

## Fear Surrounding Rabies Can Be Eliminated, Dill

Montgomery. — Rabies is not a disease of the far past, but it is one of here and now in Alabama. Dr. D. G. Gill, State Health Officer said. This disease is not just one of reported human or animal cases alone, Dr. Gill pointed out. Also involved is the great fear surrounding rabies, much of all of which can be replaced with a healthy respect if steps are taken to control the disease effectively.

"Alabama had 458 reported cases of rabies in animals during 1954," Dr. Gill said. "Only two states in the nation reported larger totals. The recent picture holds true for other recent years. But because there are few human cases, people appear apathetic to the problem. There is a tendency to forget the possibility that rabies may be transmitted to people as long as the disease in animals, especially dogs, remains uncontrolled."

The most recent human rabid animal in the state was reported in early 1956. During 1955, only one died from the disease, but 965 Alabamians received treatment for it. The year before that, 1954, one human rabies death occurred in the state, but 1,068 series of treatments were given.

The treatment consists of 14 daily injections, and it is relatively expensive, Dr. Gill said. "While the treatment in use is one of the best means available to prevent the disease from developing following the bite of an animal with rabies, the injections themselves are not always without danger," he continued, "and are not 100 per cent effective."

Thus, many treatments given might have been unnecessary, if individuals had been well enough informed to handle such situations properly. Dr. Gill said that everyone needs to realize the importance of having veterinarians observe suspected rabid animals. That is why animals should be captured instead of killed, if at all possible. For example, if the animal remains alive 10 days after biting a person, it did not transmit rabies, and antirabic treatment would not have been needed.

"The animal's brain should be examined in a laboratory to tell whether or not it had rabies. Thus, if a biting animal cannot be caught and must be killed, it should be shot in a part of the body other than the head," Dr. Gill stressed. If an animal had rabies, small areas called Negri bodies usually can be seen by looking at its brain tissue under a microscope. "Thus, the head of an animal suspect should be submitted to the nearest public health laboratory for examination," Dr. Gill said.

Veterinarians and other local authorities can advise on preparation for mailing. Dr. Gill pointed out that the head should be refrigerated, but in no case should it be frozen. Again, if the laboratory finds that the biting animal did not have rabies, antirabic treatment is not necessary.

The victim of an animal bite should first wash the wound with warm, soapy water, then go to the doctor and be guided by his advice on treatment.

## TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO

As Recorded in the Files of The Colbert County Reporter

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Iron skillets should never be put down in the sink. The wet iron will discolor porcelain or enamel.

## EDITORIAL GRIST

### FREEDOM IS AN ABSOLUTE

Dan Thornton, former governor of Colorado, had some wise words to say to the Oregon Cattlemen's Association. He urged these producers to reject government subsidies. And he made his big point with a simple question: "Do we wish to remain a free enterprise nation or accept socialism?" There is no real middle ground between those two extremes. "A little bit of socialism" inexorably grows, like yeast, until we have a whole loaf of socialism. Then the individual becomes a robot, responding to the strings pulled by the bosses—who are the politicians and the bureaucrats. Groups of people may turn to government to help with some temporary problem. But after the problem has been solved or has changed, government is still right there with its controls and its regulations and its rules.

Moreover, government aid is always subject to the unpredictable winds of political expediency—as vast numbers of farmers must have learned by now. So far, according to all the evidence, a majority of livestock producers have been adamantly opposed to government for solutions to their problems. They would do well to consider government for solutions to their greater credit if they steadfastly maintain that position.

Livestock prices, like all prices, rise at one time and fall another. But freedom is an absolute that can't be subjected to variation.

### NEWSPAPERS AND ECONOMIC WELL-BEING

If anyone still wonders just how valuable the newspaper is as an advertising medium for business—in this era when other media are competing vigorously for business—he would do well to study a survey made by the Bureau of Business Research of Michigan State University. The survey deals with the effect on retail sales of last December's newspaper strike in Detroit. It shows that a gain in over-all sales in the Detroit metropolitan area during the strike period was due to buying in the suburbs. Sales in the downtown area actually declined by \$35 million.

Editor & Publisher says editorially: "The Michigan State analysis... is one of the greatest testimonials for newspaper advertising that has ever been written. It adds to the growing volume of data showing that wherever a community is deprived of its newspapers all business suffers. It is when general business conditions are good customers do not just naturally gravitate to a store. They have to be attracted by advertising, particularly newspaper advertising. People react to a sales message in newspapers. They do not react if the sales message and/or the newspaper is missing. Newspapers are essential to the economic well being of the business community."

