

Assorted sterile bandage compresses in individual packages
 Triangular bandages
 Sterile gauze in individual packages of about one square yard
 Roll of one-half inch adhesive
 Inelastic tourniquet
 Scissors (blunt tipped are best)
 Three-inch splinter forceps
 Paper cups
 One-inch and two-inch roller bandages
 Wire or thin board splints

Science News Letter, November 4, 1950

MEDICINE

New Operation Helps Colitis Patient

➤ A NEW operation for ulcerative colitis was reported by Drs. Benjamin G. P. Shafiroff and J. W. Hinton of New York University College of Medicine at the meeting in Boston of the American College of Surgeons.

The operation, termed denervation of the pelvic colon, consists in cutting certain nerves to the colon. "Marked improvement" in both symptoms and physical condition of five patients followed this operation.

Science News Letter, November 4, 1950

PUBLIC HEALTH

Grants for Research

➤ BLOOD, a new vitamin, preserving bones and teeth into old age, curing deafness in school children and a conception-to-death study of growth are among the 155 research problems for which the U.S. Public Health Service has awarded grants totalling \$4,708,766.

The blood research will continue studies already under way under the leadership of Dr. E. J. Cohn and Dr. Charles A. Janeway of Harvard University on methods of separating elements of the blood, preserving them for longer periods and thus making blood more useful than ever, both in case of atomic attack and for saving lives threatened by such peacetime conditions as heart, kidney and joint diseases.

In order to determine whether radium treatment for prevention of deafness due to overgrowth of adenoid-like tissue is effective and cheap enough to be recommended for routine use in regular school health programs, 1,000 Baltimore, Md., school children will be tested under the grant to Dr. Samuel J. Crowe, Johns Hopkins University professor who originated

the method.

The conception-to-death study is under the direction of Dr. Alfred Hamlin Washburn of the Child Research Council, Denver, Colo. Purpose of the study is to correlate physical, mental and emotional factors over a long period in order to develop more reliable methods for determining patterns of normal and healthy growth. Investigation of individual differences in growth of a selected group of persons from the prenatal period to death and through several generations of their descendants is planned. A score of research workers in pediatrics, physiology, biochemistry, hematology, nutrition and psychiatry will continue the investigations already begun on 166 persons.

In another study awarded a research grant, local police, hospitals and physicians will cooperate in furnishing patients for tests as to whether an artificial kidney can prevent death from an overdose of sleeping pills. This one will be conducted by Drs. Harold Jeghers and Theodore Koppanyi at Georgetown Hospital, Washington, D.C.

Science News Letter, November 4, 1950

ECONOMICS

Food More Costly in '51

➤ THE WORLD'S housewife will go to market in the coming year to buy more food than the farmer can supply.

This is the essence of an 81-page annual report issued by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations.

The Korean crisis and subsequent quickening of world rearmament, said FAO, will lift purchasing power and the demands by people nearly everywhere for food and other agricultural products.

At the same time, the United Nations agency predicts, supplies of food will be only slightly greater than in the past year, barely keeping pace with increases in world population.

The result, FAO experts believe, will be rising prices and a boom in international trade in agricultural products. Already wool and rubber have been gravely affected, they pointed out, and demands for rice, cotton, coffee and cocoa have begun to outrun available supplies.

The annual FAO study, entitled "World Outlook and State of Food and Agriculture—1950," pointed to the brighter side of the picture. Military expenditures by the U. S., it said, will put more dollars into international trade. Dollar shortages in other parts of the world will be reduced.

"It seems that bitter fighting on a peninsula of Asia and world-wide increases in economically unproductive armaments will do more to improve certain aspects of the international distribution of food than all

the direct efforts made since 1946," wrote the FAO Director-General, Norris E. Dodd. "This is not a flattering commentary on international statesmanship."

In supplies of food per person, said the report, the world will make only a slight

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gain. There may be no improvement in areas which need it most.

