

Coronary Artery Disease Leading Killer; Understanding Sought

Editor's Note: The "five great killers," the diseases that account for the greatest mortality rate among adult Americans, are heart disease, cancer, cerebral hemorrhage, pneumonia-influenza and diabetes.

The United Press asked five outstanding authorities in these fields to write a simplified account of the causes, symptoms, treatment, prevention and possibility of conquering the "killers."

By ROBERT W. WILKINS, M.D.
President-Elect American Heart Association
Prof. Boston University School of Medicine
Written for United Press

CORONARY ARTERY DISEASE

The leading cause of mortality today is coronary artery disease, which sets the stage for a "heart attack." Although it is but one of a number of different heart diseases, it is wholly or partially

responsible for about 400,000 deaths yearly in the United States—roughly, 25 per cent of all deaths.

To understand how coronary artery disease can lead to a heart attack, the layman can best begin by visualizing a water pipe in the basement of his own home. In time, its bore may become roughened and narrowed by lime deposits. Then one day a particle of lime becomes wedged in a very narrow passage, and shuts off the flow of water.

Reasonable Analogy
This affords a reasonable analogy of what happens in a coronary thrombosis, or heart attack: Normally smooth arteries which nourish the heart muscle are narrowed by a long-term build-up of fatty material called

cholesterol which becomes hardened and roughened by lime deposits. With dramatic suddenness, such a rough, narrow channel can be blocked by a small blood clot, and the part of the heart muscle that fails to get its supply of blood starves from a lack of oxygen.

If the area involved is large or strategically located death may result. In most cases, however, the patient lives, recovers and goes back to work—usually at his former job.

What causes the arteries to become narrowed, roughened, and plugged? How can the cholesterol build-up be prevented? Once established, can it be controlled or eliminated?

These unanswered questions are among the greatest challenges facing medical science today. Research investigators, aided by the Heart Fund, are studying many promising clues; generally, they fall within such areas as diet, hormones, body chemistry, heredity and exercise.

Understanding
Our primary target is an understanding of the basic causes of fatty deposits in the coronary arteries. Once these causes are known, we should be able to establish controls, preventive as well as remedial.

Meanwhile, dramatic advances already have been made in the diagnosis, care and treatment of patients with this disorder. Lives are being prolonged through the application of this new knowledge even after an attack has occurred.

Yet great gaps remain to be bridged—gaps that can be filled only through costly, time-consuming, basic research. Clearly, this is a task for the nation's finest minds and best research facilities.

If we give our dedicated scientists the financial and moral support they need, I am confident that we shall speed the day when we can effectively control this leading affliction of mankind.

Is That So?

By EUGENE BURNS
Ranger-Naturalist

A quarter million blooded dogs were recruited for World War II. Many of these served at the front. And certainly, they performed in a greater variety of ways than ever before.

Japanese burdened their dogs with timed 50-pound anti-personnel bombs to carry into American-occupied positions in the dead of night.

The Germans, who opened the war with some 100,000 highly-trained doberman pinschers and German shepherds, taught their patrol dogs to point an enemy to



his handler at distance of 100 feet. The British developed hounds who ferreted out German non-metallic land mines which escaped electric magnetic detectors.

But the Russians surpassed all other fighting nations in their unique use of dogs. To give you an idea, in snow country, the Soviets used white samoyeds with matching white harness and sled on which rode white-clad snipers. They trained anti-tank suicide dogs which destroyed many German tanks in the Kalinin front. This we know from the Germans but the vital secret of how the dog performed and why the explosions occurred at exactly the right time is still undisclosed.

The Russians also used thousands of ambulance dogs for double duty in deep snow which stopped vehicular traffic; the dogs hauled wounded to hospitals in sleds and returned with loads of ammunition. One team of four such dogs on the Central front in five weeks hauled 1,239 wounded soldiers through waist-deep snow who might otherwise have frozen and perished and on the return trip brought 327 tons of grenades, machine gun bullets and shells to the frontline troops. Hundreds of such teams were in operation. Other dogs worked singly, even packing disassembled 20mm cannon.

Even more unusual, the Soviets developed canine parachute troops: dogs equipped with self-opening chutes strapped to their backs and trained to wear gas masks. Their duty was to accompany human paratroopers on missions deep within enemy territory. The units were complete so that when they made the drop and were released from the chutes, the dogs could protect their masters from the local citizenry and once the post was set up, act as sentries, vicious killers, messengers or scouts.

