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BULLETIN

of the
MAHONING COUNTY
MEDICAL SOCIETY

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Volume XLVIII

Number 9

DECEMBER, 1978



Season's Greetings

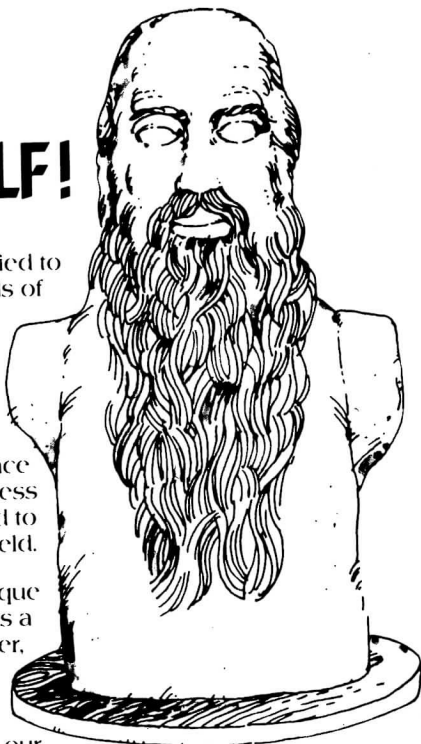
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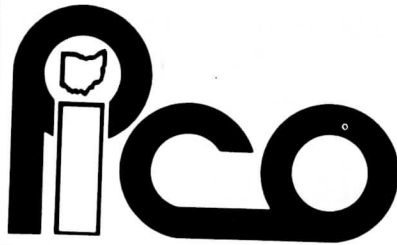
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MAHONING COUNTY MEDICAL SOCIETY MEETINGS — 1978

| Tuesday | Tuesday | Tuesday | Tuesday | Tuesday | Tuesday |
|---------|---------|---------|----------|---------|---------|
| Jan. 17 | Mar. 21 | May 16 | Sept. 19 | Nov. 21 | Dec. 19 |

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From the Desk of the President



THE PENDULUM CONTINUES TO SWING

My term of office as President of the Mahoning County Medical Society is very rapidly drawing to a close. If I were to reflect upon the happenings of the year 1978 as it pertains to our professional lives, I would have to say that, although there were some encouraging signs, the preponderance of the news was bad. The gradual, unrelenting takeover of the private practice of medicine by the Federal Bureaucracy has, for fiscal reasons, been temporarily slowed down, but by no means defeated.

Dating back to the inauguration of Franklin D. Roosevelt as our President in 1932 there has been an unrelenting swing to the liberal left. If we use the typical "pendulum" theory we now, after nearly a half century, are suffering the aftermath of the "overswing" in this liberal philosophy. There are signs on the grass roots level that society is reacting to this overswing by a definite retrenchment. The recent elections bear this out very vividly. The leftward swing of this pendulum is grinding to a halt. In retrospect, most of our government's plans and schemes aimed at a "New Deal, Fair Deal, New Frontier" and finally a "Great Society", have not furnished the easy answers to the complex social problems that were to have been solved by them.

Our wage earner with his strong union, protected by the government, and increasingly higher pay raises, may have more dollars to spend, but he buys much less with these inflated dollars.

Many families with the traditional paternal breadwinner have been forced to the "working mother" supplement for the family as a whole to enjoy a modest standard of living. Needless to say, this void of parental supervision in the home has, in some measure, contributed to juvenile delinquency and the breakup of the family unit.

Our retired citizens, with Uncle Sam's promise of security in their old age, are finding that, with Government fueled inflation, they are consigned to poverty levels of existence. The dollars that they put away for a rainy day in no way can buy now what they could have bought at the time they (the dollars) were earned.

Our young people have been the victims of new (untried and unproven innovations in education, which from their very experimental nature should have been tried to a very limited degree at first. The new math, new reading and writing techniques along with massive government spending in education on all levels (of government) seem,

(Continued on Page 201)



BULLETIN

of the Mahoning County Medical Society

Published Monthly for and by the Members

1005 Belmont Ave.
Youngstown, Ohio 44504 Not published in May,
Phone 747-4956 July and August.

Volume XLVIII

DECEMBER, 1978



Number 10

The opinions and conclusions expressed herein do not necessarily represent the views of the Editorial staff nor the official views of the Mahoning County Medical Society.

