meeting was vigorous but orderly. The most eloquent speech for the anti-fluoridationists was given by an attractive young woman who is secretary to the school principal. Fluoridation constituted an attack on the "little people," she said. The "little people's" forefathers had fought for liberty, she proclaimed—now they must preserve it. Who the "big people" were in this case she didn't make clear. Other people stressed that results of fluoridation experiments were not final. "Why gamble?" a woman behind me kept saying in a low voice. "Why take a chance?"

There was a poignant moment when one anti-fluoridationist argued that fluorine might be needed in some places, but not in our town. A young dentist stood up. "I wish," he said, "that some of you had been in my office last week when I had an anesthetist giving gas to a

Canada has built some 600 later model Sabres, for the British Royal Air Force and the Canadian Air Force.

These are the only fighters our allies have which can effectively tackle the MIG-15.

So thin has the line of Sabres been stretched that at one point it was necessary to strip all Sabres from the air defense of the United States to put 125 Sabres in Korea to battle some 500 MIG's.

Later the United States had to borrow 60 Canadian-built Sabres to keep up its Sabre strength in Korea.

Against this total of less than 2,000 United States and Canadian-built Sabres, the Russians have been able to furnish their Chinese ally some 1,400 MIG-15's since the beginning of the Korean War, equip their Polish and Czech satellites with MIG-15's, and still maintain a very large force of Red air force MIG's in East Germany and Russia. The count of MIG-15's in Manchuria has been steadily rising for two years despite heavy combat losses.

Neither our Air Force nor our Navy has a light jet bomber in combat service.

Our intelligence has publicly reported some 300 to 400 twin jet Russian bombers in the Far East alone, with about 100 now based in Manchuria.

In addition, this Soviet jet bomber, plus a still newer jet bomber, have been widely reported in service at East German airfields.

These two bombers are not long range. The newer one does have considerable more range, however; and in any case we now have the technique of refueling.

In the large jet-bomber category, the United States has only flown prototypes of the B-52 heavy bomber, with quantity production a long way off.

In the medium-bomber category, today we have but three Strategic Air Command groups equipped with B-47's; and none of them could be classed as combat ready.

We have more long-range bombers than the Soviet. But the Soviet now have more than enough long-range bombers to deliver an all-out atomic attack against this country; and the United States has no adequate defense.

The increasing efficiency of bombers attacking in darkness and bad weather have made the all-weather fighter an item of paramount importance.

F-94C Starfires, our best short-range night fighter, have just begun to be delivered to combat squadrons.

The F-89 Scorpion, our long-range night fighter, has been grounded and out of service for 6 months and is only now being returned to operation.

The F-89D, another short-range night fighter, is just beginning to get to combat units.

The Air Force stock of modern aircraft is so low at present that National Guard squadrons returning from federal service are being equipped with World War II piston engined Mustang fighters and Texan trainers; and they have not nearly enough of those.

There are neither jet fighters nor trainers available.

And yet most of these National Guard pilots flew jet aircraft during their federal service.

To meet the challenge of the next generation of Russian fighters, the Air Force has three new types under development: The F-100, F-101, and F-102. But none of these is beyond the early stages of development. None is in production.

The normal time from first prototype flight to combat service is at least two years.

In the supersonic bomber field we are still largely in the drawing-board stage.

FOR MORE than two years our Navy has not had a single fighter in Korea capable of meeting the MIG-15 on equal terms. This is due primarily to cuts in research and development funds imposed during the economy wave of 1948. The prototypes that were scrapped or delayed in 1948 would have been the Navy's fighting planes in 1952.

The Navy is just now getting deliveries on a carrier-based version of the Sabre, also a hastily revised Grumman design; both capable of performing with the MIG.

The Navy still has to rely on piston-powered Skyraiders to do its bombing. Its jet and turboprop bombers are still in the prototype development stage, years away from combat readiness.

It has taken the aircraft industry, plus its licensees and subcontractors, about three years since the beginning of the Korean War to build up to a production rate now just beginning to make a dent in our basic lack of modern combat aircraft.

At the current rate of effort, it will take at least another three years to develop and produce the next generation of supersonic combat aircraft.

Perhaps the most dangerous of all aspects of this reduction in our air build-up is taking place in the field of research and development.

Programs for improving the quality of our aircraft and guided missiles of 1956, 1957, and beyond have suffered costly delay in these past few months.

This is because the services, while their requested level of development funds is being acted on by the Congress, have been advised by the office of the Secretary of Defense that a considerable portion of those funds, even if legislated by the Congress, will be withheld from the services by the office of the Secretary of Defense pending review.

There is no question that the research and development programs of the Army, Navy, and Air Force could be better integrated, and any effort to do so is noteworthy. However, a review such as is proposed would take precious months.

During these months the aircraft and missiles eventually found to be vital will be delayed a long time.

And bear in mind that months of delay this year in development of a defense weapon can mean years of delay in its eventual entry into the actual defense force.

It is just such false concepts of economy which resulted in our fliers facing a superior airplane in superior quantities when we started defending the free world in Korea.



five-year-old girl while I took out seven rotted teeth." Nothing more was said on the subject.

There were ludicrous moments, too. Our town moderator started off as the soul of impartiality. "I buy my teeth in the next town," he said. "I don't care how the question is decided." But then someone remarked that artificial fluorides had different effects from natural. Our moderator, who looks something like a bantam cock when aroused, could keep silent no longer. "I've taught chemistry for 40 years," he said, "and that's wrong. It's just wrong."

When the vote was taken, the fluoridationists won, but by a close vote. A few hours later engineers started pumping the first fluoride into the water. Some of us parents felt pretty good. We still made the kids brush their teeth at night and we still kept an eye on the candy box. But we had visions of fewer toothaches—and smaller dentist bills. We were sadly mistaken.

