

The Medical Roundup

by

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Some Improvements In Surgery

The immediate mortality from common operations has dropped considerably in the last 25 years or so. In a report from the Metropolitan Life Insurance Co., it is pointed out that the mortality rate for the operation for closing a perforated stomach ulcer has dropped from the old 41 per cent to the now 7 per cent. Similar drops in mortality for operations for intestinal obstruction are from 37 to 8 per cent, and for removal of a toxic goiter, from 8 to 1 per cent.

Notes on Coronary Heart Attacks

In a recent article, Arthur M. Master, one of our great heart specialists, reported a study of 2,600 cases in which the all-important coronary artery in the heart got thrombosed (plugged up with a blood clot). He asked all of the people to say when they got the heart attack - hour of the day or night, what they were doing; were they over-exerting themselves, or were they sitting or lying quietly, and he could not find any factor that seemed to have tended to bring an attack. Very encouraging to the many persons who have had one heart attack will be Dr. Master's statement that he found no evidence to indicate that the one attack predisposes to a second one, except indirectly, because of progress in the underlying factor of hardening of the arteries.

Research on Psoriasis

At last, chemists and allergists and immunologists have gone to work, analyzing chemically the material that is to be found in psoriatic patches. Although, as yet, the researchers have not come up with anything that looks like a cure, it is very hopeful that definite light is being thrown on the nature of the changes that take place in the skin of the person with this miserable disease. Usually, the first step that must be taken before one can cure a disease is to find out what went wrong. Then, one may see a way of putting things to rights again.

Do you have a strong heart? Even if you do you will be interested in reading Dr. Alvarez' booklet, "Heart Trouble." It lists preventive measures as well as constructive things to do after an attack. It 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.

LEVEE SYSTEM

New Orleans - The levee system of the Mississippi is longer than that of China's Great Wall.

Salem - UPI - Gov. Mark Hatfield today appointed Samuel H. Mallicoat of Portland as acting director of the Oregon Department of Planning and Development.

Replenishing Gold From West's Mines Said Not So Simple

By ROY MCGHEE

Washington - UPI - It's so simple, it's a wonder no one thought of it before.

American gold reserves are being drained.

Some people are worried that the United States will run out of gold.

Well, why not just go out to them thar hills and dig some more gold?

"One sure way to help the gold shortage is to get more gold," Claire Engle (D-Calif.) explained with unanswerable logic.

"Our gold mines out West are shut down at the very same time that United States gold reserves are dwindling and are threatened by the continuing flow of dollars to foreign lands."

But, alas, there are a few flies in the ointment.

American domestic gold production averages about \$60 million a year. Most of this comes from sideline mining operations. This is because the official U.S. gold price is \$35 an ounce and it's not profitable to mine gold at this price.

So Engle said he would submit legislation in the new Congress to pay a domestic premium above the present Treasury price of \$35 an ounce, thus making it profitable to resume mining operations.

Informed of Engle's scheme, a Treasury spokesman branded it "dangerous tinkering" and "risky business." The department reasons this way: anyway you look at it, Engle's scheme boils down to a two-price system for gold.

Worsen Situation

"The United States cannot afford to have two prices for gold," the spokesman said.

"Without question, the world would think it only a matter of time until the higher price prevailed in the world market."

"If that occurred, it would result in a worsening of the situation. You would have people trading their dollars for our gold, lowering our reserves still further, in the anticipation that they could sell the gold back to us at a higher price later."

The world's great gold producer is South Africa. The



SCARED WHALE-Frightened by an airplane, a large whale dives deep into the Pacific Ocean five miles offshore at Eureka, Calif., as only the tail remains visible. The sighting of several herds of whales marked the beginning of the annual whale migration southwards down the Pacific Coast. (UPI Telephoto)

Treasury spokesman said the cost of production there is low enough for mines to make profits at \$35 an ounce.

FARM WOODLAND
Austin - Texas has more farm woodland acreage than any of the other states.



BUSINESS EDUCATION-One of the classes to be offered under the adult education program starting next week at Medford schools will be a class in the use of business machines. Instructor Miss Gertrude Fredrickson, above, helps student Mrs. Alice Barber with the operation of a calculator.

The use of the dictaphone, duplicating machines and other types of calculators are taught in the class. The general courses to be offered during the coming session will include homemaking, general education, college extension, hobby and craft, auto mechanics and electronics.

The Family Council

Editor's Note: The Family Council consists of a judge, a psychiatrist, three clergymen, three editors and a women's editor. Each article is a summary of an actual case history. The Council reports on problems that have been dealt with by responsible agencies and counselors. (Copyright 1961-General Features Corp.)

Karin F. - I'm home sick. American women are so unfriendly.