EDITOR

Dean J. Limbert, M.D.

EDITOR EMERITUS

James L. Fisher, M.D.

EDITORIAL STAFF

Robert R. Fisher, M.D.

John C. Melnick, M.D.

James A. Lambert, M.D.

Jack Schreiber, M.D.

Editorial

As we come towards the end of the year and are entering into a new year, we should look forward with optimism and take resolve for the future.

It is my contention that the western world has the potential for great accomplishment or great tragedy within its reach. As we enter the later part of the 20th century, the potential for development will be expanded one hundred fold. Man will enter into space as a pioneer thus developing new horizons in exploring the universe. The repercussions from that on earth will be tremendous. The implications, from the scientific standpoint, will have repercussions in the medical field. We can expect the stimulus from this exploration to expand man's capabilities; however, as all new progress is achieved it will contain within it the seeds of its own destruction and despair. It is, as always, within man's realm to reach for the heavens or lower itself to an animal existence.

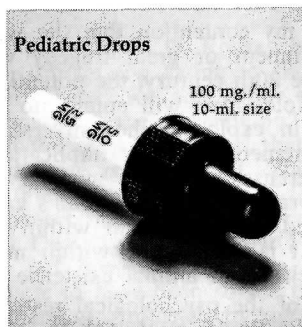
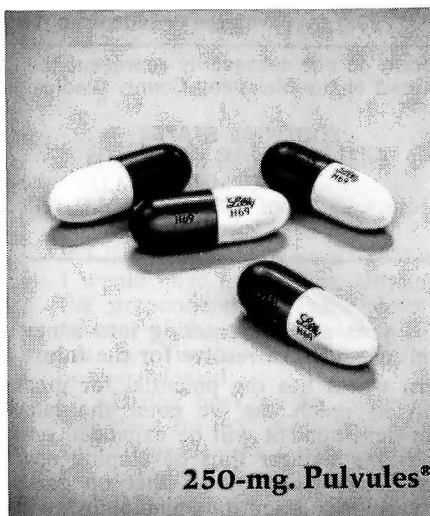
One of the psychological restraints is Soviet power. We have too long fostered the Soviet myth; which is really a crisis of our spirit. We tend to exaggerate the importance of the Soviet power in the contemporary world. It is in fundamental, political and moral respects a failure. The Soviet Union is a rival to us only in a military sense. There is a striking poem by the Alexandrian Greek Constantine Cavafy describing an occasion by which public life has come to a halt with everyone waiting for the arrival of the barbarians who have been reported at the frontier; then why this sudden unrest and confusion?

"Because night is here but the
barbarians have not come.
Some people arrived from the
frontiers
and they said that there are no
longer any barbarians.

And now what shall become of us
without any barbarians?
Those people were a kind of
solution."

—Dean J. Limbert, M.D.
Editor

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FROM THE DESK OF THE PRESIDENT . . .

(Continued from Page 198)

on the surface at least, to guarantee an education to everyone regardless of whether they have the ability to be educated. This has given us a generation of young adults, most of whom have some type of diploma, but who are functionally illiterate.

Our people are now told that with government control of medicine at all levels, it will be more available to all citizens and the cost will be significantly less. One need only see the costs of medicine with the frequent periodic increase that our senior citizens are forced to pay as a deductible. The cost of care at our veterans hospitals and the quality of care on our Indian Reservations and prisons, all governmentally controlled, need only to be mentioned.

Numerous other examples of "dreams" that have not come to fruition after leaving the bureaucratic planning boards can be cited. An overview of the accomplishments by the overswing to the left seems to reveal more flaws and smudges in the bright picture than anyone could prognosticate.

Unrest and turmoil are on the upswing. People certainly are more troubled and less happy than before. This is most vividly proven by the tremendous need for tranquilizing medicine, alcohol, and drugs of all types in ever increasing amounts. One can state that the last forty years or so has given illusions of progress and greatness, which, when carefully scrutinized, have no real substance.

We have more money in our pockets — but it buys less.

We have more people with diplomas but fewer with real education.

We have more food and creature comforts, but more mental illness, obesity, heart disease, etc.

Everything we now have seems bigger and better but with careful analysis is not really so.

