

cal Association; aged 69; died, February 24, of coronary thrombosis.

Lewis Jerome Belknap, San Jose, Calif.; University of Michigan Medical School, Ann Arbor, 1888; aged 78; died, in February, of injuries received when he was struck by an automobile.

Wilfrid Louis Biron (†) Manchester, N. H.; Tufts College Medical School, Boston, 1904; aged 55; died, Dec. 6, 1931, in the Notre Dame Hospital, of diabetes mellitus and chronic nephritis.

Thomas B. Snead, Tazewell, Tenn.; Kentucky School of Medicine, Louisville, 1892; member of the Tennessee State Medical Association; aged 62; died, February 23, of pneumonia.

Harold W. Perkins, San Diego, Calif.; Dartmouth Medical School, Hanover, N. H., 1886; aged 72; died, January 30, of chronic myocarditis, uremia and carcinoma of the prostate.

Clarence John Williamson, Newport, Ky.; Eclectic Medical College, Cincinnati, 1928; member of the Kentucky State Medical Association; aged 41; died, March 7, of pneumonia.

Sylvester W. Thorn (†) Memphis, Tenn.; Memphis Hospital Medical College, 1908; veteran of the Spanish-American War; aged 57; died, February 29, of chronic myocarditis.

Charles Edgar Conrad, Huntsdale, Mo.; Barnes Medical College, St. Louis, 1894; aged 72; died, March 1, in the Boone County Hospital, Columbia, of tuberculosis and nephritis.

James Turner, Waupun, Wis.; University of Michigan Medical School, Ann Arbor, 1871; Civil War veteran; aged 85; died, March 4, of influenza and chronic myocarditis.

Frank Atherton Cargill, Bridgeport, Conn.; New York Homeopathic Medical College and Hospital, 1892; Civil War veteran; aged 82; died, March 5, of senile dementia.

Orvil Owen McKee, Caldwell, Ohio; University of Michigan Medical School, Ann Arbor, 1882; formerly bank president; aged 78; died, March 8, of angina pectoris.

James Arnold Day, Waltham, Mass.; Dartmouth Medical School, Hanover, N. H., 1887; aged 76; died, February 28, of injuries due to long exposure to roentgen ray.

Harry Homer Myers, Dayton, Ohio; Western Reserve University School of Medicine, Cleveland, 1910; aged 47; died, March 19, in the Alliance (Ohio) City Hospital.

John Adolphus Raithel, Evanston, Ill.; Bennett College of Eclectic Medicine and Surgery, Chicago, 1896; aged 61; died, March 8, in Long Beach, Calif., of heart disease.

Theodore Wright, Los Angeles; University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine, Philadelphia, 1891; aged 63; died, January 19, of coronary occlusion and myocarditis.

Thomas Verner, Vancouver, B. C., Canada; Victoria University Medical Department, Coburg, Ont., 1885; L.K.Q.C.P., Ireland, 1886; died, February 4.

Robert M. Andrews, Bostic, N. C.; Memphis (Tenn.) Hospital Medical College, 1901; aged 65; died, February 17, of pulmonary tuberculosis.

Thomas A. Smurr, Ottawa, Ill.; Jefferson Medical College of Philadelphia, 1862; aged 94; died, March 5, in the Ryburn Hospital, of senility.

Archie O. Burton, Wichita, Kan.; University of Louisville (Ky.) School of Medicine, 1879; aged 75; died, March 1, of coronary embolism.

Louis Jacobs, San Francisco; College of Physicians and Surgeons of San Francisco, 1901; aged 51; died, February 9, of myocarditis.

Rufus E. Brock (†) Waynesburg, Pa.; Jefferson Medical College of Philadelphia, 1879; aged 74; died, March 15, of heart disease.

Josiah W. Clegg, Los Angeles; College of Physicians and Surgeons, Keokuk, Iowa, 1896; aged 73; died, January 28, of thrombosis.

Richard Harrison Mason, Nanaimo, B. C., Canada; University of Toronto Faculty of Medicine, 1896; aged 67; died, January 4.

Isaac M. Shrader, Bowling Green, Ohio; Eclectic Medical Institute, Cincinnati, 1882; aged 79; died, March 6, of arteriosclerosis.

Joseph J. Carter, Los Angeles; Rush Medical College, Chicago, 1901; aged 54; died, March 12, in Vienna, of heart disease.

Thomas L. Rives, St. Louis; Missouri Medical College, St. Louis, 1885; aged 68; died, January 10, of carcinoma of the liver.

