

The Medical Roundup

by *Walter Alvarez*

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Treatment Of Skin Diseases

I was just reading a special article written for the Journal of the American Medical Association by Dr. L. Edward Gaul, of Evansville, Indiana. He was commenting on the tendency of many persons to treat their skin disease by themselves. Often they get hold of ointments or lotions that are much too strong for their particular skin, or they use medicine to which their skin is highly sensitive, and then they get themselves into a mess. The worst feature is that when their skin gets inflamed they don't realize that this is due to their treatment, and so they keep using the hurtful medicine, or an even stronger and more harmful one.

Sometimes a man will take a medicine or an ointment that worked well on his toes, perhaps for athlete's foot, and will put it on the scrotum, or bag that holds the testicles. The skin there is so sensitive that it can react to certain strong medicines with an acute inflammation.

As Dr. Gaul says, the commonest and most frequently over-treated disease of the skin is "contact dermatitis," a trouble due to contact of the skin with some irritating chemical, such as a soap or detergent or cosmetic or some "dope" or varnish or solvent or cleaning fluid used by the man or woman in the factory where he or she works every day. Anyone who is having a terrible time with some skin rash ought to stop all treatment for a while and see if he gets well. If he doesn't get well, then he ought to go to a good skin specialist and take his advice. Often he will have to go back a few times to the skin specialist because in many cases, the treatment has constantly to be modified or adjusted.

Mentally Retarded Child

Every so often I get a letter from some woman with a retarded child who is distressed because, living far out on a lonely ranch in the West, she is unable to get help with the child's education. Because of lack of money, she cannot send the child to a school for retarded children, and she wonders if anywhere she can find a book which will show her how to help her child at home.

I just received a letter from Mrs. Polly Culbertson, who tells me that years ago a virus infection left her boy with an injured brain. So much damage had been done to his speech center that it was very hard for him to learn to talk. Mrs. Culbertson went for help to the Bancroft School of Haddonfield, N. J., where she studied the methods used in teaching handicapped children, and finally she came home with a notebook full of suggestions.

Recently, she decided to collect these suggestions, together with much material that she has gathered through the years, into

a gay little book which can show other mothers how to teach their retarded child.

Her book is called "Kindergarten in the Kitchen," it sells for \$1, and can be obtained from the Bancroft School, in Haddonfield. It is very attractive, and is full of suggestions for keeping a child interested and learning and busy. It will help a mother to teach her child many things that are within his or her capabilities. It will help the child to learn to talk, to write, and to read, and to make things. The book contains lists of inexpensive things that a mother can buy and use in the training of her child.

The Gift Of Happiness

One of the greatest inner gifts that a person can have in this world is the gift of happiness: of being happy most of the time, and being able to radiate happiness and good nature. Often I can tell what a person is like by watching his (or her) face in repose when he does not know that anyone is looking at him. Too many persons, when by themselves in this way, look sad or discontented or even annoyed or angry at the world. I guess that is the way they feel inside. Doubtless many were born to be sad or dull and without joy or eagerness or enthusiasm; while others have been hit so hard by life's vicissitudes that one can hardly blame them for feeling sad.

And yet, what impresses me is that some of the merriest and loveliest and most interesting persons I have known have been treated pretty roughly by life. One of the merriest persons I have ever known was the head cleaning woman in the laboratory in which I used to work 40 years ago. We were great pals. Some women, if early widowed as she had been and compelled to work hard to bring up and put through high school a number of children, might have felt abused. But not Mrs. Barton; she enjoyed life to the fullest.

Nerve Deafness

People ask me what to do for nerve deafness, and often I have to say, "If you have some hearing left, go quickly and buy a hearing aid." As any sensible layman can see, if something has injured the nerve that runs from the ear to the brain, or something has destroyed part of the hearing center in the brain, there is little that any doctor can hope to do. There is no medicine known that will make a new ear nerve or a new hearing center.

