

BIOCHEMISTRY

**Unstable Chemicals in Cigarette-Cancer Link**

➤ IN SOLVING the problem of whether cigarette smoke causes lung cancer, scientists must consider unstable, "easily excited" chemical compounds of "limited lifetime," Drs. Hermann Druckrey and Dietrich Schmahl point out in reporting experiments at Sloan-Kettering Institute for Cancer Research in New York in *Science* (Sept. 2).

Dr. Schmahl is from the Chirurgischen Universitaetsklinik at Freiburg, Germany.

Fluorescence of solutions of tobacco smoke in benzene or petroleum ether shows, they found, that both stable and unstable compounds exist in the smoke. Unstable compounds account for 90% of the smoke's fluorescence under ultraviolet light.

These unstable compounds may or may not be cancer-causing. Their chemical nature is not known. Because they are unstable, they may break down before the smoke from cigarettes is condensed and they may not all get into the tobacco tars.

Cancer-causing power of smoke condensates and of tobacco tars may, it therefore appears, not give the true picture of the cancer-causing power, or lack of it, in cigarette smoke.

Science News Letter, September 17, 1955

BIOLOGY

**Rabbit Chases Snake In Switch of Roles**

➤ IF THINGS like this happen in Missouri often, no wonder it is the "show me" state.

Albert Adams, who superintends the Drury wildlife refuge near Mincy, Mo., was sitting on his porch when he heard a commotion in the bushes nearby. Looking over the rail, he saw a six-foot, sleek black-snake slithering across the yard as fast as it could squirm. Hot in pursuit of the black villain was—a cottontail rabbit.

The rabbit chased the snake out of sight. What gave a lowly rabbit the courage of a lioness? Mr. Adams discovered a nest of bunnies in the bushes where the fuss had started.

Science News Letter, September 17, 1955

**YOUR SKIN AND ITS CARE**

By H. T. Behrman, M.D., and O. L. Levin, M.D.

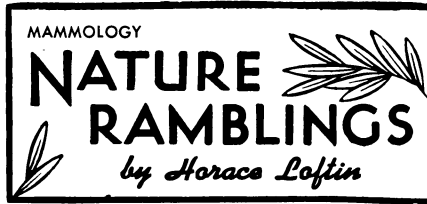
Two dermatologists give you the up-to-date scientific facts. They tell you in detail exactly what to do to beautify and improve your skin, how to avoid or correct skin disorders, and how to deal with many skin problems as: **Daily care of the face—**allergies—cosmetics—pimples—blackheads—acne—whiteheads—cysts—boils—oily skin—dry skin—chapping—poison ivy—cold sores—hives—superfluous hair—ringworm—piles—birthmarks—scars—warts—tumors—skin cancer—excessive sweating—etc.

"The type of book to which the physician can refer his patients." — *Journal of the American Medical Association*.

"Accurate, unvarnished story of practical skin care." — *Connecticut State Medical Journal*.

Price \$3 Incl. postage, 5-day Money-Back Guarantee

EMERSON BOOKS, Inc., Dept. 576-K  
251 West 19th Street, New York 11



**Mole Meets Atom**

➤ UP TO NOW, the mole has been able to keep his secrets pretty much to himself.

Hidden in his labyrinth of burrows beneath the soil, he has defied the curiosity of scientists who would like to know such things as how far and how much he moves in a day, how long are his tunnels, where he rests and what he considers to be his own private territory.

Only when he was imprudent enough to tunnel near the surface, plowing up a "mole hill," did he offer a clue to his wanderings. About the only thing the inquisitive scientists could do was to dig him up and watch him in a cage, obviously not a very successful way to study the natural habits of the animal.

Now the atomic age has caught up with the mole, robbing him of his cloak of secrecy.

Scientists in England have thought up a simple means of tracking the mole all through his daily business, and without him being the least disturbed or aware of the intrusion, by using a radioactive tag and Geiger counter to follow him underground.

First they catch the mole, digging him up as he moves through a mole hill. The mole is tagged with a fine wire containing radioactive cobalt—not radioactive enough to hurt the animal, but strong enough to cause the counter to click when near it.

One problem they met at first seemed to have the scientists stumped. They did not know where to put the wire. His strong fore legs were too large, and his short, stumpy legs were too small.

Happily, they discovered that his tail was smaller at the base than on the end, and a wire ring put there would stay. So the wire went around the mole's tail.

The mole gets over his fright and indignation about a day after his release. He then starts his normal round of activities, unaware that all the time he is giving away long-guarded secrets of the mole tribe as his wanderings leave a tell-tale track of clicks in a Geiger counter.

Science News Letter, September 17, 1955

SOCIOLOGY

**Foreign Travel Makes Executive More American**

➤ FOREIGN TRAVEL makes the American businessman more American. He becomes less a Bostonian, New Yorker, Californian or Texan. And much-traveled businessmen are more likely to become Republicans than untraveled ones.

These conclusions from a study were reported by Ithiel de Sola Pool, Suzanne Keller and Raymond A. Bauer of Massachusetts Institute of Technology at American Sociological Society meeting in Washington.

The men they studied were heads of American corporations having 100 or more employees. They had made five or more trips abroad, at least one having been in the past five years.

The effect of traveling was broadening in that it led the traveling businessman to give up narrow identification with a particular region or segment of the United States.

Travel did not cause much acceptance of foreign ideas, but did lead to greater attention to foreign events and greater consideration of them in weighing policy.

On foreign trade matters, the attitude of the untraveled was dictated by self-interest of the firm. The traveled businessman, regardless of self-interest, was more likely to take the dominant business view.

Science News Letter, September 17, 1955

**DORMIPHONE**  
**YESTERDAY—SCIENCE FICTION**  
**TODAY—ASTOUNDING REALITY!** A Great Scientific Discovery

FOR

- Faster Learning
- Memory Training
- Superb Listening Enjoyment

Today, for the first time, an ingenious device, The Dormiphone, invented by Max Sherover, president of Linguaphone Institute, does for you what no machine has ever done before!

Would you like to increase your rate of learning 20% to 50% by making use of periods of relaxation and sleep? Scientists, actors, lecturers, students, psychologists prove DORMIPHONE can help you master a new language, improve your speech, memorize a role in a play, learn useful facts and figures with less time, less effort. All this in addition to more listening pleasure out of your favorite records makes the Dormiphone the most useful, 3-speed, portable phonograph ever assembled.

**FIND OUT ABOUT DORMIPHONE**  
 Proof of what DORMIPHONE can do for you is fully set forth in a FREE Booklet, "A New Dimension in Learning." Write today. DORMIPHONE, MODERNOPHONE, INC., 125-095 Radio City, New York 20, N. Y.

**MAIL COUPON NOW**

MODERNOPHONE, INC. (Dormiphone Div.)  
 125-095 Radio City, N. Y. 20, N. Y.

Gentlemen: Please send me your FREE Booklet, "A New Dimension in Learning."

If under 18 check for Special Booklet A.

Name.....  
 Address.....  
 City..... Zone..... State.....

My main interest is

Learning a Language  Speech Improvement  
 Memorization  Listening Enjoyment

