

Two masses of rock fell off the face of Niagara.

Only three major tropical storms occurred in West Indian waters, but typhoons in the East Indian region were numerous, and several of them highly destructive.

There were 37 earthquakes of sufficient intensity to affect far-distant seismographs, several of them destructive to life, as in India on Jan. 15, in Afghanistan on June 14, and in Honduras on Dec. 2; in Utah a strong quake tore open the earth and produced fountains of brine.

The Soviet Government energetically pushed its program of arctic exploration.

Severe floods occurred in Poland during July.

An expedition under the leadership of Martin Lindsay crossed from Jakobshavn on the west coast of Greenland to the vicinity of Scoresby Sound and thence south to Angmagssalik, on what was the real objective of the trip—the exploration of 350 miles of the hinterland of the East Greenland coast.

The city of Nome, Alaska, was destroyed by fire on September 17.

On Nov. 16 a new building of the Scott Polar Research Institute was formally opened in Cambridge, England.

A deed of transfer of the territory of the disputed town of Leticia to Colombia by the commission appointed by the League of Nations was signed on June 19.

A new railroad line connecting Brazzaville on the Congo with Pointe-Noire on the seacoast of French Equatorial Africa was opened during the summer.

A section of the frontier between Libya and the Sudan, not previously demarcated, was defined in an agreement between the British and Italian governments.

Medicine

A triumph of obstetric and pediatric practice was the successful delivery and rearing, with every prospect after six months of continued life and health, of the Dionne quintuplets; credit for this medical triumph belongs to Dr. A. R. Dafoe, Canadian "country doctor," who struggled against great odds to save the mother and all five baby girls.

Progress in the fight against infantile paralysis was marked by reports of successful use in humans of two vaccines against the disease, one developed by Dr. Maurice Brodie of the New York City Health Department and the other by Dr. John A. Kolmer, Temple University Medical School, Philadelphia.

An anti-influenza horse serum, successful in mice, and a method of using these common laboratory animals for influenza studies were reported by Drs. C. H. Andrewes, P. P. Laidlaw and Wilson Smith, National Institute for Medical Research, London.

A method of protecting against encephalitis, popularly called "sleeping sickness," but so far applied only to mice, was developed by Drs. Leslie T. Webster and George L. Fite, Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research.

Vaccination against parrot fever or psittacosis was announced by Dr. Thomas M. Rivers, Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research; seven laboratory workers were first to be given this protection which is not considered practicable as yet for the general population.



FIRST OF THE FIFTY-SEVEN

Early in 1935 fifty-seven electric locomotives like this one will go into service in an all-electrified New York City to Washington run, linking the two cities in four hours or less. Most powerful electric passenger locomotives in the world, each will weigh 460,000 pounds, haul full-size, full-length trains at 90 miles an hour.

Isolation and preparation of the pure substance made by the tubercle bacillus that is responsible for the tuberculin skin test in man and animals was announced by Dr. Florence Seibert, Henry Phipps Institute, Philadelphia.

A new explanation of the cause of glandular diseases, such as exophthalmic goiter, which suggests revision in the method of treating these diseases, arose from the discovery by Dr. J. B. Collip and associates at McGill University that the body develops resistance to certain hormones after prolonged administration, probably because of the presence of antihormones.

Tremendous precocity of growth and development in successive generations of rats as a result of treatment with thymus gland extract and dwarfism in rats as a result of treatment with pineal gland extract, showing that normal stature apparently depends on proper balance between thymus and pineal glands, was obtained by Drs. Leonard G. Rowntree and J. H. Clark of the Philadelphia Institute for Medical Research and Dr. A. M. Hanson, Faribault, Minn.

Cortin, life-saving hormone of the adrenal gland cortex, was obtained in pure crystalline form for the first time and its chemical formula discovered, Dr. E. C. Kendall, Mayo Foundation, announced.

Sterility was cured in a significant proportion of human beings by giving to one or other parent an endocrine gland preparation to make up for hormone deficit, the late Dr. Allan Winter Rowe, Evans Memorial Hospital, Boston, reported.

The molecular weight and composition of the substance in the thyroid gland, the absence of which causes goiter, was determined by Dr. Michael Heidelberger, Columbia University, New York City.

In the posterior pituitary gland a new factor, probably a new hormone, which controls the activity of the acid-secreting cells of the stomach and may therefore be of in-

terest in connection with the production of stomach ulcers, was discovered by Drs. E. C. Dodds, R. L. Nole and E. R. Smith, Courtauld Institute of Biochemistry, London.

Success in the treatment of the mental disease, involuntional melancholia, by the sex hormone, theelin, was reported by Dr. August A. Werner and associates at St. Louis University School of Medicine.

A method for and preliminary results of transplantation of living grafts of thyroid and parathyroid gland tissues in human patients were reported by Drs. Harvey B. Stone, J. C. Owings and George O. Gey, Johns Hopkins Medical School, Baltimore.

Amidopyrine and chemically related headache and pain-relieving remedies are one if not the sole cause of agranulopenia, fatal bone marrow disease which has been on the increase in recent years, Drs. F. W. Madison and T. L. Squier, Milwaukee, reported and research by many other scientists, including Drs. Roy R. Kracke and Francis P. Parker, Emory University, confirmed.

A substance in the kidney excretion of expectant mothers that produced a tenfold decrease in the growth of cancers in mice was discovered by Drs. Henry J. Ullmann, Fritz Bischoff and Richard D. Evans and L. C. Maxwell, chemist, Santa Barbara, Calif., Cottage Hospital, the International Cancer Research Foundation, Philadelphia, announced.

The cancer-producing property of mineral oil is related closely to the oil's refractivity constant, Dr. C. C. Twort and J. W. Twort of the Manchester, Eng., Committee on cancer found; selection or treatment of lubricating oils with this fact in mind may result in lessening of skin cancer among textile workers, known as mule spinners' cancer, they suggested.

One of the normal constituents of the body, a hile acid, was transformed by simple chemical means into a cancer-producing substance by Dr. J. W. Cook and associates at the