THE STORY
OF
US
DO YOU KNOW HOW DISEASES ARE SPREAD?

DISEASES ARE SPREAD IN MANY WAYS.

SOMETIMES WE GET DISEASES FROM FLIES, FLEAS AND MOSQUITOES.

RATS AND FLEAS SPREAD BUBONIC PLAGUE AND TYPHUS FEVER.

MOSQUITOES SPREAD MALARIA, YELLOW AND DENGUE FEVERS.

SOME DISEASES ARE CAUSED BY TINY WORMS THAT ENTER THE BODY SUCH AS TAPEWORMS, OR HOOKWORMS.
DO YOU KNOW HOW DISEASES ARE SPREAD?

FOOD OR WATER CAN ALSO SPREAD SOME DISEASES AS DYSENTERY AND TYPHOID FEVER.

WE ALSO GET SOME DISEASES BY TOUCHING A PERSON WITH THE "ITCH", RINGWORM, OR IMPETIGO.

AND THEN, THERE ARE GERMS THAT PASS FROM ONE PERSON TO ANOTHER BY COUGHING OR SNEEZING, CAUSING Colds, DIPHTHERIA, PNEUMONIA AND TB.

STILL OTHER DISEASES ARE PASSED ON BY VERY CLOSE CONTACT AS SEXUAL INTERCOURSE OR KISSING. THESE ARE THE VENEREAL DISEASES, OR AS WE WILL CALL THEM HERE VD. THERE ARE FIVE OF THESE DISEASES BUT THE MOST COMMON ONES IN HAWAII ARE SYPHILIS AND GONORRHEA.
SCIENCE HAS CONQUERED SYPHILIS

...SYPHILIS IS BELIEVED TO HAVE BEEN BROUGHT TO SPAIN IN 1493 WHEN THE SAILORS OF COLUMBUS RETURNED.

IT THEN QUICKLY SPREAD OVER EUROPE. LITTLE WAS KNOWN ABOUT THE DISEASE FOR SEVERAL HUNDRED YEARS.

THEN IN 1905, SCHAUDINN FOUND THE CAUSE OF THE DISEASE. IT IS A VERY TINY, CORKSCREW SHAPED GERM.
Two years later, in 1907, Wassermann developed a blood test which shows whether or not syphilis is present in the body.

In 1910, after 605 unsuccessful experiments, Ehrlich found a cure for syphilis. It has since been popularly called Dr. Ehrlich's "Magic Bullet."

But we, in not yet completely.

We know the way to find out if people have the disease.
BUT WE, THE PEOPLE, HAVE NOT YET CONQUERED SYPHILIS

WE KNOW THE CAUSE --

WE HAVE A CURE --

1910, AFTER 605 SUCCESSFUL EXPERIMENTS, EHRlich FOUND A CURE FOR SYPHILIS. IT HAS SINCE BEEN FAMILARLY CALLED DR. EHRlich'S MAGIC BULLET."

WE KNOW THE WAY TO FIND OUT IF PEOPLE HAVE THE DISEASE --

...AND YET, THE DISEASE HAS NOT BEEN WIPED OUT. WHY? BECAUSE PEOPLE DON'T KNOW THE FACTS ABOUT THE DISEASE.
JIMMIE FINDS OUT HOW SERIOUS
VD IS

DAD, LOOK AT THAT MAN! WHAT MAKES HIM SO CRIPPLED AND WALK THAT WAY?

WELL, SON, SICKNESS HAS MADE SOME PEOPLE THAT WAY.

WHAT SORT OF SICKNESS, DAD? DO MANY OF YOUR PATIENTS GET CRIPPLED LIKE THAT?

JIMMIE, SOMETIMES PEOPLE WHO ARE SICK DO NOTHING ABOUT IT UNTIL IT IS TOO LATE. SOME DISEASES, LIKE SYPHILIS, REMAIN HIDDEN IN THE BODY AND CAUSE DAMAGE LATER ON AS YOU JUST SAW IN THAT MAN WHO IS PARALYZED.
JOE SERIOUS

SON, AS MADE SOME THAT WAY.

