

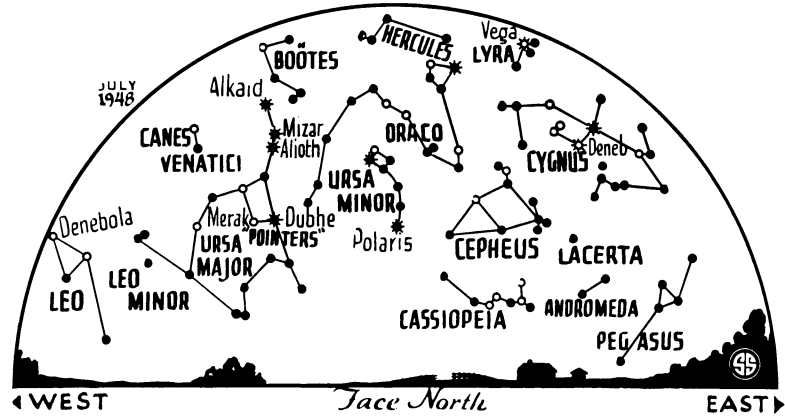
# Do You Know?

During the past two centuries more than 100 kinds of *birds* have become extinct.

Using a *disinfectant* on handkerchiefs has been suggested as one step toward stopping the spread of the common cold.

Dipping the roots of sweet-potato plants in *charcoal*, when transplanting into soil that has been treated with 2,4-D to kill weeds, seems successful in protecting the crop from injury.

Salt-containing *crude petroleum* is cleared of this impurity by a process which involves passing a heated mixture of the crude and water through a bed of fiber glass; when the water is separated out it carries the salt with it.



mately corresponded. Now, owing to a movement in the heavens called "precession" they have shifted and are getting farther apart all the time. Such superstitions, it seems, false at best, do not need to keep up to date!

manders, Dr. Fowler and Mr. Feind found that the toxic effect of streptomycin on the vestibular system of the inner ear can be modified by desensitizing the animals before giving a toxic dose.

*Science News Letter, June 26, 1948*

### Time Table for July

July	EDST	
4	1:00 p. m.	Earth farthest from sun, distance 94,456,000 miles.
5	12:07 p. m.	Moon passes Venus
6	2:27 p. m.	Moon passes Mercury
6	5:09 p. m.	New moon
8	10:00 a. m.	Moon nearest, distance 224,500 miles
9	1:39 a. m.	Moon passes Saturn
11	11:51 a. m.	Moon passes Mars
13	7:30 a. m.	Moon in first quarter
16	4:00 a. m.	Mercury farthest west of sun
17	9:11 p. m.	Moon passes Jupiter
20	10:31 p. m.	Full moon
23	11:00 p. m.	Moon farthest, distance 252,200 miles
28	early a. m.	Meteor shower visible, radiating from constellation of Aquarius. (The bright moon will interfere considerably)
29	2:11 a. m.	Moon in last quarter
31	4:00 a. m.	Venus at greatest brilliancy.

Subtract one hour for CDST, two hours for MDST, and three for PDST.

*Science News Letter, June 26, 1948*

### MEDICINE

## New Drug for Epilepsy Shows Promise in Trials

► A NEW DRUG for epilepsy which has already proved itself in extensive clinical trials was announced by Dr. M. A. Spielman of Abbott Research Laboratories, North Chicago, Ill., at the first national medicinal chemistry symposium of the American Chemical Society in Ann Arbor, Mich.

The new drug is called Phenurone. It is a synthetic compound made from phenobarbital. Phenobarbital, one of the modern sleeping medicines, has itself been used to treat epilepsy.

Trials of the drug on patients were conducted by Dr. Frederick Gibbs of the University of Illinois College of Medicine, Chicago. He reported to Dr. Spielman that Phenurone showed considerable promise and can be widely applied to all three common types of epilepsy—petit mal, grand mal and psychomotor epilepsy.

*Science News Letter, June 26, 1948*

### MEDICINE

## Way to Lessen Ear Damage From Streptomycin Found

► INNER ear damage that sometimes is caused by streptomycin treatment might be prevented by desensitization, two Columbia University ear researchers reported at the meeting of the National Tuberculosis Association in New York. They are Dr. Edmund P. Fowler, Jr., and Carl R. Feind.

Since tuberculosis patients getting streptomycin treatment must take the drug for weeks or months, the dizziness and other symptoms from its toxic effects on the inner ear may be troublesome. Some patients are extremely susceptible, others very resistant to this effect of the drug. In rare cases the hearing mechanism is also affected, but this is often reversible.

In experiments with cats and sala-

### AERONAUTICS

## 15 Turbo-Prop Engines Being Developed by British

► FIFTEEN types of British gas-turbine-propeller engines for airplanes are either in actual use or in various stages of development, it is revealed by the Society of British Aircraft Constructors, Ltd. This type of engine, known as the turbo-prop, is a gas turbine which drives conventional propellers.

# Expecting?

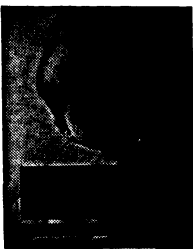
use **THE** guide for mother **AND** father!

