

oiticica oil. Prior to 1934 these exports were negligible. In 1935 exports of oiticica oil totaled 4,000,000 pounds and in 1936 they jumped to between 8,000,000 and 10,000,000 pounds. In 1936 the United States took 3,000,000 pounds of the total and in 1937 the amount increased to 4,000,000 pounds. World export figures for 1937 are not yet available.

Research is showing how the oil can give both smooth and crinkly surfaces to paints and lacquers. Early work, in which the oil was processed like tung oil, gave discouraging results that are now being overcome.

Oiticica oil seems especially adapted for use with phenolic resin lacquers of which bakelite is typical. The crushing of the nuts in northern Brazil is now done in modern factories which bid fair to set up a new oil source despite any events which may occur in the far east. Chemists in Germany, England and France, as well as the United States are studying the oiticica oil.

Science News Letter, March 19, 1938

MEDICINE

Cancer Attacks Children As Well As Older Persons

YOUNG persons can and do have cancer. It occurs in practically all parts of the body.

The Barnard Free Skin and Cancer Hospital, St. Louis, since 1908, has had 134 young patients in whom the diagnosis of cancer was definitely proved by microscopic examination.

Seventy-two additional cases were diagnosed as cancer by experienced staff physicians, but on these there was no report of microscopic examination.

Youngest in the series were a girl 8½ and a boy of 9 years. The youngest with carcinoma of the lip was 19; of the breast, 22; of the ovary, 15, and of the cervix, 20 years.

Drs. Norman Hall and James W. Bagby report the cases in the *Journal of the American Medical Association*. (March 5)

They report also a seeming tendency of cancer to manifest itself more often during early life. Cases reported are of carcinoma only. Sarcoma and other malignant conditions have not been included.

"The age of the patient must not influence one in procrastination and watchful waiting," the St. Louis specialists state. "The results of treatment in young persons, as in older ones, depend on early diagnosis and adequate treatment."

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PSYCHOLOGY

Expert Tells Why Wives and Husbands Want to Leave Home

Path From Altar to Divorce Court Is Lined With Petty Annoyances Because Neither Partner Cares

TWO MILLION young men and women will be married during the coming year. They will all start off in a flurry of good wishes and rice, hoping for great happiness.

But nearly 200,000 of these marriages will end in the divorce court instead of happiness ever after.

Los Angeles county, famous as the site of glamorous movie romances, is also noted for its brittle marriages. There, one-half of all the married couples go to the divorce court to air publicly their marital infelicities.

Many more couples, in Los Angeles county and elsewhere throughout the United States, remain miserably at home still married but far from happily married.

To stem the tide bringing about the wreckage of so much human happiness, a clinic was started in Los Angeles some

years ago to treat ailing marriages. There, husbands and wives pour out their troubles to expert advisers.

No two cases are exactly alike. The family problems are complicated; they have been years in developing. But in most cases where both husband and wife are intelligent and want to make a success of their marriage, the Institute of Family Relations is able to show them how to do so.

After listening to the confidences of many an abused wife and tortured husband, Dr. Paul Popenoe, director of the Institute, has listed for you some of the most popular methods of husband and wife torture. Here is a picture of an American husband as seen through the eyes of the unhappy wife:

He is away from home taking care of business most of the time.

When he is home he acts as if the



SHE GETS UP LATE

Husband complains when, in pajamas and curlers, the wife sets a can of tomato juice on the table, which he dispatches while she scrapes the toast. He doesn't like her curlers, pajamas or the thrown-together breakfast. His newspaper reading during breakfast peeves her.