

of the skin of a finger, according to Dr. Polson, was reported more than 50 years ago by Sir Francis Galton. This case also was one of self-surgery. But Galton's subject, a young man, in his haste to slap the slice from his thumb back in place, put it back at right angles to its original position. His finger ridges were therefore shifted around in subsequent fingerprints.

Science News Letter, August 12, 1950

METEOROLOGY

From Inside or Out, New Atlas Describes Clouds

► WHAT a cloud looks like from an airplane—from above, from inside and from just below—will become a much more important part of weather forecasters' data when the new International Cloud Atlas is completed in 1952. It will contain an extensive section describing different types of clouds as they look to observers in planes.

The expansion of a very small section on plane observations in the last atlas, published in 1932, was approved at a recent meeting in Paris of the Committee for Study of Clouds and Hydrometeors of the International Meteorological Organization, Dr. Charles F. Brooks, director of the Blue Hill Observatory and American representative on the committee, told Science Service.

The International Cloud Atlas is one of the most important tools of the weather forecasting trade. It enables observers all over the world to agree on specific descriptions of clouds and it enables forecasters to know exactly what kinds of clouds the observers are reporting.

Observation of clouds from planes is becoming much more common throughout the world because it is much easier to determine the true altitude, the shape and the extent of the cloud from a plane than it is from the ground. Also the airborne observer can give the forecaster some idea as to whether the cloud is composed of liquid or ice particles.

Second major improvement, which was just about completed at the Paris meeting, was in the definitions of the 10 types into which meteorologists have divided clouds. The 13 members of the committee tightened up the definitions and described distinct limits between different types of clouds. Photographs to illustrate what they meant by their definitions were selected.

Science News Letter, August 12, 1950

AGRICULTURE

Preserve Fresh Grape Flavor for Concentrates

► A WAY of preserving the volatile flavor essences of grape juice has been developed by U. S. Department of Agriculture scientists. The extracts are said to give a new

grape juice concentrate the characteristic taste of freshly-squeezed grapes.

Grape juice thus promises to join the booming field of canned fruit-juice concentrates, most successful of which has been frozen concentrated orange juice. The new process for treating Concord grapes was devised at the government's Eastern Regional Research Laboratory in Philadelphia.

Science News Letter, August 12, 1950

Exposure to excessive *sunlight* lowers, for a time, the sensitivity of eyes to light; night-driving after sunbathing is dangerous.

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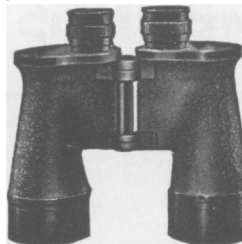
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