

# Striking Back Against Rabies

**PRODUCTION NO.:** CDC 4-087.0, Released 1950

**DATA:** Motion Picture; Sound, Black & White; Time: 12 Minutes; Length: 420 Feet

**GRAPHIC FORM:** General Photography.

## PURPOSE

To emphasize the need for a Nation-wide rabies control program and to depict the various steps and procedures by which public health personnel, physicians, laboratory technicians, veterinarians, livestock disease control officials, and other citizens may cooperate on local, State, and national levels toward the initiation and execution of such a program.

## AUDIENCE

Federal, State, and local public health personnel, livestock disease control officials, physicians, laboratory technicians, veterinarians, and public health, medical, and veterinary students.

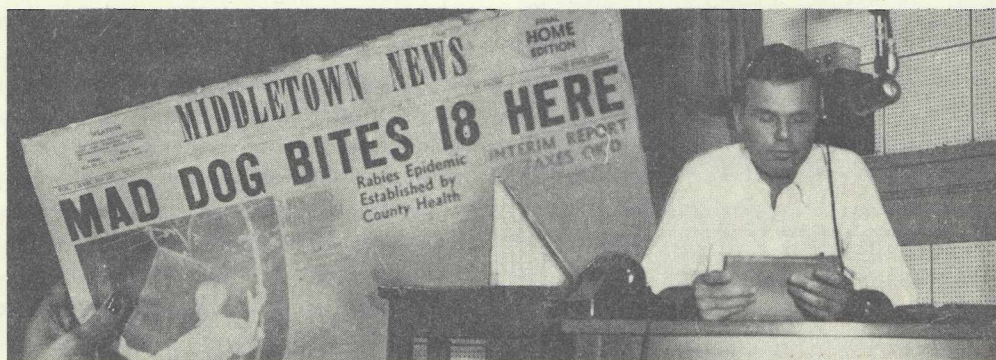
## CONTENT

Newspaper headlines announce a rabies epidemic in a typical county, and report that the county health department has called in the State public health veterinarian and a Federal rabies control expert to set up emergency control measures. Radio news commentator broadcasts the proper precautionary procedures for anyone bitten by a stray and possibly rabid animal, as well as how to safeguard oneself until an emergency control program is put into effect. In consultation with the county public health officer and the State veterinarian, the Federal rabies control expert suggests: (1) issuing a quarantine order restricting the movement of all dogs in the county; (2) establishing emergency dog inoculation clinics located at strategic points; and (3) organizing all of the practicing veterinarians in the county for an emer-

gency canine vaccination program. A local physician reports that he has three more persons suffering from dog bite. The doctors in conference advise him that the State will furnish vaccine but that rabies vaccination should be delayed until the dog is caught and examined for rabies, if the delay is not too long. The scene changes to a residential area where a rabid dog, the suspected animal, staggers across a lawn and falls helpless. Dog wardens arrive and, with long poles equipped with leather loops, load the dog into their wagon and take him to the local humane shelter for observation. The dog dies and its head is sent to the health department laboratory. The brain is removed and under the microscope Negri bodies are revealed in the brain cells, especially in those of Ammon's horn. Therefore, the diagnosis for rabies is positive, and the local physician proceeds to inject with vaccine every day for 14 days all those who were bitten by the rabid dog. In the meantime, the emergency program to control the epidemic has operated efficiently and 80 percent of all dogs in the county are immunized in 1 week. As soon as the county epidemic is under control, the State public health veterinarian and the Federal rabies control expert outline procedures by which rabies may be controlled throughout the State and Nation.

## COMMENTS

Another motion picture in the rabies series is 4-111, "The Laboratory Diagnosis of Rabies." Filmstrips are 5-093, "The Fight Against Rabies," and 5-105, "The Laboratory Diagnosis of Rabies."



Newspapers and radio stations are always willing to cooperate in organizing community interest for the execution of local rabies control programs.