The "anti's" were stung to new action by the vote. Within two days they were organized. Within two weeks they had 1,000 signatures to a petition asking for a referendum to rescind the 1952 and 1953 votes. And the propaganda barrage rose to an unprecedented volume. Public meetings were held and speakers imported. Hundreds of dollars were raised for large ads in the local newspaper. Charges and rumors spread quickly.

THE MAIN CHARGE was that fluoridation amounted to mass drugging. At a meeting of anti-fluoridationists a large vat of fluoridated water labeled "rat poison" stood on one side while speakers drank copiously from a pitcher of "pure" water. There were many other arguments. Fluorine caused "mottling of the teeth." It brought gum disease and crooked teeth, increased heart disease, interfered with blood action. In animals it had caused "crippling of the whole body," increased cancer, blood and heart diseases, shorter life span, and "third generations had degenerated to cripple pygmies."

"If there was a human complaint, from hang-nails to coronary thrombosis, that it was not claimed could and probably would result from fluoridation," wrote the local editor, "it is hard to recall it."

The incredible thing was the effect on people's behavior. During the next few weeks the following happened:

Scores of people went many miles to get jugs of non-fluoridated water.

A woman supporter of fluoridation was called "stinker" and "Communist" by anti-fluoridationist on the street.

People said that their potatoes were turning black when boiled in fluoridated water.

A report spread that goldfish were dying all over town.

A woman wouldn't touch a bar of soap in a neighbor's home; she said it had been lying in fluoridated water and would poison her hands.

A doctor favoring fluoridation was called an "agent"—whether of Moscow or of the companies making fluorides was not made clear.

Against this crescendo of denunciation the efforts of the profluoride group were futile. They did their best. The evidence was carefully reviewed. Letters from authorities were reprinted. Six of the seven local doctors and dentists endorsed fluoridation. All in vain. At the secret referendum, with the anti-fluoridationists supplying cars for voters and successfully marshalling their forces, fluoridation was tossed out. About half the eligible voters in town came to the polls. Within a few hours the machinery was turned off and prepared for sale.

That's the story. What can one make of it?

Obviously the significance of the story is not that fluoridation failed. Intelligent and sincere people were on both sides of the question. Fluoridation is opposed by some experts. The equipment bought by the economy-minded town was probably not the best. The real question is quite different—how account for the mass irrationality and hysteria sweeping over a community of people who are ordinarily thoughtful, responsible and hard to "sell?"

I think the answer can be found not in our town, but in our time. This is an age of fear and suspicion, of big lies and little lies. We are used to irrationality in areas of morals and politics. It seems to have spread now to areas where science usually holds sway. "I'm used to having laymen doubt everything *we* say," an economist remarked to me. "But when they doubt everything scientists and doctors say—that's something new."

Fluorine politics had other curious aspects. All the dentists in town but one supported it. Yet fluoridation would presumably mean a drop in their business in a number of years. What does that do to the economic interpretation of history and politics? The one dentist who differed throws no light on the matter—he is elderly and will retire before fluoridation would have any effect.

The episode does not speak well for the famous New England town meeting. Only a minority of voters showed up to hear the debate and to vote on fluoridation. Balloting by open show of hands is a serious weakness. Many of the merchants in town either stay away from town meeting or duck out before a controversial measure comes up. "I just can't take a chance on my family's livelihood," a grocer said.

Perhaps there is a happy side to the story. Running through the anti-fluorine feeling was a pervasive fear that powerful people were trying to take away the rights of "little people." Fluoridation became an assault on civil rights. One can disagree with this and still have the consoling feeling that our basic liberties are safe as long as people can rise in such indignation against what they consider, rightly or wrongly, to be a threat to their liberties. If they should fight a local attack on freedom of speech or freedom of worship as hotly as they fought fluoridation, civil liberties would be secure in our town. But that is a big "if."

# LITERATURE AND THE ARTS

## THE MUSES' STERNER LAWS

by Archibald MacLeish

FIFTEEN years ago the war in Spain posed a question which many Americans found it difficult to answer: the question of the responsibility of artists and poets in the face of the corruption of human values, the perversion of human intelligence and the enslavement of the human mind with which the rise of the police state threatened the entire Western World. Today that question is, if anything, more urgent than it was in the thirties. The police state, though defeated in Europe, flourishes in Spain, from which it has spread into South America, and rages in Russia from which it has overrun all eastern Europe and the vast extent of China, with the result that civilization has been replaced by police governments in a great part of the earth and individual freedom of mind and conscience, without which civilization as we have known it is impossible, is really secure only in a shrinking area centering politically and economically around our own republic.

More menacing still, the kind of mentality which inflicted the police state on other peoples has made its appearance in American public life and even in the Congress of the United States, revealing itself in the demand, familiar in Soviet Russia and Nazi Germany, that the State should extend its controls to the intellectual and moral life of its citizens: to matters of opinion and belief. Artists and poets who were able to satisfy themselves fifteen years ago that they had no responsibility for the sickness of the world find themselves today facing inquisition into their private lives conducted in the name, at least, of the government of the United States. And the whole problem is raised anew.

If it is to be discussed anew—and more effectively than it was in the thirties—one point should be made at the outset: nailed to the iron door. The question of the relation of any artist to the time he lives in is a question not for his time but for his art to answer. What-

ever duty he owes as artist he owes only *because* he is artist. If his art requires nothing of him in relation to his time, his time, in so far as he is artist, requires nothing. A despotic government may compel him to think one thing rather than another, to substitute for his own convictions the assertions of the regime, but the moment he accepts that compulsion he is no longer an artist: he is a functionary of the state.

