

Doctor Describes Violent Allergy Reaction From Shot of Penicillin

By DELOS SMITH
United Press Science Editor
New York—(U.P.)—Having a sore throat, Dr. Irving Weinstein prescribed for himself, naturally. He twisted around and injected 600,000 units of penicillin into his right buttock. Within two minutes, a million needles seemed to be pushing deeply into his feet and legs. Very rapidly this sensation spread over his body. He felt nauseated. It seemed to him he couldn't get air into his lungs. Black clouds appeared before his eyes. Then he went out like a light.

That would have been curtains for the doctor if another doctor hadn't arrived promptly. Dr. Michael B. Albi found his colleague collapsed and unconscious on the floor. He could feel no pulse, could barely detect heart sounds.

The eye balls were turned upward. The skin was cold and clammy and covered with an eruption. The face was bluish

and swollen. There was a marked arrest of breathing, and blood circulation was near collapse.

Emergency Call
Dr. Albi put in an emergency call for the Police Department's oxygen respirator. He had to push rhythmically on Dr. Weinstein's right arm with the sole of his shoe to get a vein to fill enough for him to get a needle into it.

Through the needle, he began applying various medications. The police arrived with the oxygen and the oxygen mask. Twenty minutes had passed since Dr. Weinstein blacked out.

When he regained consciousness, his urge was to thrash about in order to avoid pain. The urge was almost uncontrollable. He felt as if he was being pressed down against two railroad tracks on each side of his spine. Breathing was extremely difficult. This filled him with fear.

In spotty fashion, his mind began functioning realistically. Being a doctor, he knew what the other doctor was doing. He approved, and felt recovery merely was a matter of time. Then he felt the needling sensations in his legs again.

Fearful Relapse
Panic seized him. He felt that if he had a relapse, he'd never be able to summon enough strength to survive. So he screamed that he was receding and needed more medication. It was given and it got him out of the woods. Forty minutes had now passed since the penicillin injection.

It was six weeks before he felt himself again.

The two doctors made a joint report to the technical journal of the Medical Society of the state of New York. Very little had been known of what the victim of massive, sledge-hammer allergic shock feels and for what reason Weinstein's account was unique.

But it also emphasized that penicillin, "wonder drug" though it is, is something to respect. Allergic reactions to it are rare considering the amount of penicillin prescribed daily. Nevertheless, such reactions as

Weinstock had can be fatal and doctors these days are understandably cautious in using it.

Mysterious Explosion Rocks Munitions Firm

Saugus, Calif.—(U.P.)—Military officials clamped a tight lid of secrecy Saturday on their investigation into a mysterious explosion which ripped the heart of a security-classified munitions plant, killing three employees and injuring three others.

The blast occurred in one of the many buildings of the \$2,500,000 Bernite Powder Co. plant here Friday shortly after some 500 employees had returned from their noon hour. Two years ago one woman was killed and 17 others injured in an explosion at the plant located in desert area about 70 miles from Los Angeles.

Authorities identified the dead as Pablo E. Avila Jr., 25, of Pico, Calif.; Herman Zachow, 50 of Saugus; and Mrs. Alma Trowbridge, 35, of San Fernando, Calif. Avila and Zachow were killed instantly while the third victim died later at a hospital. Three other women suffered shock and burns.

Man Is Convicted Of Army Desertion

Honolulu—(U.P.)—Army Pvt. Edward Medeiros, who lived as a civilian for 11 years within a stone's throw of the military post he walked away from, has been convicted of desertion during wartime.

An Army court martial board Friday sentenced the 35-year-old father of two children to two years hard labor and forfeiture of all pay and allowances.

Medeiros deserted Honolulu's Fort Shafter in 1945 and spent most of the past 11 years living at the home of his mother a few hundred feet from the fort. During that time he worked as a guard at a pineapple plant, supporting his family and five other relatives.

He was arrested April 26, but there was no indication in the court martial records as to show why it took the Army so long to locate him or how it finally tracked him down.

Medeiros testified during the trial that he planned to return to the Army "hundreds of times," but financial problems and his family prevented him from doing so.

His only comment to the sentence was: "It could have been worse."

State Convention for Labor Merger Tuesday

Portland—(U.P.)—The state merger convention of the AFL-CIO is scheduled to open here Tuesday with officials predicting quick clearance of the merger by the some 700 delegates expected to be on hand.

Earlier officials had expressed fear that opposition to the state level merger might develop from some members of the Oregon State Building and Construction Trades council who reportedly were ready to attend the merger convention armed with a resolution to block it at this time.

Meeting Saturday, top national officials of the building and construction trades organization, hammered out an agreement, however, the ended opposition by the organization.

Oregon leaders immediately announced, upon receipt of the news from the national headquarters, that the proposed merger in the state is expected to be completed without any opposition.

Reporter Takes Steps For Reinstatement

Coos Bay—(U.P.)—A reporter for the Coos Bay Times who was fired by the Air Force in 1954 as a security risk, said here Saturday he has taken steps to gain reinstatement to his job as a fireman at Tinker Air Force base at Oklahoma City, Okla.

James S. Martindale, 32, was fired in February, 1954, for alleged pro-Communist activity. He flatly denied the charges and demanded a public hearing.

Air Force officials refused the public hearing but a review board upheld the suspension.

Martindale contended that the government had refused to face him with his accusers and that he therefore had no way to defend himself.

Saturday Martindale said that

PROPHET WITHOUT HONOR

Milwaukee—(U.P.)—Charles E. Wampler drove to Green Bay and parked his car in a lot behind the Wisconsin Telephone Co. building. Later he found a note on his car saying, "This is a private parking lot—please do not use it again or your car will be towed away at your expense." Wampler is president of the Wisconsin Telephone Co.

In light of Attorney General Brownell's recent ruling that the government security program no longer applies to employees in "non-sensitive" jobs, he felt the Air Force had no choice but to reinstate him.

He said that he had written letters asking for reinstatement to Air Force Secretary Quarles and to the commander of the Tinker Air Force base.

The skin on the human abdomen has twice the elasticity of skin on the back.



First Forester . . .
David Douglas came ashore from the William and Ann at Fort George (Astoria) on April 12, 1825, nearly nine months after his second departure from England. The self-educated botanist of 26 years, robust in health, small-boned but big and strong, owning muscular force from dirt-and-dig gardening, was eager for exploration in the wilderness before him.

and berries, and slept on branches of cedar or fir. He earned good fame with the Indians, who welcomed him at their sturgeon feasts and other celebrations. In September he became the first white man to travel to Cello Falls without armed company. This freedom from fear was not due to Douglas himself, in the main, but was a growing effect of the pacific policy and fair-deal practices of the Hudson's Bay Company in trade with the Indians.

young Douglas on to a storm-swept foray north as far as Grays Harbor, where he was briefly a guest of the tribe that had once attacked Captain Robert Gray.

Here again the policies of the Hudson's Bay Company had made peace. Douglas fared on alone, despite terrific rainstorms that flooded the creeks he had to cross to travel up the Chehalis Valley.

Douglas swam and slogged his way to the Cowlitz, where another peaceful, friendly chief lent him a dugout. In this craft Douglas made a safe return to Fort Vancouver, arriving November 15.

Dr. McLoughlin again made the brave botanist welcome in his own half-finished house for the winter. Douglas spent the season botanizing in the woods around the fort. His orders from the Society were to start for England in the spring of 1826. But he decided to stay on for another year. The branch valleys of the Columbia were botanically unexplored. The decision led to his discovery of the sugar pine.

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