

women in this group have the lowest mortality rates. High blood pressure means trouble.

Some physicians believe that stress causes high blood pressure. This in turn damages the heart. The types of stress related to that of masses of people moving upward economically with most persons feeling a duty to elevate themselves and their children to a higher economic and social group, the stress of failing to escape from the boom, chatter and jangle of television, radio and the telephone, all may represent a newer type of strain to which mankind is making but poor adjustment, one researcher pointed out.

The Heart Disease "Type"

Is there such a thing as a heart disease "type" of personality? Can scientists determine who is most prone to heart disease? A study by the Massachusetts General Hospital of coronary patients under 40 years of age revealed this composite portrait of the heart disease candidate:

He is a husky, robust male. His chest, trunk, face and hands are noticeably thick for their length, and he has a lot of hair on his body if not on his head. He was a good athlete in school and, although he is too busy for regular exercise now, he is apt to indulge in strenuous workouts whenever he gets a chance.

He is objective, realistic, matter-of-fact, conscientious, and sympathetic enough for women to call him "sweet."

But underneath, he is always in a hurry. He walks like a man who knows where he's going and is eager to get there. He seldom takes a vacation, works rather than plays at his hobbies, saves time by talking business at lunch. He looks as if he is in control of himself and the situation, but his wife may report that he falls into violent fits of temper if he is delayed or crossed.

He drinks and smokes more than most men. The odds are that he is a rising professional man or business executive who provides well for his family and could pose for a picture of the model father.

He looks and acts ten years older than his age. He may be prematurely gray, wrinkled or bald. He gives the impression that he has worked himself old before his time. Sound like someone you know? Tell him to slow down.

Science News Letter, February 20, 1960

DERMATOLOGY

Skin Eruptions Affected By Many Factors

A CHANGE of scene or workmen's compensation may be more potent in curing a skin eruption than the best treatment the dermatologist can offer.

The case histories of some 3,000 industrial workers point to at least 30 reasons why a patient's skin may not clear up after the original cause is removed, Dr. George E. Morris of Tuft Medical School reported.

He told scientists attending an America Academy of Dermatology and Syphilology meeting in Chicago that workmen's com-

penetration seems to slow the recovery of some patients. They find they can receive almost as much money by not working as they did while working. Another patient had suffered a disabling dermatitis for two years which cleared quickly when he learned that only healthy workers would be transferred to another location.

Other reasons given by Dr. Morris concerning why a patient may fail to respond to treatment: 1. serious nervous upset; 2. sensitivity to chemicals, particularly to one structurally related to the chemical that caused the original eruption; 3. vitamin deficiencies; and 4. excessive heat or cold.

Overtreatment and the use of certain antibiotics can also influence the patients response, Dr. Morris said.

Science News Letter, February 20, 1960

MEDICINE

Blood Vessels Dilate After Heart Attack

THE SHOCK that follows an acute heart attack may be due to a disturbance in the blood vessels, preliminary observations with a new procedure indicate.

The vessels may actually dilate rather than constrict, three investigators reported. It was once believed that development of shock was related entirely to the severity of heart damage.

The new procedure consists of a mobile unit, wheeled to a patient's bedside shortly after an attack, Drs. Maxwell J. Binder, L. E. Scaduto and Morton L. Pearce of the University of California Medical Center and the Veterans Administration Center of Los Angeles, Calif., said. A green dye technique measures the heart's output and blood pressure measurements are taken. So far, 22 patients have been studied with the device 24 to 48 hours after their attack. Surviving patients are restudied when they are fully ambulant.

Science News Letter, February 20, 1960

ELECTRONICS

Tiny Thermistor Will Pass Through Needle Eye

See Front Cover

THE MIDGET BEAD thermistor, seen on the cover of this week's SCIENCE NEWS LETTER, is employed in electronics equipment for measuring temperature on the inside and outside surfaces of the Polaris and Atlas missiles. It is so small that it easily passes through the eye of an ordinary needle.

The bead thermistor is .010 inch in diameter and is mounted on a wire .001 inch thick. One pound of these instruments, manufactured by Gulton Industries, Inc., of Metuchen, N. J., would have a value of \$1,000,000.

The thermistors can be used in medical applications inside a hypodermic needle to measure blood temperature. They are also used in radio frequency power measurements in the microwave field and in the measurement of low gas pressures. They can measure temperatures between minus 76 degrees and 572 degrees Fahrenheit.

Science News Letter, February 20, 1960

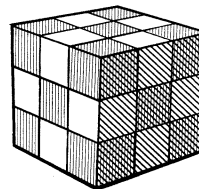
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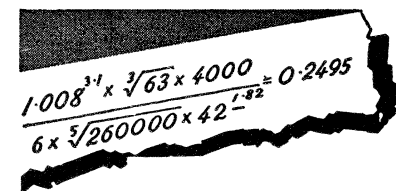


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