What ought to be discussed, therefore, is not a supposed conflict of responsibilities, the one owed to a man's art, the other to society. What ought to be discussed is the obligation of art. Does art, by its nature, impose on those who serve it a duty of any kind with reference to the public world of happening and event? Or is the nature of art such that the artist, the poet, is freed from any such duty—even from the duty acknowledged by the generality of other men? To put it in literary terms, are those critics right who, pursuing their reasons back through the mirrors of Mallarmé, discover loyalty to the art of poetry in loyalty to the inward self alone? Or was Dante right, and Tu Fu and Shakespeare, to whom loyalty to the art of poetry was loyalty not only to the inward experience of the self within the self but to the outward experience of the self within the time?

The literary generation in which a man lives may change the fashion of his answer to that question but it will not change the question. To Coleridge the responsibility of the poet for the world of happening and event—"the close connection of poetic genius with the love of liberty and genuine reformation"—was taken for granted. But Coleridge's reasons were reasons which derived from his conception of the art itself, for to Coleridge "truth operative and by effects continually alive" was "the mistress of poets." With us, though we live in an age not unlike Coleridge's in which liberty is under attack from the same quar-

ters and under very much the same pretexts, the close connection of poetic genius with the love of liberty and of genuine reformation is not taken for granted. Far from it. But the reasons are **nevertheless** reasons which derive from the art as we see the art. For we believe with Andreyev that life, in the modern world, has "gone within." We believe in consequence that the world of poetry is a world within. And in the world within, the crisis of liberty, the agony of a civilization, though they may throw shadows on the roof of the cave, throw shadows only.

It is, in other words, our modern conception of the proper place of poetry which creates the peculiar modern problem of "the responsibility of the poet." Why we choose to shut poetry up within the inward cave in a time in which the outward world is a world vast, tragic and enveloping to such a point that no human being can ignore its presence or escape its consequences is a question for the psychologists. They may perhaps inform us why we have agreed that our arts may not participate in the encounters of our lives at a point in our history when the encounters of our lives are most desperate. The question for the rest of us is simpler though still difficult enough. The question for the rest of us is whether this modern conception of the limits of the art of poetry is well considered.

**It is not,** needless to say, an escapist conception: a new aestheticism. Our generation has been pretty well persuaded by critics like I. A. Richards and by philosophers like Suzanne Langer that the arts are instruments of understanding and that what they enable us to understand is our human lives and the world of feeling and of sense in which we live them. We accept the necessary and organic relation between life and art and are even ready, for the most part, to include within the proper concern of the arts the reflection, in the private cave, of the world of public and even political experience.

We agree that what a poet, an artist, feels and may therefore, in the Aristote-



Mr. C. P. Stewart gave a brief description of the sources of Tyler water at the present time and mentioned that when the supply from Lake Tyler is brought in, the present sources will continue to be used. Mr. Stewart mentioned that it was necessary to operate the wells at least every two weeks in order to keep them active and prevent their total loss. Concerning the addition of fluorides to the water supply, Mr. Stewart estimated that the cost of installation had increased at least twenty to twenty-five per cent over the estimate made in April 1950. Mr. Stewart stated that he estimates the cost of installing the necessary equipment and complete operation for the first year to be \$20,000. He also estimates that the cost of the necessary chemicals, maintenance of equipment, personnel to check the equipment, and the necessary laboratory work would cost at least \$10,000 a year each year after the first year.

Dr. Ross then read a report in a bulletin entitled "Public Health Reports" (September 14, 1951, Vol. 66, No. 37) published by the U. S. Public Health Service. This report concerned the fourth annual conference of the State Dental Directors held in Washington, D. C., June 6 to 8, 1951. Considerable discussion involved around the recommendations for continued dental examinations and evaluation of the effectiveness of introducing fluorides into the water supply.

Dr. Wilson made a motion: "Until such time as the addition of fluorides to municipal water supplies has been definitely proven to be beneficial, the Board of Health recommends that it not be added to the water supply of the City of Tyler." Motion was seconded by Dr. Hagan. Motion carried.

Dr. Ross reported to the Board that Mr. William E. Ragsdale had reported as Director of the Health Unit Laboratory on September 25.

Dr. Ross then read a letter from Mr. W. D. Carroll, State Registrar, concerning the use of various inks in writing birth and death certificates. Dr. Wilson made a motion that Dr. Ross reproduce Mr. Carroll's letter and send a copy of it to each physician in the County. Motion seconded by Dr. Birdwell. Motion carried.



COPY OF SPEECH DELIVERED TO THE ROTARY CLUB

By Dr. Gus Pinkerton

PRESIDENT CONNALLY, FELLOW MEMBERS OF THE ROTARY CLUB, AND FRIENDS:

Inasmuch as our City Commission has recently seen fit to authorize the use of SODIUM FLUORIDE in our water supplies to prevent dental decay, your program chairman decided an explanation of this process would be suitable for one of our regular meetings, whether he was right or not, you be the judge, but no one can deny that it will affect your children, your grandchildren, and your pocket book.

The discovery of Fluorine, as related to the teeth, is both a curious and an interesting story. Back in 1908 a study of what was known as "MOTTLED ENAMEL" was begun. This "Mottled Enamel" was a stain on the teeth that ranged from slight chalky spots through gray, and on to a deep brown. It was observed that these stains appeared only in certain localities, but it was some twenty to twenty-five years later that the discovery was made that the CAUSE was the presence of excessive amounts of Fluorine in the water supplies. At about the same time, scientists began to notice that in the areas where "Mottled Enamel", or "Fluorosis", occurred, there was also a very definite drop in dental decay. This was such an interesting discovery that the investigation continued with the thought "ARE THERE DOMESTIC WATERS LOW ENOUGH IN FLUORINE TO AVOID CONSPICUOUS MOTTLING OF THE ENAMEL BUT STILL HIGH ENOUGH TO REDUCE THE AMOUNT OF DENTAL DECAY?". . . Up to this point no regard had been paid to areas having FLUORINE in concentrations of one or two parts per million parts of water, but it presently became apparent that in these localities there was little or no staining of the teeth and that the teeth of natives were remarkably free from cavities. . .

