

# 40 CUP ELECTRIC PERCOLATOR



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Shipping  
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We bought up all we could get of this famous brand Electric Percolator, at bargain price, and are passing our savings on to you. At this low, low price, you can afford the luxury of this big 10 to 40 cup party perk.

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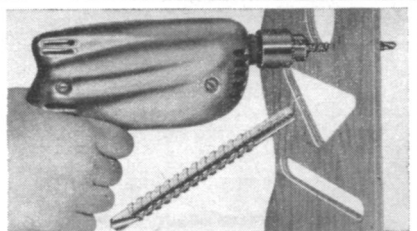
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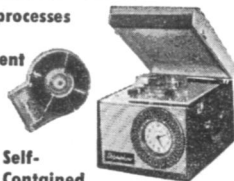
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## PUBLIC SAFETY

# Show Radiation Death In Motion Picture

By WATSON DAVIS

Director, SCIENCE SERVICE

TO THE WORLD discussion of the dangers of atomic war there is shortly to be added the screen dramatization of the novel "On the Beach" by Nevil Shute. Simultaneous world premieres in cities (but not Moscow) of six continents on Dec. 17, will add the impact of the motion picture medium to that of the book that has been available for nearly two years.

There is a difference between reading about what might happen if the world were atomically bombed to fallout extinction for mankind and seeing it happen before one's eyes, even if you realize that you are not dead after all and it is play acting.

It does not matter whether the scientists contend (although I don't believe they will) that the picture is overdrawn and that just a few humans would survive the most severe loosening of fission-fusion products of insane mutual retaliatory atomic bombings of the centers of the Northern Hemisphere. It is so close to what could happen that the production is far from a farce, despite its high drama.

In June, 1959, the Joint Committee on Atomic Energy's sub-committee on radiation under the chairmanship of Rep. Chet Holifield held a week-long investigation into what would happen if 263 nuclear weapons with a total yield of 1,446 megatons were assumed to have been detonated at ground level on 224 targets in the United States and that 2,500 megatons were detonated elsewhere in the Northern Hemisphere (which assumes that our side got the biggest punch in the exchange of atomic bombs).

Not complete human extinction from fallout and radiation was forecast in these hearings, only 50,000,000 American dead, 20,000,000 casualties, 12,000,000 American homes destroyed and 10,000,000 damaged. But remember that this Holifield nearing war was by no means the worst that could be contemplated. Perhaps the so-called civilized world would have enough energy (human as well as atomic) left to pollute atomically the air of the whole world so that the alternative to suicide was death following a horrible few weeks of illness.

The actors, Gregory Peck, Ava Gardner, Fred Astaire (who acts instead of dancing), Anthony Perkins and Donna Anderson, to name just those given top billing by Producer Stanley Kramer, are individuals with whom you can identify in their loves and reactions in their and humanity's last days.

Seeing the streets of Melbourne and San Francisco completely empty (how did they do it?) produces either a gruesome shudder or the feeling that it would be a wonderful place to drive a car!

Since "On the Beach" is laid in 1964, we can still hope that it will not necessarily happen. Perhaps the punch line of the play can be true: "There is still time, brother."

Science News Letter, December 5, 1959

# Don't Wet Car To Wash It . . .

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