

Ingredients of AA Program Told At Regional Meeting

(Editor's Note: This is the thirteenth in a series of articles dealing with the disease of alcoholism and what Alcoholics Anonymous is doing to combat it.)

By LYLE DOWNING

Don of Grants Pass hit the nail on the head Saturday night when he gave his answer to the oft-asked question, "What is Alcoholics Anonymous?" at a regional AA meeting in Klamath Falls.

He said that there was nothing new about AA and that its in-

gredients were taken from religion, medicine and psychiatry. The way Don put it, persons suffering from the disease of alcoholism are victims of a combination of mental, moral and physical ailments.

"That's the reason," he added "the alcoholic seldom got needed help when he went singly to his physician, clergyman or psychiatrist. Each had something he needed but not one of them alone was able to give adequate help."

Again quoting Don: "The founders of AA took a little

from the clergyman, a little from the physician and a little from the psychiatrist and formulated the recovery program of Alcoholics Anonymous."

THREE-WAY AILMENT

The way Don of Grants Pass looks at it, the only thing new about AA was the discovery that alcoholics suffer a three-way ailment.

Two hundred recovered alcoholics and their wives and friends gathered in the City Library Building here for the regional meeting. A dozen men and women described their experiences in the Battle of John Barleycorn and enumerated their gains since they quit drinking. AA members were present

from Tulclake, Lakeview, Alturas, Grants Pass, Medford, Camp White and Roseburg.

Many of the speakers, now respected citizens of their communities, told of sordid years on Skid Row and in jails and institutions. They all make quick comebacks with the aid of AA.

Tom C. of Medford who will represent Oregon later this month

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at a national AA conference in New York, stressed the importance of perpetuating the Alcoholics Anonymous program.

MANY RECOVERED

"To date approximately 200,000 victims of the disease of alcoholism have recovered through the AA program," he said. "They owe it to future victims of the disease to keep AA functioning. If those before us hadn't kept AA going, many of us here tonight would

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probably be dead or in mental institutions."

Other speakers called attention to the fact the vast majority of AA members keep their sobriety only because they make every effort to help others. It is generally conceded that AA sobriety, to be kept, is something that must be passed on to others.

It is also true that any person

of high or low estate may become a victim of alcoholism. As one eminent authority on the disease says:

"Even a man with everything from the material standpoint, a man with tremendous pride and

the will power to function efficiently in all ordinary circumstances can become an alcoholic and find himself as hopeless and helpless as the man who has had a multitude of worries and troubles."

Refugee Scientist Given Honor For Heart Research

AP Science Reporter
CHICAGO (P)—A major American scientific honor has been awarded a scientist who fled here in 1947 from Hungary to do research that might be "no damn good at all."

He is Dr. Albert Szent-Gyorgyi, 60, who late yesterday was presented the Albert Lasker Award of the American Heart Assn.—including a \$1,000 prize—for "distinguished achievement" in the field of research concerned with heart and blood-vessel diseases.

Specifically, he was honored for pioneering studies leading to a better understanding of the action of muscles—a contribution which the AHA declared had provided new clues to the mechanism of heart failure and "removed . . . many barriers to the study of normal and diseased hearts."

The gentle, friendly, gray-haired researcher had won the Nobel Prize in medicine in 1937 for his isolation of vitamin C.

And he had won other honors for other achievements.

But, all that was behind him when he came to this country in 1947 from Hungary to continue work on muscle research that had been interrupted by World War II. "When settling in this country," he said in accepting the Lasker award, "I had the greatest difficulty in finding adequate financial support for my research, because wherever I asked for help I was asked for a project of what I was going to do."

"My answer had to be, 'I don't know, that's why it is research.' "And when I was asked what it (might be) good for—that is, the research I was doing—I had to answer:

"No damn good at all." "But he declared that eventually a Chicago meat packing and research firm, Armour & Co., proved to be "the only one who was willing to give me money and turn me loose."

And it was that firm's "far-sighted generosity that enabled me to do the work" that led to the heart association's award, he said.

The scientist, now director of the Institute for Muscle Research at Woods Hole, Mass., told reporters that studies under way by himself and his colleagues might eventually lead to an "approach" to a better understanding of such elusive ailments as muscular dystrophy.

Japan Appeal Made To United Nations

TOKYO (P)—Japan's upper house today unanimously passed a resolution appealing to the United Nations to establish "effective international control over atomic energy."

The lower house passed a similar resolution Thursday.

The upper house resolution also asked for "a ban on atomic weapons tests." Twenty-three Japanese fishermen were showered with radioactive ash in the U. S. hydrogen test blast March 1 in the Pacific.

SPORTSMEN

STILLWATER, Okla. (P)—Sportsmen from Kansas and Oklahoma, whose big claim to fame is their ability to imitate the bark of a coyote, will meet in an interstate barking contest at Lake Carl Blackwell Oct. 4-6.

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Vet's Mailbag

Eleven years ago the Congress enacted into law a measure calling for the rehabilitation of disabled members of the armed services. Known as Public Law 16, in the 11 years since its approval, the law has provided for the rehabilitation of World War II and for Korean war veterans in ever increasing numbers.

Veterans Administration records reveal that veterans with just about every kind of disability can be successfully rehabilitated. VA records show that more than 600 thousand World War II disabled veterans were trained or are in training under the law. Three years ago the law was amended to provide for the Korean veteran. Already some 13 thousand have taken vocational training.

