

Drug Recommended As Childbirth Aid

Mexico City—(Science Service)—Numorphan, a new synthetic derivative of morphine, is more effective and safer for use during childbirth than other analgesics, or pain killers, such as meperidine, according to a report at the Pan American Medical association meeting here.

Drs. Donald L. Snow and Edward Sattenspiel, of the Maricopa County General hospital, Phoenix, Ariz., presented a paper showing that a high percentage of patients obtained marked relief from pain and discomfort faster than possible with other drugs. Shortened labor and an almost negligible depressing effect on infants are notable advantages.

Previous studies showed a close relationship between infant suffocation at birth and later defects in children caused by analgesic drugs requiring strong doses. Numorphan, discovered and produced by E. and O. laboratories of Richmond Hill, N. Y., was given to 349 patients in labor during the study, which was undertaken on all obstetric patients admitted to the Maricopa hospital from Oct. 1, 1959, to April 15, 1960. Ages of the women ranged from 13 to 42.



ACTRESS IN HOSPITAL—Motion picture actress Kim Novak, undergoing a physical checkup, sniffs a white rose in Doctor's Hospital at New York. The 27-year-old actress complained she hadn't been feeling well for about a month, and her doctor ordered her to the hospital. He believes she is suffering from fatigue. (UPI Telephoto)

FPC Said Neglecting Job of Regulating Power Industry

Washington—(UPI)—Rep. John D. Dingell called the Federal Power Commission an "irresponsible do-nothing" agency which is neglecting its job of regulating the power industry.

The attack by the liberal Michigan Democrat came as House investigators held hearings on whether there have been back-door attempts to in-

fluence the FPC's rate-fixing decisions.

Dingell said the inquiry by the House subcommittee on legislative oversight "highlights a particularly unsavory situation" in the FPC. He referred to a system which allows natural gas pipeline companies seeking rate boosts to proceed with increasing their charges temporarily pending a decision by the FPC.

Business Paper Plans Pacific Issue

New York—(UPI)—The Journal of Commerce will issue its first Pacific edition Saturday in Tokyo for service to Far Eastern subscribers, it was announced today.

Publisher Eric Ridder said the initial 24-page issue will be the second major expansion move by the Journal of Commerce in six months. In December, 1959, the business daily inaugurated its European edition, distributed from Holland.

The Pacific edition will be printed by the Nihon Keizai Shimbun, a Japanese business paper. The editorial comment will be the same as in the international edition now printed in New York.

Ridder said studies are underway "looking toward the creation of a Latin American edition."

HARK! SHE HARKED

Hickman, Ky.—(UPI)—Mrs. Pearl Darnell, wife of the Fulton county school superintendent, has been indicted by a grand jury on charges of trying to eavesdrop on a school board meeting to decide whether to renew her husband's contract. The indictment charged that Mrs. Darnell "did crawl or wriggle her way on her all fours into a tiny crevice under the floor of the meeting house and did then and there harken after the discourse . . ."

LINCOLN AUTHORITY DIES

Madison, Wis.—(UPI)—Louis W. Bridgman, 77, nationally known authority on Abraham Lincoln and retired editor for the University of Wisconsin extension division, died Wednesday.

Half of the fresh oranges exported from the United States last year were sold to Canada. Most of the rest went to the Netherlands, Belgium and West Germany.



Small Worlds Around Us

By Lynn M. Watkins

How Did The Sea Gulls Know Enough To Fish?

It took sixty loaves of bread and three entire days' time to prove it, and none of the bread we cast upon the waters ever came back; but the fishes did and so did the sea gulls.

Several careful observers had told us that the sea gulls use bread for something else besides filling for their stomachs. On the strength of these arguments we decided to cast any quantity of bread necessary to satisfy our curiosity about what we should have believed in the first place.

Sea gulls prefer fish to any

other kind of food. Both today's gulls and their ancestors were brought up on a diet of seafood. Only within the last few years has other food, such as bread, popcorn, and crackers in generous quantities been offered them.

So for three days we arrived early on the beach loaded with bread. We fed the gulls all they could eat. The ate until they choked and had to wash the dry crusts down with seawater. When completely full most of them sat down on the warm sand, shut their eyes and went to sleep. They woke up hungry. We were there to pass out more bread. All they had to do was eat, and eat they did. For three days this went on.