Our initial wild "swing to the right" would be of great benefit to society if this "pendulum" could be stopped somewhere in the vicinity of the center. Unfortunately when this pendulum is put into motion there will be an overswing in the opposite direction (the right). I trust that over the next half century the overswing to the right will result in the lack of genuine progress that the overswing to the left has given us. Thus far mankind has not been willing or able to take advantage of his history lessons.

The late Pope John Paul I (Albino Cardinal Lucioni of Venice) once gave a very apt simile when describing the difference between Fascism (the right) and Communism (the left). He wrote, and I paraphrase, Under Communism, if a farmer owns four cows, the government or state will take at least three away from him. Under Fascism, a farmer owning four cows will be permitted to keep them—but the state will take all of the milk.

I was impressed by the solidarity showed by the members of our society when a crisis (our law suit and the decision to proceed) arose. I was disheartened by the lack of attendance (just a bit over a bare quorum) at our recent nomination in November. Perhaps some day the pendulum of life will stop somewhere near the center where it belongs.

God Bless You All

G. H. D.

NEW MED SCHOOL APPOINTMENTS

Physicians who will share in teaching undergraduate medical students were awarded faculty rank by the Board of Trustees and announced in the November NEOUCOM publication. Those from Mahoning County are:

Ronald Aiello, D.O.

Richard W. Juvancic, M.D.

Joseph V. Newsome, M.D.

Henry L. Shorr, M.D.

Instructor of Family Medicine

Associate Professor of Family Medicine

Instructor of Family Medicine

Instructor of Family Medicine

ELECTION IN DECEMBER

Election of officers for 1979 will be held at the December meeting, Tuesday, Dec. 19 at the Youngstown Club. Following is a list of the candidates nominated by the membership at the November meeting:

For president: Dr. Y. T. Chiu

For vice president: Dr. B. P. Brucoli

For treasurer: Dr. J. A. Lambert, Dr. J. A. Ruiz

For delegate to OSMA: Dr. J. C. Melnick

For alternate delegate (two to elect): Dr. Earnest Perry,

Dr. D. E. Pichette, Dr. K. F. Wieneke.

For council member (four to elect): Dr. S. G. Adornato, Dr. W. L. Crawford, Dr. H. L. Khanna, Dr. R. M. Kiskaddon, Dr. G. Klebanoff, Dr. D. H. Levy, Dr. D. J. Limbert, Dr. N. A. Pappas.

Additional nominations for all offices may be made from the floor at the December meeting. At that meeting, nominations must be seconded.

NEW MEMBERS



J. V. Chaves, Jr., M.D.
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Y.H.A.
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Street
Hubbard, O. 44425



B. N. Krishnasetty, M.D.
Diagnostic Radiology -
Y.H.A.
Office: 1027 Boardman-
Canfield Rd.
Youngstown, O. 44512



William R. Finch, M.D.
Rheumatology -
Y.H.A.
Office: YHA,
South Unit
Youngstown, O. 44501



E. U. Sevilla, M.D.
Otolaryngology -
Y.H.A.
Office: 5437 Mahoning
Avenue
Youngstown, O. 44515

HELP EXPEDITE PRESCRIPTION CALLS

The Eastern Ohio Pharmaceutical Association, representing the pharmacists in this area, has written to the Mahoning County Medical Society requesting assistance in a current problem.

Many doctors are asking the patient to have the pharmacist phone the doctor for a prescription. When the pharmacist makes the call, he is often put on "hold" for a long time before being able to reach the doctor. The pharmacists are suggesting that the doctor alert his receptionist to the impending call, and perhaps have the prescription near the phone, or have the girl put the call straight through to the doctor.

The Council of the Medical Society asks all doctors to be aware of this problem and to realize that the pharmacist's time is also valuable, and to do what they can to expedite phone calls from a drug store.

NEW MEMBERS

At the Nov. 21st meeting of the Mahoning County Medical Society, the following were elected to Intern-Resident membership:

John David Boldan, M.D.

Calipay A. Binan, M.D.

Jose L. Castaneda, M.D.

David Yan-Ho Liem, M.D.

Viroje Pensirikul, M.D.

John R. Zubil, M.D.

In addition, Virgil C. Hart, M.D., Columbiana, was elected to Non-Resident Membership.