**MOTHER AND BABY CARE IN PICTURES**

All that the mother needs to know about pregnancy, the preparation for labor and the care of her child can be found in this book... a book which, unlike other baby care books, has stood the test of time. The illustrations (more illustrations than pages) with charts and tables, tell the whole story in a way every expectant mother (and father) will appreciate... proved, modern information on

the successful care of both mother and child. Recommended by physicians everywhere. Use the coupon to order your copy now.

by LOUISE ZABRISKIE, R. N.  
204 PAGES  
229 ILLUSTRATIONS  
NEW THIRD EDITION  
\$2.50



**J. B. LIPPINCOTT COMPANY**  
East Washington Square, Philadelphia 5, Pa.

I enclose \$2.50. Please send me "Mother and Baby Care in Pictures."

NAME .....

STREET .....

CITY, ZONE, STATE .....

(10 day return privilege guarantee) SNL



Great Britain claims her mounting achievements in turbo-props is giving her an established lead in this field, matching the claimed lead in the turbo-jet field. All of the engines under development may never reach the production stage, but the experimental work done will add to turbo-prop knowledge.

In the three years since the Trent-engined Meteor, the world's first turbo-prop powered airplane, took the air the carefully planned program of turbo-prop development has gone steadily on. One of the latest installations is that of an

Armstrong Siddeley turbo-prop now used to power the Balliol Air Force trainer. This engine replaces a Mercury piston engine formerly used in this plane.

The Balliol is an all-purpose advanced service trainer and is designed to meet the training requirements of day or night flying, gunnery, navigation, bombing, photography and glider towing. Instructor and student sit side by side in a roomy cabin with a fine all-around view. This land-based plane can easily be adapted for carrier deck landings.

*Science News Letter, June 26, 1948*

## AERONAUTICS-METEOROLOGY

## Make Safe-Speed Charts

➤ SAFE-SPEED charts for airplanes in thunderstorms are the results of the so-called Thunderstorm Project carried out by the U. S. Air Force in the Ohio-Indiana area during the past two years. During the study especially equipped planes made 2,000 flights high above the earth within the thunderstorms themselves, and recorded all weather conditions encountered.

The research was made by Air Force crews in Air Force planes, under technical direction of the U. S. Weather Bureau. The National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics and the Navy furnished considerable meteorological equipment. The resulting charts, for use of pilots, show the airspeed limits within which nine types of transport and cargo planes of various weights can be most safely operated during thunderstorms.

The Air Force's Black Widow, the P-61, was the plane used in the studies because of its construction, stability and high-altitude performance. All planes were radar-equipped, and carried all sorts of instruments to record automatically all weather conditions encountered in flight, also stresses on the body of the plane and the electric content of the outside atmosphere.

Five planes were used as a team to study a single storm. Approaching thunderstorms were located by ground-based radar, which also kept track of the planes after their take-off. The aircraft entered the storms at altitudes of 6,000, 10,000, 15,000, 20,000, and 25,000 feet. This enabled the observers to get a complete picture of storm conditions at all altitudes at which military and commercial planes might operate. Instrument records, photographs and ob-

servers' notes were all used in making up the thunderstorm safe-speed chart.

*Science News Letter, June 26, 1948*

## MEDICINE

## Mass Screening Technic Aids Cancer Cure Search

➤ Search for a chemical cure for cancer is being aided by a mass screening technic similar to that used in the wartime search for anti-malaria chemicals to replace quinine.

The screening is being done by the CBCC, which is the short name for the Chemical-Biological Coordination Center in Washington. The CBCC is operated by the National Research Council with funds from the Army, Navy, National Cancer Institute and American Cancer Society.

Hundreds of thousands of chemical compounds, made by industrial, government and university laboratories, will be catalogued by mechanical minds and fingers in the CBCC machines for their biological activity.

Of some 4,000 already catalogued, 800 have been sent to collaborating university and government laboratories for testing as possible remedies against cancer and other diseases.

*Science News Letter, June 26, 1948*

## ENGINEERING-RADIO

## Radio Communications in Mines Found Successful

➤ LIVES of miners entrapped underground may be saved by a radio communication system, using low-frequency waves, developed by the U. S. Bureau of Mines. The human voice was success-

fully transmitted through ground strata alone, and also by way of trolley wires, pipes and other metallic installations.

Radio communication was made between the surface and underground workings, and also between widely separated points underground. Tests have been made in three bituminous mines, three anthracite collieries, a salt mine and an iron mine. These mines were located in both eastern and western mining districts.

The sending and receiving set used on the surface was run by a 110-volt current, and that underground by a 6-volt storage battery and a vibrator power pack. The power of the transmitter was two to three watts. In addition to successful communication between underground workings and the surface through the ground strata and between different points within the mines, communication was held between the hoisting engineer and moving or standing cages and cars in shafts and slopes.

*Science News Letter, June 26, 1948*

## LINGUAPHONE



is your *Passport*  
to the World

In your own home, alone or in a group, you can now learn to speak

SPANISH • PORTUGUESE  
FRENCH • RUSSIAN  
ITALIAN • GERMAN

or any of 23 other languages by the world-famous

## LINGUAPHONE Conversational METHOD

You learn the new language by listening to voices of native teachers. It is amazingly simple; thousands have succeeded. Educators hail Linguaphone as a notable advance in simplifying the mastery of languages. That is why so many Linguaphone Sets are used in schools, colleges, universities, as an aid to fluent speaking.

Available to Veterans under  
**G I BILL OF RIGHTS**

SEND FOR FREE BOOK

LINGUAPHONE INSTITUTE  
31 RCA BUILDING, NEW YORK 20, N. Y.

LINGUAPHONE INSTITUTE

31 RCA Bldg., New York 20, N. Y.

Send me the FREE Linguaphone Book.

I am  am not  a World War II Veteran

I want to learn .....language.

Name .....

Address..... City.....