By noon of the third day we could see that we were getting somewhere. Many of the gulls were beginning to show a reluctance to eat. Several of them just sat on the sand and looked at half a slice of bread without eating. Then some of them would grab a piece and fly away, cruising close to the water's surface. Selecting a likely spot they came to rest.

Begin to Grab
Through our glasses we watched the birds breaking up the bread and dropping it. Then for a few minutes they sat very still on the water. Suddenly they began

'Shooting Stars' Pieces of Comets

Washington—(Science Service)—All the "shooting stars" bright enough to be seen by the naked eye are caused by tiny bits of comets hurtling through the earth's atmosphere.

Comets also supply most of the tiny particles known as meteoroids that may be a danger to operating space vehicles. Dr. Fred L. Whipple, director of the Smithsonian Institution's Astrophysical Observatory, Cambridge, Mass., reported to the National Academy of Sciences here. The definite determination of the source of meteors in the visual range is based on analysis of several hundred meteor photographs taken with the Baker Super-Schmidt cameras in New Mexico. The cometary meteors are extremely fragile, and the density varies greatly from one meteor to another.

High Court Rules On Local Cases

Among the opinions handed down Wednesday by the Oregon supreme court were two cases which had been appealed from Jackson county.

The supreme court upheld a rule by the former Circuit Judge H. K. Hanna in a 1937 case in which a new trial had been ordered after a juror in the assault and battery trial was charged with misconduct.

The suit was brought by Clifford Eckel, by his guardian Paul O. Eckle, Happy Valley dr., Medford, against John J. Breeze, 921 Murray ave.

The supreme court also affirmed Judge Hanna's ruling setting aside \$5,000 damages. The opinion was written by Justice George Rossman.

A new trial was also ordered for the case of John B. Hamacher, Medford and San Francisco, against Earl S. Tunny and Gilbert S. Tunny, Medford.

The opinion, written by Justice Keith O'Connell, reverses a ruling in favor of the broker by Circuit Judge Edward C. Kelly.

The action brought by Hamacher, a sawmill operator, is against the insurance brokers to recover \$33,430 in a fire loss not reimbursed by insurance due to alleged failure of the broker to procure additional coverage.

Portland—(UPI)—Palmerberg Construction Co., Astoria, was low of three bidders at \$35,800 for maintenance dredging from the Florence and North Fork Shoals in the Siuslaw river upstream from the Florence bridge.

For Moms-to-Be



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Speedy Motorist Telephones Mayor

Dallas, Tex.—(UPI)—A fast-talking young man arrested for speeding had the brushiness to telephone Dallas Mayor R. L. Thornton in the middle of the night and demand release from jail.

Jerry Nixon, 20, told the mayor he was the son of City Councilman George Nixon. The mayor got the chief of police to order the release of his caller.

The next day police discovered that Jerry Nixon was not the son of the city councilman and had been arrested before for not having a driver's license and using loud mufflers on his car. He was arrested again.

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to grab right and left; we could see the silvery flash of small fish in the birds' bills. They were chumming; deliberately baiting the fish to gather around within easy reach of their darting beaks. It was an interesting spectacle, and it brought up many questions for which there are no answers.

Would it be sensible to believe that some wise old sea gull, more observant than his mates, some time or other, watched a human fisherman crumpling up bread and chumming the water to lure a school of minnows over his waiting net? How else would a sea gull know that bread crumbs were good for such a purpose? Perhaps association of ideas, or imitation of others' actions, are not entirely exclusive human traits after all. (Released by The Register and Tribune Syndicate, 1960)

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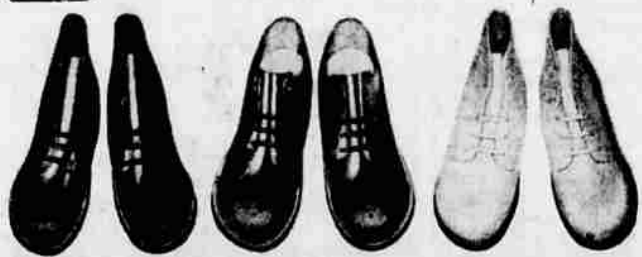
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