

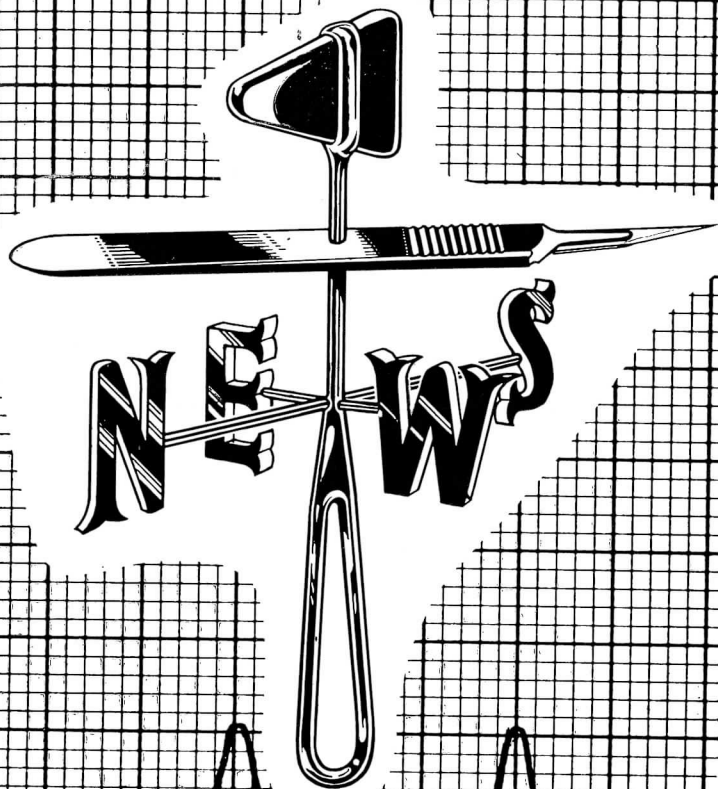
# BULLETIN

*of the*  
**MAHONING COUNTY  
MEDICAL SOCIETY**

*Volume XL*

*Number 9*

SEPTEMBER, 1970



# *Little Forest Medical Center*

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# SEPTEMBER



## THIRD ANNUAL FALL OUTING

*of the*

MAHONING COUNTY MEDICAL SOCIETY

*and the*

CORYDON PALMER DENTAL SOCIETY

**THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 1970**

**Coalburg Lake**

### **CHALLENGE SOFTBALL GAME!** **Medical Society vs. Dental Society**

1:30 p.m. Everybody welcome!

3:00 p.m. Softball game

6:30 p.m. Dinner

**Snacks and drinks all afternoon!**

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**The Dental Society is host this year.**