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)

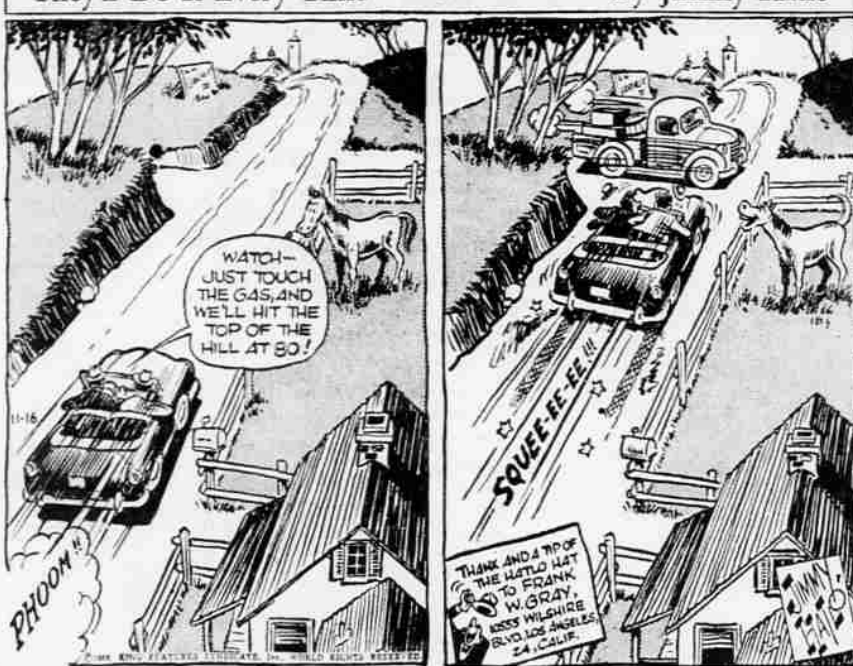
Hungary Soccer Players Ask Asylum in Mexico

Mexico City.—(U.P.)—Thirty six Hungarian soccer players who refused to return to their Communist subjugated homeland have requested asylum in Mexico, it was reported today.

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They'll Do It Every Time

By Jimmy Hatlo



Is That So?

By EUGENE BURNS
Ranger-Naturalist

Africa is a land of never-ceasing wonder. Among its lesser-known animals is a giant frog, recently discovered, which has a body length of 12 inches. With hind legs stretched out, double the length. It weighs up to 4 1/2 pounds! In its upper jaw it has tiny front teeth and is quite capable of catching and swallowing a whole live rat.

If you haven't read Gorilla Hunter by Fred Merfield here are some more samplings:

The giant forest hog, biggest wild pig in the world, was "discovered" by collectors in this century, 1904 to be exact. (Almost at the same time the Okapi, a relative of the giraffe, was "discovered.") This huge black pig weighs up to 500 pounds. It has a pair of gigantic warty growths below its eyes. Natives fear it even more than the unpredictable buffalo, reportedly the most vicious fighting animal in Africa. A leopard is no match for its long, upward-curved tusks—deadly weapons. And it is incredibly swift. Unlike other wild pigs, these giant forest hogs live in pairs, not in herds. Browsers, not rovers. When the time comes to farrow, the sow pushes together a pile of leaves and crawls underneath while the boar stands guard. He attacks without provocation.

The hyrax, a small rabbit-like animal with short ears, teeth like a rhinoceros and small hoofs on its toes, is the nearest living relative to the African elephant. The gorilla's sense of smell is as feeble as man's; his sight and hearing, however, are probably a little better; and like all wild animals, it can correctly interpret sounds that to man would mean nothing. Nine times out of ten, young gorillas caught and caged, will turn their faces to the wall and die of sheer despair.

The African giant water shrews have the shape and size of small otters except their tail is flattened, vertically. One of the world's strangest animals is the manatee found in the rivers of Africa and southern North and South America. This animal, which may well have given rise to the legends of mermaids seducing young sailors, is ugly and ungainly. But as an aquatic mammal it is surpassed only by whales and dolphins. It has a horizontal fluke, flipper-like forelimbs and lacks external ears. Perhaps the mermaid legend arose because she rears well out of the water and clasps her suckling babe with a fore-flipper to her human-like breasts.

