

MEDICINE

Still Driving Taxi Seven Years After Lung Cancer

➤ THE PATIENT drives a taxi every day, although seven years ago doctors at New York Hospital-Cornell Medical Center found that he had a rapidly growing lung cancer that could not be removed by an operation. So for about three weeks they gave him X-ray treatments, 20 treatments in all. He went back to his work as taxi driver and has continued at it ever since. His only complaint is an occasional cough.

His case is reported by Drs. Harry W. Burnett, Jr., and Israel Steinberg of New York Hospital-Cornell Medical Center, New York, and Dr. Charles T. Dotter, now of the University of Oregon Medical School Hospitals and Clinics at Portland, Ore., in the *New England Journal of Medicine* (Nov. 27).

This patient, they point out, shows that X-ray treatment can be more than palliative and that in cases of lung cancer that cannot be operated, it can control the cancer.

Science News Letter, December 27, 1952

ENTOMOLOGY

DDT Saved 5,000,000 In Last Ten Years

➤ FIVE MILLION deaths and 100,000,000 serious illnesses have been prevented by DDT since it came into common use ten years ago, Dr. Edward F. Knipling, president of the American Association of Economic Entomologists, reported to the meeting in Philadelphia.

Malaria and typhus fever control account for the largest part of these encouraging figures, Dr. Knipling said, although other insect-borne diseases, like dysentery and typhoid, have been greatly cut by DDT, too.

On the other hand, there are no recorded cases of deaths or serious illnesses caused by DDT used as an insecticide, he said.

The number of poisonings from common household chemicals like aspirin and ammonia, Dr. Knipling said, reduces to insignificance the few cases of intentional or accidental poisoning by direct consumption of DDT.

Science News Letter, December 27, 1952

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