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NOTES FROM A HOSPITAL

By Charles V. Stanton

SACRED HEART HOSPITAL, Eugene—Many months ago I said in this column that I didn't like hospitals but that a hospital was a wonderful place when you needed it. I spoke then as an observer. Now, after a month on a hospital bed, I can speak somewhat as an expert. During this past month my dislike for hospitals has materially lessened, while appreciation for their worth has grown enormously. I also expressed in this column a few weeks ago the inferiority complex I had developed because I could not hold up my end of the conversation when talk turned to operations. But all that is now changed. I've had an operation! From now on I will be able to exchange intimate and gory details whenever the subject of operations comes up. And, if no one else wants to start the topic, I'll be glad to.

It is not by choice that I'm in a hospital in our neighborhood city. My Roseburg doctor sent me here to consult a specialist.

The specialist didn't take kindly to my suggestion that he travel back and forth between Eugene and Roseburg to treat me in one of our fine hospitals at home. He insisted that I remain here in Eugene. So, after he had me tied down, he took off for a convention and I haven't seen him since. But he left me in the most competent hands of his associates who have followed the pattern he established.

A month in a hospital gives one time to do a lot of thinking. Right now I am trying to out-think our good friend Major Hoople. While he is working on his air-conditioned rocking chair, I am trying to invent a method to keep bed covers comfortable.

There is no scientific rule, nothing in the law of averages, to explain why a sheet always goes in one direction, the blanket to the opposite side of the bed, while the spread bunches either around the neck or feet.

It would save so much work for nurses and aides if all bedcovers could be made to follow the same direction instead of each going its own way.

Right now I'm working on a plan for sewing magnets into the four corners of each covering. When I've managed to find the means for putting the magnets through the laundry, I'll have the problem licked.

The invention to which I intend to apply my talents most industriously, however, is that of a lotion to stop hair from growing under adhesive tape. I expect the solution of that process to bring me my first million. And think of the relief to sufferers.

First they shave a patient as close as possible. Then, it seems, they drill out each individual hair. Then they cover the surface with adhesive tape and bandages.

But immediately hair starts growing. Within hours the stubble begins to set up an unbearable itching. When the time comes to take off the tape, the hair has grown into anchors of iron and steel causing liberal patches of hide to accompany the tape.

It seems that simple research should produce a solution inhibiting hair growth for at least a few weeks. Please don't steal my idea.

Then there's the hospital water jug. Several times each day the patient gets a jug of fresh water. The nurse or aide who performs this kind of service invariably also fills the water glass. Being one of those persons who has no use for water, unless flavored with coffee, or something, I find myself sipping at a glass of stale water while fresh ice water remains untouched in the jug.

Why not a container with compartments for coffee, tea, milk, water, Cokes, etc., and a secret section for the stuff your friends smuggle in occasionally?

Nurses seem to think that all men patients are wolves. A nurse doesn't appear more than twice in a man's room until he is addressing her in terms of endearment. All nurses become "Dear," "Darling" or "Honey" within a space of a few hours.

Nurses, however, don't need to think that it is their irresistible charm which brings such titles.

The average man uses terms of endearment in addressing the women of his household. It becomes a habit to use a term of affection for the women who are a part of the family. Thus, when a nurse performs the many intimate acts involved in hospital care, she instinctively gets an endearing title. And, besides, it's a lot easier to call the nurses "Honey" than to try to remember their names.

But speaking of "Honeys" I can't think of a better term for the wonderful nurses, aides, maids and volunteers who have served me so well during the past month. It is not a term of endearment. It is an expression of admiration, respect and appreciation.

Invariably one of the first questions from my male visitors is "Do you have beautiful nurses?"

When a man reaches my age every woman is beautiful. Some of those who have cared for me could easily work as artist models. But whether or not they are fair of face and form, they are beautiful in my eyes because of their solicitude for the welfare and comfort of their patients, their devoted ministrations, their sincere sympathy, understanding and helpfulness.

