

Celebration of Its Centennial by Illinois Medical Society Recalls the Heroic Service of Pioneer Doctors

By ELMO SCOTT WATSON
(Released by Western Newspaper Union.)

THE 100th anniversary celebration of the Illinois State Medical society, which is being held in Peoria May 21 to 23, has more than a local significance. Not only does it pay tribute to the founders of one of the first state medical associations in this country but it also serves to recall the heroic services of the pioneer physicians and surgeons during the frontier era of American history.



The pioneer doctor's horse waits patiently in the storm while his master is busy on his errand of mercy.

For whether that frontier was along the Atlantic seaboard, in the Ohio and Mississippi valleys, on the Great Plains of the trans-Missouri West or in Rocky mountains, one of the most important figures in the pioneer community was the "man with the little black bag." It was he, who, undaunted by the perils of attack by savage Indians or wild animals, heedless of the danger from floods and prairie or forest fires, and indifferent to the discomforts of blazing summer heat or raging blizzards in winter, cheerfully climbed into his saddle, or into a "one-hoss shay," and set forth to alleviate human suffering.

American vessel nearing the shore, he secreted himself among some barrels, reached the ship safely and returned to America. He arrived in Sangamon county in 1836 and was practicing in the little village of Rochester, near Springfield, when the organization meeting was held.

Almost as adventurous a career as Doctor Hughes' was that of Dr. Charles H. Webb of Livingston county. In 1822, with his brother, he took passage at Pittsburgh on a flatboat bound for St. Louis. At that time a grotto, called Cave-in-Rock, situated on the banks of the Ohio river near Shawneetown was a rendezvous for a band of river pirates who enticed river boats to stop and passengers to disembark with an attractive sign, "Liquor Vault and House for Entertainment."

Captured by Outlaws.

When the flatboat on which Doctor Webb was a passenger reached Cave-in-Rock, the captain and three of the passengers, one of whom was the doctor's brother, were decoyed into landing at that place. When they failed to return, Doctor Webb went ashore to find them. He was promptly seized by three of the outlaws, blindfolded, his hands tied behind him and placed in a skiff which was rowed out into the river and then set adrift.

In the middle of the night Webb succeeded in freeing his hands and with his shoes began bailing out the water that was threatening to swamp the frail craft. At daybreak he managed to reach a small inhabited island where he was provided with a paddle and advised to proceed to Smithland, Ky.



Dr. John Todd

Anxious to learn the fate of his brother, Doctor Webb set out afoot but sprained his ankle and was barely able to hobble along. He was discovered by a girl mounted on a horse. She told him that her name was Cassandra Ford and persuaded him to mount her horse and accompany her to her home.

When he arrived there he found that the girl's father, James Ford, had the flute with which the doctor had entertained the other passengers on the flatboat and which had been taken from him when he was overpowered by the outlaws.

Despite this evidence that Ford was one of the outlaw gang, Doctor Webb proceeded to fall in love with Cassandra. Eventually he returned to that vicinity, married her and with his bride settled in Livingston county to practice his profession. In the meantime his brother had been released by the outlaws and made his way safely to St. Louis.

Still another pioneer doctor who had an adventurous career was Dr. Charles Chandler, whose name is perpetuated in the town of Chandlerville, Ill. A native of Rhode Island, he was practicing in that state when the spirit of adventure influenced him to migrate to the western country. Chandler arrived in Illinois at the time of the Black Hawk war and started up the Illinois river with the intention of settling at Fort Clark (Peoria). But when the captain of the boat on which he was traveling declined to go farther because of fear of the Indians, Chandler disembarked at Beardstown. He was so impressed with the beauty of the country around what is now Chandlerville that he entered 160 acres at the land office and built a cabin on his tract.

A Versatile Doctor.

Chandler soon built up a big practice in the new country and often traveled 100 miles in 24 hours over a territory which now includes seven counties in Illinois. He was also active in many other ways. He erected stores and small shops so that farmers might obtain their necessary supplies without traveling to distant Beardstown over the worst kind of roads. With his brother he established a general store, slaughtered and packed for market as many as 3,000 hogs in a year. He acted as postmaster in 1849 and donated sites for parks and cemeteries.

Nor was Chandler the only one of these pioneer doctors who engaged in activities outside of their profession. They helped lay out townships; start industries and businesses; install systems of education; provide churches; print newspapers; serve in public offices and, when need be, they went to war and fought shoulder to shoulder with their fellow pioneers.

Typical of these public-spirited physicians was Dr. Benjamin Kirtland Hart of Alton, one of the founders of the Illinois State Medical society, who had served as president of his town board and who, three years later, fathered a movement which resulted in the purchase of a site, later the erection of a building, for Alton's first schoolhouse. At the rear of the Peoria home of Dr. Rudolph Rouse was a fine opera hall which Rouse had caused to be built. The result was that pioneer Peoria witnessed some of the finest drama of the day, since Peoria became a stopping point for road companies traveling from one large city to another.

