

### ASYLUM DOCTORS HOPEFUL OF NEW PRAECOX REMEDY

#### Insulin and Metrazol Giving Relief From Mental Disorder — Unable to Agree On Action of Medicine

SALEM, Ore., April 14.—(AP)—Officials of the Oregon state hospital, worried by the rapid rise in the state's insane population, believe that two chemical compounds—insulin and metrazol—may show them the way to reduce the number.

These compounds, which have been used for six months at the hospital, show possibilities for permanent cures of dementia praecox—the most prevalent form of insanity.

Of the 2600 patients at the hospital, 80 per cent have been considered incurable. More than half of the 80 per cent have dementia praecox, a form of mental disease which affects mostly young people.

Victims develop delusions, undergo a change of personality and experience a change in their emotional system.

The intelligence is not affected for some time, but until it is, insulin and metrazol may be beneficial. Dementia praecox victims may imagine they are Napoleon, George Washington or even the Supreme Being.

One patient at the hospital believes he owns all the railroads in the United States, while another thinks he has a monopoly on the world radish market. In this state the opportunity for cure exists.

Insulin is injected under the skins of those affected by the disease, amounts being increased daily until a shock or coma results. The shock follows about an hour after the injection and the victim remains in this state for about four hours.

After about 35 shocks the victim is either cured or the doctors give it up.

Metrazol, a carbon compound, is injected into a vein, and a shock, similar to an epileptic fit, follows in a few seconds. The fit lasts about three minutes. If there is no improvement after 20 injections, which are given three weekly, the treatments are discontinued.

#### Improvement Shown

Doctors give the insulin treatment to those who have not been affected long, while metrazol is given to the more difficult cases.

Of the 28 men treated with metrazol, four were discharged and 18 showed improvement. Eleven of 19 women improved.

Half of the men and one-fourth of the women given insulin treatment improved.

Doctors disagree on how these injections cure the patients, although some believe the shocks break up delusions by forming new channels in the brain.

Hospital physicians do not say that metrazol and insulin will affect permanent cures because they do not know whether patients sent home are cured will come back again.

#### Groping in Dark

"We are just groping in the dark and hoping we have found a permanent cure," Dr. J. C. Evans, state hospital superintendent, said.

"Some of our dementia praecox patients refuse to feed or care for themselves but, after treatments, they do all their own work."

He told of a 38-year-old man, who came to the hospital almost three years ago, pulled his knees up to his stomach and his hands under his arms. He lay in this position for two years, refusing to move anything but his eyes.

After 15 insulin shocks, he was cured. He will be sent home in a few days.

### MORE WILD LIFE SEEN IN FORESTS

PORTLAND, April 14.—(AP)—A substantial increase in wild life in the 20 national forests of Oregon and Washington was shown today in a survey by the U. S. forest service.

Mule Deer were estimated at 123,000, a gain of 20,000 and elk were increasing despite an annual open season. A gain also was noted in mountain goats.

On the unfavorable side, the forest service found black tail deer decreasing, mountain sheep at a standstill and the population of fur-bearing, particularly martens and fishers, dropping seriously, while the predatory cougar appeared to have increased. Coyotes were declining.

An increase of ducks and geese was noted, although mountain quail and blue and ruffed grouse continued to decline.

### Gastronomic Spree Enjoyed By Lt. Craft in Louisville Ky.

LOUISVILLE, Ky., April 10.—(Special Correspondence)—First of the two special trains returning to Medford with replacements for fifth corps area camps of the Medford CCC district left Fort Knox yesterday with Capt. Andrew W. LaMar in command.

Your correspondent, ranked out of the first train, will be around here until April 15 when the second will pull out for home. I have accordingly taken a short leave of absence and am spending a couple of days in Louisville. Perhaps a few random observations will be of interest.

The weather today is beautiful, a soft spring day with a warm sun shining in a cloudless sky. Kentucky weather has been terrible since we arrived two weeks ago. We've had everything from snow to windstorms, but mostly the days have been just plain cold and rainy.

I went out to Churchill Downs this afternoon to prowl around the track where May 7 the Kentucky Derby will be run. The race meeting will start the end of April and many horses are already being trained on the track. I saw several derby entrants today but the headlines haven't arrived yet. Staggerhand is due in tomorrow sometime.

Churchill Downs is located inside the city, about 30 blocks from the center of town. The grass is green and new landscaping is being carried on there. A new section of grandstand has been built, bringing the seating capacity of the stands to 95,000, according to one attendant's estimate.

Louisville itself is an interesting city. Although classed as a southern city, the northern influence seems to predominate here. One hears little of the real southern accent.

The city appears to be run on a wide-open basis. There are, of course, numerous saloons with whiskey rather than beer the popular beverage. Although the Louisville skyline is dominated by the tall smokestacks of liquor distilleries, whiskey prices are about a third higher than in Oregon. The more I see of other states, the more convinced I am that Oregon's liquor system is the best in the country.

I have indulged my fondness for good food in several top-notch restaurants. Frog legs, shad roe, Maine lobster, pompano, river catfish and other delicacies not always available in Medford have rounded out many an exciting repast.

I dropped into the Louisville News-Courier office to get some information and while there was urged by all and sundry to visit Kentucky's Mammoth Cave. None of them had ever been there but thought it was a good idea for an outsider. Like a lot of Medford people who've never seen Crater lake.

I had to buy a bootlegged copy of Life magazine today. Because of a pictorial essay on childbirth, the

copies were banned in Kentucky and some other states. I don't know whether they were banned in Oregon or not. I got my copy through a dealer, the trick being accomplished with the aid of a third party conveniently available at the magazine stand. The dealer, after consultation with the stooge, announced that for 35 cents the stooge would let me have his personal copy as he could get another in Indiana. I plunged up the 35 cents and the dealer ran around back and soon emerged with a copy of Life neatly done up in a plain wrapper.

### Demented Daughter Slays Aged Father

SOUTHWICK, Mass., April 14.—(AP)—Lester Vining, 85, was slain with an axe today. His daughter, Mrs. Martha E. Ot-

senheimer, 60, named in a state police report as his assailant, immediately was recommitted to the Northampton state hospital, from which she was released February 16. The aged man died of a fractured skull.

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