Hippopotamus males, struggling for supremacy, often fight under water.

Birds have an incredibly fast digestion: within minutes some have been known to pass indigestive nuts.

Mason flies build rock-hard nests and have been known to build them within a shotgun. Hunters have reported laying a shotgun aside for two days and finding the barrels choked with a nest as solid as concrete.

In their migrations, driver ants have been known to march through an animal collector's camp and eat caged animals alive, right down to the white skeleton, including animals as large as pigs and antelopes. These voracious black ants march only on sunless days or at night, toward the beginning of the rainy season. Surprisingly, workers, soldiers and females are totally blind. Their columns are so long that they may take three or four days to pass a given point. Millions upon millions. As far as known, they have no natural enemies: even the ant-

eating pangolins leave them severely alone.

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Free: By special arrangement with the editors of the Encyclopedia Americana, my panel of judges will award each week to the reader who sends me the best true-life nature adventure, the best nature observation, or the best question on nature and wildlife, a complete 30-volume set of this world-famous reference work in a handsome Sealcraft binding. Each week new submissions will be considered. Sorry, I simply can't answer many friendly letters. Please address your letter to: Is That So? c/o Medford Mail Tribune, Box 375, Sausalito, Calif.



APPEAR HERE — The Ink Spots quartet will bring a 10-day engagement at the Y club, North Pacific highway, Friday night. New managers of the club are Don Adams, Cave Junction, and Dean Wooley, Medford. They announced that reservations may be made but are not necessary. The Ink Spots have recently concluded tours in Honolulu, Korea, Hawaii, Japan and Australia.

ASC Elections Slated To Start November 19

Election of Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation committee members will be held by mail starting Nov. 19, and continuing through Dec. 3, according to ASC officials here.

Petitions signed by 10 or more eligible voters favoring nominations of additional candidates will be received by community election board chairmen up to Nov. 20, and will be included in the slate of nominees if the candidate is willing to serve and eligible under regulations of the department of agriculture.

Nominees for community committees and delegates to the county convention include:

Applegate community—Clarence Buck, James F. Corson, Edward Finley, John Horner, W. H. R. Norstrand, Fred Offenbacher, Lance Offenbacher, Melvin Rodwen, Dr. J. Robert Tolle and Fred West James F. Corson, route 2, box 51, Jacksonville, is chairman of the election board.

Ashland community—Joe Dugan, Don E. Grimes, Calvin Hayes, Richard Hein, Clarence Holdridge, John Kesler, Jewell Lofe, Homer Moore, Don Nichols and Dewey Penrod. John Kesler, 5050 South Pacific highway, Medford, is chairman of the Ashland election board.

Central Point community—Roy Colpitts, Robert Fields, Leonard Freeman, Edwin Gebhard, Scott Hamilton, A. T. Lathrop, W. H. Penninger, Norman Smith, Ray Vogel and Robert Wolff. Bert Caster, route 1, box 589B, Central Point, is chairman of the Central Point board.

Eagle Point community—Merton Bradshaw, William C. Calloway, R. Bruce Grieve, Herman Huebner, John Ousterhout, Henry A. Owens, A. C. Silver,

Friday, November 16, 1956

MEDFORD (OREGON) MAIL TRIBUNE—FIVE

Elvis Presley, Liberace Team Up For Unscheduled Musical Session

Las Vegas.—(U.P.)—Elvis Presley traded his guitar for Liberace's piano to join the pianist in an unscheduled backstage jam session the other night at the swank Hotel Riviera.

Deputy sheriffs held back some 1,000 screaming fans as Presley walked into Liberace's dressing room and handed the entertainer the guitar.

Liberace began strumming away on the guitar as Presley accompanied him on the piano. For more than an hour the two entertainers came forth with tunes ranging from "The Girl of My Dreams" to "Deep In The Heart of Texas."

