

Geography Conference Set at State College

Corvallis—A special "conference on geography" will be given Dec. 10 at Oregon State college as a service to elementary and high school teachers of the state.

The new social studies curriculum in both grade and high schools calls for greatly increased emphasis on geography, it was pointed out, and the conference will give teachers additional background on the best ways to present subject matter and use maps, globes, and charts in the classroom.

Latest materials available for teaching geography will be demonstrated and displayed as part of the program, according to Dr. J. Granville Jensen, head of geography at OSC.

Guest Speaker
Guest Speaker for the all-day program will be Dr. Neville Scarfe, dean of education at University of British Columbia and former head of the geography department at University of London, England. He is author of several geography references and was a member of the International Geographical Union committee on geography in the schools.

Jet Noise Shown To Produce Crack In Plane's Metal

Los Angeles (Science Service)—Jet noise, which irritates passengers and persons on the ground, can also produce cracks in a plane's metal skin.

This problem is being studied intensively by an engineering professor at the University of California, Los Angeles, as a basic first step in overcoming the problem.

After the propulsive jet of gas has left the engine, it fans out and mixes with the atmosphere, creating violent turbulent eddies that radiate sound waves, says Prof. Alan Powell, who is investigating aerodynamic noise in a special laboratory on campus.

Strongest on Flaps
For present jet airliners, the impact of the noise and accompanying vibrations is strongest on the flaps and then on the middle-rear part of the fuselage. The latter fact is one reason that the first class compartment in jet planes has been switched to the forward part of the plane.

So far, sound-induced vibrations that cause acoustic fatigue have not caused any major accidents, but they have resulted in numerous cracks in the plane's metal skin and the loosening of rivets. As jet engines become more powerful, the problem will grow increasingly important, says Powell, who started his research ten years ago in his native England.

Slower Streams
Since the jet noise level depends more on the velocity of the jet stream than on its diameter, Powell hopes to see the introduction of engines having larger but slower jet streams, which could give the same thrust with less noise.

In the future, Powell believes, the noise factor must be taken into account in the preliminary design of a plane and its engines, and not after the first cracks show up or passengers start complaining.

Old Gout Remedy Used in Treating Arthritis Cases

Boston (Science Service)—Colchicine, an alkaloid long used successfully in treating gout, has been effective in treating two cases of sarcoid arthritis in the U. S. Army hospital in Munich, Germany.

Capt. Herbert Kaplan, assistant chief, medical service, U. S. Army hospital, Munich, said that to his knowledge this represents the first report of the effectiveness of this ancient remedy in an arthritis other than gout.

"The importance of finding a drug that may be of value in sarcoid arthritis cannot be underestimated," Kaplan reported in the New England Journal of Medicine. "Joint involvement has been shown to occur in up to 25 per cent of patients with sarcoidosis, and may cause chronic debility and joint destruction."

Steroids have been used and may be beneficial in the various types of sarcoidosis, a chronic ailment affecting the lymph glands, lungs, bones, intestines, spleen, liver and skin separately or in combination. However, Kaplan said colchicine, with its negligible toxic effects, seems to be an ideal method of treatment. The prolonged use of steroids is dangerous.

The favorable response of sarcoid arthritis to colchicine may be "considered additional support for the hypothesis that these diseases may be interrelated," Kaplan said.

HOPE'S FRIEND DIES
Hollywood—Funeral services will be conducted Thursday for Charles Cooley, 57, former vaudeville partner and lifelong friend of Bob Hope.

Counterfeit Drug Wave Hits Retail Trading Markets

Washington (Science Service)—Counterfeiting may be on the increase in the drug market, the Food and Drug administration here warned druggists.

FDA Commissioner George P. Larrick urged drug retailers to report to the nearest FDA district office immediately when a pharmacist suspects he has been offered counterfeit drugs.

Counterfeit drugs are frequently delivered in paper or plastic bags or other unlabeled containers, usually easily distinguishable from an authentic wholesale package, FDA said.

A survey nearing completion indicates that drug counterfeiting may be increasing, although it has existed for some years.

