

# Regrowth of Nerve Fibers To Severe Burn Areas Slow Process

By DELOS SMITH  
United Press Science Editor  
New York—(U.P.)—What happens to the network of nerve fibers when the flesh is burned is very little if you consider what happens to it a few hours and a few days after the burn. This is new scientific information—and very important information for surgeons who treat people with burns. In some cases it could possibly make the

difference between life and death. When the flesh is burned all that happens at once is that it gets red on the surface and fluid collects. In about 45 minutes, the superficial nerve fibers in the central part of the burned area have disappeared and other fibers show damage. Within four hours, the central part of the burn has no nerve fibers at all, and the nerve fibers around the edges now show

damage. Within 24 hours the area without nerve fibers has increased considerably. Within two to four days, this area has again increased and is almost twice what it was immediately after the burn. **Maximum Size** But now it is at its maximum size—it won't get any bigger—and we want to know how quickly nerve fibers grow back through the damaged area. The newly-supplied answer is that it is a slow process. Two weeks after the burn there still are no nerve fibers on the surface. A few have reappeared on the underside and there are some isolated, single fibers around the edges. Not until four weeks afterward is there a good network of nerves on the underside and a fair network on the surface. Seven weeks afterward, the nerve network is more or less reestablished through the burned area.

## A Nichol's Worth of . . . Comment On This and That

By HARMAN W. NICHOLS  
United Press Feature Writer

Washington—(U.P.)—The men who trudge through snow, rain, the gloom of night, etc., to deliver the mail are smart on their own time, too. Postmaster General Arthur Summerfield's lads branch out into a lot of other fields, including the ministry. The service is proud of its many parsons. In New York City, Charles A. Distler distributes letters and parcels during the week and preaches the gospel on the sabbath. The 40-year-old letter carrier is a son of a private detective and is minister of the Woodside Community Baptist church in Queens.

At Clarksburg, W. Va., postal clerk H. E. Zahn was there to tie a marital knot for a couple when the pair showed up at the post office. Zahn, pastor of the Summit Park Baptist church, shucked his work clothes, put on the cloth and listened to the "I do's."

Another postal employee, carrier Rufus T. Griffin, of Grand Prairie, Tex., has just sold his twelfth gospel song. His most popular published gospel song is "When Life Is Over."

Art Kercheval of Denver totes the mail. But on the side he writes western stories for the magazines. Art is happy to say that he has received a check for his 50th sale called "The

Star and the Man" which, I suppose, has something to do with the law and some character outside the law.

A sub clerk named Edward Breen of New York City peddled a play called "Thirty Year Man" to the U.S. Steel television show. Ed says that he would drop his mail bag altogether if he wasn't in love with the service.

Frank H. Keith, a letter carrier in Chicago, parlays a talent for the poetic with a hot flair for cartooning. Frank tours the Midwest on off time with a heavy-duty crayon in hand. He makes chalk talk. He also wrote the lyrics for the Christmas tune "Twinkle Toes."

Your mailman also orates. Fellow mail supervisor Paul A. Letkus of Pittsburg, Pa. talked himself into the blue ribbon class of a speech contest sponsored by Area 1 of Toastmasters International.

Of course, in passing there is the unsung pavement pounder who at long last decided to retire. He was, legend has it, a baseball fan.

What he wanted to do instead of wear carpet slippers and roll in the hammock was to run around the country catching foul balls in baseball parks.

He did. At length he collected a considerable number of the horsehides and built himself a trophy case in his den.

When friends came in for a cold one, the old-timer would proudly point at his case and say: "Look—every darn one of 'em a foul ball."

This information was gathered by Dr. J. Raymond Hinshaw of the University of Rochester, N.Y. school of medicine and dentistry, in precise experiments with burns of rabbit ears—the ears of living rabbits, of course. The nature of rabbit ears was important to the experiments because the burned surface and the underside of the burn could both be studied.

**Critical Decision** The information, which presumably applies to human flesh as well as to rabbit flesh, is important because a critical decision of the surgeon often is whether a given burned area of flesh is second degree or third degree. If truly second degree, it is not so deep that time won't heal it. If third degree, removal of the heat-killed flesh and skin-grafting may be vital.

The decision can be tough. One test has been to stick pins in and around burned areas. The idea of this has been that if the burn victim feels the pin-pricks, the burn is not too thick but if he doesn't, he has a deep second or third degree burn. The new information indicates that the jobs he feels soon after his injury, he won't feel for weeks. To feel through the flesh, there must be a network of nerve fibers.



**HANDY INDEED!**—Showing off their handy abilities with the saw during judging for "queen" of the Do-It-Yourself show in Los Angeles are, left to right: Joyce Winfield, Judy Bamber, Judith Berry, Audrey Lowell and Pat Malloy. Chivalry must be dead indeed if any one of these lovelies had to do a chore herself.

## Around Hollywood

By ALINE MOSBY  
United Press Correspondent

Las Vegas, Nev.—(U.P.)—Judy Garland makes her big-time night club debut Monday night on the same Las Vegas stage where Mario Lanza once failed to make his opening—but Judy is sure she'll make it.