Bureau of Investigation

RADIUM AS A "PATENT MEDICINE"

The Methods and Activities of William J. A. Bailey in the Field of Radioactivity

The recent newspaper reports of the death of a well-known steel manufacturer and sportsman, due to radium poisoning, not unnaturally caused the public to ask the question: Why do the federal authorities permit the indiscriminate sale to the public of dangerous "patent medicines"? The answer is—as every physician realizes—that the national Food and Drugs Act gives the federal officials no power to stop the sale of dangerous nostrums, as such. If no false statements are made *in or on the trade package* of a medicine that enters into interstate commerce and if the presence and amount of the eleven drugs and their derivatives that are mentioned in the national Act are properly declared on the label, the federal officials have no power whatever to stop the sale of such products.

The death of the man just mentioned was, according to newspaper reports, brought about by the continued use of a nostrum known as "Radithor," put out by one William J. A. Bailey of East Orange, N. J., who in that particular piece of exploitation did business under the trade name, Bailey Radium Laboratories. Radithor has been twice dealt with in THE JOURNAL: January 29 and July 16, 1927. In view of the facts that the death that has already occurred and the likelihood that there will be other deaths from the same cause will stimulate interest in the exploiter of Radithor, such facts as the Bureau of Investigation has accumulated on William J. A. Bailey, become matters of public interest.

Carnegie Engineering Corporation.—The earliest record we have of William J. A. Bailey is from an item that appeared in the *New York Times*, May 8, 1915, in which it was reported that one William J. A. Bailey had been arrested following an investigation by the federal authorities of his activities in the promotion of the Carnegie Engineering Corporation. It was reported that this company sent circulars to various parts of the world, advertising a new automobile that was to be sold for about \$600 and delivered F.O.B. Pittsburgh. Advance orders were to be accepted on deposit of \$50 for each car, and, according to the report published at that time, some 1,500 orders were obtained. While the Carnegie Engineering Corporation was not remotely connected with the well-known Carnegie Steel Company, the public was led to believe that there was such a connection. The Bailey concern advertised that it had a factory at Kalamazoo, Mich. Investigation disclosed that the so-called factory was an abandoned sawmill and its furnishings a single box of tools! Although the company was represented to be capitalized at a million dollars, it had no assets except some stationery and enough equipment to keep three stenographers busy. According to the same report, Bailey was, at that time, also, president and treasurer of the American Hardware and Machinery Export Corporation.

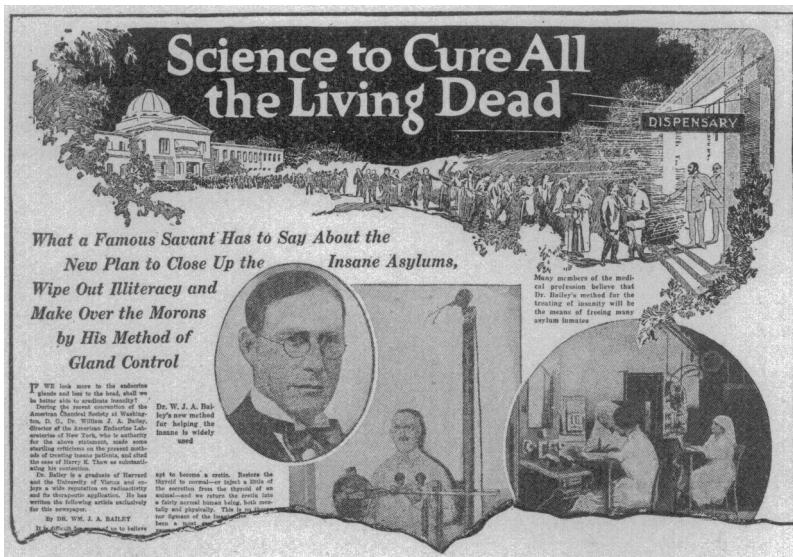
On September 9, 1915, the Postmaster General issued a fraud order against the Carnegie Engineering Corporation. The postal authorities brought out that although the concern was incorporated for a million dollars, not a single share of the capital stock had been subscribed for, nor a single dollar paid in; it had no material or facilities for the construction of machines, and was—and always had been—without means to operate the business. Bailey and two others involved were arrested and held under bond for the action of the federal grand jury. According to the prison records of the City of New York, William J. A. Bailey was sentenced in the United States Court in New York on December 14, 1915, on a charge of violations of Section 215 of U. S. laws.