That goes for the smaller papers as well as the larger ones—and for the villages as well as the metropolitan centers of population.

### LABOR UNDER COMMUNISM

This item appeared in National Review for May 2: "The official organ of the Typographers Union has gleaned the following picture of conditions in the Chinese People's Republic from stories in the Chinese Communist press itself. '1. In some plants workers are forced to labor 24 to 32 consecutive hours. 2. At a public meeting Communist Party representatives laid out the commendable spirit of certain workers who stayed on the job for two days and nights. 3. Workers on special emergency jobs toil five days and five nights in succession. 4. Workers are recalled from sick leave and forced to produce on a 32-hour shift. Overtime in the Chinese People's Republic is usually recorded as advance work or as a 'contribution' to the State. What a revolution of the proletariat that one has turned out to be!"

### EVER SINCE RUMNYMEDE

The Hoover Commission has recommended extensive changes in the federal government's budgeting and accounting functions. The report says: "The report is not just a statistical problem. Herbert Hoover himself has said: 'Within a more effective budgeting and accounting system lies the restoration of the fuller control of the national purse to the Congress, which has in great degree been lost. Ever since Rumnymede, the liberty of the purse by the legislative body has been a foundation stone in liberty itself.'"

### FUNERAL OF MISS ORLEAN McREYNOLDS HELD

Miss Orlean McReynolds, native of Colbert county and resident of Tusculum, died at her home in Tusculum on June 10. She was 30 years old. She was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. H. McReynolds. She was a member of an old and prominent family of this district and was a devoted member of St. John's Episcopal Church. She is survived by one niece, Miss Orlean King of Chattanooga, and the following nephews: Robert King, Chattanooga; Hansell King, Decatur; Frank Womble, Tusculum; Robert Julian, Ft. Worth, Tex. and John L. and Earl Julian, New York City. Mrs. W. B. Mauzey of Little Rock, Ark., Roy Haggard of Mystic, Conn., and Mrs. Louise Scovel of Chicago. Funeral services were conducted Tuesday from St. John's Episcopal Church by the Rev. Edward G. Mullen, rector of Trinity Episcopal Church, Florence. Burial was in Oakwood cemetery.

Mr. Hackley had been a resident of this city for the past 50 years. He was formerly an engineer on the Southern Railroad until 1931, at which time he had an accident which forced his retirement. He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Annie J. Hackley, and a daughter, Miss Mary Elizabeth Hackley, and a son, Frank Hackley. Pall bearers were F. M. Fitzgerald, W. T. Surratt, W. D. Shrader, L. H. Bradley, Frank Drago, Jimmy Drago.

### FORMS FOR FARMERS REFUNDS NOW READY

George D. Patterson, Director of Internal Revenue for the Birmingham District, announced this week that he now has available a supply of the Form to be used by farmers to claim refunds of the Federal tax paid on gasoline and certain other fuels. The official Form 2246 may be obtained at any of the sixteen Internal Revenue offices located throughout the state. They may also be obtained through local county agricultural agents and at many banks and post offices in the district. The public law authorizing this refund was approved by the President on April 2, 1956.

### CHRISTIAN SCIENCE SERVICES

"Is the Universe, Including Man, Evolved by Atomic Force?" is the subject of the Lesson-Sermon to be read at Christian Science services Sunday. The Golden Text is from Psalms (95:3,4): "The Lord is a great God, and a great King above all gods. In his hand are the deep places of the earth: the strength of the hills is his also."

### BRANCH BUILDING OF FIRST NATIONAL BANK COMPLETE

Construction on the \$120,000 First National Bank building in Sheffield is progressing steadily with plans for occupancy around July 1. Marshall Dugger, of the First National Bank, here, said.

The new bank was featured in the Muscle Shoals Chamber of Commerce Forge with the following article: One of the finest additions to the City of Sheffield will become a reality, a new modern banking facility will be opened to the general public when the First National Bank will move its operation from their temporary location in the Blake Building on the new home of Norman Brick on the corner of Fourth street and Nashville avenue.

At a cost of approximately \$120,000, the building consists of a basement and main floor containing some 10,000 square feet of floor space, completely air-conditioned, with the latest and most modern equipment available.

Features as drive-in windows, modern teller counter (space for 10 tellers), safe deposit boxes, parking facilities for 40 cars and other up-to-the-minute equipment will be available. There will be two entrances, one on the west side of the building from the parking lot, and the main entrance on the corner of Fourth and Nashville. There will be a direct telephone line between Sheffield and Tusculum parent bank.

