



DEVICE 'FINDS' DISEASE—Despite warnings by distinguished physicians, reputable medical associations and federal authorities, thousands of persons suffering from cancer and other diseases turn each year to groups and individuals who promise "cures." One such device, a "radonic machine," is shown. A state drug inspector underwent an examination by the "radienics naturopath" who used the device to diagnose 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. —(UPI Telephoto)

Unorthodoxy Whips Some In Line Against Medical Men

Editor's note: This is the final of three dispatches written by Helena Frost of the American Cancer Society reporting on cancer quacks.

By HELENA FROST
Written for
United Press International
Doctors are people.

Dr. Louis M. Orr, president of the American Medical Association, voiced the thought and added:

"They have wives, children and grandchildren, sisters and brothers, parents and grandparents."

"How many will cancer strike?"

The answer is one in four. Those are the odds for all of us. Doctors aren't immune, nor do they have a secret cure.

Some people don't like doctors "on principle." They are entitled to their independent view, but it ceases to be independent when it is whipped into the "party line" of unorthodoxy. For example by something like this:

"America is composed of the sickest people in the world. Doctors intentionally keep their patients sick, so as to continue deriving profits and income from them."

The statement was made in a speech by Fred J. Hart at a meeting in the National Health Federation (NHF) in Riverside, Calif. The federation, a "health freedom" movement of conflicting cults and "cures," attacks "organized medicine," the "drug trust" and "their government tools," in speeches, leaflets, publications and other media of organized selling.

NHF members have accepted Hart as their president and spokesman.

At the Riverside meeting he likened the American Medical Association to a "labor organization under Hoffa."

In his San Francisco office he said: "They are fighting for their lives against suppression by the American Medical Association," referring to other proponents of unorthodox "cures." And again: "This is the thing that Albert Abrams bled and died for."

In 1916, Dr. Albert Abrams "invented" a number of machines and a theory of diagnosis and treatment called

"radionics." He also organized the College of Electronic Medicine, which later became the Electronic Medical Foundation. Hart is president of the Electronic Medical Foundation.

Dr. Abrams had the right to call himself M.D.—a graduate of Heidelberg at 19, and professor of pathology by the time he was 30. What side-tracked such a brilliant man, and others like him? For other renegade medical men have been found in the ranks of the cancer quacks.

"In my opinion," said Dr. Orr, "the quack who has reason to know better is the most detestable of all. He may have scientific and human knowledge of cancer and yet he is ready to capitalize on human misery."

According to the California Medical Association, the state's new anti-quack law is "also a mechanism for cleaning our own backyard." A doctor convicted under the law would lose his license for unprofessional conduct.

Abrams, for example, said he could diagnose disease from a spot of blood—sent through the mail. His diagnostic device was supposed to "tune in" to different diseases, including cancer. Another machine, the "oscilloclast," could be rented by the patient's practitioner for \$250, plus \$5 monthly—on condition that it wasn't opened. Abrams threw in a "prescription" for the wavelength to be used in treatment.

He died a rich man in 1924. Years later, FDA investigators took apart the "boxes"—duplicates of the prototypes in the Electronic Medical Foundation's San Francisco office. One type produced a magnetic field, as in a vacuum cleaner or doorbell. Another was a low-powered transmitter, generating radio waves on the short wave band used by police or taxicabs.

Other FDA investigators sent three spots of blood to the foundation's diagnostic service in San Francisco, with these reported:

A rooster suffered from sinusitis.

An amputee had arthritis in the lost foot and ankle.

A corpse had colitis.

In 1954 a federal court injunction prohibited the foundation, and Hart as its president, from shipping any of the "misbranded devices" across state lines. An "injunction by consent" was recorded. But the fact that many of these machines are scattered in offices in various parts of the country still remains.

"We know people need to hope that the conquest of cancer is somewhere in sight on the horizon. We can give them a sober hope."

"Some 85,000 people die needlessly every year. We don't know how many are victims of cancer quacks, but all are victims of 'too late' of fear, apathy and despair—all of which spring from ignorance. A very good reason why the society allocates 31 percent of funds raised annually to public and professional education."