Meanwhile, with "a marked increase in dollars available to many countries . . .," said FAO, "the demand for food and agricultural products will tend to run ahead

of supply . . . It is clear that prices will continue to rise."

When she gets to market, the world's housewife will find it costs more to feed her family.

Science News Letter, November 4, 1950

RADIO

No Worry on Color TV

► THE APPROXIMATELY 7,000,000 present owners of television sets have no cause to worry over the recent decision of the Federal Communications Commission to permit the Columbia Broadcasting System to put its color system on the air commercially. Present broadcasting will continue.

When CBS starts broadcasting in color, present sets, as they are, will not be able to pick up the picture either in color or in black-and-white. But practically all present broadcasting in black-and-white will continue and people will continue to receive and enjoy the programs.

Many will probably never want the color pictures, judging from the history of the motion picture industry. Technicolor was developed years ago but the great majority of all feature pictures are still produced in black and white because of the increased cost of technicolor and the lack of sufficient public demand for motion pictures in color.

For those who would want to enjoy the pictures in color which CBS will put on the air, new receivers will be available. Old receivers can be converted, experts explain, but the cost may be around \$100. Old receivers can be converted to pick up pictures in black-and-white from the transmissions in color at probably half this cost. Much work remains to be done before low-cost satisfactory adapters are developed. The new color receivers will be more costly than present receivers, perhaps by \$100 because they are more complicated.

The CBS system is based on revolving color-filter disks. Such disks are necessary in the receivers as well as in the cameras.

Motors to run them are needed. The size of the direct-view picture tube is limited by the size of the spinning color disk that can be used in the home. However, magnifying lenses can be used if desired.

Electronic systems of color television, in contrast to this CBS mechanical system, transmit pictures in color that can be picked up in black-and-white on any television receiver. Because they are transmitted on standards that do not conflict with existing standards for black-and-white they are called compatible. Adapters are needed to receive the CBS pictures on present receivers because they are non-compatible. Considerable work must be done before any of the all-electronic systems reach the highest degree of perfection.

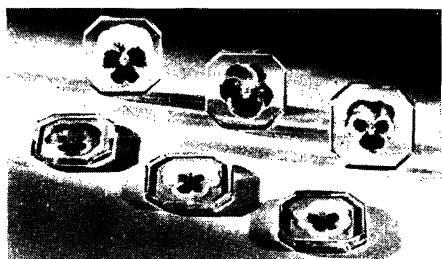
Science News Letter, November 4, 1950

ENGINEERING

Alarms and Recorders Detect Carbon Monoxide

► CARBON monoxide detecting instruments have evolved from unreliable canaries and mice through simple colorimetric devices to practical, continuously operating alarms, indicators and recorders, according to N. W. Hartz of Pittsburgh, Pa.

This expert of the Mine Safety Appliances Company, Pittsburgh, described new gas detecting instruments in Oklahoma City to the American Institute of Electrical Engineers. The carbon monoxide devices are activated by cells of Hopcalite, a catalyst that speeds up the change of carbon monoxide into carbon dioxide. The process causes a temperature rise. This is measured by a thermopile that sends electrical energy to alarms and recorders.



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The demand for detectors of air pollution has led to the development of instruments to show danger that may come from undesirable gases from industrial plants and other sources. He described instruments to detect poisonous and flammable gases.

Present combustible gas detecting instruments have been simplified to the point where they are composed essentially of an electrical Wheatstone bridge in which a sample is drawn over a heated catalytic filament so that any combustibles present are burned upon contact with the hot wire.

Raising the temperature of the filament, Mr. Hartz stated, increases its electrical resistance in proportion to the percentage of the lower explosive limit concentration. Portable instruments of this type are powered by flashlight dry cells.

At the same meeting W. E. Belcher, Jr., of the Minneapolis Honeywell Instrument Company, described a device that detects unsafe temperatures in rotating machines, particularly in bearings. This new instrument is now about to emerge from the laboratory, he said.

Many applications for this type of instrument were listed by Mr. Belcher.

Science News Letter, November 4, 1950

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