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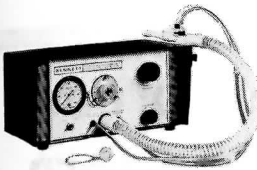
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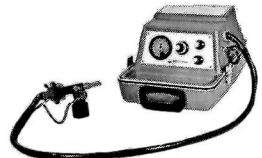


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P.S.R.O. . . . SOME FACTS

Our decisions regarding any area P.S.R.O. must be based upon facts. This report is a start. I hope others will provide additional data.

P.S.R.O. was authorized approximately five years ago. Funding has been slow. Recent appropriations will result in more P.S.R.O.s.

The P.S.R.O. programs are not final. P.S.R.O. is designed to evolve, to experiment, and to establish policies based on mechanism "to assure quality care".

At present, P.S.R.O.'s are directed at short term general hospital stays. Decisions whether a particular admission will be paid for or will continue to be paid for, as well as evaluation of efficiency and effectiveness of the care given, will be made by the area P.S.R.O. or a delegated hospital committee.

A. P.S.R.O. is a voluntary, non profit organization representing a "substantial" proportion of the practicing physicians in a designated area. It must assure that health care provided to patients under Medicare, Medicaid, Maternal and Child Health programs are medically necessary and consistent with professionally recognized standards of care.

P.S.R.O.s have "planning", "conditional", or "operational" status. Its "quality assurance program" must be based on peer review and continuing education, it must result in the improvement of quality and appropriate use of health care services and it must provide continuing feedback of its effectiveness.

Each area P.S.R.O. either performs or delegates to a hospital the responsibility of performing both concurrent and retrospective review. Concurrent review has the purpose of assuring the necessity of admission, the appropriateness of the hospital stay, and the effectiveness of discharge planning.

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The area P.S.R.O. or delegated hospital committee must also conduct medical care evaluation studies — these are usually retrospective. The stated purpose of these studies is to identify deficiencies in the quality and delivery of health care and to correct these deficiencies through education and administrative changes. These studies will probably focus on particular problems.

Explicit criteria must be developed not only for screening purposes but also for both concurrent and retrospective review procedures.

In the future P.S.R.O.s will analyze profiles on physicians and patients for the purpose of identifying deviations in the provision and utilization of services.

A law enacted in 1977 requires that area P.S.R.O.s must include ambulatory care within two years after becoming operational.

The methods of ambulatory care review are undetermined. The few thus far have focused on cost containment, payments by third parties, patient eligibility for coverage by a given plan, coverage for services rendered, appropriateness of fees. Patient and physician profiles and other types of practice audits have been used to a very limited extent in an ambulatory setting.

SUMMARY

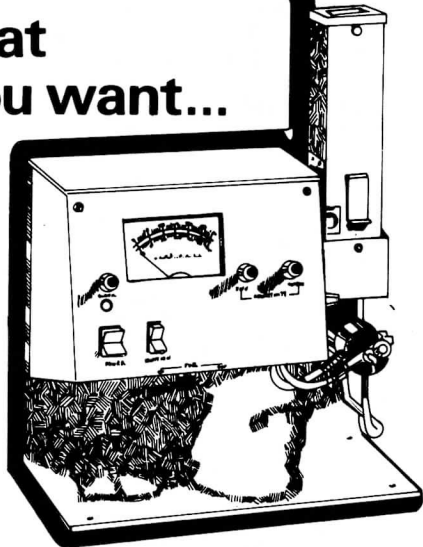
1. P.S.R.O. programs are here.
2. The form and function of the P.S.R.O. for our area has not been determined.
3. I need more facts before I can make a reasonably objective decision regarding the degree and form of my involvement.

—Frank Gelbman, M.D.

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PROCEEDINGS OF COUNCIL

Nov. 14, 1978

The regular meeting of the Council of the Mahoning County Medical Society was held on Tuesday, Nov. 14, 1978 at the home of Dr. George H. Dietz.

Dr. Pichette discussed matters pertaining to the Ohio State Medical Association. He noted that the Lorain County Medical Society has proposed Dr. Robert G. Thomas for the office of president-elect for 1979. The motion was made, seconded and duly passed that the Mahoning County Medical Society propose Dr. C. E. Pichette for state-wide office for 1979.

A letter was read from Frank L. Natale, R.Ph., president of the Eastern Ohio Pharmaceutical Association noting some problems arising from patients being told to have the pharmacist call the physician for a prescription. The motion was made, seconded and duly passed that an article be placed in the *Bulletin* explaining the problem and asking each physician to be aware and help wherever possible.

