ARMY SEEKS METHODS TO FIGHT ATOMIC WAR FIRES

An army civil defense expert this week said fires may well be "public enemy No. 1" in any future atomic war. He added the War Department has under study new methods of meeting such an emergency.

Maj. Gen. Harold R. Bull, member of a special arm board studying civil defense in the light of new modes of warfare, told the First National Fire Prevention Conference, "The utter and sudden devastation of atomic attack, with many added hazards for the fire-fighters to cope with, will call for development of some new techniques, equipment and types of training."

He said the department was studying the "procedures and training and equipment" that will be required to insure prompt response by the military in an emergency beyond the civil authorities to control, whether the hostile action comes by sabotage, bombs, incendiaries or other weapons.

"Development of new weapons," he asserted, "will increase an enemy's capabilities for fire devastation many hundredfold to a point where paralysis of our war-making capabilities is a possibility unless we develop and take counter measures."

Protection to meet simultaneous fire attacks on crowded American cities will require several methods, Maj. Bull said. They include:

1. Training of all individuals in elimination of unnecessary fre hazards and in "immediate action" methods of individual fire fighting to suppress and control ncipient fires.

2. Augmentation of local trained ire fighting reserves.

3. Development of mutual aid arrangements.

4. State support of communities through emergency control of the available mobile fire reserves with in the states.

5. Federal emergency support, with available means including necessary elements of the armed forces in aid of the civil powers in stricken communities "in spite of such desirable diversion of troops from their primary mission."

O'CONOR PROTESTING CUTS IN FISHERIES

Threatened abolition of the Fisheries Technological Laboratory at College Park and elimination of Federal cooperation in ground water studies, occasioned by announced House cuts in the appropriation for the Department of Interior for the coming year, were fought vigorously by Senator Herbert R. O'Conor in a statement presented on the Senate floor.

Senator O'Conor called particular attention to the excellent work done by the Laboratory to further the economic progress of seafood interests not only in the Chesapeake Bay area.

Curtailment of the ground water studies in Maryland and other states, which would be necessitated by withdrawal of Federal matching funds, was termed by Senator O'Conor "a startling backward step." He pointed to the increasing need for knowledge of available underground waters because of tremendously greater water usage in concentrated industrial and residential areas.

NO CANNING SUGAR TO BE ISSUED

In past years, the Office of Price Administration has issued special sugar stamps at canning time, but this year the amount of sugar per stamp has been raised to ten pound and there is to be no special issue for canning.

Consequently, home making specialist in the extension service at the University of Maryland warn homemakers to start now to save sugar for canning. They point out that one 10-pound stamp became available on April 1 and has to last until July 1. This stamp becoming available July 1, is good until the end of September.

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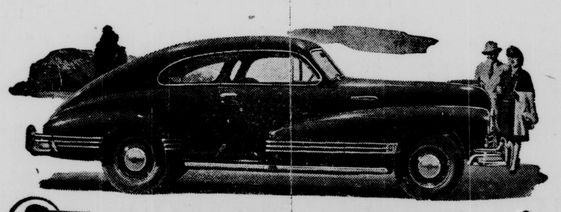
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