Counterfeit
Counterfeit diuretics with a copied label from Merck Sharp and Dohme were seized in Washington by FDA recently. The duped pharmacist said the analysis showed the counterfeit Diuril and Hydrodiuril to be up to the legal manufacturer's standard and he added that he had paid the wholesaler in good faith.

The same counterfeiter may have sold drugs in other cities in the East, South and Midwest, FDA warned.

Larrick said that "even though the particular batch of a counterfeit drug may have the same strength and purity of the drug it counterfeits, the counterfeiting of drugs is contrary to the public interest and is in violation of the Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic act."

Serious Threat
"This reprehensible practice poses a serious threat to the public health in that it could undermine the fundamental control over the safety and efficacy of drugs."

FDA says counterfeit drugs are manufactured for the specific purpose of being passed off to and by the retailer when he is filling prescriptions as the product of another manufacturer.

The drugs have been shipped to distributors under such false billings as "machine tools," "ceramics," "water softener" and "glass beads," and are frequently delivered to the local pharmacist by personal auto mobile, FDA said. Sales to the retailers are usually made on a cash basis without invoicing or other billing.

National pharmacy organizations have pledged FDA their full cooperation in detecting and eliminating drug counterfeiting.

Jones Low Bidder On Reserve Unit

Myers D. Jones, Medford contractor, was apparent low bidder for construction of a Naval Reserve electronics addition to the Army Reserve corps building in Medford, according to the public works office of the 13th Naval district, Seattle. Jones' bid was \$32,332.

The government estimate was \$36,800 for the single story, 40x42-foot building with concrete floor slab and concrete block and brick walls.

Other bidders were Rogue Valley construction company, \$32,360; Don L. Jacobs Construction company, \$32,384; Jack Mathis, Roseburg, \$32,712; Batzer Construction company, \$35,219; Supreme Builders, Inc., Portland, \$35,437; Earl M. Hall and Son, Corvallis, \$36,525; and E. J. Fordyce and associates, \$39,797.

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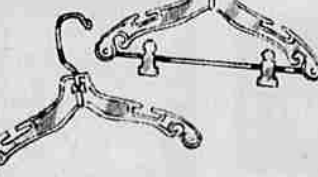
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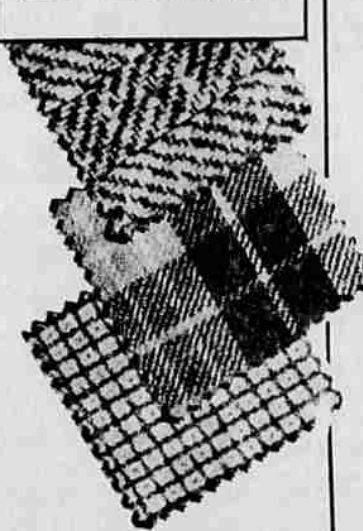


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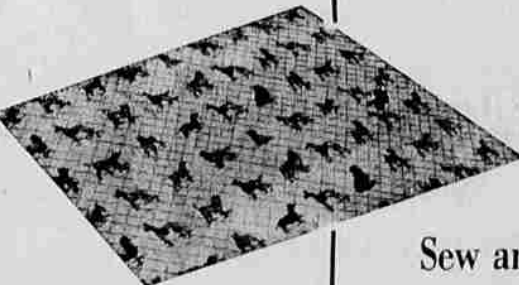


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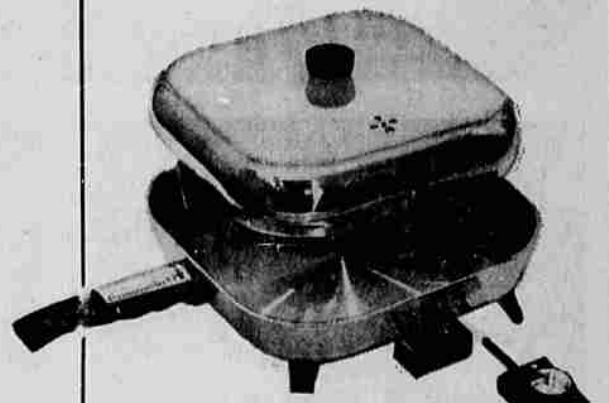
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