

The Medical Roundup

by

Walter Alvarez

Emeritus Consultant in Medicine
Mayo Clinic
Emeritus Professor of Medicine
Mayo Clinic
(Register and Tribune Syndicate,
1962)

On the Need for Consultations

Hundreds of people write me to say that they have a rare disease — one so rare that their good kindly doctor says he has never seen a case of it, and hence is not sure just how it should be treated. Now, the patient wants to know if he can have a consultation with some doctor who perhaps knows the disease well from a huge personal experience. My correspondent says he hesitates to ask for a consultation because he fears to hurt his doctor's feelings. Perhaps he fears this because when he — the patient — asked for a consultation his doctor did not like the idea.

To all such people I say, "By all means, go ahead and get a consultation; you have every right to have one, and your physician, if he is a fine, dedicated man who has your best interests at heart, will gladly help you find an expert — if not in your city, then in some distant one."

As I write this I receive a telephone message from a woman in her 60s who, the other day, had a bad fall. She says two physicians think the x-ray films of her thigh bone show a recent crack while an older doctor says he thinks it is only an old scar. If she believes the two she will have a big operation, while if she believes the older man, she will soon be up and about. My answer was, "Ask your doctor to call in consultation Professor Alvarez, who is one of the country's experts on such bone injuries." Within a few hours the woman's physician telephoned to say, "I will be happy to have a consultation with Professor Alvarez if you can arrange it."

Tumor Removed
Also, as I wrote this, I had to stop for several long-distance conferences with able physicians 2,000 miles away. What happened was that a surgeon removed a small piece of a tumor which looked as if it might be cancerous. Several pathologists, after studying stained sections of the nodule, said it is so rare and puzzling a bit of tissue that they are not sure what should be done about it. If it is cancerous, the man will have to have a big deforming operation, but if it is not cancerous, he can get by with a small excision. Unfortunately, if a mistake is made and it is a cancer, and it is left in, he can lose his life.

Wisely, I think, this man's physicians and surgeons agreed that he should take the microscopic sections of his tumor to the head surgical pathologist at a large clinic. He, with his huge experience, would probably say, "Yes; we have often seen this type of tissue before, and hence we can tell you definitely how the man must be treated." Actually, this is what happened, and in a minute Dr. Dockerty, at the Mayo Clinic, knew all about the tumor because, as he told me, he has seen 169 like it.

As I have often said in this column, if I had to have my gallbladder or my appendix removed, I would let any able abdominal surgeon anywhere do the work, but if I had a disease so rare that none of the local diagnostic men and surgeons had ever seen anything quite like it, I would go to a great medical center where, several of the doctors would probably recognize it at a glance, like the face of an old friend.

With all this I have to keep advising many of my correspondents against making a long and expensive trip to a medical center. Why? Because they have some disease for which no physician anywhere has any good treatment. The doctors in a great medical center can do no more for such a disease than can the family doctor in a village. This is true of a person with one of those serious hereditary nervous diseases such as Huntington's chorea, or amyotrophic lateral sclerosis. Also, it usually is foolish to take to a great medical center an elderly man who still, a year after a bad stroke, cannot talk well, or cannot get much use out of his paralyzed arm or leg.

Drug That Helps in Chronic Myelocytic Leukemia
People have been writing me to ask what is the new drug being used for chronic myelocytic leukemia. It is called desacetyl-methylcochicine. Cochicine is an old drug which tends to stop the multiplication of cells. Drs. Ellen M. Lessmann and Joseph E. Sokal, of Buffalo, reported a while ago that if the right dose

can be found for a patient, this drug rapidly lowers the number of abnormal white cells in the blood. I doubt if the drug can yet be obtained in the average drug store. Only men working in big cancer centers are likely to have some.

If you suffer from a shortness of breath, you'll want to read Dr. Alvarez' booklet, "Pulmonary Emphysema." You may order it by sending 25 cents and a stamped, self-addressed envelope with your request for it to Dr. Walter C. Alvarez, Dept. MMT, The Register and Tribune Syndicate, Box 957, Des Moines 4, Iowa.

Ullman Defends Kennedy's Actions

Klamath Falls — Rep. Al Ullman (D-Ore.) Thursday defended the actions of President Kennedy in regard to Canadian lumber imports, and also said the U.S. itself had abrogated the Monroe doctrine.

