

### Millions Suffer With Hay Fever In This Country

No Specific Cure Has Been Found But Treatments Relieve Sufferers

Hay fever, an affliction of some 2,500,000 Americans, is caused by an allergy, or sensitivity, to pollen. Its victims are easy to spot—with their inflamed and running eyes, "stuffed up" noses, and sudden and sometimes prolonged paroxysms of sneezing.

Even victims of mild cases of hay fever are as miserable as they look. Hay fever in a mild form is not a serious illness, although it may cause great discomfort and cut down on the sufferer's sleep and his appetite. Severe hay fever, allowed to go untreated, can lead to asthma, a chronic obstruction of the bronchial tubes which produces a hard cough and difficult breathing.

Hay fever in the spring and summer is due to pollen in the air which comes from trees, grasses, and weeds. The hay fever prevalent from about the middle of August until the first frost usually is caused by ragweed pollen.

Anyone who suspects he has or is getting hay fever should see his doctor. While there is no specific cure for hay fever, there are treatments which will make the sufferer more comfortable and help him ward off asthma and other respiratory illness to which his hay fever might have made him susceptible.

The doctor will make a thorough study to find out what



Pictured above are the six members of the new Martin General Hospital Board of Trustees. Left to right, they are: Elbert S. Peel, chairman of Williamston; James H.

Gray, Sr., of Robersonville, LeRoy H. Taylor of Poplar Point, Chas. H. Manning, vice chairman of Williamston; Herbert Whitley of Williamston, and George C. Griffin,

secretary and treasurer of Griffins Township. Mr. Whitley was the hospital architect and followed its construction closely. The trustees are well known in this section.

## Board Of Trustees Of The New Martin General Hospital

### Dies With Husband In A Vain Attempt At Rescue

Wichita Falls, Tex.—Mrs. R. I. Cox, 19-year-old wife, died in a vain attempt to save her husband from electrocution. Neighbors found her gripping an electric line wound around the body of her husband. Planning to electrify a fence around a sod, grass patch, Cox had strung a wire from an electric line atop his garage. Clutching the line in one hand, he stepped on a metal barrel as he climbed down from the garage. His screams attracted his wife, who ran to his aid.

"Markers," Fisher said, "but the present degree of standardization has still failed to reduce accidents as much as it was originally envisioned."

Reliable, and wisely engineered, signs and signals are useless, if drivers ignore them. As proof that this is the case, the North Carolina Department of Motor Vehicles reports that, in 1949, out of 720 fatal accidents there were 44 instances of a sign, signal, or traffic officer having been overlooked or ignored.

"We now have a good, nationwide, system of signs and signals," Fisher said, "Let's not nullify all the good work that has been done to protect us in this respect by ignoring them. Most important—let's stay alive by heeding these 'Signs of Life!'"

kind of pollen is causing the trouble. Once it is known, he can advise the victim on avoiding it. He may also give injections of pollen extract to help the person build up resistance to it. These injections, called "desensitization treatments," are usually most helpful if given before the attack of hay fever.

There are drugs on the market which sometimes relieve hay fever, but they should be used only with the advice and supervision of the doctor, since they can cause painful and, perhaps, harmful reactions.

The person who has hay fever

should build up his resistance to all respiratory infections and consult his doctor, who will prescribe measures for his relief and help him avoid further irritation and infection. While there is no definite proof that allergies, including hay fever, have an emotional or psychological origin, the hay fever sufferer should avoid all emotional stress, since it tends to worsen the condition.

Many communities are trying to stamp out the offending ragweed by spraying it with chemicals or cutting it down and burning it. Best results are obtained when weeds are destroyed, over a large

### Polio Outbreak In Virginia County

The little southern town of Wytheville, Va. which has been the scene of the nation's worst polio outbreak this year may help solve some of the mysteries surrounding this feared disease.

No one knows how polio is carried from victim to victim. The unusual prevalence of this disease, 50 times the usual epidemic rate, may give scientists a chance to discover just how it is spread, whether by insects or water or directly from person to person.

Dr. Alexander Steigman, University of Louisville, Ky., professor and consultant to the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis, has been supervising the collection of insects, blood, water and human wastes in which may be found one of the viruses of infantile paralysis.

