

## MEDICINE

# Cured Patients Form New Societies to Combat Fear

## Recovery From Cancer and Mental Disease Requisites For Membership in New York and Illinois Bodies

CURED patients of two of the most dreaded—and hushed-over—types of human maladies, cancer and mental disease, have recently formed associations to dispel the fog of half-superstitious fear that hovers over discussion of these ills, and to aid in the fight against them.

The Cured Cancer Club was organized in New York by the American Society for the Control of Cancer. Dr. Anna C. Palmer, 81-year-old physician of Milton, Mass., who was cured of cancer of the breast in 1920, is the first president of the new club. It is hoped that the tens of thousands of cured cancer patients throughout the country will join the club, so that the general fear of cancer will be replaced by a calm and alert attitude which will lead tens of thousands more to early diagnosis and cure.

Cured mental patients in Illinois are forming an association to change the public attitude in regard to mental disease. Members of the society will consist, at first, of the patients who have been discharged as recovered from the Psychiatric Institute of the University of Illinois.

Dr. Major H. Worthington, managing officer of the Illinois Research and Educational Hospitals of the University of Illinois and the State Department of Public Welfare, announced the organization a short time ago. Its aims, he said, will be:

1. To help physicians of the Institute to study the subsequent adjustment of the discharged patients.

2. To engage in an educational campaign for the purpose of changing the attitude of the community toward mental disease.

3. To promote the economic interests of the former patients.

Name for the organization will be "The Association of Former Patients of the Psychiatric Institute of the University of Illinois." Among its activities will be an employment agency for former mental patients, now recovered and restored to society.

It is hoped that the movement will become statewide in scope and soon include patients who have been discharged by other State hospitals.

*Science News Letter, April 9, 1938*

Dental plates were first patented in the United States in 1840.

## BOTANY

# Spiral Twisting Apparently Natural for Many Plants

IT SEEMS to be natural for many plants to twist as they grow, forming spiral patterns. At the University of Wisconsin, James L. Roberts has been observing the phenomenon in one of the so-called higher bacteria, which grows in long, slender threads. So strongly do the filaments rotate as they grow that they even twist themselves into loops. (*Science*, Mar. 18)

*Science News Letter, April 9, 1938*

## RADIO

April 14, 4:00 p. m., E.S.T.

LOST ARTS OF THE STONE AGE—Dr. H. C. Shetrone, Director of the Ohio State Museum.

April 21, 4:00 p. m., E.S.T.

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