



The Medical Roundup

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A Rupture After An Operation

It is unfortunate that, with all the advances in surgery, there are many ruptures after operations, and especially those in which the wound is a long one. Always, today, a good surgeon, after an abdominal operation, closes the wound with a series of sutures. First, he will close the peritoneum, which lines the abdominal cavity. Then he will bring together one or two "fascias" or tough membranes, several sets of muscles, and finally, the skin. But even with all this care, hernias can form. Often they are due to the fact that, after the operation, the person, who perhaps is a heavy smoker, gets a bad cough. He coughs and coughs until he breaks open the wound. Sometimes he has to be taken back to the operating-room to be sewed up again.



Dr. Alvarez

Usually it is well to have such a rupture repaired soon. If one waits until the sac is very large, and most of the bowel is out under the skin, it will be very hard, even for the ablest surgeon, to get rid of the hernia. Any chain-smoker or smoker of three packs a day, who is contemplating an operation, had better quit his smoking for a few months before the operation so that his lungs can get cleaned out. Then, perhaps, he won't cough his head off after the operation. No anesthetist wants to give a general anesthetic to a person who is a heavy smoker. His bronchi (the tubes that carry air in and out of the lungs) are usually chronically inflamed, and hence likely to be irritated by any ether that has to be used.

Woman Who Talked Back

A number of the women who have read my note on impotence in the Reader's Digest have flared up and have written me pretty tartly in regard to my statement that, in many cases, the man's impotence is due to the fact that his wife has allowed herself to get fat and unattractive. A woman from Texas who does not tell me if she is stout, says, "Most women are sick and tired of this argument." She feels that we physicians are the ones at fault, because we haven't been able to tell women why they tend to get overweight after they have children

or after they grow older. Actually, I think we physicians can easily tell them what their trouble is. It is that they get too hungry and eat too much. What we cannot yet tell them is how to avoid getting their ravenous appetite!

My correspondent goes on to ask, "Just how many men keep from getting overweight and unattractive after they have been married some years? They get pot-bellied, bald-headed, wrinkled, baggy-eyed, slow, and self-satisfied; and they think they are still God's gift to women and the world; they think that any woman should love them no matter how stout or unattractive they get!"

The lady thinks that much impotence can be traced to the man's ancestors, and I think she is right. Many a man who has inherited from some ancestors a tendency to depression or schizophrenia or a lack of interest in women is rarely very sexual; he rarely has much sexual interest or drive. As a young man he may never have cared for women, or he may have been very shy with them. Naturally, he tends to lose what little interest he has by the time he is 40 or so. Other men who were born with about as much sexual interest in men as in women, soon lose what interest they had in the wife they married—not for love, but just to get a home.

Knocked Out by Mother

As my correspondent goes on to say, some of the men who show little interest in sex had some of that knocked out of them by a sexhating mother. She gave them the idea that sex is dirty and something to be ashamed of, or to be used only on rare occasions for the procreation of children. These mothers did not know that sex can be a beautiful career that can keep two people together very happy, for 50 years or more.

My correspondent is angry because she thinks that my men patients have been complaining to me of their wives and their frigidity. But in this she is wrong. In my experience, while a man will often complain bitterly to his wife that she is "no good, and frigid, and without response," when he goes to a physician he rarely says anything about his sex life; he does not then criticize his wife.

My correspondent says, "Let's have another column giving the wife some credit for sticking by some of these old fossils and loving them until the end. Some of the women who stick by these old characters until the end need a medal instead of criticism."

I think she is right. I have often marveled at the way in which a woman who, for most of her life has had no reason to love a crabbed husband, has stayed with him. I have often marveled even more at the signs of deep love shown by a woman toward an alcoholic husband who has caused her endless unhappiness.

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, 1957)

Bill Would Abolish Unemployment Group

Salem—(U.P.)—Measures to abolish the State Unemployment Compensation Commission and to replace it with an employment security commissioner, and to increase maximum weekly unemployment compensation benefits up to \$50 a week were before the Oregon Senate today.

The bills were two of three constituting the package of unemployment compensation proposed by the Oregon State Labor Council, AFL-CIO.

The third will deal with a new payroll tax structure designed to finance the program and make income at least equal outgo, something it hasn't done in seven of the past eight years.

Snowslide in Idaho Kills Man, Hurts Wife

Kellogg, Ida.—(U.P.)—A man was killed and his wife critically injured yesterday when a huge snowslide roared down a steep mountainside and tumbled into the little town of Wardner near here.

Sheriff's officers identified the man as Clarence Weaver, about 50. He was killed when tons of snow smashed his house to splinters.

His wife, Emily, was carried about 250 yards and hurled through the side of another house occupied by Mr. and Mrs. M. W. Triplett. No one else was hurt.

GRANDVIEW-LONE PINE Mother's March Nets \$107

By LILLIAN KNIGHT
 Grandview-Lone Pine — The mothers' march Thursday night netted this district \$107.57 to be given to March of Dimes.

After the polio shots given at the school recently the percentage of those in this district that have been vaccinated was boosted from 32 to 89 per cent.

Mrs. George Paul and new baby son, Steven LeRoy, are home from the hospital. Mrs. Lawrence Johnson and new baby daughter, Myrna Jean, are also home now.

Veta Norris celebrated her seventh birthday Jan. 26 with a party given by her mother. Guests were Nola and Landa McCray, Sheila Butler, Christie Bench, Janice, Lena, and Kimmy Williams, and her cousins Pat, Noreen, and Nanette Norris. Ice cream and cup cakes were served.

