

More Care of Body Said Possible To Save Half of Cancer Victims

Editor's note: The American Cancer Society has designated April as "fight cancer" month. This is the first of five frank words dispatched by the president of the ACS in which he expects to bring home to all Americans the things they can and should do to guard themselves and their families against the killing disease.

By DR. EUGENE P. PENDERGRASS
President of the American Cancer Society
(Written for UPI)

How often do you get your car serviced?
And how often your body?

If Americans gave half the thought to the care of their bodies that they give to their cars, we could save half of all those who get cancer.

It can happen to you. With the disease striking in two out of every three families, the chances are two to one cancer will happen to you or yours, some time in your several lifetimes. But the tragedy of needless death does not have to happen to you.

It is your responsibility to see that it doesn't.

Cure in cancer depends on early detection and adequate treatment. And medical science has excellent techniques of diagnosis and treatment. But we cannot diagnose cancer without a patient.

50-50 Chance
You can have a 50-50 chance of surviving cancer if you turn yourself in for regular servicing once a year; if you keep an inner ear tuned for a "knock" or "rattle" in the machinery of your body and let the doctor decide whether or not it is a signal of cancer; if you ensure the same precautions for every member of your household.

In these articles, I shall tell you some of the things you need to know about the common cancers, most of which have potential cure rates much higher than actual current rates.

But first a caution against cancerphobia. At the American Cancer Society we like to say: "You can have the facts of cancer in your mind without having them on your mind." Our educational programs seek to inform, not to alarm. We know the thing most to be feared in cancer is fear; for hand-in-hand with ignorance and superstition, fear keeps people away from the doctor, and wastes life.

Sober Thought
There is every reason to give sober thought to America's number two disease-killer. But we have come a long way from the time when cancer was a synonym for doom. The last decade has brought us to the turning point in the control of this ancient disease—enemy of life on earth long before the advent of man.

Ten years ago we were saving one cancer patient in four. Today the rate is one in three. It should be one in two.

The best way to defeat cancer is to prevent it—obviously. And one day science may find multiple means of immunizing us against the multiple cancers; it is doubtful that a single vaccine will do for cancer what the Salk vaccine does for polio.

Meanwhile we can avoid cancer-inclined, actual cases of the disease and irritants that can lead to it. For example, x-rays cause cancer, and doctors and dentists are careful not to use them excessively. And some 400 chemicals have been found to cause experimental cancer in animals and their use in foods and

skin cancer. Last year 3,500 Americans died. Others delayed treatment and risked unnecessary disfigurement.

Harmless Addiction
Then there is the seemingly harmless addiction to sunbathing, which brings us to the subject of skin cancer; commonest of all cancers and the most curable.

It is visible to the naked eye. It grows slowly. It can be treated by simple surgery, radium or x-rays. With rare exception nobody should die of

Cancer Disappears After Victim Given Second Man's Blood

New York, (Science Service) — A 32-year-old man apparently has been somehow cured of cancer after receiving blood from a second man who earlier had spontaneously recovered from the same kind of cancer.

Drs. Wilbur C. Sumner and Alvan G. Foraker of Jacksonville, Fla., told the James Ewing Society meeting here that they acknowledged the possibility of coincidence. But they pointed out that only one previous case is known in which a person spontaneously recovered from malignant melanoma — the type of cancer that often starts in moles.

Tends To Spread Swiftly
(Malignant melanoma can be cured if removed by surgery in a very early stage. If neglected, it tends to spread swiftly and cannot be benefited by radiation or any known chemical agents.)

The young man recovered at the age of 28. A year later, a small cancer area was found in one finger, which was removed. Since then, there has been no further sign of the disease.

The young man's recovery suggests that the 250 cubic centimeters of blood he received must have contained some type of defense against melanoma, and that this was transferred to him, the doctors said.

National Cancer Institute laboratory tests on blood samples from both patients revealed no virus activity. No effects were seen when the sera was added to melanoma

cells growing in test tubes or mice. This might be due to species differences, the doctors said.

A third patient with a far-advanced case was similarly treated. But there was no beneficial effect. This patient, however, unlike the others, had widespread internal deposits of cancer.

The James Ewing Society is composed of physicians with a particular interest in cancer treatment. The meeting was held at the Memorial Center for Cancer and Allied Diseases here.

(Next: Detection of Breast Cancer)

rather than a recreational addiction. For doubling sun cultists, I offer these facts:

The incidence of skin cancer is much higher in the south and southwestern parts of the country than in the north. Light or "sandy" complexions are more susceptible. When you tan, you're generating pigment in the deeper layers of the skin and this gives you a certain resistance to the sun's rays. Negroes rarely get skin cancer.

Skin Cancer Signs
Early signs of possible skin cancer include: A dry or scaly patch or pimple, or a pearly or waxy plaque or nodule; any sore or blister or lesion that doesn't heal; any change in the shape, size or color of a mole or wart; a thickening or hardening of a small and sharply limited area of the skin—a precancerous condition called keratosis.

Moles located where they can be irritated should be removed. Those occurring in the soles of the feet, the palms of the hands, or the genitalia are dangerous and must be removed. Melanoma, the only skin cancer rarely cured, usually begins as an enlargement of a mole. But the disease is quite uncommon, a comforting thought, because the average person has 21 moles.

(Next: Detection of Breast Cancer)

gives a shrill little whistle then drops to all four feet and hurls on. Sometimes the sitting up procedure causes the little fellow to see something that alarms him so he changes his course entirely, often heading in the opposite direction.

