

# Thousands of Disease Sufferers Turn To 'Quacks' for Cures Every Year

Editor's note: Every year thousands of persons stricken with cancer are the victims of "quacks" who promise "cures" with pills, ointments, health machines and other devices, all of which have been proven worthless by responsible medical authorities.

In three dispatches written for United Press International, Helena Frost of the American Cancer Society reports on cancer quackery. The stories were prepared after a fact-finding tour of the nation.

By HELENA FROST  
Written for  
United Press International

Dr. Harold S. Diehl, senior vice president for research and medical affairs of the American Cancer Society, said recently there are a number of basic truths about cancer and the quacks. They are: No diet or serum now known will cure cancer. Ointments and plasters are worthless. Massage and manipulation are dangerous because they tend to disseminate the cancer cells.

No drugs have yet been found that can cure cancer. Surgery and radiation are still the only means of saving life... if you don't waste time. Yet, despite this warning from a distinguished physician, subscribed to by the most reputable medical associations and federal authorities, thousands of sufferers from cancer and other diseases turn each year to groups and individuals who promise "cures."

Devices Seized  
Scores of devices used by these quacks have been seized by authorities and their inventors and peddlers jailed and fined. Such gadgets range from a "radiation cure" pillow, said to contain uranium ore but which contained only sand, to a "virillum" spike, which sold for \$300 and contained, analysis showed, 1/200th of one per cent of barium chloride. Among the fabled who bought the latter device was the mayor of a large city. He wore it on his coat lapel.

A "cure-all" device, a conglomeration of glass tubing and metal, was offered for sale to federal inspectors for \$10,000. It was found to contain \$1.60 worth of radium. A state drug inspector underwent an examination by a self-styled "radionics nature-path" who used an intricate device which diagnosed that the inspector was suffering from "cancer of the liver with 91 degrees of malignancy." The same machine selected "the correct drug for a complete cure." The inspector, however, previously had been pronounced in perfect health by a group of reputable physicians.

Health Movement  
A number of purveyors of cures operate under the guise of a "health freedom movement." They support the right to practice of "any doctor wishing to administer particular therapeutic treatments, as permitted under their licenses to practice." But, they do not say "no" to such doctors as so-called "drugless healers," that their licenses do not permit them to practice medicine; that they are not properly trained or qualified to dis-



CANCER QUACKS—Each year thousands of persons stricken with cancer and other diseases turn to groups and individuals who promise "cures." Scores of devices used by these quacks have been seized and their inventors and peddlers jailed and fined. The metal and glass "cure-all" shown here is one such device. Offered for sale to federal inspectors for \$10,000, it was found to contain \$1.60 worth of radium. Drinking the glass of water "radon-activated" by the device was supposed to effect the cure.

may be imperfect, but are the only means of protecting the public from the modern medicine man. I ask these dissenters to stop and think before they accept every departure from conformity as a good thing. To remember that homicide, too, is an act of non-conformity to the laws of society."

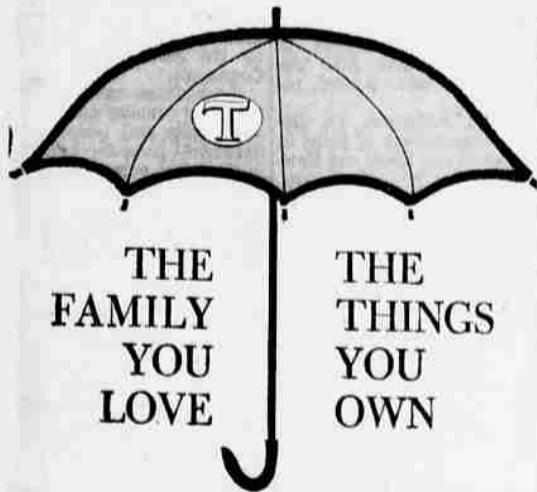
Under federal law, the FDA can prosecute infringement of interstate commerce with foods, drugs and mechanical devices that are worthless for their labeled purposes. "To win a case," said Larrick, "we must be able to convince a judge or a jury that a 'cure' is worthless. In just one case our medical officers traveled more than 17,000 miles of interview patients, their families and physicians. When the case was tried we were able to prove that all the patients 'cured' by the quack fell into three groups: "Those who thought they'd been cured but never had cancer."

