



RUBY SAYS

by
Ruby Duncan

First, may I ask what kind of man is John Connolly and what makes people like him tick? Especially supporting a man like Earl Butz.

As you remember, Earl Butz was the head of the Department of Agriculture under both Nixon and Ford. He has been the one who came out and made some extremely nasty remarks about Blacks. This forced the public up in arms and he was forced out of office. He has also been the one who has been so anti the food stamp program and the WIC program and has done everything in his power not to see either program work.

As you also remember, John Connolly is the man who led up the group in 1972 "Democrats for Nixon." After the election, he switched parties and became a Republican. He was involved in the milk scandal and other unsavory things that have come to the eyes and ears of the public.

Now he has the gall to come out in support of Earl Butz and say that Butz should not have been fired and that Butz did only what everyone else does - make jokes about Blacks. He also said that Jimmy Carter's Playboy interview was much more "offensive" than Butz's comments. Carter did not talk about anyone but himself. And at that he was honest. Butz was talking badly against people he doesn't even know - and we're grateful that the public stood up to him.

I certainly hope all Democrats will cast their vote for Carter and Mondale. President Ford has not and will not support programs for the poor.

Our thanks go out to Gov. O'Callaghan for supporting the Economic Development project in West Las Vegas. The Regional Planning Commission Committee voted unanimously for the project after Rev. Dunn and a host of people from the Black community showed interest.

The Voice is the only Black newspaper in Southern Nevada. This paper should be supported by Blacks and White alike. I am grateful because Mr. Lawrence Albert, the publisher, supports poor people and gives them a Voice in the affairs of the community.

**V*A FACTS

EDITOR'S NOTE: Following are representative questions answered daily by VA counselors. Full information is available at any VA office.

Q -- I was originally covered by a National Service Life Insurance Term Policy and converted it to a 20-year Payment Life Policy 5 years ago. Do I have the option to change back to term insurance?

A -- No. Once you elect to convert to a permanent plan, you cannot change back to term insurance.

Q -- My Service-connected disability was increased from 10% to 30%. How much will the VA allow for my dependents?

A -- Only those veterans whose service-connected disabilities are evaluated at 50% or more are entitled to allowances for dependents.

Q -- May a person on active duty undertake farm cooperative training, apprentice or on-the-job training under the GI Bill?

A -- These courses are not available to active-duty personnel. However, other GI Bill training is available for service members.

Q -- I am interested in obtaining a speaker on veterans' benefits for a noon luncheon. How can I arrange this?

A -- Contact the director of the nearest VA regional office.

Happiness Through Health

by
Otto McClarrin

Fat Infants Become Fat Adults

Chubby infants often grow up to be fat adults, researchers say, and it is possible to predict when they are six months old which ones will have this problem. The doctors say their findings suggest that parents should not force their babies to eat too much too soon.

"It looks as if by six months of age we can identify a proportion of people who will be obese adults," said Dr. Evan Charney, who directed the study at the University of Rochester.

Doctors have suspected for several years that there is a link between early childhood weight and adult obesity, but this is the first study that traced development from birth to the third decade of life and shows a direct correlation, the report said.

The research team found that the 10 per cent of children who were fattest at six months were 2.6 times more likely to be overweight when they reached their 20s. They also found that underweight babies tended to become skinny adults. And they discovered that the fattest adults are most often the ones with the least education or who come from the lowest social classes.

The doctors said they were not sure why some children put on the extra weight early in life. "Whether any of this is amenable to change and whether altering diet can make a difference isn't clear," Dr. Charney said in an interview.

"Maybe it's all determined by genetics." However, he added that the results show rapid weight gain in children -- something that is prized by some parents -- may not be particularly healthy for the infants.

Cancer Study Backs Post Surgery Drugs

Injection of a drug after surgery for cancer of the colon or rectum has doubled the cure rate in patients who would ordinarily face a three-in-four chance of dying of their disease, two Long Island physicians reported recently.

The finding, involving the country's second leading cancer killer, after lung cancer, supports the growing belief among cancer experts that a significant dent can be made in the death rates associated with the country's major forms of cancer. These rates have remained essentially stable for several decades despite improvements in surgery.

The report offers another example of how such cancers, once thought to be relatively resistant to anti-cancer drugs, or chemotherapy, can be halted if, in addition to surgery, the right drugs are used at the right time in the right way.

Earlier this year, Italian researchers reported that chemotherapy after surgery for breast cancer delay recurrence of the disease in women who face a high risk of developing metastases, or spread of the cancer to other parts of the body.

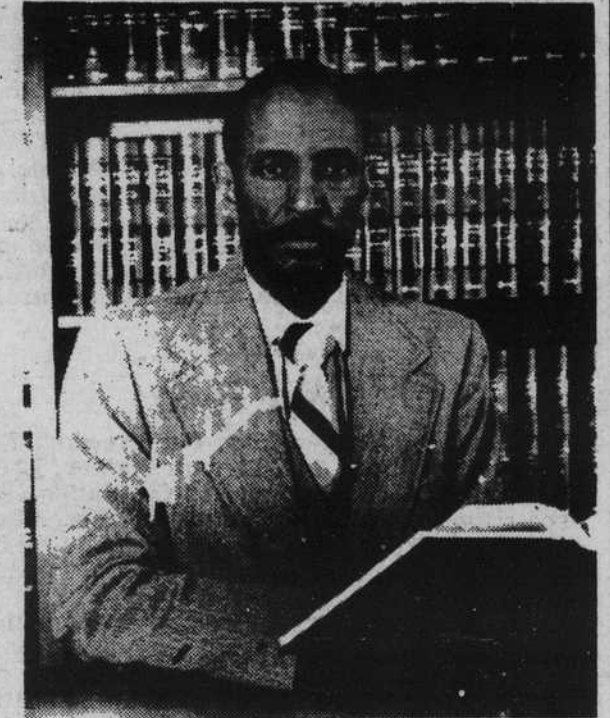
Colorectal cancer will cause an estimated total of 49,000 deaths in this country this year, and 99,000 Americans will be diagnosed as having the disease. It is readily curable by surgery alone when it is detected early, which can be done through annual colon examinations using a proctosigmoidoscope (generally recommended for people over 40).

Drs. Min C. Lee and Stuart T. Ross of Nassau Hospital in Mineola, Long Island, said that, based on their study of 213 patients, the curability of more advanced colorectal cancer be dramatically increased using an old cancer drug in a new way, to wipe out possible hidden colonies of cancer cells.

According to their report, if a short course of treatment with the drug 5-fluorouracil, commonly called 5-FU, was given starting four to six weeks after surgery, 57.5 percent of the patients with "Stage III" disease were alive and free of cancer five years later, compared with 24.3 percent who were treated by surgery alone.

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