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NOV. 13, 1948



A. E. Staley: From his new plant, better tastes for food (page 6)

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Good Service Depends on Good Earnings

There is still much to be done to make the Bell System big enough for the nation's needs. It will take a lot of money.

This money cannot come out of the rates you pay for service. It must come from investors.

They are the hundreds of thousands of everyday people in all walks of life whose confidence in the integrity and earning power of the Bell System encourages them to invest their savings in the business.

Reasonable earnings will continue to attract the additional capital needed. And that in turn will provide the new and improved facilities that will benefit everybody who uses the telephone.

Earnings that are too low are not in the best interests of anybody and can only result in the long run in deterioration of a vital service.

The Bell System does not ask that it be allowed to earn one penny more than is required to do the job.

It asks only what most people and most regulatory bodies agree is fair and just . . . a reasonable return to the many men and women all over America whose savings have built the telephone business.

BELL TELEPHONE SYSTEM

RESEARCH



SURVEYING the field: Dr. Leonard Greenburg, New York State Dept. of Labor, and Dr. May R. Mayers, chairman, Occupational Cancer Committee, join up with . . .

Industry Against Cancer

New group, representing industry and medical and government authorities, maps fight on country's No. 2 killer. First step: a survey that will help determine industrial danger spots.

Science and industry are joining forces to take on a powerful antagonist: occupational cancer. The size of the job can be gaged by the fact that cancer now rates as the second biggest killer in this country.

This week, the growing hazards of occupational cancer were the theme of a paper by cancer authority Dr. W. C. Hueper, of the National Cancer Institute. The occasion was a meeting of the American Public Health Assn. in Boston. Dr. Hueper's point: The more modern industry develops, the more vital is a study of potential industrial danger spots.

• **Starter**—Just such a study is the goal of New York State's brand-new Occupational Cancer Committee, an unofficial agency. Members have been working on a two-year program. They have a special fund from National Cancer Institute of the U. S. Public Health Service of $32,694 a year to go on. Ohio and New Jersey are getting similar grants.

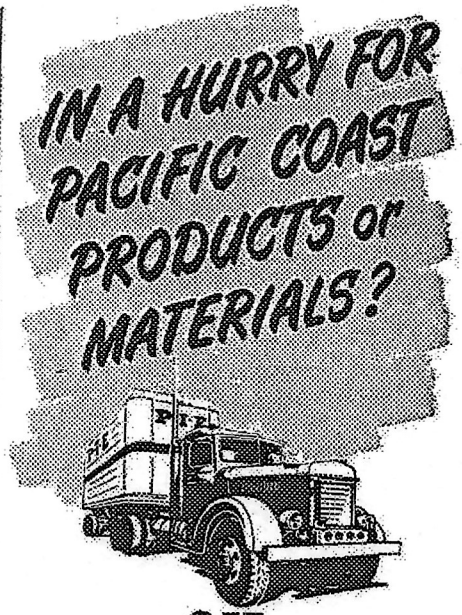
Industry has representatives on the committee—Dr. G. H. Gehrmann, for Manufacturing Chemists Assn.; and Dr. Arthur E. Hoag, for American Petroleum Institute. Other members include representatives from the U. S. Public Health Service, from New York State Depts. of Labor and Health, as well as from the medical and scientific centers. Chairman of the new group is Dr. May R. Mayers, chief, Medical Unit, Div. of Industrial Hygiene, N. Y. State Dept. of Health.

The committee knows very well that its job will be tough. For one thing, nobody really knows how big the problem is. As Dr. John R. Heller, Jr., director of the National Cancer Institute, reported last week to the American Cancer Society, there are no figures to show how many people are dying today from environmental or industrial cancer. No one knows, even, how many people are exposed to it, or where the precise danger lies.

• **Program**—But with this nebulous start, the committee has lined up its immediate plans:

(1) A pilot study at the Roswell Park Memorial Hospital, Buffalo. This, the first large-scale survey of its kind, will cover 5,000 male cancer patients; 1,000 male non-cancer patients will serve as a control.