"Those who had cancer but had been previously treated by surgery or radiation and attributed their recovery to the fake remedy. "Those who had cancer and still had it... or had died of it, by the time our medical officers saw the families."

But federal law is limited. The injunction against the Electronic Medical Foundation and Hart, as its president, is an example: The Abrams gadgets can no longer be shipped out of California, but FDA "estimated in 1954, when interstate traffic was enjoined, that there were about 5,000 of these devices in offices of local fringe practitioners throughout the country."

Stronger Laws Urged  
Larrick has long urged strengthening of laws that govern state and local practice. And California now has an anti-cancer-quack law, first of its kind in the United States, enacted in June, 1959. The new provision in the state's Health and Safety Code was sponsored by the California Division of the American Cancer Society and the California Medical Association. It says significantly: "Various persons in this state... represent themselves as possessing medicines, methods, techniques, skills or devices for the effective diagnosis, treatment or cure of cancer, which representations are misleading to the public, with the result that large numbers of the public, relying on such representations, needlessly die of cancer."

The National Health Federation claims credit for defeating the first bill in 1957, and for amendments to the bill as it was finally passed. It believes the new law will fall



THE FAMILY YOU LOVE & THE FUTURE YOU WANT

Don Stathos, insuror  
1005 East Main Medford  
PROFESSIONAL INSURANCE PROTECTION  
Phone SP 3-6658

## Turkey Vows Faith To Western Allies

Washington - (UPI) - The military junta which seized power in Turkey Friday officially informed the United States Saturday that Turkey would remain faithful to its Western alliances. Diplomatic officials said the pledge was contained in a note which Turkish Ambassador Melih Esenbel handed to Undersecretary of State Douglas Dillon late Saturday. Contents of the note were not immediately released but officials said it contained assurances that Turkey would remain faithful to her international treaties and alliances.

United Nations, N.Y.—(UPI)—Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko accused America again Saturday of preparing for war and drew a report from U.S. Ambassador Henry Cabot Lodge that Russia is using the charge "the United States is an aggressor" like a Madison avenue slogan.

## Week's Sewing Buy



JIFFY CUT Bonanza - place pattern on fabric and cut out each, entire blouse at one time! Fashion's smartest tops - team them with skirts 'n' play pants. Printer Pattern 9261: Misses' Sizes 12, 14, 16, 18 20. Size 16 top style 1 1/2 yards 35-inch; middle 1 3/4; lower 1 1/2. Jiffy-cut. Send FIFTY CENTS (coins) for this pattern - add 10 cents for each pattern for first-class mailing. Send to Marian Martin, Medford Mail Tribune, Pattern Dept., 322 West 18th St., New York 11, N.Y. Print plainly NAME, ADDRESS WITH SIZE and STYLE NUMBER. JUST OUT! Big, new 1960 Spring and Summer Pattern Catalog in vivid, full-color. Over 100 smart styles... all sizes... all occasions. Send now! Only 25c.

flat on its enforcement face. Complete Test "The way we've got it amended," Hart said, "they've got to give any treatment a new and complete test - even if it's been condemned before. But I don't think they'll every try to make the law work. They'll never try to use it. A Hoxsey doctor could bring in a cured cancer case and prove the treatment works. If they don't accept this evidence, the doctor could bring in another case. By the time he brought in a dozen... "Hart lifted an eyebrow. A "Hoxsey doctor" is a practitioner who uses the "cancer cure" that made Harry Hoxsey an estimated million dollars a year before the State of Texas took action that forced him to lease his Dallas clinic to another operator. (Next: An analysis of the cancer quack's claim that "everybody is against me.")