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---

# OCTOBER

**combined meeting**

**Eastern Ohio Pharmaceutical Association**

**and**

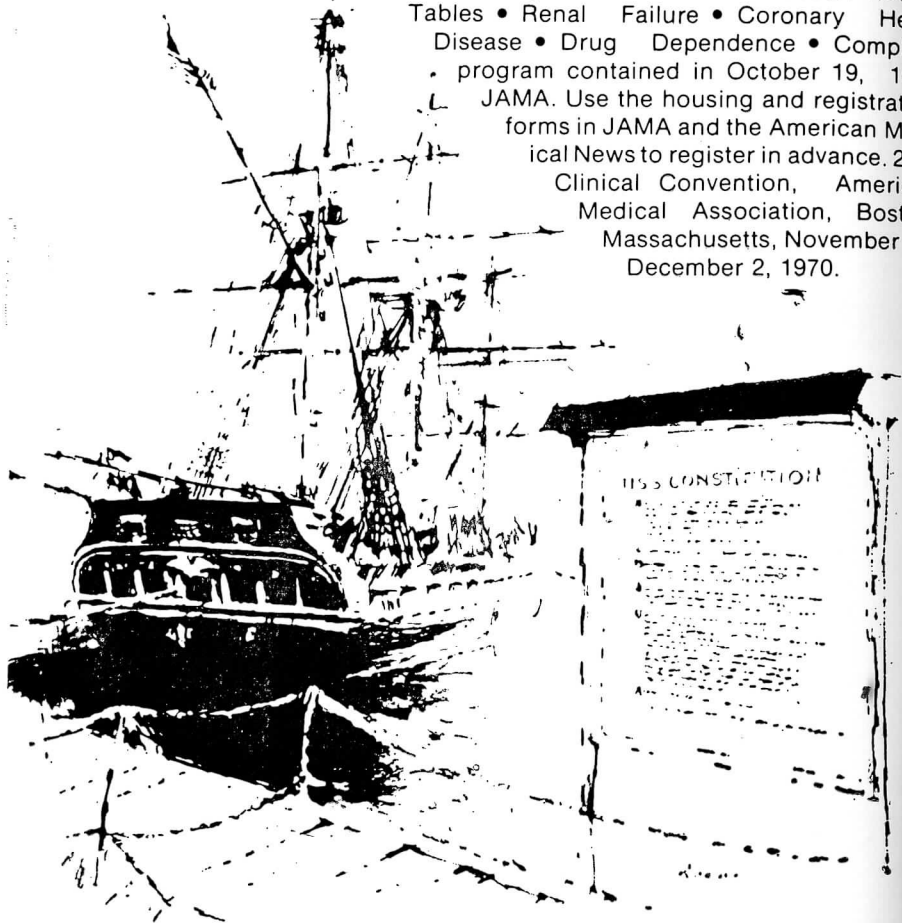
**Mahoning County Medical Society**

**Tuesday, October 20, 1970**

**Hotel Ohio**

# 24th AMA Clinical Convention in Boston, Massachusetts November 29-December 2, 1970

**WHAT'S NEW IN MEDICINE?** Numerous scientific sessions at the AMA 24th Clinical Convention will provide the answers • Clinical Immunology • Clinical Gynecology • Pollution and the Physician • 3 Postgraduate Courses in Anesthesia, Burns, and Fluid and Electrolyte Balance • 9 Luncheon Round Tables • Renal Failure • Coronary Heart Disease • Drug Dependence • Complete program contained in October 19, 1970 JAMA. Use the housing and registration forms in JAMA and the American Medical News to register in advance. 24th Clinical Convention, American Medical Association, Boston, Massachusetts, November 29-December 2, 1970.



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Executive Secretary: H. C. REMPEL, JR.

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## *From the Desk of the President*

### GROUP PRACTICE

I've spent a great deal of the summer reading about the glories of group practice. There is indeed a tremendous campaign on to sell this type of practice at the present time, both from those organizations which are actively involved in group practice, and from the Federal Government in the form of new legislation which would encourage group practice to the exclusion of practically every other type. Before everybody gets sold on this, though, I think that we should perhaps point out some of the values of physicians who do not practice in groups but yet manage to see a great number of patients.

While the ultimate in quality care and physician efficiency cannot be determined by a particular unit of the number of patients seen in a given period of time, this is a measure of what a physician can do. The statistics show that in group practice the physician very often sees less patients per unit of time than the doctor in a solo or limited partnership sees. The major criticism of the group practice has been that they've been somewhat selective in picking out young people with relatively good past histories and this is because those who are employing the group physicians are large industries which only hire the able. Secondly, there are very few older people in the group practice because they were not able to qualify at the time when they were working and now have been excluded because they're retired. The substitution of machine or instrument screening for physician time is also one of the ways that group practice manages to handle a larger volume of patients, but this is not related to physician time. This is related to technician time.

The savings in group practice should be tremendous if indeed labor and material could be pooled and hired at the lowest possible rate and used in the most efficient manner. In talking with some of the physicians who have large staffs, however, I find out that once a business manager has to be employed to supervise the paramedical help, the problems of absenteeism, slow communication between physician and paramedical personnel are exaggerated, and there is a waiting time which cannot be eliminated just because of the fact that the practice is spread out over a bigger space and there are more people to get in the way. I've personally found that personnel who are congenial and working directly under my supervision day in and day out with no middle man to go through seem to give me the most efficient use of time and material. I'm convinced that the material costs are the least of overhead and if we can make the labor cost efficient we almost don't have to worry about the material costs.

The more intermediaries between the patient and the physician also seems to have an effect on the relationship with the patient and physician because the patient feels that records are seen by too many people. They sometimes feel that there is a barrier between them and the physician and they can't reach him as well and as quickly as they would like. The more people who have to handle odds and ends, the more things that seem to be put off and not done at all. From what I've read, I believe that group practice is a coming thing, but I don't believe that it's going to be in the large groups as visualized by the people who are doing the writing these days. I think the most efficient groups will be small, compact maybe unispecialty groups. I believe their efficiency will be the greatest when the number of paramedical personnel is kept small and I believe the patients will be happier when the number of people between the doctor and the patient are kept to a minimum.