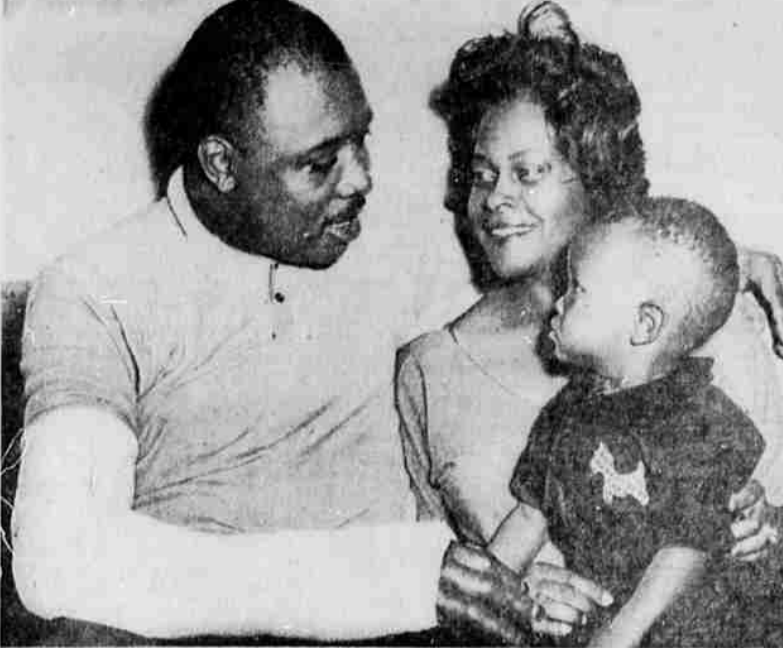
"The President has no authority to impose quotas on Canadian lumber imports. The governor recently ridiculed the President's action on this point," Ullman said.

He also indicated that a division of opinion among the various segments of the lumber industry has hampered efforts to aid the industry.

Asked whether he favored a quota limiting Canadian imports, Ullman replied, "the industry is divided on this point. I would probably favor some form of quota and-or tariff, but don't know yet what form it should take."

Ullman maintained that the United States had abrogated the Monroe Doctrine by establishing bases and armed forces around the world.

"As long as we are committed to a free world policy, the Monroe Doctrine is unrealistic," he said.



OPERATION SUCCESS — His injured arm severed hand back at the wrist after he lost it under a paper-cutting blade. Surgeons had to remove a finger which had failed to respond to the rejoining. (UPI)

Where Does It Go? Fast-Reading, Money-Saving Machine May Save Secretary Freeman's Job

By DICK WEST
Washington (UPI) — I have often heard it said that it doesn't pay to do things better than your boss.

If this old axiom is still valid then I give Agriculture Secretary Orville L. Freeman credit for being either very courageous or very foolish.

His department has just acquired a machine that can read 400 words a minute faster than President Kennedy.

The instrument, called the Farrington Page Reader, will be installed in the department's computer center in New Orleans where cotton loan records are maintained.

Officials said it will be able to read whole pages of records compiled under the price support program and store

the information for later use. Much has been written about President Kennedy's ability to read at the rate of 1,200 words a minute. Well, sir, this machine reads at the rate of 1,600 words a minute.

Freeman, whose own reading rate has never caused much comment one way or the other, took part in a demonstration of the machine the other day. If he had any qualms about electronically outdoing his leader, he didn't show it.

He indicated he was not so much impressed by the rate that the machine could read as by the rate that it could save money. He put the latter figure at \$2 million a year.

There is a funny thing about this. During my time in Washington I must have heard at least 50 similar statements as some new money-saving instrument or plan was adopted by a federal agency.

But during this same period I have never heard of a federal agency trimming its budget accordingly. It would be interesting to know what happens to all of the money that gets saved every year.

Perhaps the new machine

Correcting Speech Problems Early Important To Children

By DAVID MYDICK
UPI Education Specialist

Speech problems are one of the most common handicaps facing children.

Throughout life speech is the most valuable method of communication. In meeting people, one's speech creates a lasting impression.

How can parents help their children develop proper speech? The young child learns to talk by copying the voices of people around him. He learns by practice. He is motivated by encouragement

and success. Confidence leads the child to seek further success.

You can help your child speak correctly in several ways. Speak correctly to him. Do not use "baby talk". Your child will tend to copy you. Supply items which encourage talking such as a toy telephone. Guide him into developing friendships. Successful social activity is closely related to the growth of speech.

Should Seek Assistance
The normal growth of speech is sometimes limited by a variety of problems. In such cases, you should seek assistance. All of these problems do not cure themselves with growth.

Can defective speech be corrected? The answer generally is yes, but the correction involves a well planned program directed by a speech specialist.

