

The Medical Roundup

by

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The Removal of a Cancer of the Colon

Many people wonder how they will get along after a cancer of the large bowel is removed. Much depends on where the tumor is and whether the rectum can be saved. The person is most fortunate when his rectum can be saved. Sometimes it cannot, and then for the rest of the person's life, the waste matter must come out of a hole in the abdominal wall. This is usually covered by a rubber pouch. Many people get along well with it, and go on with their usual life.

Sometimes a cancer of the bowel can be removed and the two ends can be sewed together in the one operation. In other cases, there has to be a first operation, in which an artificial anus (hole in the abdominal wall) is made, and then later at a second operation the tumor is removed. Fortunately, in recent years, the techniques for doing this work have improved tremendously, and the mortality has been greatly reduced.

It is said that so many people with a cancer of the bowel go on for months after they are having rhythmic colicky pains, noisy gurgling in the bowel, constipation (for the first time in their life), perhaps bleeding from the bowel, and perhaps much anemia and loss of weight and strength. By the time the man goes to a surgeon, the cancer cells have grown up into his liver, and then only a palliative operation can be performed, one that will keep him from dying with intestinal obstruction.

So often a person is too pessimistic about a cancer of the bowel. He thinks "What is the use of being operated on? I'll die anyway." But he is so wrong. If people would only go for an x-ray examination of the rectum and large bowel the day symptoms of trouble appear, they would have perhaps a 75 per cent chance of getting well and staying well. Better yet, after the age of 40, they should go every year for a check-up with the proctoscope (tube for looking into the rectum) and the x-ray. Then if a tumor is found, they will almost certainly stay well after its removal.

Enlargement of the Prostate Gland

Many men past 60 or 70 have some of the prostate gland removed so that they can urinate properly again. They can suspect they are needing an operation when they have difficulty urinating, and when, after they think they have emptied the bladder, they can go back in 20 minutes

and pass a large amount of "residual" urine.

There are several types of operation for the removal of the excess gland. The one I like, when it can be performed — and it usually can be performed — is the transurethral resection. In this operation the excess tissue is removed through an electrically-lighted tube that is passed down through the urethra, or tube by which the urine leaves the bladder. There is practically no mortality to this operation, and often the patient is up and about the hospital the next day. Many men want to know if they still can be potent after the operation, and in most cases I think they are.

Chronic Leg Ulcers

People want to know if they can get their chronic leg ulcer healed without skin grafting. I have seen it done, but it takes a lot of time, and the patient has to stay in bed for weeks. I haven't dealt with such ulcers since I was an intern in a big county hospital. There, I saw many of them. What I did was first to get the surface of the ulcer clean and in good condition, and then my Chief would skin-graft it. Usually, within 10 days or so, the patient would be well. After that he or she was asked to wear a supporting bandage, or elastic stocking. Usually, the basic trouble in these cases is poor circulation due to varicose veins.

I will never forget one quiet little old lady who came in with two bad leg ulcers. When I had them cleaned up, I said we could skin-graft them next morning. After thinking a while, she sent for me and said she did not want the operation. I asked why; was she afraid of it? "No," she said, "But how long will it take for me to get well?" I said, "Probably within two weeks." "No," she said, "Don't be angry with me or laugh at me; but you know, I have been nursing those ulcers along for so many years, I couldn't lose them that sudden; I'd miss 'em too bad!"

A Hairy Mole on the Chin

Women ask what to do for a hairy mole on the chin. This is one of the easiest things to cure that I know of. A skin specialist can burn it off in two minutes with very hot electric sparks. He will first inject a drop of procaine under the nodule so that the operation will be painless. Soon the charred area will drop out, and then there will be a little white scar which, later, will become inconspicuous.

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.

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Quigg's Cat Gets Hangcat Look as Sputnik Dog Gets Break During National Cat Week

By DOC QUIGG

United Press Correspondent
New York — Well, what are you gonna do, in the face of what's happening, but just sit here and eye the zenith, which gives promise soon of being all-a-beep with a mad whirl of satellites, both dogged and undogged.