Dr. Lambert read a letter from Dr. Bloomberg in which he expressed his opinions concerning his recent attendance at a council meeting to discuss PSRO.

A motion was made, seconded and duly passed that a letter be written to the *Vindicator*, co-authored by Dr. Dietz, Dr. Chiu, Dr. Bloomberg and Dr. Lambert calling attention to errors in an article previously published in the newspaper and explaining the purpose of PSRO.

Dr. Reed discussed meetings on a national level that he had recently attended in regard to the impaired physician. His emphasis was on the importance that AMA attaches to the responsibility of the local medical society and/or individual physicians to seek out and bring treatment to the alcoholic or otherwise impaired physician.

A letter was read from United Steelworkers, Pittsburgh office, requesting a meeting with their representatives, along with some insurance representatives. Drs. Dietz, Chiu and Sovik will meet with them. Dr. Anderson will also attend if his schedule permits.

A letter from the Greater Youngtown Area Ambulance Association was noted and filed for information.

The Ambulance Paramedics Committee submitted a report on IV Protocol for ambulance paramedics. The report was approved by council.

The Nominating Committee reported that consideration of proposed candidates for "Doctor of the Year" resulted in a tie, and that awards will be made to Dr. McCann, posthumously, and to Dr. Albarran. The motion was made, seconded and duly passed that the Nominating Committee report be approved.

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From the Bulletin

FORTY YEARS AGO — DECEMBER 1938

There was an old report of the medical staff of the Youngstown Hospital for the year 1898 which is very interesting. That year 335 patients were treated; 284 recovered, 17 were improved, 9 were not improved and 26 died. This doesn't add up but that is what the report said. There were 231 surgical patients with 40 amputations, 5 cancerous tumors excised and 1 hysterectomy. No operation for appendicitis was listed although the admissions showed 7 cases. There was one obstetrical case treated, no birth reported and no Caesarian operation. One operation was reported for repair of the perineum.

There were 33 cases of typhoid fever and 3 of malaria treated. Eight of the typhoid patients died, as did one of puerperal septicemia. Four cases of alcoholism were treated and one died.

There was 1 case of gastralgia, 1 of melancholia, 1 of anemia, 1 catarrh of the stomach, 5 rheumatism and 1 capillary bronchitis (died).

Many of the cases were traumatic in origin. There were 23 fractures treated and 40 amputations performed. There were crushed chests and extremities, punctured wounds, lacerated wounds and contusions which reflect the industrial activity of the valley, but traffic accidents were no problem.

Even the vocations of the patients were listed; here were iron workers, puddlers, roughers and rollers; farmers, gardeners and carriage makers; bartenders, saloonkeepers and cigarmakers. Also 1 nurse and 1 physician.

Staff members 70 years ago were: A. M. Clark, B. F. Hahn, Geo. S. Peck, J. J. Thomas, H. H. Hawn, W. L. Buechner, R. D. Gibson, H. E. Blott, H. E. Welch, H. A. Zimmerman, R. H. Montgomery, R. E. Whelan and J. H. Bennett. There were no internes, no residents, no path conferences, no X-ray and no Boards of Accreditation. Those were the good (?) old days.

THIRTY YEARS AGO — DECEMBER 1948

Another successful year for the Medical Society. President Noll reported the formation of the new "Medical Service Foundation". Post-Graduate Day brought us a group from the University of Illinois College of Medicine.

The Indigent Relief Committee reported that in 1948 the Mahoning County Relief Organization spent \$16,448.50 for doctor's fees and \$7,358.89 for medical supplies. The Great Depression of 1930 to 1935 was over and this sum for care of the indigent sick in 1948 seems rather large. Chairman Getty made no comment.

The Legislative Committee set up a program to give Youngstown a Board of Health with a full time health commissioner. The program was set up with the approval of Mayor Henderson but action was postponed until next spring so that the amendment could be placed on the ballot. It wasn't.

There were three new members that month: Robert J. Heaver, Herbert Bryan Hutt and Richard Renner Goldcamp.

TWENTY YEARS AGO — DECEMBER 1958

President Detesco said "Prepayment insurance for illness is here to stay. Within ten years 90% of our professional fees will be paid by a third party".