JIMMIE FINDS OUT HOW SERIOUS VD IS

BUT, DAD,
DON'T THOSE PEOPLE GET SO SICK THEY GO TO A DOCTOR?

WITH SPHILIS, THE PERSON MAY NOT REALIZE ANYTHING IS WRONG AS THERE MAY NOT BE ANY OUTWARD SIGNS, OR, IF THERE ARE, THEY MAY NOT BE NOTICED.

WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY THESE SIGNS, DAD?

OH, THERE ARE SEVERAL SIGNS. TWO OF THE MOST COMMON ONES ARE A SORE ON THE MOUTH OR SEX ORGANS THAT HASN'T HEALED IN A FEW WEEKS, OR A RASH ON THE BODY. OTHERS ARE PATCHY LOSS OF HAIR, FEVER AND PAINS IN THE BONES. BUT DON'T GET THE IDEA THAT A COLD SORE OR PIMPLES MEAN ONE HAS THE DISEASE.
JIMMIE FINDS OUT HOW SERIOUS VS IS

DOES EVERYONE WHO IS CRIPPLED LIKE THAT MAN HAVE SYPHILIS?

NO, JIMMIE, YOU MUSN'T THINK THAT. ONLY A DOCTOR CAN TELL WHO HAS SYPHILIS. WE DOCTORS USE MANY WAYS TO DECIDE WHETHER A PATIENT HAS SYPHILIS AS A PHYSICAL EXAMINATION AND BLOOD TEST.

DOES SYPHILIS DO OTHER THINGS TO A PERSON BESIDES CRIPPLING HIM?

YES. SYPHILIS IS A VERY SERIOUS DISEASE. IT MAY CAUSE INSANITY, BLINDNESS AND HEART DISEASE. MANY PEOPLE DIE FROM THE DISEASE BECAUSE THEY HAVE LET IT GO TOO LONG WITHOUT TREATMENT OR THEY HAVEN'T HAD ENOUGH TREATMENT.

SYMPHILIS AND GONORRHEA, USUALLY COME FROM SEX CONTACT. WITH A PERSON WHO HAS THE DISEASE, KISSING A PERSON WHO HAS THEM MAY ALSO SPREAD THE DISEASE.
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JIMMIE FINDS OUT HOW SERIOUS VD IS

HOW DO PEOPLE GET THIS DISEASE?

SYPHILIS AND GONORRHEA, USUALLY COME FROM SEX CONTACT, WITH A PERSON WHO HAS THE DISEASE. KISSING A PERSON WHO HAS THE SORES OF SYPHILIS ON THE LIPS MAY ALSO SPREAD THE DISEASE.

YOU MENTIONED GONORRHEA, DAD. IS THAT THE SAME DISEASE AS SYPHILIS?

NO, IT'S AN ENTIRELY DIFFERENT DISEASE ALTHOUGH BOTH ARE SPREAD USUALLY IN THE SAME WAY--THAT IS, BY SEX CONTACT. GONORRHEA HAS DIFFERENT SIGNS FROM SYPHILIS.
Jimmie finds out how serious VD is.

What are they, Dad?

Well, gonorrhea may be painful. This burning or stinging pain may be felt when water, or urine as it is called, is passed. There may be a discharge of pus from the sex organs.

Is gonorrhea as serious as syphilis?

Gonorrhea may make men and women unable to become parents. It is an important cause of blindness in newborn babies. Even grown-ups may become blind by infection from its germs. Crippling and a damaged heart may come from untreated gonorrhea.

Gee, those diseases do cause a lot of trouble, don't they?
How can congenital syphilis be prevented?

Dr. S. 

The doctor will see you now.

There is one thing more, Mrs. Smith. It will be necessary to have a blood test.

Why, doctor?
HOW CAN CONGENITAL SYPHILIS BE PREVENTED?

