

Cortisone, Acth May Mark Start of New Medical Science Era

By PAUL F. ELLIS
United Press Science Editor
New York, Mar. 29—U.P.—The date of Sept. 21, 1948, may go down as one of the greatest in medical history.

It was the day when cortisone, a hormonal substance, was injected into the first patient. The patient was a 29-year-old woman, who had suffered rheumatoid arthritis for more than four years. Her joints were stiff, swollen, and painful to move.

Second Injection
On September 21 she received an injection of cortisone. This was followed by a second injection. For two days, there was no evident benefit. Then on the third day she could roll over in bed without pain. On the fourth day, she was up and about—and within a week she was shopping. Her arthritis, at least for the time being, was gone.

The case is the classic example of a new era in medical science that may be approaching.

Since that day in September, the medical scientists have used cortisone or acth, a companion hormone, against just about every disabling or crippling disease that the human being suffers.

Cortisone is a synthetic substance produced from ox bile, and acth is produced from the pituitary glands of the hog. The supply of both is limited and not yet available to the public.

Memorable Date
Another memorable date in the story of acth and cortisone came on last October 21. It was the first day of a two-day conference on acth, sponsored by Armour & company, at Chicago. The Armour company produces acth from the pituitaries of slaughtered hogs.

The meeting was attended by famous research scientists the nation over. They reported preliminary results of the use of acth on many types of disease. The reports are contained in a book entitled "proceedings of the first clinical acth conference," edited by Dr. John R. Mote and published this week by the Blakiston company, of Philadelphia.

Results Encouraging
Here are some of the findings as reported at the first acth conference:
Gout: Encouraging.

Cancer: Encouraging in some types of leukemia and causes a shrinking in some types of cancerous tumors.
Rheumatoid arthritis: Results generally good.
Rheumatic fever: Results encouraging.
Ulcerative colitis: Undesirable reactions in some cases.
Asthma: Sufficiently encouraging to warrant detailed investigation.
Allergies: Benefit in some cases.
Tuberculosis: More investigation needed.
Poliomyelitis: Evidence of benefits not conclusive as yet.
Pneumonia: Apparently some benefit.
Nervous disorders: Benefits undetermined.
Alcoholism: Effective in some cases.

Legislative Studies Set by Women Voters

Members of the Medford League of Women Voters will make a further study of state legislature at a luncheon meeting Saturday, April 1, at 1 p.m. in the Rogue Valley Country club, according to officers of the group.

A film, "State Legislature," will be shown in line with the year's project of the nine leagues of women voters in the state. Members of each league have been studying different phases of legislation throughout the year and material obtained will be consolidated into booklets by the state office of the league in Portland.

At present a survey of candidates for state offices is being made, which will be presented from non-partisan standpoints for voters of the state. An extensive article in this morning's Oregonian points out the work being done by Portland league members in this respect.

Reservations for Saturday's meeting here should be made by calling Miss Lucille Ames, phone 3-1828.

Nine out of 10 American automobile manufacturing companies' home plants are located with a radius of 85 miles of Detroit, Mich.

Public Power Making Possible West Development

Washington, Mar. 29—U.P.—Assistant Secretary of Interior William E. Warne said today that public power is making possible a more complete and rapid development of the West.

He told the annual convention of the American Public Power association that "only the federal government" has been able to develop the resources available in some of the West's major rivers.

He called for "integrated planning for water and related resource development." He said that lack of such planning "is becoming apparent."

Gauges Watched
"New York city painfully bounces on the ceiling of its water supply while other great industrial centers anxiously watch the gauges on their reservoirs and look fearfully into the future," he said.

The federal power program, he said, is "an integral, indispensable part of the overall reclamation program. The reclamation program could not exist without the power aspect. Power revenues pay an essential part of the costs of reclamation."

Grand Coulee dam, he added, "is building a whole new industrial area in the Pacific Northwest. With fewer than half of its generators installed this giant has produced power equal to the labor of 78,000,000 men. It made ships, planes, tanks, and aluminum and the atom bomb."

Central Point Store Purchased By Couple

The R and E Confectionery and Sporting Goods store in Central Point has been purchased by Mr. and Mrs. John Wisely, 54 Summit avenue, Medford, the couple announced today. The store was purchased from Mr. and Mrs. Everette Eversizer.

Management will be assumed by the Wiselys Saturday, April 1, and they have made plans to serve free coffee and doughnuts that day from 9 a. m. to 12 noon. There also will be ice cream bars for the youngsters during the same hours.

Until the present Wisely has been with the Southern Oregon Planning company.

Slot Machine Revenue Good Boost for Idaho Cities

Coeur d'Alene, Ida., Mar. 29—U.P.—Things would be rough in some northern Idaho towns if it weren't for slot machines.

No new streets, sewage systems, street lights or even fire or police protection if it weren't for those money gobbling one armed bandits.

A survey of towns in the Panhandle of Idaho shows if slot machines were made illegal, a drastic change in the financial structures would have to be made in most communities.

Local Option Basis
Right now, slots are on a local option basis. Northern Idaho, a mining and lumbering region, is solidly for the machines while some of the more conservative farming areas of southern Idaho are voting them out.

Officials generally don't like the machines and wish they could get rid of them. "Bad for business," they say. "But where would we get all that revenue if it weren't for the damn things?"

An average of about 20 percent of the total revenue collected by the towns comes from the machines with the whirling wheels.

In one case, Sandpoint, a low assessed valuation of property makes slot machines a very handy source of revenue. Jim Parsons, secretary of the chamber of commerce, said the whole town is assessed at about \$1,300,000.

Not Real Figure
"A ridiculous figure," he says. "I wouldn't try to guess what the real figure is but it's far beyond that."

"A reevaluation of our town and many others in this part of the state could make us independent of the slot machines."

The levy limits in most towns combined with the low assessment values make a low possible revenue from regular sources. Most towns report they are up to the limit right now.

Mayor H. C. Seeber of Kellogg says a \$40,000 widening job on the Coeur d'Alene river to prevent flooding in the town would have been impossible except for the machines.

A hose cart for fighting fires was bought at Spirit Lake by slot machine revenue and a sewage system is being financed at Sandpoint. Just a few examples of the essential things being done with the income from the gambling habits of the citizens.

State, Counties Gain
The state and counties also gain from the machines. The city takes 50 percent and the county and state split the other half. So it's a nice source of income all around.

But how long they'll stay in operation no one will guess. Most officials would rather not say too much about it. As one mayor put it:
"Let the sleeping dog lay."

Wednesday, March 29, 1950

MEDFORD (OREGON) MAIL TRIBUNE—FIVE

Sutter county is named for Captain John Sutter at whose mill in Coloma gold was discovered in 1848.

California has a greater variety of minerals of possible commercial importance than any comparable area in the world.

Children To Appear In Townsend Program

Townsend club No. 1 will sponsor a program Friday, March 31 at 8 p. m. in the KP hall, with 40 children participating.


Program numbers will be given by pupils of Mrs. Eve Prentice, accordion teacher, and Miss Melba Chehak, orchestra director for junior and senior high school, will present two groups of string players from junior high school. One group will be a string quartet of boys, and one a mixed group.

In addition, pupils of Bliss Heine will dance, give baton exhibitions and fancy drills.

There will be no charge for the program, which is open to the public, but a free will offering will be taken.

Mrs. Florence Boussum is president of the club.

The dogfish has no bones.



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