



**WATERMELON CHECK**—Mrs. Sharon Adams of Ontario, Calif., recently sued David P. Johnson of Upland, Calif., for payment of baby sitting services. She was awarded \$18 and Johnson retaliated by paying \$5 of the judgment with a check written on a watermelon. Mrs. Adams' husband is shown above with the check. The bank in Ontario honored the check, but said it would like to discourage such practices by other account holders. (UPI)

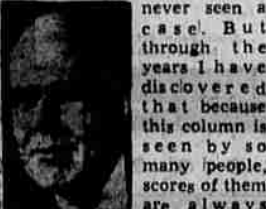
### The Medical Roundup

by *Walter Teague*

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

#### Hand-Schuller-Christian's Disease

Ordinarily, I am reluctant to describe in this column diseases so rare that I have never seen a case. But through the years I have discovered that because this column is seen by so many people, scores of them are always anxious to learn about some rare disease that they have, or perhaps a loved one has. Often when I describe a rare disease, many persons write to say that at long last they know what is wrong with them and they are comforted. They say: "What you describe is exactly what I have." Then they will want to know where to find a doctor who knows enough about the disease to cure it.



Obviously, no one can have an extensive experience with a very rare disease unless he works in some huge medical institution, like the great government research hospitals in Bethesda, Md., or the Memorial hospital for cancer research in New York City, a great university clinic, a clinic like Mayo's at Rochester, Minn., the Cleveland Clinic, the Lahey Clinic (in Boston), the Scott-White Clinic (at Temple, Texas), or many more which, if I had the space, I would gladly mention here.

I recently read an article by Drs. D. H. Paulson, D. S. Schuster, and E. M. Farber of Stanford University School of Medicine in California. They have combined the Hand-Schuller-Christian disease with the Letterer-Siwe disease and some others which seem to be related, and for this combination they use the new term, Histiocytosis X. The X means that no one knows what this puzzling and many-symptomed disease is due to. It can be acute and widely scattered over the body, or chronic, and slowly progressive, or it can be benign and localized, and more or less harmless.

**Not Hereditary**  
The disease appears not to be hereditary. It can appear in children. Often there is a large liver and large spleen with localized tumors in the bones. Also fever, anemia, a low white blood count, and a painless enlargement of the lymph nodes in the neck, the armpits, and the groins accompany this disease. Other complications include, the skin, bulging eyeballs, diabetes insipidus with a great thirst, the passage of enormous amounts of urine, bronze pigmentation of parts of the skin, blood clots under the skin, and yellow flecks on the skin.

Often in these puzzling cases the diagnosis can be made by performing what is called a biopsy on one of the nodules on the skin. A little piece of affected skin is snipped off, sectioned, stained, and examined under a microscope. The treatment includes exposure to x-rays, or to the electron beam from a linear accelerator, or the giving of a powerful drug called nitrogen mustard, or of antibiotics and the cortico-steroids, which are related to cortisone.

#### Turner Confers With Welcome Officials

Harold J. Turner, a representative of Gov. Mark O. Hatfield's Oregon Welcome committee, met with Medford officials yesterday to assist in developing a tourist welcome program for the local area, according to Bob Ross, Medford chairman.

Turner was appointed recently by Governor Hatfield to coordinate committee tourism promotion throughout the state.

#### At a meeting of the committee, Turner pointed out the importance of the tourist trade to Oregon and said that it is the third largest industry in the state. Turner later noted that visitors from out of state spent more than \$217,000,000 last year.

The Oregon Welcome committee was formed in 1962 at the suggestion of Governor Hatfield.

#### June Job Placement Up Over Last Year

Salem—June job placements topped 116,000, up more than nine per cent over the 106,700 placements for June last year, the State Employment Service said Wednesday.

#### STADIUM VOTE SEEN

Portland—A proposal for construction of a \$25 million stadium in the Delta Park area here may be placed on the ballot for the voters in the May primary election next year.

#### Gail To Get Tax Refund on Property

R. C. Gail, proprietor of Gail's Market, Gold Hill, was promised full tax refund of \$199 for a non-existent tax lot in property he had purchased about 1960.

County Judge Earl M. Miller said Gail had not received the partial refund earlier authorized by the county court because the court's order had been misdirected to the wrong department.

The previous owner of lot 27 had declared that tax lot 26 did exist, but Gail said he had proved through surveying that it did not.

About three billion tons of land material are dumped into the world's oceans every year by rivers, winds and other natural agencies.

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