

The Navy Bat, developed late in the war, was a guided missile of another sort. It was a giant bomb in a winged casing similar to a plane. It was carried aloft under the wings of a bomber. It had radar sending and receiving equipment in its nose. When a target was sighted from the bomber, the Bat's radar beam was set on the target and the missile was released. Radar kept it on its course, even though the target might be moving.

Devices within a guided missile can send out radar waves which are reflected back if they encounter solid matter. The reflected waves bring the missile close enough so that its proximity fuse causes a destructive explosion.

Science News Letter, September 22, 1951

METEOROLOGY

East and West to Be Warmer than Usual

➤ FALL WEATHER, at least until mid-October, will be warmer than normal in the area east of a diagonal line stretching from western Maine to Louisiana and also in the states west of the Rockies.

It will be colder than usual in all the great plains states and the western Great Lakes states. In the boundary areas between the colder-than-normal region and the warmer-than-normal region, temperatures are expected to be about average. This is the prediction of the Weather Bureau's Extended Forecast Section for the period extending to Oct. 15.

More than the usual amount of rain will fall over a wide belt extending from Texas and Louisiana northeast through the Ohio Valley, the Great Lakes and New England. The extreme Southeast and the states west of the Continental Divide can expect little rain. Elsewhere the usual rainfall can be expected.

Science News Letter, September 22, 1951

GENETICS

Women Can Be Bleeders

➤ WOMEN can have hemophilia, contrary to popular and medical reports up to now.

This hereditary "bleeder's disease" was once known as "the curse of the Hapsburgs" because so many members of this European royal family were affected.

From earliest times it has been thought that only males had the disease, while the women of the family transmitted it without having it themselves.

Now three cases of the disease occurring in women have been discovered. The third, a 24-year-old woman who nearly bled to death two weeks after the birth of a child, is reported by Drs. M. C. G. Israels, H. Lempert and Elizabeth Gilbertson of Manchester, England. (LANCET, June 30).

Only one possible combination of inheritance can lead to hemophilia in a girl or woman. That is when a man with hemophilia marries a woman who is a carrier of the bleeding disease. The combination has been considered a deadly one. If a female hemophiliac was conceived, she would be born dead, according to previous medical opinion.

The patient reported from Manchester has the double inheritance necessary for a woman to have hemophilia. In addition, modern methods of testing her blood show beyond doubt that she is hemophilic. Her father is a known hemophiliac. Her mother's brother, who bled to death following an accident, was a known hemophiliac. The patient's mother is therefore a presumed carrier of hemophilia. The patient's sister is a carrier and has a hemophilic son. The patient's little daughter will be a carrier.

Other cases of women with a bleeding disease like hemophilia have been reported

in the past. Because it was always believed that women could not have true hemophilia, these were considered cases of pseudo, or false, hemophilia.

Re-examination by modern methods of two such women has led another scientist, Dr. C. Merskey, to believe that these also are true hemophiliacs.

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