

They'll Do It Every Time By Jimmy Hatlo



The Medical Roundup

by *Walter Alvarez*

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What To Do For A Cured Gonorrhea?

This title will doubtless puzzle physicians who see it, but, actually, I get many requests for information about what to do for the supposed residual bad effects left in the body. The only ones left in some highly worrisome men are in the brain, and consist of fears. Today, when a man is cured of gonorrhea, he is "cured," and can stop worrying.

In the old pre-penicillin days a man who had had gonorrhea was often left with a stricture of the urethra, or the little tube that carries the urine from the bladder to the outside. Such strictures often made it hard for the man to urinate; and from time to time throughout his life, he might have to have the tube dilated with so-called sounds. In many cases gonorrhea was followed, also, by prostatitis, or by an infection in the seminal vesicles which hold the semen. They lie just above the prostate gland, which surrounds the neck of the bladder and produces most of the fluid part of the semen. Men with prostatitis and seminal vesiculitis were often uncomfortable. Often they were the more uncomfortable because they worried much about the situation, and feared that it would interfere with their sexual powers.

In the old pre-penicillin days there were a few men who, during an attack of gonorrhea, got a bad flare-up of arthritis in perhaps one knee-joint. Today such troubles are rarely seen.

**Women Suffered in Past**  
In the past, women have suffered terribly from gonorrhea. Commonly, during her honeymoon, the bride would get the disease from her husband, who had married thinking or hoping that he was cured. In women, the infection can go up through the womb and into the tubes that run out each side from the womb toward the ovaries. Because of the marked inflammation in these tubes, in many cases they later had to be removed surgically, oftentimes with ovaries and the uterus. Often, also, the woman was left with a great deal of chronic peritonitis in her pelvis.

In women and also in men, gonorrhea used to be one of the greatest causes of infertility. In cases of men whose seminal tubes had been gummed up by gonorrhea, the sperm cells could not get from the testicles up into the seminal vesicles; and in women the ovum could not get from the ovary into the fallopian tube, or if it got into the tube, it could not get through into the womb.

Fortunately, today, with the quick cures commonly achieved with the help of penicillin, both men and women are far less likely, unwittingly, to go on and give their disease to others. The innocent wife is far less likely to be infected. Today, no man has any excuse for marrying or having sexual intercourse when he is infected.

**No Long-Lasting Effects**  
As far as we physicians know, aside from the conditions that I have mentioned, gonorrhea leaves no generalized or long-lasting effects such as are commonly left by syphilis. Syphilis is an entirely different disease from gonorrhea. Gonorrhea is due to a little germ, called a gonococcus, while syphilis is due to a very tiny spiral organism, called a spirochete. Syphilis is a disease of the whole body, and one which, if not well treated, can last a lifetime. In its later stages it is particularly likely to attack arteries, the brain and the spinal cord. In the old days one of the common forms of insanity was produced by syphilis—the so-called paresis, or general paralysis of the insane. In this disease the patient often got delusions of grandeur. He thought he was a great king or very wealthy. A formerly common type of weakness and lack of control of the legs was also produced by syphilis. Sixty per cent of the aneurisms or big blow-outs of weak spots in arteries used to be due to syphilis.

Fortunately, today, we physicians are seeing many fewer

syphilitic patients than we used to see. I now rarely see one, and it is years since I have recognized a person with congenital syphilis. This is not an inherited disease. It is usually disease given by the husband to his wife and then given by the wife to the child in her womb.

Some young people feel now the danger from venereal disease has been so reduced it can be disregarded; but this is not true. Perhaps 85 per cent of persons well treated can soon get well, but there is another 15 per cent in which things do not go smoothly, and it is not easy to get a cure.

Many persons who worry themselves sick fearing they have got syphilis in some way, should go right off to an expert—usually dermatologist or skin specialist or an internist—who will get one or more tests for syphilis made. If the tests are "negative," and if the expert says, "Stop worrying," the person should take his advice.

Dr. Alvarez hopes his readers will understand that it would be impossible for him to answer requests for information or to attempt to diagnose by mail.

(Released by The Register and Tribune Syndicate, 1956)

Eagle Point FFA To Sell First Aid Kits

Eagle Point—The Eagle Point High school chapter of the Future Farmers of America today started a house-to-house "Be Prepared for Accidents" campaign in the Eagle Point school district.

Members of the FFA will present homeowners with a first-aid chart showing approved procedures for dealing with various accidents, and offer to assist in checking the homeowners first-aid supplies to determine whether the home is adequately stocked for accident emergencies.

