

Nation's Medical Schools Face Enlarging Problems

Editor's Note: This is another in a series of articles prepared in connection with Medical Education week, April 22-28, on the status of medical education in the United States and efforts of the medical schools to keep the nation supplied with a sufficient number of well-trained doctors to meet its health needs.

New York—The nation's medical schools, most of them in comfortable middle-age, have suddenly acquired a most adolescent sickness.

They have a bad case of growing pains.

Today there are 75 four-year medical schools, plus six two-year basic medical science schools whose students must complete their training elsewhere.

New schools are in the offing. By 1960, prospects are that there will be 82 four-year schools and three two-year schools. Some of the existing schools may have significantly larger classes.

Steady Pattern
The steady pattern of growth began as far back as the end of World War II.

Although five new medical schools have been built since the war, and many institutions have increased their enrollment, it is unlikely that the schools will be able to handle the big rush due about 1964, when the "baby boom" of the 1940s is felt by the colleges.

Medical educators fear that tuition costs, plus the years of low-income post-graduate training, may price medical school out of the range of some of the best students. Average tuition today is \$800 per year, though the total cost to the school for one year's training is at least \$3600.

Recruitment of teachers is a big problem. Since there is no margin for error in medical teaching, individual instruction

is essential.

There are 28,435 teachers in U. S. medical schools today. Of these, 21,328 serve without pay. Most of the volunteers are working physicians who give up time from their own practices.

Of the 4231 paid, full-time men, most of them teach at salaries far lower than their potential earnings in private practice. In the search for scientists to teach the most fundamental courses, such as anatomy, biochemistry, physiology, the situation is most acute. In medicine, as in defense laboratories and industry, there are not enough scientists to go around.

Creation of new medical schools requires hospital facilities. Good teaching involves about 600 hospital beds for every 200 students, so that diseases and treatment may be studied first-hand.



NEW PRESIDENT—Jim McDonald, a sophomore in secondary education at Southern Oregon college, was recently elected president of the Future Teachers of Oregon association. He is son of Mr. and Mrs. A. R. McDonald of route 1, Eagle Point.

Ex-Convict Admits Slaying Teacher

Munising, Mich.—(U.P.)—A surly ex-convict confessed the murder of a pretty, 21-year-old school teacher and led police to her body shortly before midnight Wednesday.

Police said Leonard H. Lundberg, 35, a parolee, broke down after 12 hours of questioning and showed them the bludgeoned body of Patricia Burdick only three miles from where she hitchhiked a ride with him Sunday night.

The petite brown-haired woman's body was lying under a clump of jackpines and was covered with straw and branches. Blood spotted her tan slacks and red coat and her skull was crushed, police said.

An autopsy was ordered today to learn whether the girl was criminally assaulted. Authorities said assault apparently was the motive for the slaying.

Lundberg would give no motive, police said. He admitted picking up Miss Burdick at an intersection near Sear, Mich., 27 miles south of Grand Marais where she was teaching for the first year.

Her body was found along Highway M-77 in an area which was scoured by a posse of woodsmen, conservation officers, volunteers and police authorities. Police said the searchers must have stepped within inches of the body while combing the area during the last two days.

Eisenhower To Spend Week-End at Gettysburg

Washington — (U.P.) — The President and Mrs. Eisenhower will spend this week end at their farm in Gettysburg, Pa.

Mr. Eisenhower plans to go to Gettysburg Friday shortly after a meeting with the Cabinet. Mrs. Eisenhower probably will go up ahead of him.

Hanford Engineer Speaks At PEO Meeting in Medford

Harold W. Heacock, mechanical design engineer at the Atomic Energy Commission's Hanford atomic plant, spoke at the annual joint dinner meeting of the Professional Engineers of Oregon and the American Institute of Electrical Engineers this week.

The title of Heacock's talk was "The Essential Difference Between Nuclear and Conventional Power Plants." Color slides illustrated the subject. The nuclear power plant would use a conventional system turbine and electric generator but would have a reactor instead of a fossil fueled to generate the heat required, he said. The nuclear plant would operate at lower pressures and temperatures than the modern steam plant.

Heacock explained different types of reactors which could be used and their advantages and disadvantages.

Heacock discussed difficulties of servicing the nuclear plant because of radiation hazards involved. Also, waste disposal presents a problem, he said.

Waste from the Hanford plant is buried in large steel tanks encased in concrete in the desert.

The cost of generating power with the best nuclear plant is theoretically 6.8 mills per kilowatt-hour, he said. The cost does not include transmission or distribution.

Several nuclear power plants will begin operation soon after licensing requirements are worked out by the Atomic Energy Commission, he said.

Animal Lending Library Proving Popular Venture

Sacramento, Calif.—(U.P.)—You can borrow a snake from a lending library here. Or a skunk. Or rabbits and squirrels.

The California Junior Museum has the first animal lending service in the nation.

Anyone over seven years of age is eligible. Animals can be borrowed for up to a week. If you don't bring your porcupine or rabbit back on time you are charged a fine of 10 cents a day.

Pioneered Service
Fred G. Evenden, a Ph.D. from Oregon State, is in charge of the unique museum which pioneered the animal lending service for children, but is finding it patronized by teachers and adults, too. There are 300 animals in stock.

The usual procedure is to start young borrowers out with one of the more domesticated animals, like a rabbit, a hamster, or a white mouse. As the borrower proves his ability to handle animals he can graduate to a snake (non-poisonous), a skunk (deodorized), or a porcupine (with quills).