Then, too, many dogs were used for Red Cross duty during World War II. To an ambulance dog, friend and foe were alike when wounded and dying. When great offensives are in progress, casualties lie bleeding to death in gullies and thickets and under debris because men tend to crawl away to hide to protect themselves from further harm. There as he hides in fear, his wounds grow stiff and sore. He

Jerry Lewis Nabs Burglary Suspect

Hollywood —(U.P.)—Comedian Jerry Lewis said today that he was cold but not frightened when he held a burglary suspect at gun-point for ten minutes Saturday night while his wife and children were watching television.

Lewis said he got his gun and guarded the suspect, identified as George W. Sheffield, until police arrived.

"I was ready to shoot to protect my family," Lewis said. "I held him at gunpoint for ten minutes, half frozen to death. All I had on was a T shirt and trousers."

Lewis said Sheffield came to his home earlier and made remarks about "killing people." The comedian said he ordered him to leave and then got his gun. Lewis' wife and children were unaware of what was happening.

Sheffield was booked and later jailed on suspicion of burglary. Lewis said police told him that the suspect had a burglary record.

grows weaker. Often, too, mangled unconscious men will lie side by side with corpses—both looking horribly alike. This is the way it is on a battlefield. And even though the corpsmen search conscientiously for these hidden-away wounded, nonetheless countless would be doomed were it not for these alert dogs with the canvas packs strapped around their middle, marked with the blessed Red Cross symbol, who seem to know if a mangled body holds the barest thread of life.

The proof of their work—as if it were needed? One ambulance dog in one night found 16 men who were missed entirely by the medical department. In another night, on a 20-square mile battlefield before Rheims, a corps of nine Red Cross dogs recovered from the shattered terrain 252 casualties many of whom could not have lasted the night.

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House Tax Committee Working on Program With Warm-Up Action

Salem—(U.P.)—The House Taxation Committee headed by Rep. Clarence Barton, Coquille Democrat, worked diligently today on its taxation program, hoping to bring it to the floor of the House within a week or so.

Meanwhile, as a warm-up action, it introduced two taxation measures today.

Inheritance Tax
One, House Bill 797, provides for payment of an inheritance tax on the survivorship of jointly owned property, including estates by the entirety except homesteads under \$25,000, and on life insurance policies totalling more than \$60,000. The measure would remove the \$3,500 widow's support and \$5,000 homestead deduction presently allowed and increase the tax rates from .5 per cent to 2 per cent, with the average at 1 per cent.

House Bill 798 would increase the gift tax rates and make other

adjustments to conform to the inheritance tax changes.

Also introduced was a measure, house bill 800, appropriating \$27,612 to the Department of Justice for the Multnomah county vice investigation and prosecution in the 1955 biennium.

The Senate had 13 measures up for third reading and final action today, including Senate bills 274 and 275 designed to strengthen the authority of the public utility commissioner in the regulation of railroads.

Also up for final Senate action were two Senate joint resolutions. One, SJR 32, would provide for an interim committee to study the feasibility of combining the State Fish and Game commissions. The other, SJR 36, provides for an interim committee for highway study.

The House had a light agenda, with only five bills up for final action.

Marines, Infantry Schedule 'Attack'

Balboa, C.Z.—(U.P.)—Some 15,000 U.S. Marines and airborne infantry will land on opposite sides of the isthmus of Panama Wednesday to simulate attack on the Panama Canal in America's biggest Caribbean war game since World War II.

U.S. Air Force and Marine planes will cover the landings. A reinforced Marine regiment, supported by warships, will land from the sea near Cristobal, on the Atlantic side of the narrow neck of land linking Central and South America.

At the same time, an Army paratroop battalion will be establishing an "airhead" on the abandoned Rio Hato Airbase, on the Pacific Coast some 90 miles west of Panama City.

As soon as the strip is secure, a second Army battalion will be flown in as reinforcements.

For purposes of the maneuver, it will be assumed that the troops at Rio Hato have been driven back from the canal and are in defensive positions. The Marines will be assumed to have seized part of the canal's west bank as a preparation to sealing

Quotes From the News

By UNITED PRESS

Washington—AFL-CIO Vice President Walter Reuther, declaring that the AFL-CIO had "sound constitutional grounds for bringing corruption charges against Teamster President Dave Beck and the Teamsters union:

"The AFL-CIO will not compromise with corruption."

Hollywood—Comedian Jerry Lewis, relating how his wife and two children were watching television while he captured a burglar suspect at gunpoint:

"They were laughing at the Jackie Gleason TV show. They didn't know their daddy was outside with a very unfunny comedian."