From this beginning came the experiments that have brought about our present acceptance of flouridation of community water supplies. The curious part of the story is that to prevent one disease a certain amount of Fluorine is removed from the diet, but to prevent another fluorine is added. In short, we must have enough, but not too much. If you live in a county where the water supplies have five or six parts of fluorine per million parts of water, and your child drinks this water through his eighth year, he will almost certainly have mottled enamel. If, on the other hand, water of one and one-half parts per million is used to drink and to cook with, his teeth will be normal.

The first significant studies of fluorine in the water supplies were made in Wisconsin. During 1933-1934 some 48,000 children were examined in eight cities, including GREEN BAY. GREEN BAY was the only city in the group that had a significant amount of Fluorine in its water supply; 2.3 parts per million. The other cities were practically Fluorine free, and their decay rate was double or triple that of GREEN BAY.

In 1939 a comparison was made of decay rates in Galesburg, Illinois and Quincy, Illinois. The Galesburg water, derived from deep wells, had a Fluorine content of 1.9 parts per million, while the Quincy water, from the Mississippi



River, had practically none. . . About 300 children were examined in each city, and it was found that the Quincy children had three times as many cavities as the Galesburg Group. Following this, there were numerous comparisons and investigations along this line, and all showed similar results.

From these reports it was believed that ARTIFICIAL FLUORIDATION of water would have the same benefits, and in 1945 Grand Rapids, Michigan began placing one part per million sodium fluoride in the municipal water. Grand Rapids was followed almost immediately by Newburg, New York Brantford, Ontario, and Evanston, Illinois. And after three years the decay rate in these cities has been reduced about 30% in six-year olds, and today the report is about a 50% reduction.

In 1940 a study was made of the tooth decay rate in DEAF SMITH, Texas. The amount of Fluorine occurring naturally in the water there was known to be from two to two-and-one-half parts per million. The examination included about eight hundred school children, of which some three hundred were native born and of continuous residence. Scientists were astounded at the results, which showed a decay rate of 1.23 cavities per child. When compared to the average of children living in Fluorine free areas, which is 8 to 12 decayed teeth per child, these results were almost unbelievable. This was the lowest decay rate in the civilized world. It can scarcely be hoped that the addition of Fluorine to water supplies will bring a change equal to DEAF SMITH County.

COLORADO SPRINGS, COLORADO has had a continuous Fluorine water supply -- 2.6 parts per million -- for more than seventy years, and produces some significant data. Dr. Frederick McKay, who made the study, reported THREE decayed teeth per person and about one-third of the residents were entirely free from decay. Comparing the 15 to 19 year group with MADISON, WISCONSIN-- which is Fluorine free-- the average number of decayed teeth in Colorado Springs was 1.72, while the average in Madison was 12.36. Putting it another way, Madison has seven times as much tooth decay as Colorado Springs, and twenty-two times as many extracted teeth per person.

After the first series of experiments of Grand Rapids and several other cities in artificial fluoridation, the Texas State Health Department, together with officials at Marshall, Texas, began a controlled program at Marshall by placing one part per million of Sodium Fluoride in the municipal water supply. It was decided to use Jacksonville, Texas as a control point, as the decay rate of the two cities was approximately the same -- which was between 7 or 8 cavities per child. In only twenty-nine months after the experiment was begun the decay rate of all school children dropped 23%, while the 6-year olds dropped 47%. The decay rate remained the same in Jacksonville. Later reports show a drop of from 50 to 50%.

There are a great many reports of programs such as this in other localities, and all show about the same results--



a reduction in dental decay of from 50 to 70%. . . So far the results claimed are mostly among younger children -- those who drink Fluoridated water from birth through the eighth year. It is believed that the effect of its consumption during those years will last for life, as it apparently does in the areas where Fluorine occurs naturally. . .

Certainly we have everything to gain from such a program and nothing apparent to lose. The dental profession has for years preached tooth brushing and less consumption of concentrated sugars, but this is hard to control and the decay rate remains high. I believe that Fluoridation of community water supplies offers our greatest hope of preventing dental decay because of its ease of application to the mass of people and its relatively low cost.

As for anything to lose, there is nothing harmful about sodium fluoride when applied to water in a ratio not exceeding one-half parts per million. A concentration over that may well cause mottled enamel, but TYLER will have one part per million. No other diseases have been attributed in that concentration with facts to back them up. Dr. Alfred Taylor, of the University of Texas Bio-Chemical Department, claimed relationship of Fluorine water to breast tumors in a certain breed of mice. Later it was brought out that these mice were inbred for their susceptibility to breast tumors, and 96% of them eventually die with that affliction anyway. A letter from Dr. Chauncy D. Leake, Vice President of The University of Texas medical branch, says in part, "It is greatly to be regretted that Dr. Taylor's conclusions were so widely disseminated without full appreciation of all the facts involved. . . It seems to me that every effort should be made to convince public health officials that there IS NO CONTRAINDICATION to Fluoridation of drinking waters for the purpose of reducing dental caries". . .

I would like to enumerate a few objections to this program which have been voiced here and elsewhere.

1. "Fluorides are both corrosive enough to etch glass and toxic enough to be used in rat poison"--This is true, but a water solution of one part per million will do neither. Let us not forget that Hydrochloric Acid and strychnine are also poison, but physicians have prescribed both for years in the treatment of disease.

