

Under Workers

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S E P R O D I A N

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T H E

O D I A N

A PUBLICATION DEVOTED TO
THE INTERESTS OF EMPLOYEES OF
SEPROD LIMITED, KINGSTON, JAMAICA.

TWO WRONGS = TWO WRONGS

As members of the Jamaican community we have all become accustomed to news of violence. The newspapers are seldom without stories of murders by shooting, stabbing and by the use of blunt instruments. Wounding by various types of weapons has become commonplace and the courts are hard pressed for the time to deal with these crimes.

When the circumstances behind the incidents come to light, in many cases it can be seen that the trouble lies in the fact that too many of our fellow citizens believe that two wrongs make a right, when in truth and in fact two wrongs, when put together, equal two wrongs.

One wrong deed is done and somebody is hurt. That person is not able to overlook the wrong, nor does he seek redress through any orderly channel that may be available to him. Burning with wrath, the one who has been hurt takes the law into his own hands, and his main desire is to retaliate in even stronger terms than he has been wronged. The result in the more serious cases is usually violence followed by an appearance in court.

Two thousand years ago the Prince of Peace taught his early followers to turn the other cheek when a blow was received on one side. That is still good advice, although not many human beings reach the state of perfection which will allow them to follow that line of action.

Coming down a bit from the heights of perfection, and long before we reach the depths where violent retaliation becomes the rule of life, a commonsense middle ground is reached where people will take peaceful and lawful means to have their wrongs redressed.

Every well organised unit of society has its rules and regulations by which its members are guided and those rules and regulations must apply to all, if they are to be effective.

(Continued overleaf)

SOMETHING MEDICALFACTS ABOUT CANCER:

Why certain body cells become cancerous is not yet known. But some of the conditions and substances (carcinogens) which may cause or lead to cancer are known.

Cancer is neither inherited nor contagious.

Cancer occurs in children and in young people, but it is more common in older people.

Although there is still disagreement as to whether excessive cigarette smoking causes lung cancer, there is increasing statistical evidence that it is an important factor. Pollution of the air by cancer-producing agents is also under investigation as a cause of lung cancer. The intensive research studies that are being conducted on causative factors in lung cancer should eventually provide the answers.

Repeated sunburn and overexposure to sunlight can cause skin cancer in some people. Fair-skinned people, in particular, should avoid excessive exposure to strong sunlight, and make certain to use a protective cream or lotion.

Breast cancer is the most common type of cancer among women. Physicians can give women simple instructions for monthly self-examination of the breasts.

Cancer of the uterus is also a common type of cancer in women. Every woman should have a pelvic examination, including a cancer smear ("Pap") test, at least once a year. If cancer of the cervix (entrance of the uterus) is discovered early, it is usually curable by proper treatment. It is important for every mother to have a pelvic examination six weeks after the birth of a baby.

It is advisable to consult a physician about moles which are in places where they may be irritated.

Seeing a dentist periodically will enable him to detect conditions in the mouth which might indicate or lead to cancer.

- Metropolitan Life Insurance Company.

TWO WRONGS = TWO WRONGS (Continued from Page 1)

Every person, whatever his rank or station, should be able to find guidance for the proper adjustment of wrongful acts and it is not likely that the rules will suggest that two wrongs will make a right. One wrong added to another adds up to two wrongs and a disruption of peace and harmony.

OUR HOMELAND'S HISTORY

When Christopher Columbus arrived in Jamaica in 1494, he and the crews of his three ships landed at what is now known as Discovery Bay in St. Ann.

These agents of King Ferdinand and Queen Isabella of Spain had already touched at Cuba and Haiti, but in coming to Jamaica what did they find? Here was an island smaller than the other two, but striking in its physical beauty. It was later found to measure 152 miles from east to west, and its greatest width from north to south was 52 miles; the area, 4,207 square miles.

The inhabitants were all of the Arawak tribe of Indians who occupied various parts of the island and were present on the sea coast to give Columbus and his party an unfriendly reception. But the Spaniards had seen that the island had the wood and water that they needed and with their superior weapons they soon made the Arawaks realize that resistance was useless.

The Arawaks, who wore very little covering for their bodies, saw for the first time men who were fully clothed, men who did not paint their faces, men who knew how to use gunpowder, men who eventually made them slaves and, finally, caused them to be wiped out by cruel treatment.