YOU SEE, ACCORDING TO A LAW WHICH WAS PASSED IN HAWAII IN 1943, EVERY EXPECTANT MOTHER, WHEN SHE FIRST VISITS A DOCTOR, MUST HAVE A BLOOD TEST FOR SYPHILIS.

WHY IS THAT SO IMPORTANT, DOCTOR?

WELL, IF A WOMAN HAS SYPHILIS, HER BABY MAY BE BORN DEAD OR, IF ALIVE, MAY HAVE THE DISEASE.

A FEW DAYS LATER

MORE THAN ANYTHING ELSE, I WANT TO MAKE SURE MY BABY IS BORN FREE OF THE DISEASE. WHAT CAN I DO?

IF YOU WILL TAKE REGULAR TREATMENT UNTIL THE BABY IS BORN, YOU WILL HAVE A GOOD CHANCE OF HAVING A BABY FREE OF SYPHILIS. IT'S LIKELY FOR YOU THAT YOU CAME IN SO EARLY FOR AN EXAMINATION. IF TREATMENT IS STARTED BEFORE THE LAST FIVE MONTHS OF PREGNANCY, THE CHANCES ARE NINE OUT OF TEN FOR A BABY FREE FROM SYPHILIS.
HOW CAN CONGENITAL SYPHILIS BE PREVENTED?

A FEW DAYS LATER

THE REPORT OF YOUR BLOOD TESTS INDICATES THAT YOU HAVE SYPHILIS.

MORE THAN ANYTHING ELSE, I WANT TO MAKE SURE MY BABY IS BORN FREE OF THE DISEASE. WHAT CAN I DO?

IF YOU WILL TAKE REGULAR TREATMENT UNTIL THE BABY IS BORN, YOU WILL HAVE A GOOD CHANCE OF HAVING A LIVE BABY FREE OF SYPHILIS. IT'S LUCKY FOR YOU THAT YOU CAME IN SO EARLY FOR AN EXAMINATION. IF TREATMENT IS STARTED BEFORE THE LAST FIVE MONTHS OF PREGNANCY, THE CHANCES ARE NINE OUT OF TEN FOR A BABY FREE FROM SYPHILIS.
HOW CAN CONGENITAL SYphilis BE PREVENTED?

WELL, SO TODAY IS THE DAY FOR YOUR WEEKLY TREATMENT. I MUST SAY YOU'VE BEEN VERY GOOD ABOUT NOT MISSING A WEEK.

LATER

IT ISN'T SO BAD WHEN YOU KNOW IT WILL MEAN SO MUCH TO THE BABY.

YOUR BABY HAS BEEN CHECKED CAREFULLY AND SHOWS NO SIGNS OF SYphilis. I WISH MORE PEOPLE WOULD LEARN THAT CONGENITAL SYphilis IS PREVENTABLE. IF EVERY PREGNANT WOMAN DID AS YOU DID, WE COULD COMPLETELY WIPE OUT CONGENITAL SYphilis.

DOCTOR, I HAVE TO MAKE A REPORT TO MY SCIENCE CLASS ON THE BIOTEST FOR SYphilis. WILL YOU SHOW ME HOW IT'S DONE? I HAVE A NOTE FROM MY MOTHER ALLOWING ME TO HAVE THE TEST.
How is a Blood Test Done?

Johnny asks a Doctor

Doctor, I have to make a report to my science class on the blood test for syphilis. Will you show me how it's done? I have a note from my mother allowing me to have the test.

I'd be glad to, Johnny. Everyone should learn about it as it is very important.

First, Johnny, I'll take a rubber tourniquet and place it around your upper arm to make the veins stand out. Then, I want you to make a tight fist.

Has been checked carefully no signs of syphilis. I people would learn that syphilis is preventable. Pregnant woman did as you could completely wipe out congenital syphilis.
HOW IS A BLOOD TEST DONE?

WILL IT HURT, DOCTOR?

NO, JOHNIE, YOU WILL HARDLY NOTICE IT. YOU CAN TURN YOUR HEAD AWAY, IF YOU LIKE, SO YOU WON'T SEE IT.