Henni F. - She should be patient and learn to understand Americans.

Karin F. - My husband and I are from Denmark. He's in this country six years and is a teacher. I'm here four years. At first I worked for an airline, but I quit a year and a half ago when we bought a house in a large development. Our girl was born shortly after we moved in.

For the past few months, I've been longing to go back to Europe. I feel too much a foreigner. I'm alone from 8 a.m. to midnight most of the week, without a car, and far from transportation. My neighbors go shopping every day and when I asked them to take me along they said, "Oh sure." But they never do.

One of them invited me to have coffee with her and the others. I did, but they all hollered so loud I couldn't get into the conversation.

They only come over when they need something and then it's, "Thank you, I have to rush," and out! If I can't be accepted, I want to go back among Danish women.

Henni F. - I want Karin to be patient. I know it's hard for her stranded at home without me, the car and a chance to get to the shopping center during the week.

But our week ends make up for it. She has only light marketing then, because I pick up the staples. So we take the baby and go for outings, usually with friends.

Some week ends we have these couples in visiting us. And Karin has enough talk, laughing and singing to cheer her up for the next few days, I'm sure.

Once the baby is older and begins to play with the other children, Karin will have more in common with our neighbors. Right now, everyone is polite and pleasant, but Karin wants more than that. She wants a substitute for her mother and sisters and her school friends. I tell her that's too much to expect in a strange land.

The Council: Flabbergasted Karin is not the first newcomer to be bowled over by the uninhibited, raucous American housewife. She might as well get used to the coffee breaks when one out-shouts the other, no one really listens to anyone else, and yet each stands ready to give her last shirt (or nylons) for the rest!

Setting Karin straight on a few of the American backyard conventions may help her see that there's really nothing "personal" in the pell-mell, hit-and-run encounters. Coffee in this country, both at home and at work, means a "break" and not a formal visit. To most housewives the interlude is hailed as "stolen" time. Hence, the speed to cut it short and return to virtue!

Also, the term "friendly" as used here connotes less possessiveness, perhaps, than in Karin's definition. Friendliness also allows for privacy. That may be why the other girls don't dash in and out of Karin's house. They want to be certain they're not interrupting or disturbing her.

As Henni says, Karin may be expecting too much too soon. A good start for a getting-to-know-you campaign might be to invite the neighbors over to meet the week end company. Gradually Karin may see these girls as young women must like herself and become less sensitive about their brusque manners. Her best course is to be herself. But when she wants to borrow an iron or look up a word in someone's dictionary, skip the prologues!

In America, a girl's no less a girl for being a go-getter.

Portland Man Arrested On Jackson Warrant

Medford city police received word Thursday that Portland police have arrested Mark B. Edwards, 35, of that city, on a Jackson county district court warrant charging him with making a false statement in writing to procure benefit.

Edwards is accused of cashing a bad \$25 check at a local motel Oct. 5. Bill was set at \$500.



MRS. PAUL SCHULER
Clerk of Week

Two Clerks Get Awards for P&S Validations

The Park and Shop mystery shopper presented two \$5 cash awards to downtown sales people last week who offered to validate the Park and Shop ticket.

Eight stores were shopped throughout the week in an effort to find the sales person who would suggest validation of the Park and Shop ticket without hints or reminders on the part of the mystery shopper posing as a customer.

"This is the first time I ever won anything in my life," Mrs. Paul Schuler of Pick's Apparel said when the \$5 cash award was presented.

The other winner last week was Clara Beale, sales clerk at Parker Woods'. The two winners represent the 15th and 16th sales people in the downtown area to have received \$5 cash awards during the rounds of the mystery shopper.

Gain Seen

Validation trends for Park and Shop are far ahead of those for a similar period last year. A preliminary check indicates that validations for December, 1960, show a 124 per cent gain over the December period of 1959. Park and Shop officials agree that the mystery shopper program helped in alerting downtown sales people to the essentials of customer courtesy of which Park and Shop validation is a part.

It is generally agreed that Park and Shop has proved a highly successful plan, the continuation of which has become increasingly important to the future success of retailing in the downtown area. Similar gains of this nature have been demonstrated in numerous other states across the nation where such a plan has been started.

MEDAL FOR RICKOVER

Washington - UPI - Vice Adm. Hyman G. Rickover will be awarded the Navy's highest peacetime decoration, the Distinguished Service Medal, on Jan. 17, the sixth anniversary of the first voyage of the atomic submarine Nautilus. The medal will be presented to Rickover during ceremonies which will include the laying of the keel of the Polaris submarine Lafayette at Groton, Conn.

Canada produced 8,287,000 pounds of wool in 1959.

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