

existing, or healing deficiency. Over 80% showed both old and existing or new signs of deficiency.

Blood plasma studies of 276 individuals, also in Maine, showed plasma ascorbic acid values below 0.4 milligrams per cent in 38% of those examined. Such low values are usually found with vitamin C under-nutrition which, when fully developed, is scurvy.

Decayed teeth were found in 65% of white persons and 73% of colored. It is defective teeth that accounts for the largest percentage of draft rejections this year.

These poor farm people never seem to have teeth filled. Their teeth get holes in them, remain untreated, and finally are pulled out, a dentist for the survey said.

Of 16,000 cases of serious illnesses among the families surveyed, more than half had received no medical care whatever. One out of three births had not been attended by a physician. Yet the total amount of unpaid doctors' bills was close to half a million dollars.

Among the white wives under 45 years old, 41% had been lacerated in childbirth; the figure was 66% for those over 45.

Incidence of syphilis among the white people surveyed was low, only 0.6%. It was ten times as high among the colored families.

Hookworm is a serious problem, but varies in prevalence in different localities from 15% to 38%.

Among 4,333 white persons of all ages in eight states, 48% had defective tonsils.

Families are large among these farm people. More than 43% of the mothers studied had had five or more children and one wife out of every ten had given birth to ten or more children. One mother had 19 children.

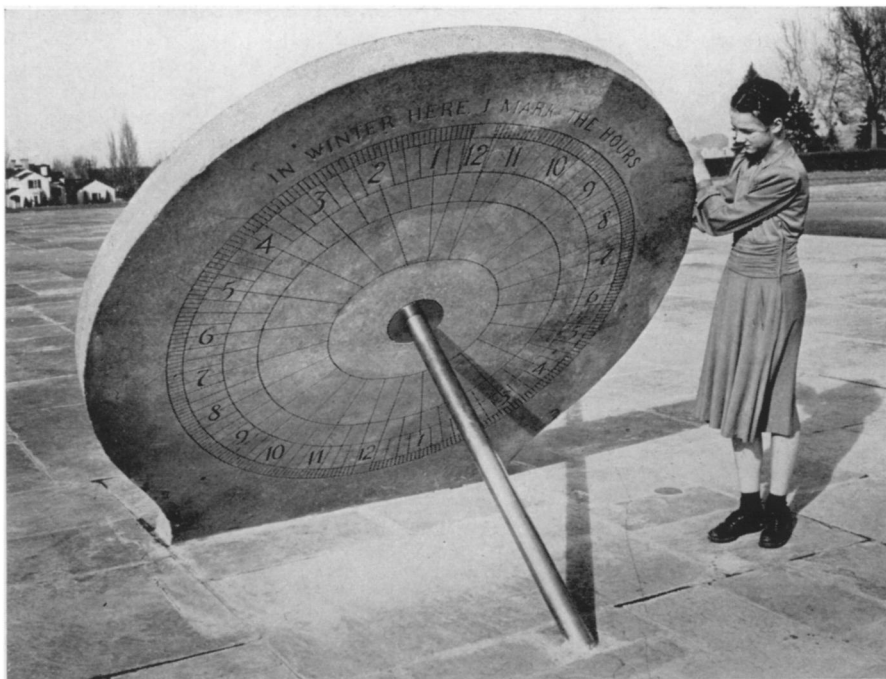
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HOROLOGY

Seven-Foot Stone Disk Shows Sun Time

A 3300-POUND sandstone sun dial, seven feet in diameter, has just been erected in Mountain View Park, Denver. It is of the equatorial type, instead of lying flat like most such dials—that is, its disk is parallel to the equator.

The gnomon, or pointer for casting the shadow that shows the time, is the stainless steel shaft that supports the dial, passes through its center like a hub, and projects on the other side. The shadow falls on the south side of the dial, shown here, during winter, or between the fall and spring equinoxes. The



A student from a nearby school examines Denver's new sun-dial and finds that it's 3:10 p. m.

rest of the year the sun shines on the north side, not shown here.

Stephen A. Ionides, Denver engineer whose hobbies include astronomy, the calendar and time-measuring instruments, designed the dial at the request of George E. Cranmer, Denver's manager of parks and improvements, who saw a dial like this once in the Far East.

Mr. Ionides said there are only four days a year when the dial and a watch will agree exactly on the time. In the middle of February, a watch will be 14 minutes and 20 seconds faster than the time shown on the dial; in November, the watch will be 16 minutes and 20 seconds slower than the dial.

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BOTANY

Mysterious Chinese Drug Proves New Plant Species

Made From Lo-Han, Household Remedy for Colds and Digestive Upsets Is a Kind of Gourd Cured by Heat

"LO-HAN," widely used Chinese drug of hitherto mysterious origin, has finally been traced to its origin, proved to be a new plant species, and given a name of its own, by Dr. Walter T. Swingle of the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

The drug, widely used in China and in Chinese communities in this country as a household remedy for colds, sore throat and minor digestive upsets, is a kind of gourd, cured by heating over a slow fire. Its pulp, intensely sweet, is used in making a kind of sweet soup, not palatable

to most Occidentals. The fruits command a high price—about 20 cents apiece in Chinatown stores in this country.

An expedition sponsored by the National Geographic Society finally traced the lo-han to its lair. It is not grown by Chinese, but by a primitive people known as the Miao, in the rainy mountainous interior province of Kwangsi.

The lo-han fruits are produced by vines, of which only the ones bearing female flowers are cultivated. The Miao, primitive though they are, have learned