

valuation of the area is about 80,000. The officials estimate that the city has about 15,000—about 10 percent of the 80,000 who live in old and dilapidated houses—who have higher levels of lead in their bodies than are considered safe. Of that 5,000, there are an

For 2 years, I have urged the appropriate Federal agencies to take specific protective measures that would have safeguarded the public from the hazards of PCB's. During that time I have called upon the Department of Agriculture, the Department of Interior, the Food and Drug Administration, the President's

"There was no statement that chickens fed on the contaminated fish meal had not reached the market. The statement was that there was no evidence—and there still is none—that any of the marketed chickens contained more PCB than the 5 parts per million considered acceptable by the government."

File
PCB
"Ryan".

Asked if there was any evidence that chickens containing more than 5 p.p.m. had not been marketed, Dr. Yeutter said an announcement on the results of field tests would be made by the department today.

In any case, Dr. Yeutter said, "no chickens fed contaminated meal are on the market now and none will be released for market." Asked if the same could be said for frozen chickens and chicken meat used in the production of soups, hot dogs and other foods, Dr. Yeutter referred the question to Dr. Fullerton, who could not be reached yesterday afternoon or last night.

The effects of PCB upon humans, if any, are not known. It has been shown to cause low fertility in fowl and liver damage in rats, and is thought by many scientists to be a serious long-term danger to man and animals.

Dr. Yeutter said the public "should not be unduly alarmed" over the PCB case. "It is not worthwhile to worry the consumer now about something he ate a few weeks ago. It hasn't affected any consumption of chicken. As far as we know every chicken sitting on every shelf is safe and wholesome."

Rep. William F. Fitts (D-N.Y.), who Monday filed a bill that would outlaw all production or use of PCB in the United States, said yesterday he was "shocked and outraged" by the government's handling of the case.

"They're just playing guessing games," he said. "The setting of the 5 parts per million standard was purely arbitrary in the first place. From all we can find, the action of Agriculture and FDA (Food and Drug Administration) has been insufficient to say the least."

"They've hushed up earlier PCB contamination cases and delayed announcement in this case until the chickens had been sold. This is unconscionable neglect in a situation of staggering potential harm."

Rep. Ryan said he would call for hearings not only on his bill but "into Agriculture and FDA's conduct."

Used since before World War II until recently in a wide range of products, PCB has made its way into the worldwide web of life and has been found in fish, wild birds (up to 1,000 p.p.m.), human fat and human mother's milk (up to .60 p.p.m.).

Monsanto Corp., sole producers of PCB in the U.S. and in the United Kingdom, last year stopped all sales of the chemical except for "closed-system" uses in heavy equipment and industrial heating equipment such as the sterilizer in the Wilmington plant where the fish meal was contaminated.

In that case, PCB leaked from the machinery into the fish meal undetected for about 12 weeks. The discovery was made only after one of the plant's customers found that his chickens were sickening and becoming infertile.

The customer, Holly Farms, Inc., a major supplier of chickens to Washington markets, tested the feed, then notified Monsanto, which traced the source and alerted FDA. Holly Farms destroyed 77,000 chickens.

The contamination went undetected until that time because no agency of the government regularly tests marketed flesh for PCB.

[From the Washington (D.C.) Evening Star, July 29, 1971]

FISH MEAL CULPRIT: FIRM IS CURBING SUSPECT CHEMICAL

(By John Flaska)

PCB is the shorthand name of a family of 210 chemical substances, some of which have had widespread use in the United States since the early 1930s.

Because of mounting evidence that the PCBs are toxic to animals and, like DDT, do not easily break down in nature, the Mon-

santo Company, the nation's sole manufacturer of PCBs, has been quietly moving various products containing it off the market.

By last August, according to William B. Papageorge, manager of environmental protection for Monsanto, the company had stopped selling it except for use in closed systems, such as in large electric transformers, heat transfer units and in electric capacitors.

It was felt that it would be highly unlikely that the chemical could pose a danger when its use was restricted to such closed systems, Papageorge explained.

NORTH CAROLINA LEAK

But in mid-July a heat exchange unit, used in a plant in Wilmington, N.C., in a process designed to remove the bacteria from imported fish meal, was found to be leaking.

The result was the possibility that millions of chickens and other livestock may have been eating contaminated feed.