Lanza, apparently struck with stage fright, couldn't bulge from his room to face the audience at the New Frontier hotel in this gambling city two years ago. Now Judy, admitted terrified to face audiences, is opening at the same hotel for a reported \$55,000 a week, a record in this town of dizzy salaries.

But Judy insists she'll actually sing on that stage every night for four weeks to collect the salary that makes her the highest paid night club performer in the land. **Stage Fright Told**

"I'm a victim of the most awful stage fright," said Judy, looking relaxed and happy as she sat in a long red velvet robe in her room. "I always get sick right before I go on the stage. It's such a lonely feeling . . ."

"But no matter how frightened you are you have to do it. I figure if people have gotten in their cars and driven there and paid to see you, you just bloody

well have to go on. "Lanza must have really felt that terror. And he didn't have the experience to get him up there. After all, he had gone right from the Army into movies."

But Judy has been a performer since she was a child, and even performed in small night clubs with her sisters when she was nine years old (they had to pass her off as 16). In recent years she's passed up fabulous offers from Las Vegas hotels because.

"People said I shouldn't do it because it wasn't dignified." **"Why Shouldn't I?"**

"Then I realized Noel Coward, Maurice Chevalier and many entertainers had appeared there so I don't know why I shouldn't," she said.

"It's not quite like playing night clubs. The New Frontier hotel stage is like a theater. I thought it would be fun—and, besides, gotta get that money," she added with a laugh.

Judy's reported \$5 Gs a week goes to her alone, unlike Liberace's \$50,000 which also paid for his staff. She's made sure she'll take that fabulous loot back to Hollywood, too. Judy and husband, Sid Luft, who is producing her show, have agreed not to go near the enticing dice tables.

"Some entertainers lose their salaries in the casinos," Luft told me. "But we're not going near them."

## Highways 99, 30 To Get Big Share

Portland—(U.P.)—Delegations who appeared before the State Highway commission here Friday in hopes of getting a share of new federal aid moneys for highway projects in their areas were given disappointing news.

Commission Chairman Ben Chandler of Coos Bay said only two Oregon highways, 99 and 30, will get the bulk of the federal funds since they have been designated interstate highways.

Chandler announced to the delegations that "we will have very little more to spend on non-interstate roads than we have had."

Deputy Engineer W. C. Wil-

liams said the highway budget for non-interstate routes in 1958 would be \$21,417,000 and that it would go to \$22,046,000 in 1959 and remain at that level through 1969. He pointed out that the extensive building programs of the past five years had been financed by Oregon's own \$72 million bond issue.

With the aid of federal funds, the state's highway construction budgets for the next 13 years will total \$674,771,000, Williams said.

In other business, the commission indicated a favorable interest in proposals for a new link between Hillsboro and the Sun-

## Portland Considers Sewer Rehabilitation

Portland—(U.P.)—If the Portland city council gives its approval this week, voters may have an opportunity at the November general election to indicate their opinion of a \$5 million tax levy to overhaul portions of the city's more antiquated sewer system.

set highway but took no action. Williams said the proposed route would have to be four-lane to handle an expected 6000 cars daily and would cost about \$3 million.

## Good Intentions End in Big Mess

Portland—(U.P.)—A well-intentioned clean-up job ended in a big mess here Friday when city crews attempted to clean with acids the Skidmore fountain in the lower downtown Portland area. Funds for the statue, composed of maidens supporting the Grecian basin of the fountain, were bequeathed in 1888 by Stephen Skidmore.

The clean-up attempt came as a result of an order by Water Commissioner, Nathan Boddy, to clean up the fountain. The job was assigned to M. A. Mosely, head of the construction and maintenance section of the Water Bureau, who in turn consulted with experts on bronze.

The workmen started their job with acids, but when the resulting was a nauseating greenish-yellow stain, they beat a hasty retreat for further instructions.

Both Thomas Colt, director of the art museum, and Francis Newton, curator, were slightly horrified at the very thought of using acid, or sandblasting to remove the acid, on a work of art like the Skidmore fountain.

Portland's most prominent

sculptor, Frederick Littman said, "It should definitely not be sandblasted if it can be avoided."

In the meantime, A. H. Barbour & Son were commissioned to start sandblasting operations Saturday morning. Mosely explained that the firm will use finesand to avoid marring the metal.

**Memo from Reddy...**

*Save marketing time*

**With a Home Food Freezer, you have a supermarket in your kitchen... and do your marketing at home!**

*See your favorite Appliances Dealer!*

**COPCO**

**Pak-A-Way Freezer**  
by Schaefer  
**35% Under List SPECIAL**  
18.7 Cubic Foot Upright  
**\$399.50**  
3608 Pacific Hiway  
So. of Medford  
Open Till 10:00 P.M.

# Time for SOMETHING SPECIAL!

... the light refreshing beer



For the patio chef... give a cheer! It's charcoal broiled steak... and the light, refreshing beer... Blitz Weinhard!

Discover for yourself the light, refreshing beer... Blitz Weinhard!

It's something special!