UNCLE ALBERT SAYS:

In the newspaper world there is a popular phrase which says: "Names make news." That is seen to be true when we consider what some people will do to get their names in the papers.

But making news is not all that names do. They sometimes make trouble for their owners. Some parents give their children names that they never live down and which cause the children never to forgive the older people who so condemned them.

The oldest story of such a case concerned a man who had a shop on Laws Street some years ago. He complained to a friend that he could get no business and the friend asked him why.

Said the man making the complaint: "Take a look at the sign over my shop door." His friend looked and saw that the sign read "A. Crook - Tailor & Cutter."

The friend thought for a moment and then spoke: "I see how that might keep away customers. Then why not use your full name?"

The tailor replied, "My dear sir, that might make things worse. My first name is Adam."

MASKING THE SYMPTOMS

One of the first things a medical student is taught is: "Don't mask the symptoms!"

But, after he starts practice as a physician, if he lets sympathy overrule his better judgment, he may prescribe pain-killers before thorough diagnosis - thereby masking the true symptoms and placing his patient's life in jeopardy.

Pain is a symptom. Let a competent doctor investigate the origin of persistent pain, and he may discover a malfunction that could threaten life.

Accidents are also symptoms - clear indications that something is radically wrong with the efficiency of our work methods. If we make casual reports of accidents and neglect the possibility of recurrence, we may jeopardize the lives and health of our people.

In the plant accident situation, the "family doctor" is the supervisor. He has the intimate knowledge of all his operations that will enable him to find and eliminate most accident causes - if he will make an honest effort. If necessary, he has the safety officer to call in as "specialist."

If we continue to cover up the persistent headaches of recurring minor accidents with operational "aspirin" - giving no thought to the basic causes, the odds are against us.

LET'S STOP MASKING THE SYMPTOMS!

- Industrial Supervisor.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU:

Greetings and best wishes are offered this week to: Hugh Dixon, Bertram Harris and Alden Watson.

SeprodiaNotes

Off on vacation leaves starting this past Monday were Noel Brown, Reginald Brown, Sydney Clarke, Harris Crawford, Robert Fraser, Victor Hall, Stanford Haughton, Edwin Hudson, and Joseph Sewell.

Employed as Secretary to the Marketing Supervisor, Miss Barbara Fairweather entered upon her duties last week Wednesday, October 3.

YOU HAVE A STAKE IN YOUR COMPANY

S E P R O D J A M A I C A

A PUBLICATION DEVOTED TO
THE INTERESTS OF EMPLOYEES OF
SEPROD LIMITED, KINGSTON, JAMAICA.

PAINLESS SAVING

Every person who is earning money should have the ambition to save some part of his wages. There is nothing more distressing to an employee than to find that week after week, month after month he has to spend every penny that is paid him by his employer.

Still, it happens to thousands of men and women, and this inability to put aside something for "a rainy day" has nothing to do with the size of the salary. Many employees in the so-called high salary brackets find themselves in the same difficulty as the lowly wage earners because they lack a method of making sure that some part of their earnings is saved.

One of the best of any plans is that which saves the money before it reaches the employee's hands. This provides an opportunity for laying aside a fixed amount each pay-day and the employee soon becomes accustomed to doing without that part of his wages. The saving is painless.

Any arrangement of this kind is most valuable, if the amount to be saved is small. It is always found difficult, even considered a waste of time, to go to a bank every week with a few shillings, yet a few shillings saved regularly soon grows into a useful sum of money.

Proof of this is seen in the fact that 159 Seprod employees have saved nearly £4,500 since the middle of January this year, and none of them has had a deduction of more than twenty shillings per week from his or her wages.

Savings of this nature can bring only good to the employees. For one thing, the accumulated amount - or some part of it - may be placed in the bank where it will continue to earn interest. For another, it may be used for purchasing a necessary article without delivering the user into the misery of the hire-purchase business.

The Seprod savings plan will be continued in 1963 and it is to be hoped that more employees will take advantage of it.

SOMETHING MEDICALSTY:

A sty is a small boil in the margin of the eyelid. The causative germs find their way down into a follicle from which an eyelash grows and begin to multiply there. There may be but one sty, if the trouble is due to accidental or temporary causes; but if the cause is lowered body resistance or chronic irritation of the lids, repeated crops of sties are likely to come.