(2) The distribution of a leaflet on "Occupational Cancer" to hospitals,





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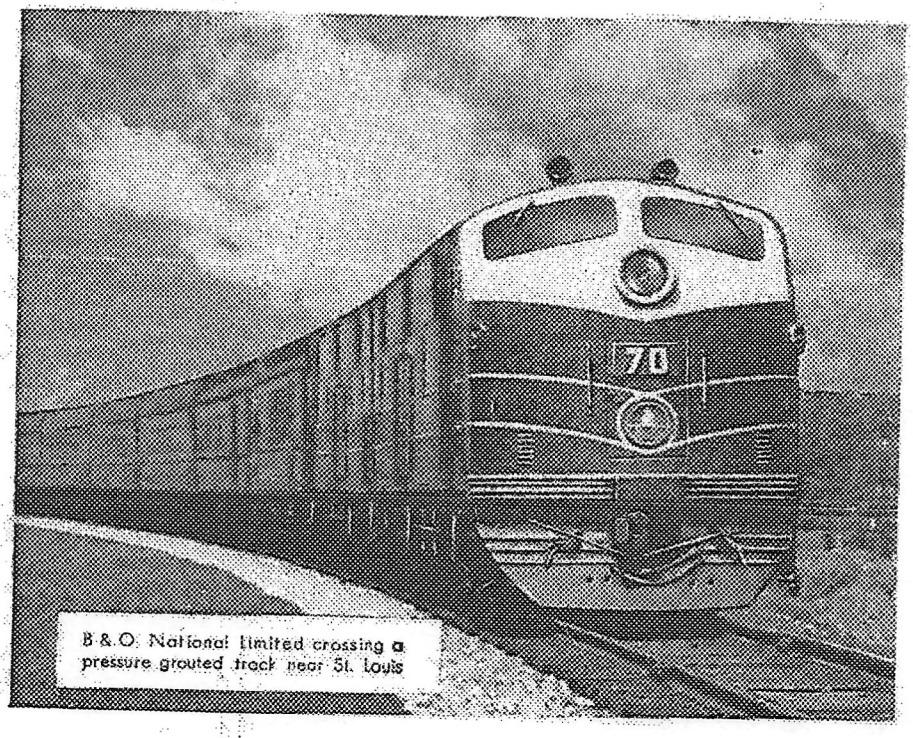
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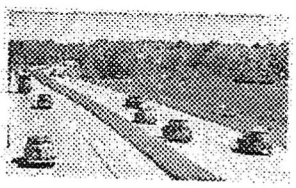
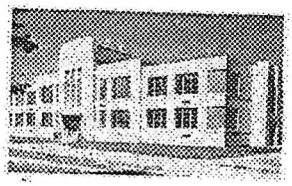
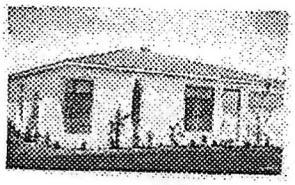
TRAIN PASSENGERS are enjoying new standards of comfort because of portland cement "grout," a mixture of portland cement, sand and water, which, when pumped into soft spots and water pockets under tracks, hardens and stabilizes the roadbed. More than 45 major railroads are now pressure grouting with portland cement to obtain a smoother riding track and to reduce maintenance and operating costs.

This is another example of the thousand ways that portland cement and concrete serve and save. Concrete is the favored material for streets and highways because it is smooth-riding and lasts longer—at lower cost to taxpayers.

Concrete also provides strength, beauty, firesafety and *low-annual-cost* service for school buildings, hospitals, apartments, factories and municipal structures.

Concrete is a wise investment for homes and farm buildings because it is firesafe, stormproof, ratproof, decay-proof, termite-proof, easy to heat, inexpensive to maintain.

Yes, you can depend on concrete for better service and better living—and be money ahead in the long run too.