—Robert L. Jenkins, Jr., M.D.  
President

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The opinions and conclusions expressed herein do not necessarily represent the views of the Editorial staff or the official views of the Mahoning County Medical Society.

Volume XL

September, 1970

Number 9

Published for and by the Members of the Mahoning County Medical Society

**EDITOR**

JOHN C. MELNICK, M.D.

**Associate Editors**

J. J. Anderson, M.D.

James L. Fisher, M.D.

J. N. Gordon, M.D.

D. J. Dallis, M.D.

Elias Saadi, M.D.

**Editorial****REGIMENTATION**

On March 22, 1970, U. S. Senator William B. Saxbe, R-O., addressed the Ohio State Medical Association. He made several uncomplimentary statements about the medical profession, as quoted in the Cleveland Plain Dealer on March 23, 1970. He told physicians that "too often their interests are inward, leading to a reactionary attitude in many cases." He stated that pouring more federal dollars into Health Care Programs is not the secret to better health, since it would make physicians richer. He then offered a three point program: 1. General Clinics. 2. Clinical outpost. 3. Television clinics—all primarily manned by para-medical personnel. He didn't state who would pay for the training of such personnel nor how the "clinic" and "outpost" would be financed. He said "we've got to expect doctors to submit to certain amounts of regimentation and work for the public good!"

The word "regimentation" sounds too dictatorial, military and undemocratic to me in a democratic society. Many people feel that doctors are getting rich on medicare—yet who took care of patients before medicare at little or no cost? Now that some of the fees are being paid by medicare, should not the doctors receive these fees? Are they not entitled to these fees? It is doubtful whether many doctors are getting "rich" on medicare patients, but rather being reimbursed a customary and usual fee. If regimentation would solve the medical needs, then we should regiment bus and railroad transportation workers, we should regiment carpenters, painters, interior decorators, utility employees and even grocery stores to provide "adequate" and "proper" basic needs of the people of this country. Teachers should be "regimented" to provide proper education and opportunity to all students. This could go on indefinitely.

Who will lead these various areas of regimentation? Politicians feel that they know best for the doctors and medical needs of our patients.

If this were true, and I don't believe it is, then we can put a painter in charge of education, grocery man in charge of utilities and a telephone man in charge of masonry. The idea of putting people in charge of an area about which they know little or nothing can only bring chaos.

Once again, apparently, the politician is attempting to get into the driver's seat and lead the medical profession. We have done quite well, without politician laymen directing the medical efforts, for many, many years, and this is the way it should continue to be.

## OSTEOPATHIC PHYSICIANS ON HOSPITAL STAFFS

The interns at St. Elizabeth Hospital and Youngstown Hospital Association, for the first time, include osteopathic physicians. There are three at St. Elizabeth, and two at Youngstown. All five are natives to this area.

At St. Elizabeth Hospital are Dr. David J. Dortin, Jr., and Dr. Ronald Aiello, both graduates of the Kansas City College of Osteopathy, and Dr. Robert Bakondy, graduate of the Philadelphia College of Osteopathy.

At Youngstown Hospital Association are Dr. Richard D. Arnott and Dr. James D. Thullen, both graduates of the College of Osteopathic Medicine and Surgery in Des Moines, Iowa.

### September 16

P. H. Fuscoe  
R. G. Mossman  
N. J. Garritano

### September 17

J. Dentschiff

### September 18

J. A. Renner  
E. R. Thomas  
M. C. Galose

### September 19

D. Malta

### September 20

W. Moskalik  
E. Perry

### September 21

R. G. Warnock  
R. P. Meader

### September 23

W. J. Flynn  
M. Halmos

### September 26

E. A. Massullo

### September 27

R. J. Scheetz  
G. J. Baumblatt



Get Your Annual Check-up

### September 28

J. Nemeth

### September 29

D. H. Levy

### September 30

D. Stillson

### October 3

G. M. McKelvey

### October 4

G. Delfs

### October 5

B. Katz

J. S. Cho

### October 6

J. L. Calvin

### October 8

J. N. McCann

### October 9

J. F. Stotler  
W. B. Whittaker

### October 11

H. S. Ellison  
E. Hecker

### October 12

B. I. Firestone  
J. R. Gillis  
A. Garcia

### October 13

A. Goudsmit

### October 14

E. T. McCune  
J. H. Smith

## MEDICAL ASSISTANTS SOCIETY

The Medical Assistants Society held their annual picnic, July 9, 1970 at the home of the newly elected president, Joan Dutko. The Executive board were the hostesses. After a sumptuous covered-dish dinner, games were played and prizes were awarded.