NO, DOCTOR, I WANT TO WATCH IT.

ALL RIGHT THEN. WITH THIS LITTLE NEEDLE, I'LL TAKE ABOUT A TEASPOONFUL OF BLOOD FROM A VEIN BELOW THE BEND OF YOUR ELBOW AND THEN I'LL PUT IT INTO A TUBE.
NO, JOHNNIE, YOU WILL HARDLY NOTICE IT. YOU CAN TURN YOUR HEAD ANYWAY, IF YOU LIKE, SO YOU DON'T SEE IT.

THEN, WITH THIS LITTLE I'LL TAKE ABOUT A TEASPOONFUL FROM A VEIN BELOW THE BEND OF THE ELBOW AND THEN I'LL PUT IT IN THIS TUBE.

HOW IS A BLOOD TEST DONE?

THIS BLOOD WILL BE SENT TO A LABORATORY WHERE SPECIAL TESTS WILL BE MADE ON IT. IF THE TEST IS POSITIVE, IT INDICATES THE PRESENCE OF THE DISEASE. LATER, THIS REPORT OF THE BLOOD TEST IS SENT TO THE DOCTOR.

WELL, DOCTOR, A BLOOD TEST IS IMPORTANT. IT'S A SURE WAY OF TELLING US WHETHER WE HAVE SYPHILIS, ISN'T IT?

NOT ENTIRELY, JOHNNIE. THE DOCTOR USES SEVERAL WAYS besides the blood test to make sure. FOR EXAMPLE, A PHYSICAL EXAMINATION IS IMPORTANT. WE CAN'T BE SURE FROM ONE BLOOD TEST ALONE.
HOW COMMON A DISEASE IS SYPHILIS?

IN THE U. S.?

It was estimated that 3,200,000 persons had the disease in 1941 in the United States.

The estimate of new cases of syphilis occurring yearly in the U.S. is 500,000.

Out of the first two million selectees who were blood tested, about 90,000 were found to have syphilis.

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How common a disease is syphilis?

In Hawaii?

For the seven years from 1937-1943 there were 6,054 cases reported.

Syphilis was number seven from the top of the list of all communicable diseases during that time.
HISTORY OF GONORRHEA

The origin is not definitely known but it is evidently an old disease.

Gonorrhea was named by Galen, a Greek physician, in 200 A.D.

In 1831, Ricord proved syphilis and gonorrhea were two separate diseases.

Not until almost 50 years later was the cause of the disease discovered. In 1879, Neisser found the very tiny coffee-bean shaped germs which cause gonorrhea. These germs are always found in pairs.

In 1884, the usual laboratory means of telling whether the disease is present was developed.

The sulfa drugs (1937) and penicillin (1943) are the best drugs for the treatment of gonorrhea.

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GONORRHEA

IS NOT DEFINITELY KNOWN
EVIDENTLY AN OLD DISEASE.

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THE SULFA DRUGS (1937) AND
PENCILLIN (1943) ARE THE
BEST DRUGS FOR THE TREATMENT
OF GONORRHEA.

HOW WIDESPREAD A DISEASE IS
GONORRHEA?

GONORRHEA IS ESTIMATED TO BE
TWO TO THREE TIMES MORE COMMON
THAN SYPHILIS IN THE U. S.

IN HAWAII DURING THE SEVEN
YEAR PERIOD (1937-1943),
THERE WERE 6,873 CASES
REPORTED TO THE BOARD OF
HEALTH.

IT WAS THE FIFTH MOST COMMON COMMUNICABLE
DISEASE DURING THAT TIME IN HAWAII.
WHAT ARE SOME OF THE EFFECTS OF GONORRHEA?

BLINDNESS IN BABIES.

OTHER EFFECTS.

BLINDNESS IN ADULTS.

STERILITY (INABILITY TO BECOME A FATHER OR A MOTHER).

CRIPPLING.

MARY FINI COMMUN

VD - Venereal Disease

I'LL BE GLAD TO. I'M GOING TO THE CLINIC NOW, SO COME ALONG.

