Little Known Infection May Cause Serious Ills

By H. K. SUTHERLAND, M.D.
County Health Officer

Thrush is a fungus infection that most often attacks the mucous membranes of the mouth but may invade other parts of the body as well. It commonly occurs in young infants and in malnourished children and older adults who are weakened by some chronic illness or major operation. Although usually considered a minor ailment, the infection can develop into a serious illness.

No one is immune to thrush. It occurs in all parts of the world, in all races, and at all ages in both sexes. Newborn infants, however, are particularly susceptible, as are older infants afflicted with a cleft palate or other mouth deformity.

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THE CONDITION is caused by a yeastlike organism (Candida albicans) that is present in the mouth and intestines of about 30 to 50 per cent of healthy children and adults, but, except in the newborn period, the organism does not usually invade a healthy membrane. The reported incidence of the infection among the newborn in nurseries ranges from 0.5 to 19 per cent. Symptoms of the infection in the young infant rarely appear before the seventh day of life, so the longer the stay in the nursery, the higher the rate becomes.

The infective organism may attack the nails and skin, as well as the mucous membranes. In those somewhat rare cases where the fungi invade the internal organs, including the lungs and kidneys, a severe systemic infection occurs which gives rise to a number of conditions that are generally grouped under the name of "candidiasis" or "moniliasis," but each condition may be given a name that relates to the part of the body affected.

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THE TERM "thrush" is limited to a specific form of the infection usually seen on the mucous membrane of the mouth, but membranes of other parts of the body, including the birth canal, may also be affected.

The characteristic feature of thrush is the appearance of small white spots resembling coagulated milk that appear on the surface of the mucous membrane of the mouth, usually on the tongue, cheeks, and the inside of the lips, though involvement may be more extensive. These spots may grow larger in the absence of treatment and join together to form large uneven patches. When a spot in an infected area is scraped, a bleeding surface is exposed. Candida infection is also a not infrequent complication of diaper rash. Local pain and tenderness are usually absent.

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THE INFECTION passes easily from one person to another. It may be transmitted by hands that are contaminated with the infective organisms or by dishes, utensils and linen used by the patient. Since the fungi are always present in the intestinal tract of infected individuals, they are also found in bowel excretions and may therefore be transmitted through the handling of soiled diapers.

Scrupulous cleanliness will help prevent the spread of thrush. This means thorough handwashing after treating a patient or after handling any article that has been used in his care. It is recommended that infected newborn infants in nurseries be segregated from those who do not have the disease.

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THE TREATMENT of thrush is not complicated and is usually effective, particularly when the condition is not accompanied by debilitation and when treatment is begun early in the course of infection. The local application of certain medications will, in most cases, soon bring the condition under control. In cases where the situation is complicated by chronic illness or malnourishment, treatment is necessarily more intensive and includes efforts to improve the patient's general condition through proper diet and good health habits. In all instances, medical attention is advised when thrush is suspected.

Buffalo Award Presented to Scout Boosters

Judy Eng, former art major at El Camino College, represented the San Pedro Scout Explorer Units 949X and 949S in the presentation of the first buffalo award to the Los Angeles Harbor Department for "exceptional service to scouting."

Designed and created by Miss Eng, 20, of Redondo Beach, a June, 1962 graduate, the miniature ceramic buffalo is symbolic of the original bronze buffalo at Gilwell Park, England.

Bernard J. Caughlin, general manager of the Port of Los Angeles, accepted the award.

The "good turn" scouting honor was in appreciaation of land donated by the department to the scouts. Future buffalo awards will be made for outstanding contributions to scouting.

Bank Names New Aide In Torrance

Harold Kahle has been transferred to the Security First National Bank's Torrance branch where he will serve as assistant manager.

Prior to the move he had been assigned to the bank's 190th Street and Anza Avenue branch.

Kahle, who joined Security in 1949, is a native of Crete, Neb. He is a member of the Torrance Lions Service Club and is active in the Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church in Beverly Hills.

He and his wife, Norma, live at 3112 Canfield Ave. Their son, Bruce, is a 10th grader at Hamilton High School.

Los Cancioneros Announces Annual 'Sing for Supper'

The Singers (Los Cancioneros) are pleased to announce to their friends that the annual "Sing For Your Supper," under the direction of Barbara Mabin, will be revived this year with an Italian dinner at the Redondo Beach Masonic Temple on Sunday, Nov. 4.

Two "suppers" will be served. The first, at 1:30 p.m., will feature special entertainment for children as well as adult fare. The second "supper" hour will be 6 p.m. Tickets for the 1:30 dinner will be $3 for adults and $1.50 for children. All tickets for the evening will be $3. Chairman for the event is Mrs. Walter I. (Betty) Holloway. Tickets may be purchased from any member of The Singers or by calling Mrs. Warren Schenck, FR 7-7202 or Mrs. Holloway, FR 5-1633.

Los Cancioneros is a nonprofit group whose membership consists of people who love to sing. By their dues and such money as they are able to earn with performances during the year, the chorus members pay for their music, the salary of the director and accompanist, wardrobe fees, rehearsal hall rental fees and all expenses of performances.

