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Report to the People from Santiam Memorial Hospital

By Gale Christensen

There are many misconceptions as to what an "Emergency" is. It stands to reason that when one is ill or injured he wants medical attention immediately. This is understood. But unless he is in "dire" condition, the patient will best be served by going to the doctor's office and asking for care there; or calling the doctor's office and being told whether or not to come to the hospital. His care in many cases can proceed much more quickly if he does this. The hospital emergency room is for the care of "emergencies" only. Fractures, uncontrolled bleeding, shock, severe head injuries, unconsciousness, respiratory distress and this sort.

If a patient ordinarily goes to a Salem doctor, then his best bet is to call that doctor. His family physician is best informed about his past history, and best able to tell him what is to be done. The Santiam Memorial Hospital doctors, of which there are six, operate on a 24-hour emergency call schedule, on a rotating basis (from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. They also rotate on call each weekend. This means that each must take call at least once each week and work his share of weekends as well. Each doctor is also treating his hospital patients, performing scheduled surgeries, and working long office hours. The doctor's time is pretty well filled and, like anyone else, when he can be free for a day or two from his cares, he will very likely take advantage of this and be out of town or spending some time with his family, leaving another doctor in charge of his patients.

The hospital will do its best to get help for anyone who comes through its doors. The hospital cannot, however, do the doctor's job. There must be a doctor in attendance on every patient. A doctor must give orders before any continuing care can be given to the patient. There is no one else who can do this.

When the hospital is called to send the ambulance, this is done immediately. The men who drive the ambulance all work at their personal jobs in the town but have made arrangements with their employers to be released for the volunteer ambulance duty at any hour of the day or night. The Santiam Memorial Hospital has a fine ambulance service and the ambulance men are well trained to handle the patient as comfortable and quickly as possible and perform certain emergency procedures until they turn the patient over to the hospital personnel. The hospital personnel is well trained to continue this emergency care until they can contact the doctor and receive his orders. They will observe the patient, noting color, respirations, pulse, blood pressure, any obvious injuries, degree of shock, and then report these observations to the doctor, who then takes over with orders on how and what to proceed.

Sick people must have doc-

tors. Unfortunately there are not enough doctors to go around. On moving into a new community, it is necessary for the potential patient to try to make some contact with a local doctor and establish some contact so that when illness arises the doctor can be contacted at least by telephone for medical advice. Do not wait until you have an emergency to find a family physician, contact the one of your choice now so you will have one when you need him.

DETROIT IDANHA

By Boots Champion
A-1/C Paul Michaelson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Earl Michaelson arrived home Tuesday of last week from Goose Bay, Labrador, Canada, air force

