



◊ \* ○ • SYMBOLS FOR STARS IN ORDER OF BRIGHTNESS

Christians using the old pagan names, and proposed that the 12 constellations of the zodiac, through which move the sun and planets, should be named after the apostles.

This was actually done by Julius Schiller, of Augsburg, a friend of Bayer's, who published his own Christian star maps in 1627. Aries the ram, for example, became St. Peter, since it is considered as the first of the zodiacal constellations. Lyra was turned into the manger, Cygnus into the cross, and Cassiopeia into Mary Magdalene.

A different sort of reform was attempted later in the 17th century by Erhardt Weigel, of the University of Jena, who wanted to make the constellations represent the coats of arms of the various royal families of Europe.

The latest such attempt came about a decade ago when an English journalist, A. P. Herbert, who was member of Parliament for Oxford University, but was better known as a contributor to Punch, seriously proposed a new set of constellations. One of his ideas was that the stars in Aquila, and the nearby group of Delphinus, the dolphin, should be called the Music Makers, and individual stars in it named after Bach, Mozart and other great musicians. Draco, the dragon, in the northern sky, he wanted to call the Tyrants, and name the stars Hitler, Attila, etc. Needless to say, this idea was soon forgotten and the old names are

still with us, as they probably will be for a long time to come.

**Celestial Time Table for September**

| Sept. | EST        |   |
|-------|------------|---|
| 1     | 7:49 a.m.  | Now moon, with annular eclipse of sun visible in North Carolina and Virginia and partial eclipse visible over eastern U. S. |
| 3     | 10:00 a.m. | Venus between earth and sun   |
| 8     | 1:16 p.m.  | Moon in first quarter   |
| 10    | 2:22 a.m.  | Algol (variable star in Perseus) at minimum brightness  |
| 11    | 3:00 p.m.  | Moon nearest, distance 228,200 miles  |
| 12    | 11:11 p.m. | Algol at minimum  |
| 15    | 7:38 a.m.  | Full moon   |
|       | 7:59 p.m.  | Algol at minimum  |
| 16    | 11:00 a.m. | Mercury farthest west of sun—visible for a few days as morning star   |
|       | 9:04 p.m.  | Moon passes Jupiter   |
| 18    | 4:48 p.m.  | Algol at minimum  |
| 22    | 11:13 p.m. | Moon in last quarter  |
| 23    | 3:38 p.m.  | Sun over equator, autumnal equinox which marks beginning of autumn in northern hemisphere                                   |
|       | 4:00 p.m.  | Moon farthest, distance 251,200 miles   |
| 27    | 3:32 p.m.  | Moon passes Mars  |
|       | 11:40 p.m. | Moon passes Venus   |
| 30    | 8:57 p.m.  | New moon  |

Subtract one hour for CST, two hours for MST, and three for PST.

Science News Letter, August 25, 1951

Laboratory, Children's Medical Center, Boston, Mass. They are: Drs. Fred H. Allen, Jr., Louis K. Diamond and Bevely Niedziela.

The Kidd group is dominant, they found; two parents having it may have children who lack it, but two parents negative to it cannot have a baby who is positive.

The new blood group antigen is present in the red blood cells of 77% of Americans and the same proportion in England.

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**PHYSIOLOGY**

**If You Look at Eclipse Take Care of Your Eyes**

► IF YOU LOOK at the solar eclipse Saturday morning, Sept. 1 (See SNL, July 28), be sure to protect your eyes. Even though the sun will rise partially eclipsed for many in the central and eastern states, observers should look at this heavenly show through several layers of overexposed photographic film or a piece of glass densely smoked by candle flame.

Each solar eclipse takes its tragic toll of vision. The delicate interior membranes of the eye cannot withstand even the partially eclipsed glare of the sun without special protection, reports the Better Vision Institute.

Sunglasses, and even welder's goggles, afford inadequate protection. Ninety-nine percent of the sport glasses that people buy transmit over 80% of the light and are totally inadequate for looking at the sun, reports the Joint Committee on Industrial Ophthalmology of the American Medical Association and the American Academy of Ophthalmology and Otolaryngology.

People sometimes try to protect their eyes while looking at an eclipse by peeping through their fingers or through a pin-hole in a card. Such methods are usually inadequate if the glare is bright.

Science News Letter, August 25, 1951

**INVENTION**

**Better Concentrated Coffee With Steam Treatment**

► BETTER COFFEE of the concentrated type is promised by Lee Nutting, Berkeley, Calif., by a process to retain full flavor on which he was awarded patent 2,562,206. Rights are assigned to Hills Bros. Coffee, Inc., San Francisco. In his method the ground roasted coffee is treated with steam to remove the volatile constituents. These are collected from the steam and returned to the beverage brewed from the coffee after the brew has been greatly reduced in volume by an evaporation method. The mixture is then completely dried to give the final product.

Science News Letter, August 25, 1951

**GENETICS**

**Blood Group Inheritance**

► A TENTH human character has been added to the nine others for which the manner of inheritance is known. The new character of known inheritance is a blood group named Kidd, or Jk<sup>a</sup>, after the baby in which it was first identified last year in Boston, Mass. Of the other nine, seven are also blood groups. The others are ability to taste phenyl thiocarbamide, a chemical intensely bitter to some persons and taste-

less to others, and the secretion of the ABO antigens in saliva.

The way in which the new blood group is inherited is reported (NATURE, Aug. 4) by an international research team of scientists. Two members of the group are at the Medical Research Council, Blood Group Research Unit, Lister Institute, London. They are Drs. R. R. Race and Ruth Sanger. The Americans are at the Blood Grouping