PORTLAND CEMENT ASSOCIATION

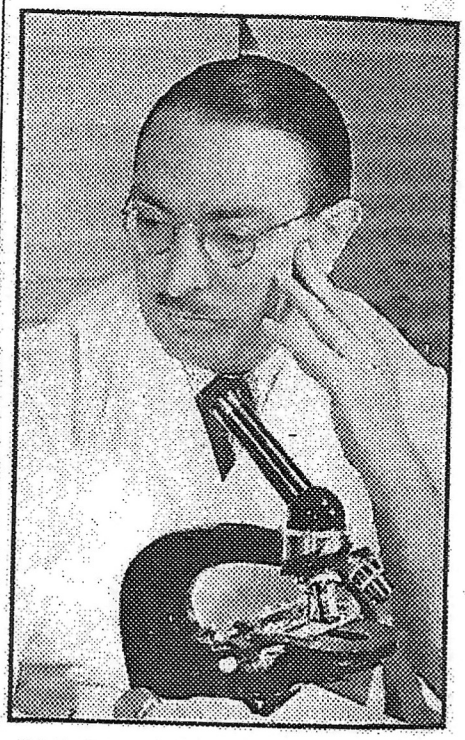
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A national organization to improve and extend the uses of portland cement and concrete . . . through scientific research and engineering field work

clinics, and all physicians in the state who are interested in cancer.

The pilot survey is out to track down what chemicals or other occupational factors may be considered among the possible causes of cancer. Dr. Mayers reports that industrial chemicals can, in general, be used with perfect safety if adequate control measures are instituted. But in order to get the best control measures, you first have to know what chemicals offer the threat.

Specially trained personnel will take detailed occupational histories of all cancer patients who enter the Roswell Park Memorial Hospital. The interviewer will try to pin down just what the patient's occupational exposure was; what chemical substances he came in contact with, what other environmental factors were present in the workroom. Since cancer will usually develop only after a great many years of exposure—and even many years after exposure—



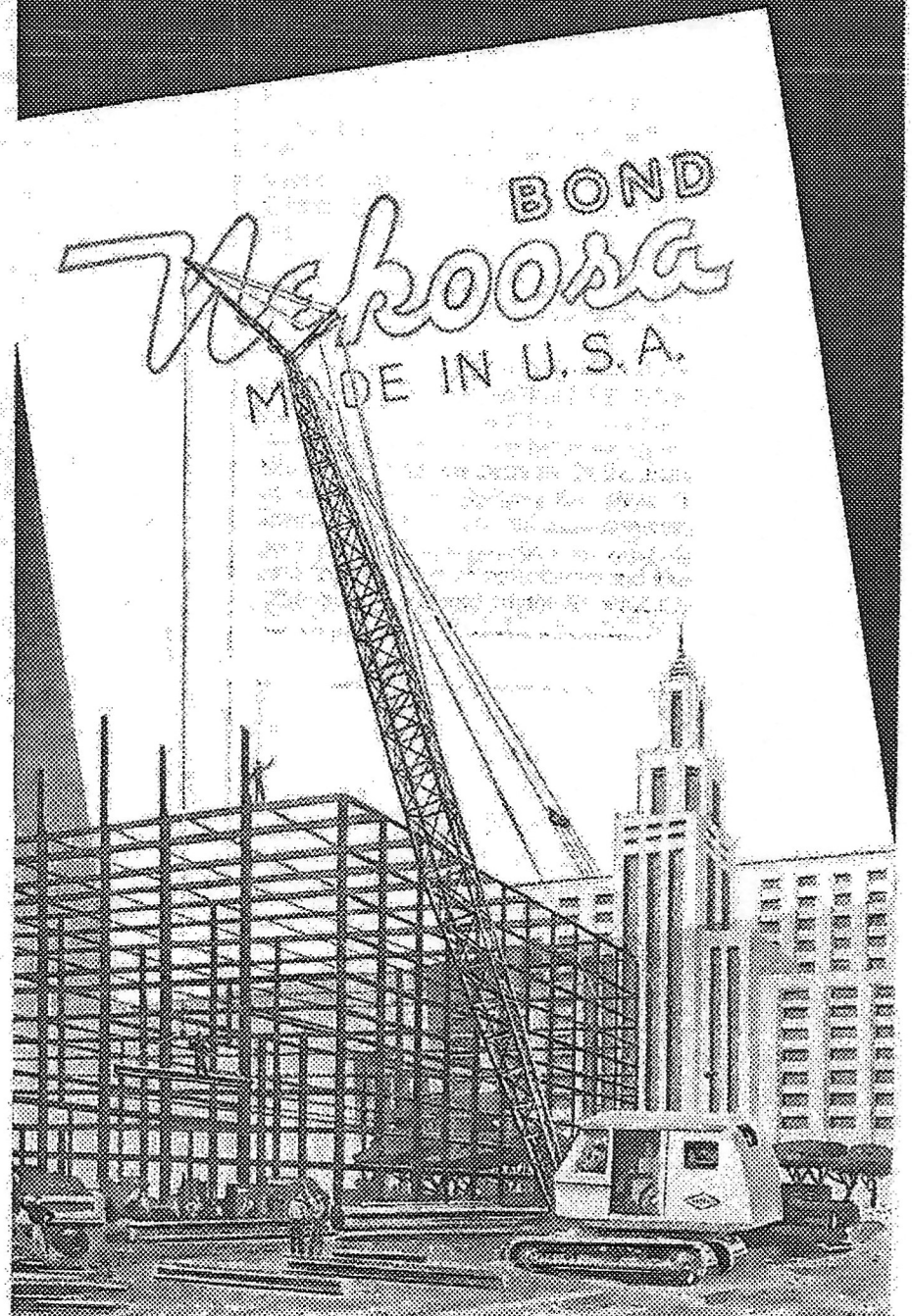
CANCER AUTHORITY: Dr. W. C. Hueper has ideas on how to tackle the problem of occupational cancer

