

Child Bitten 3 Times As Horde of Rats Invades City Area

Chadwick District Residents Describe Rodent Parades; Health Board Offers Suggestions

By CARL HENN

The 900 block in Chadwick St., just a few blocks from the heart of Our Fair City, is rapidly being devastated, people and property, by a horde of rats.

Ten-month-old William (Billy) Lewis is a living example of the damage being done by rodents. Billy has been bitten on three occasions as he lay sleeping in his crib.

His mother, Mrs. Minnie Lewis, 20, is desperate. Traps and poison have failed to protect her child.

"We're going to have to move out," she said. "We've only been here five weeks and we don't have any place to go but I can't stand to see Billy all bitten up."

Promised Help

After the third attack on Billy early Friday morning, Mrs. Lewis was promised help from the Board of Health. A telephone call there produced assurance that exterminators would visit the Lewis home.

"I don't know if that will do any good," thought Mrs. Lewis. "The rates just move around from house to house. Our whole neighborhood needs exterminators."

J. W. Hundley, city rodent control supervisor, warned that the coming of fall weather will bring an increase in the rat plague, particularly to householders living near the outskirts of the city.

"With the advent of spring, the rates move out into garages, alleys and fields," Mr. Hundley explained. "They eat well, people let up in their extermination efforts and the rats continue to multiply. But with the coming of frosty weather, they'll move back into houses for food and warmth—and in increased numbers."

Mr. Hundley recommends that householders plug all holes of their houses where rodents could enter. Red squirrel, he said, is an effective rat poison. Although relatively harmless to humans and animals, it should be used with caution.

Neighbors in the 900 block in Chadwick confirmed Mrs. Lewis' report of the rat invasion.

"If our dog, Jimmy, wasn't such a good rat dog we'd have 'em in our house, too," said Mrs. Juanita Cleveland, 922 Chadwick. "We can see the rats parading around here day and night, running through the weeds and slipping in and out of garbage pails."

Partial Solution

Another neighbor, Mrs. Florence Jackson, 907 Chadwick, has a partial solution for the plague now besetting them.

"We have our garbage pails up high off the ground on a fence rack," she said. "That way the rats can't get at the refuse."

A third neighbor, Mrs. Helen Kendall, has a good rat dog, Butch. She declares him to be keeping rats out of her home at 926 Chadwick.

Others in the area became indignant as they described various depredations committed by the head-eyed raiders. Such as not being able to keep songbirds having rats steal food with uncanny skill directly from traps without disturbing the triggers; having, in one instance, a loaf of bread to disappear from the kitchen table where it was left overnight, leaving nothing but crumbs and the waxed paper wrapper behind.

And little Billy Lewis, helpless in his crib at night as the rats come crawling into his bed to bite him.

Tugs Stand by Ship Grounded With 54

SAN FRANCISCO, Sept. 10 (UPI)—Two salvage tugs and two Coast Guard vessels stood by the grounded British motorship Pacific Enterprise today, waiting for high tide to aid efforts to refloat her.

The 16,000-ton vessel went aground off the Point Arena light house yesterday morning during a heavy fog. Five passengers were removed by the Coast Guard, but the captain and crew of 53 stayed aboard.

It was feared that the sea might break the ship to pieces at low tide last night, but the danger point was passed without any major change in the ship's condition.

Jacobs to Broadcast

If Socialism Comes Who Will Be Responsible? will be the subject of Congressman Andrew Jacobs' broadcast on Station WISH at 8:30 p. m. today. Mr. Jacobs will define what socialism means to him and tell what he thinks is most likely to cause it in America.

In Indianapolis—Vital Statistics

EVENTS TODAY

Indiana Tobacco & Candy Distributors Assn. Annual Foundation's Chapter Picnic—9 a. m. Ladd's Creek, Clio.

Indiana State Fitting Show—Through Tues. 13. Springfield, Ind.

Band Music Week in Indianapolis—Bands, studios, studios, studios.

Indianapolis Chapter, A. Royal Arch Masons. Installation Officers—10 p. m. Hotel Indiana, Indianapolis.

American Veterans Committee Special Meeting—10 p. m. Anagamatic Club, Indianapolis.

Imperial Order of Redmen Open House—From 7 p. m. organization, 1213 W. North, Indianapolis.

Christian Methodist Church Lampions—Class Fish Fry—From 5 p. m. intersection of Blue Road and Stop T. Indianapolis. Club—Tomorrow and tomorrow, club grounds, E. 38th and Blue Roads. Open noon today, from 10 a. m. tomorrow.

EVENTS TOMORROW

Band Music Week in Indianapolis—Fins.

Army Ground Forces Band Concert and Male Chorus—2 p. m. Garfield Park.

Marion College Residence Hall and Recreation—Sundays. Building Dedication—Sundays. 10 a. m. Marion College. Building will be open for public inspection, remainder of day.

Indiana State Fitting Show—Through Tuesdays. Springfield, Ind.

Indiana Gun Club—Today and tomorrow, club grounds, E. 38th St. and Blue Roads. Open noon today, from 10 a. m. tomorrow.

Indiana State Fitting Show—Through Tuesdays. Springfield, Ind.

Indiana Gun Club—Mid Western Championships—Todays and tomorrow, club grounds, E. 38th St. and Blue Roads.

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