Much enthusiasm was shown for the coming year from the various committee chairmen and new officers. The program committee is hard at work preparing an educational program for the year. Several new members have been added to the roster and we urge the doctors to have their assistants join this fine organization.

We are all looking forward to our September meeting, to be held at Berndt's Restaurant, when Dr. William Loeser will be our guest speaker.

Members, how about making this a banner year and resolve to attend every meeting! We have fine new officers, but there is a limitation as to what they can accomplish without the help of each one of you.

—Candy Shufflebarger  
Bulletin Reporter



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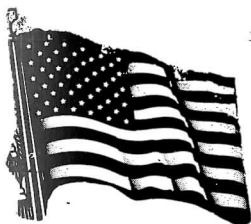


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## MVHPA NAMES 1970-71 BOARD

In it's quarterly progress report, Summer 1970, the Mahoning Valley Health Planning Association lists it's new 60-man Board of Trustees. The MVHPA consists of three counties: Mahoning, Trumbull and Columbiana.

### Board of Trustees

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| Copperman, Samuel H.             | City of Youngstown                   |
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| Dept. of Health—City of          | Kincaid, William E.                  |
| Youngstown                       | Vice President & Secy.               |
| Dane, Robert, M.D.               | The William B. Pollock Co.           |
| Director                         |                                      |
| Trumbull County Guidance Center  |                                      |

- |   |  |
|---|--|
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| Lange, Miss Kay, R.N.<br>Nursing Superintendent<br>St. Elizabeth Hospital       | Rice, Robert F.<br>Administrator<br>Northern Columbiana County<br>Community Hospital           |
| Latcham, John F.<br>Administrator<br>Trumbull Memorial Hospital                 | Richardson, Rev. William K.<br>Friendship Baptist Church                                       |
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| Miller, Donald A., M.D.   | Sells, Clydus F.<br>Vice President<br>Trumbull County Community<br>Chest                       |
| Morgan, John B.<br>Executive Vice President<br>The Associated Hosp. Serv., Inc. | Snowden, Donald<br>Southside Total Action Center   |
| Newman, Craig<br>Director<br>Child Welfare Board                                | Soller, Fred E. D.D.S.   |
| Newman, John M.<br>Attorney   | Spencer, William L., CLU.<br>Equitable Life Assurance Society<br>of the United States          |
| Ondash, Stephen W, M.D.   | Steele, Donald<br>Brian & Steele Insurance   |
| Penn, William<br>Director<br>Soil Conservation Service                          | Tod, Fred, Jr.<br>Vice President<br>Bruce & Company  |
| Perrin, Ronn B.<br>Director<br>Bureau of Vocational<br>Rehabilitation           | Warnock, Robert G., M.D.   |
| Pilasky, R. D.<br>Administrator<br>Warren General Hospital                      | Wiland, Charles B., Ph.D.<br>Director<br>Kent State University<br>Warren Academic Center       |

Officers of the Mahoning Valley Health Planning Association are: Robert J. Catlin, president; John B. Morgan, vice president; Dr. Wade A. Bacon, Secretary; and Robert J. Boyd, treasurer.

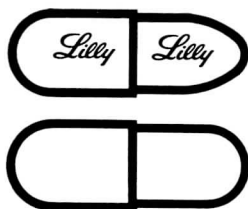
## OHIO ACADEMY HONORS FIVE

Five members of the Mahoning County Medical Society, including two past-presidents, were honored at the Annual Scientific Assembly of the Ohio Academy of General Practice, held in Columbus.

Receiving awards for 50 years or more in medicine and service to humanity were the Society's past-presidents, Dr. R.W. Fenton and Dr. J. L. Fisher, and Dr. B. J. Dreiling, Dr. H. M. Speck and Dr. Clarence Stefanski.

