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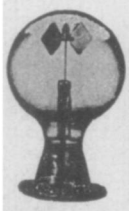
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CHEMISTRY

Fallout Measurements By Chemistry Reported

► STRONTIUM-90 can be measured more accurately now by means of a new chemical extraction method described by chemists of the Argonne National Laboratory, Argonne, Ill., attending the meeting of the American Chemical Society in New York.

Strontium-90, produced in nuclear explosions, is one of the most dangerous elements in fallout. It is a known cause of leukemia and bone-cancer and is often referred to as the "bone-seeker" because, like calcium, it tends to seek the bone in man and animals.

The new process developed at Argonne makes it possible to separate strontium and calcium, thereby improving the accuracy in assaying strontium-90 content in soil and elsewhere.

It may contribute to precise measurements of world-wide strontium-90 distribution. G. W. Mason, D. F. Peppard and Sonia McCarty, of Argonne's Chemical Division, developed the new method under research sponsored by the Atomic Energy Commission.

• Science News Letter, 78:222 October 1, 1960

Do You Know

A six-ounce *sweet potato* contains more than twice the amount of vitamin A needed daily by the human body, and the value increases during curing and storage.

In the United States there are about 925 *radio* receivers per 1,000 of the population.

Hansen's disease, better known as *leprosy*, is the least communicable of all communicable diseases.

The Ghibli is a blistering-hot south *wind* blowing from the Sahara, at 35 miles an hour, into Tripoli, where 135-degree Fahrenheit temperatures occur in summer.

The United Kingdom leads the world in *newspaper* circulation with an estimated 573 per 1,000 inhabitants, followed by Sweden with 462 per 1,000.

Questions

GENETICS—How many chromosomes are found in each normal person? p. 212.

LINGUISTICS—How many words per hour can the mechanical dictionary RUSDIC help translate? p. 213.

MEDICINE—What is one of the most dangerous causes of burn accidents? p. 211.

Photographs: Cover, Cranbrook Institute of Science; pp. 211, 218, Fremont Davis; p. 213, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Lincoln Laboratory; p. 215, Matthew W. Stirling, Jr.; p. 224, Isis, Inc.

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