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TECHNOLOGY

Hospital Patients Get Musical Pillows

➤ LISTENING to a pillow is the way patients are now passing the time at the North Cambridgeshire Hospital, Wisbech, England.

The pillows contain a device called the "pillowphone" which brings the patients recorded or "live" music and can also be used to call the nurse by speaking into it.

The pillowphone is a loudspeaker which has been encased in sponge rubber covered with a washable plastic. Neat and hygienic, it can be put either underneath or on top of the pillow. Either way, the patient can listen in complete comfort.

When he wants to talk to the nurse, the patient merely pushes a button pinned to his blanket and waits until a little light flashes. This signals that the nurse is listening, and he can begin talking to her through the pillow.

Science News Letter, January 25, 1958

Do You Know?

Small amounts of materials extracted from oat hulls can bring very large reductions in tooth decay, according to research by biochemists.

Heavy hydrogen in the seas contains enough energy to supply one thousand times the world's present power needs for the next million years.

A mosquito, Aphidoletes thompsoni, was imported from Czechoslovakia and colonized in Oregon and Washington to combat the balsam woolly aphid.

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