Like many of the pioneer physicians, Dr. Edward Reynolds Roe turned from medicine to devote his natural talents to the less strenuous pursuits of writing and became so much in demand as a writer while practicing medicine in Shawneetown in 1850 that the Illinois Journal at Springfield employed him as a regular correspondent. Then he turned his hand to fiction and produced "Virginia Rose; a Tale of Illinois in Early Days" (which had for its background the lawlessness centering around Cave-in-Rock); which ran as a prize serial in the Alton Courier in 1852; "The Gray and the Blue"; "Brought to Bay"; "From the Beaten Path"; "G. A. R.; or, She Married His Double"; "Dr. Caldwell; or, The Trail of the Serpent"; and "Prairie Land and Other Poems." Later he became editor of the Jacksonville Journal, then the Constitutionalist.

At the outbreak of the Civil war Roe, who was then the first professor of natural science at Illinois State Normal university near Bloomington, raised three companies, composed mainly of his students, for service in the Union army. He was captain, major, and then lieutenant-colonel of the Thirty-third Illinois regiment and was dangerously wounded at Vicksburg in 1863. Later he became editor of the Bloomington Pantagraph, was appointed marshal of the Southern district of Illinois, and served in the state legislature. His varied career ended in 1893 when he died in Chicago at the age of eighty.

Another literary doctor was Benjamin Franklin Allen, a native of Watertown, N. Y., who began practicing medicine in Kane county, Ill., in 1844. In 1860 he settled in Joliet, Ill., and began to devote his time to writing. Among his writings were "The Uncle's Legacy," which ran as a serial in the Will County Courier for six months; "Irene; or, The Life and Fortunes of a Yankee Girl"; and a series of humorous sketches under the title of "Experiences, Advice, Comments and Suggestions of Barney O'Toole," who seems to have been an earlier "Mr. Dooley."

"The Name Is Familiar"

BY FELIX B. STREYCKMANS and ELMO SCOTT WATSON

Watt

JAMES WATT, who devoted most of his life to the invention and improvement of the modern steam engine, has his name commemorated in the field of electricity instead of steam. The unit of electrical measurement called the watt was named after him, and designates the amount of electricity used in doing work.

He was a Scottish engineer who was born in 1736 and died at the age of 83. In his later years he experimented with an apparatus for copying sculpture. Not many months before his death he presented copies of busts to his friends as the work "of a young artist just entering his eighty-third year."



James Watt

The first use of Watt's steam engine was in pumping water from mines. Later, when others suggested making a wheeled cart of it and using it on rails to pull carriages, Watt would not listen to the plans. And so it is that the man who made the steam engine practical died believing that the steam railroad was impracticable.

Maybe, after all, it's just as well that a word in the electrical field instead of steam has been coined to commemorate him.

Galvanism

ONE day in the latter part of the eighteenth century, while Luigi Galvani, eminent professor of anatomy at Bologna, Italy, was at work in his laboratory, an accident occurred that startled the entire scientific world.

Galvani had placed a dissected frog on a table near an electrical machine. His assistant accidentally touched a nerve of the dead frog while the machine was turning and sending out sparks. Immediately the dead frog jumped into action and went through all sorts of physical contortions.



Luigi Galvani

Galvani was a great professor, an authority on anatomy — he must explain this phenomenon! If electricity could make a dead frog's muscles move, then it must be electricity that made its muscles move when it was alive, he reasoned. Was there such a force as animal electricity? Was electricity the force that made all animals — and men — move? Wasn't electricity life itself?

Galvani thought so — and he told the world what he thought. The world believed him — even the medical world — and a new word, galvanism, was added to every European language. It meant the force in a living body that gives it the ability to move and remain alive. And today we still say persons are "galvanized into action" when we mean they have had life put into them suddenly like Galvani's dead frog.

Boycott

THE word "boycott" is a common one and is known to almost every modern language. Originally it was the name of a man and that was only 60 years ago.

In 1880 Capt. Charles Cunningham Boycott, who lived at Lough Mask in County Mayo, Ireland, and who was land agent for a British lord, was so severe and unreasonable with his tenants that they banded together and refused to buy anything from him or work for him. His economic strike reached a climax at harvest time when no one would help him with his crops. A gang of Orange men were sent down from Ulster to aid in the harvest but they went under the protection of a military force from Cavan and elsewhere.



Capt. Boycott

Captain Boycott's troubles attracted wide attention and the Irish League successfully used the same tactics to force their demands in other localities, repeating the "Boycott incident." By the time of his death in 1897 a boycott had come to mean the same thing throughout the world. The French word is "boycotter"; the Dutch, "boycotten"; the German, "boycottieren," and the Russian, "boikottirovat."

(Released by Western Newspaper Union.)

World's Smallest Nations

The three smallest nations in the world in area are the Principality of Monaco, which has an area of eight square miles; the Republic of San Marino, with 38 square miles, and the Principality of Liechtenstein with 65 square miles.

More Trim, Trig Slack Suits Being Worn Than Ever Before

By CHERIE NICHOLAS



AT FIRST popularized by women at swank summer and winter playgrounds, then spreading like a banyan tree to include women everywhere, the vogue for slacks has been growing until this summer more trim, trig and versatile trouser suits are being worn than ever before in fashion history.