Arium.—A few years ago, Bailey was president and one of the incorporators of Associated Radium Chemists, Inc., New York City, which put out a line of "patent medicines." Among these were "Dax" for coughs, "Linarium," an alleged radium liniment, and "Clax" for influenza. "Arium," which was described as "radium in tablets," was the chief product put out by the Associated Radium Chemists, Inc., and was heavily

advertised. The Bureau of Investigation received hundreds of inquiries about this obvious nostrum and, in due time, the Department of Agriculture made several seizures, declared that the claims made for Arium were false and fraudulent, and judgment of condemnation and forfeiture was entered and the court ordered that the product be destroyed.

Thorone.—Bailey also was connected with the Thorone Company in New York City. In fact, from letters sent out by the Thorone Company, it would appear that the Thorone Company was William J. A. Bailey. This concern purported to put out "Radium and Thorium Pharmaceutical Preparations." Their chief product was "Thorone," which was said to be the "formula of William J. A. Bailey" and to be "250 times more radioactive than radium." It was a nostrum of the "cure-all" type—"indicated in all glandular, metabolism and faulty chemistry conditions." It was especially recommended for sexual impotence.

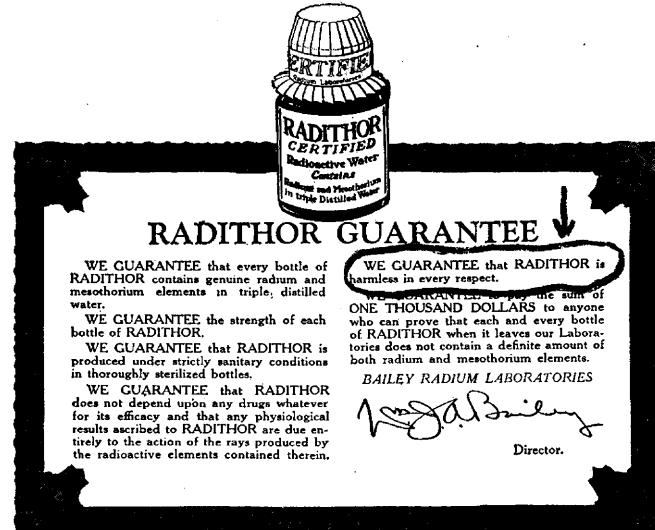
Radiendocrinator.—Then William J. A. Bailey, with one Ward Leathers, traded under the name, American Endocrine Laboratories of New York City, putting out a piece of high-priced hokum called the "Radiendocrinator." The Radiendocrinator was three-eighths of an inch thick and two inches by three inches in size and sold for \$1,000. The advertising was elaborate to a degree and such as would appeal particularly to wealthy neurotics who were interested in "sexual rejuvenation." But the Radiendocrinator was also recommended for a list of conditions that might have been taken from the "Family Medicine Book," ranging alphabetically from acidosis and amenorrhea through baggy eyes and biliousness, catarrh and constipation, diabetes and dry scalp, fatigue and flatulence, goiter and gout, lumbago, myxedema, obesity and poor memory, pimples, prostatitis, rickets, sciatica and wrinkles. In addition, "Looks, Character and Memory improved by the Radiendocrinator," said the advertising. There was nothing cheap about the Radiendocrinator, and when it first came on the market, the American Endocrine Laboratories had no hesitancy in asking—and, presumably, no difficulty in getting—\$1,000 for the device. Later, as the edge of gullibility dulled, the price was lowered first to \$500 and, later, to \$150. The Radiendocrinator was said to send out gamma rays which would "ionize the endocrine glands."



Greatly reduced reproduction of part of a full-page newspaper article that appeared about Bailey following his "paper" before the American Chemical Society. This ran as a syndicated article in numerous papers and was later reprinted by Bailey and sent out to prospective dupes as part of the advertising "come-on."

Radithor.—Then came "Radithor." In its exploitation, Bailey used the trade style, Bailey Radium Laboratories, Inc. Radithor came in half-ounce bottles. Not less than a case of thirty bottles could be purchased; price \$30. One bottle a day was to be taken and a case constituted one month's treatment. Bailey furnished with each case the "Radithor Guarantee," which declared that "every bottle of Radithor contains genuine radium and mesothorium elements in triple-distilled water." Bailey

also guaranteed that "any physiological results ascribed to Radithor are due entirely to the action of the rays produced by the radioactive elements contained therein." Those who read of the untimely death of the steel manufacturer, following the taking of Radithor, will be interested in Bailey's "guarantee"



Reproduction (reduced) of Bailey's "guarantee" for Radithor the nostrum responsible for recent death of a well-known industrialist. Note the claim that Radithor is guaranteed "harmless."

that "Radithor is harmless in every respect." It is characteristic that Bailey, in exploiting his Radithor, should make this statement:

"All former methods of injections, emanation machines, radium ore jars, tablets, etc., have been largely discarded."

