

March of Dimes Reports Drop In 'Water on the Brain' Deaths

Of all birth defects, one of the most shocking and dangerous is hydrocephalus.

This is an affliction characterized by an enlarged and usually misshapen head, caused by the pressure of blocked fluid accumulating in the infant's brain.

Unless this pressure is relieved, severe hydrocephalus can result in death or lifelong blindness or mental retardation.

But a great deal of progress has been made in combating this disease. The National Foundation-March of Dimes points out that the infant death rate in the United States from hydrocephalus is falling substantially. However, an immediate word of caution: this reduction in the death rate is not to say that there is any decrease in the number of babies born each year with hydrocephalus.

What is happening is that many more of them are surviving.

In this country, the annual total of infants now born with water on the brain (another way of defining hydrocephalus) is estimated at more than 15,000. Of these, 8,000 are stillborn or die before the age of one month.

Appalling as that total is, hydrocephalus accounts for far fewer infant deaths than occurred only a few years ago.

For instance, the death rate during the decade 1953-1962 declined by one-third. This means that 579 fewer infants died from hydrocephalus in 1962 than in 1953.

What accounts for this extraordinary and heartening reduction in deaths from a dread and mysterious condition that predated recorded history?

Dr. Martin P. Sayers, a widely known authority on hydrocephalus and a neurosurgeon at the March of Dimes Birth Defects Center, Children's Hospital, Columbus, Ohio, attributes the drop in the mortality rate to two factors. "The first," he explains, "is that fewer parents nowadays attempt to cover up the birth of a defective baby. A def-



HEAD CIRCUMFERENCE of child with water on the brain is measured by Dr. Martin P. Sayers, neurosurgeon, at March of Dimes Birth Defects Center, Children's Hospital, Columbus, Ohio.

inite reform in attitudes toward birth defects has been brought about in quite recent years by potent and constant doses of public education.

"The second factor is the recent and substantial improvement in the techniques of 'shunt' surgery. In this area there are refinements every year. There are fewer complications such as clogging in the shunt tube in the head and infections arising from it. In general, too, we are now able to operate earlier on these babies before the accumulating pressure damages both sight and intellect and endangers the infant's life."

"Shunt" surgery in hydrocephalus means the insertion

of a fine plastic tube into the brain cavity passage where the circulating fluid is "dammed" so that it flows away harmlessly into the blood stream and thus relieves the pressure on the optic and other nerves.

A specialist in this delicate technique, Dr. Sayers has performed about 1,000 such shunts.

"Let me say that contributors to The National Foundation-March of Dimes deserve the gratitude of the medical profession, as well as that of present and future parents, for making possible greatly expanded teaching in this field through medical school grants," Dr. Sayers declared.

Boardman Water Shows Natural Fluoridation

By MARY LEE MARLOW

BOARDMAN — Mayor Dewey West received word Monday from the Oregon League of Cities that Boardman is one of 12 cities in the state with a natural fluoridated water supply, and the only one in Morrow county. There are 21 cities and 5 unincorporated areas that fluoridate their water, which is about 14% of the population of the state. Eugene, Salem, Albany and Sweet Home received voter expression of support for fluoridation at the last election.

All of the towns with natural supply are in eastern Oregon. There are none west of the cascades. The nearest ones to Boardman are Arlington, Hermiston, Umatilla and Stanfield.

Mrs. Ralph Skoubo was hostess for the holiday party for the Boardman Tillicum club at her home. The affair was a dinner party with all members attending. The evening was spent playing bingo, and an exchange of gifts was held. Mrs. Joe Houston won the door prize.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Kunze and children Eddie and Elaine of Westminister, California, were New Year's week end visitors at the home of Kunze's sister, Mrs. Ervin Flock.

Mr. and Mrs. Ed Skoubo and children David and Janell of Corvallis were visitors last week at the home of Skoubo's brother and sister-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Skoubo.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Talbott and son Stan spent the Christmas holidays at the home of Mrs. Talbott's parents, Mr. and Mrs. O. S. Smith, in Hagerman, Idaho, and other relatives. They went to John Day for New Year's to visit Talbott's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Talbott.

Mr. and Mrs. Ron Daniels and children Pam, Vickie and Scott spent the holidays visiting their parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Daniels, in Caldwell, Idaho, and Mr. and Mrs. Dale Peterson in Parma, Idaho.

