

## Public Said To Have Erroneous View of Juvenile Drug Addicts

Editor's note: This is the second of two dispatches on the problem of drug addiction and how it is dealt with by the U.S. Public Health Hospital in Lexington, Ky., the nation's best known center for the treatment of drug addicts.

By MARY JANE GALLAGHER  
Lexington, Ky. (UPI)—Drug addiction knows no age limits. "Narco"—the U.S. Public Health hospital at Lexington, one of two in the nation designed for the care, treatment and rehabilitation of narcotics addicts—has had patients as young as 15.

But according to Dr. Murray Diamond, Narco's director, the public has an erroneous impression of the extent of juvenile addiction.

Dr. Diamond, noting that he is in his third tour of duty at Lexington, bracketed patients into three age groups since the institution opened in 1935.

"In 1938," he said, "the average age (of patients) was 31 years; in 1950-51 it was 22 years with a sizable segment of juveniles; in 1959, as best we can tell, the average age is 26 with only a sprinkling of juveniles."

Treatment Didn't Work  
When there was so much fanfare about juvenile addiction, the doctor then in charge at Lexington followed public sentiment and arranged special treatment for that group. It didn't work.

"Dr. Victor Vogel set aside a whole part of our building for juveniles," Dr. Diamond said. "Then we couldn't get them to move in. They wanted no part of it—called it 'Boys' Town.'"

"There was much talk, too, that putting young addicts in with older ones made hardened users of them. On the contrary, we've found well-selected older addicts can teach the young ones to let drugs alone."

The hospital's 23 years have seen changes in addicts' attitudes and revision of emphasis in treatment.

Voluntary patients arrive in far greater numbers than they did in the early days.

"The first few years we had 92 per cent prisoners and 8 per cent voluntary patients—the volunteers were suspicious of treatment under the government. Since 1945,

we've had about half and half."

More Now Appear  
Now more patients who apply, come. It once was that only 30 per cent of the voluntary patients authorized actually showed up. Now 80 per cent put in an appearance.

"We have no authority to keep volunteers and a lot of them leave. These is a critical period," Dr. Diamond said. "When we've gotten their system free of drugs and they feel wonderful, as if they could lick the world. It's an ill-advised euphoria—and the most treacherous time. I wish we could force them to stay past that."

"They leave, think they can take one shot and have the will power not to take any more. Then they're back at it again."

Addicts used to refer to a trip to Lexington as "4-15," meaning the stay was four months and 15 days. The hospital has extended that period to six months when possible, since it takes four months after withdrawal from drugs to get body functions back to normal.

Women From All States  
The Lexington hospital takes male patients from all states east of the Mississippi. Women make up a fourth of its population and come to Lexington from all states.

The other Federal hospital for addicts, at Fort Worth, takes no women. Seventy per cent of Lexington's patients are Negroes.

Not all of the Lexington hospital's 1,200 patients are addicts. Housed in a building near the main one are 150 psychiatric patients, all wards of the government, such as seamen, servicemen and their dependents.

The main hospital building is a large, sugar-loaf shaped structure of red brick with unobtrusively barred windows painted grass green to match the tile roof. Sitting atop a hill four miles from Lexington, it overlooks Kentucky's beautiful Blue Grass horse farms. Its approach is a long, winding drive through 1,056 acres which is farmed by patients.

The plant is hemmed in by a high, steel-topped-with-

barbed-wire fence. Getting in and out is by permission of a guard at the gate house.

Treatment, with the exception of a new substitution drug, has remained much the same through the years, but more and more weight is being placed on the psychiatric aspects of the cure.

"Patient care has evolved into a dynamic rather than a holding operation," Dr. Diamond said.

Withdrawal from drugs is the first phase for the patient. This has been talked about, even pictured, as a nightmare that makes Edgar Allan Poe's fantasies akin to Disneyland. Dr. Diamond says tales of such horrors are myth.

"It certainly isn't pleasant, but with the use of Methadon, also a habit-forming drug if not used correctly, as a gradual substitute for what the patient has been taking, it is comparatively easy."

"The substitute method involving Methadon was developed here to replace the morphine formerly used. We have a careful dosage schedule and it eases the patient off. No matter if he's been taking an ounce or a bucketful, withdrawal rarely takes longer than four to seven days. We found also that tranquilizers are of no help during withdrawal."

After a patient is off drugs, he is brought to as good a physical level as possible to help guard against a relapse. The next step is diagnosis and psychiatric treatment. It involves intensive psychotherapy supplemented by vocational and social rehabilitation training.

Then, it's almost completely up to the patient himself.

Sherwood served three years in the Navy during World War II, giving him 38 years of government service.