This from a man who had in the past sold tablets containing radium and an emanation device for which he charged \$1,000, and who, since Radithor has been withdrawn from the market, has exploited other alleged emanation devices!

The various pathologic conditions that Radithor was said to be good for was essentially the same alphabetically-tabulated list of pathologic states that Bailey used in connection with his exploitation of the Radiendocrinator. In his advertising, Bailey emphasized that if one was going to take Radithor, it was absolutely essential to use the stuff over an extended period, a minimum of from three to five months being "the most satisfactory for the average condition."

Because of Bailey's misrepresentations in the sale of Radithor, the Federal Trade Commission began looking into his activities, for Bailey could not be reached under the national Food and Drugs Act, his previous experience with those officials having taught him to make his misrepresentations elsewhere than on the trade package. On January 17, 1932, the Federal Trade Commission ordered Bailey and his company to cease claiming that the alpha ray in radium, as contained in Radithor, was not destructive and to cease representing that Radithor was a harmless product. Bailey was also told to stop representing that Radithor would improve the 160 conditions or symptoms that he listed in his advertising. He was told, too, to cease publishing books and pamphlets advertising Radithor, which had been written and prepared by persons other than those designated in the books as authors. Bailey did not contest the Federal Trade Commission's proceedings. Instead, however, it seems that in true Bailey style, he has gone from one form of radioactive quackery to another.

Bioray.—Bailey's next product seems to have been the "Bioray," put out by the Bioray Company, which did business from a postoffice box in East Orange, N. J. Apparently, the Bioray Company was yet another trade name for William J. A.

Bailey. The Bioray was supposed to give off "a continuous flow of gamma rays." Quoting from the advertising:

"The Bioray can be placed on the desk, by the bed at night, or anywhere else. The rays will pass through the clothing readily so that one can be sure of receiving them even when fully dressed or covered with bed clothing. It is beautifully designed and occupies no more space than an inkwell or desk clock. Weighing less than a pound, it can be slipped into the hand bag to use while one is on a trip."

"When the Bioray is placed in the room it immediately floods it with invisible gamma rays. Thus one can have these rays whenever one desires them, day or night, winter or summer, rain or shine. With Bioray on one's desk or at one's bedside one can obtain a steady flow of gamma rays continually, without any fuss or bother and without interruption of the daily routine. Just place it where you wish and it works automatically."

"The Bioray needs no recharging at any time. The radioactive elements therein will continue to pour forth a steady stream of rays, day and night, for centuries to come. It is complete as is and unbreakable. It costs absolutely nothing to operate as it requires no electrical current. It never stops working. There is nothing to get out of order and no skill is needed to operate it."

"The rays travel a considerable distance so that if placed in a corner of a room or office a large group of people may receive radiation at the same time. While the Bioray has been called a 'miniature sun' yet it is far richer in the short, invisible rays than sunshine."

Thoronator.—The next excursion into the field of radioactive nostrums brought forth the "Thoronator," which was described as a "Health Spring for every Home and Office." It was, essentially, a small vial that would possibly hold two ounces of water and in which there was a small cylinder that was said to give off emanations of thoron. The purchaser was told to fill this vial with tap water as frequently as he felt like it and the water would "miraculously and instantly" be transformed "into genuine radioactive water as rich in vital rays as some of the most famous health springs of the world and hundreds of times richer in these rays than the old-fashioned radium jars." As part of the advertising "come-on," there was a "report" on the stationery of the Radium Institute of New York, signed by its "Director," C. Everett Field, and addressed to William J. A. Bailey of East Orange, N. J. Dr. Field stated that it gave him great pleasure to know that Bailey "had developed an apparatus that makes it possible to obtain this thoron economically and simply." The Thoronator was sold by the Thoronator Company of New Jersey from 617 Central Avenue, East Orange, N. J.

Adrenoray.—Just how long the Thoronator lasted we do not know, but Bailey's present trade name seems to be not Bioray Company, nor Thoronator Company, but Adrenoray Company—also, of course, operating from East Orange, N. J. The "Adrenoray" is an alleged radioactive belt and consists of five discs or alleged generators, each said to contain "a measured amount of genuine radium from which is emitted constantly a definite volume of mild, penetrating, stimulating gamma rays." The belt is to be so worn that the discs are over the adrenals, and these glands are said to be "ionized by the continuous biopositive radiation" that the Adrenoray is supposed to give out. Its chief value, according to Bailey, is to overcome "lowered sex function, general debility and neurasthenia." But it is also good for that same alphabetical list of pathologic conditions used so frequently by Mr. Bailey in exploiting his various radioactive nostrums!

