

# 'Facts' Dispute Benefit Of Water Fluoridation

To the Editor:

On the subject of water fluoridation, I would like to share the following facts which I have recently learned with others who are interested. I have asked and heard others ask, "How did all this fluoridation business get started?"

It seems "the fluoride originated from a by-product of the aluminum industry and consisted of a slag that companies used to dump into rivers" until it was found "that these wastes were killing the fish and were harmful to wildlife and farm stock. So legislation was passed to stop the practice."

Thereafter these waste products accumulated in great slag piles and it was from this slag that fluorides were obtained to fluoridate drinking water.

WHEN FLUORIDE occurs naturally, as it does in some rivers and streams in the U.S., it is in the relatively harmless form of "calcium fluoride but the aluminum waste fluoride is in the highly toxic, highly soluble sodium fluoride which is used as rat and cockroach poisons."

It was also found "in these naturally fluoridated areas" that while "there is less dental decay in youth" later on "the teeth become as hard and brittle" that dental repair is difficult and so "more dentures per capita are worn than in the no-fluoride section of our country."

"MORE THAN 100 cities in the U.S. have already banished fluoridation" of water supplies; in some instances because the "combination of fluoride and chlorine caused a high degree of corrosion to pumps and equipment in the pumping stations."

Concerning the "wasteful economics of fluoridation" it is stated that a Pennsylvania town of 10,000 people voted down fluoridation by a 6-to-1 vote.

It was "figured it would cost

\$15,000 a year for the fluoride chemical."

APPROXIMATELY 2 per cent of the total water leaving the water works is used for drinking purposes.

Since the children in the benefited area bracket (that is up to 12 years of age) constitute only 10 per cent of the total population, they will consume only 1.5 of one per cent of the total fluoridated water supply.

Therefore, 1.5 of one per cent of \$15,000 or \$30 is the actual value which would be received from this \$15,000 expenditure."

AS FOR THE medical aspects of the issue, not all medical authorities favor water fluoridation. "The Association of American Physicians and Surgeons, an organization comprising 15,000 members of the American Medical Association, put themselves on record as "condemning the addition of any substance to public water supplies for the purpose of affecting the bodies or the bodily or mental functions of the consumers."

DR. CHARLES Gordon Heyd, past president, American Medical Association, is quoted as saying "I am appalled at the prospect of using water as a vehicle for drugs. Fluoride is a corrosive poison that will produce serious effects on a long-run basis. Any attempt to use water this way is deplorable."

Dr. Ludwig Gross, chief of cancer research, Veteran's Administration, says: "The plain fact that fluoride is an insidious poison, harmful, toxic, and cumulative in its effect, even when ingested in minimal amounts, will remain unchanged no matter how many times it will be repeated in print that fluoridation of the water supply is safe."

The above facts and many more were learned from "The Anti-Fluoridationist."

MRS. FRED (ROBERTA) BIRCH, Birmingham

## Will Fluoridated Water Cause Tooth Mottling?

To the Editor:

Yesterday, I asked my dentist if he would give me his unqualified assurance in writing that children taking 1 mg per day of the fluoride in his prescription would remain entirely free from mottled enamel (dental fluorosis).

"Mottling" is an abnormal development of the tooth's surface; a permanent and irreparable discoloration. The AMA calls it the most delicate criterion of harm from F-ingestion.

At first, my dentist offered to publish a statement in the newspaper that 1 mg daily would not cause mottling. Later, he withdrew his original offer, but stipulated the conditions under which he would make such a statement.

His requirement: A signed statement from me that I have full confidence in his judgment and reliability as a member of the dental profession.

NATURALLY, I could not agree to these terms. During my investigation, I have learned that proponents anticipate that fluoridated water produces mottling in 10 to 20 per cent of children drinking it. 17 per cent of the children in the pilot study of Newburgh, N. Y., have been officially reported by the Public Health Service to have mottled teeth after 10 years of fluoridation.

Anyone consuming one liter of water, which is approximately 1 quart fluoridated at 1 part per million, would be taking into his system 1 mg of fluoride per day. This is the amount that proponents claim to be desirable for teeth and "safe."

My dentist freely acknowledged that mottling would result from the daily ingestion of 2.5 mg F-per day. This is the amount contained

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in 2 1/2 liters, or about 10 glasses of water fluoridated at 1 ppm.

MANY CHILDREN drink more than 4 glasses of water per day. In other words, there is no control of the dose when fluoride is added to drinking water. The recommended 1 mg per day does not take into account fluoride which enters the system from many sources other than water, such as foods, pharmaceuticals and fluoride-contaminated air.

I urge everyone who reads this letter to ask his dentist if he is willing to assure him in writing that no mottling will result from daily ingestion of fluoridated water.

CONCERNED PARENT

## Tells Why He's Not a Candidate

To the Editor:

My entry into school business was precipitated by the undesirable attitude of the administrative staff toward the parents and children of the East Southfield School area.

Children who lived within one-half mile of the school building were ordered to vacate the building and the playground during the noon hour so that the teachers could rest.

It has always been my belief that schools are developed and maintained by the taxpayers for the

primary purpose of helping to give their children a proper and adequate education. The welfare of the children must come first.

ALL OF MY efforts as a school board trustee have been directed towards getting more consideration and a better educational program for all children in the Southfield School District.

I have insisted that all school business be transacted within the framework of the Michigan School Law, as required by my oath of office. This has engendered much

criticism from administrative staff members and their supporters. If any of the recommended candidates for a new school superintendent for the Southfield School District who have been interviewed is employed, the administration's attitude towards education and public relations should be satisfactorily improved.

MRS. CAMPBELL and I were disappointed with the classroom progress that our two boys were making in the Southfield elementary schools. Our boys were

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removed and placed in schools where the utmost is required of each child. They are not being methodically held back while waiting for someone to catch up in a take-it-easy-atmosphere.

During the past 20 years I have spent thousands of hours and hundreds of my own dollars in an effort to help better community, municipal and civic affairs, for all of the people.

Perhaps I should quit trying to help other people and spend more time with my own family and for our own welfare.

For these primary reasons I re-

cently decided not to run for re-election to the Southfield School Board.

JOHN G. CAMPBELL, Trustee, Southfield Board of Education

## Down South

Ronald T. Menig, aviation machinist's mate, third class, USN, son of Jack E. Menig of 1168 Edgewood, Birmingham, is serving with Fighter Squadron 103, at Camp Lejeune, N.C.

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