

Difference in Gastric Ulcers Spares Surgery

Cincinnati, Ohio - (Science Service) - Spotting the difference between benign and malignant gastric ulcers can spare a large number of gastric ulcer patients from major surgery.

Dr. Gerald D. Dodd of Houston, Tex., reported to the Radiological Society of North America meeting here that a skilled combination of X-ray and gastroscopic examination provides the proper diagnosis. In the gastroscopic examination a special device passed down the esophagus into the stomach is used to allow the physician to see most of the stomach's interior.

Color photography, through special equipment recently developed for gastroscopes, is also helpful in differentiating benign and malignant gastric ulcers, Dr. Dodd said.

The widespread opinion that all gastric ulcers should be treated surgically is based primarily on doubt in the ability of examiner to differentiate between the benign and malignant ulcer, he said. This opinion also stems from the belief that stomach operations are outweighed by the number of cured patients, he added.

The Houston specialist in radiology said that it was debatable whether a patient with benign disease will be better off with all or part of his stomach removed.

He urged clinical evaluation of the ulcer to separate the candidate for immediate surgery from one who could derive a beneficial and lasting response from medical, or nonsurgical, therapy.

Dr. Robert S. Nelson, also of Houston, was co-author of the report.

Valley Teachers Attend Conference

Two valley teachers attended the recent Douglas County Teachers conference in Roseburg.

They were James Backen, Crater High school, and Bob Semon, chairman of the English department at Medford High school.

They helped lead a discussion on the structure of the English programs of Medford and Crater, compared to that of Douglas county high schools.

Semon discussed "Teacher Aides in the Medford Writing Program," and Backen's subject was "The 'Can't' Course Must Go." Purpose of this portion of the conference was to strengthen English departments in this area and Douglas county.

Local procedures concerning teacher aides, writing programs, drama, weekly lesson plans, notebooks, book reports and course requirements were taken to the conference by Semon and Backen, and comparable information was obtained for consideration and possible use in the two school districts here.

Seedlings To Be Planted in Area

The bureau of land management plans to plant 808,000 two-year-old Douglas fir seedlings in the Medford district.

Bids for the seedlings will be opened at 2 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 27, at the BLM area office in Portland. Bids for a total of 2,249,500 seedlings will be opened at that time. They will be planted on about 4,000 acres in 40 separate tracts in Oregon.

The seedlings will be furnished by the BLM, and the winning contractors will be required to furnish tools, equipment, supervision, labor, transportation, supplies and all the work incidental to the plantings.

The number of seedlings planned in other areas include 294,000 in the Eugene district, 197,000 in the Coos Bay district, 928,000 in the Roseburg district, and 24,000 in the Baker area.

Detailed information on the bid invitation may be obtained from the bureau of land management, 1001 Lloyd Blvd., Portland, or from the Medford district office.

HEADS HEALTH GROUP
Portland - UPB - Dr. John Donnelly, Douglas county health officer, has been named the new president of the Oregon Health Officers association.

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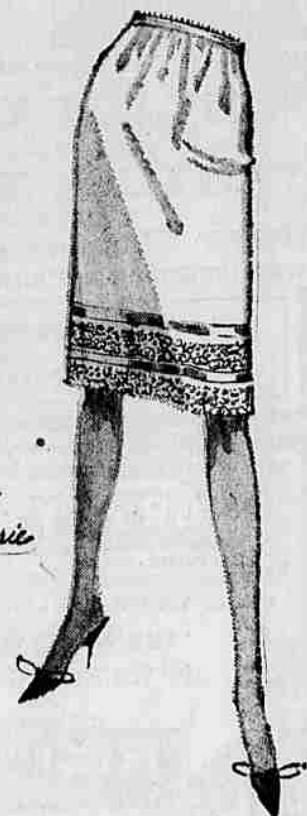
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