It is no wonder that women the country over have adopted slacks as the most sensible costume ever invented. For housework they are a sheer delight, likewise for driving, for long cross-country trips, for golf, tennis, picnicking, marketing and for informal dining, slacks have become an enthusiasm that knows no bounds.

Designers who have always had their ears to the ground to catch the trend of women's likes and dislikes have caught this sweeping approval of slacks and have set about creating new and fascinating styles. This has added to the growing demand for American designers — designers who understand the psychology of the American woman. It is interesting to note that Ruth Wade Ray, director of the Vogue School of Fashion Design in Chicago, says that the greatest number of calls they have for graduate designers comes from manufacturers of sports wear. This, of course, includes slacks and shows the nation-wide trend toward simplified smart attire.

The three-piece style we are illustrating is becoming almost a unicity favorite in that it is so eminently practical, including, as it does, both skirt and slacks. Yvonne Andersen, a Vogue school pupil, designs this utilitarian threesome of soft yet firm gabardine in a lovely shade of desert green (gabardine comes in a whole list of other delectable colors). The smart lumber-jacket shirt blouse can be worn outside with the slacks (shown to the

left) or tucked in and worn with a narrow belt when a more tailored appearance is desired. A multiple duty feature is added with the skirt (centered in illustration) which, worn with the blouse, becomes a costume for shopping, bridge or almost any place you desire to wear it.

An idea gaining popularity this season is a new version of the lounging pajama. But they're slacks just the same! The trousers are very wide looking, almost like a skirt until the wearer moves about. These are made in soft materials, often with contrasting blouses as shown to the right in the group. In this instance the trousers are in a most attractive clay red and the blouse is of sun-yellow crepe, a coloring in keeping with the environs of a California living room, the theme of which includes a gay sombrero on the wall, a basket to match and candelabra of glittering tin, something very new in household decoration.

So completely have women become converted to the trouser-costume idea, slacks in more or less colorful and designful mood are considered quite proper, have, in fact, become very popular as an informal dinner costume. Certainly they are vastly becoming and have lots of appeal in their accents of gay color. Some of the slacks suits have cunning little jackets to be worn with a sheer blouse and they are smart enough for informal dining or dropping in on your neighbor for an evening of bridge.

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Ceramic Jewelry



Something new in the jewelry realm! Authentic copies of genuine old china for necklaces, bracelets, lapel pins and gadgets. Marion Weeber, American artist, is the ceramicist that is modeling and enameling ceramic charms that bear every resemblance to their originals. In this most attractive ceramic motif, authentic copies of fine old American, English and French pieces are achieved such as one sees in collections at private and public museums. These, interspersed with miniature gold cups, spoons, knives and forks, are suspended from a gold chain or otherwise cleverly assembled to form stunning necklaces and bracelets in the manner pictured.

Shawls for Sports

New Fashion Trend

The fashion for wearing shawls has advanced from suits and evening gowns to dresses for spectator sports wear. A gray linen outfit that buttons up the front has a matching gray and white linen shawl with a deeply fringed border.

White Accessories

On Style Program

White hats, white shoes, foamy white neckwear, white gloves, buttonieres, and loads of white jewelry, such is the program for the coming weeks.

For flattery try one of the new white chenille dotted white veils. Glorify your navy straw hat with an exquisite realistic huge white rose. Trim your new gray felt hat with white violets repeating the violets on your lapel.

Be sure your white handbag is immense (the larger the smarter) and see to it that your white gloves go elbow length — and so on and so on, for the story of "white" is too lengthy and rife with brilliant high spots to condense in a few paragraphs.

Jeweled Ear-Hooks

New Paris Fashion

Newest Parisian earrings hook over the top of the ears and drip chains of diamonds or other precious stones. The hooks are designed of fine gold wire shaped like spectacle frames. They hold a large round diamond against the lobe of the ear, and pendants of pear-shaped jewels over the top of the ear, close to the hairline.

Jersey Slack Suit

Has Strong Appeal

Brown and white jersey, in a half-and-half arrangement, is used for an attractive slack suit that may also be worn for lounging. The back of the suit and one sleeve and shoulder are brown, while the rest of the suit is white. The jersey jacket is long and very fitted and has two patch pockets that extend all the way across the front.

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Fur-Clad Island

Its name is Possession, and it can be found on the charts of South-West Africa. Seen from the sea it almost blinds you, because of the white guano which covers it, but a hundred years ago a Captain Morrell, who wrote a book, "Narrative of Four Voyages," said that when he arrived off Possession he found it clad in fur. The whole island was covered with the bodies of fur-seals, their skins still on them. He believed the seals had been overwhelmed and suffocated by one of the terrifically hot whirlwinds which sweep out to the ocean from the desert coast. Captain Morrell may have been right in his theory, but the same hot winds blow from the land today and yet the seals do not meet a similar fate. Another of the sea's mysteries.

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