Sties frequently occur in children who are anaemic or run-down. To avoid them, build up the general health. Sties may also be prevalent in persons who have acne (pimples or small abscesses). These are frequently helped by specially prepared vaccines.

What should be done: Pull out the eyelash in the middle of the sty.

To relieve the pain apply continuous wet dressings of very warm saturated boric acid solution. This same solution and bits of cotton should be used to cleanse the eyes of pus when the sty ruptures.

Apply 1 per cent yellow oxide of mercury ointment nightly by squeezing a little between the eyelid edges against the eyeball and spread it by winking the eyes rapidly a few times.

Have the eyes tested for glasses and try to build up the general health by means of proper diet, rest, and outdoor exercise.

- "New Guide To Health".

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU:

Congratulations are in order for the following who complete another year of life this week: Cecil Clarke, Alfonso Forrest, Miss Hycinth Samuels, Herbert Thomas and Ronald Young.

SeprodiaNotes

Mrs. Barbara Blake, Chief of Office Services, leaves the Company this week-end after nearly nine years of employment. Within the next few days she leaves the island for the United States in company with her husband and two daughters.

Miss Urcolla White started her annual leave this week.

OUR HOMELAND'S HISTORY

Coming up from 1807 when the slave trade was discontinued, there were eventful years during which the treatment of the slaves became more oppressive. Bad as this was, it produced good results in the form of the abolition of slavery in 1838.

In 1823, after it had become clear that conditions had become too severe the British Government instructed the colonial authorities to ease the burden of the slaves. This the House of Assembly refused to do as it was their opinion, they said, that the slaves were as happy and comfortable as the labouring class in any part of the world.

The year 1831 saw a serious rebellion of the slaves who had heard of the representations made on their behalf in England by churchmen and others who were opposed to slavery. Believing that they had already been granted freedom by the King, but that their owners still insisted on keeping them in chains, the slaves rebelled.

Hundreds were flogged, shot or hanged by the troops sent out to quell the rioting, but the road to complete freedom was now open.

UNCLE ALBERT SAYS:

With numerous organizations and communities holding contests for queens of this and that, Seprod finds itself among those business concerns that have not attempted anything of that nature.

As it is not good to be left out of what seems to be an enjoyable pastime I am suggesting that something be done about it next year, as it is already too late for 1962.

In order to be different, my idea is that the local effort should take the form of a male beauty contest. Surely, there are enough handsome gents in the various departments to furnish candidates for the competition.

Much as I would like to see this contest follow the usual lines I wish to make it plain that this will not include the bathing suit parade near a convenient hotel swimming pool. The public can see enough knobby knees and hairy legs at the public beaches.

If we are to have the contest at all, let it be limited to the area above the neck. That will be bad enough. The prize for the winner should be an expense-paid week-end in Gimme-me-bit.

COMPRESSED AIR CAN BE DANGEROUS

There are still many people who either through ignorance or complete disregard for their own safety and the safety of others, continue to use compressed air in a manner which can cause serious injury.

If you have to clean down a machine with the assistance of compressed air, make sure your eyes are protected from flying particles, and that there is no innocent bystander who might be affected in this way or from a direct stream of air coming from the air hose.

The use of compressed air may seem a quick means of getting dirt and dust from your clothes and hands, but it is also a quick means of adding yet another injury. Do not allow yourself to be tempted.

The following extract from "The Seprodian" of January 3, 1962, is worthwhile repeating here. "Did you know that your clothing offers little or no protection, and that even a low pressure of 10 - 15 lbs. per square inch has been known to cause serious injury? If the air enters a scratch or puncture in the skin, however small, it can cause the limb or affected part to swell to alarming proportions accompanied by severe pain. If it forces its way into the bloodstream it can make its way into the small blood vessels of the brain, burst the vessels and cause death."

With just 9 safe working days left before Christmas, don't take chances, especially with compressed air.

Miss Myrtell Fraser returned to work last Monday after a leave of absence.

We hasten to apologise to Miss Blanche Binns for referring to her as "Mrs." in last week's issue. We hope no gentleman with good intentions will be misled by the wrong title.

The fire extinguisher in your department is a work-saver and a life-saver. Do not allow it to be obstructed by other objects, and not tamper with it so that the charge may be released. Its only purpose is to put out a small fire before it becomes a big fire. Be ready to use it when necessary.