2. "Who will guarantee that the addition of the prescribed amount of Fluoride to the water will not produce some far reaching, even delayed, systemic disorders"? No one will. . . Remember, however, that in the navy, many areas that have naturally occurring Fluorine in the water, the insurance actuarial statistics are no higher than elsewhere.

3. Someone says, "When I want water, I want water. . . I don't want any socialistic bureau to decide that some dubious medicine be forced down my throat at the same time!". . . To this I would say that, used in the way proposed, sodium fluoride is not a medicine at all, dubious or otherwise. No therapy is involved. It is a matter of prevention only. As for "Socialistic Bureau", our program is a home government one. Suggested, yes, by the State Health Department and the U. S. Public Health Service, but finally agreed on-- and paid for-- by TYLER. . . And as to wanting water and only water, I shudder to think of the epidemics of typhoid and dysentery that will break out when we remove the Chlorine.



4. To those who say, "It will cost too much", I would reply: If 17¢ per person per year is too much to pay for the reduction in dental caries mentioned, then any health program would be unsuitable. . . Remember that only one-third of all existing cavities are properly cared for. This plan should do the most good for the most people at a pittance as far as cost is concerned. Data obtained from our Water Department show that the first year the program will cost \$8,520.00, including machinery, labor and chemical. After this the annual rate will be \$6,670.00. . . This figures to a little less than 17¢ per person per year based on a population of 40,000.

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Gentlemen, I am wholly in accord with our City Commission in regard to their action on Fluoridation, and I think they are to be congratulated for their wise stand in this matter. One last thing -- you may disagree with me on this subject, but you can never doubt my sincerity. . . It will cost me as much as most of you in taxes, I have no children to benefit from it, and -- it may run me out of business. . .



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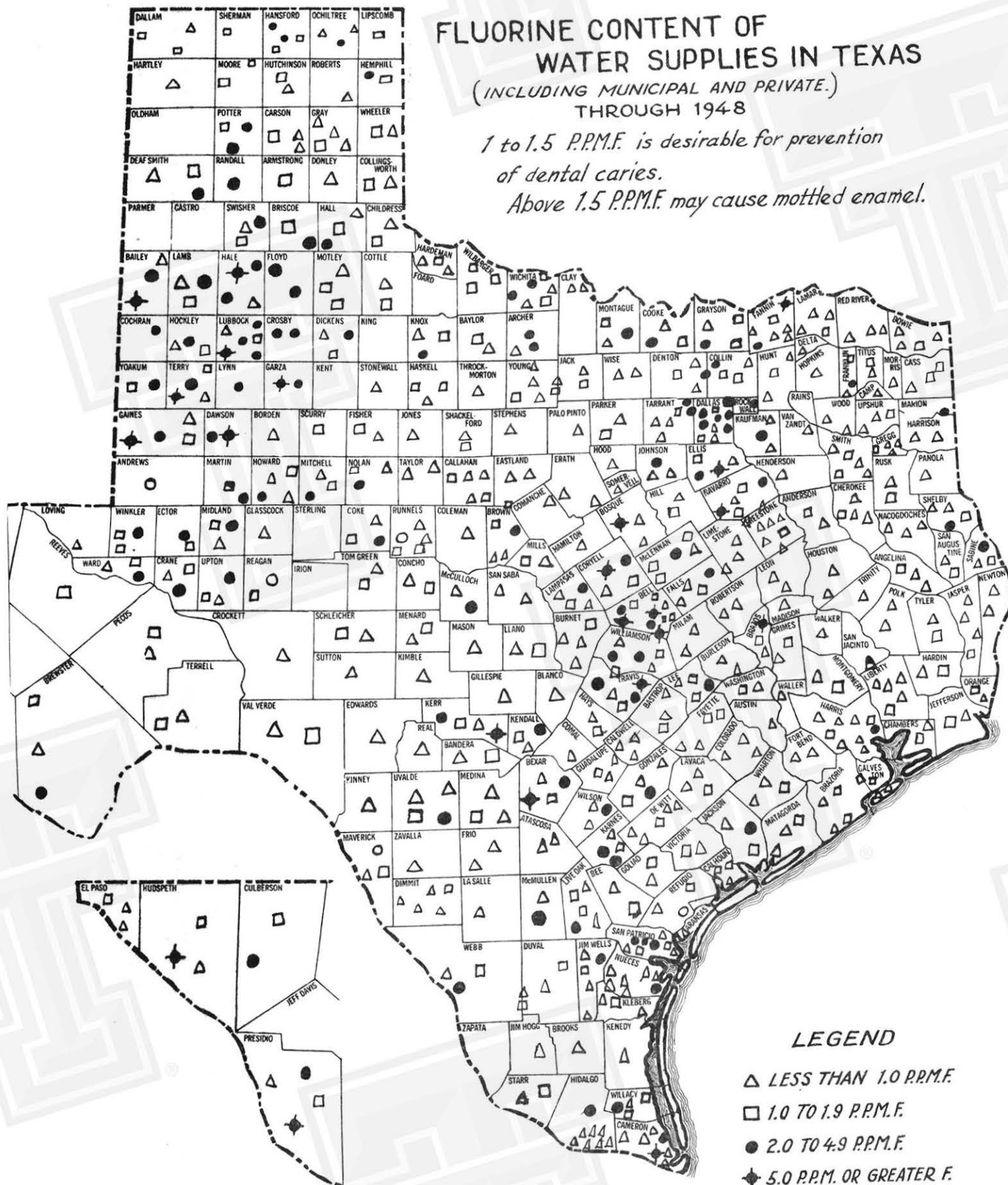
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# FLUORINE CONTENT OF WATER SUPPLIES IN TEXAS (INCLUDING MUNICIPAL AND PRIVATE.) THROUGH 1948

*1 to 1.5 P.P.M.F. is desirable for prevention  
of dental caries.*

*Above 1.5 P.P.M.F. may cause mottled enamel.*



## LEGEND

- △ LESS THAN 1.0 P.P.M.F.
- 1.0 TO 1.9 P.P.M.F.
- 2.0 TO 4.9 P.P.M.F.
- ◆ 5.0 P.P.M. OR GREATER F.

