

New County Health Director Is Happy With Spot To Settle

By Norman Indahl

Dr. Gilbert Dunnahoo, the new county health director, has finally settled down to work in one spot after a steady diet of globe-trotting and "living out of a suitcase" for the last 20 years.

If the 61-year-old, distinguished looking health chief gets the sudden urge sometime to be on the move — off to a distant part of the world of another state — it will not be surprising. His work has taken him to foreign countries, throughout the western states and Hawaii.

The doctor has spent half his life with the national health service. A multitude of experiences has been crammed into three decades.

Smoking a cigar as he talked in a pleasant, calm voice, Dr. Dunnahoo relaxed in his office at the health department. He recalled a lifetime of experiences that saw him start out as a 28-year-old doctor in the health service and rise to one of the youngest assistant surgeon generals.

He has done consultation work for foreign countries; had an important part in writing health laws; done research work; served as a doctor in a leprosy hospital, and made efforts for new legislation pertaining to immigration.

Dr. Dunnahoo never intended to stay in the health service when he was assigned to a hospital in Portland, Me., in 1928. He meant to remain only one or two years, then go into private practice.

"I got so enamored with what I got so enamored with what just never quit," he recalled.

Last month Dr. Dunnahoo retired from the health service as director for the far western states with headquarters in Denver, Colo. He served as consultant to health officers and did a great deal of work with chronic diseases and industrial health. The states covered were Wyoming, Colorado, Utah, Montana and Idaho.

During the oral interview with the screening committee when he was a candidate for the county job, one of the members who knew his background asked if he could become accustomed to one place after "living" out of a suitcase most of his life.

"I thought I could," Dr. Dunnahoo replied to the question. "I have been traveling for some 20 years and I ought to settle down some place."

It was purely by chance that he happened to hear about the opening in Santa Cruz county as a result of the death of the late Dr. Russell Ferguson. Dr. Dunnahoo was supposed to be in Trinidad last November to assist the country in overhauling the communicable disease laws, but the health service called it off.

"If they (national health service) had loaned me to the world health service to do the job, I

Health Director Gets Helping Visitors



Two state department of public health officials tour the health center with the new county health officer, Dr. Gilbert Dunnahoo. (standing), second from the right. They are Dr. C. Henry Murphy, regional medical coordinator, left, and Dr. Frank Hesse, right, tuberculosis officer. At work is Richard White, director of the local department's laboratory service. Dr. Dunnahoo worked with Dr. Hesse for approximately 10

years while he was regional consultant in San Francisco for the national health service. The new health chief said his new job will "be a switch" with the state officials offering him consulting services.

was the only person around diving." Dr. Dunnahoo explained that he learned the sport while serving at a leprosy hospital in Hawaii and became highly skilled.

probably would not be sitting here," he said with a smile. Some cancer projects came in at the time and his service felt Dr. Dunnahoo should remain in Denver.

The new health chief is no stranger to California or the county. He had headquarters in San Francisco and a home in Menlo Park while serving for eight years as regional director for the far western states, Hawaii, Guam and Alaska.

At the request of Dr. Ferguson he made a speech to a civic organization in Watsonville. Dr. Dunnahoo was transferred last April to Denver.

Presented a plaque by United Air Lines for logging more than a half-million miles, he has assisted 48 foreign countries on health problems.

Last year the globe-trotter attended an international conference on cancer in Mexico City. He went to Iran to overhaul the quarantine and communicable disease regulations. After spending three months

in the oil-rich country with a torrid 130 degree temperature, he hopped over to Guam to help set up a poison control center.

Dr. Dunnahoo explained that a poison control center is a medical station that has at its command ready knowledge for any hospital on what to do about patients who are victims of some type of poisoning.

"Frankly, I have not had time to look into our own (Santa Cruz county's) needs for one," he stated.

In 1952 Dr. Dunnahoo was chairman of a committee from the World Health Service that drafted international sanitary regulations — "the Bible for all air travel." Ninety-six foreign countries were represented at the meetings conducted in Geneva, Switzerland.

Ten years before heading the sanitary regulations committee he was responsible for the formulation of the national health requirement for smallpox vaccinations. This came about while he was serving in Washington, D.C. as chief of the division of foreign quarantine and immigration.

While in Washington he had to inspect quarantine stations dotting the map from Hawaii to Europe. Dr. Dunnahoo fought for a long time for legislation that would permit the admission of 1000 active tuberculosis cases per year from foreign countries. A bill was introduced in congress but it never received any favorable action.

Before taking the Washington, D.C. post in 1942, he was stationed in Miami, Fla. Here he gained quite a reputation as a skindiver. Many persons referred to him as "that crazy doctor" always skin-diving.

"The sport was unheard of at that time," he reminisced. "I had to make all my own equipment. I

GUNMEN MURDER GREEK CYPRIOT
Nicosia, Cyprus (AP)—Gunmen killed Greek Cypriot Christoforos Onissoforou in a Limassol street Friday. It was the third such murder in a week.

Facts and Fallacies about Jewelry

BY
DICK
STEEN



FALLACY:

The hardness of a gem is measured by its resistance to breakage.

FACT:

Hardness in gemstones is resistance to abrasion and scratching, no breakage. A diamond can be shattered but not scratched. Gems are measured by Mohs' scale for this hardness, rating from 10 down. The diamond is the only gem with a hardness value of 10, all others being rated down from that.

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4x8x5/8"	3.45