Sam R. Leggett has been named manager of the new Sheffield office. Formal opening ceremonies will be held in which the general public will be invited to look over and inspect this new asset to the city and county.

### TOO-EARLY POISONING HURTS COTTON YIELDS

Auburn, Ala. — When a farmer discovers boll weevils on cotton plants, his first impulse is to grab the toxaphene, the heptachlor, or some other insecticide and start poisoning.

But this is one place where a grower should not "make haste" in getting an important farm job done. Poisoning is not recommended as soon as boll weevils make their appearance in the field. In fact, early poisoning may do more harm than good, according to A. P. Extension Entomologist W. A. Ruffin.

Explaining his point, the specialist in crop insects first pointed out that the boll weevils never seen on cotton are not the ones that will damage the coming crop. These are the weevils that hatch from the eggs they lay that will invade and destroy young squares.

More important, though, poison put on cotton fields now will destroy many beneficial insects needed to fight crop pests such as the bollworm. Left alone, ladybirds, beetles and lacewing flies will eat bollworm eggs and give good control of those insects until late July. Poison used now will kill these beneficial insects and leave the bollworm to do its damage unchecked.

Telling when control measures are needed, Ruffin said poisoning should be started when cotton is fruiting freely and 25 percent of the squares have been punctured.

## Negro Population Shows Decreasing In Alabama

For half-century the number of Negroes, on a percentage basis, has been substantially declining in Alabama, and by 1960 it is probable that 70 per cent of all Alabamians will be white.

This fact emerges from statistics supplied to the State Publicity Bureau by the Bureau of Vital Statistics of the State Health Department. In 1900, white citizens represented 54.7 per cent of the total — Alabama population. By 1950, whites made up 67.3 per cent of the State's population — an increase of 13.2 per cent.

Reviewing the figures on the basis of 10-year periods, the greatest change—as might have been expected—occurred between the 1910 — 1920 period, when the number of Alabama white citizens increased 4.1 per cent. It will be recalled that shortly after World War I, which ended in 1918, there was a mass migration of Southern Negroes to the North, and Mid-West.

In other decades, however, the percentage decline of the Negro in Alabama's population has remained at a rather steady rate of slightly more than two per cent each 10 years. Here are the figures for the first half of the present century which show the white population increasing its percentage majority:

In 1900 the State population was composed of 54.7 per cent white; 1910, 67.5 per cent; 1920, 61.6 per cent; 1930, 63.7 per cent; 1940, 65.3 per cent, and 1950, 67.9 per cent.

It will be noticed that the smallest increase was between the 1930 and 1940 census years, when the Negro ratio declined only 1.6 per cent. That particular decade encompassed the years of the Great Depression. These statistics appear to indicate the following:

If Alabama's non-white population is shown to have continued its normal percentage decline between 1950 and 1960, when the next counting of heads is made in 1960, the State's population will then show a rather steady rate of slightly more than two per cent each 10 years. It is therefore, at this point that economists, as well as sociologists, begin to speculate on the effect of this developing structural change in Alabama's population may have on the future of the State.

Some fabrics with special finishes cannot be straightened for cutting. It's best to see that yard goods are rolled straight on the bolt before buying.

A very few of the newer electrical appliances have sealed-in units and may be partially immersed in water. Be sure the manufacturer's directions specify that an appliance may be immersed.

White nylon garments should be laid away after washed in water that is muddy or rusty or that has been used to wash very soiled clothes.

## Civil Defense Has Key Role in Peace

Natural disasters can strike anytime, anywhere. From pioneer days to the present, Americans have always helped each other in times of distress. But other, more recent, great hurricanes, flood or tornado completely outmatched the valiant but disorganized efforts of untrained volunteers.

### TODAY THE UNITED STATES HAS A FORM OF DISTASTER RELIEF

It is a form of disaster relief called Federal Civil Defense Act. The administration does have a responsibility for coordinating all disaster relief efforts of the Federal Government under Public Law 492. This act guarantees that the resources of the entire nation can be marshaled against natural or man-made disasters as required.

It's a job which requires the skills of many specialists, such as the Army Corps of Engineers, the National Guard and the American Red Cross. These agencies provide valuable assistance for disaster area relief and rescue, fire control, first aid and other skills in practical use.



**THESE WOMEN!** By d'Alessio

**ORIS OF THE CHORUS**

"I don't know why they're called backers of the show! I've found them all pretty forward!"