

Many Have No Memorial

Not for many years has a medical scientist been given as much praise as that accorded to Dr. Jonas E. Salk, the performer of the polio vaccine that bears his name.

Nor is this all. For many years before Dr. Salk and his fellow researchers saw the first glimmer of hope, thousands of medical scientists in one field and another had spent their lives and talents and, in many instances, impaired their health, in a battle which must have seemed endless and hopeless.

Not A Prediction

He is a very bold person indeed who would predict the result of the British election on May 26. If one were to judge by the normal signs on which politicians the world over like to dwell a Conservative victory would seem to be probable.

Doubtless, the Labourites will find plenty of material to support their thesis that it's time for a change; but in view of their factional troubles at the moment it is just possible that some of their former supporters will be inclined to the belief that a change now could be for the worse as easily as for the better.

preached by Mr. Attlee, is so narrow that the average voter—if there be any such person—can be forgiven for stepping across it almost without noticing it.

This is not to suggest, however, that a Conservative victory is a sure thing. No one will know anything about that until the ballots have been counted.

Propaganda Gone Wild

The more one thinks of Communist China's charges that in some way British authorities at Hong Kong were partially to blame for the crash of the Indian airliner carrying delegates to Bandung, the more fantastic they seem to be.

The allegation of British complicity or carelessness—which amounts to about the same thing—is another matter, and there is no rhyme nor reason in it.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Theoretically, Japan is now responsible for her own security. Even so, it is costing the United States Government more than \$360 million a year to maintain military bases there.

Along with his writing, painting, brick-laying, farming, and horse fancying, former Prime Minister Churchill is reported to have become interested in the habits of goldfish.

Strange what changes time and political exigencies bring about. It is only about four years since Mamoru Shigemitsu left prison after serving a term as a war criminal.

Labour Party spokesmen can be expected to make what capital they can out of the fact that Britain's dollar reserves are now slightly lower than they were a year ago.

It was the late Dr. Einstein who, in the dark days of the Second World War, informed the President of the United States that the atom bomb was feasible.



That Wilted Feeling

PUBLIC FORUM

This column is open to the discussion by correspondents of questions of interest. The Guardian does not necessarily endorse the opinions expressed.

READING FACILITIES NEEDED

Sir, — Now that Education Week has passed and the Teacher's Convention is over, let us tackle the problem of good reading for young and old.

We have heard the comics condemned — loud and long. Let us ask ourselves: why does my child read comics? In my humble opinion that the child is thirsty for reading material.

What, I ask, are we doing about this? The members of our Legislature are busy improving roads, supplying electric power to rural areas, now they may well give thought towards extending library service to rural communities.

MRS. J. T. CAMPBELL
Park Corner,

Churchill To The King

Sir Winston Churchill has long had Sir Anthony Eden in mind as his successor.

In 1942 when the war was at its height Churchill was planning what was recognized as a dangerous trip to the United States by air.

"In case of my death on this journey I am about to undertake I avail myself of Your Majesty's gracious permission to advise that you should entrust the formation of a new government to Mr. Anthony Eden, the secretary of state for foreign affairs, who is in my mind the outstanding minister in the House of Commons and in the National Government over which I have the honor to preside, and who I am sure will be found capable of conducting Your Majesty's affairs with the resolution, experience and capacity which these grievous times require."

The Poets Corner

ON FORTUNE

Fortune, that with malicious joy Does man, her slave, oppress, Proud of her office to be seen, Is seldom pleased to bless; Still various and unconstant still, But with an inclination to be ill, Promotes, degrades, delights in strife, And makes a lottery of life. I can enjoy her while she's kind; But when she dances in the wind, And shakes the wings and will not stay, I puff the prostitute away. The little or the much she gave, Is quietly resigned; Content with poverty, my soul I arm, And virtue, though in rags, will keep me warm.

—John Dryden.

The Age Old Story

Behold, God exalteth by his power: Who teacheth like him? Who hath enjoyed him his way? or who can say, Thus hast wrought iniquity?

20th Century Gullivers

By Alain Gille
A Unesco Specialist

The natives of Lilliput in Swift's Gulliver's Travels stood knee high to a grass-hopper, measuring no more than six inches in height, while the giant Brobdingnagians were 60 feet tall.

