

Democrat Watchman

Bellefonte, Pa., July 11, 1930.

Your Health

THE FIRST CONCERN.



Speaking as a layman, Dr. Glenn Frank, president of the University of Wisconsin, warned 3,000 members of the American College of Surgeons that the medicine and surgery of the nation will pass to the control of the government or of vast insurance companies and industries unless medical men forestall the tendency.

Dr. Frank said he believes government control of the medical profession should be resorted to only if control within the profession breaks down.

The university president pointed out that "economic loss from preventable disease and postoperative death reached a total of \$1,800,000, borne annually by those gainfully employed in the United States," and said in the reduction of that economic waste lay the salvation of the medical profession.

"Our hope of a healthier nation," he said, "unless we go bag and baggage to state medicine, lies with the unselfish doctor who will consciously reduce his income by giving sick patients health advice that may keep them from falling sick again."

A hospital solely to take care of persons injured in accidents will be constructed in each of the larger cities of the United States, it was decided after a conference between physicians and agents of the great industries and indemnity and insurance companies at the session.

Medical expenses rest heaviest on the middle-class patients, it was agreed by the Committee on the Cost of Medical Care. Harry H. Moore stated that the poorer classes obtain reasonable rates from clinics. The rich, he said, could take care of themselves. But he concluded the cost to the man of middle means has increased steadily for twenty years.

The hustling, bustling American pays with years of his life for his prosperity, built upon stupendous industrial expansion and development. His civilized brethren of the world may have less money, but they live longer.

These things were suggested by Dr. Eugene Fisk, medical director of the Life Extension Institute, at a meeting of the Office Executive Club. He revealed that "silent" sickness, diseases attacking the heart blood vessels and kidneys, but not appearing in terms of disability, are increasing the death rate, beyond the age of forty, and even after thirty-seven, in the United States. At the same time the death rate decreases at every age period in other civilized countries.

Recovery of greater numbers of child victims of burns may result from wider application of a new method of treatment, making use of tannic acid, it appears from recently reported experiments. The method was devised by Dr. Edward C. Davidson, of Detroit.

Recent successful results with it have been reported by Dr. W. C. Wilson, who used it at the Edinburgh hospital for sick children and the Royal Infirmary at Edinburgh. Dr. Wilson found that the tannic acid treatment reduced the mortality from burns to about one-quarter of that observed in another comparable series of cases. As burns in children are especially apt to be fatal, these figures are particularly gratifying.

The tannic acid solution is sprayed on the burned areas, which have first been thoroughly cleaned. No dressings are used and the burned area is dried after the spraying, in hot air under a bed-cage. The spraying is repeated hourly as long as necessary.

The method controls the acute toxemia which sets in during the second stage of a burn. In the first stage there is slight shock. The second stage is characterized by a secondary shock and toxemia. This condition is due to the absorption into the blood stream of poisons set free in the severely damaged tissues.

Besides reducing the mortality, the tannic acid treatment reduces the severity of the symptoms at all stages and promotes rapid healing. It is also of especial value when considerable areas have been burned. Previously it was held burns of 30 per cent of the body surface in adults and 11 or 12 per cent in children were almost sure to prove fatal.

Results obtained in Dr. Wilson's series of cases led to the conclusion that burns of more than 60 per cent of the surface in children will cause death from shock in a few hours; that when between 35 and 60 per cent of the surface is affected the outcome depends on the degree of poisoning which has developed, but that when less than 35 per cent of the surface is burned the chances for recovery are good, provided treatment is begun within a few hours of the injury.

Visitors were present. "Daddy, may I have a dime?" asked little George. "Dad obliged with a smile. 'This time you won't make me give it back after the company's gone, will you, Daddy?' was little George's loud remark."

RICE AT WEDDINGS.

As everybody knows, a wedding in order to be a success, must be supplemented by the throwing of rice over the bride and the groom as they go away; and few are the weddings at which this ceremony is omitted. It is as important as the throwing of the old shoe. The throwing of rice—or of some other grain—is a custom dating back into the morning of time and is found in many widely severed parts of the world. It is thrown to insure a fruitful marriage for it is the symbol of fertility. In it resides the spirit of the grain god and, as it showers over the newly wedded pair, it works by sympathetic magic.

In China, in India and in the islands of the Pacific there is the same throwing of rice at a wedding as in New York. But the throwing of rice at weddings among Europeans and Americans is a comparatively modern innovation, nevertheless. Our ancestors of the northern races knew not rice; they used grain for the bridal shower. But when the use of rice became world-wide it was substituted for grain, a shower of rice being less "messy" than a shower of oats or wheat and its white kernels making a much better appearance.

With the Orientals, of course, it was always rice that was thrown for rice was their principal grain. And rice or wheat, it is the same thing; the spirit of the grain god is there, which insures fertility. Many ancient marriage customs still exist in England which bring in the grain god at weddings in different ways but all have the same significance as the more common throwing of rice.

Before sour milk is used for cooking, beat with a rotary egg beater to break the curd.

ISSUE LICENSES

TO 38 HOSPITALS.

Maternity hospitals throughout the State are rapidly being licensed by the state department of welfare under the provision of an act of the last legislature for a fee of ten dollars according to a report made public by Mrs. E. S. H. McCauley, state secretary of welfare.