Gila monsters and rattlesnakes are loaned out only to teachers or special student groups. The most experienced borrowers can have a raccoon, a fox or a coyote named "Snipsy."

"We haven't lost one-tenth of one per cent of our animals and we haven't had any accidents," Evenden said. "One of our biggest problems is gifts. We turn down enough to stock a zoo." Just recently he said no thanks to an offer of 55 rats.

Gift Backfired
At least one gift backfired. A man found a skunk which he presumed had been deodorized and was a pet gone astray. The skunk was turned over to the junior museum. Not for several

days was discovered the skunk was loaded.

Parents have borrowed animals from the museum with the specification that the animals be pregnant. The purpose: Sex education at home.

Czechoslovakia Ousts Minister of Defense

Vienna, Austria — (U.P.) — Russia's "down with Stalin" campaign appeared today to have claimed another victim — Alexei Cepicka, a leading figure since 1948 in the Communist regime in Czechoslovakia.

Radio Prague announced Wednesday night the Reds have stripped Cepicka of his positions as vice-premier and defense minister because of his "mistakes and shortcomings."

The broadcast said Bohumil Lomsky, formerly deputy defense minister, has succeeded Cepicka in the defense post.

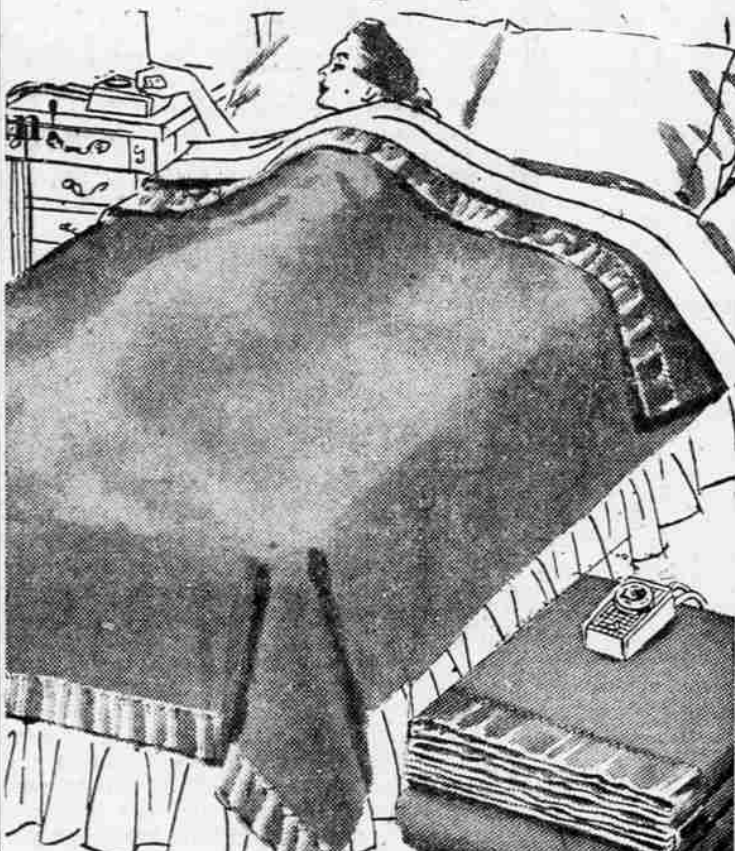
Edward G. Robinson's Son Out of Hospital

Hollywood — (U.P.) — Edward G. Robinson Jr., 22, son of the actor and screen "tough guy" actor, has been released from Cedars of Lebanon hospital where he was treated for an overdose of sleeping pills.

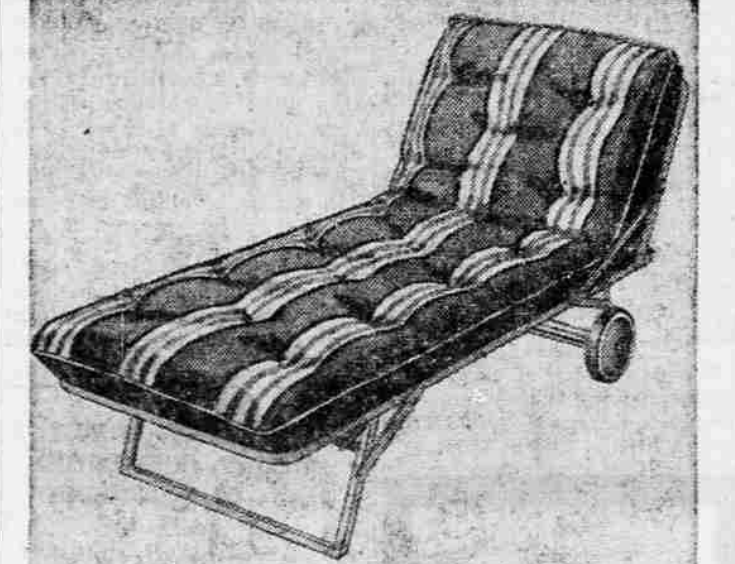
Young Robinson left the hospital Wednesday, less than 26 hours after he was found unconscious by police in his west Los Angeles home. Authorities listed the case as an apparent suicide attempt but Robinson later claimed he only took four pills merely to make his girl friend feel sorry for him.

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Gingham Plaid SPORT SHIRTS
Good Looking Plaids That Are Ideal for These Spring and Summer Days

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Elastic Leg Brief Style

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