These figures stagger the imagination. What, we may ask, can man actually measure that is so incredibly tiny, or so immense? At the smallest end of the scale of measurement, exploring within the atom, man has measured the diameter of elementary particles such as the proton.

With this human limitation it was as if the entire world had been passed through a sieve having a mesh of one-tenth of a millimetre. Then, suddenly, the new optical instruments enabled man to peer into a mysterious realm—the "microscopic world"—and led him to the discovery of cells and microbes, and thus to the proof that life also existed on this new and tinier scale.

Improvements in the new research tools, scientists using the optical microscope eventually were able to distinguish two points, 0.0001 mm apart—the meshes of the sieve had come a thousand times closer together.

FURTHER ADVANCES

About two decades ago came another great advance—the invention of the electronic microscope. With this powerful instrument it was possible to distinguish two points a millionth of a millimetre apart. Thus the meshes of the sieve had come a further hundred times, and science made a fine haul, bringing in viruses—the simplest form of life we know—and large organic molecules.

Then the discovery that X-rays diffract (break up) on crystals brought atoms into the microscopic instrument "net". Atoms were found to be arranged in regular geometrical patterns inside molecules, some ten millionths of a millimetre apart. On this level of the microscopic world no form of life was found.

The achievement of measuring distances between atoms in molecules and crystals encouraged scientists to accept the next challenge—how to measure the distances between the particles which make up the atoms themselves. Science and technology showing themselves equal to this challenge, produced new instruments. One of these was the Wilson Cloud chamber (a device which makes it possible to see and photograph the path of electrically charged particles). Another was the Geiger-Müller counter which detects and counts elementary particles emitted by radio-active substances.

Now the meshes of the sieve had become a million times more closely-knit than before, catching elementary particles—electrons, protons and neutrons—and giving man powerful aid in his efforts to learn all the basic secrets of matter.

Primitive man had a limited sense of great distances. His life was taken up with the search for food. For him major distances were those which took him to the limits of his hunting-ground. His life was a two-dimensional one. Sometimes he must have looked up at the night sky to admire the stars, and wondered how far away they were. But to know how distant an object is, one has to be able to reach it; and primitive man's only means of reaching skywards was to climb trees. He therefore concluded that all heavenly bodies were the same distance away from him.

Medically Speaking

Herman N. Bundesen, M.D.

TEACHING YOUR BABY TO DRINK FROM A CUP

While some babies learn rapidly, others take more time. So, don't become discouraged if your tot is a little slow in learning to drink from a cup. Special training cups, which you can purchase cheaply at many pharmacies and at most department stores, will make this job easier for both you and your baby.

When To Start

As I advised yesterday, start giving your infant a little fruit juice from a cup when he is about five or six months old, and milk at the age of seven months or so. If you have trouble teaching him to drink from a cup, keep on offering him a little milk this way each day, even if he only takes one or two swallows. Give him the rest of his milk, of course, by bottle.

I think you might get good results if you give him milk from a bottle at his 6 a. m. and 6 p. m. feedings and from a cup at his 10 a. m. and 2 p. m. feedings. Generally, your youngster will learn what is expected of him, and he'll go along even if he doesn't particularly like it.

If he continues to refuse any milk from a cup, you might try a different cup. There are several kinds available. If that doesn't work, stop using the cup entirely for a few weeks. Then try again. Some babies are fed their milk from bottles until the age of 18 months, although you probably won't have this much trouble with your offspring.

Encourage Him

After he's a year old or so, encourage him to drink by himself. Praise him and smile when he begins this difficult task. If he knows you are pleased with his progress, he'll be anxious to do as you wish. Above all, don't scold him if he is slow to grasp the idea. That will only make the whole operation more difficult for him.

When your baby can do things for himself, he builds a feeling of independence. And this is an important step toward a more pleasant life for both of you. He will be less likely to refuse to eat and learn more quickly to dress himself and do other things without mama's help.

QUESTION AND ANSWER

R. J.: I have a very troublesome itchy and "burning" scalp which causes my hair to fall out. Would you please tell me if there is anything that will help clear up this condition?

Answer: Itching of the scalp may come from many causes, such as a mild, low grade inflammation of the scalp, or the use of too strong soap in washing the scalp. It might be well to consult a skin specialist in order to determine the proper treatment for your condition.

serve galaxies nearly a thousand million light-years away. Our present knowledge in this field is shown in a Unesco travelling scientific exhibition "Man Measures the Universe," which is now touring the countries of Western Europe. The exhibition explains nine major scales of magnitude and employs a large collection of scientific instruments to demonstrate methods of measurement used in each case.