There has been thirty-eight licenses issued to date during the last two months when the licensing and inspection requirements went into practice. It is estimated by department officials that there are about 55 maternity hospitals in the State now known although many more probably will be revealed by the inspections. Hospitals of first and second class cities and state owned and state aided hospitals are not required to hold maternity licenses.

YOUNG PHEASANTS

FACE MANY HAZARDS.

Formerly unsuspected enemies in the propagation of ring-necked pheasants are being discovered, according to report from the refuge keepers forwarded to headquarters here.

Elmer L. Pilling, keeper of the refuge near Phillipsburg, lost a number of eggs while they were being hatched because an unknown "something" drilled small holes in them and ate the contents. It was several days before Pilling discovered that mice were responsible.

That purple grackles, better known as blackbirds, are enemies of the young pheasants has been reported by Hugh Baker, keeper of refuge No. 16. According to Baker's reports the grackles seize the young pheasants and kill them.

LINDBERGH PLANS ROUND TRIP ATLANTIC HOP.

The "Daily News" of New York, says Colonel Charles A. Lindbergh is conducting a series of experiments at Ambassador Dwight W. Morrow's estate at Englewood, N. J., which suggests the probability of another trans-oceanic flight while his wife, the former Anne Morrow and other members of the family look on. The paper says Colonel Lindbergh, attired in a bathing suit paddles an inflated rubber boat about the big swimming pool behind the Morrow home.

Attached to the craft is a small sail. The boat is of a type that may be deflated and stowed away in the cockpit of an airplane. It would keep one person afloat on rough water for hours. During the past six weeks Colonel Lindbergh has made several changes in the craft's design.

AIRPLANES WIN IN RACES WITH BIRDS.

Airplanes can beat birds of all kinds of speed. Several government aviators arriving at the Fort Levee airfield report races with migratory species of birds, with wild ducks keeping up the highest velocity, flying an average of 50 miles per hour.

Heron and ravens overtaken by the army planes were traveling less than 30 miles per hour. A flock of crows with the higher altitude aid were making 40 miles. A number of unidentified birds in northern California, were flying thousands of feet above the planes.

Birds in trees upon hearing the approach of airplanes generally take flight in the same direction and are easily overtaken by the aviators.

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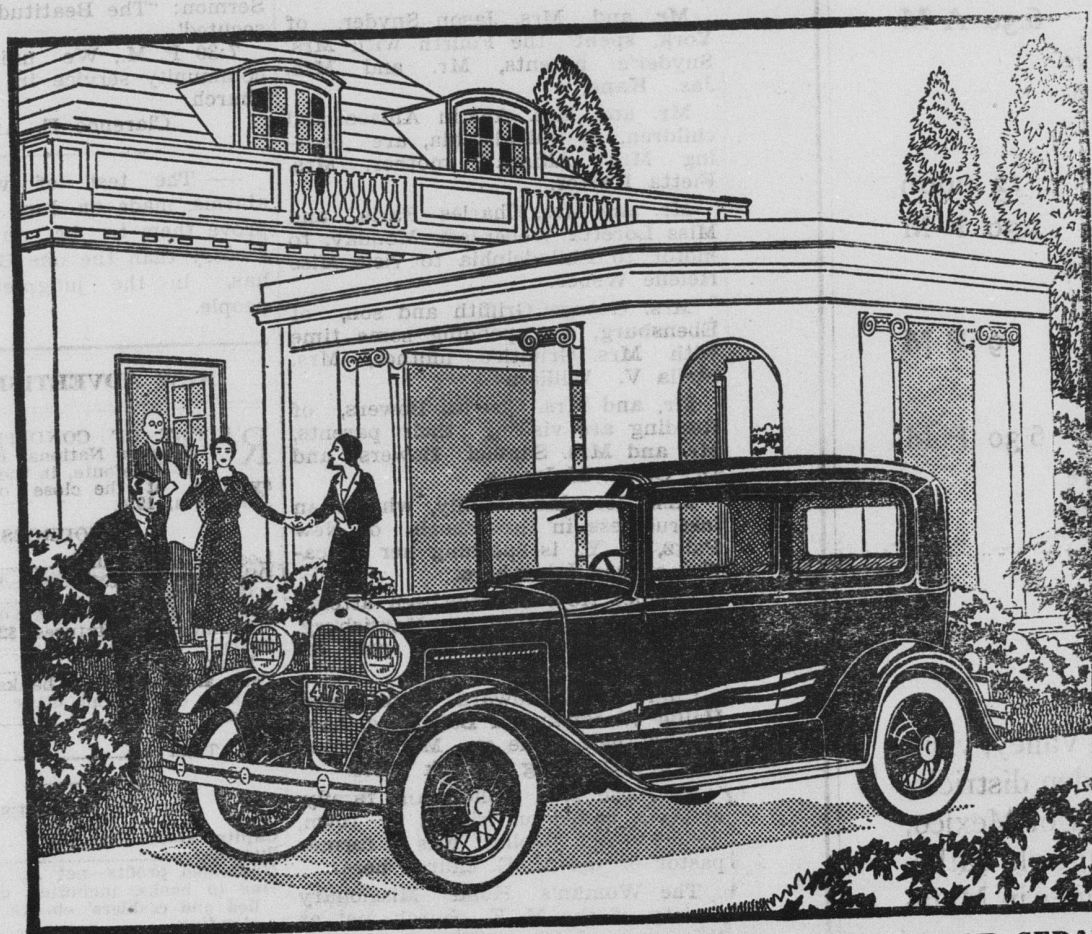
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