My cat, a long-haired gent named Adam Hemingway Quigg, has been padding around with a hangcat look on his puss. Here it is "National Cat Week," a time when felines world (and other-world) wide should be meowing up a storm.

National Cat Week—and what happens. A shaggy dog goes up above the world higher than anybody, and may even become a fixture above us, like the dog star. It has not been announced whether this particular dog volunteered for the assignment but, be that as it may, he is certainly having his day.

Cosmic Cat Nap

Cats of the world arise! I use the verb advisedly. Once they have risen, they will orbit with an aplomb unmatchable. There has been some worrying in print about how man will react — when his space-travel day arrives — to becoming weightless in space, since he has always been dependent on gravity to hold him, and his food, down.

This weightlessness would be somewhat comparable with the plight of reaching the top of a springboard dive, or the top of the arc on the garden swing — not going up and not coming down—and just staying afloat there with even your hair standing weightlessly on end.

The question is, what will it do to the psyche of man and dog — accustomed since the beginning to having their bunnions planted firmly on the ground — to find their feet planted in nothing whatsoever but just waving around wantonly.

In this clutch of nothingness, I give you the cat. Other breeds' psyches may run amuck in gravity-shorn space. Men may scream and dogs bay at whatever moons chance to be passing. But the cat, in space, will merely yawn, float over onto its back, and catch another nap.

Like Disney Movie

In its waking hours, it will go nonchalantly about adding more planks to the space platform, or damming up holes punctured in the hull by whizzing motes of stardust. Of all our creatures, the cat is ascendant in mental ability to meet the challenge. You know darn well that it has exhibited out-of-this-world detachment for centuries.

My cat gets so detached from his surroundings that he thinks he is not anywhere at all. In this cat-nirvana mood, he is likely as not to walk right off a table, in complete disdain of the force of gravity, like a creature in a Disney movie.

The United States has been sending up monkeys and mice in rockets for space-flight tests. They seem to have come through with wits unscattered. If mice

can do it, so can men. And when man goes, he'll need a calm companion that just can't be bothered by environment, stuff or vacuum, swirling about him.

Gentlemen and ladies, let us salute, on this, his week, the noble cat, ideal space pet. May his naps last across the light-years.

ILLINOIS VALLEY Fire Extinguished at Home

By HELEN BOTTLE

Cave Junction—A Halloween prank which could have caused a major disaster was reported at the Loyd Burnett home Thursday.

Opening the door for a group of trick or treaters, Mrs. Burnett found a flaming newspaper, wadded into a ball and thrown on the front porch. The fire was extinguished with a bucket of water and no damage resulted.

Several mail boxes were removed from posts, Deputy Sheriff Les Tythcott said, and other instances of minor vandalism were reported Friday morning.

Marie Breckenridge was elected president of the O'Brien Parent-Teacher association recently. While PTA members conducted a short business session in the new school building, Bob Breckenridge showed films and provided games for some 40 costumed children in the "old school room."

Mr. and Mrs. Bob Perske and daughter, Debbie, former residents of the valley, visited Mr. and Mrs. Hugh White here last week. They were en route home to Snider ranger station, Port Angeles, Wash., where Perske is employed. They left the Illinois Valley ranger station more than two years ago.

Roy Z. Terney, grand master of the International Order of Odd Fellows, will make his official visit to the Kerbyville lodge Nov. 12.

Spending a recent week end in Eugene were Mr. and Mrs. C. R. Piller and son, Tony, and Miss Kathy Tyler, who visited Mike Piller, a student at the university, and Mrs. Piller's parents.

Polio booster shots were given to 270 children Tuesday morning at Kerby school. The clinic was conducted under the auspices of the Josephine County Medical society.

M/Sgt. Stanley Liput of the Medford recruiting station will spend Wednesday, Nov. 6, in Cave Junction, where he will interview young men interested in entering the Army.

Mrs. L. L. Owings of Kerby entertained her aunt, Rose Dy-gert, of Alturas, Calif., last week.

Representing the Illinois Valley Chamber of Commerce at a timber industry conference in Eugene Thursday was M. A. Sprague of Selma.