this means tracing the patient's history all the way back to his first job.

• Sleuthing—If a clue—however elusive—turns up at any point, a chemist will be called in. His job will be to unearth any positive proofs that a chemical suspect may have been the source of the disease. The data will be entered on punch cards. These will be used as the base for a complete statistical study to be carried out by the Division of Cancer Control of the N. Y. State Dept. of Health, under the direction of Dr. Paul Gerhardt.

The committee is ready to follow any suspected case right into the workroom. Its investigations will include chemical

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analysis of materials, radiation measurements, chemical analysis of air contaminants—dusts, gases, fumes, and the like. That way, it is hoped that occupational factors that are not now suspected of causing cancer may be brought to light.

• **Investigation Points**—Dr. Hueper's paper broke down the known and suspected cancer causing agents into:

Physical Agents: These include ultraviolet rays, X-rays, and other radioactive substances.

Chemical Agents: Inorganic chemicals, such as arsenicals, chromates, nickel carbonyl, asbestos; organic chemicals such as aromatic compounds and amines, benzol, and the undefined compounds responsible for the cancer-causing action of tar, pitch, asphalt, soot, carbon black, paraffin oil, creosote, and various crude and processed mineral oils, shale oils, and some products derived from them.

With this list of suspects, the medical authorities are particularly interested in industries using these materials. As Dr. Heller put it: "As far as we know, the most dangerous areas are in the field of radioactive substances; the areas of hydrocarbon research and development, such as the high-temperature distillation and fractionation of petroleum; and the wide field of organic chemistry which is developing new synthetic chemicals."



Neutron Counter

This tiny neutron counter is expected to ease one of the toughest jobs of the atomic researcher. It was recently developed by Dr. Kuan-Han Sun, Chinese-born physicist at the Westinghouse Research Laboratories. Neutrons are difficult to detect because they carry no electrical charge. But neutrons will split uranium atoms. So the detector includes a film of uranium-235. A photosensitive plate responds to the radiation from the atomic fission by emitting electrons which are multiplied, collected, and counted.