

Copeland's HEALTH TALK

Peritonitis Care
By ROYAL S. COPELAND, M. D.
(United States Senator and former Health Commissioner of New York)

I am not sure that I ever told you anything about peritonitis. Fortunately it is not a common ailment. But it is too important to overlook. To be frank about it, acute peritonitis is always a serious disturbance.



All the cavities of the body are lined with a delicate membrane. The abdominal cavity is no exception. In this region the lining membrane is called the peritoneum.

This delicate structure covers the inner side of the abdominal wall. Likewise, it is reflected upon the intestines and all the organs in the abdomen. There is enough moisture to lubricate the surface of the peritoneum so that all the movements of the organs within the abdomen are made without friction. They move freely one upon another.

The peritoneum is normally a thin, glistening membrane. It may aptly be compared to a coat of varnish applied to the inner aspect of the abdominal walls and to the surface of the contained viscera.

Like every other part of the body, the peritoneum may become inflamed. This is the condition which may be general or it may be confined to limited portions of the peritoneum.

In peritonitis, no matter what its cause, severe pain in the abdomen and tenderness to the lightest touch, are prominent symptoms. Instinctively the victim lies on his back with his legs drawn up. He takes this position in order to relieve the pulling of the muscles upon the sensitive abdomen.

For the same reason the breathing is shallow. Every effort is made to keep from moving the abdominal muscles and aggravating the pain.

These are the signs of a general peritonitis. If the inflammation is definitely localized, the pain and tenderness and tenseness of the muscles are not so prominent.

The patient has fever. The pulse is rapid. In every way the symptoms indicate illness.

There are a good many causes for peritonitis. Needless to say, a perforating wound of the abdominal wall is very likely to cause inflammation. It follows rupture of the pus-filled appendix or of the gall bladder. Certain female ailments may have peritonitis as an accompaniment.

Once in a while this disease may accompany some of the infectious or contagious diseases. Blood-poisoning has it as a symptom.

If there is a pus-forming inflammation of the stomach, bowels, gall bladder or womb, peritonitis may follow. An ulcer of the stomach or intestine which results in perforation, produce peritonitis.

Usually there is great swelling of the abdomen. It becomes quite like a drum-like rigidity of the abdominal muscles.

If you have any reason to suspect that a member of your household has peritonitis, you should call the physician at once. The patient

should be kept propped up in bed with the legs drawn up and the shoulders raised. Perfect quiet should be maintained until the doctor comes.

Answers To Health Queries.

M. A. T. Q.—Will frequent use of a fine comb injure the scalp?
A.—No.

2.—Brush the hair daily and use a good tonic.

Subscriber. Q.—What causes dark circles under the eyes?
A.—This may be due to a number of causes, such as worry, constipation, lack of rest, low blood pressure, anaemia.

Mary R. Q.—What causes a pain in my right arm? It feels lame and I can hardly hold anything with it.
A.—This may be due to neuritis. The cause must first be removed before trouble can be cleared up.

L. D. Q.—I am a young man of 30 troubled with falling hair—what do you advise?
A.—The condition of the scalp and hair depends upon the state of the health in general. Careful shampooing and rinsing and the use of a good hair tonic should be helpful if the health is good.

Miss Mary Goodrich, aviation editor of the Hartford (Conn.) Courant, and the first woman in the state to become a licensed pilot, recently covered an airplane crash in Waterbury, Conn., by flying to her assignment.

Game Of Baseball Makes Slang Of Its Own For Our Language

Constant Interchange Of Players In Pro Leagues Keeps County Adding To Slang.

Baseball, writes R. J. Connor in The New York Times, has a raucous slang, used by the men who earn their living in the game. The origin of some of its picturesque, pungent phrases is hazy, as is the identity of the originators, but most of the expressions are understood and are used by players in all parts of the country. As the sport enlists the services of players from the north, south, east and west, and shifts them around from circuit to circuit, it brings about a pooling of language, and a phrase that aptly describes a feature of the game travels rapidly.

To the professionals, a uniform is a "monkey suit" or the "monkeys." They refer to hands as "mitts" and have adopted the common expression "dogs" for feet. A pitcher easy to hit is termed a "cousin," the expression that such-and-such a pitcher is "my cousin" being a common one. Balls that are pitched with little or no curve and require no great effort to meet solidly are called "cripples." A curve is often called a "number one ball," and a fast one a "number two," one and two fingers frequently being the catcher's signal for them.

Other terms for a fast ball are "hard ball" and "smoker." When a pitcher throws a fast one the batsman is often heard to say that "there was smoke on that one," or that "he had his smoker working that time." A slow ball is sometimes referred to as a "dope." A half-speed ball is a "mixer," while a fast one that breaks in as it should is said to be "mixed."

Language Of Pitchers.
A spitball is usually called a "spitter." A knuckle ball or a variation of it is often characterized as a "forked ball." A high ball is "one around the neck" or "one around the ears," while a very low ball is termed "one around his dogs." "Dusting them off" is a phrase used to describe balls aimed at or close to the batsman head, the idea being to drive him away from the plate and make him panicky. The deliberate aiming of a ball at the batsman is, of course, strictly forbidden, but "dusters" are often used in the first two or three innings. The psychological effect on the batsman for the rest of the game is often potent.

