Pictures of Ancient China

Knowledge of ancient China, previously confined almost entirely to what has been learned from literature, has been greatly expanded by tile pictures in the tombs of China in early days, Prof. William Charles White, formerly Bishop of Honan, and now of the University of Toronto, revealed.

Dating back 22 centuries, the tile pictures, well-protected through the ages against vandalism, present a new and fresh picture of the costumes, weapons, and pursuits of the time. A large collection of the tiles, which are from five to six feet long, two feet or less in width and six inches thick, is now housed in the Royal Ontario Museum of Archaeology.

Science News Letter, July 9, 1938

PUBLIC HEALTH

New Attack on Cancer To Seek Early Treatment

NEW attack on cancer, aimed at prevention and early treatment, was explained by Dr. Ludvig Hektoen, executive director of the National Advisory Cancer Council.

Where in the past states have tried to open new institutes for the seriously ill cancer patients, now it is being advocated that the main attack be turned on state-wide prevention and early treatment of this disease in its controllable stages.

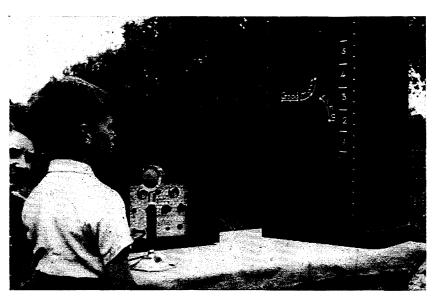
Dr. Hektoen, who addressed the annual conference of health officers and public health nurses of New York State, pointed out that this state-wide, local method of fighting cancer is recommended by the State Cancer Commission which New York's legislature appointed to study the problem.

Dr. Hektoen emphasized that the control of cancer is a public health problem affecting an entire state. Since the majority of people in a state are unable to get early diagnosis and proper treatment if they develop this disease, it is becoming recognized that state health agencies have the duty of helping forestall this serious and dangerous malady.

Prevention of cancer includes teaching the public to avoid occupational hazards and personal habits, such as rubbing the tongue against a rough tooth, which may lead to a persistent and possibly cancerous sore.

Science News Letter, July 9, 1938

The most brightly colored of all large birds is the flamingo.



TALKING IN COLORS

The vertical row of colored lights, which flash to show this deaf child whether his voice is pitched naturally or not, is controlled by tuning forks operated electromagnetically. The youngster talks into a microphone, tries to imitate the rise and fall of voice indicated by his teacher on the blackboard before him.

SYCHOLOGY

Ways of Helping Deaf Child Discussed at Conference

Mechanical Device Enables Deaf To Avoid Monotone; Efforts At Salvaging Residual Hearing Successful

NEWEST ways of helping deaf children get along in the world were given serious consideration at the meeting in Detroit of the American Association to Promote the Teaching of Speech to the Deaf.

Educators give the cheering news that it is far less tragic for a child to have defective hearing now than a generation or two ago. So much more can be done.

Statistics show 1,600,000 children in the United States, or six out of 100 of school age, have defective hearing. Of these, 300,000 are seriously enough affected to need eyesight help by reading a speaker's lips.

Under discussion was an invention from South Africa, which an engineer has devised to teach deaf children to talk naturally, instead of in a dull monotone. The invention, used successfully in South African schools for the deaf, looks like a box. At one side is a vertical string of fourteen light bulbs, gay colors. On the front of the box is a green black-

board. The teacher writes "Good morning" on the board, and draws a curve to show how the voice should rise and fall. The deaf child says, "Good morning," and the colored lights flash to show the pitch of his voice. Electromagnetically operated tuning forks operate the device. The top four and bottom two lights are red, meaning danger—voice too high and shrill or too low and gruff.

Inventor of the device is A. E. Coyne, instructor in engineering at Cape Technical College. The invention is mainly for the totally deaf child, who has no way of hearing his own speech defects.

Helping the deaf child to "hear" by feeling the vibrating bones of a speaker's head is another recent development discussed and demonstrated. At the Detroit Day School for the Deaf, where this vibration method has gained fame, all incoming classes are taught to feel speech. Children who have little or no hearing, cannot get help from mechani-