TEXAS STATE  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
741

FACTS RELATIVE TO RUMORS THAT  
FLUORIDATION IS HARMFUL  
Dr. Edward Taylor, Director Dental Health  
State Department of Health

This article pertains to the rumor from the Biochemistry Department of the University of Texas, relating fluoride water with mammary tumors. The study on which this rumor was based, consisted of dividing sixty-seven C3H mice into three groups, each group consuming water with varying amounts of fluoride.

It should be borne in mind that the C3H mouse is a special strain, highly inbred for susceptibility to mammary tumors. Approximately 96% to 100% of these mice eventually succumb to mammary tumors regardless of the diet and water. This research was headed by Alfred Taylor, Ph.D., Biochemist. In the first group of sixty-seven mice, no increase in the incidence or prevalence of mammary tumors was shown. Dr. Taylor did claim that there was a slight acceleration in the earlier appearance of tumors in a small percent of the mice consuming the fluoride water. One group of mice was supposed to be getting one part per million fluoride-water; another group, ten parts per million fluoride-water; another group, fluoride-free water--allowing barely over twenty mice in each group. Later, another group of older mice was studied in which there was no evidence of any change in the accelerated rate or incidence of mammary tumors. At present, a third study, again on younger mice, has been under way for some three or four months and to date we have not been able to obtain any reports from Doctor Taylor on the results of this study on the third group.

Studies of mammary tumor rates in thirteen Texas cities with populations of more than 10,000; divided into three groups with varying amounts of fluorides; based on statistical data from the Texas Bureau of Vital Statistics; showed that in the areas with the high fluoride waters, the breast cancer rate is lower than in the areas where there is practically no fluoride in the water. From state bureaus of vital statistics' records throughout the United States, the average rate of breast cancer is 13-plus per hundred thousand population. For the five New England States where it is generally known that there is practically no fluoride in the water supplies, the rate is 17-plus per hundred thousand population; while for Texas, where it is generally known that there is more fluoride in the water supplies than in any part of the country, the breast cancer rate is only 7.3. Doctors Tannenbaum and Silverstone of the University of Chicago, made a study a little more than a year ago on the relationship of fluorides and breast cancer on C3H mice, and found that the breast cancer rate was lower in the mice consuming fluorides than in the group that were on fluoride-free water. After outside scientific investigation, it was found that Doctor Alfred Taylor was using sodium fluoride as F., apparently assuming that it was 100% fluoride (Actually NaF is only 44% fluoride) so that the mice supposedly consuming one part per million fluoride were actually getting only forty-four one hundredths of a part per million fluoride. It was further found that he was feeding the mice a dog chow for their exclusive diet which, when analyzed, proved to contain forty-two parts per million fluoride. In the study, the results of 0.44 p.p.m. F. in one group and 4.4 p.p.m. F. in another group, were found to be the same.

A two-day investigation was made personally, by two of the outstanding authorities of the National Institute of Health, Dr. H. Trindley Dean and Dr. H. B. Andervont. Following this investigation, Dr. Dean wrote the following letter to the Texas State Department of Health .....

"Dr. Howard B. Andervont and I have carefully evaluated the data in respect to the alleged relation of fluoride water to an accelerated rate in the development of mammary tumors and are of the opinion that the evidence adduced does not warrant any modification in the policy of recommending fluoridation of public water supplies for the partial control of dental caries."

The M. D. Anderson Cancer Research Hospital at Houston, Texas states that according to their records of thousands of tumor cases from over the area they can find nothing to substantiate the claims that fluoride water areas show any greater incidence of mammary tumors than do the fluoride free areas.

After long and careful deliberation, the following agencies and organizations have approved and recommended this public health measure for the partial control of dental caries.

- The American Dental Association
- The State and Territorial Dental Health Directors
- The American Association of Public Health Dentists
- The United States Public Health Service
- The State and Territorial Health Officers Association;
- The American Public Health Association
- The American Water Works Association
- Numerous State Dental Societies, including Texas'
- Numerous State Health Departments, including Texas'
- Numerous State Medical Associations
- Many local dental and medical groups, and others

At the time this rumor broke, in the early part of this year, there were some twenty-odd cities and towns in Texas who were on the verge of fluoridating their water supplies, but the psychological effect of such a rumor as this was of such a deterrent nature that most of them have postponed such action, pending the final results of this study. There are now considerably more than one hundred cities in the United States, some of the larger ones included, who are making use of this measure and a greater number are preparing to do so immediately.

In Wisconsin, where for the past six years numerous objections and criticisms, including cancer, have arisen, more than sixty cities are presently using this measure and a comparable number are preparing to do so.

The Texas State Department of Health emphatically maintains its former policy of recommending and approving this measure of dental health for the partial control of the most prevalent disease of mankind, dental caries, since it has been proved to be safe and effective by authentic and scientific authorities and will eventually reduce tooth decay in children more than 60%. It behooves Texas dentistry as custodians of dental health, to help in refuting this hurtful and unfounded rumor.

⊗ To postpone making use of this inexpensive, safe, public health measure is but to penalize the children of today.