Yes, my nurses are beautiful — all of them.

Why do so many women become nurses? I am convinced it is because of the opportunity to boss men.

"Here, take this."

"Come on, eat your toast."

"Get your head down; you know you're not supposed to raise up."

"Quit trying to turn yourself. We'll turn you when it's time."

All day long they give orders, stick needles into the hide, turn, twist and pull. I'm convinced women become nurses just so they can tyrannize over the helpless male.

I have met many very interesting people during my stay.

One of those I have most appreciated is Father Pius, the hospital chaplain.

A Lithuanian refugee, he came here from a DP camp.

Hal Boyle

NEW YORK (AP) — A new humane movement in America has as its goal planned parenthood for animal pets. We are a cat-and-dog-loving people. No country spends more money in the care and feeding of its pets. Probably no other country has as many animal hospitals — or cemeteries for pets.

Yet still more than two million unwanted, homeless animals must be put to death each year in dog pounds and animal shelters. Here is the reason, as given by Helen Jones, educational activities director of the newly organized National Humane Society:

"There are some 49 million dogs and cats in American homes, and the number increases about 5 percent each year. But there are also at least 15 million homeless dogs and 25 million homeless cats, and they are increasing even more rapidly."

"These stray unloved animals are smothering and bankrupting the nation's humane societies and municipal pounds."

"At present they must be put to death. The tragic killing must continue while the surplus continues. But the humane movement must begin to prevent the breeding of unwanted animals instead of merely killing, killing, endlessly killing."

"The new humane society blames the situation largely on irresponsible pet owners. It plans a national campaign to induce them to avoid overbreeding their animals."

"This isn't just emotionalism," said Miss Jones. "We've reached a saturation point in homeless animals."

Can't existing humane societies do the job? Miss Jones doesn't think so. "Today there are fewer than 700 humane organizations in the entire United States," she said. "They operate largely on a local basis, and most of them are concentrated on the East and West Coast."

"At least 2,970 communities need organized humane work. It has become a national problem."

The new NHS will cooperate with the SPCA and other groups in the field, she said, but will operate its own separate animal shelters. The society doesn't oppose vivisection, but will refuse to turn over animals from its own shelters to scientific laboratories. "We feel that anyone who turns an unwanted animal over to us has the right to know that it either will be placed in a new home or given a painless death," said Miss Jones.

Other NHS goals: To see that laboratory animals are properly cared for and subjected to no unnecessary cruelty. To improve the slaughtering methods of the half billion meat animals and fowl butchered in America each year.

A constructive example of what the society favors: One Midwest packing company now uses an immobilizer filled with carbon dioxide to render hogs unconscious before they are shackled, knifed and bled.

Retail Lumbermen Elect Officers

SEATTLE (AP) — The Western Retail Lumbermen's Assn. Wednesday elected W. W. McGready of Forest Grove, Ore., as president and named new vice presidents for the association's eight districts.

Elected as vice presidents at the annual convention here were: K. M. Slingsby, Seattle, District 1; E. N. Stetson, Elmer, Wash., District 2; C. A. Perin, Corvallis, Ore., District 3; W. Stewart Orr, Grants Pass, Ore., District 4; John Kendall, Spokane, District 5; Walter K. Laursen, Bend, Ore., District 6; W. F. Bishop, Boise, Idaho, District 7; W. M. Tobby, Clarkston, Wash., District 8; and E. J. Volk, Kenilworth Spruce Mills, District of Alaska.

New directors chosen were Robert G. Linville and George C. Jacobsen Jr., for Idaho; W. H. Gerretsen, V. R. Lawler and Martin Smith, for Oregon; and D. L. Shanafelt, W. C. Walter and Fred R. Ahrend, for Washington.

Members of his family are in Russian slave camps. The Russians killed his brother.

But one would never know his own hardships, worries and troubles as he goes about his work of cheering the sick, ministering to the dying, providing little gifts to lift the spirits, giving strength by the touch of his hand.