According to Rep. William F. Ryan, D-N.Y., who has been studying the effects of the chemical for two years, the possibility of such a danger has been known for many months. Ryan introduced a bill Monday which would ban the sale of PCBs in the United States. He told the House that he has urged the Department of Agriculture, the Secretary of Interior, the Environmental Protection Agency and the Food and Drug Administration repeatedly to ban PCBs.

Today, he called for hearings on his bill and the inaction by the federal agencies.

The leakage in Wilmington, he said, "logically illustrates the failure of the federal government to take preventive action against the unconscionable use of this deadly chemical."

ADMINISTRATION BILL

The Nixon administration meanwhile, is pushing for legislation that could lead to tight regulation of industrial chemicals like PCB.

Warren Muir of the Council of Environmental Quality said today that the PCBs are a good example of toxic substances not adequately covered under existing law.

Under the Clean Air Act and Clean Water Act, the federal government could draw up standards that might regulate the discharge of PCBs into the air or water. This has not been done.

The administration's Toxic Substances Act, due for hearings next week before the Senate Commerce Committee, would permit the government to regulate the manufacture and everyday use of such chemicals as well as regulating them as effluents.

The evidence that PCBs, like DDT, can concentrate and travel through the food chain was discovered by Swedish scientists in 1966, when they found the chemical in the carcasses of large birds of prey, primarily eagles. Later they found it in other birds, fish and evergreen needles. Since then it has been found in man.

In tests on mice, it causes liver damage and birth defects.

TWO EARLIER CASES

According to Rep. Ryan, federal authorities have already had notice of two instances where state authorities, alarmed by PCB contamination, have had to remove large quantities of food from the market.

In 1970, he stated, the Campbell's Soup Company discovered that a shipment of chickens it received from New York state contained a high percentage of one type of PCB.

The New York State Department of Agriculture ultimately destroyed 148,000 chickens and traced the chemical to plastic wrapping used to package chicken feed. Rep. Ryan said.

That, same year, Rep. Ryan said, the Ohio

State Department of Agriculture found a residue of PCB in milk. They removed a large quantity from the market and traced the chemical to a material used to line silos, where cattle feed was stored.

Exactly how much PCB is still being produced is a secret which Monsanto, the sole manufacturer, refuses to disclose.

DISCOVERED IN 1930'S

According to Papageorge, a chemical engineer, PCB, or polychlorinated biphenyl, was first developed in the early 1930s by the Swann Chemical Co. in Anniston, Ala., and later taken over by Monsanto.

Until, recently, PCBs were marketed in some industrial paints, coatings, inks, and in some plastics.

Now, because of Monsanto's change in marketing policy, it is produced only for use as an insulator in capacitors, an electric device found in home air conditioners; as a coolant in transformers; and as a fire resistant medium in heat exchange units.

According to Papageorge, total removal of PCBs from some of those closed system uses will be "next to impossible."

He pointed out that large cities in the U.S. and many other countries use electric transformers containing PCB because it is an explosion proof coolant, allowing the transformers to be safely used in densely populated areas.

There is no substitute chemical with the same properties and switching to a different cooling system, such as air or gas, would mean drastically redesigning the transformers in use, he said.

"Our entire electrical system depends on it," concluded Papageorge. "Believe me," he added, "if we could get out of this business, we would."

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted as follows to:

Mr. ASPINALL, from 3:30 p.m., July 30, 1971, to noon, August 2, 1971, on account of official business.

SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legislative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. CRANE), to revise and extend their remarks, and to include extraneous matter:)

Mr. FINDLEY, today, for 5 minutes.

Mr. MILLER of Ohio, today, for 5 minutes.

Mr. HARVEY, today, for 5 minutes.

Mr. HOCAN, on July 30, for 10 minutes.

Mr. CRANE, on August 4, for 1 hour.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. BOGGS), to revise and extend their remarks, and to include extraneous matter:)

Mr. FRASER, today, for 5 minutes.

Mr. PRAYER of North Carolina, today, for 10 minutes.

Mr. GONZALES, today, for 10 minutes.

Mr. FUQUA, today, for 10 minutes.

Mr. REUSS, today, for 10 minutes.

Mr. ST GERMAIN, today, for 10 minutes.

Mr. DORN, on August 5, for 60 minutes.

EXTENSION OF REMARKS

By unanimous consent, permission to revise and extend remarks was granted to:

Mr. BENNETT, to revise and extend his

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