MISS WOULD THE P CONTR
MARY FINDS OUT HOW A COMMUNITY FIGHTS VD

MARY, I WANT YOU TO MAKE A REPORT TO THE CLASS ON WHAT OUR COMMUNITY IS DOING ABOUT VD. THE CLASS IS ABOUT READY TO FINISH ITS WORK, SO BE READY TO REPORT ON FRIDAY.

MARY VISITS A PUBLIC HEALTH NURSE.

MISS BROWN, I WONDER IF YOU WOULD GIVE ME SOME HELP ON THE PROBLEM OF THE COMMUNITY CONTROL OF SYPHILIS AND GONORRHEA.

I'LL BE GLAD TO. I'M GOING TO THE CLINIC NOW, SO COME ALONG.
IN THIS CLINIC, WE GIVE TREATMENTS TO THOSE WHO CANNOT PAY. THOSE WHO CAN PAY, GO TO THEIR OWN DOCTOR. TO CONTROL A DISEASE, IT IS NECESSARY TO FIND THE CASES AND PUT THEM UNDER TREATMENT.

THEN, WE FIND OUT WHERE THE PERSON GOT THE DISEASE. WE ALWAYS TRY TO GET ANSWERS TO TWO QUESTIONS FROM THE PATIENT: FROM WHOM DID YOU GET THE DISEASE? TO WHOM MIGHT YOU HAVE GIVEN IT?

WE CHECK UP ON ALL PERSONS CONCERNED AND MAKE SURE THE PATIENTS ARE UNDER TREATMENTS REGULARLY. I'D SUGGEST YOU GO TO THE LIBRARY TO FIND OUT WHAT LAWS THERE ARE ON THIS SUBJECT FOR ANOTHER WAY TO CONTROL VENEREAL DISEASES IS BY LAW.

HERE IS THE PRENATAL ACT WHICH PASSED IN 1943 BY THE TERRITORIAL LEGISLATURE. THIRTY STATES HAVE SIMILAR LAWS. BESIDES THE PRENATAL LAWS, THIRTY STATES HAVE PRENATAL ACTS TO PREVENT THE BLINDNESS IN BABIES CAUSED BY GONORRHEA, DRUMLINE, ARE PLACED IN THE BABY'S EYES AT BIRTH. HAWAII, AS WELL AS MOST STATES, REQUIRES THIS SAFEGUARD LAW.
Mary finds out how a community fights VD

We check up on all persons concerned. We make sure the patients are taking treatments regularly. I'd suggest you go to the library to find out what laws there are on this subject, for another way to control venereal diseases is by law.

Let's see . . .
We can look under the headings "prenatal" and "premarital" to see whether there are any laws listed on these topics.

Here is the prenatal act which was passed in 1943 by the territorial legislature. Thirty states have similar laws. Besides the prenatal laws, thirty states have premarital laws. To prevent the blindness in babies caused by gonorrhea, drops are placed in the baby's eyes at birth. Hawaii, as well as most states, requires this safeguard by law.
MARY FINDS OUT HOW A COMMUNITY FIGHTS VD

I GUESS I'D BETTER LOOK UP "PRENATAL" AND "PREMARRITAL" IN THE DICTIONARY. SOMEONE WILL BE SURE TO ASK ME WHAT THEY MEAN.

LET'S SEE . . .
OH, HERE IT IS . . .
"PREMARRITAL" MEANS BEFORE MARRIAGE AND "PRENATAL" MEANS BEFORE BIRTH.

IN CLASS ON FRIDAY

AND SO, THAT IS WHAT OUR COMMUNITY IS DOING TO FIGHT THESE DISEASES.

YOUR REPORT IS WELL DONE, MARY. EXCEPT THAT YOU FORGET THAT WE, TOO, ARE FIGHTING VD RIGHT HERE IN THIS CLASS BY LEARNING ABOUT THESE DISEASES.
Together we must fight these diseases.
As citizens of a community, we all must help in every way possible to wipe out these serious diseases.
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