Mr. and Mrs. Bill Shearer of Vancouver, B.C., were overnight guests of the W. E. Edwards Thursday. They stopped to see the Edwards on their way home after visiting in southern California and Mexico.

Lee Thurston, son of Mr. and Mrs. Harmon Thurston, is recovering from the mumps.

Mr. and Mrs. Kenard Harper, son and daughter-in-law of Mr. and Mrs. Herman Marrs Jr., are now living in Eugene, where he will enter the University of Oregon.

Sgt. and Mrs. Varn Hyde visited with Mr. and Mrs. Ray McCallister last week before leaving for Ft. Riley, Kan., where Sgt. Hyde will be stationed. Mrs. McCallister and

Mrs. Hyde are sisters. Mr. and Mrs. Louis Chapman recently moved from Elm street in Medford onto Spring street. They have two boys, one who is now in the Lone Pine school, Theodore Christiansen, and Kenneth Christiansen, who is in Medford High school.

Harold Cook returned Thursday night from Salem where he went the first of last week on business.

Mr. and Mrs. W. T. Clark have moved into the Dr. Ralph O'Dell place on Brookdale road. Their two boys have entered Lone Pine school in the second and fifth grades. Clark has bought into the Medford Tire shop with Jim Shumaker, buying out C. C. Furnas. He was formerly employed in Portland as district manager for Good-

year Tire and Rubber Co. Mr. and Mrs. Arnold Thompson and family have moved into the house formerly occupied by the Harvey Phillips family. The Phillips are living at Eagle Point now.

Mr. and Mrs. Jere Kreisler returned last week from Lancaster, Calif., where they went to visit with friends. Mrs. Kreisler reports that it was cold and snowy all the time they were there.

Betty Jane, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jere Kreisler, is ill and unable to go to school for a while.

Mr. and Mrs. Keith and Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Keith have returned home from vacationing relatives in California. The men flew down in a private plane and the women drove down. They visited Mr. and Mrs. Lon Jacobs, Mrs. Lillian Keith, and Mrs. Eva Wagoner in Los Angeles, and Mrs. Lillie Keith in Wilmington.

Chou Denounces Eisenhower Doctrine

Colombo, Ceylon.—(U.P.)—Chinese Communist Premier Chou En-lai denounced the Eisenhower doctrine Tuesday. He asked "why should we always listen to the President of the United States?"

Chou put the question to a news conference at the end of his visit to Ceylon. During the conference he complained about the refusal of the United States to recognize the Peiping regime and permit the "rightful restoration" of China to the United States.

He said the United States could withhold recognition of Communist China "for 10 or 100 years but China will not topple."

The same theme was reiterated in a joint communique signed by Chou and Ceylon's Premier Solomon Bandaranaike.

Liberian Freighter Fought; In No Danger

Key West, Fla.—(U.P.)—A crippled Liberian freighter reported sinking in an earlier distress signal was located after a wide search of the Florida Straits Tuesday and reported in no immediate danger.

The U.S. Coast Guard ship Yamacraw and then the USS Blackwood reached the disabled freighter S. S. Nortuna after hours of searching by planes and surface craft.

Portland—(U.P.)—A total of 940,317 persons got on and off airplanes at the Portland International Airport last year.

Care of Youngster's First Teeth Important to Health

(Editor's note: This is another in a series of articles discussing dental health. The material is furnished by the Southern Oregon Dental Society in cooperation with the American Dental Association in observance of National Children's Dental Health Week, Feb. 3-9).

The youngster's first teeth are just as important as his permanent teeth.

The care given baby teeth can often mean the difference between life-long dental health and a need for artificial dentures in young adulthood.

The tooth buds for the child's first teeth begin to form about the sixth week of prenatal life. Calcification begins about the 16th week, and by birth a large part of the crowns of the teeth is already formed.

The first teeth start to appear when the infant is about seven and one-half months old and they continue to come in until the child is about two.

When he is about six years old, the baby teeth begin to be shed normally and the process goes on until he is about 12.

The early loss of the first teeth, through decay or any other reason, can have serious effects because it can result in crowding and severe disarrangement of the second teeth.

One of the chief functions of the first teeth is to maintain space for the eruption of permanent teeth into the right

place. When a baby tooth is lost too soon, the adjacent teeth tend to shift and fill the space, causing the new teeth to come in out of position.

Other Reasons There are other reasons why sound and healthy first teeth are important. They are necessary for proper mastication of food. They help to make a child speak clearly. And they give graceful form and symmetry to the face.

The first permanent teeth to appear are six-year molars which come in when the child is about six years old. They erupt at about the same time that the youngster is losing his front baby teeth.

There are four of these six-year molars and each is the sixth tooth back from the front center of the mouth. The position of these molars helps to determine both the position of the other teeth and the shape of the lower part of the face.

The loss of the six-year molar is a serious matter and, unfortunately, it is this tooth that is most frequently lost, mostly because of decay and neglect.

A RARE APPETITE

Auckland, New Zealand.—(U.P.)—Three-and-a-half-year-old Bruce McDowell got over his hammering today. Doctors removed a two-and-a-quarter inch hammer, which Bruce had swallowed, by means of a stomach operation.

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The quota for the February visit of the Red Cross Bloodmobile has been increased 50 per cent because of the steady increase in the use of blood in Jackson county. The quota is 290 pints, for which 350 donors will be required. During the past six months, 1,324 pints of blood were used in Jackson county. During the same period, only 979 pints were collected. The need HERE is urgent. Help your neighbors—maybe YOURSELF—

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