Dr. Dreiling is retired. Dr. Fenton is Mahoning County Health Commissioner. The others are in active practice.

The Mahoning County Medical Society reminds all members to extend congratulations to these physicians.



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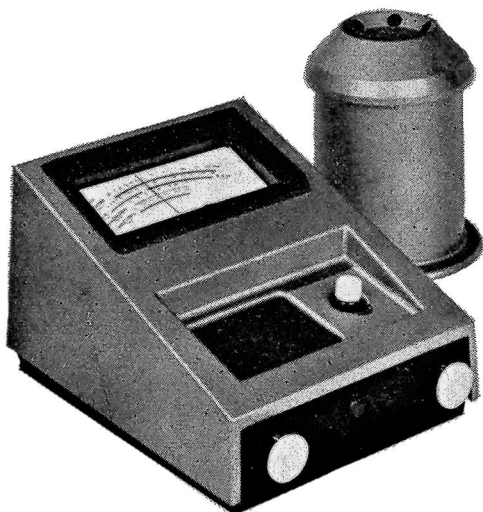
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## BULLETIN CALENDAR

September 10 through October 15, 1970

- Sept. 10 8:00 a.m. Tumor Conf., St. E.  
8:00 a.m. Guest Prof., Marshall Klaus, M.D., Babies & Children's Hospital, Cleveland, "Intensive Care," Aud. YHA-SU  
1:00 p.m. V.P., Med., Bertram Fleshler, M.D., St. E.
- Sept. 12 8:00 a.m. Executive Ccmmittee, St. E.  
8:00 a.m. Tumor Conf., YHA  
9:00 a.m. Surgical Div., YHA  
10:00 a.m. Film, "Anatomy & Technique of Elective Trachectomy," and "Mediastinoscopy," Aud., YHA-SU
- Sept. 14 4:00 p.m. Medical Seminnar, Aud., YHA-SU
- Sept. 17 8:00 a.m. CPC, St. E.  
8:00 a.m. Med. Div., Guest Prof., Bertram Fleshler, M.D., C.W.R.U., "Esophageal Motility," Aud., YHA-SU  
8:00 a.m. Peds., OB, YHA  
8:00 a.m. Opth. Serv. Mtg., Med. Dir. Conf. Rm., YHA-SU  
9:00 a.m. Tumor Conf., St. E.  
1:00 p.m. V.P., Med., Alvin Shapiro, M.D., St. E.
- Sept. 19 8:00 a.m. Tumor Conf., YHA  
9:00 a.m. Surgical Div., YHA  
10:00 a.m. Film, "Resection of the Rectum," and "Amputative and Anoplastic Hemorrhoidectomy," Aud., YHA-SU
- Sept. 22 7:30 p.m. Quarterly Clinical Staff Mtg., Aud., YHA-SU
- Sept. 24 8:00 a.m. Tumor Conf., Aud., St. E.  
8:00 a.m. Ped., OB, Med., Family Practice, YHA  
1:00 p.m. V.P., Surgery, Dr. Miglets, St. E.  
1:00 p.m. Picnic, Medical & Dental Societies, Coalburg Lake
- Sept. 26 8:00 a.m. Tumor Conf., Aud., YHA-SU  
9:00 a.m. Surgical Div., Aud., YHA-SU  
10:00 a.m. Film, "Cardiac Valve Replacement Using an Improved Prosthesis," Aud., YHA-SU
- Sept. 28 6:00 p.m. Medical Seminar: "Diagnostic Techniques in Coronary Artery Disease," Drs. A. Whittaker & Bhatti, Aud., YHA-SU
- Sept. 29 6:00 p.m. Medical Executive Comm., Coffee Shop, YHA-NU
- Oct. 1 8:00 a.m. CPC, St. E.  
8:00 a.m. Guest Prof., Surg., George Crile, Jr., M.D., Aud., YHA-SU  
8:30 a.m. Peds., 6W Conf. Rm., St. E.  
9:00 a.m. Tumor Conf., Aud., St. E.
- Oct. 3 8:00 a.m. Tumor Conf., Aud., YHA-SU  
8:00 a.m. Surgery Sect., Aud., St. E.  
9:00 a.m. Surgical Div., Aud., YHA-SU  
10:00 a.m. Film, "Coronary Artery Disease," "Myocardial Revascularization", "Saphenous Vein Autograft in Treatment of Segmental Coronary Artery Obstruction," Aud., YHA-SU
- Oct. 6 8:30 a.m. Med. and GP Sect., Aud., St. E.  
7:30 p.m. OB-GYN, EENT, Sect., Aud., St. E.
- Oct. 8 8:00 a.m. Med., Peds., OB, YHA  
8:00 a.m. Tumor Conf., Aud., St. E.  
1:00 p.m. Med., V.P., Dr. James Leonard, St. E.
- Oct. 10 8:00 a.m. Tumor Conf., Aud., YHA-SU  
8:00 a.m. Executive Comm., St. E.  
9:00 a.m. Surgical Div., Aud., YHA-SU  
10:00 a.m. Film, "Homotransplantation," and "Transplantation of the Heart," Aud., YHA-SU