Mr. and Mrs. David Clossner and daughters Connie, Bonnie, Vickie and Shellie spent the weekend visiting Clossner's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Clossner in Cottage Grove. They

also went to Gold Hill to visit Mrs. Clossner's brother-in-law and sister, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Person, and her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Lefler, who were there from Fort Lauderdale, Fla.

Mr. and Mrs. Donald LaChance and Mrs. Glen Carpenter visited three days last week in Kingston, Wash., at the home of LaChance's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Clarence LaChance. They also visited at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Chester LaChance in Tacoma.

Mrs. Earl Briggs returned home last week from Umatilla hospital, where she was a patient for a month, being critically ill. Her son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. John Campbell, visited her Wednesday before returning to Guam after a two month's vacation in the states.

Holiday visitors at the home of Mrs. Florence Root were her son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Root and children Maurice, Jane and A. Ze Curtis Root, who was on leave from Orlando, Fla.

Word has been received here of the death of Mrs. C. A. Hawley, 81, in Boise, Idaho December 19. She was the wife of the Rev. C. A. Hawley, who was pastor of the Boardman Community church in 1949-50.

Mr. and Mrs. Jim Newman and daughters Paul and Linda of Albany were Saturday visitors at the home of Newman's uncle and aunt, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Marlow. Sunday visitors were Newman's brother-in-law and sisters, Mr. and Mrs. Mike Kunkle and children Joannie, John and Bruce of Brandon, and Mr. and Mrs. Don Satchell and son Greg of Portland.

Visitors last week at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Elvin Ely were their son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Eldon Lilly and children Jimmy, Janet, Jay Jerry and Joyce of La Grande, and their grandchildren Renee, Ricky and Remy Ely of Hermiston. New Year's Day they all went to Ione to be dinner guests at the home of Ely's brother-in-law and sister, Mr. and Mrs. Wallace Mathews.

Mr. and Mrs. Phil LaCombe spent the holidays in Jerome and Twin Falls, Idaho, visiting Mrs. LaCombe's parents, Mr. and Mrs.

Alan Edwards, and other relatives.

JoAnn Thorpe of Hermiston visited last week at the home of her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Hamilton.

Mrs. Helen Bush of Butte, Montana, is spending the holidays at the home of her son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Dante Daitoso.

This community had a temperature of a balmy 54 Saturday, with strong, gusty winds, which quickly did away with all snow and ice remaining from last week's storm.

Maxine Sicard, who is doing post graduate work at UCLA, Los Angeles, California spent the holidays at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. George Sicard.

Visitors at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Bob Sicard were Mr. and Mrs. Dick Delong and children Ricky, Kenny and Jeannie of Reedspport, and Delong's mother, Mrs. Frank Delong of Lewiston, Idaho.

Browns Celebrate Anniversary

Mr. and Mrs. Ray Brown celebrated their 57th wedding anniversary recently in Kennewick, Wash., at the home of their son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Woolcut. They were married at Waitsburg, Wash., December 11, 1907, and came to Boardman to live in 1918, where they have lived since.

Guests at the affair included Mrs. Brown's brother-in-law and sister, Mr. and Mrs. Bob Files of Pasco, and her grandson, Roy Hake and daughter Amy of Kennewick.

Cafeteria menus for Riverside High school and Boardman Grade school for the week of January 11-15 are as follows: Monday—hot ham sandwiches, green beans, pear and grated cheese salad, and filled graham crackers; Tuesday—turkey sandwiches, buttered corn, tossed salad and fruit Wednesday—spaghetti with meat sauce, rolls, cheese sticks, ice cream and cookies; Thursday—hot dogs, spinach, pickle relish, potato chips and pudding; Friday—creamed tuna over toast, cottage cheese, vegetable sticks and cobbler. Bread, butter and milk are served with all meals.

The film, "Windows of the Soul," was presented at the Watch service New Year's Eve at the Boardman Community church. Special numbers were presented, games played and refreshments served. The evening concluded at midnight with a candlelight devotional service.

Weekend visitors at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Rush were their sons-in-law and daughters, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Getz, of The Dalles, and Mr. and Mrs. Ted Fenages and daughter Michelle of Hermiston. The Getz's also visited his mother, Mrs. Carol Getz.

Holiday visitors at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Claud Worden were their son-in-law and daughters, Mr. and Mrs. Dallas Fortham and daughter Cathy of Freyette, Idaho, and Mrs. Lyle Williams and children Gary, Ronnie and Glenda of Wallawa. Butch Busley returned home with the Forthams to visit.

