

MEDICINE

# New Successful Remedies For Six Serious Diseases

## Hundred Per Cent Cure of Gonorrhea, Treatments for Arthritis, Rheumatism, Sinus Trouble Announced

*Six new successful treatments, promising relief or cure for the suffering of thousands of men and women with serious diseases, were reported at the meetings in Cleveland of the American Medical Association and other medical societies. Hundred per cent control of gonorrhea is made possible by sulfa drug. Crude liver extract is the new remedy for painful gout and arthritis. Salts of gold are being tried secretly on human rheumatism patients. Sex hormone treatment gives new hope for those with cancer of prostate gland. Iodized oil helps sinus disease, and X-rays are advised for Hodgkin's disease. Reports by Jane Stafford, Science Service Medical Writer follow here and appear also on page 379.*

### Conquest of Gonorrhea

**C**OMplete control of gonorrhea, most widespread venereal disease, is promised by a new treatment which cures in 100% of the cases, Dr. William Bromme, of Detroit, declared at the meeting in Cleveland of the American Medical Association.

Complete cures in three days of one hundred out of one hundred men were achieved by sulfathiazole treatment, Dr. Bromme reported. Large doses of the drug, averaging 60 grains a day, continued in the same dosage for 48 hours after the patient is apparently cured, are the secret of how to achieve real cures of this dangerous and often crippling disease, he said.

The patients in his series were crane operators, foundrymen and others employed in heavy industries. None of them lost a single day from work while taking the treatment. The sulfathiazole is given by mouth. Mild nausea in 23 patients and fever of 100.6 degrees Fahrenheit, not enough for most persons to know they had fever, in six patients, were the only reactions to the drug.

Large doses of the sulfa drugs at the start of treatment should be used not only for gonorrhea but for meningitis, pneumonia and streptococcus infections,

Dr. Bromme believes on the basis of his experience. Fewer reactions and more effective cures will result from such doses than from the customary small, often-repeated doses, he predicted.

The small, often-repeated doses, which many doctors have used on a cautious, start-in-gently basis, provide a chance for the patient to become sensitized to the drug, with resulting untoward symptoms requiring stopping of the drug. They also give the germs a chance to become used to it, so that it does not affect them.

This is the basis of the "sulfanilamide resistance," he thinks, which has been reported as a cause of failure of the sulfa drugs in some cases in which patients did not get well even after long treatment. Thirty-six of Dr. Bromme's

patients had previously been given sulfanilamide without result, but they all got well at the same time and with the same amount of sulfathiazole as patients who had never had sulfanilamide.

All previous methods of treating gonorrhea have failed, Dr. Bromme stated, because the drugs used could not get at the germs. It has been a common medical mistake, he said, to suppose that gonorrhea germs stayed on the surface of the infected area long enough for medicines applied to surface areas to reach the germs. It takes only a few hours, he said, for the gonococcus to get below the surface to the deeper tissues where it lives.

Sulfathiazole succeeds in killing the gonococci where other drugs have failed because it also gets below the surface. This same situation explains the failure of attempts at chemical prophylaxis of gonorrhea, Dr. Bromme believes. The disease had developed in 36 of his patients despite the use of various commercial prophylactics.

The prompt, complete cures of gonorrhea possible with adequate sulfathiazole treatment will lead to the disappearance of the crippling caused by gon-



"BLACK TERN NO. 2"

*This beautiful photograph by William I. Holzmark, of University City, Mo., won first prize in the bird class in the Third Annual Salon of Nature Photography conducted by Hobbies, the magazine of the Buffalo Museum of Science. It is on exhibit in the museum during June.*