The tenets of his religion do not limit his kindness. He draws no lines of race, color or creed. His kindly hand, his sympathy, his warm friendliness go to all alike.

I believe he could be a great and wealthy man. I have seen copies of some of his oil paintings. I am not an art critic, but as a layman, I believe his canvases would create a sensation in any art gallery. Yet he has never made a display. He has given away paintings that in my opinion could be world famous.

But "giving" apparently is the one thing to which his life is dedicated.

To those who may be interested in my condition, I will report that I have had a remarkably fast recovery. I expect to leave the hospital the last of this week. I have had little pain or discomfort. I have remained strong. In fact, the speed of my recovery has been somewhat astonishing.

I have been greatly aided by the hundreds of cards, letters, flowers, books, personal calls and so many other kindnesses from so many people. It would be an almost impossible task to acknowledge each and every message of good wishes I have received. So please let me express my thanks in this way to all the many, many friends who were so kind to me. Your messages were a great boost to my morale.

Some of you were kind enough to mention that you missed this column. I am glad. I probably won't be able to resume it for some little time yet, but it is good to know that I have some readers who miss me, even though they may cuss me a times.

As I have said, the speed of my recovery has been little short of miraculous. I owe no small part of that condition to the "lift" from so many of my friends. But I am not discounting the prayers that went on my behalf to the Great Healer. While prayers of close friends and relatives were to be expected, three girls of whom I am most fond, students at the University, went daily to the chapel to make intercession for me.

Don't let me hear anyone condemning this young generation as one of delinquents!

Congress Chat

By HARRIS ELLSWORTH,
M. C., 4th Oregon District

By a vote of 394 to 4 the bill to continue Selective Service for four more years was passed by the House. This bill, if it is not greatly changed when passed by the Senate, represents many improvements over the present draft law. The changes and improvements are too many to discuss fully in this letter. As soon as the bill becomes law, so that we know the complete and exact text of it, I shall be glad to send a copy of it with a summary and explanation to anyone who would like to have it.

Young men and their parents may also be interested in another type of service which is provided by an excellent educational opportunity provided by the government. Educated and qualified men are needed in our Merchant Marine. The United States Merchant Marine Academy located at Kings Point, New York, prepares men to become officers in the U.S. Merchant Marine and in the Naval Reserve. It is similar in character to the Army, Navy and Coast Guard Academies in that it is a military school. It is an accredited four-year, degree-granting college like other Federal Academies.

Qualifying examinations of candidates for appointment to the Merchant Marine Academy will be held April 11 at Eugene, Medford, Roseburg and Coos Bay. Applicants must have high school education or its equivalent and must be at least 16½ years of age but not yet 21.

Those who are interested should make application promptly to the Maritime Training Officer, Maritime Administration, Department of Commerce, Washington, D.C. Information and blank forms are available by writing to my office.

Based upon information furnished by the states that there is a present need of 300,000 school classrooms and a requirement of 50,000 rooms annual in addition to replacements, the President has suggested to Congress a three-year program of Federal assistance for this problem.

The program outlined calls for the expenditure of seven billion dollars on a Federal-State basis with Federal appropriations of more than a billion.

Three types of Federal help are included in the plan: (1) Federal purchase of local school bonds; (2) aid to state-wide school building agencies which would build and rent buildings to local districts; (3) grants in aid to school districts which are unable to pay interest and principal charges on loans, or which have reached their legal bonding limit and are unable to pay the rent required by a state lease-purchase agency.

A few states have set up special state-wide school building agencies. The President's program obviously wishes to encourage that approach to school construction for in his message to Congress he said, "I propose therefore that the Federal government furnish one-half of the administrative costs of state programs which are designed to overcome obstacles to local financing or to provide additional state aid to local school districts."

With the newly suggested school building program, the super-highway building plan and the health program, the President has given Congress quite a load of work to do.

Constitutional Convention Arguments Heard

SALEM (AP) — Arguments on whether Oregon needs a constitutional convention were heard Wednesday by the Senate State and Federal Affairs Committee.