Presley was on hand Wednesday night when Liberace opened an engagement at the Riviera. Liberace and Presley greeted each other like old friends and during the show the pianist did several takeoffs of Presley's stinging technique.

The audience roared with laughter when Liberace told Presley, who had a ringside table:

"Keep your sideburns if you like them and I will keep my gold jackets and piano swimming pools. By golly, we can afford them."

Following the first show, the audience attempted to mob Presley and he fled to Liberace's dressing room.

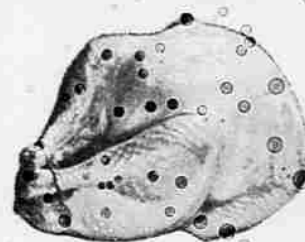
It was then that Presley handed over the guitar and performed

Madrid.—(U.P.)—The U.S. Sixth Fleet has canceled all its visits to Spanish ports this month because of "other commitments."

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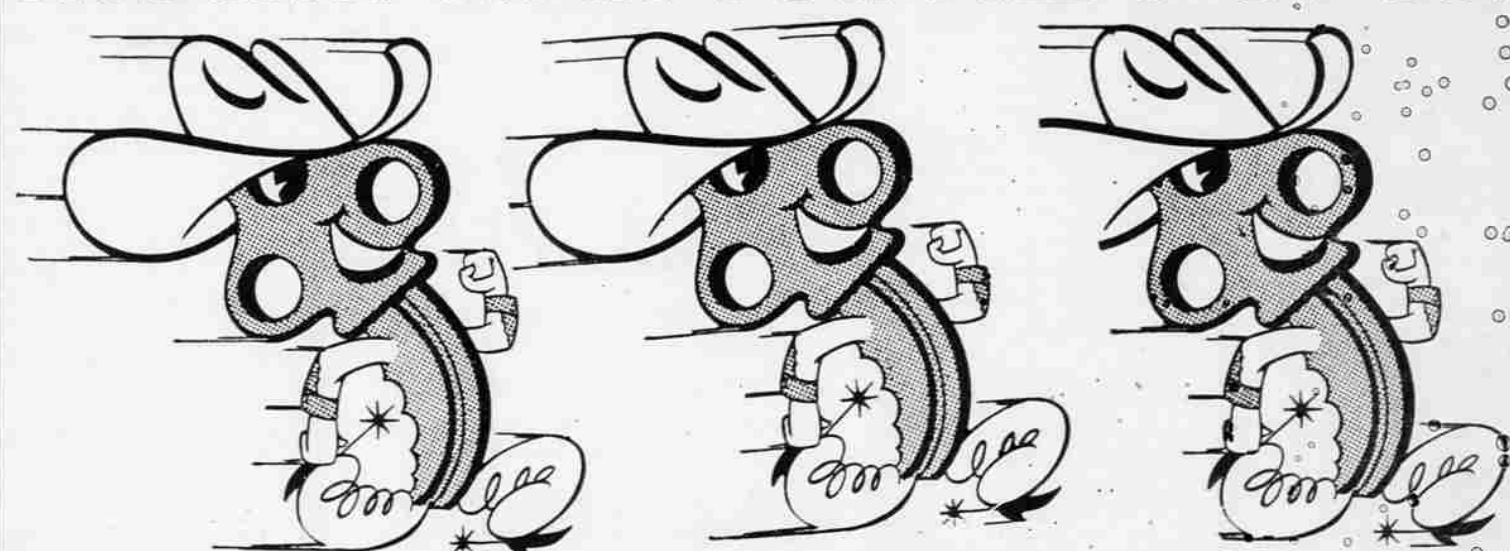


J. B. FONG
Herb Specialist

Pottery is a type of ceramics which is of the earthenware variety—that is, it is not translucent. Pottery can be formed in three ways—by hand, on a potter's wheel or by casting or molding.

Corn picked at 32 per cent moisture in an Indiana test and stored in a air-tight silo put faster and cheaper gains on cattle than corn picked at 17 per cent moisture and stored in a regular crib.

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SUNDAY—NOVEMBER 18th