The Home Economics Club of Greenfield Grange will meet at the home of Mrs. Glen Carpenter January 13 at 12:30 p.m. Mrs. Cecil Hamilton will be co-hostess.

KEEP FREEDOM RINGING

BUY U.S. SAVINGS BONDS

Irrigon to Vote on Water Bond Issue

By LA VELLE PARTLOW

IRRIGON—Irrigon voters are reminded that an election will be held Monday, January 11, at the old Irrigon school, from 2:00 to 8:00 p.m., to vote on the issuing of General Obligation Bonds in the amount of \$18,500.00 to assist in the construction of a municipal water system.

All registered voters residing within the city limits are eligible to vote.

Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Huwe and children drove to Portland for the week-end to see Huwe's father, Milton Huwe, who is convalescing at the University of Oregon Medical Center, after undergoing surgery two weeks ago. Mrs. Milton Huwe is staying in Portland with her son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. James Ehenger.

Mr. and Mrs. J. J. McRae and Bob drove to Klamath Falls Thursday to spend the week-end with their son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Noble, Jodi and Jeri. They were joined there by Mrs. McRae's son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. William Steagall and family of Sacramento, California. McRaes returned to Irrigon Sunday.

Lloyd Cooley entered the Umatilla hospital on New Year's day. Mary and David Kenney left Thursday for Salinas, Calif., where Mary is a school teacher. David plans to complete his college education.

Mr. and Mrs. David Fitzgerald of Shiloh, Ill., are parents of a baby daughter, Fay Ruth, who was born December 31, weighing in at 7 pounds 4 ounces. It is the couple's first child. Maternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Coy of Irrigon and paternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. C. D. Fitzgerald of Bolling Green, Mo.

Rev. and Mrs. Ralph Coy and family and Clara Fay Coy of Bartlesville, left for their home after spending the holidays with their folks, Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Coy and also the Glen Coys at Irrigon.

Bill Cooley of Reno, Nev., came to Irrigon to spend the holidays with his folks, Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Cooley, Mr. and Mrs. Burrell Cooley, David and Robert, who spent two weeks here with the Lloyd Cooleys, drove Bill back to Reno, on their way to their home in Lompac, California.

Mrs. Vernon Stewart, Sharon and Tommy, spent a week in La Grande, and came home Thursday, bringing Mrs. Stewart's folks, Mr. and Mrs. Floy Reeder to spend the week-end. They were joined New Year's Day by Mr. and Mrs. Duane Reeder and family of Portland, and Mrs. Doris Courtney and family of La Grande. The guests all stayed overnight and left for their respective homes Saturday.

The Irrigon Baptist church sponsored a Watch Night Service New Year's Eve. The evening began with games for all ages, followed by a film, "The King of Kings." After the film, sandwiches, relishes, cake punch and coffee were served to the guests, and the evening concluded with a singspiration and devotional period.

Ricky Shingledecker of Ayer, Wash., returned to his home after spending a week with his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Graybeal.

Mr. and Mrs. Pete Navarro returned to Irrigon after spending 10 days in San Jose, Calif., with his mother, Mrs. Maria Navarro. Mrs. Ellen Caudle returned to Irrigon Friday after spending the holidays with her sister, Mrs. Elvie Rizer and son Bill and a

brother and sister-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Ivan Parks and family, all of Union.

Mr. and Mrs. Leon Ritzer and family drove to LaGrande to spend Christmas with Mrs. Ritzer's mother, Mrs. Alice Smith, who is a patient at the St. Joseph hospital there.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Towers and Lee spent the week-end in Salem visiting the Towers' daughter, Mrs. Maria Long.

Mr. and Mrs. Ben Pourier and family and Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Wilson and family, formerly of Igloo, South Dakota, moved to Irrigon last week. Pourier and Wilson were both transferred to the Umatilla Army Depot.

Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Berger drove to Everett, Wash., to spend the holidays with their son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Berger and family. The road conditions altered their plans to drive through Portland to get their daughter, Judy, and Mrs. Berger's mother, Mrs. Bertha Catlow; however, they were able to drive to Portland from Everett, and after spending Christmas together with the Ronald Berbers, the Lloyd Berbers returned to Irrigon via Portland, to take Judy and Mrs. Catlow home.

"Somebody forgot..."



every litter bit hurts"



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