### GRADUATION Gifts & Cards

LARGE SELECTION See Our Graduation Gift Table for Ideas

Swem's BOOKS GIFTS RECORDS

## Two Handkerchiefs and a Hope To Occupy Spotlight on Summer Beaches

United Press International  
Outlook for the summer: The bathing suit makers will save cloth, and sun tan lotion will be splashed on by the gailon. The Bikini is catching on. Instead of sheathing themselves in yards of cloth, as grandma used to do at the beach, more and more American girls are going to depend on two handkerchiefs and a hope, according to department store experts across the country.

Depends on Figures  
What do the girls think about Bikinis? It depends mostly on their figures. What do men think? Husband have mixed feelings—fine, but not for MY wife. Bachelors are watching and waiting. "I've been wearing them Bikinis for two years now," shapely movie star Van Doren told United Press International today. "I like to get tan all over."

Not For Fat Women  
But Miss Van Doren said a good figure is a must. "It's terrible to see someone fat with a Bikini on," she said, "it's the same principle as a fat man in a bathing suit."

Gas Price War Hits Stalemate  
Involving nearly all local and regional service stations, the latest gasoline price war seems to be at a stalemate, Retail Gasoline Dealer's association officials have advised. The war, starting from the smoldering embers of the last fuel battle, has been most destructive during the last few weeks due to "conflicts" between independent and company-owned stations.

Portland - (UPI) - Sen. Hall Lusk (D-Ore.) arrived back in his home state Saturday for the first time since his appointment by Gov. Mark Hatfield to fill out the term of the late Sen. Richard Neuberger.

## Joy to Embroider



Peacock in all its glory - vivid, vibrant for pictures, an exotic accent for guest towels. Make a bathroom GLOW with color! Do peacocks in turquoise, green, bronze, some metallic thread. Pattern 7268: six motifs 5 1/2 x 7 x 6 1/2 x 9-inches. Send THIRTY-FIVE cents (coins) for this pattern - add 5 cents for each pattern for 1st-class mailing. Send to Medford Mail Tribune, Household Arts Dept., P.O. Box 168, Old Chelsea Station, New York, 11, N.Y. Print plainly NAME, ADDRESS, PATTERN NUMBER. JUST OUT! Our New 1960 Alice Brooks Needlecraft Book contains THREE FREE Patterns Plus ideas aglore for home furnishings, fashions, gifts, toys, bazaar sellers - exciting, unusual designs to crochet, knit, sew, embroider, huck weave, quilt. Be first with the newest - send 25 cents now!

"I don't think my husband would let me out of the house in one," said Mrs. Gloria Palmer, 30, Dallas, Tex. Mrs. Palmer is probably right. "I wouldn't want my wife to wear 'one," said Edward Campbell, 35, assistant professor of journalism at Northwestern University, Evanston, Ill. Most husbands interviewed agreed with him. In San Francisco, assistant department store buyer Carole Thatcher, 22, thought the American woman is "basically too modest" for Bikinis. Would she wear one? "Heavens, no! My stomach sunburns too easily."

### BIGGER SAVINGS! MORE FOR YOUR MONEY!

at PIGGLY WIGGLY

CLOSED TODAY!

## Mandarin ORANGES

6 CANS FOR \$1.00

OHIO

## BOOK MATCHES

4 Pkgs. 49c

## Sweet Pickles

NALLEY'S 12-OZ. JAR 29c

## TISSUES

KLEENEX 400 Count Reg. 29c 4 FOR \$1.00

Shop and save tonight... we're open until 9 P.M. Prices effective Tues. & Wed. May 31 & June 1.

## LETTUCE

Crisp Solid Heads 2 FOR 19c

## CHUCK ROAST

U.S.D.A. CHOICE 55c lb

Stewart & King Prices effective Tuesday and Wednesday, May 31 and June 1. Limit Right Reserved.