



**ATTENTIVE AUDIENCE**—Five nurses, wearing caps from as many schools, are an attentive audience aboard the hospital ship S.S. Hope I at San Francisco as Lt. Cmdr. R. Fisk, USN, chief of nurses aboard the floating medical center, explains equipment in the operating room. The 230-bed ship, a converted wartime vessel, is the first of a

fleet of medical ships planned to bring medical relief and goodwill from the United States to all parts of the world. She will have a permanent medical staff of five physicians, two dentists, two pharmacists, 25 graduate nurses and 30 auxiliary personnel. Hope I, operated by American President Lines, sails for Indonesia Sept. 23. (UPI Telephoto)

## Nursing Mothers Will Steal Own Calcium for Baby

Washington—(Science Service)—The old belief that a pregnant or nursing mother will steal from her own body to supply her baby with needed calcium has turned out to be scientifically correct, at least for rats.

This fact, differing sharply from recent findings on other essential nutrients, was confirmed here in a research report presented at the Fifth International Congress on Nutrition.

The report tells of experiments conducted on pregnant and lactating mother rats and their young by two University of California scientists, Dr. C. Willet Asling, professor of anatomy at Berkeley, and Dr. Marjorie M. Nelson, lecturer in anatomy at Berkeley and the San Francisco Medical Center.

### Rule Not Trusted

White results of the calcium study agree with widespread popular opinion, other findings in this area of science have shown that the old rule of thumb about mothers supplying all the nutrients needed by their young cannot always be trusted.

One recent study by Drs.

Asling and Nelson showed that severe prenatal deficiencies of folic acid, a B vitamin, can cause serious deformities in the newborn.

Two groups of rats were used in the calcium experiment, all given identical food, except that the diet of one group was deficient in calcium. As offspring were born and weaned, mother and baby rats were studied by means of x-ray techniques and their bones were measured and examined microscopically.

Drs. Asling and Nelson found that neither the mother rats nor the young showed any differences in skeletal growth or maturation that could be attributed to calcium-deficient diets. Nor did the young in the deficient group show any shortage of calcium or loss of density in their bones.

The calcium-deficient mothers, however, showed marked effects of skeletal demineralization, indicating that calcium had been taken from their bones to provide adequate supplies for their unborn or nursing young.

The California scientists reported that "it was possible to

## High Court Disbars Gold Beach Justice

Salem—(UPI)—The Oregon Supreme Court Wednesday delivered an opinion disbaring William E. Fuller, former justice of the peace at Gold Beach.

The high court opinion said Fuller had admitted taking about \$5,750 in receipts while he was serving as justice of the peace.

demonstrate a reduction in maternal bone density to 83 per cent of the normal value when the calcium deficiency occurred only during lactation, and a further reduction to 73 per cent when the deficiency started at the beginning of pregnancy."

The calcium-stealing action within the mother animal is known as bone resorption, and the condition resulting from a loss in bone density is called osteoporosis.

While the popular notion about mothers compensating for a lack of calcium has been verified, another widespread idea about mothers losing "one tooth per baby" appears to lack confirmation in modern research, Dr. Asling has said.

The California scientists, in further studies, are examining the effects of maternal calcium deficiencies before pregnancy and are looking for more sensitive indicators of the way in which the calcium



**BEAUTY SAMPLES PRETZEL**—Miss America of 1960, Lynda Lee Mead, tries pretzels given her—and all competitors for the 1961 Miss America title—at Atlantic City, N.J. The pretzels came from Miss Pennsylvania, Priscilla Mae Hendricks. (UPI Telephoto)

content of milk, blood and to favor the young at the expense of the mother.

## Crosby Cancels TV Film Plans

Hollywood—(UPI)—Spokesmen for Bing Crosby said today the crooner has cancelled plans to film a TV show in Ireland next month in favor of attending the world series.

Crosby, who owns part interest in the Pittsburgh Pirates, said he will be in the Pennsylvania city Oct. 5, along with three of his five sons, for the series.

