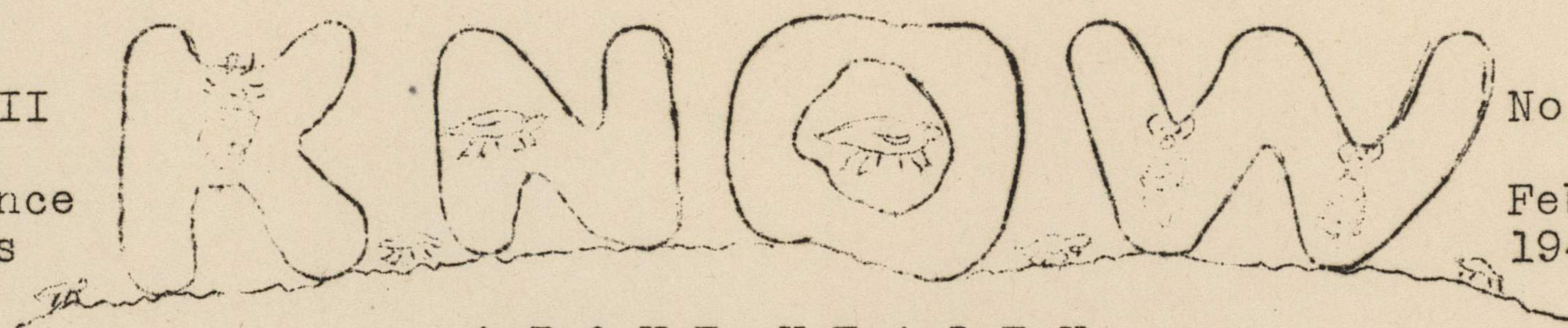


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A B O U T H E A L T H

THE DOUGLAS COUNTY HEALTH UNIT, City Hall, Massachusetts Street, at 11th, functions daily from 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. Come in and tell us your troubles.

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If two or more people wish to talk about something, they must have a common vocabulary, i.e. they must have some words that mean the same to each one in the group. To be sure, some thought transference can be had from the context, from tones, and from gestures, but the general truth remains undisputed,--they must have a vocabulary in common.

DIAGNOSIS

DIAGNOSIS is a formidable looking word and means by its etymology a "knowing through". A word often associated with it means a "knowing forward", i.e. a prognosis. If you do not know either now or subsequently, you are an "agnostic". Diagnosis has been defined as distinguishing a disease from its symptoms. A differential diagnosis distinguishes a disease from other diseases with which it might be confused, i.e. does this patient have typhlitis, perityphlitis, peritonitis, diverticulitis, or appendicitis, etc. Other adjectives are used, such as clinical, laboratory, X-Ray, physical, according to the place, means, or viewpoint of the making. An interesting variation is the negative diagnosis in which one seeks to render assurance that the patient does not have tuberculosis, lues, malaria, or what have you. Many people are more interested in knowing the names of their ailments than in doing something about them. It thus happens that some people refuse any treatment until a diagnosis is made and others stop treatment when it is made.

SURGICAL

SURGICAL abdomen is any condition of the abdomen requiring an operation. This diagnosis can often be made long before an accurate decision can be reached as to what, exactly, is the condition. Any penetrating wound of the abdomen demands opening and exploration, with, of course, doing what is indicated. A blow or kick or fall often causes a surgical abdomen and the sooner the operation is done the greater the probability of saving a life. Some acute and serious inflammation may develop and require operation. If in any doubt at all, call a surgeon and follow his advice.

SOME \$63.00 WORDS

SOME \$63.00 words. Please do not miss them. Do you know what phthiasis is? It is a synonym of pediculosis. Any one can have this fearsome sounding disease. As applied to one's person the correct common word is pediculosis (accent on lo) used as a noun, i.e. he has