

The Medical Roundup

by *Walter Alvarez*

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What To Do About Mental Disease Problems

I have just read a remarkable book which ought to be studied by every intelligent person in the United States. It is called, "Every Other Bed" and is by Mike Gorman, executive director of the National Mental Health Committee. Commonly, when I write a column about the terrible problems of mental disease, a number of people write angrily to say, "What are you talking about that for? You don't know anything about it. You had better keep your mouth shut." These people, of course, don't know that I have spent most of my life studying neuroses and life psychoses, and that I have written three big books on the subject. But that is just by the way. What delights me is that here is a man who writes authoritatively about "America's number one health problem." No one can tell him that he doesn't know what he is talking about. Anyone who will read his book, filled as it is with thousands of facts, will see that he knows very well what the problem is.

Gorman was trained in psychiatry; he has attended the meetings of one legislative committee after another; he has read widely; he has worked with leading psychiatrists; and he has gathered a tremendous amount of important information. He quotes Dr. Robert H. Felix, Director of the National Institute of Mental Health, who when he was testifying before a Congressional committee, said, "Today there are 9,000,000 people in the United States suffering from some form of mental illness severe enough to warrant treatment. Few get good treatment. If there were 9,000,000 people suffering from typhoid fever—or merely 900,000—we would mass all our public health preventive efforts into a gigantic effort to smash so crippling an epidemic."

Significant Factors
"No one denies that mental illness and other personality disturbances are usually significant factors in producing criminal behavior, juvenile delinquency, suicide, alcoholism, drug addiction, and the breaking up of marriages. How can we overestimate the seriousness of the problem?" Just one of our states spent last year \$160,000,000 for the care of its mentally ill. This was about 38 per cent of the entire state-purposes budget. And to do right by the insane, the state should have spent much more. In the year 1955 the Veterans' Administration spent \$632,000,000 on the care of mentally disturbed veterans! The cost of mental disease to the nation must now run about \$2,500,000,000 a year. Worse yet, this expense is becoming greater all the time.

There are some clinics for the psychiatric help of patients, but I read that even in New York City, where there are more clinics per person than anywhere else, a mentally disturbed person has to wait from six months to a year before he can get an appointment! I like Gorman's feeling of disgust with the way things have been going in the field of psychiatry. As he said, "If there is an angry note of impatience in this book, it is long accumulated and difficult to restrain. Eleven years ago, when as a newspaper man I started waving the red and stench of our state mental hospitals under the public's nostrils, I thought American know-how would make short work of

deficiencies in the system." But, as he says, there was little chance of breaking down "the powerful resistance of the self-appointed guardians of the past." Since then, Gorman has written and lectured and taken an active part in mental health reform movements in a number of states. Gradually he has come to see that little can be accomplished by sporadic efforts. The people of America, as a whole, will have to wake up some day and face the terrible situation. As he says, "We have made a small beginning, but the typical state mental hospital of today is an anachronism." "It is still incredibly isolated from the main stream of American medicine. It's sad to say it, but medicine has largely turned its back on this terrible problem."

For a while Gorman felt like writing from the heart and letting "the hot adjectives fall where they might," but he decided that this might not help. I sympathize deeply with him because often it is all I can do to keep from lashing out at some of the quacks and quackery in psychiatry. Gorman and I take our hats off to Dr. Will Menninger, "who spends 100 days out of every year traveling abroad, pleading with industrial tycoons, Rotarians, Kiwanians, Lions, Elks, Eagles and sundry others to support psychiatric research."

I will write more about Gorman's book another time. 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)

Five Minor Crashes Reported to Police

Five minor accidents were reported in Medford Tuesday, according to Medford police.

Vehicles operated by David Bruce Nelson, 1720 Prune St., Medford, and Fredrick Tillman Grow, 528 Boardman St., Medford, were involved in an accident at West Main and Grape Sts., police reported.

