

Scientist Says Be Active, Stay Healthy

PEARL RIVER, N. Y. — Dr. Benjamin Minge Duggar, discoverer of the "wonder drug" aureomycin, says that his philosophy for a long, satisfying life is: "Keep active, mentally and physically."

He will be 81 years old September 1.

Dr. Duggar practices what he preaches. At an age when most men would be content to sit in the shade and reminisce, this famed scientist still carries on a full-time research program.

He also finds time to have a small vegetable garden every summer — raising tomatoes, corn, okra and lettuce — and to play an occasional round of golf. He also fishes and in the winter he gets in some bowling.

Dr. Duggar is not a physical

superman. He stands about five feet-five inches and constantly weighs 122 pounds.

The story of how this man gained world-wide prominence is one of the most dramatic stories of our time. In 1943, at the age of 71, he was forced by state law to retire from the University of Wisconsin, where he taught botany. Not content to sit in the shade and hold his hands, Dr. Duggar came to Lederle Laboratories and began searching for an antibiotic that would be more effective than penicillin.

Dr. Duggar worked three years with teams of chemists bacteriologists, pharmacologists and other scientists, culturing thousands of earth molds, before the "golden wonder drug" aureomycin was isolated and developed for commercial production. The antibiotic was put on the market in 1948, when Dr. Duggar was 76.

But his scientific endeavors did not stop here. He is still working with the mysterious molds which live in the earth, hoping to find another antibiotic drug which will be even more beneficial than

Accidents Main Children Crippler

PORTLAND--Accidents are the nation's No. 1 crippler of children under 5 years of age, Howard Feast, executive director of the Oregon Society for Crippled Children and Adults, the Easter Seal Society, has reported in a warning to parents to "be more careful."

Feast pointed out that 48,000 children in the United States are permanently crippled by accidents each year and that 1½ million children are injured seriously enough to necessitate medical attention.

The Easter Seal Society, Feast explained, has joined forces with the National Safety Council and the American Academy of Pediatrics in a year-around program aimed at reducing the child accident toll.

It is particularly important for parents to keep close watch on their youngsters during the summer months when the children are free all day and apt to take reckless chances in their search for amusement, Feast asserted, adding that a great percentage of the crippling accidents occur in the home.

aureomycin.

Dr. Duggar was born in 1872, at Gallion, Ala., son of a country doctor. There were five boys. One brother is still living (79), and the others, two of whom were older than the scientist, died in recent years. Dr. Duggar's father lived to 82 and his mother to 79.

He recalls that he was riding a horse at the age of four. He has never been seriously ill, and even escaped many of the usual childhood diseases.

Does he smoke? Yes, a pipe... but with moderation. He also has an occasional brandy or highball. "Moderation is a wonderful thing," he advises. "Work and play with moderation."

Does he ever plan to retire? He says he does, but most of his associates take this with a grain of salt, for Dr. Duggar is a man with an insatiable curiosity about things scientific.

What could keep a man working at his age? Dr. Duggar sincerely hopes that he can make another substantial contribution to medical science.

"Also, I love my work," he says, "and that's very important. I get a great personal satisfaction from scientific accomplishment."

Dr. Duggar feels strongly that there is a wonderful future in the field of scientific research for young people who have the interest and talent. Industrial laboratories, he says, are opening up vast new horizons that were unknown to the college researcher years ago.

"We now have real teamwork," he explains. "The colleges and universities constitute our principal reservoir of scientific talent; the industrial laboratories can supply the development know-how, the money and the sales. Together these two great scientific interests should carry us to magnificent new discoveries which will make life safer and longer."

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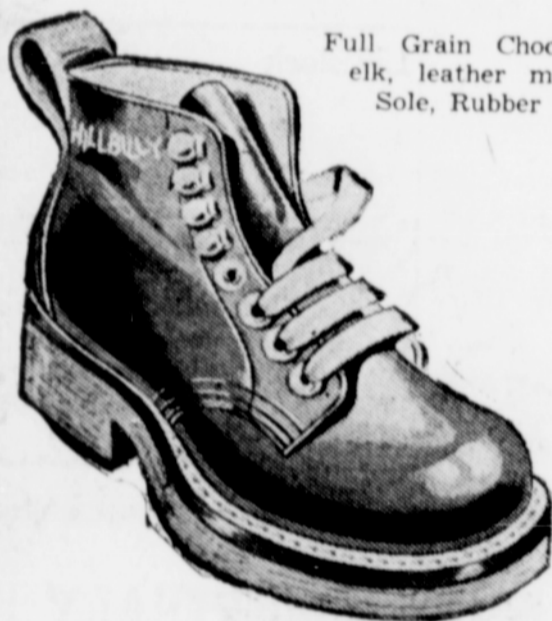
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"The alarming part of the whole picture is that the accident toll is steadily increasing," he said. "It is appalling that 1,900 children under 15 years died of burns during the past year and 500 more died in falls-downstairs, off porch railings or out of windows in their homes. Another 500 children died of poison."

The Easter Seal Society director offered parents these tips to prevent accidents: (1) Keep poisons and disinfectants in locked cabinets; (2) Keep matches out of reach; (3) Turn handles of kitchen pots toward the back of the stove and away from reach;

(4) Keep guns unloaded and under lock and key; (5) Show children how to carry scissors, knives and glass containers when walking; (6) Fasten window screens securely and be sure the screening is nailed tightly to the frame.

"If parents will follow these precautions, a great many crippling accidents can be avoided," Feast stated.

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