The types of training run through just about every list of activity in the book—the veterans seeking training in practically everything from atomic physics and automobile mechanics to zoology. The study disclosed that a little better than one of every three of these disabled veterans trained for the professions and top-level managerial jobs. Another third enrolled in trades and industrial courses, preparing themselves for jobs such as machinists, mechanics, electronics specialists and similar activities.

The balance went in for careers such as farming, sales jobs, clerical or office activities and for service occupations. One of the most unusual training activities is that of a blinded New York veteran who is successfully pursuing a career as an operatic singer.

The training program for World War II disabled veterans under Public Law 16 ends on July 25, 1956. For the Korean veterans it will end nine years after the end of the present emergency, a date not yet declared.

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

Q. I notice that you keep advising veterans to check all contracts before purchasing a home under the GI loan program. Does that include a deposit agreement, too, or do you mean just the GI loan contract itself?

A. That means every contract or agreement you are requested to sign as a part of the deal. If you are in doubt about any agreement or contract, see your lawyer first before you sign.

US Civil Defense Said Inadequate

SAN FRANCISCO (P)—Val Peterson, federal civil defense administrator, says despite much progress, "there is no civil defense organization in America equal to the problem we face."

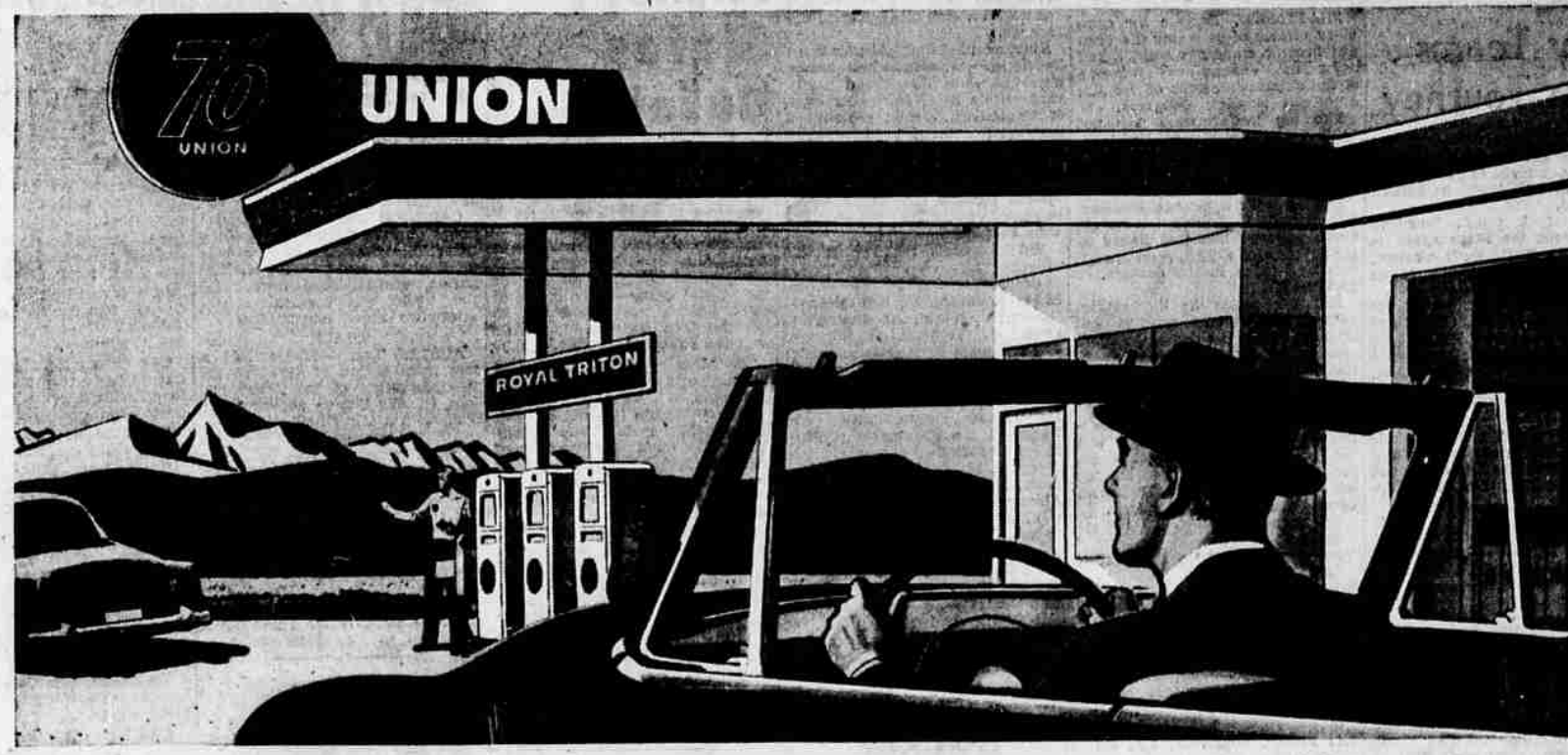
He said it is the job of local civil defense authorities to face that problem and make ready for it.

MARRIAGE

BOSTON (P)—Miss Patricia Kennedy, 28, daughter of former Ambassador and Mrs. Joseph P. Kennedy, will be married to movie actor Peter Lawford, 31, on April 24 in New York City.



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