

# The Medical Roundup

by *Walter T. ...*

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## DIZZINESS

Many people ask what is dizziness and what should they do for it? Usually I cannot guess because they don't tell me how old they are, or many of the other facts I'd need to know. A high percentage of nervous women complain of dizziness or more probably, of a lack of that comfortable sense of good balance that normal people have. The patients have a feeling they might faint or fall down, but they very rarely do fall. Many old people complain of spells when they haven't a good sense of balance. When these come with a certain amount of confusion or some nausea or vomiting, I think the trouble is due to what I call "a little stroke." A tiny artery in the brain was plugged up. Usually the next day the person is pretty well over the spell.

Among the younger people the cause is more likely to be nervousness. Also, there is a type of dizziness, which comes in attack, in which the room seems to spin around, or the person feels he is spinning around. He is likely then to be nauseated or even to vomit. Usually he'll notice that one ear has lost some of its power to hear. This is what is called Meniere's disease. It is supposed by some experts to be due to an allergic change or a swelling in the lining of the inner ear. We don't know much about the cause and hence haven't any very good treatment. Doctors usually take away a person's table salt, and they give drugs like nicotinic acid and histamine which, for a few minutes, cause more blood to go into the arteries of the head. Doctors give some of the antihistaminic drugs, and the antinausea drugs. Fortunately, after months or years, the trouble tends to quiet down.

It is sad when, every so often a man comes in with perhaps gangrene of his foot, or badly injured eyes, or a dangerous heart attack, or serious injury to his kidneys, which could have been avoided if he had only known some time before that he was a diabetic. It is estimated that in this country there are about a million men and women who don't know that they have diabetes, or that they are headed for it. Many of these persons are going to lose their lives because they do not know of their great danger.

Certainly, all men and women who have a diabetic ancestry ought to be doing several things. Occasionally, they should test their urine for sugar. They should have a measurement made of their blood sugar once or twice a year and they should avoid getting stout. Many a person with a hereditary tendency to diabetes would probably never get the disease if he were to eat so sensibly as not to injure the little cells in his pancreas which make the insulin he must have if he is to live. By eating too much, he tends to overwork the cells and to hasten the day when they degenerate.

Now I read that it is planned all over the country to put into railway stations, department stores, bus terminals, restaurants, supermarkets and drug stores, a tiny packet which will contain a test strip of paper which turns blue the minute it is wet with a urine which contains sugar. With these packets available, there will be no

excuse for anybody going around with a unrecognized diabetes. Because of our ability now to keep diabetic children alive until they can marry and have children, the number of diabetics and potential diabetics is going to become even larger and larger. A while ago I had a remarkable severe type of diabetes. I could guess why it was so severe when I learned that both of her parents and all four of her grandparents had had diabetes.

Many women ask if there isn't some medicine they can take to get rid of heavy hair on their thighs and legs, but I don't know of any. Rarely is such hairiness due to any disease that we doctors can cure by giving glandular extracts. Most women keep the hair down by shaving every few days. If a woman can afford it and wants to do it, she can go to an electrologist and have the hair removed with the help of a tiny needle and an electric current. There are licensed practitioners who do this work in every big city.

## Pilots Submit Report on Liquor

Washington — The boozing antics of passengers feature a new airline pilots' attack on tipping aboard airliners. The Pilots association submitted a report Wednesday to the Senate transportation subcommittee considering a bill that would ban serving liquor aboard commercial airliners. Association officials already have called for approval of the bill.

The report, which covered the last two years, cited: —Four instances of drunken passengers forcing their way into the cockpit.

—Eight instances of inebriated passengers creating such disturbances in cabins that flight crew members were forced to leave their cockpit duties to quell them.

—Three cases of unscheduled emergency landings in order to remove drunken passengers whose behavior was threatening a plane's safety.

—Three instances of intoxicated passengers damaging windows, doors or pressurization devices in flight.

—Five cases of drunken passengers creating fire hazards in flight.

The report cited three instances where intoxicated passengers were carrying guns. One of them pointed a gun at a stewardess when he asked her for coffee.

## Children May Have Reactions to Vaccine

New York — The New York City Health Department warned Wednesday that children tend to have severe reactions to the Asiatic flu vaccine. While emphasizing there was nothing wrong with the vaccine, the department said experience shows children are inclined to react severely after receiving inoculations.

A department spokesman said two Brooklyn children ran temperatures of 105 degrees and had to be hospitalized Tuesday after receiving the vaccine from a private physician.

Dr. Roscoe P. Kandle, acting commissioner, said the severest effects from the vaccine "usually occur in children under 10."

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## \$100 Million AF Airplane Cancelled

Washington — The Air Force has cancelled a 100 million dollar airplane without getting a chance to take it on a ride.

The decision to halt work on the 1,400-mile-an-hour XF-103, originally designed as an interceptor and then converted to a research project was prompted by the current economy axe and because other research vehicles would provide the same data, the Air Force said.

A spokesman said the plane, under development for six years, had never reached the flying stage. It was under joint develop-

## General Wants Ike Inoculated Now

Washington — Surgeon General Leroy E. Burney today urged for the second day in a row that President Eisenhower be inoculated promptly against Asiatic flu.

Burney repeated the recommendation in the face of the President's statement that he'd get a shot of Asiatic flu vaccine as soon as it becomes available to "ordinary people" such as himself.

"The President of our country should receive an inoculation very promptly," Burney said. "Eventually we would like everyone to get one as quickly as

possible by Republic Aviation and the Wright Aeronautical division of Curtis-Wright Corp.

vaccine becomes available. But some is already available and the safeguarding of the President's health is vitally important."

Burney said he discussed his recommendation on Wednesday with Dr. Howard McC. Snyder, the President's physician. He said Snyder "very definitely agreed with me."

The Public Health service so far has approved release of only 502,000 shots of Asiatic flu vaccine for distribution through the normal channels. A limited number of shots already have been given in various parts of the country — particularly to doctors, nurses and other persons in key jobs.

A PHS spokesman said if the

## Mrs. Eisenhower Also Has Say Around Home

Washington — The lady in the White House — like most ladies — seems to have a very final say on occasion.

President Eisenhower was asked at his news conference on Wednesday whether he plans to turn his Gettysburg farm over to the government eventually.

"Well," the President replied, "actually I don't know, first of all, whether any public agency would ever be concerned in such a thing. Some people seem to

think it would, but I would say this: "Mrs. Eisenhower and I have not yet reached any complete agreement, and I must say her word about that farm, I believe, is probably decisive."

think it would, but I would say this:

There was a burst of laughter from the 193 reporters present.

The citizens of Lincoln, New Mexico, present a colorful "Billy the Kid Pageant" every year. The exciting pageant, full of Old West gunplay and color, re-enacts the life of the young desperado who terrorized southern New Mexico in the 1870s and '80s.



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**FIRST ARMY FLAG**—Army Secretary Wilber M. Brucker (left) presents the new U. S. Army flag to Lt. Gen. Robert N. Young, Sixth Army Commander (right) in the first presentation of the flag in the United States during ceremony in San Francisco. Holding the standard is SP-3 Paul R. Jones. This is the first time since its origin in 1775 that the U. S. Army has had one flag for the entire army.

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