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American Municipal Group Reports on D. D. T. Tests

Chicago, Oct. 20.—Widespread use of D. D. T. insecticide by American cities for extermination of harmful insects in municipal buildings and private business establishments and for the control of diseases is reported by the American Municipal association.

Some city officials report their results with D. D. T. (dichloro-diphenyl-trichloroethane) as "marvelous". Most officials, however, hesitate about drawing early conclusions as to the effectiveness of the insecticide.

The medical director of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis has warned that spraying of the cities of Rockford, Ill., Savannah, Ga., Paterson, N. J., and New Haven, Conn., in an attempt to prevent spread of polio epidemics is strictly an experiment. Spraying of portions of these cities was done by airplane.

The health commissioner of Boston, Mass., reported in September 20 that since the polio-infested Manhattan-Ritz park district of Boston was hand-sprayed with D. D. T. on August 20 not a single new case of the disease had been reported. He indicated that hand-spraying may be the reason for the successful results.

Hand spraying and spraying by air have both been used to combat a polio epidemic in Miami and Dade county, Fla. The mosquito control director reported results of aerial spraying under favorable weather conditions at 100 per cent effective.

Richmond, Va., health officials are experimenting with the use of D. D. T. as a possible remedy for the spread of Rocky Mountain spotted (tick) fever.

Welfare officials in Hartford, Conn., have expressed satisfaction with results achieved from use of D. D. T. to kill insects in the municipal hospital, isolation hospital and old people's home in Hartford. The insecticide was applied to the walls with a brush.

Officials of the Lincoln Heights jail in Los Angeles are substituting D. D. T. for soap and Lysol water to wash down walls. Soap and Lysol had to be applied every day but at present officials expect to spray the cells with D. D. T. only every four months.

Atlanta city health officials have started spraying 10,000 business establishments with D. D. T. Atlanta has been chosen as a training center for D. D. T. workers in the southeast.

Cleveland is experimenting with the use of D. D. T. in city dumps, at Central Market and Warrensville workhouse.

A report from Havanna, Ill., says that D. D. T. spraying of the Santa Fe railroad depot by hopper has been effective in helping to control mosquitoes, flies and other insects. An insect count made before the first spraying August 8 showed an average of 17 mosquitoes to each pup tent located in the area. Four days after D. D. T. spraying of the depot and the 4,200 acres of evacuated and Mississippi river backwater, no mosquitoes were in the tents.

Following successful experiments last fall, painters at Greendale homes, a public housing project in Milwaukee, are painting the walls with a mixture of 5 per cent D. D. T. solution to every gallon of interior paint. The report of the housing manager is "that for six months after a wall is painted, flies will be killed on contact."

More than 12,000 head of cattle and 60 dairy barns have been sprayed with D. D. T. in Orange county, Fla. The work covered more than 3,000 square miles and in addition to the cattle, 200,000 square feet of barn flooring and walls were sprayed. A 2 per cent solution in water was used.

Palisades Interstate park in New York has been using D. D. T. carefully in order not to upset the natural balance and deserve birds of insect foods. One part of D. D. T. in 10,000,000 will kill flies.

The park's open stables have witnessed unusual experiments with D. D. T. Last April the stables were sprayed with D. D. T. in kerosene and a second spraying was done about a month ago. Daily rides take the horses into the forest. The last horse is stabled by 5 p. m. By 6 p. m. the visiting insects have contacted some part of the sprayed stable and have succumbed.

Yellowstone Park Travel Shows Gain

Yellowstone Park, Oct. 20.—Travel to the nation's largest national park during the 1945 travel year which extended from Oct. 1, 1944 to Sept. 30, 1945, increased 103.9 per cent over that of the previous travel year.

According to recently compiled travel statistics, 173,256 persons visited Yellowstone National park as compared with 85,347 in 1944. A number of factors, including an increase in gasoline rations during the early summer, redeployment of the armed forces to the Pacific after the end of the war in Europe, and the shift of warworkers caused an increase of 56.4 per cent up to V-J day, after which the daily travel doubled and continued at this greatly increased rate to the end of the travel year. The termination of gasoline rationing provided opportunities for persons from all walks of life to enjoy recreation and rest and thousands of persons who had occasion to move across the country were able to make side trips to the park and enjoy the scenery, fishing and other recreation offered.

While most of the travel from adjacent states was recorded on week ends, there was a marked increase in the number of automobiles from states considerable distances from the park.

While the war was in progress, the park was operated on a strict wartime basis and only minimum accommodations were provided for the relatively few visitors who were adjacent to be able to reach the park. The impact of transcontinental increased travel which was experienced after August 15, found the available tourist cabins, the single hotel and the cafeterias unprepared to handle the influx of visitors who were often forced to seek food and lodging outside the park and to occasionally spend the nights in their cars. The Cottage hotel at Mammoth provided only a limited number of rooms but tourist cabins and cafeterias were operated at Old Faithful and Fishing bridge. Meals were also obtainable at the Coffee shop at Mammoth.

An acute shortage of personnel made it impossible for the operators to expand their services sufficiently to meet the demands for meals and lodging during periods of peak travel. No facilities were open at Canyon, Lake, Tower Falls and West Thumb but general stores and gasoline filling stations were operated at Mammoth, Old Faithful and Fishing bridge. Rooms in the general stores at the two latter locations helped to provide sleeping accommodations for the overflow from the tourist cabins.

Favorable weather which prevailed generally during the fall of 1945, permitted travel over most of the park roads until November 12, when snows blocked all roads except the route from Gardiner through Mammoth to the northeast entrance which was kept clear of snow during the entire winter. Snow plows commenced clearing the roads on April 26 and travel was permitted through the west entrance on May 8. The south entrance was opened on May 24, the east entrance on May 26, and the northeast entrance began admitting cars which had entered via the Cooke City-Red Lodge approach road on July 15. The

D.D.T. Experimental Spraying For Virus Reported

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