

Hormones, Econ . . .

Possible Solution Offered For Victims of Poison Oak

By Bill Clothier

It could be your hormones are double-crossing you if you break out with a dose of poison oak this spring.

If the cemetery call becomes too strong and you get poison oak when you answer it, just remember you can louse up the glandular balance of the plant by striking a few low blows of your own.

You just incite the little oak shrub on to a burst of riotous living.

Riley W. Matsler, Eugene park director, knows all about poison oak. He says you can eradicate the stuff by spraying it with certain chemicals which transform a smooth, vigorous shrub into a wrinkled old has-been in a few days.

A Low Blow

"This chemical spray works on the plant's hormones," explained Matsler. "It's like you and me burning the torch at both ends and going out and carousing around all night. The plants just burn themselves up with fast living."

Dr. Fred N. Miller, director of the student health service, said about an equal number of men and women report to the infirmary for poison oak treatment each year. Not all of these cases can be traced to the cemetery, but the 15-acre plot contributes its share of rash out-breaks.

A Moral Rout

"One of our biggest problems is poison oak," said Dr. Miller. "We had 23 hospital cases during 1949 and 145 others were treated. Then there were 59 cases which may or may not have been poison oak. Sometimes it's very difficult to tell what the infection is."

Last year, right after the Long Island University basketball game at MacCourt, 30 cases of poison oak were traced to the cemetery. What might have been called a moral victory on the hardwood floor became a moral rout as sports enthusiasts tip-toed home through the tomb-stones.

Matsler said the cost of eradicating poison oak varies according to the degree of infestation and work involved in placing the spray. You don't get promiscuous with this plant stimulant. Call your shots or risk wholesale plant massacre. The spray costs from six to eight dollars per gallon and according to Matsler, "a gallon goes a long, long way."

Economic Theory

The University would like to see poison oak cleared from the cemetery. So would the city of Eugene. Students wouldn't mind either. As a matter of fact, everybody is for getting rid of it but nobody knows (Please turn to page six)

Campus YMCA Schedules Radio Program for Community Chest Today

The campus YMCA, in cooperation with the Lane County Community Chest public relations committee, will put on a 15-minute radio program over KORE at 5:30 p.m. today. Two student members, two advisory board members, and the executive secretary will describe the program of the Community Chest Drive. The program is being arranged by members of the group.

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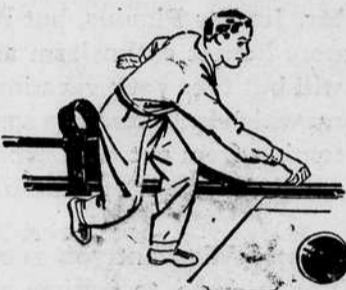
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