- Oct. 12 4:00 p.m. Medical Seminar: "Survey of Surgically Remediable Cardiac Lesions", Drs. J. Turner & Guleria, Aud., YHA-SU
- Oct. 13 6:30 p.m. Council, Mahoning County Medical Society, Hotel Ohio  
7:30 p.m. Dental Section, Aud., St. E.
- Oct. 15 8:00 a.m. CPC, St. E.  
8:00 a.m. Med., Guest Prof., C.W.R.U., Aud., YHA-SU  
8:00 a.m. Peds., OB, YHA

---

## BULLETIN BOARD

Dr. Robert Hritzko had a full summer as president of the Mahoning-Shenango Kennel Club. Big event was the annual dog show, August 2nd, which went off in fine style, as usual.

Dr. Hubert S. Banninga received two honors from the Youngstown Optimist Club. One was for recruiting 25 new members, and the second was for 21 years of perfect attendance.

Dr. Richard D. Murray, past president of the Youngstown Symphony Ballet Guild, was honored by a special resolution of that organization citing him for his leading role in the guild's sponsorship of ballet performances and the dance school which met with "unprecedented community acceptance." At the same meeting, Mrs. Michael Szauter was named public relations chairman, and Mrs. E. M. Thomas, ticket sales chairman.

Dr. Kenneth Lloyd has been named Assistant Clinical Professor of Dermatology at Case Western Reserve University and Assistant Dermatologist at University Hospital.

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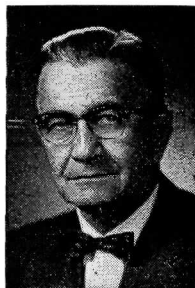
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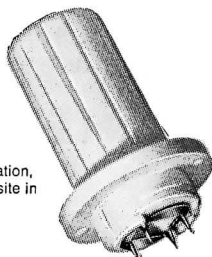
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# From the Bulletin



## THIRTY YEARS AGO — SEPTEMBER 1940

There was an old fashioned picnic and clambake at Bert Milliken's Farm situated vaguely somewhere south of Poland. Without the signs posted for the occasion you would never find it. The natives were no help. They never heard of Milliken's Farm because it was not actually a farm but a big pasture field and grove of trees with two pavilions and out-houses, which Bert maintained for the pleasure of his many friends. He was head of the Youngstown Sanitary Milk Company, a leading purveyor of dairy products. Bert is gone now and the company is known as Sealtest, a subsidiary of Kraft Foods.

In the pasture field was a sort of ball-diamond where the rough surface made grounders take surprising bounces to the dismay of the infielders. Nevertheless the game was spirited and usually resulted in a few minor casualties. J. M. Ranz always excelled in the trap shooting and John Rogers was the best at horseshoes. He could throw one ringer after another.

Bert would come out and personally supervise the cooking of the clams, corn and chicken. Renners provided their well-known product free and in unlimited quantities. This happy combination made everyone want to join in the singing when Ditmansen and his musical clowns played all the old songs.

After gorging themselves on Bert's delicacies, the doctors would form into small groups to consider the mathematical problems of boxcars, little Joes and sevens or the superiority of flushes over two pair. It always seemed that any dentist present would excel in that branch of science.

Finding the way home without landing in Bessemer or Lisbon was a problem. Signs were no longer visible and the best way was to look at the stars and start north. If one could find Poland he was set and his car would take him the rest of the way. It was a delightful way to spend a summer afternoon.