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Small Worlds Around Us

By Lynn M. Watkins

A Recipe for Curing Boils...
Bird Shot and Biscuit?
Inquiry revealed the startling fact that home remedies and attempted prevention of the painful occurrence of boils in the human epidemics were many and varied a few years ago.

Back then the corner drug-store didn't exist. The nearest doctor was many miles away and the only way to get him was by horseback or buggy. So people used home remedies and they came up with some dandies. They mixed various materials with superstition.

The supposed cure for the common boil took some odd turns. In the light of present day knowledge some of those old cures seem ridiculous.

Some rural families used eggshells. The shells were roasted in an oven, then pulverized fine with a rolling pin. The resulting gritty brown powder was supposed to be held in the patient's mouth until it dissolved or became a swallowable paste. Some pioneers mixed the eggshells with molasses.

Others waited until the boil developed, then attempted to "draw it out" with various "pulling materials" of which there were a great many. Some desperate individuals, suffering as long as they could stand it, placed the open end of a heated glass bottle over the boil. As the bottle cooled a terrific suction was exerted which, if the person playing host to the boil could stand still long enough, could pull the core out and into the bottle. It hurt but so did the boil.

In the list of "cures" or preventives, there were bound to be some that bordered on the fantastic. Here of course was where superstition came in and it came in strong. One of these, that could well have been called the "shot treatment," strains our belief in home remedies to the breaking point. The gentleman, who told me about it, claimed he has never been bothered with boils since he treated himself and that was, he said, "a good many years ago."

The recipe was simple. He said the treatment consisted of eating a "biscuit" that had half a dozen bird-shot buried in it. He could not tell me just why the shot had to be placed in a biscuit to be effective, but that was the proper procedure. "The patient," he added, "was usually free of boils by the following day."

Having half a dozen lead pellets in one's system certainly boded no good for the patient, but perhaps those less hardy souls who blindly accepted any measure to cure themselves, were the ones that succumbed, and their untimely demise probably was attributed to other causes rather than the "remedy." And it could have been that the so-called "lead-poisoning," which was said to have killed so many of the "bad-men of the old West," was administered by placing half dozen lead bird-shot in a biscuit. And all the time I always supposed it was done with a six-gun.

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Porter Introduces Flag Legislation

Washington—(UPI)—Rep. Charles O. Porter (D-Ore.) has introduced legislation to make abuse of the U. S. flag a misdemeanor, punishable by a \$100 fine or 30 days in jail or both.

Porter drafted the bill after learning no federal law appeared to have been broken in the recent sale of surplus 48-star and 49-star flags in Haiti for use as dress goods, window curtains, and scrub rags.

The existing flag code suggests proper handling of the ensign but does not make this mandatory.

Porter's bill would make it illegal to mutilate, deface, defile, defy, trample on, or "cast contempt" on the flag, by word or act. It also would ban the manufacture, sale or gift of flags for purposes of such misuse.

Socialist Party Leader Proposes Peace Program

Washington—(UPI)—Socialist Party Leader Norman Thomas has proposed a four-point program for the United States which he said would establish a "life-line to peace."

The veteran figure of the American political scene urged disarmament down to a police level, a strong United Nations, progressive disengagement in the Far East, Middle East and along the Iron Curtain in Europe, and an international effort to conquer world poverty.

Thomas, who ran six times as the Socialist candidate for president, spoke at a final convention banquet of the Socialist Party-Social Democratic federation.

In his prepared address, he said: "War in the nuclear age has become impossible if our civilization, perhaps even our human race, is to live."

He told the convention delegates that they must decide whether the Socialist cause can best be served by nominating their own candidate for president or by working toward "a meaningful realignment of the major parties."

Thomas noted that "the Democrats reluctantly" and the Republicans "enthusiastically" now endorse many proposals which once were called socialist.

Russia Requests Flight Statement

Bonn—(UPI)—The Soviet Union has asked Bonn for a statement on reports the United States is carrying out spy flights over the Soviet Union from its air base at Frankfurt, the Foreign Ministry has announced.

The demand was made by Soviet Ambassador Andrei Smirnov in a meeting with Foreign Ministry Secretary of State Hilger van Scherpenberg, the spokesman said.

The subject was discussed, the spokesman said, in confirming earlier reports from the Soviet Embassy.

Van Scherpenberg, however, did not make any commitments to Smirnov, he said.

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