A collision occurred on Sixth St. between Grape and Holly Sts., involving cars operated by Wilbur Allen Cross, 1314 Locust St., Medford, and Stephen Haskell Shorey, address unknown, police said.

Bruce Edward Thompson, 841 South Riverside Ave., Medford, was cited for having no registration in his car after the vehicle he was operating was involved in an accident with one operated by Zelma Tillie Foote, box 1012, Central Point, at 1117 East Main St., according to police.

A parked car registered to George Rex Victor Bolster, 203 North Oakdale Ave., Medford was struck by cars operated by Grace Daisy Walker, 1765 Stewart Ave., Medford, and Samuel Lawrence Gilbert, 2510 Lyman St., Medford, in front of his residence officers said.

Holger Dan Christensen, 53 Meyer's Court, Medford, reported to city police his car was struck by an unidentified car while it was parked in front of his residence, police reported.

Oregonians Reminded

Salem—(U.P.)—Oregon residents were reminded today by the Department of Motor Vehicles that letters and remittances pertaining to driver licenses or motor vehicle registrations should be sent to the department of motor vehicles, not to the secretary of state.

Addressing motor vehicle correspondence to the secretary of state causes delay, officials said.

They'll Do It Every Time



Professionals Against Amateurs In Ike and Stevenson Campaign

Editor's note: Merriman Smith is covering his fifth presidential campaign. As in several other years, he has traveled with both candidates. He has just returned from a two-week tour with Adlai E. Stevenson and again is covering President Eisenhower. The following presents his observations on their varying campaign techniques.

By MERRIMAN SMITH
United Press White House
Writer

Washington—(U.P.)—There is marked contrast between the campaigns of President Eisenhower and Adlai E. Stevenson, due partly to the difference between seasoned professionals and ardent amateurs.

Essentially the contrast is between contender and incumbent. A President in office normally has far greater campaign resources in technical help and experienced planning than an out-of-office challenger.

For example, Mr. Eisenhower has the services of the White House transportation and communications office, staffed by expert technicians, many of whom have served in their jobs since the Franklin D. Roosevelt administration.

Stevenson had to start from scratch in putting together a campaign organization. Although he ran for President in 1952, he could not hold together a staff of political and technical experts through the following four years.

The Stevenson campaign organization is sincere and energetic, but lacking in certain refinements of planning. Stevenson insists on rewriting his speeches right into the last minutes before delivery.

Costly Delay
This frequently costs him the presentation of his case in millions of newspaper first editions. Newspapers cannot print what the Democratic candidate says until they have a copy of his speech or until reporters have heard the actual delivery.

In Cincinnati last Friday night, Stevenson scheduled what turned out to be one of the most important speeches of his campaign in which he blasted the President and Secretary of State John Foster Dulles for poor conduct of foreign policy and misrepresenting the international situation to the American people.

Two television newsreel crews traveling with the candidate were not told that the speech was important and did not set up their sound equipment.

His Cincinnati text also was not available to reporters until Stevenson completed his speech, due largely to his last-minute rewriting, plus the fact that his staff misplaced their mimeograph machine temporarily en route from the airport to the hotel.

While many of his speeches came out well ahead of time, he still holds back on his more important addresses until the last possible moment. And frequent-

ly, when he releases an advance text, he may abandon much of it in the subsequent delivery and substitute new wording.

Well in Advance
Mr. Eisenhower, on the other hand, completes his speeches relatively well in advance and sticks largely to his prepared text. His interpolations of substance are so rare that they invariably attract much attention when they occur. When the chief executive holds a speech until shortly before delivery, the chances are that he has something in it which he wants to keep away from the opposition as long as possible.

Mr. Eisenhower accepts the applause of a roaring crowd in stride. In fact, he can keep the applause going in most crowds simply by waving both arms over his head.

Applause Surprises Stevenson
Bursting applause seems frequently to surprise Stevenson. He acknowledges applause by waving his right hand and smiling, but if the roar of the crowd is prolonged, particularly at the start of a speech, the smile on the Democratic candidate's face appears to become obviously fixed. At times he seems genuinely embarrassed.

