



Small Worlds Around Us

By Lynn M. Watkins

It was a lucky afternoon; we found a black bear; we watched him tearing apart an old log that evidently contained a number of large, black beetles. The bear seemed to enjoy them along with some other insects that he found.

We couldn't tell anyone of our discovery for if the word got around, some "brave" hunter would have immediately surrounded himself with a group of other "brave" hunters and shot the poor bear to death.

The black bear has survived, in a small way, in this grassy wilderness called the Everglades only because the animal is a little smarter than most of those that would kill him. He must live by his own resources and cleverness in keeping completely out of the way. Even the law that protects most animals offers him little consideration; he is considered a predator and is usually hunted down.

Few Left

Their numbers in the big swamps are few, but an occasional one is still to be found, and the one we were watching, an adult male, seemed to be utterly oblivious to the fact that he was being observed. Here in the great southern swamp the black bear does not grow too large; a 200-pound one is considered large while a few hundred miles to the north they may reach a weight of 400 pounds.

The black bear is probably the most playful of any wild animal and at the same time seems to be the most human and understanding. In captivity they are, with the possible exception of some of the monkeys, the most popular of all zoo inmates. Their cleverness in learning tricks and their general tractability and playful disposition have combined to make them an invaluable feature of any menagerie.

During the greater part of each year the black bear, either male or female, lives alone. Actually they are tree-climbing animals and will climb a tree at the first sign of danger, depending on height and isolation to save them from their enemies. And the only serious enemy they have is man, who, of course, has very little chance of catching them without the aid of tracking dogs.

Pigs Favored

The black bear eats a great variety of foods. Berries, roots, honey, vegetables, small animals, insects, eggs, and at times, an occasional pig when one can be found. Being particularly fond of pork is one of the reasons why Bruin is so despised by some stock raisers.

Contrary to what you may have heard, and in spite of the probability that you know a man who had a friend who knew another man who was attacked by a black bear, it is still mostly a "tall tale."

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ROCKY MOBBED—Gov. Nelson A. Rockefeller was mobbed as he arrived in Chicago Monday, a week before start of the GOP convention. He is shown being greeted by supporters holding "Draft Rockefeller" signs at GOP headquarters in the Conrad Hilton hotel. He held a press conference Monday in which he once again said he would not be a candidate for the party's vice presidential nomination. (UPI Telephoto)

Report Minimizes Hazards of Fallout

Washington (AP)—The Defense Department, which dislikes the government's atomic test ban, has prepared a report minimizing radiation hazards of fallout from nuclear explosions conducted by the United States, Britain and Russia through 1958.

Manmade nuclear debris is minor, the department implied, compared with natural radiation that always has existed.

The total radiation does to human reproductive tissue from fallout through 1982 would amount to .95 roentgen compared with 3 roentgen from natural radiation, it said.

In other words, nuclear weapons testing will increase the genetically important radiation background by no more than 2 per cent, the report said.

Prepared by the Pentagon's Defense Atomic Support Agency, the report put it on record officially that the U2 has an operating altitude of 70,000 feet. Its flight endurance is 7 1/2 hours and its cruising speed about 500 miles an hour.

The air sampling flights of the U2—using quite different equipment from the spy missions over Russia—were designed to find out how nuclear fallout circulates in the stratosphere and how hazardous it potentially might be.

The conclusion said the con-

tribution to total radiation of fallout from weapons tests is "quite low."

"All information thus far accumulated indicates that fallout constitutes a hazard to the human population which population which is small compared to the hazard from natural radiation," the report said.

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Phoenix Club Sets Work Party Tonight

Phoenix—The Phoenix Community club will have a work party starting about 7 o'clock tonight, floor construction chairman J. D. Lubbers has announced.

Purpose will be to complete laying of a new hardwood floor which is now two-thirds done, he said. Two more work nights should finish it, he said.

"We hope to get it finished this week so we can start on plans for fall activities," he explained. "We will want some type of floor-warming party as soon as the floor is done. We also hope to have another fall festival."

Lubbers and Floyd Workman have been working on week ends to complete the floor. The Phoenix Lions club donated a day to the project. The Phoenix firemen and other community organizations will be asked to contact their members for the project.

The community club board of governors plans to use the building for a teen-age recreation program during winter and fall months, in addition to square dancing and other activities for adults. The community club meetings, held the third Monday of every month, are open to all residents in Phoenix interested in community club activities.

ACTRESS WINS AWARD

San Sebastian, Spain (AP)—American movie star Joanne Woodward was awarded the San Sebastian Cinema Festival's Grand Prix Tuesday for the best feminine performance. Miss Woodward's award was for her role in "The Fugitive Kind," with Anna Magnani and Marlon Brando.

The Medical Roundup

by *Walter Alvarez*

Emeritus Consultant in Medicine, Mayo Clinic, Emeritus Professor of Medicine, Mayo Clinic

A Duodenal Diverticulum

As I have said many times before in this column—and must say again—we physicians



DR. ALVAREZ

tend to get into habits as we make our diagnoses, especially in puzzling cases. Every day we see women who are always ailing and complaining of this and that. Some are physically frail; some are easily upset nervously; some are mildly depressed, perhaps like their mother who once was in a mental hospital; many—poor souls—are sadly overworked, like the widow I just saw who types in an office all day and then comes home to get dinner for a sick husband and three children. Others are mainly unhappy like the woman whose husband is drinking or gambling, or chasing skirts.

