Questions

GEOPHYSICS—How will the "solar rocket" get its power? p. 20.

MEDICINE—What commercial product, a colloidal clay, is being used to diagnose arthritis? p. 18.

PHYSIOLOGY—What chemical is used to "freeze" muscle? p. 24.

TECHNOLOGY—What effect, considered a nuisance to nuclear scientists, is being used to fight malignant growth? p. 25.

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Photographs: Cover, U. S. Department of Agriculture; p. 19, Harris and Ewing; p. 21, Douglas Aircraft Company; p. 23, Solar Aircraft Company, p. 26, Fremont Davis; p. 32, Bakelite Company.

MEDICINE

Serious Stomach Trouble Can Result From Worry

➤ WORRY can cause a stomach ache and more serious diseases, Dr. Robert A. Davison of the University of Tennessee College of Medicine, Memphis, told a symposium on diarrhea held in Jackson, Miss.

Some people literally "fret" themselves into stomach ache, abdominal cramps, diarrhea and eventually into incurable organic disease, he warned Mississippi physicians.

Dr. Davison advised doctors to look for emotional disturbances when their patients complain of gastric or intestinal distress, particularly when an examination fails to show an obvious physical cause. Seemingly mild cases of worry-induced diarrhea, if left untreated, can lead to spasms, abnormally increased motility of the lower digestive tract, and ulcers.

"The tragedy is that too many people attribute their trouble to 'just something I ate' day after day, presenting themselves to you only when irreparable damage has been done," Dr. Davison said.

Science News Letter, July 13, 1957

Do You Know?

The primary causes of tidal waves are large earthquakes.

To make a pound of butter, 9.77 quarts of milk are required, and 4.65 quarts for a pound of cheese.

The total automotive production for 1957 included more than 3,000,000 passenger cars, more than 500,000 trucks, and nearly 2,000 motor coaches.

Vacuum metallurgy, which surrounds hot metal with a vacuum, is used when working with certain metals which combine with gases of the air on heating.

New anchored buoys equipped with telemetering devices are being used to record ocean temperatures, in place of expensive oceanographic vessels.

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