



'SLEEPING BEAUTIES'—Off to a new home temporarily in Parmadale, a Catholic home for children. Venita hid behind the arm of Miss Valentino while her sister told photographers, "No pictures." (UPI Telephoto)

Gas Used To Find Holes In Heart

Bethesda, Md. (Science Service)—Cardiac shunts—the dangerous mixing of oxygen-poor blood and oxygenated blood through holes in the partition between the left and right sides of the heart—have been successfully detected and located with a radioactive gas, krypton-85.

Three scientists at the National Heart Institute here have used the technique on 48 patients.

To detect left-to-right shunts, a small tube is used to inject krypton-85 into the left heart. If there is leakage, the gas crosses directly to the right heart and is pumped directly to the lungs. Thus, a high concentration of the gas in exhaled air will reveal the shunt. The radiation of the expired air can be monitored by a count-rate meter.

The gas is injected into the right heart to detect right-to-left shunts. If there are none, the gas would be pumped to the lungs and expired. If there are shunts, the gas leaking into the left heart is pumped into the arteries, where arterial blood samples will reveal its presence.

The studies were made by Drs. R. T. L. Long, Eugene Braunwald and A. G. Morrow.

HAMMERSTEIN'S FUNERAL
Hartsdale, N. Y. — (UPI) — A private funeral service was held here Wednesday for Oscar Hammerstein II, the Broadway lyricist who collaborated with Richard Rodgers in producing such hits as "South Pacific," "Oklahoma," "The King and I," "Carousel" and the current "Sound of Music." Hammerstein, 65, was cremated Tuesday morning, hours after he died of cancer at his home farm in Doylestown, Pa.

Cost Of Dying Keeps Going Up

St. Louis — The cost of dying is rising nearly as fast as the cost of living, a business counselor told a meeting of funeral directors.

He said the cost of an adult funeral increased by 2.3 per cent last year while the national cost of living index rose 2.7 per cent.

Microphone Can Detect Rheumatism

Washington (Science Service) — A Chicago physician reported here Tuesday that normal and rheumatoid knees sound different. He said he has found that a microphone can detect rheumatoid arthritis conditions before they have progressed far enough for x-ray detection.

Dr. Herbert Fischer of the Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago told the Third International Congress of Physical Medicine here that when he fastened a sensitive microphone to the knees of volunteers, he found rheumatoid knee joints produced a low thud.

A series of high frequency bursts at irregular intervals was produced by knees with the degenerative joint disease osteo-arthritis. Normal knee joints, however, produced sounds that were relatively uniform in intensity, frequency and wave pattern.

DANGEROUS PROTECTION
Chicago — It was late at night, the buses had stopped running and, to be on the safe side, Mrs. Helen Brooks asked two policemen to drive her home. As she got out of their cruiser she slammed the door on her own hand and had to have it treated at a hospital.

Journal Warns Against Pills

Chicago, (Science Service)—In a strong editorial, the Journal of the American Medical Association warned well-fed Americans against gulping down vitamin pills.

The editorial said overdoses of vitamin A can lead to irritability, skin eruption, enlargement of the liver and loss of appetite. Too much vitamin D may cause gastrointestinal symptoms.

The Journal said that "only in a deficiency state or in an anticipated deficiency state are vitamin supplements necessary."

Beauty Shop Had A Male Customer

Branson, Mo. — Two young sisters were sitting quietly under hair dryers in a beauty shop when a buck deer crashed into the place through a plate glass window.

While the deer scrambled through the shop in panic, Rachel and Muriel Hartzell ran screaming out the front door. They weren't hurt.

A conservation agent and a policeman shot the animal in the back room of the beauty shop.

Reluctant Robber Leaves Minus Loot

Corvallis, Ore. — The holdupman appeared even more reluctant than his intended victims, three employees of a building contractor.

"We're just working people," said one of the employees. "We haven't any money."

"Oh well," replied the meek bandit. "This is a toy gun anyway. Just forget about it."

High Altitude 'Chute Jump Really Manned Space Flight

Washington — (Science Service)—The high-altitude Project Excelsior parachute jump of Capt. Joseph W. "Red" Kittinger, USAF, was in reality a "manned space probe" designed to test man's endurance and his ability to escape from high-flying aircraft.

Going up in the balloon-suspended open gondola, the 32-year-old, red-haired parachutist was exposed for more than an hour to all the physical hazards of space except weightlessness. High-altitude pressures above 60,000 feet are such that his blood would have boiled and his lungs would

ruptured if he did not have the protection of an oxygen-equipped, pressurized space suit.

His protection from the more than 80 degrees below-zero temperatures were the long-johns worn under the pressure suit, topped off with a quilted two-piece garment and an intermediate flying suit; electrically heated wool socks; electrically heated flying gloves; and a heated space helmet "to prevent fogging." Full body protection against the cold would have meant adding to the 150 pounds of bulky suit, parachute and

special equipment Capt. Kittinger must carry with him, in addition to his own weight of 160 pounds.

"It is more important that I be able to move and perform the necessary escape functions efficiently than that I be comfortably warm," Capt. Kittinger told Science Service. "At any rate, I believe I have demonstrated that if hands, feet, and face are warm, man can endure extremes of cold for long periods of time without peril."

Air Force parachutists have conditioned themselves to the low temperatures of high-

altitude jumps by being lashed to a cot and exposed for seven minutes to 100-mile-per-hour winds at 65 degrees below zero temperatures, protected by space and flying suits that are not heated.

This preparation is done at the huge "weather factory" at Elgin Air Force Base Climatic Center hangar in Florida, Capt. Kittinger's home state. Both men and materials may be exposed here to all extremes of weather to measure survival limits.

Prior to take-off Capt. Kittinger breathed oxygen for almost four hours. In the days

before the scheduled jump he was fed a special low-residue diet. If it was on the skimpy side, it was so on Kittinger's orders. "I'd rather be a little hungry than an over-stuffed, inefficient astronaut," he explained.

Before Project Mercury, the man-in-space program of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, Capt. Kittinger was among those men of the Air Force considered qualified by training and motivation for the hazards of pioneer space flight.

He is an experienced jet pilot, trained parachutist and

balloonist, and a veteran of more than four years of extensive and highly stressful tests and training to prepare for Air Force space efforts. A well-built, 5 feet 10 inches redhead, personable and easy in manner, Capt. Kittinger is married and the father of two boys.

He is attached to Wright Air Development Division, Wright Field, Dayton, Ohio, and works under the direction of Col. John Paul Stapp, a pioneer in aerospace medicine. Capt. Kittinger's wife and four children live in Dayton, Ohio.

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TOP OF THE WORLD—A smiling, moustached facial profile on an iceberg looks down on the nuclear submarine USS Seadragon during the boat's trail-blazing trip across the top of the world. The Seadragon transited the Perry channel from Baffin bay between Baffin Island and Greenland to the BEARLIP and NORTH OCEAN. The submarine made part of the voyage underwater and part on the surface. In diving under this berg, the largest encountered, the Seadragon had to dive 500 feet deep. (UPI Telephoto from Defense Dept.)

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