Members of the Illinois Valley High school band will not be able to make the trip to Berkeley, Calif., Nov. 9, where they have been invited to play at the Oregon State-University of California game.

Some \$600 are needed for housing, meals and other expenses. Although several local organizations have pledged money to aid the trip, Principal Vernon Larson said time is too short to try to raise the rest of the money.

A reunion with a brother and other relatives Mrs. Bill Weingart had not seen in 40 years was one of the highlights of a three weeks' visit in the east made recently by Mr. and Mrs. Weingart of Cave Junction.

The couple returned Tuesday from a 6,000 mile trip that took them to Wisconsin, Iowa and other points. At Merrill, Wis., Weingart saw his sister, Mrs. Jacob Volz, for the first time in more than 25 years. At Arlington, Iowa, Mrs. Weingart's birthplace, she visited her older brother, C. W. Squires, and other relatives she had not seen for 40 years.

Presentation of three 50-year pins will be a highlight of Rebekah Marguerite lodge friendship night Nov. 13 at the IOOF hall in Kerby.

Noble Grand Leone Weingart urges all members to be present, and out-of-town lodges have been invited.

A Bible study group, using as its theme, "Paul's Letters to Local Churches," was started Sunday, Nov. 3, at Immanuel Methodist church. The meetings will continue through six Sundays, and will be led by the Rev. Robert Kingsbury.

The Intermediate Methodist Youth Fellowship taffy pull has been postponed from Nov. 2 to Nov. 9 at 7 p.m., because of a conflict in dates with the Kerby PTA carnival.

The United Nations Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF) was increased about \$30 Thursday night when Immanuel Methodist church youngsters asked for coins instead of candy on their costumed rounds, and later gathered at the church for games, prizes and refreshments.

A cancer fund benefit is planned at the old O'Brien school house Friday, Nov. 8, from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. Residents are asked to bring rummage, white elephants or items for a baked food sale. Proceeds will be used for local cancer aid.

Members of the O'Brien Birth-day club, who are sponsoring the sale, met at the home of Fay Snider Monday to plan the event.

Wednesday, November 6, 1957

MEDFORD (OREGON) MAIL TRIBUNE—THREE

They'll Do It Every Time

Registered U. S. Patent Office

By Jimmy Hatlo



Presley Families Harassed Daily

Memphis, Tenn. — Getting rock 'n roll singer Elvis Presley on the telephone is just about equivalent to climbing Mount Everest—his number here is unlisted, and only two or three friends are let in on the secret.

But while Elvis is at peace in his newly-acquired southern-style mansion, 31 other Presley families are finding themselves harassed daily.

The calls are mostly from teen-agers, but older folks try to get in touch with the singer, too. "Being the first Presley in the telephone book, I get a large share of the calls," Mrs. A. W. Presley said.

"Even when the caller is convinced Elvis doesn't live here, the party insists 'you are probably a cousin and know where I can locate him,'" Mrs. Presley said.

Mrs. Presley said she has even gotten collect long-distance calls from Texas, Florida and California.

Many insist, "Aw, c'mon, we know Elvis is there," she said. James T. Presley said the number of calls aren't what they used to be.

"They would ring my number at least once a night," he said, "and would often wake me up at 2 or 3 a.m."

"I can always tell when Elvis

is in Memphis because the calls start coming in again."

Mrs. H. P. Presley thinks Elvis "ought to put up with what we other Presleys have to put up with."

It isn't so bad when the callers are nice or don't call in the early morning hours, she said.

"I don't have anything against the boy, but I do wish there was some way for his callers to call him and not me."

Three of the most important free producing states in America are Minnesota and North and South Dakota.

War II, Korean Vets Use Educational Aid

Salem — World War II and Korean veterans have enrolled in school under the Oregon veterans' educational aid program this fall than at any time since 1949, the Department of Veterans' Affairs reported Tuesday.

Giant "sausage skins," 60-feet long and made of nylon, could boost the capacity of oil tankers. The tubes could be loaded with oil until four-fifths submerged and towed, then rolled up and stowed aboard the tanker for the return trip.

LOU L. MARTIN,

Public Accountant,

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