

No One Drug Will Be of Help To All Arthritics, Doctor Declares

By DELOS SMITH
United Press Science Editor
New York (U.P.)—A leading medical scientist has given off with some exceedingly plain talk on the subject of arthritis and drugs which will be of such interest to laymen who have been led to think that in this scientific day there is a pill for anything and everything.

Dr. Ethan Allan Brown, of Tufts College Medical School and the New England Medical Center of Boston, said the following without the suggestion of a hedge:

"Each of the drugs used for the treatment of rheumatoid arthritis and related disorders will give a large number of patients some relief. No one drug will help all patients so relieved for long periods of time.

Toxic Reactions Cited
"No drug presently available is entirely free from side, allergic, and supposed toxic reactions,

although the incidence of such reactions varies widely." He added that he was speaking even of aspirin. He said with emphasis, "Aspirin is not an innocuous drug!"

From the physician's point of view arthritis and its relatives are extremely hard nuts. First, the causes are unknown. Second, their flare-ups and subsiding can't be predicted. Third, the victims vary widely as persons and in their response to drugs and other treatment.

Their arthritic states are affected by climate, season, diet, physical, hormonal, and psychosocial stress." Dr. Brown continued in his authoritative statement in "Medical Digest." Furthermore, whether for "good or bad," some react to inert substances which should have no effect of any kind.

To complicate the matter further, how the chief anti-arthritic drugs work in the human body is "only partially known," and "why they are effective in

the human body is 'only partially known,' and "why they are effective in some patients, and not in others is not yet understood. Some are better than others for immediate symptomatic relief, as compared to long range effects."

Entire Body Involved
The final difficulty: "Although the signs and symptoms may appear to be limited to the joints, the disorder undoubtedly involves all body tissues. Each therapeutic program represents a series of compromises."

The challenge to the doctor is to fit a drug to a patient. He saw "a good field for the application of good principles of treatment using the safest method for the greatest good of the greatest number of patients. With proper selection and management almost every arthritic patient can be given appreciable relief. No one drug is universally effective. No two patients are equally affected."



STILL AROUND—And still the clown is Max Baer as he adjusts a yachting cap after being named an honorary admiral for the 30th annual Water Regatta at Stockton, Calif., May 26-27. Awarding the cap is Carol Fillmore (Miss Stockton) who will compete for the Miss California title.

Executive Secretary of Methodist Board Quits

Portland (U.P.)—The Rev. Eugene E. Laubach, executive secretary of the Methodist Conference Board of Education, announced his resignation from that position effective Sept. 1. The announcement was made here at the opening of the annual conference of Methodist church in Oregon.

The Rev. Mr. Laubach said he would attend Drew Theological Seminary and had accepted an education position at a Westfield, N.J. church.

TOO HOT FOR JURY

Omaha (U.P.)—Recalling last summer's 100-plus degree heat, Judge L. Ross Newkirk announced there will be no district court jury duty this summer. "I don't think the jurors have the right frame of mind when they're stewing in that jury box during the summer," Newkirk said.

Non-Agricultural Employment Up

Salem (U.P.)—Non-agricultural employment in the Portland - Vancouver metropolitan area increased 4,600 between mid-March and mid-April, the State Unemployment Compensation Commission estimated today.

Some 245,000 persons were engaged on non-farm jobs in the four-county area compared with 240,800 in March and 235,900 in April, 1955.

Manufacturing employment was up 3,400 from a year ago, despite a drop of 900 in lumber employment, as metals, machinery and transportation equipment all registered substantial gains over the year.

Average weekly earnings of production workers reached a new high of \$86.74 during April, a gain of \$1.63 from the previous high of \$85.11 reached in March. Longer hours which

raised weekly earnings \$6.49 and \$7.10 respectively in the lumbering and machinery industries were responsible for much of the increased rate.

Salem (U.P.)—Gov. Elmo Smith has appointed Gordon Shattuck as secretary of the state employees suggestion board.

A POINTED STORY

Milwaukee (U.P.)—Frank Voerman gave his three youngsters a live Easter rabbit and set up quarters for it in the kitchen. The children loved it, but it was confusing to the family's German short-haired pointer, Schultz. Every time Schultz saw the rabbit he went into a point—for hours at a time.

Vision tests in schools are required by 19 of the states.



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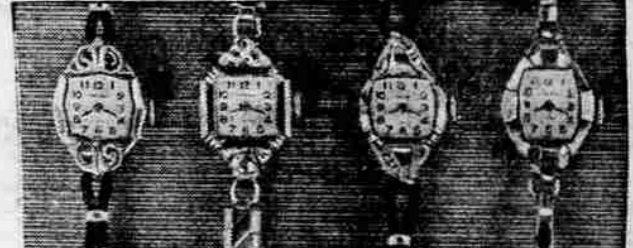
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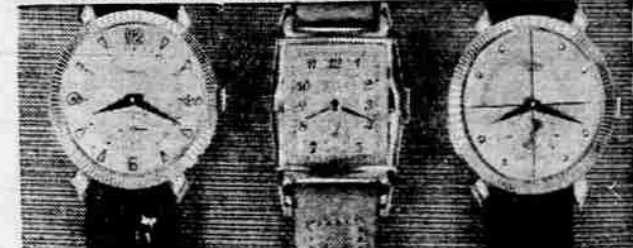
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