Relation of Longevity To a Family's History

By LOGAN CLENDENING, M. D.

THE OLD question of the relative importance of heredity and environment in relation to longevity and disease will probably never be settled by statistics. It is too complicated a problem and too many elements enter into it for that.

The Metropolitan Life Insurance Company, for instance, has recently published a study from which they conclude that a good environment seems to be of greater weight than long-lived parents in determining the individual's prospect for long life. But it takes a good deal of interpretation of their statistics to work out the conclusion.

Dr. Clendening will answer questions of general interest only, and then only through his column.

Most Important Factor

Anybody who has lived as long as I have must be pretty well convinced that longevity in parents is the most important factor in the longevity of individuals. But, of course, there are exceptions. I know of a number of families in which I know the parents have lived to a very ripe age, but several of the children have died of entirely intercurrent disease. For instance, in one such family one child died of pneumonia and one child died of hemorrhage from an ulcer of the stomach. Three others are still alive and look as if they are going to attain the same age as their parents.

The pneumonia and the hemorrhage were simply accidents on the road of life which have no hereditary implications at all. Certainly nobody inherits pneumonia, and it is very doubtful whether ulcer is hereditary. If these two children who were dead were the only children in the family and you based the conclusions entirely on statistics, you would be forced to conclude that parents who lived over the age of 80 would have children who did not attain the age of 45.

Statistics on Mortality

The Metropolitan statistics show that the lowest mortality in a group of policy holders was recorded for those, both of whose parents were living when the insurance was issued. This group have a mortality which is 12 per cent below the ordinary average. The policy holders who had the highest mortality were those, both of whose parents were dead when the policy was issued.

This would seem to indicate that heredity had a good deal to do with it. But when the groups were examined with respect to the age attained by their parents, there was no relation between that age and the age of death of their children. Of course, there are many reasons why a person whose parents lived until he was old enough to take out a life insurance policy should attain a high age.

Orphanhood has a detrimental and lasting effect on the health of young people. The children in broken families are more poorly housed, fed and clothed and receive less medical attention than other children. More of them are compelled to go to work at young ages and therefore at unskilled jobs.

Conclusions Hard To Accept

It is difficult for me to accept the conclusions of the Metropolitan. I have seen too much to the contrary and when you get away from long lines of statistics and actually see families that you know, you are convinced that heredity is the most important factor in longevity.

The difference between the statistician and a family doctor is the same as that between a man in an airplane, who soars over a community and sees thousands of people from far off, and one who lives in one place and gets to know all the neighbors from the time of birth to the time of death.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

A. C. M.: Does a running ear, associated with common colds and other childhood diseases, always mean that the ear drum has been perforated? If the ear drum is not perforated, where does the discharge come from?

Answer: It always means that the ear drum is perforated. The condition merits immediate attention by the best practitioner who can be obtained.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Dr. Clendening has seven pamphlets which can be obtained by readers. Each pamphlet sells for 10 cents. For any one pamphlet desired, send 10 cents in coin, and a self-addressed envelope stamped with a three-cent stamp, to Dr Logan Clendening, in care of this paper. The pamphlets are: "Three Weeks' Reducing Diet", "Indigestion and Constipation", "Reducing and Gaining", "Infant Feeding", "Instructions for the Treatment of Diabetes", "Feminine Hygiene" and "The Care of the Hair and Skin".

Whisky Ads Not Approved

Daily Dispatch Bureau,
In the Sir Walter Hotel.
By BOB THOMPSON

Raleigh, May 23.—A new laxity in the supervision of whisky advertisements has occurred since Carl Williamson became chairman of the State Board of Alcholic Control, Williamson said that he had not approved certain advertisements which have appeared in local papers since he became chairman, although the law requires that the copy must have his OK. However, he had neither seen the ads nor know anything about them until they were brought to his attention by the press.

A recent whisky ad appearing in a Raleigh paper has a number of pictures. In one a man is looking at a bottle of liquor and saying "go on, my tongue is hanging out". In another he has a glass in one hand, an open bottle in another, and is saying "and tastes just right. How about an encore."

The copy is contrary to regulations, said Williamson. Certain other liquor ads recently appearing may not be contrary to regulations now—for the chairman has the final say as to what goes—but certainly were contrary to the policies practiced during the chairmanship of Cutlar Moore and Robert Grady Johnson.

On April 1, while Johnson was still chairman, new advertising regulations were adopted. The assistance of representatives of several newspapers was requested. It was explained that the chief purpose of the change was to prevent the use of "in-size" pictures of bottles. The newspapermen made their suggestions and among them was the provision that final approval be secured from the chairman because a clever ad writer might find a loop hole in almost any set of rules decided.

On this suggestion the following rule, among others, was adopted:

"The advertising proof of each brand shall be in the office of the chairman of the N. C. Board of Alcoholic Control not later than the 25th day of the month preceeding the month in which the advertisement is to be run. The advertisement of each brand of whisky shall be approved in writing by the chairman of the N. C. Board of Alcoholic Control or his authorized agent. The N. C. Board of Alcoholic Control further reserves the right to reject, without cause, any advertisement submitted for its approval."

