

end they pick up the color picture from the camera and break it down into its three basic colors. These are sent in the proper sequence through the system. At

the receiving end, another set of mirrors gather in the colors and help regroup them in the color picture seen on the screen.

Science News Letter, July 29, 1950

#### MEDICINE

## Aureomycin for Lumpy Jaw

➤ AUREOMYCIN may turn out to be a cure for lumpy jaw, or actinomycosis as this cattle disease that humans get is known medically.

Four human patients with this disease have now been treated successfully with the mold drug, Drs. Leon V. McVay, Jr., David Dunavant, Douglas H. Sprunt and Miss Frances Guthrie of the University of Tennessee College of Medicine and John Gaston Hospital, Memphis, report in the JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION (July 22).

The first patient had been sick for six months, in spite of treatment with penicillin and X-rays. When he entered the hospital he had a slightly reddened mass covering most of the right side of his face and reaching down his neck. It was exuding a yellowish pus from three places.

His diet was limited to liquids because he could not open his mouth as wide as half an inch.

He was given aureomycin by mouth every four hours and a semi-paste of the mold drug was put on the sores on face and neck.

"The response was dramatic," the scientists report.

Within two days he could eat comfortably and his slight fever had gone. He continued to take the mold drug for 28 days, by which time the swelling had gone and there was only a minimum amount of scarring over the opening where the pus had been draining. He was still entirely well six months later.

While the value of the drug can hardly be judged on the basis of only a few cases, especially in a disease which tends to recur as actinomycosis does, the Memphis scientists report the good results in the hope that other doctors will be stimulated to try it in this ailment.

Science News Letter, July 29, 1950

### On This Week's Cover

➤ TWO coscorobas, rare birds from South America, have established another "first" for the Philadelphia Zoo by hatching out a pair of babies. Believed to be the first of their kind ever to hatch in America, the only other record of their breeding in captivity was established in England shortly before the first World War.

The coscoroba comes closer to being a "swoose" than any other bird on the earth. Some scientists have classified it as a swan and others as a goose. Still other ornithologists look upon it as a giant tree duck. The question is—what should the hatchlings be called—goslings, ducklings, cygnets (baby swans), or "swooslets"? The parent birds are of goose size, and they have snow white plumage save for the outer wing feathers which are black. Their bills and legs are pink. The new additions are very light grey with dark markings.

The coscoroba family built a nest in February, and the female laid two eggs; however one rolled into the pool and the

other was infertile. Some weeks ago they built again, and after 46 days of incubation, the young hatched out. Both parents guard the young ones jealously and shoo away the white mallards that occupy the same enclosure with them.

Science News Letter, July 29, 1950

Swimming during a thunder and lightning storm is not recommended; a person can be electrocuted by a charge carried by the water from the bolt striking at some distance.

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## Question Box

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- Where is the land of "Singing Sand"? p. 77.
- Where is the "Nursery of Man"? p. 74.

#### BOTANY

- What is the plant which may be a new raw material for licorice? p. 73.

Photographs: Cover, Philadelphia Zoo; p. 67, Westinghouse Electric Corporation; p. 69, Crosley Motors, Inc.; p. 71, Bureau of Reclamation, Boulder City, Nev.; p. 80, McDonough Studios, Washington, D. C.

#### GEOLOGY

- How long will a man-made lake last? p. 71.

#### ORNITHOLOGY

- What kind of gull follows a ship from shore to shore? p. 78.

#### ZOOLOGY

- What is the age of the oldest seal? p. 70.