

Science Succeeds in Curing Strange Case Of Forced Swearing

By DELOS SMITH
United Press Science Editor

New York—Medical science has succeeded, at last, in deliberately curing one case of an exceedingly strange disease. But the victory is rather embarrassing — because science isn't sure how it was done.

The disease is compulsive swearing which, scientifically, is "Gilles de la Tourette's disease." Some people who are forever making the atmosphere blue with their cursing, are not victims of this disease. They're victims, rather, of habit.

The real victims have absolutely no choice about it. A twitching of the facial muscles comes over them. When this happens, they spout obscenities — loudly and clearly.

Georges Gilles de la Tourette, distinguished French neurologist, (1857-1904) got his name attached to it because he was the first to describe it scientifically although not the first to observe it.

Cites Classic Case

The classic case was that of a woman who was seven when she fell victims to it, spent a life-time isolated from society because she couldn't control it, and still had it when she died at 85.

Most authorities consider it a prelude to frank insanity. And all authorities are gloomy about the future of the victims, considering it more or less incurable. That is why the deliberate cure of just one case is quite big news in medical science.

The cure was brought about by Dr. Richard P. Michael in London hospital and reported

in full detail to the British Medical association. The victim was 28 and the disease had been building up since childhood. When he came to treatment he was utterly unacceptable in business, in social life, even in the family circle.

The reason was that compulsive swearing overtook him 10 to 40 times an hour. He was free of it only while asleep. The most thorough physical examinations and all possible laboratory tests failed to reveal a physical cause. The man was given psycho-therapy, that is, an effort was made to doctor his mind. It was completely unsuccessful.

So, Dr. Michael set out to treat the physical tension which seemed to be behind the spasmodic twitching which accompanied the swearing. He did so by having the man inhale an atmosphere that was 70 per cent carbon dioxide, which is the sparkle and bubble of soda water.

This was repeated 30 times, over two months. Gradually the twitching—and swearing—diminished in frequency until it was no longer present. The man has been out of the hospital for 14 months, is a success in business, well-liked by friends and family, and is free of the disease.

Michael thought that, perhaps, the carbon-dioxide had changed chemical balances of the blood. Suppose, he said, that the twitching and "repetitive speech disturbance" was due to a "self-perpetuating process" of "muscular and vocal discharges." Then anything which interrupted the process—such as carbon dioxide—would also stop it.



ALOHA!—Sandra Lei Luahiwa Forsythe poses on Waikiki Beach with famed Diamond Head for a backdrop after being named Miss Hawaii. She will compete for the Miss America title at Atlantic City in September. Sandra Lei, of Hawaiian-English-German descent, is a stewardess with TPA-Aloha Airline.

Crescent City Man Killed on Highway 199

Crescent City, Calif.—Darrell Barton Bishop, 30, Crescent City, was killed Saturday night when his car struck a rock fall on highway 199 10 miles east of here, causing it to plunge from the road 200 feet into the Smith river.

Motion Picture Industry Turns To 'Shockers' To Boost Business

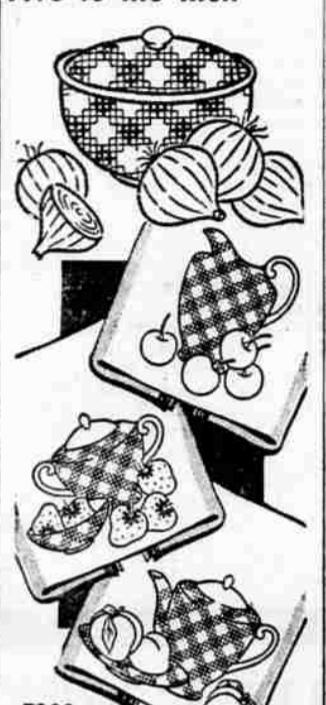
Editor's note: Following is the second of a two-part series on the part being played by the motion picture industry to lure its share of the show business dollar.

By ALINE MOSBY
United Press Hollywood Writer

Hollywood—The movie industry has hit upon a new so-far successful formula to bring customers into the theaters! "Shockers" involving everything from interracial romance to narcotics.

Last year the industry discovered that spectacles lured citizens from their TV sets. The only films that were box office bonanzas earlier this year were "The Ten Commandments,"

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by Marianne Martin

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"Giant" and "Around the World in 80 Days."

Now controversial films appear to be box office insurance. "Island in the Sun", produced by Darryl F. Zanuck from a novel, tells of romance on a West Indian Island.

Includes Top Stars
Blonde Joan Fontaine plays an unhappy divorcee attracted to Harry Belafonte, leader of Negroes on the island. At the end he spurns her.

Dorothy Dandridge plays a sultry colored clerk who marries the white aide to the governor of the island, John Justin. Joan Collins, erroneously thinking she is part Negro, becomes pregnant while engaged to the white

Salem—Gov. Robert D. Holmes has appointed Richard A. Bain, LaGrande radio station commercial manager and farm editor, to be executive secretary of the Advisory Committee on Natural Resources.

Washington—The Atomic Energy Commission has told Congress it will have to cut nuclear weapon production drastically if it is required to comply with President Eisenhower's new economy order.

Chicago—More than seven billion hot dogs were consumed by Americans last year, the National Live Stock Producer re-

lends. That's an average of 43 hot dogs per person. It's 625,434 million of hot dogs linked end to end.

Art Maggenti



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