Editor Morris Rosenblum said that some members give willingly of their time while others, who are very capable, shirk their duties. A few are never satisfied or pleased, no matter what is published.

John McCann was presented the Purnell Award by the Junior Chamber of Commerce for outstanding service to Youngstown.

A vote was taken on whether we should take Wednesday or Thursday afternoon off. The result was 60 for Wednesday and 154 for Thursday.

James R. Sofranec and Jack Malkoff became diplomates of the American Board of Otolaryngology. Leonard A. Blum was appointed the first full time Health Commissioner for Youngstown. He was a D.P.H.

Wendell Bennett, E. H. Kirkwood and Dean Nesbit were elected to Honorary Membership.

TEN YEARS AGO — DECEMBER 1968

The re-registration of licenses for Ohio Physicians went into effect as a part of the Medical Practice Act of the State legislature. This had more than a few physicians grumbling at the \$5.00 fee and most members looked upon it as another tax.

Dr. Jack Schreiber had an interesting article on the activities of the Fourth National Assembly of the Student Health Organizations. This was a group of militant medical students at the height of the Anti-Vietnam War Movement who were actively demanding revolutionary tactics against the medical profession's "stranglehold" on the United States. Fortunately the SHO died a natural death with the end of the Vietnam war. One wonders what the attitudes of these young men are now, ten years later, out in practice for themselves. Some of the more militant are now with the Public Health Service.

New members that month were: A. B. Cinelli, Bertwin E. Einfalt, Armin Garcia and Louis P. Alexander. Gene D. Fry and Michael Galose became members by transfer from Trumbull County Medical Society.

—Robert R. Fisher, M.D.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY



Get your annual check-up • Is it time to renew your driver's license.

Dec. 16
A. R. Dziadzka

Dec. 17
D. B. Brown
C. A. Crans

Dec. 18
J. M. Kline

Dec. 19
L. P. Caccamo
S. R. Zoss
D. J. Dallis

Dec. 21
C. S. Peabody
E. L. McIver

Dec. 23
A. E. Rappoport

Dec. 24
H. S. Zeve
N. A. Pappas

Dec. 25
W. H. Evans
W. L. Mermis
R. D. Murray

Dec. 28
J. J. Sofranec

Jan. 1
D. S. Lee
V. K. Sethi

Jan. 2
M. H. Steinberg
W. T. Martin
N. C. Domingo
R. R. Sanbandham
D. W. Handel

Jan. 3
J. K. Herald
J. B. Stechschulte
S. R. Weiss

Jan. 5
L. H. Scharf
R. W. Jackson
E. U. Krishnan

Jan. 7
J. Hong

Jan. 8
R. L. Bernstine

Jan. 9
N. J. Hazelbaker

Jan. 10
D. T. Yoder
H. J. Hassel
R. Albarran
S. Cuddapah

Jan. 12
M. U. R. Bhatti
P. H. Huang

Jan. 13
Y. V. Ginde

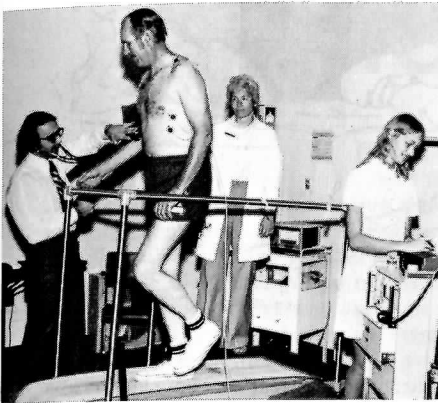
Jan. 14
J. P. Vette

Jan. 15
S. K. Seth



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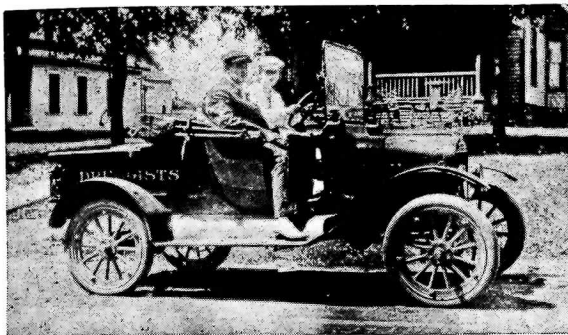
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