Austin, Texas



FACTS RELATIVE TO RUMORS THAT  
FLUORIDATION IS HARMFUL  
Dr. Edward Taylor, Director Dental Health  
State Department of Health

This article pertains to the rumor from the Biochemistry Department of the University of Texas, relating fluoride water with mammary tumors. The study on which this rumor was based, consisted of dividing sixty-seven C3H mice into three groups, each group consuming water with varying amounts of fluoride.

It should be borne in mind that the C3H mouse is a special strain, highly inbred for susceptibility to mammary tumors. Approximately 96% to 100% of these mice eventually succumb to mammary tumors regardless of the diet and water. This research was headed by Alfred Taylor, Ph.D., Biochemist. In the first group of sixty-seven mice, no increase in the incidence or prevalence of mammary tumors was shown. Dr. Taylor did claim that there was a slight acceleration in the earlier appearance of tumors in a small percent of the mice consuming the fluoride water. One group of mice was supposed to be getting one part per million fluoride-water; another group, ten parts per million fluoride-water; another group, fluoride-free water--allowing barely over twenty mice in each group. Later, another group of older mice was studied in which there was no evidence of any change in the accelerated rate or incidence of mammary tumors. At present, a third study, again on younger mice, has been under way for some three or four months and to date we have not been able to obtain any reports from Doctor Taylor on the results of this study on the third group.

Studies of mammary tumor rates in thirteen Texas cities with populations of more than 10,000; divided into three groups with varying amounts of fluorides; based on statistical data from the Texas Bureau of Vital Statistics; showed that in the areas with the high fluoride waters, the breast cancer rate is lower than in the areas where there is practically no fluoride in the water. From state bureaus of vital statistics' records throughout the United States, the average rate of breast cancer is 13-plus per hundred thousand population. For the five New England States where it is generally known that there is practically no fluoride in the water supplies, the rate is 17-plus per hundred thousand population; while for Texas, where it is generally known that there is more fluoride in the water supplies than in any part of the country, the breast cancer rate is only 7.3. Doctors Tannenbaum and Silverstone of the University of Chicago, made a study a little more than a year ago on the relationship of fluorides and breast cancer on C3H mice, and found that the breast cancer rate was lower in the mice consuming fluorides than in the group that were on fluoride-free water. After outside scientific investigation, it was found that Doctor Alfred Taylor was using sodium fluoride as F., apparently assuming that it was 100% fluoride (Actually NaF is only 44% fluoride) so that the mice supposedly consuming one part per million fluoride were actually getting only forty-four one hundredths of a part per million fluoride. It was further found that he was feeding the mice a dog chow for their exclusive diet which, when analyzed, proved to contain forty-two parts per million fluoride. In the study, the results of 0.44 p.p.m. F. in one group and 4.4 p.p.m. F. in another group, were found to be the same.

A two-day investigation was made personally, by two of the outstanding authorities of the National Institute of Health, Dr. H. Trindley Dean and Dr. H. B. Andervont. Following this investigation, Dr. Dean wrote the following letter to the Texas State Department of Health .....

"Dr. Howard B. Andervont and I have carefully evaluated the data in respect to the alleged relation of fluoride water to an accelerated rate in the development of mammary tumors and are of the opinion that the evidence adduced does not warrant any modification in the policy of recommending fluoridation of public water supplies for the partial control of dental caries."

The M. D. Anderson Cancer Research Hospital at Houston, Texas states that according to their records of thousands of tumor cases from over the area they can find nothing to substantiate the claims that fluoride water areas show any greater incidence of mammary tumors than do the fluoride free areas.

After long and careful deliberation, the following agencies and organizations have approved and recommended this public health measure for the partial control of dental caries.

The American Dental Association  
The State and Territorial Dental Health Directors  
The American Association of Public Health Dentists  
The United States Public Health Service  
The State and Territorial Health Officers Association;  
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### Not a medicine—not a cure-all

Fluoridation is the most practical and effective public health measure for the *prevention* of dental decay; however, it does not *treat* decay that has already started. Fluoride is not a medicine, not a cure-all, but an important dietary factor during the time teeth are forming. For healthier, more attractive teeth, children, and adults, too, should continue to brush their teeth regularly, cut down on sweets and make periodic visits to the family dentist.

### Safe and effective

Years of study and research are required before a health measure, such as fluoridation, can be recommended with safety. The dental benefits of fluoridation have been thoroughly explored. In addition, studies have been conducted among people who have lived continuously in areas where the drinking water naturally contains high concentrations of fluorides. The research work has been painstaking, yet no scientist has been able to find any harmful effects from fluorides in the amount recommended for protection against dental decay.

### Endorsed by authoritative bodies

Research studies have led to the endorsement of fluoridation by the American Dental Association, official spokesman for more than 70,000

dentists. The American Medical Association, also, has adopted a statement on the desirability and safety of fluoridation.

Other organizations that have adopted favorable policies on fluoridation include the American Public Health Association, American Water Works Association, National Research Council, State and Territorial Health Officers Association, U. S. Public Health Service, American Association of Public Health Dentists, State and Territorial Dental Health Directors plus hundreds of state and community health and civic groups.

### What you can do

Women's clubs, parent-teacher associations, civic and business groups, labor unions and other organizations are interested in bringing health protection to your community. You, as an individual or as a member of an organized group, can help by writing letters and postal cards offering your support to your city officials, health department, dental and medical societies and other local organizations. You can help also by urging your own organizations to take group action in bringing about the adoption of fluoridation. Your child and hundreds of others are the ones who will benefit.

AMERICAN DENTAL ASSOCIATION  
222 E. SUPERIOR ST. • CHICAGO 11, ILL.

why  
your  
dentist  
recommends



League of Women Voters of Chicago  
1303 Mockingbird Lane  
Phone 4-5944



# Y

## OUR DENTIST RECOMMENDS

**FLUORIDATION BECAUSE** it is the most practical and effective public health measure for the prevention of dental decay.

