

**Dennis the Menace**



"DENNIS IS WRONG, JOEY. THERE'S NOTHING SISSY ABOUT TAKING A NAP!"

**The Medical Roundup**

by *Walter Alvarez*

Emeritus Consultant in Medicine  
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(Register and Tribune Syndicate,  
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**Drugs That Interfere With Ability to Drive Car**

We all know that a high percentage of automobile accidents are due to the lack of good judgment and good reaction on the part of a driver, and we all know that alcohol has most to do with turning a good driver into a bad one. Now, we are learning that there are other drugs commonly being taken in good-sized doses by nervous people - drugs that dull the person's mind, and perhaps slow up his reflexes so that, when faced by a dangerous situation, he does not quickly make the right move.

Today, thousands of people are taking sedatives, like the barbiturates, and more thousands are taking tranquilizers. Others are taking soothening drugs to relieve sinusitis, asthma, dizziness, high blood pressure, epilepsy, or melancholia. Every so often, today, doctors learn that a drug which was thought to be harmless enough can cause a man to be so bad a driver that he can have a bad auto accident. There are a number of drugs which I would never think of taking before I started to drive a car somewhere.

In the Journal of the American Medical Association (March 24, 1962) is a valuable article on this subject by Dr. James G. Miller of Ann Arbor, Mich., who says that a battery of tests has been designed to measure the numbing effects of several of the new drugs, and the degree to which they take away a man's skill in driving a car. Studies were made with some of the new drugs - studying the size of the dose that can safely be taken by a man who is going to drive.

Fortunately, Dr. Miller concluded that most of the tranquilizers seem not to have any serious bad effects on drivers, but it is possible that, in large doses, they would do harm. Some of the drugs interfere with judgment, and what is bad is that the person may not know that his judgment in driving is impaired.

Some drugs interfere with the acuity of vision. Sometimes, patients who get a fuzzy-eyed spell due to migraine know enough to draw over to the side of the road and stop for 20 minutes, until their brain is working normally again.

**Buerger's Disease**  
Buerger's disease is often known as thrombo-angiitis-obliterans. This word means that certain blood vessels, usually in the legs, tend to plug up so that they no longer can carry enough blood. Many a man, usually a heavy smoker, when he is perhaps between 30 and 40, begins to have a serious trouble with the circulation of his legs. Either one leg or both legs may be involved.

Occasionally, he will have signs suggestive that this disease is closing off and plugging up some of the arteries also in his arms. Usually, in the legs, the trouble is below the knee. Occasionally, veins are involved. These patients do not have the ordinary type of hardening, or ulceration, or accumulation of lime in the arteries, and they are not likely to get into trouble with heart disease, aneurysms (blowouts in arteries), too much cholesterol in the blood or diabetes. They can, however, have trouble with arteries in the abdomen or in the brain, or in the kidneys.

Many experts feel that this is a special disease; one which can be differentiated from ordinary hardening of the arteries. The exact cause is unknown, but it must be more than a coincidence that most of the patients are heavy smokers; also that half of them are Jewish, and 75 out of 76 of them are men.

Sudden attacks of great pain and local disability can be due to the washing-off of a bit of a blood clot, perhaps in the heart. When this lodges in a blood vessel and plugs it up, there is serious trouble.

Legs which have a poor circulation are likely to give real trouble if exposed to wet and cold, as in the World War - where the disease was called "Trench foot." When Buerger's disease shows up in a man, it may go ahead and cause serious trouble, or it can remain mild; certainly, the heavy smoker who does not want to lose a leg will do well to stop all smoking. It would help to keep in touch with an artery specialist such as can be found in a big medical center.

There is only one scientific way to reduce and Dr. Alvarez reveals it in his booklet, "Weight Control." To obtain it, send 25 cents and a 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.

**Former Resident Presented Award**

William M. McAllister, Salem, son of Oregon Supreme Court Chief Justice and Mrs. William M. McAllister, former Medford residents, has been awarded an American Jurisprudence award for the best paper on "Creditor's Rights" in his class at Willamette university College of law during the spring semester.

His prize, donated by the co-sponsors of the awards, the Bancroft-Whitney company, San Francisco, and the Lawyers Cooperative Publishing company, San Francisco, and the Lawyers Cooperative Publishing company in Rochester, N.Y., was specially bound titles from the "American Jurisprudence."

McAllister is a graduate of Medford High school. He studied at Harvard university, and received his doctor of jurisprudence degree from Willamette university in June.

While attending Willamette, he was a member of Phi Delta Phi legal fraternity, and was editor-in-chief of the Willamette Law Journal. He had an outstanding academic record, having made the Dean's list all six semesters of his college of law tenure. He received the Turner award and the Corpus Juris award as the highest ranking member of both his first and second year law class. He was the speaker earlier this year at the annual Medford Elks Student Government day banquet.

**PERCIVAL'S A WINNER**  
Terre Haute, Ind.-EPP-One of the winners of a movie ticket in a contest sponsored by a television station won't be using H. The contestant, Percival, is a cat, whose name was entered by his owner, Mrs. Fred Haughton.

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