

Do You Know?

An Australian whaling company has made arrangements to sell *whale meat* to a U. S. firm making pet foods.

Spraying vegetable beds with one pound of carbon black to three gallons of water increases daylight *soil temperatures* by seven degrees.

Since the introduction of DDT spraying, annual cases of *malaria* in the Mediterranean region of southern Europe have been reduced from 4,000,000 to less than 10,000.

The first *hay fever* symptoms were described by physicians in Greece five centuries before Christ.

Florida is covered by some 25,000 plastic traps from the Keys north almost to the Georgia line; they are baited with oil of angelica seed, a strong attractant for male *Medflies*.


TECHNOLOGY

Diamonds Studied In College Course

► DIAMONDS are being studied at the Illinois Institute of Technology in Chicago this fall. The precious stones are not primarily jewels, but diamonds used for cutting, sawing and boring because of their great hardness.

The class will be devoted to the preparation and use of diamonds as industrial tools.

Science News Letter, September 22, 1956



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PEDIATRICS

Solid Food Fed to Babies Few Days Old

► SOME 600 BABIES have now done well after being put on solid foods and a six-hour feeding schedule within two to three days after birth, Dr. Walter W. Sackett Jr. of Miami reports.

The babies are started on cereal of a putty-like consistency, from a spoon, plus breast or bottle milk. At 10 days of age, baby begins to get strained vegetables. By the time he is nine weeks old, he is eating these plus such foods as eggs, soups, mashed bananas, custard puddings and crisp bacon.

Bedtime bottle or feeding is discouraged and, by the time baby is 17 days old, he can be put on a breakfast, lunch and dinner schedule. Before he is a year old, he can eat almost entirely from the table with the family.

Dr. Sackett believes babies fed this way grow up with fewer eating problems. He finds they develop normally and that the schedule makes for a happier family adjustment.

He reports on his five years' experience with this method in *GP* (Sept.).

Science News Letter, September 22, 1956

Questions

ASTRONOMY—What are the three phases of the optical tracking program for earth satellites? p. 180.

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BIOPHYSICS—What kind of stitches are being used to check bladder cancer? p. 184.

☐ ☐ ☐

BOTANY—How can the taro plant help trace the origins of Polynesian people? p. 185.

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GEOPHYSICS—When did the present sunspot cycle start? p. 180. How strong is the sun's magnetic field? p. 181.

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HEMATOLOGY—How can fatal maternal bleeding be prevented? p. 185.

☐ ☐ ☐

PHYSIOLOGY—What is the danger involved in determining the sex of an unborn baby? p. 182.

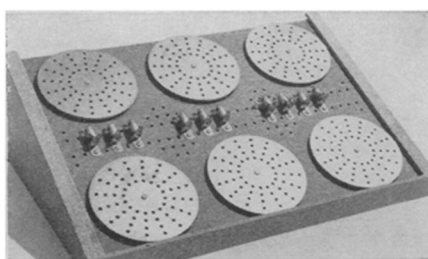
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SURGERY—At what age can babies be fitted with artificial limbs? p. 182.

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PHOTOGRAPHS: Cover, U. S. Navy; p. 179, U. S. Weather Bureau; p. 181, General Electric Research Laboratory; p. 182, Jules Schick; p. 183, University of Pennsylvania; p. 192, Bakelite Company.

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