President Robert Poling made a glowing tribute to the general practitioner, and advocated an American Board of General Medicine, to give recognition to those who demonstrated greater ability in this phase of medicine.

Dr. R. V. Clifford joined the U. S. Navy and left for the Naval Hospital in Philadelphia. Dr. M. J. Sunday took over his practice for the duration. Dr. E. H. Young returned from post-graduate study at the University of Michigan. St. Elizabeth Hospital reported that July was the busiest month since their organization. Nine hundred eleven patients were admitted and one hundred thirty-five babies were born there. Dr. Nathan Belinky had a leading article "Situs Inversus Totalis." His patient's heart was on the right side and a gangrenous gall bladder was removed from the left side.

Dr. R. D. Gibson, Youngstown's pioneer ophthalmologist died in July. He was the first medical specialist in Mahoning County. The writer remembers how carefully he used to sharpen his Graefe knife before a cataract operation and the meticulous technique he observed.

## TWENTY YEARS AGO — SEPTEMBER 1950

President Nelson reported that 63 members had not paid their dues of

\$25.00 for the year 1950 and were about to be dropped from the list of membership. This, in a good year when organized medicine needed loyal support.

Dr. W. H. Bunn, President of the Youngstown Area Heart Association, announced plans for a rheumatic fever prevention program. The program is still going strong 20 years later and has been an outstanding national example of the value of concerted effort in preventing rheumatic heart disease.

Dr. Harold Teitelbaum was appointed medical director of the Mahoning Tuberculosis Sanitorium to succeed Dr. Wm. Newcomer. Drs. Fred Coombs and Arnoldus Goudsmit addressed the new Academy of General Practice on "The Uses of ACTH and Cortisone." E. J. Reilly was President of the group. Dr. Ivan Smith addressed the Youngstown Hospital Staff on "Physical Medicine" and his paper appeared in the *Bulletin*. He claimed that physical medicine is the oldest branch of medicine and the one most neglected by ethical practitioners.

Dr. Patrick Cestone opened an office for the practice of surgery after returning from the Army. Dr. Kenneth J. Hovanic arrived here to practice pediatrics in association with H. Bryan Hutt.

No mention in the *Bulletin* of picnics, golf matches or any other recreation. Sixty-three members delinquent. Maybe collections were bad.

### TEN YEARS AGO — SEPTEMBER 1960

David Belinky was elected Vice President of the National Association of Coroners.

An article on "Doctor's Hobbies" brought out some interesting sidelights. In our membership there were athletes, artists, sailors, collectors and most anything; the list would surprise you.

Dave Brody and Craig Wales were ranking squash players while Morris Rosenblum was a perennial handball champion. John Rogers and Bill Breesman were tops in golf with handicaps of three strokes. Harold Reese won a national Bowler's Singles title in Buffalo with 728.

Hendrik Marcella, Art Shorten,, George Cook and Bob Tornello were ardent skiers. David Montgomery and Nick Gordon were listed as big game hunters and the devoted fishermen were Earl Brant, Bill Bunn, Al Phillips, Robert Mossman, Bob Poling, Gordon Nelson and Mike Steinberg.

Motorboat enthusiasts were Ben Brown, Craig Wales, Lou Bloomberg, Paul McConnell, Arthur Rappoport, Ray Lupse, Chuck Stertzbach, Harlan McGregor, Joe Hall, Leonard Blum and Herman Allen, Hubert Banninga, Bob Kiskaddon and Frank Shaw favored the sailing craft.

John Benko was raising show horses, Elmore McNeil bred Tennessee walkers and Stu Patton was training ponies. Others were interested in horses: J. L. Scarnecchia, Merrill Evans, Charles McReynolds, Frank McNamara and Al Vance loved to ride them while Andy Miglets, Orval Lawton, John Goldcamp and Russ Rummel were more likely to be seen at the track.

Card games enticed Earl Young, Curt Wagner, Ray Hall and Henry Ellison. Jim Fulks, Sid Franklin and John Melnick pored over the chess board, but Joe Colla preferred "Bocci."

Among the wood workers was Earl Brant who turned out a gavel for every new president. Others were George McKelvey, Elmer Wenaas, George Pugh, Bill Martin, John Rogers, Sam Tochtenhagen, Martyn Raupple and Jake Turner. Nicholas Salistean and Bryan Hutt were collectors of antiques.