The virulence of the disease in Wytheville and the large number of cases may mean that a new type of virus, a fourth sort additional to the now-recognized three types, has attacked this small southern community. Or it may mean merely that the virus causing this outbreak is one to which Wytheville residents have not previously exposed.

Getting sick with one kind of polio virus does not give protection against infection with another of the polio viruses. That is why people sometimes have a second attack of the disease, and theoretically three attacks are possible.

But it will take weeks of research to discover whether the Wytheville epidemic is going to help solve some of the polio mysteries.

Certain moths cannot fly until they have reached "flight temperature" by energetically vibrating their wings.

area, before the seeds mature and are carried about by the wind.

## Two Main Operating Rooms In Hospital

### Emergency Room Is Also Available In The Hospital

Extensive and Modern Equipment Found In the Three Rooms

Operating rooms and facilities in the new Martin General Hospital here will compare with those in any institution outside the great medical centers, an observer remarked following an informal inspection a short time ago.

The hospital has two major operating rooms, one a little larger than the other and possibly more extensively equipped. In addition to the main operating rooms located on the east end of the building and next to the main hospital wing, there is an emergency room at the entrance on the west side of the building.

With tile on the floors and on a greater part of the wall space, the rooms are spacious with adequate lighting. Non-transparent glass is in the larger windows, but the main light will be provided by especially designed lamps and fixtures.

The special equipment in the operating rooms includes just about every article known to the surgeon. Frankly, the names of some of the gadgets are strange to the laymen, and one may gain a better idea of what they are and what they look like by inspecting them during open house tentatively planned for next Sunday. Then there are bushels of instruments, having every bend and curve imaginable.

The main operating rooms adjoin a large sterilizing room where a large sterilizer is installed along with other equipment to handle surgical instruments, dressings and other items used in connection with surgery.

On the lower floor is the maternity section including delivery room, waiting room, nursery and a number of patients' rooms, nurses' desk, utility rooms and other quarters. There's an isolation room also in that wing.

### Dr. J. T. Llewellyn First Associated With Rhodes Clinic

(Continued from P. 1, This Sec.) American Medical Association and the State and district medical societies.

#### THE ERROR (Enka Voice)

The typographical error is a slippery thing and sly. You can hunt till you are dizzy but it somehow will get by. Till the forms are off the presses it is strange how still it keeps; It shrinks down into a corner and it never stirs or peeps. The typographical error, too small for human eyes, Till the ink is on the paper, when it grows to mountain size. The boss stares with horror, then he grabs his hair and groans, The copyreader drops his head upon his hands and moans— The remainder of the issue may be clean as clean can be, But that typographical error is

signals are being emphasized this month by the North Carolina department of Motor Vehicles as part of its August program of traffic safety education.

"Standardization of traffic signs and signals was the only solution to the confusion that resulted from the early hodge-podge of vari-shaped and colored road

#### WIRING

Approximately fifty miles of wiring were installed in the Martin General Hospital to furnish light and power for the numerous machines and the inner-communication system. The lighting system is strictly modern with indirect lighting for night operations.

Plans call for the installation of an independent power unit for the hospital.

The installations were handled by the Ayers Electric Company, a local firm.

### Signals Change With The Years

Raleigh, N. C.—"Danger — Sound Klaxon!"

L. R. Fisher, director of the Highway Safety Division of the North Carolina Department of Motor Vehicles, today cited the present obscurity of this once-familiar highway sign as an example of the rapid growth of our system of traffic signs and signals during the past 35 years.

"Motoring in America," he said, "is a perfect example of an innovation that grew too fast for its own britches. We had the vehicle before we had the roads to accommodate it; by the time we started enough roads, other difficulties were rapidly being created."

One of the chief handicaps plaguing the pioneer motorist, according to Fisher, was the absence of directional and warning signs on existing highways.

The widespread boom in the construction of inter-state arteries preceding World War I, however, speeded installation of such signs accordingly.

"Ironically," Fisher said, "this rapid outcropping of traffic signs was almost as much of a curse as a blessing. Shapes, sizes, and colors of the signs were left to the discretion of the local, state, or county authorities, and official imaginations ran wild."

The amazing strides that have been made in the standardization and use of traffic signs and

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