

Society

Cancer's 10-Year Toll Rises But Cures Also Increasing

Cancer's shifting pattern in the last decade has produced a paradox of increase in both the number who get cancer and the number of those cured of it, the American Cancer Society observed in marking the tenth anniversary of its reorganization.

The ACS in 1945 succeeded the American Society for the Control of Cancer, founded in 1913. Following World War II, an all-out attack on cancer through research, education and service to patients was launched.

Now, taking a long look at the past ten years, the ACS finds that more people are dying of cancer today but that thousands are being cured who would have died of the disease in 1945.

Does this mean that more people are getting cancer than did ten years ago? ACS statisticians say yes. Cancer now strikes one in four, instead of one in five. The main point here is that the population is older now; more people are in the age bracket where cancer takes its heaviest toll. The American life expectancy increased from about 63 years to nearly 69 years between 1941 and 1951, the latest ten-year period for which figures are available.

About 700,000 Cases Now
During the last ten years cancer has been increasing, both in number of persons who got the disease and in the number who died. As nearly as can be determined there were about 550,000 persons under treatment for cancer in 1945. This year the estimate is 700,000.

Americans were dying of cancer ten years ago at the rate of 127 per 100,000 population. In 1945, 91,638 women died of cancer and there were 85,826 male cancer deaths. This year the rate is 146 per 100,000 and the male deaths outnumber the women by a considerable margin. Estimates for 1955 say that about 124,000 men and 112,000 women will die of cancer.

One-Fourth Saved
About one-fourth of those who

get cancer today are being saved. In 1955 this would mean about 75,000 lives saved. Various studies indicate that more people are being saved from cancer today.

If figures from a recent Metropolitan Life Insurance study are applied to the entire population, they indicate that some 10,000 women are being saved annually who would have died in the years 1941-1943.

The tempo of the fight against cancer also has increased. The ultimate goal of cancer control through research has moved forward as vastly increased funds have been made available. In 1945, the ACS set aside \$979,047 for research grants awarded in its first research program the following year.

Grants totaling more than \$5,500,000 are being made this year by the Society. This represents one-fourth of the money raised during last year's campaign. The 1955 Crusade goal is \$24,000,000 and at least \$6,000,000 of this will be devoted to research.

CALENDAR

Calendar notices and news for the society section of The Mail Tribune must be submitted in writing and deadline for the Sunday edition is 1 p.m. Friday. Deadline for the weekly calendar is 5 a.m. of the day of publication and for week day news is 5 p.m. the day before publication.

Saturday
12:30 p.m. — Medford League of Women Voters, Medford hotel.
7:30 p.m. — Olive Rebekah lodge, public card party, IOOF hall, 221 West Sixth st.



MOTHER OF YEAR — Mrs. Lavinia Christensen Fugal, 75 (above), of Pleasant Grove, Utah, has been selected as the American Mother of the Year. She has four sons and four daughters.

Shady Cove Unit Elects Officers

Shady Cove—Shady Cove Extension unit held election of officers during a meeting in the home of Mrs. A. C. Larson on Rogue River drive April 26.

Mrs. T. R. Dow is the new chairman and other officers are Mrs. C. Brewer, vice-chairman; Mrs. Kenneth Paulsen, secretary and Mrs. William Bishop, treasurer.

The unit will have a display on the project, "The Home Medicine Cabinet" and copper work at the annual Homemaker's Festival.

Mrs. Larson, president of Shady Cove Parent-Teacher association, reported that a home nursing class will start soon, with classes to be held at the schoolhouse.

Mrs. F. K. Kelley showed slides taken during a trip to Florida last winter. Mrs. Hicks and Mrs. Mason gave the lesson on "Simple Home Repairs."

Former Agent In U.S. Service To Speak Here

Arch F. Coleman, who worked with the United States strategic services before and during World War II, will be speaker for the next meeting of Rogue Valley Knife and Fork club. The dinner will be Monday, May 9, at 6:45 p.m. in Rogue Valley Country club.

Mr. Coleman who has spent time in several nations while a secret service agent, is now a public relations counselor. He has also worked with the U.S. Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce.

Reservations for the dinner are to be made with the club secretary, Mrs. O. A. Eden, 211 Genesee street, no later than Saturday, May 7.

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