



MEETING IN BERLIN, commandants of West Berlin sectors are in good humor as they discuss crisis precipitated by Russia's decision to give control of city to East Germany's Communist government. From left: U. S. General Barksdale Hamlett, French Brigadier General Jean Labomme and British General Francis D. Rome.

Is That So?
By OLGA BURNS

In the next week or so the striped chipmunk will stage what may be his second disappearance of the year.

The reason for the second one is to hibernate. The reason for the first, which he probably but not necessarily made, was to estivate. In other words, if it got too hot for him last summer, he went un-



derground for a snooze, just as he does in the winter when it gets too cold for the cheery little rodent.

For years it was not known that the reason for the sudden disappearance of the chipmunks from an area was because he was an estivator as well as a hibernator. Most people thought they had just taken off on a summer migration.

One man, however—I believe he was a member of the faculty of Cornell—thought it strange they consistently returned, and so, one day after their disappearance, he got a shovel.

He found other surprising things besides the fact they had migrated only three feet below the surface. One was that the chipmunk is something of an engineer with a surprising awareness of the need for sanitation. For example, among the separate chambers at the end of the 20-foot tunnel dug up was a separate one, used exclusively as a toilet, and it was on a lower level than the others.

Just as extraordinary was the discovery as to how chipmunks could move stones out of a tunnel that had a bigger diameter than the tunnel itself. They solved that problem by the simple expedient of cutting grooves along the edges of the tunnel, fitting the stone into them and then pushing it on through. When all the stones had been removed, they filled up the grooves.

Bushel of Food
Some of the storage chambers in a chipmunk's underground home are big enough to hold a bushel of food, consisting mainly of nuts and seeds. They store so much because they are not true hibernators. They do not sleep away the winter like the woodchucks, bears and frogs. Instead they periodically awaken, eat, sense the feel of the weather—if there is an exceptional winter thaw, they even go out for a look around—and then go back to sleep again.

Because chipmunks are usually seen on stone walls, rocky hillsides, or in brush piles, they are thought to be poor tree climbers. They are good ones, however, and have been seen in tree tops often, usually when there is a good crop of seeds or nuts to be gathered.

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There is one motor vehicle for every 700 feet of every lane in both directions of all the streets and highways in the United States today.

Injections Could Bring on Trouble, Scientists Claim

By DELOS SMITH
UPI Science Editor

New York—Two medical scientists were only curious at first. They wondered what happened to the skin when a doctor pushes a needle into it. When they found out, their curiosity turned into worry.

In a majority of such needle punctures, they discovered, the pores of the skin are not merely pushed aside as the needle goes through. The needle cuts a core of skin a little smaller than the diameter of its open end.

And this core is likely to be injected into muscle, vein, or the tissue under the skin depending on where the doctor is aiming the needle tip along with whatever medication is in the syringe. Theoretically at least that is not

Southern Pacific Reduces Services

San Francisco—(UPI)—Southern Pacific has announced that its Shasta Daylight, operating between San Francisco and Portland, will run on a three-times-a-week schedule during the winter months.

Claude E. Peterson, vice president of passenger traffic, said that under the new schedule trains will run tri-weekly from Jan. 15 to May 28 and from Sept. 15 to Dec. 14.

The train will continue to operate daily during the summer months and over the Christmas and New Year holidays.

Peterson said that the new schedule was necessary because winter traffic declined 26 per cent in the past two years. He said northbound trips will run on Wednesday, Friday and Sunday with return trips on Thursday, Saturday and Monday.

Oil Bearing Sand In Linn County

Lebanon, Ore. — (UPI) — Oil-bearing sand was produced at the Barr well No. 1 of the Linn County Oil Development company, five miles northeast of here, it was announced Monday.

Testing equipment was en route here from Sacramento, Calif., to evaluate the sand brought up Sunday, according to Adolph Hildebrand, Dallas, secretary-treasurer of the firm.

The Sells Drilling company of Bakersfield, Calif., is drilling the well on contract for the Linn county firm.

Hildebrand said experts advised him the prospects are extremely good for a deposit of oil. The sand was brought up from a depth of 4200 feet.

State Car Bids Claimed Too High

Salem — (UPI) — John Richardson, state finance director, said Monday that all bids to supply the state government with 800 cars next year have been rejected because the price was too high.

The low bid was \$1,850 per car. Richardson said this was \$400 higher than last year. He said state agencies will be advised to do one of two things: Continue to drive vehicles which would have been turned in on the basis of mileage. For cars needing replacements, to take a "serious look to see whether a more economical type of car may not be satisfactory to meet the state's requirements."

so good. But the scientists, Drs. Thomas Gibson and Walter Norris, had to acknowledge that thousands of needles are pushed into thousands of people by thousands of doctors every day, and there has been no reported trouble from all these cores of skins transplanted into deeper body layers.

Relation to Illness Possible
"With more widespread awareness, however, the very high incidence of detached portions of skin getting transplanted deeper into the body may be correlated with pathological (sickening) processes," they reported.

That was their purpose—to spread awareness among doctors. They were struck both by what they had found and why no scientist having been very curious about the fate of punctured skin before. So far as medical literature reveals, theirs was the first thorough investigation.

In effect these tiny cores of skin become skin grafts when injected into muscle or under-the-skin tissue, they said, and there is no reason why these grafts should not "take" and grow if they get into a proper "bed." But they're surrounded in the beginning by the medication and later perhaps by blood clot. Either would tend to prevent a take.

Might Cause Cysts
Just the same, they continued in reporting to the international technical journal, "The Lancet," there is the possibility of the skin cores causing, under-the-skin cysts. Indeed, in experiments with laboratory rats, they've produced cysts by injecting cores of the rats' own skin.

In cases where injections are into the veins, it is at least theoretically possible for the skin cores to lodge in tiny veins of the lungs, they said.

Gibson and Norris experimented with hypodermic and injection needles of all pores, from the smallest upward. They punctured healthy skin, removed during surgery, many times and then counted the number of times detached cores of skin got into the needles. This happened in 69 per cent of all punctures.

The least meaning their investigation has, they said, is that doctors should disinfect the skin carefully before pushing a needle into it, lest surface infection get carried into deeper layers. Skin preparation before injection is often perfunctory, they said, and this could be the cause of abscesses under the skin and in muscles which are not uncommon after injections.

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