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Many persons today have infected sinuses as a left-over from the worldwide influenza epidemic of 1918 and are carriers of disease, in the opinion of Dr. M. M. Cullom of Nashville, Tenn. Most of the population suffers from this disease at some time, Dr. Cullom said. A large proportion of those infected are left with a chronic infection that menaces life, health and hearing.

Sinus disease was given inglorious credit for being the source and carrier of the common cold by Dr. Edward C. Sewall of San Francisco who spoke at the same session. Dr. Sewall believes that cold weather has a bad effect on persons with chronic sinusitis, making them active carriers of colds to other persons. The person with sinus disease often has false colds which may be mistaken for true colds. True colds, however, never occur in succession, Dr. Sewall said. The false cold is brought about by chilling which affects the diseased membrane in sinusitis sufferers.

Oil Heals Ulcers

Cod liver oil, valuable remedy for and preventive of rickets in children, is proving its worth in the treatment of slow-healing ulcers. Excellent results in the treatment of such ulcers with a cod liver oil salve were reported by Drs. James R. Driver, George W. Binkley and Maurice Sullivan. They attributed the healing action of the salve to the vitamin A in the cod liver oil. The method was originated by Prof. Löhner working in Magdeburg, Germany.

Gastritis Rediscovered

Chronic gastritis or inflammation of the stomach, once a fashionable disease, has been rediscovered since the invention of the flexible gastroscope, the instrument by which physicians can examine the inside of the stomach. True gastritis was discovered by this instrument in about half of 2,500 patients suffering from abdominal complaints, Drs. Rudolf Schindler, Marie Ortmyer and John F. Renshaw of Chicago reported.

Drink Not Cirrhosis Cause

Alcohol cannot be regarded seriously as the cause of cirrhosis of the liver, in spite of the general opinion that it is, Drs. Russell S. Boles and Jefferson H. Clark of Philadelphia told the meeting. Their conclusion was reached from post-mortem examination of hundreds of patients. The liver condition and the person's drinking habits before death

were compared. Cirrhosis was found more often among non-drinkers than drinkers, and of the drinkers, only about one-fourth had definite cirrhosis. In further support of their theory, these investigators pointed out that the type

of cirrhosis usually thought to be alcoholic occurs in children and other non-alcoholics as well as in certain animals. Furthermore, among Brahmins, who drink very little, cirrhosis is relatively frequent.

Science News Letter, May 23, 1936

MUSEUM SCIENCE

Arctic Refrigerator Keeps Eskimo Relics Fresh

RAIDING the ice box has a different meaning in the Far North. Perpetually frozen soil of the Arctic makes a natural refrigerator in which archaeologists find Eskimo relics kept fresh for centuries.

Care with which Arctic relics of frozen wood, leather, or feathers should be de-frosted, was urged before the American Association of Museums by Douglas Leechman of the National Museum of Canada. Large objects partly dug out of frozen earth may thaw in the air and become soaking wet overnight, being ruined by splitting and warping before they are even brought to light.

The refrigerated objects greatly assist the archaeologist in forming a true picture of life among the early Eskimos, Mr. Leechman explained. Where the soil is not frozen, Eskimo rubbish heaps may preserve nothing but stone articles, even ivory being disintegrated.

Coins Reveal Their Age

Chemists have found a way to make ancient bronze coins of Athens and other famous cities reveal their age.

Results of precise chemical analysis, showing how the bronze used for coinage in various times and places differed in amount of tin, iron, and other substances present, were reported by Prof. Earle R. Caley of the Frick Chemical Laboratory at Princeton University. He told of finding that bronze coins from Macedon manufactured in the time of Alexander the Great contain considerable tin and very little lead. Greek bronze in general had less tin as time went on, and more lead.

Not only can chemistry provide some idea of the time of manufacture for previously undatable coins, Prof. Caley pointed out, but the age of objects found along with such coins will in future be better determined.

Detection of forgery of ancient bronze can be aided by chemistry, Prof. Caley showed. In authentic ancient

bronze there are almost always weighable amounts of arsenic or sulphur, differing from bronze made under modern conditions of manufacture.

Workers Fingerprinted

To protect its fabulous treasures, New York's Metropolitan Museum of Art fingerprints all employees, and maintains armed guards day and night.

If a picture or other object should be stolen, fingerprints are of greatest assistance, Charles B. Burns of the museum staff declared. Fingerprints left on an art object in normal duties can be quickly identified by having all employees printed, and much time saved in trailing the guilty person.

The fingerprint system, required of all who apply for work, has enabled the museum to detect in advance unsuitable persons with police records.

The day and night armed squads of the Metropolitan engage in annual pistol shooting competitions, Mr. Burns said, and rivalry serves as an incentive to greater skill in handling firearms, which may be needed in emergency.

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The biggest engineering project yet found in Palestine's buried past is the water system constructed at Armageddon during the twelfth century B.C.

● RADIO ●

May 26, 2:15 p. m., E.S.T.

HOT WEATHER THINKING—Dr. John F. H. Murphy of St. Elizabeth's Hospital.

June 2, 2:15 p. m., E.S.T.

WHAT ABOUT TWINS?—Dr. Alan Guttmacher of Johns Hopkins Medical School.

In the Science Service series of radio discussions led by Watson Davis, Director, over the Columbia Broadcasting System.