In the advertising of the Adrenoray, Bailey speaks of the use of the product at the Radium Institute of New York and publishes part of an alleged clinical report by C. Everett Field, M.D., Director of the Radium Institute of New York. This is the same C. Everett Field who, while not now, was for so long an active proponent of the Koch cancer treatment. Field highly recommends Bailey's Adrenoray. Field was expelled from his local medical society in New York City in 1926.

This brings the Bureau of Investigation's record of William J. A. Bailey down to March, 1932. Just what Bailey's next scheme will be in exploiting radium as a "patent medicine," only the future can tell. While in the advertising over a period of years and during his various activities Bailey is spoken of as "Doctor," he is not, so far as our records show, a graduate of any reputable medical school nor licensed to practice medicine in any state in the Union. In January, 1927, William J. A. Bailey pleaded guilty to the illegal practice of medicine in New Jersey. Some years ago, Bailey put one over on the American Chemical Society when he appeared before that body. He

obtained a vast amount of newspaper publicity at the time. Yet, the man was, and still is, totally unknown to the scientific chemical world.

From what has been written, it is evident that Bailey is essentially a promoter and has found, to his profit and to the public's detriment, that he can get away with a great deal more in the quack medical field than he could in the quack automotive field. This, doubtless, is because juries more frequently convict those who sell fake industrial stocks than those who sell worthless or dangerous products for the alleged cure of human ailments. In law, human life is still one of civilization's cheapest commodities.

Correspondence

WEIGHT OF TUMOR—PRIORITY IN KNEE-CHEST POSITION

To the Editor:—I have long desired to correct two matters by a clear statement. The first dates back to 1885, about two years after my residency in the Episcopal Hospital in Kensington, Philadelphia, when I operated on a Mrs. Thompson, a widow, aged 42, who had an enormous ovarian tumor. I was assisted in the operation by Joseph Price and B. Alexander Randall, in the presence of A. K. Minich, S. T. K. Morton and George Boyd (*Am. J. Obst.* 18:795, 1885). There was a long incision, and the extensive adhesions prolonged the operation over two hours, which was completed with a drainage tube in the pelvis, through which there was very free subsequent discharge. The great mass of tumor filled a sizable wash tub, close by the rude table on which the patient lay in her poor dwelling. The tapping of the sacculi and the bleeding caused considerable soiling of the abdominal contents, and water was used freely from a pitcher to cleanse the abdominal viscera. After all was over, we sent across the street for the steelyards belonging to a butcher in the Kensington market. The whole multilocular cystic mass with the accumulated fluids tipped the scales at 132 pounds. As soon as the weighing was completed, a nurse dumped everything down a privy well. The tub weighed 16 pounds, leaving a weight of 116 pounds (52.6 Kg.) for the tumor. It has occurred to me many times since writing that report in trying to recall all the circumstances that due allowance was not made for the fluid used in irrigating the abdomen, and that the weight stated, therefore, cannot hold and should not be cited as 116 pounds net but left indeterminate.

The other correction refers to a matter of some years later. To the best of my recollection I had been using the knee-chest posture for rectal examinations over a considerable period and later noted that Sims had once casually mentioned his use of it also. A Dr. Carpenter in the Middle West entered a vigorous complaint that a published statement of his own in one of our lesser journals, which I had not seen, had not been noticed in my paper published in the *Annals of Surgery* in 1895. The occasion of my writing this is that about this time I secured from Bernhard Liebisch of Leipzig a copy of an excellent publication by Walter J. Otis of Boston entitled "Anatomische Untersuchungen am menschlichen Rectum und eine neue Methode der Mastdarminspection. 1. Theil. Die Sacculi des Rectum," Leipzig, 1887. Dr. Otis did not on returning to Boston, as I understand, continue in practice. I made efforts to see him and have for a long time intended to make this belated acknowledgment, giving him the full credit of priority in this important method of examination, which in all fairness should be called by his name. A copy of his work is in the Hopkins Medical Library (now the Welch Medical Library) where I placed it a number of years ago. I have been unable to recall the date at which I first found Otis's work. It is remarkable that so valuable a contribution should so long have gone unnoticed. *Palmam qui meruit ferat.*

HOWARD A. KELLY, M.D., Baltimore.