A pitcher who has fine control is said by his fellow performers to be able to "put it into a knothole," and one who shows steadiness in the pinches is described as "having guts." One who gets flighty "jacks guts" or has one of several unprintable deficiencies. "In the alley," or "in the slot" is said to be a ball that cuts the heart of the plate, and "up his alley" a ball that comes at the speed and in the position that a particular batter finds easiest to hit. The two phrases obviously have been borrowed from bowling.

Pitchers say that a batter who experiences difficulty in connecting with a certain type ball is "a sucker for it." When a batter is fooled by a ball the pitcher throws, he is said to have been—as is said in the general slang of the day—"foxed." Pitchers possessed of experience and mental keenness are said to have "savvy." "Stuff" is a pitcher's wares; it is also called by fellow performers his "stock" and his "goods." The ball itself is "the apple," "the pill," or "the onion."

A hit is a "blow" or a "safe blow." In speaking of the number of hits they make in a game, batters usually tie it up with the number of times they were at bat. Thus, a player does not say that he had "one, two or three hits," "but that he had "one for two, two for three, three for four" etc.

A string of "goose eggs" in the hit column is termed a "horse collar," the "size" of the collar depending on the number of times the batsman has gone hitless. When he lugs a bat to the plate five times, for instance, and does not hit safely on any of them, the other players say that "so-and-so got a horse collar, size five." A time at bat is often referred to as an "A. B." A batter who hits numerous drives off the third or first base line is said to be "hitting 400 in the foul league."

A popular term among players in reference to the hitting of a ball is "riding it." "Smacking it" and "picking it" are other slang phrases used in this connection. Professionals rarely, if ever, say, as the fans do, that a hitter "popped up" or "flew" in their slang a batter "pops up" when he knocks a fly that is caught. A "Texas leaguer"—a short fly just beyond the reach of the infielders and outfielders—is dubbed a "pop fly" by players. When a batter produces a safe "blow" at an opportune moment, his fellow-players say that he has hit "in the saddle," or "in the clutch."

A "bullet" is a ball the batter hits "on the nose" and into the hands of a waiting fielder. When a batter amasses three or four safe "blows" in one game he is said to be "hitting candy."

Remarks About Fielders.
Sports writers speak of players as being "good, sensational, fair, mediocre or poor fielders," but the players themselves sum it up as "he can get 'em," or "he can't get

Won 'Miss Maine' Title



Winning beauty contests is a matter of course with 17-year-old Ethel Mae Stoddard, of Auburn, Me. She has already won four of them and is now selected as "Miss Maine" to represent her State at the International Beauty Pageant at Galveston, Texas.

This Prison Boasts Bona Fide Tea Room

Woman At State Farm Colony Deck Out Their Dining Hall

Kinston. —A tea room in a prison is the latest.

The dining room at the State farm colony for women near here has been converted into a tea room by the prisoners, women between the ages of 17 to 30.

The plain furniture provided by the state was painted by the women. Coats of yellow were applied to the tables and chairs, after which black trimming was applied. Hand-made dollys were contributed by some of the prisoners. Attractive Curtains were made for the windows. The state does not furnish flower vases or other ornamental articles. Hand-painted milk bottles contain the roses and posies with which the dining room is decorated.

"It is really a tea room," the girls declare. The superintendent, Miss Altona Gales, agrees with them. Critics have said there are few tea rooms anywhere so attractive.

The colony, which has none of the appearance of a prison though a penal institution it is, with inmates formally sentenced by judges of Superior court, was opened a few weeks ago. The completed plant will consist of five dormitories beside other buildings. Miss Gales, the superintendent, for a time was at the head of the famous "Welcome home" in Boston. The living quarters, bed rooms and reception room in the one dormitory now in use are as "homey" and well-furnished as the average dwelling.

Good St. Anthony.

Naples, Italy.—A statue of St. Anthony is believed by peasants of the village of Terzigno to have stopped the flow olava a few yards from their homes during the recent eruption of Mount Vesuvius. Residents of the district are flocking to the village to see what is believed to be a rough reproduction of the statue in the hardened lava.

The baby daughter of Signora Margherita Sartella of Geona weighed only one pound at birth.

"em." The professionals call an error or a wild throw a "boot," pick-ups, "digging them out of the dust," or "diving them." A fielder who fails to cover much ground is said to be "playing on a dime." Stealing bases is "carrying the mail."

A player's arm is his "gun" or "wing." "A good gun" means that the possessor has a strong arm. A weak thrower is said to have a "soup arm." Curiously enough, a pitcher invariably sticks to the orthodox "arm" when talking about that important member. Tagging a runner is "putting the ball on him."

A talkative ball player is termed a "barber," while one who "rides" opposing players is called a "jockey." Leo Durocher, the young shortstop of the Yankees, has won considerable fame in both of these roles, and the same is true of Dick Bar-tell, young Pittsburgh infielder. When a "jockey" is particularly active, he is said to be "digging in his spurs."



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