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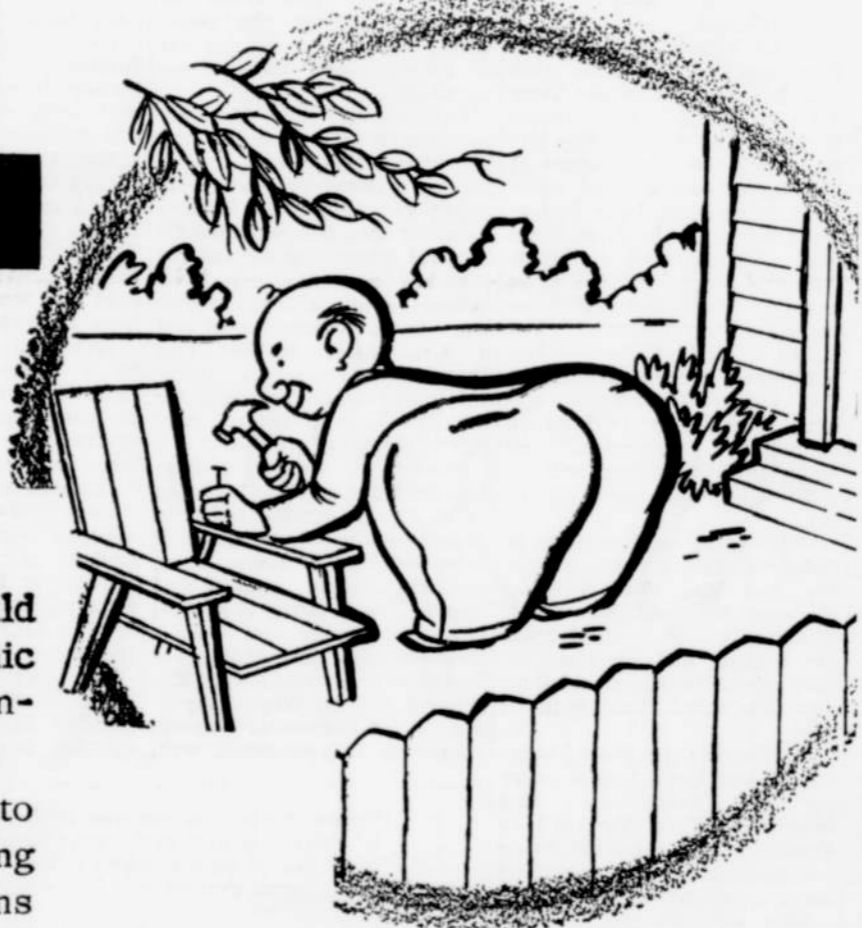
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base on a 30-day leave. Following his leave he will report to Andrews Air Force Base, Maryland, August 26. His mother said Monday, Paul is expecting a promotion when he returns to active duty.

Herman Robert Hanson of Salem was taken by Detroit Mobile First Air unit to Salem Memorial hospital about 4 p.m. Sunday. Hanson, who has a summer home here, collapsed at Detroit Patio. Ambulance attendants said he appeared to be suffering from heat prostration. The temperature here Sunday reached an all-time high of 96 degrees for the season.

Attending the Pentacle theatre in Salem Monday evening to view "Fiddler on the Roof", were Mrs. Earl Michaelson and Mrs. Arthur Whiteley. They were joined by a friend in Salem.

Mr. and Mrs. Harold Champion drove to St. Paul Saturday morning where they visited Mrs. Champion's brother-in-law and sister, the Roy Pulses. Mrs. Pulses, an employee at Textronix recently sustained a broken ankle in a freak accident when she and a fellow employee collided in a narrow hallway while at work at the plant.

Donald Day, 24, Mill City, sustained a broken leg in a logging accident about eight miles northeast (Breitenbush) of here Wednesday of last week. He was listed in good condition at Santiam Memorial hospital, Stayton, where he was taken by the Lyons ambulance. He is employed by P. & B. Logging Co., Lyons.

Sherry Williamson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lynn Williamson of Idanha was an overnight patient Sunday at Santiam Memorial hospital, Stayton, where she underwent minor surgery Monday morning.

Jimmy Hiebert was released from Salem Memorial hospital Monday and is now recuperating at home.

Mr. and Mrs. Larry (Darlene Mennis) Mann of Salem are receiving felicitations on the birth of a son born August 3 at a Salem hospital. Named Douglas Wendle he tipped the scales at seven pounds 10 ounces at birth. Paternal grandparents are the senior Manns of Salem and maternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Darr Mennis of Idanha.

Sunday visitors at the Detroit home of Mr. and Mrs. John Henzel was Mrs. Henzel's aunt and uncle, Mr. and Mrs. R. V. Jones of Richmond, Calif. Stricken with polio, Mrs. Jones has been confined to a wheel chair for the past 12 years. The Jones travel van is equipped with a portable lung unit which enables Mrs. Jones to get away at times from the confinement of her home. This is the first time Mrs. Henzel has seen her aunt in about six years and the visit was a complete surprise.

Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Davis of Idanha are also receiving felicitations on the birth of a son born Thursday, August 5 at a Salem hospital. Named Douglas Allan he weighed six pounds eight ounces at birth. Paternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Davis of Piggott, Ark.; and maternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Joe Wooldrige of Corning, Ark.

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