Your dentist is concerned about the high rate of occurrence of dental decay and the mounting accumulation of dental defects. In fact, if all persons needing dental service were to seek it, dentists could care for only a fifth of the needs. Corrective service alone cannot meet the need. A wider use of preventive measures is the most realistic and economic approach.

For many years, dentists have been filling cavities, but until recently little could be accomplished on a widespread basis to *prevent* them. Now, based upon years of investigation by research authorities, your dentist recommends fluoridation. Just as your physician recommends nourishing foods for your child's growth and development, your dentist recommends drinking water that contains fluoride, one of the essential requirements for building decay-resistant teeth.

### What fluoridation is

Fluoridation is the adjustment of the fluoride content in a public water supply up to a desirable level for the prevention of dental decay.

For generations, millions of people have been drinking water that naturally contains fluoride; consequently, fluoridation adds nothing that has not been in many water supplies for centuries. Some water supplies have too little, some too much, and others just the right amount. You are fortunate if you live in a town with a central water supply so that the fluoride content can be adjusted to the point where your children can have maximum protection.

According to the American Water Works Association, fluoridation is not an involved procedure. It is similar to other measures used in making your drinking water healthful. Fluoridation does not affect the taste, odor or color of water. Fluoridation does not add hardness to water. Fluoridation does not affect the use of water for any domestic or industrial purpose.

### One in a million

An extremely small amount of fluoride is added to the water. In fact, it is one part of the element, fluorine, to a million parts of water—1 part per million. (This concentration may vary slightly in different geographic areas.) If you were to attempt to measure the amount of fluorine in a glass of fluoridated water, you would find it equivalent to about 1/250 of a drop! The tiny amounts necessary to prevent dental decay are detectable only by delicate chemical tests.

### The cost is small

Fluoridation is inexpensive. The cost varies in different cities, but an average of about a dime a year can bring younger children the benefits of 60-65 per cent less tooth decay. For about 5 to 14 cents a year, often less than the cost of an ice-cream cone, youngsters can have better teeth, better health.

### Cuts Dental Bills

By controlling the fluoride content of your community water supply, future dental bills for fillings, extractions and replacements can be reduced. The cost of a single filling will pay for fluoride for one person for about thirty years.

### Who benefits

Children who drink fluoride-bearing water from birth will receive the greatest benefit because the enamel of most of the teeth forms during the first eight years of life. Individuals who are older when they begin drinking water that contains the desirable amount of fluoride may receive some protection against dental decay but not as much as the younger children. The protection continues throughout life and eventually the entire continuous-resident population of a community will be receiving full benefits from fluoridation.

TEXAS STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
ENGINEERING DATA ON THE FLUORIDATION  
OF PUBLIC WATER SUPPLIES

CHEMICALS: Fluorine is available commercially in the form of a variety of chemical compounds including sodium fluoride, hydrofluoric acid, and sodium bi-fluoride. These three chemical compounds have been investigated thus far as a possible source of fluorine for application to public water supplies with the aim for the reduction of dental caries. Most of the experience in this field of water treatment has involved the use of sodium fluoride, and data given below, consequently, are restricted to the use of that chemical. Sodium fluoride may be obtained as a powder containing 95% by weight of the pure salt, 45 $\frac{1}{2}$ % of which is available fluoride. It is soluble in water at room temperatures to the extent of 4% by weight. It is obtainable commercially as the natural white powder or containing a dye to permit easy recognition, thus avoiding mistaking the material for lime or similar substances used in water treatment. This fact is of significance, since sodium fluoride in the concentrated state is extremely toxic to man and animals, and every precaution must be employed to avoid accidental poisoning of persons handling the chemical.

METHODS OF APPLICATION: Since sodium fluoride is water soluble, it may be applied to a public water supply system by means of solution type feeders, whereby it is proportioned by volume of solution, or by gravimetric type dry feeders, whereby it is proportioned by weight of the dry powder in accordance to dosage required for definite rates of water flow. Where solution feeders are used, the solution must be prepared in supplementary equipment consisting of a tank and a mixing device to secure uniformity of the fluoride solution. If hard waters are encountered, it is considered advisable to soften the hard water used in preparation of the solution to avoid the loss of sodium fluoride through chemical combination with calcium contents in the water. The size of the solution tank necessary will vary depending on the characteristics of the solution feed apparatus, and the manufacturer of the equipment involved should be consulted. Regarding the selection of the type of chemical feed machine, it might be pointed out that the solution feed method may be preferred in the case of water plant installations of small capacity or in cases where injection of the solution against water pressure is necessary.

Dry feed machines, similar in construction to the equipment employed in applying lime and alum to water, can also be used to apply sodium fluoride. To minimize the hazards which might be incidental to the use of dry feed equipment, special facilities should be provided to eliminate a dust hazard. Similarly, a conveyor system might be purchased to avoid frequent charging of the chemical feed machine from bulk stocks.

In any event, some control arrangement should be employed with the feeding device used to permit careful control of the accuracy of the feeding operation. In some cases, an alarm system has been devised to inform the operator of any appreciable deviation from the predetermined dosage. Another control method employed is the use of a self-starting electric clock meter to record the period of operation of the feeder. Chemical analysis laboratory control equipment should also be available so that frequent fluoride determinations can be made so as to check on the consistency of the dosage and fluoride content of the water supplied by the plant.

POINT OF APPLICATION: The point of application should be selected so that the chemical is uniformly mixed with all water entering the distribution system. If possible, it should also be a point at which some arrangements for mixing are provided. In a surface water treatment plant, an ideal point of application would