

PUBLIC HEALTH

Health Campaign

Men and women by the thousands are voluntarily lining up at health centers in Savannah, Ga., to be tested for TB and venereal diseases.

► THOUSANDS of men and women from every walk in life are lining up at health centers in Savannah, Ga., to wait their turn for chest X-rays and blood tests as that city wages a 45-day campaign against tuberculosis and venereal disease.

The campaign, scheduled to run from Oct. 15 to Nov 30, is breaking records for disease fighting. It is the first time in public health history that syphilis and tuberculosis have been combined in case-finding. And while Birmingham, Ala., pioneered last spring in a mass attack on syphilis and gonorrhea, the campaign there resulted from a state law requiring blood tests, and treatment where needed, for all persons between the ages of 14 and 50 years.

Savannah citizens are showing that no

law is needed to make people take these important steps for protecting their own and their community's health. The campaign here is on a voluntary basis. Yet in the first four days of the campaign 5,719 chests have been X-rayed to detect tuberculosis and 5,719 blood samples have been taken to test for syphilis.

The blood testing laboratory, set up to run 1,000 tests a day, has already had to be reorganized and enlarged to handle more than twice that number daily.

At one center, on the third evening of the campaign, men and women stood in line for three hours, waiting of their own accord for the rushed staff of doctors and nurses to get the X-ray pictures made and the blood samples taken.

"TB can be cured in its early stages. An X-ray today may save your life tomorrow."

When you read that message on eight-foot high posters on the main business streets of your town, see it repeated in street car cards and in the newspaper and hear it over the radio, you take action, it appears from the overwhelming response here. Whether you are a member of the women's auxiliary of the state medical society or a Negro laborer living in a public housing project, you follow the directions on the poster and go to the health center or your physician.

Here, as in Birmingham last spring, the streets and cars are also placarded with the notice that treatment of syphilis with penicillin can be completed in nine days and that blood tests will be given at the health center.

Syphilis patients go to the U. S. Public Health Service's rapid treatment hospital.

Tuberculosis patients go to another hospital for the rest and other measures that are part of the treatment of this disease.

Examination and penicillin treatment for gonorrhea is also being given but is not the featured part of the campaign.

Science News Letter, November 3, 1945

● Just Off the Press ●

CALABASHES AND KINGS: An Introduction to Hawaii—Stanley D. Porteus—*Pacific Books*, 245 p., illus., \$3.50.

CLASSIC DESCRIPTIONS OF DISEASE, With Biographical Sketches of the Authors—Ralph H. Major—C. C. Thomas, 667 p., illus., \$6.50. Third ed., revised and enlarged.

FROM PEARL HARBOR INTO TOKYO: The Story as Told by War Correspondents on the Air—Paul Hollister and Robert Strunsky, eds.—*Columbia Broadcasting System*, paper, 312 p., illus., 25 cents.

MY TWENTY-FIVE YEARS IN CHINA—John B. Powell—*Macmillan*, 436 p., \$3.50. A newspaper correspondent's experience, covering the years 1917 through 1942.

MODERN MAN IS OBSOLETE—Norman Cousins—*Viking*, 59 p., \$1. A discussion of the problems raised by the birth of the Atomic Age.

THE MANAGEMENT OF THE MIND—Milton Harrington—*Philosophical Lib.*, 200 p., \$3. Edited from posthumous manuscripts and notes by Ralph B. Winn.

PSYCHIATRY IN MODERN WARFARE—Edward A. Strecker and Kenneth E. Appel—*Macmillan*, 88 p., \$1.50.

OUT OF CARNAGE—Alexander R. Griffin—*Howell, Soskin*, 327 p., \$3. A description of technical and medical discoveries made under the stress of war.

TABLE OF ARCSINX—Lyman J. Briggs, Arnold N. Lowan and others—*Columbia Univ. Press*, 121 p., \$3.50. Prepared by the Mathematical Tables Project under the sponsorship of the National Bureau of Standards.

THE SOCIAL IMPACT OF SCIENCE. A Select Bibliography, With a Section on Atomic Power—*Supt. of Doc.*, paper, 51 p., 15 cents. Prepared by the Library of Congress for the Subcommittee on War Mobilization of the Committee on Military Affairs, U. S. Senate.

A TRIP THROUGH THE NEW BUILDING OF MELLON INSTITUTE—*Mellon Institute of Industrial Research*, 20 p., paper, illus., free. Third ed.

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