A speech correction program has many aspects. The first step is the identification of a problem. A complete diagnosis is basic to good therapy. Obviously, it is necessary to know the causes of a problem in order to design a program of proper corrective measures.

Diagnoses Speech Difficulty
A speech therapist starts the ball rolling by diagnosing the speech difficulty. He then makes necessary referrals to find any physical or other problems which might be involved with the speech defect.

The cooperation of dental, medical, and psychological specialists is a main part of the program. All of these

areas may not be involved in each case, but remember that poor teeth formations, hearing, or emotional problems could be the basis of the speech handicap.

Once a program is made, it

is your responsibility to fulfill the recommendations. Any neglect in one area, of course, will interfere with the results of the total plan.

Speech disorders should be taken care of at as early an age as possible. Waiting increases the seriousness of many problems. This area often affects an individual's social and academic progress. Do not hesitate. Speech patterns are too important to neglect.

Mining Machinery Taken from Company

Some \$2,000 worth of mining machinery equipment was reported stolen Wednesday from the Golden Road Mining company of Rogue River at a mine on Squaw Creek rd. in the Applegate area.

Jackson county sheriff's deputies said the machinery is believed to have been taken during the past month. Articles included a drill, couplings, bits, and related equipment.

MJB COFFEE

1-lb. 59c
2 lbs. \$1.17

6-oz. Instant 79c
10-oz. Instant \$1.19

Little Butte Groc.

SATURDAY SPECIAL

HAMBURGER

With All of the Trimmings

19c

TORNADO BOWL

In the Oakdale Market



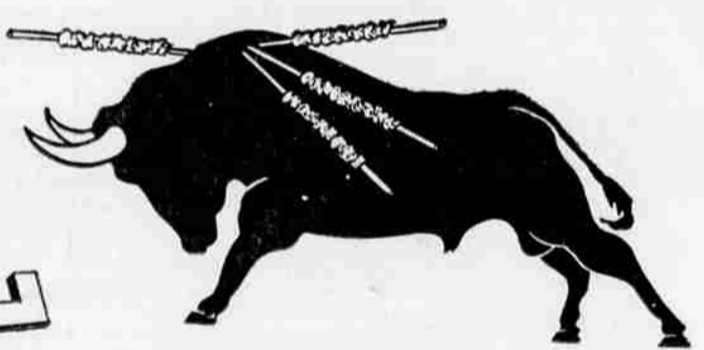
JOIN THE CROWDS AT THE MEDFORD ARMORY

WEEKEND SCHEDULE - 3 FINE PROGRAMS

- ★ Friday, Oct. 12:
 - 7:00 p.m.—Moody Institute Film: "JEWELS FROM THE SKY" (In full color)
 - 8:00 p.m.—Screen Lecture: EARTH — THE CAPITAL OF SPACE
 - ★ Saturday, Oct. 13:
 - 7:00 p.m.—Full Color Film: "ARCTIC WHITE WILDERNESS"
 - 8:00 p.m.—Screen Lecture: MYSTERIOUS SKY WONDERS
 - ★ Sunday, Oct. 14:
 - 7:00 p.m.—Full Color Film: "ARCTIC SURVIVAL"
 - 8:00 p.m.—Screen Lecture: COMMUNISM AND YOUR FUTURE
- NO ADMISSION FEE—An "It Is Written" Presentation — ALL WELCOME —

Grand Opening

Brave BULL RESTAURANT & LOUNGE



1206 North Riverside

Enjoy gracious dining in the all new "Matador" room
Dancing and entertainment in the festive "Bolero" room.

FRIDAY OCT. 12th • SATURDAY OCT. 13th • SUNDAY OCT. 14th
from 4 PM from 4 PM from 1 PM
(free corsages to the ladies)

The new management is proud to announce the opening of Medford's newest and finest restaurant. Chef George Slechta features a fine varied cuisine for gracious dining and specializes in banquets and parties. If you'll phone 773-5474 he will be happy to prepare special dinners for all occasions.

The "MATADOR" room decor and atmosphere reflect the quality of gracious dining.

Starting Monday Oct. 15, the "BRAVE BULL" will be open daily for luncheons at 11:30 AM in both the "MATADOR" room and the "BOLERO" room.

Luncheon banquets and parties may be easily arranged. There will be dancing and entertainment in the "BOLERO" room to the music of the "DOUGLAS TWO" every night till 2 AM except Mondays.

Your hosts
Jerry and Andy

BRAVE BULL HOURS

MONDAY thru SATURDAY 11:30 AM to 2:30 AM

SUNDAYS 1:00 PM to 2:30 AM