Currently in Rome for the Olympic Games, the Old Groaner had planned to stop in Dublin, Ireland, to film a special St. Patrick's Day television program.

"Now that the Pirates appear to be a cinch to win the National League pennant, Bing is determined to see his team play in the series," said one of Crosby's publicity men. "He's been waiting a long time for this, and he's not about to go to Ireland."

## Former Hospital Ship To Join Peace Fight in Southeast Asia

San Francisco—(UPI)—In a few weeks an all-white ship with the name "Hope" emblazoned on each side will sail through the Golden Gate bound for Indonesia. Its mission: to wage peace in southeast Asia.

S.S. Hope is a 15,000-ton former hospital ship from the Navy's mothball fleet and it is a floating medical training center that will be the cornerstone of project Hope. Hope stands for health opportunity for people everywhere.

It's a privately-sponsored program to share U.S. medical knowledge with newly-developing countries.

### Short Step to Despair

The project is headed by Dr. William B. Walsh, black-haired, energetic Washington, D.C. heart specialist.

"In many nations that have been free a short time there

is hunger, illness and poor health," Walsh said. "From there you go to poverty. From poverty it is a short step to despair and from despair to communism."

S.S. Hope has been in Seattle undergoing modification. More outfitting and loading of stores is being done here. Then on Sept. 23, with President Eisenhower scheduled to be on hand, the ship departs for Indonesia.

Formerly the USS Consolation built during World War II, it will have 230 hospital beds. Its permanent medical staff will include 15 physicians, two dentists, 25 nurses and 30 auxiliary personnel. Volunteer teams of up to 35 physicians will be flown to the ship on a rotating basis for four-month tours.

S.S. Hope is slated to spend

six months in Indonesia, followed by four months in Viet Nam before returning to the United States. Invitations also have been received from the Republic of Korea, Okinawa and Pakistan.

### Teaching Program

Walsh said Project Hope is essentially a teaching program, although some treatment will be involved. American medics will work in small teams with counterparts in the host country. They'll pass on their knowledge to physicians, surgeons, dentists, health officers, sanitation officials, nurses, midwives and technicians.

Walsh, 40, who served as a medical officer on a destroyer in the Pacific during World War II, described the problems Hope staffers will face.

"In Indonesia there is one doctor for every 71,000 persons compared to a 1-for-750 ratio in the United States," he said.

"The standard treatment of a compound fracture of the leg in Indonesia is amputation. And many ailments are diagnosed as malaria, even polio."

Cost of the project is estimated at \$3.5 million a year. This money is being raised from private contributions by business, industry, labor unions and other private groups and individuals.

### Eisenhower's Decision

The government's only role was to lend the hospital ship—a decision made personally by President Eisenhower.

American President Lines is operating SS Hope at cost. American Drug and Pharmaceutical companies are supplying drugs and medicines. The American Petroleum industry is giving the fuel needed for the ship.

Top medical man aboard S.S. Hope will be Dr. Paul E. Spangler, Monterey, Calif., retired Navy captain. Spangler performed the first operation on a wounded man during the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor Dec. 7, 1941. He was chief surgeon at the U.S. Naval hospital there at the time.

### Widow Nurse Director

Marylouise Streicher of Chicago will be director of nurses. She is the widow of Dr. Michael H. Streicher, associate professor of medicine at the University of Illinois who died in 1958.

Dr. Walsh said his group may try to obtain four other Navy hospital ships now in mothballs if the current project is successful—as he is confident it will be. This he said, would permit Project Hope to keep a ship in Southeast Asia all the time, and even expand operations to include South America and Africa.

### Lawrence Welk's Daughter To Wed

Santa Monica, Calif.—(UPI)—The 23-year-old daughter of bandleader Lawrence Welk took out a marriage license with James F. Mack Tuesday.

The couple said they planned to marry soon in Santa Monica Catholic Church.

Mack, also 23, a medical student at St. Louis University, is the son of Santa Monica physician, Dr. Marvin Mack. The couple said they met in high school in 1954.

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