

### DEATH IN CHAIR IS DECLARED PAINLESS

COLUMBUS, O., Mar. 24.—(UP)—Death in the electric chair is instantaneous, according to Dr. Willis B. Merrill, Ohio Penitentiary physician.

"A man electrocuted in the electric chair is dead the instant the first shock hits him, although his heart may beat for two minutes after death," Merrill said in answer to the question recently reopened at Sing Sing Prison, Ossining, N. Y., whether a man once electrocuted might be brought back to life.

"It would be impossible to resuscitate a man once pronounced dead at Ohio Penitentiary," he said. "The first shock completely destroys the central nervous system and the man dies."

Dr. Merrill explained the phenomenon of a dead man's heart beating by pointing out that the heart muscle is the last to be affected by electric shock.

The muscle, he declared, is the most independent muscle in the human body and the most isolated from the nervous system. Consequently, it will continue to contract and expand, apparently heating at a faster rate of speed, but otherwise normally, until it receives no more nourishment. This beating, Merrill said, may continue for one minute, and often two minutes.

The heart of any animal will beat after death, he went on, because of its independence from the rest of the nervous system. A turtle's heart, he gave as an example. It can be removed from the animal, placed in a salt solution, and will continue to beat for 24 hours, Merrill said.

Dr. Merrill said he noticed the phenomenon soon after taking up his duties as prison physician, when he tested the heart of an electrocuted man for the first time. New to his job, he ordered another charge of electricity sent through the body, but said the same result was obtained.

Since his study of the subject, he said one charge is all that he finds necessary to cause instantaneous death.

Condemned men receive a maximum charge of 2,100 volts at Ohio Penitentiary.

At Sing Sing, where the question has been raised, authorities have contemplated a study of the heart action of a man during electrocution, which scientists of the Rockefeller Institute have also planned tests.

Dr. Merrill scouted the theory of Dr. George Chrady, former coroner of New York county, that resuscitation after electrocution could be effected. Chrady

### University of Oregon Symphony Orchestra



This orchestra will appear at The Vining Theatre tomorrow afternoon and evening. The afternoon matinee is arranged especially for school children and will begin promptly at 3 o'clock. The orchestra will also be heard at the evening shows at 7:15 and 9:15.

### Four Soloists Will Be With Orchestra

Four soloists will feature the program planned for the Vining Theatre here March 25 by the University of Oregon orchestra. The orchestra will appear three times, once in a matinee and twice in the evening in conjunction with the regular picture attraction of the theatre and will present a 30 minute concert of strictly classical numbers.

Music selected for the program, though entirely classical, is of much lighter nature than the general trend of such works. This is particularly true of the string serenades planned for those of Piere and Drigo.

The soloists who will intersperse the numbers of the full orchestra with individual selections are Doris Helen Patterson, harp; Nina Warnock, violin; Miriam Little, cello; C. M. Haeske, flute. Though Miss Patterson is but a little more than 17 years of age she has already earned a national reputation for her work upon the harp. She returned to the Ore-

gon orchestra just recently from a trip to the National Music Convention in Texas where she appeared in an orchestra of some 300 instruments.

As a special feature of the convention, leading harpists from all parts of the country were chosen to take part in the mammoth orchestra assembled for the meeting. Miss Patterson was one of the eleven musicians of her instrument selected. A noted music company supplied the players with instruments, including in the shipment one harp valued at \$2000. A competition was held among the eleven harp artists to see who should be permitted to play the great harp in the orchestra and who should play the solo numbers. Miss Patterson was unanimous choice. She will appear in one of her favorite solos here.

Beswick Family Moving—Frank Beswick and family are moving from 685 Main street to 177 Hargadine.

Doris Hood of Bremerton, Wn., spent yesterday in this city visiting with friends.

### Issue a Warning Against All Cults

BERKELEY, Cal., Mar. 24.—(UN)—A warning against health cults and cure fads has been sent out by Dr. R. A. Bolt of the hygiene department of the University of California.

Dr. Bolt declared that these cults are a serious problem in the advancement of public health and said that while they usually contain a grain or two of truth, their exaggeration makes them harmful.

"When a civilization reaches a peak in human progress and comfort and luxury are easily attainable, the general atmosphere leads itself to promoting all manner of cults," said Dr. Bolt.

"This was true of Athens at the height of her glory. California, whose environment has often been likened to that of this particular matter. Although health fads seem to be thriving everywhere in America today, perhaps the general atmosphere of freedom from tradition and our

TOLD THE TRUTH  
SUNNYVALE, Cal., Mar. 22.—(UP)—An itinerant Cherokee Indian woman fortune teller finished reading Mrs. Joe Bologna's palm with a "You will soon be robbed of all your money; take all precautions."

Mrs. Bologna was gratified for the warning. The fortune teller couldn't change the \$20 bill proffered for the fee but was "accommodating" enough to step out and get the bill changed. Mrs. Bologna is still waiting for the change.

enthusiasm for things 'different' and 'new' makes California a bit susceptible."

Dr. Bolt pointed to the enthusiasm which has been shown in physical culture, declaring that the error lay in over-emphasizing what should be considered as only one phase of the entire program.

Dieting to an unwise extreme for fashion's sake, also was criticized. "Remedies for the superstitions upon which these 'cure-all' cults are founded lie in more scientific training for all growing minds," he declared.

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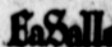
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