

proof. Rights were assigned to E. I. du Pont de Nemours and Company.

A rocket propulsion method for ejecting pilots from airplanes traveling at high speeds, granted patent No. 3,027,125. Inventor Nathaniel David Fulton of Bernardsville, N. J., assigned rights to Hydro-Space Technology, Inc., Wilmington, Del.

Patent No. 3,027,334, won by Harold A. Wright of Beaver, Pa., who assigned rights to Koppers Company, Inc. He devised a method of foaming styrene plastics using isopentane as the foaming agent.

A method of making buildings using tetrahedral building blocks to form the units, awarded patent No. 3,026,651. Inventor Donald L. Richter, Oakland, Calif., assigned rights to Kaiser Aluminum & Chemical Corporation, also of Oakland.

• Science News Letter, 81:238 April 14, 1962

#### IMMUNOLOGY

### 400 African Youths Given Safe Live Measles Shots

► SOME 400 West African children have been safely and effectively immunized with a live measles vaccine, the National Institutes of Health (NIH), Bethesda, Md., reported.

The vaccine (the live attenuated Edmonston strain) was used by an NIH medical team in a two-month pilot study in Ouagadougou, Upper Volta.

Measles claims an unusually high number of African children. It reportedly kills 25% to 50% of the youngsters in Upper Volta during the first few years of life.

The study, under the leadership of Dr. Harry Meyer Jr., was to learn whether the vaccine would be effective and safe when used on these children, as it has been found for American children.

Those immunized for the tests were 94% susceptible. All of the children safely developed antibodies after inoculation.

No serious reactions were encountered in any of the children, although most of them were suffering from one or more infections such as malaria, diarrhea, dysentery or pyogenic skin lesions.

The NIH medical team feels certain that the vaccine will provide a means of preventing West Africa's most dreaded childhood disease when it becomes available in large quantities in that region.

• Science News Letter, 81:239 April 14, 1962

## Questions

**IMMUNOLOGY**—What are the percentages for children killed by measles in Upper Volta during the first years of life? p. 239.

**OCEANOGRAPHY**—How many feet below sea level can the new Seapup VI operate? p. 231.

**PUBLIC HEALTH**—How many children were referred to the courts for delinquency acts in 1960? p. 229.

**Photographs:** Cover, National Aeronautics and Space Administration; p. 227, U. S. Air Force; p. 229, Lederle Laboratories; p. 231, General Mills; p. 234, Marion A. Williams; p. 240, Tri-Play Toys Co.

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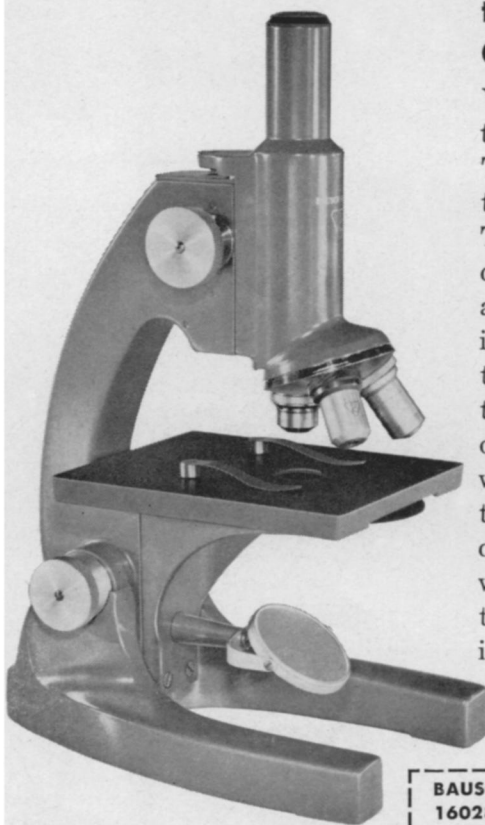
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