Chief difference in some of the whisky ads now appearing is that they have "gone funny". Humor is used in the selling effort. Although that is not contrary to the written rule, it is contrary to past policies of the board.

BARCLAY ON BRIDGE

By Shepard Barclay

"The Authority on Authorities"

DO YOU WANT IT LED?

ALWAYS bear in mind that, when you bid a particular suit, there is a possibility that your partner may lead it if the opponent at your right ultimately becomes the declarer. Unless you are willing to have that suit led, or unless your hand is such that there is a pretty good likelihood of your side furnishing the declarer, such a bid may prove costly. By leading that suit, instead of the one which otherwise would be his natural lead, your partner may present a gift of some hundreds of points to the enemy.

North: ♠ 10 9 5 ♥ K 8 ♦ A J 9 5 3 ♣ A 10 6

West: ♠ K Q 6 ♥ J 9 6 3 2 ♦ 10 7 6 4 ♣ 3

East: ♠ J 7 4 3 ♥ A Q 10 7 ♦ K Q 2 ♣ 7 5

South: ♠ A 8 2 ♥ 5 4 ♦ 8 ♣ K Q J 9 8 4 2

(Dealer: West. North-South vulnerable.)

West	North	East	South
Pass	1 ♦	1 ♠	2 ♣
Pass	2 ♦	Pass	3 N.T

Here was another one of those cases in which a smart cardsman takes advantage of the known mental habits of an opponent. Walter Beinecke bid as he had in the South, while shooting for unorthodox top scores, solely because he knew West as a man who could be depended upon to lead his partner's suit.

West did exactly as expected, putting forth the spade K. When the dummy went down, the club A looked awful good to Mr. Beinecke, as it made his contract a sure thing. He took the first trick with his spade A and then ran seven clubs, followed by the diamond A for the ninth trick. If West had made his natural lead of the heart 3, the K would have been dropped and the opponents would have taken the first five tricks. Mr. Beinecke, therefore, stole a game, as 5-Clubs cannot be made.

Your Week-End Lesson

When there is a possible finesse in some side suit which, if it succeeds, will enable you to take an extra trick, what are the main considerations in determining when you should decide to make the attempt or not?

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WARREN COURT TERM ENDS SHORT SESSION

Warrenton, May 23.—The May term of Warren county Superior court held a short session this week, disbanding on Tuesday on account of the illness of the son of R. L. Harris, one of the jurors. Judge Henry L. Stevens presided with E. R. Tyler, prosecuting for the State.

A case of interest was that of Early Crossan, charged with manslaughter, following the death of Claude Jackson, white, and resulting from a car accident between Littleton and Macon in January.

A mistrial was ordered and the case continued until the September term of court. Crossan's appearance bond is to remain at $500.

IN NAVAL RESERVE

Oxford, May 23.—Melvin Dickerson, member of the Oxford post office department, has been notified that he had passed his recent examination in Raleigh and that he had been accepted in the U. S. Naval reserve in the V-6 class as radio technician. He was not told when to report, but expects to learn that within a few days.

BUY WAR SAVINGS BONDS AND STAMPS TODAY!

DAILY CROSSWORD

ACROSS
1. Chimney part
5. Hurl
9. Merit
10. Buckeye state
11. Stamped cloth
12. Pants
14. Dine
15. Spawn of fish
17. Observe
18. Work at steadily
19. Beard of rye
20. Nevertheless
21. Covers with gold
23. Flemish painter
26. Listen
30. Plants of lily family
31. Part of ship
32. Vats
33. Directed backward
34. Oust
36. Strike sharply
39. Kind of tree
40. Salt
43. Guido's highest note
44. Body of water
45. Shout
46. Short-billed rails
48. Approaches
50. Wide-mouthed jar
51. State of insensibility
52. Touch
53. Catch sight of

DOWN
1. Savage
2. Laymen
3. Vase
4. Boards a train
5. Persuasive
6. Exclamation
7. Effeminate boy
8. Pith helmet
11. Vim
13. Place
16. Nocturnal birds
21. Webbed-footed birds
22. Move
23. Rodent
24. Eskimo tool
25. Short haircut
27. Old measure
28. Grow old
29. King
31. To befall
33. Ascend
35. Slave
36. Thing, in law
37. Reserved
38. Talk
40. Rascal
41. Adorn
42. French river
47. Malt beverage
49. Goddess of dawn

Yesterday's Answer

CRYPTOQUOTE—A cryptogram quotation

B P Q C C A R C S T R U V Q W P C B T U, W T P W X C A U, S Z Y T C R V M V P Z — T N Q O V Z

Yesterday's Cryptoquote: THE GREATEST OFFENCE AGAINST VIRTUE IS TO SPEAK ILL OF IT—HAZLITT.

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THIMBLE THEATRE—Starring Popeye

BLONDIE — (Registered U. S. Patent Office) RENDEZVOUS FOR TWO! By Chic Young

THE GUMPS—TILDA'S LITTLE FEATHERED FRIEND

THE OLD HOME TOWN (Registered U. S. Patent Office) By STANLEY

SCOTT'S SCRAP BOOK By R. J. SCOTT