Prentice Petty, formerly superintendent of mails, will succeed Sherwood as assistant postmaster. Budd Gail will become superintendent of mails, and William Rose assistant superintendent of mails.

Sherwood has announced no definite plans for the future.



STANLEY G. SHERWOOD  
Retires from Service

### Sherwood Retires From Post Office

Stanley G. Sherwood, who has worked at the Medford post office for 35 years, retired from the service recently. He was assistant postmaster at the time of his retirement, having succeeded Earl H. York, who retired last fall.

Sherwood has served in all departments of the Medford post office. He has served under three postmasters, William Warner, Frank DeSouza and the present postmaster, Moore Hamilton.

In 1952, Sherwood was appointed clerk in charge, his first supervisory position. With the subsequent retirements of Hugo Guenther, Otto DeJarnett and York, he moved through assistant superintendent of mails, superintendent of mails and to assistant postmaster, a position he has held since Nov. 1, 1958.

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### February Crime Rate Drops Below Previous Month's

Medford's major crime rate in February dropped well below January's figure but remained higher than a year ago, according to the police department's monthly report.

A total of 69 cases were reported last month, including (5) burglaries, (6) thefts of \$50 or more, 51 thefts of less than \$50 and 7 auto thefts. January's total was 91, while 68 cases were reported in February, 1958.

Miscellaneous offenses last month totaled 697, a sizeable drop from January's 879, but greater than a year ago, when 647 cases were reported.

Violations of road and driving laws went from 199 in January to 196 last month, while traffic and motor vehicle law offenses dropped from 477 to 312.

Miscellaneous Cases  
February's miscellaneous cases included forgery, 2; embezzlement and fraud, 22; prostitution, 3; sex offenses, 6; drunkenness, 35; disorderly conduct, 2; vagrancy, 1; driving while intoxicated, 2; and narcotics violations, 1.

An interesting fact in the traffic offense category is that despite the use of radar, starting Feb. 9, the total for basic rule citations in February was the same as for January, 126. Of the total, 50 citations last month were based on the radar set.

Chief of Police Charles P. Champlin has emphasized that the radar's primary purpose is to deter would-be offenders and not to achieve a citation record.

Rightmeyer, William Jess, 45, of 30 West Sixth st., Eagle Point, passing with insurance procedure, this will also result in an additional year of suspension.

Driving While Under Influence of Intoxicating Liquor—(Mandatory suspension)  
Beck, Freeman Nels, 21, of route 4, box 442B, Medford, 1 year.

Chipman, Hilton Henry, 62, of box 194, Camp White, 90 days. Court Recommendation—(Following traffic violation convictions)  
Greb, Robert Otis, 19, of Butte Falls Star route, box 26, Eagle Point, reckless driving, 30 days.

Meredith, Charles Wesley, 20, of route 4, box 1283, Roseburg, reckless driving, 30 days. Discretionary Action of Department  
Thompson, Chester Beryl, 70, of postoffice box 91, Veterans Domiciliary, Camp White, failure to appear for examination, 1 year.

Student Dance Set Saturday at YMCA  
A dance for high school students will be held at the Young Men's Christian association Saturday, March 14, at 8:30 p.m.

The dance will be sponsored by the junior class Tri Hi-Y club to raise money for the youth and government program. The money raised will help send delegates to the mock session of youth legislature at Salem in April.

Adult advisor for the dance is Mrs. Naomi Johnson. Chaperones will be E. C. Spence, Miss Josephine Culbertson, Miss Regina Hannon, Arnold Widmer, Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Turpin and Miss Pat Dugan.

TOO MUCH SNOW  
Norwich, Conn. (UPI)—The Norwich Ski Association postponed its scheduled meeting Thursday night, Too much snow.

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FORD V8 DEL RIO RANCH WAGON	2299	2099
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FORD V8 CROWN VICTORIA—R-H, Fordo.	\$1699	\$1499
FORD THUNDERBIRD—R-H, Fordo.	\$2599	\$2499
FORD 6 RANCHWAGON—H.	\$1399	\$1299
FORD V8 CUSTOM 4-Dr.—R-H, Fordo	\$1399	\$1199
FORD V8 CUSTOM TUDOR—R-H	\$1299	\$1149
CHEVROLET STATION WAGON	\$1599	\$1499
FORD V8 RANCH WAGON—R-H, Fordo	\$1599	\$1499
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FORD 6 MAINLINE 4-Dr.	\$ 899	\$ 799
FORD V8 CONVERTIBLE	\$1099	\$ 999

#### 1953 MODELS

	Was	Sale Price
BUICK SUPER RIVIERA TUDOR	\$799	\$599
DESOTO FIREMODE FORDOR	\$699	\$599
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