Stores Food
During the summer the gopher provides for the long, cold winter by storing all the grain, seeds and nuts it can harvest. This food is stored in the underground chambers. Deep underground, below the frost line, the gopher excavates a roomy chamber. Into it he carries soft grasses and leaves for a nest.

Here in darkness and solitude he eats sparingly during the winter, sleeps for long intervals and awaits the patter of the warm spring rains on the ground above his winter home. Like all of his nature's creatures he accepts his lot and joyously greets the spring and the verdant summer of foliage which must surely follow.

(Released by The Register and Tribune Syndicate, 1959)

Somehow or other I always hoped to find one with less or more than 13 stripes. I never succeeded. The overall body color of the gopher is usually yellowish; the stripes a dirty white. Alternating with the stripes are rows of black spots, giving the little animal a racy appearance.

The striped gopher is considerably larger than its cousin the eastern, striped chipmunk, with a longer, more slender body. But in other respects resembles the chipmunk. It does, however, lack the saucy face and actions of the smaller rodent.

On Prairie
The true gopher is native to the prairie regions of North America. In some sections it is plentiful. In other parts there are only a few scattered individuals. They are active little animals, moving with fast, jerky movements.

When running in the open the gopher can be expected to make only short, fast dashes of but a few feet, then it stops to sit on its haunches to look around.

At such times it usually

hops to all four feet and hurls on. Sometimes the sitting up procedure causes the little fellow to see something that alarms him so he changes his course entirely, often heading in the opposite direction.

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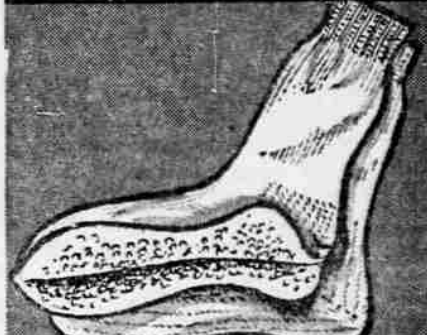
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Antarctica Study Continued

Washington — (Science Service) — The United States will continue its research program in Antarctica under the auspices of the National Science Foundation.

Chief scientist for the program will be Albert P. Cray, a noted polar geophysicist who has just returned from two and a half years in the Antarctic. Recommendations concerning the desirability of proposed polar programs are made to the foundation by the Committee on Polar Research of the National Academy of Sciences-National Research Council.

Cray will advise the foundation in planning the scientific programs, selecting personnel and equipment, and will supervise the conduct of field investigations, data analysis and publication.

Computer Curbs Mid-Air Crashes

New York — (Science Service) — Mid-air airplane collisions may be prevented with the aid of a new traffic control computer.

The computer, described to the Institute of Radio Engineers here by A. G. Van Alstyne and M. H. Nothman of Giffillan Bros., Inc., can anticipate and prevent collisions between planes before they take off or while they are in flight.

It can check a pilot's flight plan to see whether or not it conflicts with those of other flights, track the flight itself by periodic position reports from the pilot, and automatically warn the pilot of any deviation from the prescribed course.

Developed under an Air Force contract, the computer can also tell a pilot the best way to correct a course deviation.

Human supervision and monitoring of the computer would be required, the engineers said, but the computer will perform all routine calculations.

TEACHERS TO STRIKE
New York — (UPI) — Teachers have threatened to shut down more than 100 New York City public schools this Thursday in a one-day strike to back demands for higher pay. About 3,500 members of the New York Teachers guild voted Friday to stage the work stoppage. It would be the first ever held by day teachers.

ACT NOW TO EXERT YOUR FREE RIGHT OF CHOICE. Each of us has the right to voice his desires to the legislators. DO IT NOW! Write or contact your State Senator.

A hearing of the Senate Agriculture Committee will be held Tuesday, April 14, in Salem. We hope the Senate will give this Bill worthwhile consideration as did the House of Representatives.

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The Fryer Labeling Bill Should Be Passed

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Act Now To Insure Passage at Fryer Labeling Bill

We all have the right to know what we are eating, but in the confusion of today's mass marketing, quite often we may not know the whole truth about the foods we purchase. This is the case with fresh fryers. Today Oregon imports at least half of its normal consumption of fryers. Nearly all of these come from southern or Eastern production areas, several shipping days away from our markets. In order to save expensive loss from spoilage, it is almost essential to treat them with chemical preservatives.

OREGON CITIZENS PREFER OREGON PRODUCTS. Our people prefer to patronize our own agricultural products, particularly those which are so evidently superior. But when you buy fryers today, you have little way of knowing where they came from. The Fryer Labeling Bill will require every fryer sold in the state to be plainly labeled with the name of the state from which it came. Also, it will require the statement of any chemical preservative with which they have been treated. With anything as perishable as fresh chicken, this information is of vital importance to consumers. The Bill does not prohibit the shipment of fryers from other sources.

BILL PASSED IN HOUSE WITH 37 TO 1 MAJORITY. The Fryer Labeling Bill as it now stands has already been approved and passed in the House of Representatives by a overwhelming majority of 37 to 1. This shows unmistakably that it is equitable and is the will of the people.

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The economic welfare of our state is also effected. Oregon farmers who raise fryers have the capacity to supply all the fryers we can eat. These locally processed birds reach our markets 4 to 7 days fresher than imported supplies. Oregon-Grown fryers have no preservatives added . . . they're naturally fresher, naturally better. Yet the growth of this agricultural industry is held in check by a market situation largely controlled by out-of-state suppliers.

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