

MEDICINE

New Chemical Aids Treatment of Shock

➤ SURGEONS HAVE a new aid for the treatment of shock. It is a chemical known as l-arterenol or l-nor-epinephrine and also by the trade name, Levophed.

This chemical is related to epinephrine, or adrenalin, and like epinephrine, it raises blood pressure. It has the advantage that it constricts blood vessels without causing any significant change in the heart's output. Its action is "prompt, predictable and easily controlled," Drs. Norton M. Luger, Allen Kleiman and Rudolph E. Fremont of the Veterans Administration Hospital at Staten Island, N. Y., report.

It proved lifesaving in the case of their patient, a 73 year old man with a perforated stomach ulcer. The patient was in such profound shock when brought to the hospital that he could not be operated on. The shock state was rapidly relieved by the drug, so that an operation could be performed and the rupture of his stomach closed.

"The patient has had a satisfactory recovery," the doctors report in the *JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION* (Aug. 25).

They warn against using the drug until the cause of shock has been learned, as it might aggravate a concealed hemorrhage.

"Excellent" results with this same drug in 50 operations including nerve cutting operations in the spine and head regions, as well as abdominal, chest and gynecological operations are reported by Dr. William A. Shafer of Bluefield Sanitarium, Bluefield, W. Va., in the *West Virginia MEDICAL JOURNAL*.

The drug has been "extremely efficacious," Dr. Shafer reports, in cases of spinal anesthesia in which there is a drop in blood pressure.

Science News Letter, September 8, 1951

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BASIC THEORIES OF PHYSICS: Heat and Quanta—Peter G. Bergmann—*Prentice-Hall*, 300 p., \$6.70. For graduate students.

THE CHEMICAL TECHNOLOGY OF DYING AND PRINTING, Vol. II: Substantive, Basic, Acid, and Pigment Colors, Aniline Black, and Dye-stuffs for Acetate Rayon and Synthetic Fibers—Louis Diserens—*Reinhold*, 446 p., \$12.00. Translated and revised from the second German edition.

COLLECTION AND BURNING OF LOCOMOTIVE CINDERS—E. J. Boer, J. M. Allen, and B. A. Landry—*Bituminous Coal Research, Inc.*, 8 p., paper, 20 cents. Results of the continuing tests of the Norfolk and Western Railway Co. and Bituminous Coal Research, Inc.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL SCIENCE AND HOW TO TEACH IT—Glenn O. Blough and Albert J. Huggett—*Dryden Press*, 532 p., illus., \$5.25. The teacher who has to be a "jack-of-all-trades" in the scientific courses will welcome this handy teaching guide.

A GUIDE TO BIRD FINDING EAST OF THE MISSISSIPPI—Olin Sewall Pettingill—*Oxford University Press*, 659 p., illus., \$4.00. Bird-watchers will appreciate this geographical locator.

HEALTHY BABIES: A Complete Handbook for Modern Mothers—Josephine H. Kenyon and Ruth K. Russell—*Little, Brown and Co.*, 5th ed. revised, 317 p., 3.00. This new edition includes the latest developments in the field and also presents new material on the child who is slow to develop.

HOW TO KNOW THE AMERICAN MAMMALS—Ivan T. Sanderson—*New American Library*, 170 p., illus., paper, 35 cents. All American mammals from whales to mice, the one that walks on water to the one that inspired the Mermaid myth are included.

IMPROVING OFFICE PLANNING AND CONTROLS: Office Management Series No. 128—*American Management Association*, 40 p., paper, \$1.25. Includes articles on manpower budgeting control, office operations budget, protecting records in time of war, etc.

MAJOR ACTIVITIES IN THE ATOMIC ENERGY PROGRAMS, January-June 1951—U. S. Atomic Energy Commission—*Govt. Printing Office*,

151 p., paper, 35 cents. A reprint of the AEC 10th semiannual report.

NATURAL RUBBER AND YOU—*Natural Rubber Bureau*, 28 p., illus., paper, free upon request to publisher, 1631 K Street, N. W., Washington, D. C. Interesting facts and statistics on this material, vital in both peace and war.

PATTERNS IN THE SKY: The Story of the Constellations—W. Maxwell Reed—*Morrow*, 125 p., illus., \$2.50. Children can find here the 25 most familiar constellations with interesting facts about each one. Charts appear in pairs, one showing the ancient drawings of heroes and animals, the other the actual constellation.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION FOR CHILDREN OF ELEMENTARY SCHOOL AGE—National Conference on Physical Education for Children of Elementary School Age—*Athletic Institute*, 47 p., paper, 50 cents. A guide for the improvement of physical education programs.

PUNCHED CARDS: Their Applications to Science and Industry—Robert S. Casey and James W. Perry, Editor—*Reinhold*, 506 p., illus., \$10.00. Individual scientists, engineers or other technologists can use this information to solve their individual problems. Particular emphasis is on hand sorted cards.

THIRTY-FIFTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE NATIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR AERONAUTICS, 1949—*Govt. Printing Office*, 684 p., illus., \$5.50.

Science News Letter, September 8, 1951

MEDICINE

Cancer Three Times as Likely If Mother Had Breast Cancer

➤ WOMEN ARE three times as likely to develop cancer if their mothers had breast cancer.

This finding, from a study of 1,488 cases of breast cancer, is reported by Dr. Dryden Phelps Morse, Columbia University School of Medicine, in the professional journal of the American Cancer Society, *CANCER*.

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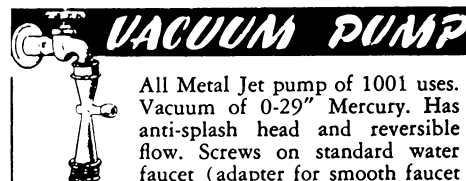
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