Irving Berke, Ed Reilly, Marvin Goldstein, Maria Fok, Hubert Banninga, Don Bernat, Howard Mathay, Barclay Brandmiller, Gene Fry and John Melnick were coin and stamp collectors.

Dick Murray excelled in painting and sculpture. John Scarnecchia and Ernie Alvin were skilled sculptors. Ben Berg was an outstanding cartoonist and some of his efforts adorned that issue of the *Bulletin*.

In the field of music, Sandy Gaylord was an outstanding pianist with a classical repertoire. Luke Reed played red hot jazz piano as well as saxo-

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phone. Ed Thomas, Art Resch, Arnoldus Goudsmit and Bob Fisher expressed themselves on the electric organ.

There were other members who had unusual hobbies: Jim Smeltzer was a scuba diver. Jack Schreiber performed feats of magic which captured the attention of his audiences to hear the real message in his talks on the preservation of the fundamentals of our liberty. He won the Freedom's Foundation Award. Arthur Rappoport was an amateur archeologist as well as a national authority on laboratory design and automation. Oscar Turner was a lapidarist, who collected, polished and set semi-precious stones.

Bob Tornello was prominent in amateur theater, Martin Dentscheff was interested in men's fashions. Arnoldus Goudsmit was a mountain climber. Stan Myers tied trout flies. Cash Altdoerffer, Dean Nesbit and Bill Bunn, Jr. were known as bird watchers.

—J. L. F.

## HEALTH DEPARTMENT BULLETIN

A five-year-old Franklin County Child died recently with Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever in a Columbus, Ohio, hospital. While only about eight confirmed human cases are reported annually in Ohio, the disease probably is much more common. Before 1947, the fatality rate for untreated R.M.S.F. was around 25%. Since the advent of the antibiotic era, the disease responds very well to wide spectrum antibiotics and deaths are uncommon. There is reason to believe that many individuals with classical symptoms of R.M.S.F. are treated successfully without diagnosis. Typical symptoms include sudden onset with marked fever, chills, prostration, and a skin rash beginning on the third day that is initially macular but rapidly changing to petechial. The incubation period is three to ten days. As with other rickettsial diseases, there are inflammatory lesions of the blood vascular system. Even if deaths could be prevented entirely, it would still be important to prevent infections of this type.

While the disease is far more common in southern Ohio, confirmed cases have been documented in several parts of northern Ohio in which potential sources of exposure were limited to the county of residence.

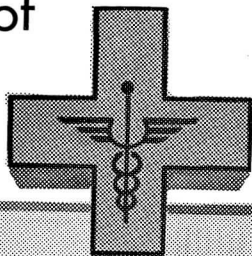
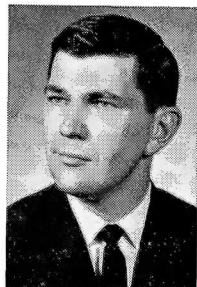
Veterinarians should be aware of their role in limiting the transmission of this zoonotic disease. The common vector and reservoir of R.M.S.F. in Ohio is the common American Dog Tick (*Dermacentor variabilis*). Ticks usually remain infected for life, and many transmit the infection to their offspring. While eradication of basic tick reservoirs is either impossible or impractical it is important to limit the movement of infected ticks into homes or adjacent areas. A 1964 survey by a group from the University of Cincinnati, College of Medicine was carried out in Clermont County, Ohio, which is an endemic area for R.M.S.F. This survey revealed two factors that related to a high incidence of human infection in residential areas:

1. A great abundance of American Dog Tick on a large population of unconfined dogs.
2. A general laxity in mowing lawns and in clearing of high grass and shrubs located near pathways.

It is important that dogs not be allowed to run at large in tick infected areas. It is also important to treat pets prophylactically with oral drugs which will kill or repel all types of ectoparasites including ticks; since in many situations it would be possible to prevent dogs from becoming exposed to tick infestation. When human exposure occurs through outdoor activities, such as camping and hiking, it is important to remember such personal protection factors as repellents and proper clothing. However, dogs and other pets may be significant factors in introducing infected ticks into the home or adjacent areas where they are very likely to come in contact with humans.

—Dr. W. M. Greissing

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