Washington—Dr. Masatoshi Matsushita, leader of a Japanese drive to stop Britain's forthcoming hydrogen bomb tests at Christmas island in the Pacific, on his talks with Secretary of State Dulles:

"He told me that unilateral abandonment of nuclear tests was impractical but that some day all nations could agree."

New York—Magistrate Albert Schanser, in ordering Thomas J. Higgins, 22, accused slayer of 19-year-old Patricia Ruland, held without bail for a hearing:

"Of all the gruesome crimes conjured in a girl's dreams you are charged with the most macabre."

New York—Asbestos heir Tommy Manville, disclosing plans for his tenth marriage:

"It will be a small quiet wedding in some New York hotel."

Back Stairs: The Easter White House

By MEHRIMAN SMITH
United Press White House Writer
Augusta Ga. — (U.P.) — Back stairs at the White House:

White House reporters traveling with a president usually try to give some slightly distinctive name to his headquarters when he vacations for any length of time. It has been the custom since President Eisenhower has been visiting Augusta to refer to his set-up here as "the vacation White House" or the "winter (and/or spring) White House," depending on the season.

At this Easter time, however, there have been some variations. One reporter has been referring to the Eisenhower establishment as "the Easter White House," but what this fellow does after today remains to be seen.

Other variations have been the "White House on the green," referring to its location at the Augusta National Golf Club, or "the White House-on-fairway" which is a bit more accurate since the President's cottage sits beside the 10th fairway of the plushy golf club.

The White House under any administration normally receives a certain amount of mail from crackpots who rage against the president and his family for an amazing variety of imagined grievances.

Much of this mail is shocking to behold and the United States Secret Service maintains an elaborate filing system through which most "nut letter" authors are catalogued, identified, and if it seems necessary, committed to mental institutions.

For the most part, the brutally worded mail, threatening everything from death to physical abuse, never reaches the addressee in the family of a president. It is screened out by trained operatives in advance and quickly traced down without adding this extra worry to the man attempting to run the government.

There was a slip-up some years ago, however. A truly revolting letter from an obvious mental case got through the mail screen and into the hands of Margaret Truman, daughter of the former President.

She was horrified and immediately took it to her father who blew up over the fact that anyone, however anonymous, should write his daughter such a letter.

He quickly issued orders that the letter writer be traced down and it was a tricky case.

Agents of the Secret Service and the Post Office Department persisted in their efforts, however, and finally after two years, found the poison penman and took legal steps to see that he no longer annoyed and frightened the daughters of the nation by his abberational fan letters.

If the current weather in Augusta doesn't clear up Eisenhower's cough, there is little left for him in the way of warm climate except the equatorial regions. For the first few days of his Easter trip, at least, the weather here has been ideal—bright, sunny and the temperature above 80, with cool nights ideal for sleeping. His first day was muggy and humid, but that cleared away last Friday and the swimming pool at the Bon Air Hotel was as crowded as in mid-summer.

Even more unusual, the Soviets developed canine parachute troops: dogs equipped with self-opening chutes strapped to their backs and trained to wear gas masks. Their duty was to accompany human paratroopers on missions deep within enemy territory. The units were complete so that when they made the drop and were released from the chutes, the dogs could protect their masters from the local citizenry and once the post was set up, act as sentries, vicious killers, messengers or scouts.

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grows weaker. Often, too, mangled unconscious men will lie side by side with corpses—both looking horribly alike. This is the way it is on a battlefield. And even though the corpsmen search conscientiously for these hidden-away wounded, nonetheless countless would be doomed were it not for these alert dogs with the canvas packs strapped around their middle, marked with the blessed Red Cross symbol, who seem to know if a mangled body holds the barest thread of life.

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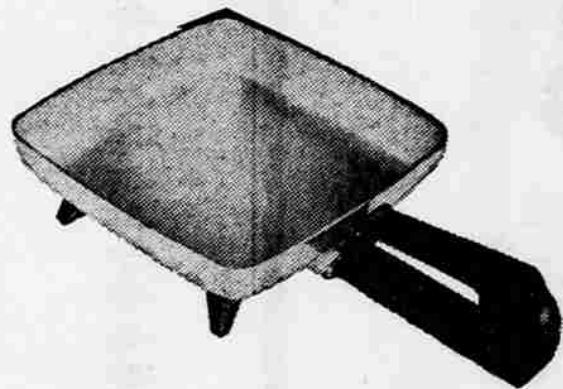
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