Often, when a conscientious physician sees a woman like this, he feels so stumped and so helpless. What on earth can he do to be really helpful, and really to tackle the problems of frailness, unhappiness, overwork, and lack of money? Perhaps he is swamped with overwork himself, and is tired out. How he'd like to clear out his reception-room and go home to his favorite chair, his pipe and his newspaper! But after he leaves the office he may have to make rounds in the hospital, and then make a few house-calls, which means that he'll come home around 8:30, too tired to eat or to rest.

Is it any wonder that a man in that situation sometimes takes the easy and quick way out. Instead of spending an hour trying really to grapple with the sickly woman's problems, he says, "Look at this little diaphragmatic hernia, or look at this (slightly) low blood sugar, or this slightly low blood count, or look at these diverticula (tiny out-pouchings) on your large bowel, or look at this (low position of the stomach and bowel) or look at this diverticulum on your duodenum (the duodenum is the first 12 inches of the small bowel next to the outlet of the stomach)."

By doing this sort of thing, the doctor can dismiss the woman in 10 minutes and then go on to his next patient. What, to me, is curious is that the fashion in such diagnoses changes just as does the fashion in women's clothes. For instance: a few years ago, for six months I kept getting hundreds of letters asking about a low blood pressure; then no one asked about that, but hundreds asked how they were to cure a low blood sugar. Last year hundreds asked about diverticulosis of the colon, and right now dozens are asking about diverticula of the duodenum, and should they have theirs cut out.

Actually, I have been seeing diverticula of the duodenum for 47 years. Only once in that time did I see one so big that I thought it might be causing the woman's distresses. A surgeon took it out and she was no whit better. Then I learned that she had concealed from me her story of great unhappiness and frustration over a love affair, and I was much ashamed. During my 25 years at the Mayo Clinic I cannot remember ever seeing another patient operated on for a diverticulum of the duodenum. I see no reason why such a congenital abnormality should produce symptoms. I am pretty sure that these little out-pouchings in a few men and women are a "throw-back" to certain fish in which the duodenum always is surrounded by one or two dozen diverticula.

One of the kindest things that a physician can do for a tired-out, or highly nervous or mildly psychotic woman is not to mention the harmless little congenital peculiarities which show up during her examination, and which mean nothing. To mention them can only cause anxiety and perhaps can lead to the performance of a needless operation.

Dr. Alvarez's booklet on ulcers may be obtained by sending 25 cents and a large, stamped, self-addressed envelope with your request to

Dr. Walter C. Alvarez, Dept. MMT, The Register and Tribune Syndicate, Box 957, Des Moines 4, Iowa.

A "Joint Mouse" A woman writes to say that her children are vastly amused because the doctor says she has a "joint mouse" in her knee. She wants to know what such a mouse is like, and how it got into her knee. She evidently has a joint mouse, all right, because sometimes her knee will, for a moment, get locked straight, or suddenly, as when dancing, she will feel a sickening pain in the knee and will fall to the floor.

What happened probably was that she got a type of arthritis in the knee in which a sort of gasket (like the rubber pad that goes between the two ends of a big pipe where it is bolted together) enlarged and became fringed-like on the edges. Then a piece of this fringe separated and became loose in the joint cavity. This is the "mouse." The treatment is to operate and take it out.

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Wall Street Chatter

New York (AP)—The International Statistical bureau feels the Democratic platform and its candidates must definitely be construed as favoring the economy.

The platform, it says, promises everything to everybody and is not deflationary. With Sen. Johnson as vice presidential candidate, the bureau expects pressure for passage of some of the bills stimulating the economy in a special August session.

It also points out that the Republican platform and its candidates may promise as much and in some areas more. The bureau says it's difficult to see how all these promises can fail to stimulate stock prices.

The Fitch Survey believes that the shares of Sperry Rand appear deserving of a higher price-earnings multiple than the current 18.5 figure. With the profit improvement that is anticipated, a constructive approach to the stock at its present levels seems justified, it says.

Penick and Ford has built an interesting base formation during the past several weeks, according to Bache and Co. A close above 30 accompanied by increased trading activity would make this issue attractive for short term trading accounts, Bache concludes.

The bulk of advice from the major advisory services has a cautious tone and is not likely to change materially in the next few weeks, according to R. E. Buchsbaum of W. E. Hutton and Co. The probability that international crises and doubtful business prospects will continue should keep the market in the doldrums until the fall.

Portland Woman Killed in Crash

Iiwaco, Wash.—(AP)—Mrs. Elizabeth Austin, 65, Portland, was killed Tuesday afternoon when the car in which she was riding missed a curve and rolled over on U.S. Highway 101 north of Iiwaco.

Driver of the car was Mrs. Austin's husband, Roscoe Austin, 68. Two sisters, Lydia Austin, 82, and Nona Austin, 72, were passengers.

Firm To Look For Oil In Polk County

Dallas, Ore.—(AP)—Another try will be made in Polk county to find oil, according to an industry magazine.

The publication Northwest Oil Report said Ross Mitchell and Associates will make a fourth try soon.

The magazine also said that Humble Oil company will start sinking oil exploration drills in Lake county in about two weeks.

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