

in animals is, the Chicago doctors report from their findings on Miss Maguire's brain, damage to the rear part of the hypothalamus region of the brain. Details of their studies appear in the October issue of the *Archives of Neurology and Psychiatry*, an A. M. A. publication.
Science News Letter, October 26, 1940

PHYSICS

New Instrument Measures Glow of Luminous Dials

LUMINOUS dials on clocks, watches, dashboard instruments, etc., can now have the brightness of their glow measured by a new instrument developed at the National Bureau of Standards by Dr. L. F. Curtiss, chief of the radioactivity section.

Stainless steel mirrors bring the light from the luminous paint into view adjacent to a luminous pattern from a reference lamp, the brightness of which can be controlled and calibrated. The instrument is very compact and rigid, and is not easily put out of adjustment by rough handling.

Science News Letter, October 26, 1940

A new extra-bright portable *battery light* for emergency fire and police department use and for emergency airplane landings, is described as powerful enough to permit reading a newspaper by its light from half a mile away.

in the work places. The aluminum dusting method has been patented, and if it proves practical for both treatment and prevention, Dr. Irwin said, license to use

it will be given only to plants that are up to standard on ventilation and other dust control measures.

Science News Letter, October 26, 1940

MEDICINE

Hope To Discover Treatment For Chronic Sleeping Sickness

HOPE that a specific treatment for chronic sleeping sickness (encephalitis) will eventually be discovered appears in a report to the American Medical Association of studies of the brain of a modern sleeping beauty, Patricia Maguire, of Oak Park, Ill.

The girl, who fought a five-year losing fight against this ailment, attracting nation-wide attention before her death three

years ago, may thus some day be included in the group of medical martyrs whose sufferings contributed to better methods of disease-fighting.

The origin of pathologic, as opposed to normal, sleep seems also to be clarified by studies of the brain of this victim of such a sleep disorder.

Post-mortem study of her brain, Dr. Richard B. Richter and Dr. Eugene F. Traut, of Chicago, report, revealed conditions which the doctors believe could only be caused by a chronic infection, and not as the result of a progressive process of brain tissue change set off by an original acute infection.

The latter view of chronic encephalitis as a progressive process following acute infection has gained increasing support in recent years. The Chicago doctors' findings showing that it is more likely an inflammatory process suggest that a means of treating chronic encephalitis or sleeping sickness may eventually be found because inflammatory conditions may lend themselves to treatment. Present method of treating the condition is to treat each symptom as it arises.

The injury responsible for production of abnormal sleep in humans as well as

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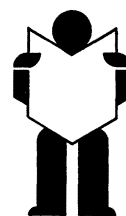
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