1ST IN ADVERTISING IN CIRCULATION IN EDITORIAL
THE TORRANCE HERALD

America's First Orbiter Says Scouting Is 'All-OK'

Project Mercury Astronaut John Glenn, who captured the world's attention during his three-orbital flight around the earth, has a message for boys 8 to 18 years old who are not now members of the Boy Scouts of America.

His message is: "Scouting is All-OK; Join today!"

John Glenn is issuing a personal invitation from him to all boys to join Scouting in their neighborhoods.

Col. Glenn knows from personal experience the value of Scouting, since his son recently reached the rank of Eagle Scout, his daughter is a Girl Scout, his wife was a Cub Scout Den Mother, and Glenn himself is an associate advisor of his son's Explorer post.

Every boy who accepts John Glenn's invitation to join Scouting now will receive a photograph of the American space hero, inscribed with a message about Scouting.

To receive a photograph of Col. Glenn, and an invitation to join the Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts or Explorers, all a boy has to do is send a postcard with his name, age, address and city to:

John Glenn
Boy Scouts
Los Angeles 51, Calif.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS

1-Moccasin
4-Genus
9-Small particle
12-Mountain in Greece
13-Laughing
14-Collection of facts
15-Kind of cloth
17-Weirder
19-Pedal digit
20-To turn back
21-State of mind
22-Earth goddess
24-Appears
27-Beard of grain
28-Large lizard
30-To harass
31-Preposition
32-Bounds
34-Symbol for tantalum
35-Trim
37-River in Siberia
38-To deface
39-Mistake
41-Brother of Odin
42-Seasoning
43-Growing out of
45-Small violin
46-To revoke
48-Stretcher
51-Anglo-Saxon coin
53-Artist's stand
54-High priest of Israel
55-Worm
56-To empty
57-To obstruct

DOWN

1-Mark on cards
2-Fuss
3-City in China
4-Algonquian Indian
5-Falsehood
6-Cooled lava
7-Dirk
8-Walks
9-Prison keeper
10-Unit
11-Sailor (colloq.)
16-Deity
18-Sand bars
20-To assuage
21-A state
22-Possessor
23-Damsel
25-Ore
26-To inaugurate
28-College degree
29-Girl's name
32-Rock
33-A state (abbr.)
36-Places for combat
38-Intertwined
40-Ranted
42-To pose for portrait
44-To rip
45-Brick oven
46-Fish eggs
47-Bitter vetch
48-Hawaiian wreath
49-Guido's high note
50-Edge
52-Symbol for samarium

PRIGGS EBONY
TRITON TINIER
RITA ATONE AI
USE SPINE ARA
SO WIPES FINN
SNEERED FIRST
LEER SINE
TRIPS SPEEDED
RATS PARRS RA
ATB DELAY PAR
WT SINEW HOSE
PANAMA LEASED
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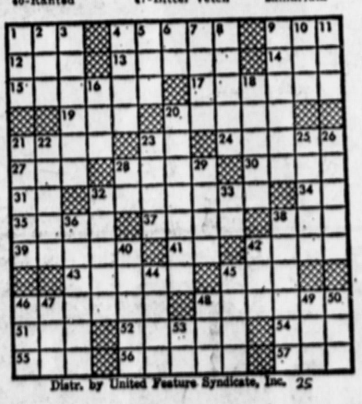

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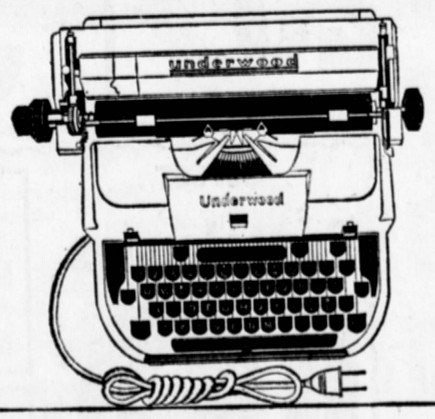

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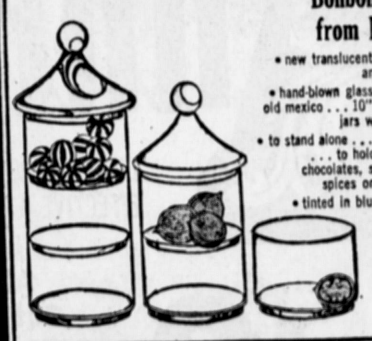

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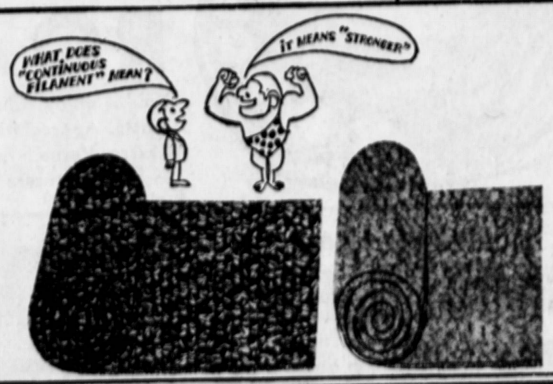

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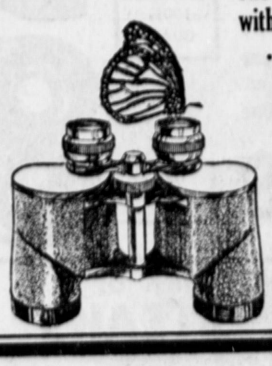

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