

A-Bomb Causes Defects in Plants

Exposed Corn Produces Freaks

WASHINGTON, July 5—Atom-bomb rays powerful enough to kill men or animals, released at the first Bikini burst, failed to kill grains of seedcorn exposed on the decks of the target ships, but did cause them to produce plants with many defects and abnormalities. First results of these experiments are described in detail in the new issue of Science just published. Dr. L. F. Randolph, A. E. Longley and Ching Hsiung II, Cornell University botanists, are authors of the report.

Two kinds of seedcorn were used in the tests—one a single-cross hybrid field corn, the other an inbred sweetcorn strain. Twenty-five packages, each containing from 1500 to 2500 grains, were exposed on ships in the target array, at varying distances from the center of burst. Similar lots were exposed to graded X-ray doses, from 5000 to 25,000 roentgen units. Finally, samples of both kinds of seed were kept untreated, for planting as controls.

As soon as the irradiated seed had been returned from Bikini, portions were planted at the U. S. Department of Agriculture experiment station at Beltsville, Md.

The untreated control seed produced plants of the uniform types expected of corn bred by modern methods. Both the Bikini seed and the X-rayed seed produced many abnormal plants. Some of these had twisted, crinkled, diminutive or otherwise deformed leaves.

Why Not Try This? Family Scrapbook

By DR. ERNEST G. OSBORNE



Should Children Be Polite?

We all want children to be polite, but we may have different ideas of how much should be expected and how soon. One can teach tricks of politeness to children as one teaches tricks to a dog, but usually that isn't enough. We want our youngsters to feel "naturally" polite, to have real consideration for others.

One of the best ways of teaching children politeness is to let them see it and feel it. For instance, father steps back and lets mother go through the door first; mother, when asking father and the children, too, to do something, always says "please," parents show courtesy to the children by not interrupting during the telling of a story. The youngsters slowly but surely will absorb these patterns of behavior that we call courteous or polite.

Scots Miss Lush Tourist Trade

'Invasion' of U. S. Visitors Declines

LONDON, July 5—The Scots, it seems, are feeling quite miffed at Uncle Sam right now.

The rich American uncle isn't sending his millionaire children to Scotland as often as he used to. Not enough American sportsmen are going to the highlands to shoot grouse. Nor are many going to the Glenaeig Hotel in Perthshire to play golf.

I get this gripe straight from the highlands and my correspondent explains it this way:

"A determined attempt to revive American interest in Scottish grouse moors has been a failure. The reason, I am told, is chiefly because rich Americans are afraid war with Russia might break out while they're away from home. I suspect, however, that actually they've been influenced by the poor bags of postwar years and that today even rich men want to see the birds before they put their money down."

As for the Glenaeig, it is now a nationalized railway hotel so the British taxpayer is interested in whether it makes a profit. Chances are it won't, although it's still a fine hotel with very good service, directed by a Swiss manager.

HAS 1 CIVIL WAR BATTLE

Arizona's only battle of the Civil War was fought at Picacho Peak, in the southern part of the state.

Wiry Col. Frank Howley In Berlin Limelight



TROUBLE-SHOOTER—Wiry Cavalry Reservist, Col. Frank Howley of Philadelphia, runs the American military government at Berlin. He is the official crisis man when the Russians put on the heat.

Serves as U. S. Military Governor

By RICHARD HOLLANDER
Special Staff Writer
WASHINGTON, July 5—Col. Frank Howley, American military governor in Berlin, is our No. 1 operating military government officer.

At 44, he's a soft-spoken, wiry little cavalry reservist who figured to be out of the Army long ago. As things stand now, there's no telling when he'll get back to his home in Philadelphia.

Col. Howley has always had a taste of them, but it is his job to keep the wheels turning. He has plenty of bosses now in the hot Berlin situation. They make the statements that add up to local policy. But, it's Col. Howley who's responsible from hour to hour and day to day for the welfare of Americans and Germans in the U. S. sector.

Not New to Him

None of this is new to him. In the spring of 1944, Col. Howley, then a lieutenant colonel, was part of an outfit called "A-1, A-1," which was the first military government detachment to reach the continent after D-Day. In June, American troops of the Seventh Corps entered Cherbourg, the first city of any size we occupied in Normandy. There Col. Howley "settled down."

"Civil Affairs Officer," he was called, but military governor is what he was. He had to see to it that Cherbourg with its wrecked port facilities got back on its feet as quickly as possible, so we could use the new concrete landing docks we were building to supply the Army's advance down to St. Lo and Paris and the Rhine.

Had to Improvise

He had to play his job by ear. He knew the civil affairs manual word for word, but like all manuals it didn't answer all the questions. He had to improvise, and his improvisations formed the background for his own future work and the work of other military governors later on.

In the early days in Cherbourg, Col. Howley's biggest problem wasn't with the French. It was with the Americans. In addition to being responsible for the welfare of the city of Cherbourg he was responsible for the safeguarding—under Gen. Bradley's seal—of the contents of the city arsenal, in which the last Germans had held out until a few phosphorus shells were tossed at them.

Lots of Bottles

What the arsenal contained was bottles—mountains of bottles of brandy and champagne. The Germans had been ready for a long siege.

All through the early days in Cherbourg, Col. Howley was visited by deputations of American officers from practically every unit of the Seventh Corps. These officers would come in, and pass a few minutes in polite conversation with Col. Howley. Sooner or later, they all came to the same conversational turning point:

"Now, about the arsenal, Colonel. The old man says he hears there's enough for all, and he wonders—"

"Just Can't Do It"

Then Col. Howley would smile and shake his head sadly. "Can't do it, gentlemen," he would say. "Just can't do it."

From Cherbourg, Col. Howley went to Paris in August, 1944, and did the same kind of chores he had done in Cherbourg. In Paris the chores were bigger, and he had a lot of bosses, all of them wearing stars. After the fall of Berlin, Col. Howley was sent there.

It's the same now in the German capital. The highest headquarters happens to be located in the city he's responsible for—our part of it, anyway. It's not up to Col. Howley to make statements, but if things work out of their ticklish state in Berlin—if the wheels turn—much of the credit should go to him. Up to now, he's been sort of like the broom that never gets much credit for helping keep the place clean.

10,000 DIE OF CHOLERA

NEW DELHI, July 5 (UP)—A report published here today said at least 10,000 persons died of cholera in an epidemic in the eastern half of the United Provinces.

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