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THE WORLD'S WAR ON WANT: How United Nations Members Share Skills and Resources Through Technical Assistance—Kathleen McLaughlin—*Oceana*, 80 p., \$2.50; paper, \$1. Short review of U.N. technical aid to underdeveloped countries.

• Science News Letter, 80:388 December 9, 1961

AGRICULTURE

Two New Barley Varieties Developed

► TROPHY and Larker, two new varieties of barley have been developed by the North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station as the result of an accelerated breeding program.

Both are superior in kernel plumpness to the presently grown malting varieties, Trill and Kindred. By growing in greenhouses and increasing field crops, 12 generations were grown in seven years.

The new varieties have better or equal protein content, malt extract percentage and enzymatic activity, and yields compare favorably with Trill but are superior to Kindred. The new varieties, like the old, are resistant to stem rust. Trophy appears to have some resistance also to net blotch, a leaf blighting disease.

To increase the seed, more than 4,000 acres in North Dakota were sown to Trophy and Larker this year.

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Questions

ASTRONOMY—What are four possible explanations suggested by scientists for the Star of Bethlehem? p. 386.

ENTOMOLOGY—What new method of insect preservation eliminates the need of pinning and mounting specimens in the field? p. 387.

MEDICINE—What major advance of atomic medicine will reduce the hazards of childbirth? p. 379.

OPHTHALMOLOGY—Is it dangerous to the eyes to watch TV and movies? p. 384.

Photographs: Cover, U.S. Naval Ordnance Laboratory; p. 379, Biographical Photographic Association; p. 382, F. C. Livingstone; p. 383, General Electric Company and Lockheed Missiles and Co.; p. 386, Lick Observatory; p. 392, Science Service.



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Some of the remarkable properties of Fibonacci numbers and their occurrence in number theory, continued fractions, and geometry are treated here. In his discussion of the Golden Section rectangle (the ratio of the lengths of whose sides is the ratio of two consecutive Fibonacci numbers), Vorob'ev cites the attempts of ancient and medieval philosophers to base aesthetic and philosophical theories on the beauty of these figures.



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