If supplies are needed, members will offer a selection of first-aid kits from which the homeowner may choose a kit which fits his need.

Proceeds from the campaign will be used by the chapter for various activities. The campaign is scheduled to end Nov. 5.

**PASSENGERS INJURED**  
Astoria, Ore.—(U.P.)—Several persons aboard the Matson line's new 14,000-ton passenger liner Mariposa were reported injured Wednesday night when the vessel encountered rough seas in crossing the Columbia River bar here.

According to figures released by the Health News Institute of New York, the pharmaceutical industry in the United States employs 92,500 persons, including 56,100 production workers.

**POLICE PAY**  
Lynn, Mass.—(U.P.)—A reserve police officer swapped his badge for an industrial job six hours before he was scheduled to begin his first tour of duty as a regular patrolman. Bertram Michaud said he didn't see "how anyone can get along on a policeman's pay." His industrial job, he said, pays twice as well.

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Is That So?

By EUGENE BURNS  
Ranger-Naturalist

Strictly for puzzle-wits. Identify me by No. 2 and you are an Outdoor Expert; No. 4, a Woodsman; No. 6, a Whistle-punk; and by No. 8, a Drugstore Cowpoke—full of voice but shorn of knowledge. The answer is stowed away in the last paragraph.

1. Although born with eyes open and a full set of teeth, I nurse until I am six months old and more but I do not attain adulthood until 4. Youngsters are more greish than parents. I can scratch with all fours in different directions at the same time. Due to my luxuriant fur, which is in prime summer or winter, I was hunted down to virtual extinction.

2. Close relatives, who resemble me closely, are common throughout the world, with the exception of isolated Australia, Madagascar, and South Pacific Islands. As for my own favorite haunts, they used to along the North Pacific shores from Southern California to the Aleutians and down the Kurile Island chain. No more—today, I am

limited to two herds—one in the Aleutians and another south of Monterey, California.

3. My overall length is from 3-4 feet with another foot for a big tail, my weight may be up to 80 pounds; my forefeet with which I hold my food and youngster are small; my hind feet large and broadly webbed—which accounts in part for my superb swimming ability. My fur is soft with long white-tipped hairs scattered through it, giving it a beautiful frosted look. My sight and hearing are poor; my sense of smell is acute.

4. I am a member of the well-dressed weasel family—although some of us, like the marten, spend much of our time in the streets; a few, like the badger, in the ground; but as for me, the water is my favorite abode—I'm happiest sitting smack-dab in the middle of a big kelp-bed. The longest member of my clan is a native of the Amazon river basin.

5. Peaceful, Playful Animal  
5. By nature, I am a peaceful playful animal. For food, I often dive a hundred feet down. My main diet is sea urchins although I also eat fish, cuttlefish, mussels, clams, abalone and other shellfish. When dining, I usually float on the water and use my belly and chest as a table. So good is my balance

in the waves that even during rough weather, my meal seldom slides overboard. Except for man and the killer whale, I have few natural enemies.

6. Although my young is born in the water, he must be taught to swim. While small, he usually relaxes on the chest of his floating mother—going to sleep with his little feet folded across his belly. Adults usually go to sleep floating, anchoring themselves to a single strand of kelp wound around their midriff. Exceptional swimmers, we can make short spurts of 10-miles-an-hour. If anyone were to ask you, that's traveling.

7. The single young pup is born in a thick bed of kelp almost any time of the year, after a 9 months' gestation. It's a close-knit family: the father carries the female by stroking her; the mother bounces her young, grooms it meticulously with claw and tongue; and the baby remains with its parents even after another young may be born. The parent's devotion is almost fanatic—even when death threatens. As a result, when hunters succeeded in capturing a baby, the parents became easy prey for clubs and spears and guns. Separated, the young whines like a human; the parents cry bitterly.

**Dense Fur Valued**  
8. In older times, Chinese mandarins, Indians and Eskimos valued our beautiful dense fur. But it was not until the white man found us—Russian, Spanish, and Yankee—that my numbers were soon decimated. Small wonder. Even in the early 1800's, my pelt brought \$100; before International Laws forbade our killing, our pelts often sold for more than \$2,000.

9. Fifty years after white man found us, our pelts became rare. Take this example: Two Russians landed on the Pribilofs. The first year they slaughtered 5,000; the next year, 1,000; and within five years not one animal was left. By 1912, reports said that the sea otter was extinct. Fortunately a few of us survived—with the result that today we number almost 400 near Monterey; and almost 5,000 in the Aleutians.

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