NOTES BY THE WAY

A man in Memphis says he finds his wife's eyebrow tweezers are wonderful for planting seeds in flats. It's also one way of getting back at the little woman for sharpening pencils with your razor.

What every driver should always bear in mind is that he and his passengers may be instantly launched into eternal sleep when trying to save a few minutes' or a few hours' time. —St. Thomas Times-Journal.

It is good news indeed that the Department of Air Pollution Control is now geared into Mayor Wagner's campaign to clean the city and keep it clean. Commissioner Leonard Greenburg has ordered the inspectors of his department on the lookout for dirt on the ground as well as in the air and to warn those whom they find disobeying any of the laws against litter. While his men will not issue summonses they will report the violations to the Sanitation Department for immediate follow-up action—which should, of course, apply to other departments as well if the litter is not on the sidewalks or streets.

All this is evidence of Mayor Wagner's wisdom in mobilizing all the city departments in a cooperative effort rather than to let sanitation do the job alone. We hope that, as the weeks go by, there will be many other such demonstrations of effective teamwork in the prodigious task to which the administration has now set its hand. —New York Times.

A survey of the apartment houses built in New York since the end of the war reveals that 90 per cent of them have no dining-room. Once upon a time a bride would have held up her hands in horror if she was asked to go into a home that had no dining-room. But space is at a premium these days, and the "old-fashioned" dining-room is disappearing. The dining-room and the furniture has been re-modelled to meet the new situation. It used to be a happy family custom, particularly when there were guests, to move from the dining-table to the living-room and sip coffee or tea. Nowadays the folks just sit where they are, until when the host moves, the dishes can be removed and the place

OTTAWA REPORT

New Role For Militia

By Patrick Nicholson

Two of Canada's best-known war heroes — both of them highly-decorated generals from British Columbia — have independently voiced thoughts which involve a new role for our moribund and under-strength militia.

General George Pearkes, Progressive Conservative M. P. from Vancouver Island, tells me that our militia is a relic of the past. He has rendered obsolete our whole defence system. Home Defence troops armed with automatic rifles and even with tanks would certainly be no protection against the H-bomb.

General F. F. ("Fighting Frank") Worthington, Civil Defence Co-ordinator, tells me that our force of trained civil defence volunteers should total approximately 7% of the population, to achieve ideal protection. Today our total army of trained air-raid defence workers is a mere 75,306 in all Canada. This is just 7% of the 7% total sought by General Worthington.

Thus one General suggests that our troops, especially our militia, are being trained for the wrong defence; the other general suggests that we have a desperate shortage of trained civil defence workers.

At this stage, by a coincidence General Pearkes makes the brilliant suggestion that our militia should be trained as a national Disaster Defence Force for duties on the home front.

New weapons have certainly rendered obsolete our old ones. The H-bomb may well have made obsolete the defence of the coast and the draw-bridge. Experienced technicians like General Pearkes are deserving of gratitude and congratulations for their suggestions. It is a serious second look at ideas which may have outgrown their usefulness. The militia may well have a more useful future ahead of it than merely the role of providing semi-trained reinforcements for our regular army.

ABLE-BODIED MEN WANTED

General Pearkes was in no sense suggesting that the militia should take over the whole role of defence of our civilian population against air raids. As one facet of their training, I understand him to say, the militia should be made familiar with some work which they could perform to help their own community in the event of a disaster. To each regiment would be allotted its most suitable task. Medical personnel, drivers, engineers and communications units would have an obvious role in their own field.

Equally, assistance for the civilian population would be sought from the militia — both local units and those from nearby communities — in the event of any disaster not caused by enemy attack. A serious fire such as that which ravaged Cabano, Quebec, some years ago would see the local evacuation and rebuilding machinery swinging into action, just as if the families of Cabano had lost their homes through an air raid or had been compelled to move to avoid contamination by radio-active fall-out. In such a

serve galaxies nearly a thousand million light-years away. Our present knowledge in this field is shown in a Unesco travelling scientific exhibition "Man Measures the Universe," which is now touring the countries of Western Europe. The exhibition explains nine major scales of magnitude and employs a large collection of scientific instruments to demonstrate methods of measurement used in each case.

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