Stevenson has learned from applause, however. Although he was convinced of the rightness of his H-bomb proposals, he questioned their value as a campaign issue until he recently heard audience after audience on the Pacific Coast applaud every mention of his plan to stop testing these powerful nuclear devices.

Public Response
Thus encouraged, Stevenson decided to offer his plan to the nation via television. Again the public response reassured him that he was on what he felt was the right track, although some of his advisers remain dubious about the vote-getting qualities of the H-bomb issue.

Most of the men who plan Mr. Eisenhower's travels are seasoned professionals. Of necessity, much of Stevenson's campaign travel staff is amateur. Being President Mr. Eisenhower is surrounded by a wall

Air Squadron Mascot Grounded by Protests

Munich, Germany—(U.P.)—Rex, the chihuahua mascot of the U. S. 5th Aerial Port Squadron, has been grounded because animal protection societies think it cruel to permit him to make parachute jumps.

Staff Sgt. Charles L. Jones of Columbus, Ga., said he put the dog's parachute in storage when British and German newspapers complained of cruelty to animals.

Hatteras Lighthouse on Cape Hatteras is the tallest (191 feet) in North America.

Door Left Open For Aid To Poland

Washington—(U.P.)—President Eisenhower last night held out the possibility of U. S. aid for Poland if the Poles want it and succeed in their drive for independence from Moscow.

In an address offering encouragement to Poland and other restive Communist satellites, Mr. Eisenhower said that the United States stands ready to help "freedom-loving peoples who need and want and can profitably use our aid."

The Polish situation also drew the attention of Democratic presidential candidate Adlai E. Stevenson. Speaking in New York, Stevenson called not only for U. S. economic assistance, but for U. S. action to take Poland's case before the United Nations if "Soviet pressure continues" against the new Polish regime.

Stevenson said the U. N. move should be made only if Poland requested it.

Ceramics can refer to anything made from fired earth, including glass windowpanes, bathroom fixtures, wall and pipe tile, enamel on copper, china dinnerware and porcelain.

Mark Hatfield says "OREGON NEEDS A COMMERCE DEPARTMENT, COMBINING 3 EXISTING STATE GROUPS"

"As a means to realizing our state's best potential for growth in all its areas I would recommend a State Department of Commerce. This department would combine activities now under the State Highway Department, the Secretary of State's office in Salem and the State Development Commission. It is my belief that such a department, working with private concerns and Chambers of Commerce can perform a real service for Oregon and is one small way of increasing efficiency of our state government."

The Ontario Argus Observer (Nov. 21, 1955) said:

"Hatfield has progressive, forward looking ideas, with professional training in political science and what is much more important, the practical 'know-how.'... People like him and the policies he espouses."




HATFIELD FOR SECRETARY OF STATE

Ph. Adv., Hatfield for Secretary of State Committee
William E. Walsh, Chairman, 418 Oregon Bldg., Salem, Oregon

HEAR THE FACTS

Why 9 out of every 10 Oregon newspapers urge the election of DOUG MCKAY



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McKay Helped Formulate and Supports the Plan that Brought World Peace
Doug McKay was an important member of the Eisenhower team which worked for PEACE. No political double-talk can dim the record that this administration ended the war in Korea, and prevented aggression in the Far East and Formosa. Oregon people want a man who supports these policies that have brought us peace.

McKay Works to Cut Government Spending and Lower Taxes
As Governor and Secretary of the Interior McKay saved taxpayers millions of dollars. Lower taxes mean more take-home pay for Oregon families, and the curbing of inflation means your dollars buy more.

McKay is a Man of Action
McKay is interested in doing what needs to be done—instead of filling the air with fancy and ineffective speeches. He will be a "working" senator—the kind Oregon people want.

Paid Adv., McKay for Senator Committee, W. L. (Bill) Phillips, Chairman, 1117 S. W. Washington, Portland 5, Oregon.

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