Gregg, Family Being Checked For Uranium

By JIMMY WALKER
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Walter (Bill) Gregg revealed yesterday that his family and maid are being checked by the U.S. Public Health service for uranium content in their bodies.

In another development; the Air Force reported the first six claims for home damage were paid off Friday in the Mars Bluff bombing.

Gregg said that their family physician last Monday had taken specimens over a 12 hour period from him, his wife, the three children, Ella Davies, their cousins, Catherine Coker, their cook, for forwarding to Walter Reed Hospital. They were the only ones at the scene of the blast.

Gregg said it was a check for uranium. Another check was to be made in about 10 days, or early next week, he said.

Results of the first tests have not been heard from, he said.

THE RAILROAD man and his family are still looking for a place to live until the Air Force settles for the damage. His home was destroyed by the blast.

Gregg said he is trying to find a three bedroom furnished house. One with two large bedrooms would do.

Asked if he would rebuild on his land at Mars Bluff, he said, "I thought so at first, but my wife says she doesn't want to."

The Gregg home was adjacent to the old homeplace, built by Gregg's grandfather.

The Red Cross this week gave Gregg $300 for emergency expenses and he is trying to replace some of the family wardrobe with it. He said most of their clothes were ruined.

The concussion of the TNT explosion shattered the walls of the home, spraying the clothes with rock wool insulation. Gregg said that a thorough cleaning by a dry cleaner and laundry here failed to get it out.

"My wife put on a coat yesterday and had to pull it off in a few minutes. Her neck was scratched red," he remarked.

The Air Force is taking inventory of all the Gregg losses and will forward the list to the Judge Advocate, Headquarters, USAF. It will make to payment on the damage until the full damage is estimated, he said.

The first six claims under $1,000 were paid off Friday to six Mars Bluff families, mostly for broken windows. Total of the payments came to $320.41, a survey by The Morning News showed.

Receiving checks were Mr. and Mrs. John W. Price, and Mr. and Mrs. W. E. McLeod, $232.45, for a broken picture window, other broken panes, and broken grocery store stocks; Mr. and Mrs. James A. Sanders, $35, windows; Mr. and Mrs. E. K. Gandy, $6.60, window; Mr. and Mrs. Ezra C. Bailey, $30.10, windows, shingles, stove flu; Mr. and Mrs. John Cameron, $16.36, broken windows, front door; Mr. and Mrs. Fred Bailey, $5.05, window.

The settlements, 10 days after the bombing, was hastened by direct attention of the Air Force Chief of Claims for the United States.

Treasury checks to settle other claims under $1,000 will be mailed daily from headquarters, Air Material Command, Dayton, Ohio, as processed claims are received.

The Air Force will keep a representative at the Air Force Liaison Office, Florence airport, until