Almost everybody agreed that the state needs a new charter, but differed as to how to get it. Gov. Patterson wants the convention to write a wholly new one. The other side favors changing it by submitting amendments to the people.

Mrs. W. S. Baldinger, Portland, League of Women Voters, said a convention is needed because it would provide an integrally revised Constitution that is badly needed. Alfred H. Corbett, Democrat, and Sen. Eugene Allen, Republican, both of Portland, also argued for a convention.

But representatives of labor and the Grange opposed the convention idea.

James T. Marr, executive secretary of the Oregon Federation of Labor, feared that a convention might wipe out provisions guaranteeing the initiative and referendum, and the section that restricts gasoline tax revenues to highway use.

Mrs. Olga Wilson, Portland, representing the Grange, declared that the present Constitution provides good government.

Sen. Neuberger Criticizes Ike's School Aid Plan

WASHINGTON (AP) — Sen. Neuberger (D-Ore.) Tuesday criticized the Eisenhower administration's proposed school aid program, saying it "may be of greater aid to banks than to school children and their teachers."

He quoted A. J. Beck, Oregon state school planning director, as saying that the proposed federal support of school bond interest rates up to 3 percent "may produce an undesirable effect."

He said the average interest rate for Oregon school districts was 2.45 percent. Commercial agencies probably will raise their rates if Congress authorizes the program, Neuberger said.

"It is possible that the Eisenhower program may be of greater aid to banks than to school children and their teachers by stimulating a great wave of borrowing at higher interest levels," he said.

Little Girl, Dog Undergo Tonsilectomies Together

TACOMA (AP) — Sympathy pains are not unknown to medical science. But it's not often a little girl and her dog must have their tonsils out at the same time.

The tonsilectomies were performed here the other day on Judy Naylor, 7, and Pride, her 15-month-old pedigree collie.

Judy, daughter of Capt. and Mrs. Ronald Maylor, parted with her tonsils at the McChord Air Force Base hospital. Pride went under the knife of a Lakewood veterinarian.

Mrs. Naylor tells it like this: "First Judy started to sneeze and cough and snore terribly in the night. Then it was Pride. Or was it vice versa?"

"Judy started to grow thin. So did Pride."

"Judy picked over her food, and Pride let his 2½ pounds of hamburger go to waste (Pride, you see, is a big dog)."

Finally Pride took to sleeping in Judy's room because the two of them felt so bad and it was axiomatic that misery loves company. Cheryl, 6, the Naylor's other daughter, told her parents the snoring of the two invalids was disturbing her sleep.

So the doctors and the veterinarians were called in. Joint diagnosis: Tonsils must come out. Judy had hers out first and recovered after three days. Then it was Pride's turn and Judy stayed home from school that day "So I could pray for him. Nobody understood how much he was suffering, except me. Because I had just been operated on."

But Pride is well now. And Tuesday—precisely at 3 p.m.—he

Ike's Cold Improves: Work Schedule Cut Down

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Eisenhower's cold was reported better Wednesday but the President still had some huskiness in his voice.

The President caught cold last weekend while quail hunting in Georgia. He has been forced to curtail his work schedule and, as an indirect result, canceled Wednesday's news conference.

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OF UNION GAP MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH
Dr. Tabor is a former teacher of the P. X. B. I. of Riverbank, California.

To Hold A Series Of Meetings
With The

Landmark Missionary Baptist
Church of Roseburg

7:30 P.M. EACH EVENING
One Block East Of Wilcox Food Center
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Miller's
...the new Custom-look
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A luxury-touch textured knit—designed by Lofties in a remarkable wool and orlon chenille that washes beautifully—needs no blocking! The cardigan top has short dolman sleeves, pert ribbon-trim collar, a gently-flared skirt. In pink, ice mint, white, turquoise, powder blue and lilac. Sizes 10 to 18.

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There's a VELVET hale on your
Alpaca Angel

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4.98

Spring has arrived in our Fashion Department with all it's new fashions... colors

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